

2004-2005

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE PAPER

No. 18

MONDAY, 7 MARCH 2005

*The House meets this day at 12.30 p.m.***BUSINESS ACCORDED PRIORITY FOR THIS SITTING**

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

Presentation and statements

- 1 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE:** Report on the inquiry into Australia's trade and investment relations with the Gulf States. (*Statements to conclude by 12.40 p.m.*)
- 2 **HEALTH AND AGEING—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Future Ageing: Report on a draft report of the 40th Parliament on the inquiry into long-term strategies to address the ageing of the Australian population over the next 40 years. (*Statements to conclude by 12.50 p.m.*)
- 3 **ASIO, ASIS AND DSD—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE:** Report on the review of the listing of six terrorist organisations. (*Statements to conclude by 1 p.m.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Notices†1 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes:
 - (a) the integral role that maritime salvage plays in the safety of Australia's mariners;
 - (b) the integral role that maritime salvage plays in the protection of Australia's pristine marine environment; and
 - (c) the recommendations of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Transport and Regional Services in its report *Ship Salvage* tabled in the Parliament in June 2004; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
 - (a) urgently respond to the recommendations of the *Ship Salvage* report;
 - (b) work with the industry and State Governments to develop a long-term plan to ensure that the Australian maritime sector is protected through adequate salvage capacity; and
 - (c) fund an interim solution to ensure that adequate salvage capacity exists at Australian ports. (*Notice given 2 December 2004. Time allowed—20 minutes.*)

†2 **MR M. D. FERGUSON:** To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises that many Australian couples want to offer their home to orphaned children from overseas countries and notes that in 2003-04 there were 370 inter-country placement adoptions in Australia;
- (2) understands that whilst adoptive couples are passionate to secure an overseas adoption, in general the main motivation is to give a secure and loving home to child in need;
- (3) affirms that state governments and the Federal Government have a duty to ensure that adoptive children are placed in responsible and loving homes;

* Notifications to which an asterisk (*) is prefixed appear for the first time

† Debate to be adjourned to a future day at the conclusion of the time allotted.

- (4) recognises the enormous financial costs and emotional strain placed on adoptive couples in the course of applying for overseas adoption, receiving a child into their home, and the associated overseas travel;
- (5) urges the Australian Government to examine ways that it can better support families with children who have been adopted, whether through local or overseas adoptions; and
- (6) calls on the state governments to immediately review the excessive financial charges imposed on adoptive parents with a view to dramatically reducing them. (*Notice given 8 February 2005. Time allowed—remaining private Members' business time prior to 1.45 p.m..*)

†3 **MS VAMVAKINO**: To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises that the English language is the most common and unifying language amongst Australians;
- (2) recognises and supports immigrants and indigenous Australians who speak languages other than English and encourages them to retain these languages as they acquire English;
- (3) recognises the profound and lasting benefits of second language learning for individuals and for the nation: intellectual development, cultural sensitivity, greater equality and enhancement in trade and diplomacy;
- (4) recognises that despite successive government policies on the matter of language learning we have not really succeeded in reaping the maximum benefits of the multilingual resources of the Australian people;
- (5) recognises that Australia should base its national policy on languages on the principles of 'English Plus' which can be expressed as the four 'E's: enrichment, economics, equality and external; and
- (6) recognises that Australia needs to elevate the recognition of the importance of language as a skill and resource, both for individuals and as a nation in domestic and international domains. (*Notice given 8 December 2004. Time allowed—30 minutes.*)

†4 **MR JOHNSON**: To move—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges the importance and value of free trade agreements in strengthening bilateral relations between countries and producing international trade benefits;
- (2) recognises the enormous opportunities for Australia in furthering trade arrangements with the world's fastest growing economy, China; and
- (3) supports the Government's Australia-China Free Trade Agreement Joint Feasibility Study currently underway into the viability of a free trade agreement between Australia and China. (*Notice given 29 November 2004. Time allowed—remaining private Members' business time.*)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Orders of the day

- 1 **GRIEVANCE DEBATE**: Question—That grievances be noted (*under standing order 44*).
- 2 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2004-2005** (*Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 2005—Mr Murphy, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Swan, viz.—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: "whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House condemns the Government for its:*
 - (1) dishonest promises during the 2004 election campaign that it would keep interest rates low;
 - (2) short-term, reckless spending during the lead up to the 2004 election, which is adding to inflationary and interest rate pressures;
 - (3) gross neglect of Australia's education and training needs, leaving Australia with a skills crisis which is adding to inflationary and interest rate pressures; and
 - (4) failure to secure Australia's economic future by making the long term policy commitments that will improve the productivity and competitiveness of the Australian economy".
- 3 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 2004-2005** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 10 February 2005—Mr Ripoll*).

- 4 **APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL (NO. 2) 2004-2005** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 10 February 2005—Mr Neville*).
- 5 **FARM HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT AMENDMENT BILL 2005** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 16 February 2005—Mr Bevis*).
- *6 **FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (FURTHER 2004 ELECTION COMMITMENTS AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2005** (*Parliamentary Secretary—Children and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 2005—Mr Ripoll*).
- *7 **MEDICAL INDEMNITY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2005** (*Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 2005—Mr Griffin*).
- *8 **HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (2005 MEASURES NO. 1) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Education, Science and Training*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 2005—Mr Griffin*).
- *9 **TRADE PRACTICES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2005** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 2005—Mr Ripoll*).
- *10 **AGRICULTURAL AND VETERINARY CHEMICALS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (LEVY AND FEES) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 2005—Mr Ripoll*).
- *11 **BORDER PROTECTION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (DETERRENCE OF ILLEGAL FOREIGN FISHING) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 2005—Mr Ripoll*).
- 12 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (RIGHT OF ENTRY) BILL 2004** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 2 December 2004—Mr Bevis*).
- 13 **CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2004** (*Parliamentary Secretary—Children and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 2004—Mr A. S. Burke*).
- 14 **SEX DISCRIMINATION AMENDMENT (TEACHING PROFESSION) BILL 2004** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 November 2004—Ms Roxon*).
- 15 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (FAIR DISMISSAL REFORM) BILL 2004** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 14 February 2005—Ms Bird, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Andrews—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr S. F. Smith, viz.—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House:*
- (1) confirms that the protection from being unfairly dismissed is a fundamental issue for Australian workers and their families irrespective of the size of the business in which they are employed; and
 - (2) calls on the Government to work with small business, employees and peak bodies to make unfair dismissal laws more effective by addressing procedural complexities and costs”.
- 16 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (SMALL BUSINESS EMPLOYMENT PROTECTION) BILL 2004** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 2004—Mr K. J. Thomson*).
- 17 **TRADE PRACTICES AMENDMENT (PERSONAL INJURIES AND DEATH) BILL 2004** (*Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 2004—Mr Edwards*).
- 18 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (EXTENDED PROHIBITION OF COMPULSORY UNION FEES) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 February 2004—Mr McClelland*).
- 19 **PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE ON CORPORATIONS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES:** Consideration of Senate’s message No. 4. (*from 29 November 2004*).
- 20 **AIR PASSENGER TICKET LEVY COLLECTION ACT—REPORT FOR 1 APRIL 2003 TO 31 MARCH 2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 February 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.

- 21 **ROADS TO RECOVERY PROGRAM—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 February 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 22 **STANDING COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND REGIONAL SERVICES—REPORT: MOVING ON INTELLIGENT TRANSPORT SYSTEMS—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 February 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 23 **CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY AUTHORITY—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 February 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Pearce—That the House take note of the document.
- 24 **FOREIGN INVESTMENT REVIEW BOARD—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 February 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Pearce—That the House take note of the document.
- 25 **INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 February 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Pearce—That the House take note of the document.
- 26 **NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMISSION—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 February 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Pearce—That the House take note of the document.
- 27 **REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO THE CENTENARY HOUSE LEASE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 2004—Mr Pyne*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 28 **AUSTRALIAN RAIL TRACK CORPORATION—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 2004—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 29 **AUSTRALIAN RAIL TRACK CORPORATION—STATEMENT OF CORPORATE INTENT 2004-2005—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 2004—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 30 **AUSTRALIA-JAPAN FOUNDATION—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 2004—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the document.
- 31 **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND REGIONAL SERVICES—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 2004—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the document.
- 32 **ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT—FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 1982—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 2004—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 33 **QUARTERLY REPORT ON MOVEMENT CAP FOR SYDNEY AIRPORT—1 JULY 2004 TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2004—DOCUMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 2004—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 34 **NATIONAL TRANSPORT COMMISSION—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 2004—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 35 **AIRSERVICES AUSTRALIA—CORPORATE PLAN JULY 2004-JUNE 2009—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 2 December 2004—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the document.
- 36 **ALCOHOL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION FOUNDATION LTD—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 1 December 2004—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 37 **AUSLINK WHITE PAPER—DOCUMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 November 2004*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 38 **QUARTERLY REPORT ON MOVEMENT CAP FOR SYDNEY AIRPORT—1 APRIL 2004 TO 30 JUNE 2004—DOCUMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 November 2004*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.

- 39 **NATIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 November 2004*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 40 **CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY AUTHORITY—CORPORATE PLAN 2004-2005 TO 2006-2007—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 November 2004*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 41 **STEVEDORING INDUSTRY FINANCE COMMITTEE—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 November 2004*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 42 **AUSTRALIAN MARITIME SAFETY AUTHORITY—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 November 2004*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 43 **TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr Hunt*):
 Customs Tariff Proposal No. 1 (2004)—*moved 1 December 2004*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Edwards*).
 Customs Tariff Proposal No. 1 (2005)—*moved 16 February 2005*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Bevis*).
- 44 **LEGISLATIVE INSTRUMENTS (TECHNICAL AMENDMENT) BILL 2004:** Second reading (*from 16 November 2004*).

Contingent notices of motion

- Contingent on any bill being brought in and read a first time:* Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the second reading being made an order of the day for a later hour.
- Contingent on any report relating to a bill being received from the Main Committee:* Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.
- Contingent on any bill being agreed to at the conclusion of the consideration in detail stage:* Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the motion for the third reading being moved without delay.
- Contingent on any message being received from the Senate transmitting any bill for concurrence:* Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the bill being passed through all its stages without delay.

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS—*continued*

Orders of the day

- 1 **AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION TO UKRAINE AND BULGARIA, 28 JUNE TO 9 JULY 2004 —REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2004—Mr Kerr, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Kerr—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)
- 2 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT 63: TREATIES TABLED ON 7 DECEMBER 2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 February 2005—Dr Southcott, in continuation*) on the motion of Dr Southcott—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS—*continued*

Notice given for Monday, 7 March 2005

- *1 **MS OWENS:** To move—That this House:
- (1) condemns the act of unprovoked violence that took the life of Mr Rafik Hariri, Lebanon's former Prime Minister, along with nine others;

- (2) notes that Mr Hariri was Lebanon's Prime Minister for 10 of the last 14 years, he was a major figure in the re-construction of Beirut after the civil war and had emerged as a leading critic of the continued presence of foreign troops in Lebanon; and
- (3) notes that Mr Hariri will be remembered around the world and among Lebanese Australians for his unstinting dedication to the people of Lebanon. (*Notice given 17 February 2005.*)

Notices—*continued*

1 MR PRICE: To move—

- (1) That a Standing Committee on Appropriations and Staffing be appointed to inquire into:
 - (a) proposals for the annual estimates and the additional estimates for the House of Representatives;
 - (b) proposals to vary the staff structure of the House of Representatives, and staffing and recruitment policies; and
 - (c) such other matters as are referred to it by the House;
- (2) That the committee shall:
 - (a) in relation to estimates—
 - (i) determine the amounts for inclusion in the parliamentary appropriation bills for the annual and the additional appropriations; and
 - (ii) report to the House upon its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill; and
 - (b) in relation to staffing—
 - (i) make recommendations to the Speaker; and
 - (ii) report to the House on its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill;
- (3) That the committee consist of the Speaker and 11 other members, 6 members to be nominated by the Chief Government Whip or Whips and 5 members to be nominated by the Chief Opposition Whip or Whips or any independent Member;
- (4) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair;
- (5) That the committee elect a deputy chairman who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chairman at that meeting;
- (6) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine;
- (7) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only, and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting;
- (8) That the quorum of a subcommittee be a majority of the members of that subcommittee;
- (9) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the public proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum;
- (10) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records;
- (11) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place;
- (12) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any sittings or adjournment of the House;
- (13) That the committee have leave to report from time to time; and
- (14) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders. (*Notice given 16 November 2004. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

2 MR PRICE: To move—That this House:

- (1) refers to the Standing Committee on Procedure the draft Framework of Ethical Principles for Members and Senators and the draft Framework of Ethical Principles for Ministers and Presiding Officers dated 1995;
- (2) seeks advice from the Procedure Committee as to the continuing validity or otherwise of the drafts; and
- (3) requests the Procedure Committee to confer with the Procedure Committee of the Senate in its consideration of these matters. (*Notice given 16 November 2004. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

3 MR L. FERGUSON: To move—That this House:

- (1) calls on the United Nations Security Council to immediately consider and take appropriate actions to respond to the growing threats posed to the Southeast Asia region by conditions in Burma;
- (2) supports actions implementing the result of 1990 elections in Burma and to support the Committee Representing the People's Parliament for the restoration of Democracy in Burma; and
- (3) records its strong concern about the continued detention of Aung San Suu Kyi and 2000 political prisoners and calls for their immediate and unconditional release. (*Notice given 29 November 2004. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

4 MR B. P. O'CONNOR: To move—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges 1 December 2004 as World AIDS Day;
- (2) acknowledges that the primary objective of World AIDS Day 2004 is to further enable women and girls to take a primary role in changing the underlying cultural, social and economic barriers which make women more vulnerable to infection;
- (3) acknowledges that women have a central role in educating their families and their wider communities about HIV/AIDS prevention, and in supporting those with the disease; and
- (4) recognises that women and girls are biologically, economically and socially vulnerable to HIV infection and AIDS, and that violence or economic dependence disproportionately increases their chances of contracting the virus. (*Notice given 29 November 2004. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

5 MR LINDSAY: To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises that:
 - (a) passive welfare payments to Aboriginal communities, asking nothing in return from the recipient, have denied them the pride they deserve and the opportunity to shape their own destiny;
 - (b) education is the key to change, and that childhood intervention to improve education will boost employment opportunities and head off longer-term problems; and
 - (c) the leadership capacity of individuals in local communities must be fostered, and that we should support those Aboriginal leaders who want to stand up and 'tell it like it is', rather than dealing with elected or appointed intermediaries who will not be accountable;
- (2) condemns the violence and unlawful destruction of property in Aboriginal communities this year, which puts the lives of police and others at risk; and
- (3) calls on Aboriginal communities to show the leadership they need to move forward into a more successful future. (*Notice given 29 November 2004. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

6 MR SERCOMBE: To move—That this House:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) international observers, including the International Election Monitoring Mission of the Organisation of Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), have reported that the recent election in Ukraine has fallen short of international standards;
 - (b) free elections are an essential component of the democratic process which reflects the will of the Ukrainian people;
 - (c) there is a widespread perception in the world community that the conduct of the elections in Ukraine has not achieved democratic norms;

- (d) the most blatant and widespread abuses of the election process in Ukraine are reported to have involved the manipulation of absentee votes and the uneven and biased access to the government-owned media; and
 - (e) a resolution to the disputed election results can only be achieved through a new election which is conducted in a transparent manner that meets international standards;
- (2) calls on the Government of Ukraine to:
- (a) ensure the safety and welfare of all its citizens taking part in peaceful demonstrations that exercise their democratic rights; and
 - (b) hold a new presidential election based on democratic principles, which:
 - (i) allows both presidential candidates equal and unbiased access to the mass media of Ukraine in the period leading up to the new election date; and
 - (ii) ensures that international observers participate at all levels of the election process to achieve a result that is acceptable to all parties;
- (3) requests the Speaker of the House of Representatives to transmit this resolution to the outgoing President of Ukraine, Leonid Kuchma, the Parliament of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Ambassador to Australia; and
- (4) urges the Australian Government to make further representations to the above effect. (*Notice given 29 November 2004. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)
- 7 MR SCOTT:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes that:
- (a) international observers, including the International Election Monitoring Mission of the Organisation of Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), have reported that the recent presidential election in Ukraine has fallen well short of international standards;
 - (b) reported irregularities include suspiciously high voter turnout in several regions, the fraudulent use of absentee voting, intimidation of voters at some polling stations, abuse of state resources, and overt media bias;
 - (c) in such circumstances the officially declared results of the election cannot be taken to properly represent the will of the Ukrainian people; and
 - (d) a resolution to the current political crisis in Ukraine can only be achieved through a new election which is conducted in a transparent manner that meets international standards;
- (2) calls on the Government of Ukraine to:
- (a) ensure the safety and welfare of all its citizens, including those taking part in peaceful demonstrations as part of the exercise of their democratic rights; and
 - (b) hold a new presidential election based on democratic principles that:
 - (i) ensures absentee ballots are cast in a free and democratic manner, and are not subject to abuse;
 - (ii) allows both presidential candidates equal and unbiased access to the mass media of Ukraine in the period leading up to the new election date; and
 - (iii) ensures that international observers participate at all levels of the election process to achieve a result that is acceptable to all parties;
- (3) requests the Speaker to transmit this resolution to the outgoing President of Ukraine Leonid Kuchma, the Parliament of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Ambassador to Australia; and
- (4) urges the Australian Government to make further representations to the above effect. (*Notice given 1 December 2004. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)
- 8 MR PRICE:** To move—That this House expresses its concern about the international trafficking in women for sexual slavery and:
- (1) recognises that women trafficked to Australia for sexual servitude are victims not criminals and should be treated by authorities as victims;
 - (2) calls on the Government to adopt the recommendations of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission's report: *Australian Crime Commission's response to trafficking in women for sexual servitude*;

- (3) urges the Government to increase the assistance available to victims of trafficking for sexual servitude;
- (4) calls on the Government to change current visa provisions so as to give adequate protection to all victims of trafficking for sexual servitude;
- (5) condemns the Government for placing victims of human trafficking for sexual servitude in detention;
- (6) recognises that women who have been trafficked to Australia for sexual servitude who subsequently cooperate with police are in great danger, both in Australia and, in particular, their country of origin; and
- (7) notes the Government's failure to prosecute the human traffickers. (*Notice given 10 February 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

9 **MR ALBANESE:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the serious impact that the noise generated by aircraft landing at Sydney Kingsford-Smith Airport has on all residents of surrounding suburbs and all users of facilities in the area;
- (2) notes, in particular, the disruptive impact of aircraft noise on students and teachers at schools in the area;
- (3) acknowledges the justified expenditure on the Noise Amelioration Program in respect of schools located within the limits presently set for assistance;
- (4) recognises that Sydney's great Fort Street High School is located some 200 metres from the edge of the limit but that the impact of aircraft noise does not suddenly cease in accordance with contour lines on a map; and
- (5) calls on the Minister for Transport and Regional Services to direct that assistance be provided for a noise insulation program at Fort Street High School. (*Notice given 15 February 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

10 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by amending standing order 80 to read as follows:

80 Closure of Member

A motion may be made that a Member who is speaking, except a Member giving a notice of motion or formally moving the terms of a motion allowed under the standing orders or speaking to a motion of dissent (from any ruling of the Speaker under standing order 100), "be no longer heard", and such question shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate. (*Notice given 16 February 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

11 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by inserting the following standing order after standing order 99:

99A Questions to committee chairs

A Question may be put to a Member in his or her capacity as Chair of a committee of the House, or of a joint committee, in connection with the work or duties of the committee in question. (*Notice given 16 February 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

12 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the following amendment to the Standing Orders be adopted for the remainder of this session:

102B Lodging questions in writing on behalf of constituents

- (a) A Member may lodge a question in writing in terms proposed by a person who lives in the Member's electoral division.
- (b) A question in writing given under this standing order may show the name of the person who has proposed the question.
- (c) A Member may not lodge more than 25 questions in writing under this sessional order in a calendar year.
- (d) Nothing in this standing order may be taken to mean that a Member must give notice of a question proposed to the Member by a person who lives in the Member's electoral division. (*Notice given 16 February 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

- 13 **MR PRICE:** To move—That standing order 104 be omitted and the following standing orders be adopted:

104A Answers

The answer to a question asked orally shall be relevant and:

- (a) shall be concise and confined to the subject matter of the question: the asking of each question must not exceed four minutes;
- (b) the asking of each supplementary question must not exceed one minute;
- (c) the time taken to make and determine points of order is not to be regarded as part of the time for questions and answers;
- (d) shall relate to public affairs with which the Minister is officially connected, to proceedings in the House, or to any other matter of administration for which the Minister is responsible; and
- (e) shall not debate the subject to which the question refers.

104B The standing orders that apply to the asking of a question orally shall generally apply to the answer. (*Notice given 16 February 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

- 14 **MR PRICE:** To move—That standing order 105 be amended and the following be inserted:

105C Replies to written questions

An answer to a question in writing shall be relevant to the question and shall be provided to the Member who asked the question within 30 days. (*Notice given 16 February 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

- 15 **MR PRICE:** To move—That standing order 209 be amended and the following be included:

- (d) At the time provided for the presentation of petitions, the following arrangements shall apply to the presentation of petitions certified to be in conformity with the standing orders:
 - (i) in respect of each petition, the petitioner, or one of the petitioners, may present the petition to the House by standing at the Bar of the House and reading to the House the prayer of the petition, and
 - (ii) where a petitioner is not able to present the petition in accordance with standing order 209(d)(i), the Member who has lodged the petition may present it to the House by reading to the House the prayer of the petition. (*Notice given 16 February 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

- 16 **MR PRICE:** To move—That standing order 221 be replaced with the following:

221 Modernisation and Procedure Committee

- (a) A Standing Committee on Modernisation and Procedure of the House of Representatives shall be appointed to inquire into and report on practices and procedures of the House generally with a view to making recommendations for their improvement or change and for the development of new procedures.
- (b) The committee shall consist of the Speaker or his or her appointed Deputy Speaker, The Leader of the House or his or her appointed Deputy, the Manager of Opposition Business or his or her appointed Deputy and eight Members, four government Members and four non-government Members.
- (c) The Secretary of the Committee will be the Clerk or Deputy Clerk. (*Notice given 16 February 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

Orders of the day

- 1 **WORKING POOR:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2004*) on the motion of Ms George—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges the alarming growth in the ranks of ‘working poor’ Australians;
- (2) notes that recent ABS data shows a disturbingly high level of financial pressure among the ‘working poor’;
- (3) notes that the majority of ‘working poor’ Australians are totally reliant on minimum Award wages;
- (4) acknowledges the majority of Award workers are women in part-time and casual jobs serving the needs of others in the hospitality, retail, health, childcare and community sectors; and

- (5) supports the system of annual wage increases to minimum Award rates as determined by the AIRC. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)
- 2 **DRIVER EDUCATION:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2004—Mr Baker, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr A. D. H. Smith—That this House:
- (1) notes the terrible, and mostly avoidable, consequences of death and injury occurring on Australia's roads each year;
 - (2) notes the importance of Australia's car and truck drivers and motor cycle riders remembering to drive and ride safely at all times, being mindful of their passengers' safety and the safety of other road users;
 - (3) notes the Australian Government's plans, as announced in May 2003, for a compulsory national program of driver education for all new provisional licence holders that aims to reduce the number of young people killed and maimed on our roads;
 - (4) notes the critical need for all levels of government and the broader automotive and related industries to work cooperatively with the objective of promoting safer driving and to partially fund driver education for new, mostly young, drivers; and
 - (5) recognises the successes and ongoing work of community-based organisations, including schools, in their efforts to teach and promote safer driving and other key road safety messages. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)
- 3 **STATELESS VIETNAMESE PEOPLE:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2004*) on the motion of Mrs Irwin—That this House:
- (1) notes that 1,800 stateless Vietnamese people have been stranded in the Philippines since 1989 without residency status and are therefore ineligible to work or hold any rights of citizenship;
 - (2) commends the Australian Government for granting humanitarian visas in the past four years to 68 stateless Vietnamese families comprising 260 people who have parents, children or siblings in Australia;
 - (3) notes that a further 201 stateless Vietnamese families comprising 648 people with relatives in Australia remain in the Philippines;
 - (4) notes that the United Kingdom and the United States of America have accepted over 300 people and have indicated a willingness to accept additional stateless Vietnamese people; and
 - (5) calls on the Government to consider compassionately granting humanitarian visas to the remaining stateless Vietnamese families with relatives in Australia. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)
- 4 **AUTISM SUPPORT SERVICES:** Resumption of debate (*from 6 December 2004*) on the motion of Mr Randall—That this House:
- (1) acknowledges the profound impact autism has on Australian families and the challenges they face in finding sufficient educational, developmental and respite services to help children and their carers with this life long disability;
 - (2) notes that the funding of programs by the States to provide vital support to children with autism is vastly inadequate and causing unnecessary hardship and concern for their families; and
 - (3) accepts that while the States have primary responsibility for the provision of disability support services, the Federal Government should play an active leadership role in what is a nationwide issue that affects 1 in 1,000 children born in Australia. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)
- 5 **GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK (PROTECTING THE GREAT BARRIER REEF FROM OIL DRILLING AND EXPLORATION) AMENDMENT BILL 2005** (*Mr Albanese*): Second reading (*from 14 February 2005*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)
- 6 **AVOIDING DANGEROUS CLIMATE CHANGE (KYOTO PROTOCOL RATIFICATION) BILL 2005** (*Mr Albanese*): Second reading (*from 14 February 2005*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)
- 7 **PARENTS RAISING DISABLED CHILDREN:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 February 2005*) on the motion of Mr Neville—That this House:
- (1) recognises the role of parents raising profoundly disabled children;

- (2) acknowledges the challenges faced by these parents in respect of caring, respite and funding of special equipment and services;
 - (3) calls for a comprehensive re-assessment of the eligibility of parents (generally, though not exclusively, the mother) to a Carer's Allowance or Payment according to the level of disability and dependence; and
 - (4) requests an examination of respite services and medical requisites available to parents and their disabled charges. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)
- 8 **KYOTO PROTOCOL:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 February 2005—Mrs Elliot, in continuation*) on the motion of Ms George—That this House:
- (1) recognises that global warming is one of the greatest threats to the health of the planet, requiring international action to safeguard the environment for future generations;
 - (2) recognises that Australia is exposed to a range of negative social, economic and environmental impacts due to climate change;
 - (3) notes the Government's claim that Australia is on track to achieving its target of limiting greenhouse emissions;
 - (4) recognises the Kyoto Protocol provides Australia with future economic opportunities through carbon trading schemes and new markets for 'green' technologies; and
 - (5) urges the Government, on both environmental and economic grounds, to ratify the Kyoto Protocol which comes into force on 16 February 2005. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)
- 9 **HUMAN RIGHTS IN DARFUR:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 February 2005*) on the motion of Mr Baird—That this House:
- (1) notes with concern;
 - (a) the ongoing humanitarian and human rights crisis in the Darfur region of Western Sudan; and
 - (b) the decimation of this area and the south of the country by Janjaweed and the ongoing civil war;
 - (2) commends the Government for its:
 - (a) recent commitment to provide a further \$12 million in aid to the region in addition to the \$8 million committed in May and June of this year; and
 - (b) continued support for the establishment of a United Nations intervention in the area to ensure the delivery of aid; and
 - (3) urges the United Nations to emphasise to the al-Bashir Government the importance of intervention to the safety of Darfuris and the provision of assistance throughout the country. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)
- 10 **HUMAN RIGHTS IN BURMA:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 February 2005*) on the motion of Mr Rudd—That this House:
- (1) notes:
 - (a) with deep concern widely circulated reports of the further extension of the detention of the leader of the Burmese opposition party, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi until September 2005;
 - (b) that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi is being detained without charge; and
 - (c) continued widespread human rights abuses by the Burmese military regime, including the suppression of pro-democracy supporters;
 - (2) calls on:
 - (a) the Burmese military regime to immediately release Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and other members of her party who are being held without charge;
 - (b) the Government to examine urgently its options for demonstrating to the Burmese authorities how seriously it views this situation;
 - (c) the Government to amend its policy of 'constructive engagement' with the current State Peace and Democracy Council (SPDC) regime in light of ongoing human rights abuses; and
 - (d) the Government to consider targeted sanctions against members of the SPDC regime, including restrictions on their international financial transactions, a freeze on assets overseas, and travel restrictions against senior members of the regime travelling to Australia; and

- (3) condemns the failure of Prime Minister Howard to use the opportunities presented at the ASEAN summit in Vientiane to raise Australia's ongoing concerns about the Burmese military regime's continued human rights abuses. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 March 2005.*)

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS (standing orders 34, 39 and 40): Presentation and consideration of committee and delegation reports has precedence each Monday.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS (standing orders 34 and 35) has precedence from the conclusion of consideration of committee and delegation reports, being interrupted at 1.45 p.m. and then continuing for 1 hour after the presentation of petitions each Monday.

The **SELECTION COMMITTEE** is responsible for determining the order of precedence and allotting time for debate on consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business. Its determinations for today are shown under "Business accorded priority for this sitting". Any private Members' business not called on, or consideration of private Members' business or committee and delegation reports which has been interrupted and not re-accorded priority by the Selection Committee on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays, shall be removed from the Notice Paper (standing order 42).

BUSINESS OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS****Orders of the day**

- 1 **INDIAN OCEAN TSUNAMI—COPY OF MOTION BY THE PRIME MINISTER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 2005—Ms King, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Pearce—That the House take note of the document.
- 2 **AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE AMENDMENT BILL 2005** (*Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 10 February 2005—Mr Crean*).
- 3 **AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 2004** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 14 February 2005*).

QUESTIONS IN WRITING

On the first sitting day of each fortnight, a complete Notice Paper is published containing all unanswered questions. On subsequent days, only new questions for the sitting are included in the Notice Paper. The full text of all unanswered questions is available at:

www.aph.gov.au/house/info/notpaper/qons.pdf

17 November 2004

1 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is he aware that the Director of the United States of America (US) Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), Mr George Tenet, recently told the US Senate Select Committee on Intelligence that Osama bin Laden had sought to “acquire or develop a nuclear device”.
- (2) Is he aware that the International Atomic Energy Agency has reported 175 nuclear smuggling incidents since 1993, 18 of which involved highly enriched uranium, the key ingredient in an atomic bomb and the most dangerous product on the nuclear black market.
- (3) Is he able to say what proportion of shipping containers arriving in Australian harbours and airports are scanned for radioactive emissions; if not, why not.
- (4) Can he confirm whether containers arriving from parts of the world where terrorists are known to be active, such as the Middle East, are more closely scrutinised for radioactive materials; if not, why not.
- (5) Is he aware of the United Nations (UN) report titled ‘Time to control tactical nuclear weapons’ dated 24 September 2001 which recommended measures such as installing radiation scanners at key facilities such as ports and border crossings.
- (6) Can he say what measures have been taken by the Australian government to comply with the recommendations made in the 2001 UN report; if not, why not.

3 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What proportion of (a) barristers, and (b) solicitors failed to lodge an income tax return on time in each of the financial years ended 1992 through to 2002.
- (2) What action did the Australian Taxation Office do about this and when was it taken.

4 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—What (a) number, and (b) proportion of all taxpayers failed to lodge an income tax return during each of the financial years ended 30 June 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002.

5 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 1761 (*Hansard*, 8 September 2003, page 18973), how many (a) barristers, and (b) solicitors or lawyers were not up-to-date with the lodgement of their income taxation returns with the Australian Taxation Office in each of the financial years ended 1997 to 2003.
- (2) What action has the Commissioner of Taxation taken since 1 July 1997 to force members of the legal profession to lodge their income taxation returns with the Australian Taxation Office.
- (3) What are the details of the (a) administrative penalties, and (b) prosecutions taken against members of the legal profession.
- (4) Can he provide an up-to-date report on the action taken by the Taxation Commissioner since the release by the Attorney-General and the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer on 2 May 2003 of their press release titled “Progress of Government action to strengthen laws to prevent tax abuse”.
- (5) What is the progress of the Commissioner of Taxation’s investigation to ensure that existing arrangements designed to disadvantage creditors are overturned.

6 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to question No. 1640 (*Hansard*, 2 December 2003, page 23137), is a decision flowing from the administrative process of the Australian Taxation Office’s investigations a reviewable decision under the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977*; if so, who has standing to seek a review of a decision.

7 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) In respect of the publication of the Australian Taxation Office titled *Taxation Statistics 2000-01*, can he confirm the data in Table 3.4 titled Source of personal taxpayer income, 2000-01 income year showing (a) the number of taxpayers reporting income from salary and wages was 8,010,612, (b) the

total personal income from salary and wages reported was \$259,393 million (74.1% of total income reported), (c) the total number of taxpayers reporting income in any category is 10,273,479, and (d) total personal income reported from all sources was \$349,824 million.

- (2) Can he confirm that the publication states (a) “in 2000-01 around 10.3 million personal taxpayers lodged returns – representing 52% of the total Australian population (19.7 million) as of 30 June 2001” and (b) “on average personal (or individual) taxpayers have accounted for 53% of the total Australian population since 1995-96”.
- (3) Can he confirm that section 3.10 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* states “besides paying instalments and the rest of your income tax, your main obligations as a taxpayer are... (b) to lodge returns as required by the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*”.
- (4) Will he explain the obligations a taxpayer has under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* and supporting legislation to lodge a taxation return.
- (5) What is the estimated total number of personal taxpayers that are obliged to lodge a tax return.
- (6) How many persons (a) receiving personal income are subject to income taxation, (b) are required to obtain a tax file number under Australian taxation law, and (c) are required to lodge a taxation return under Australian taxation law.
- (7) What is the estimated cost to revenue for the years (a) 1999, (b) 2000, (c) 2001, (d) 2002, and (e) 2003 by persons who have not (i) declared taxable income, (ii) obtained a tax file number, (iii) lodged an income tax return, and (iv) paid the assessed income tax.
- (8) What steps are being taken following the *Ralph Report* to reduce the number of persons who have placed themselves outside the Australian taxation system; if no action is being taken, why not.

8 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Will he explain how self-assessment for personal income tax returns has increased the efficiency of taxation collection.
- (2) For each calendar year since 1999, how many (a) prosecutions, (b) debt recovery actions, and (c) other actions under legislation relating to personal income tax have occurred for failure to (i) declare taxable income, (ii) obtain a tax file number, (iii) lodge a taxation return, and (iv) pay the assessed income tax.
- (3) How many persons who should pay income tax have placed themselves outside the tax system by failing to (a) declare taxable income, (b) obtain a tax file number, (c) lodge a taxation return, and (d) pay the assessed income tax.
- (4) What action is he taking to reduce the number of people placing themselves outside the taxation system; if no action is being taken, why not.

9 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware that the Police Association of New South Wales is seeking a fairer and more equitable method of calculating the superannuation surcharge for NSW police who are members of the Police Superannuation Scheme.
- (2) Is he aware that police officers who are members of the Police Superannuation Scheme are excluded from the *Workers' Compensation Act 1987* and that they are experiencing abnormally high levels of retirement on medical grounds.
- (3) Is he aware that members who remain in the Police Superannuation Scheme are required to pay an ever-increasing surcharge contribution.
- (4) Will he review the Government's policy to allow the Commissioner of Taxation to make changes to the calculation of the surcharge for affected police to ensure fairness and equity with other occupations; if not, why not.

10 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to question No. 2832 (*Hansard*, 24 March 2004, page 26172), will he explain why the Australian Taxation Office does not maintain records of the number or proportion of taxpayers who have been subject to the provisions of paragraph 260-5(b) of the *Taxation Administration Act 1953*.

12 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 3445 (*Hansard*, 15 June 2004, page 29872), which issue did the Commissioner fail to consider.
- (2) Has the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) considered that issue regarding the tax loss transfer; if so, what was the outcome; if the ATO has not fully considered the issue, when does he expect a decision to be made.

- 13 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to question No. 1356 (*Hansard*, 15 June 2004, page 29849) where in the Commissioner of Taxation’s Report for 2002-2003 does it say how many (a) barristers, (b) solicitors, (c) judges, and (d) magistrates failed to lodge a tax return during the financial year ended 30 June (i) 1992, (ii) 1993, (iii) 1994, (iv) 1995, (v) 1996, (vi) 1997, (vii) 1998, (viii) 1999, (ix) 2000, (x) 2001, and (xi) 2002.
- 14 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 3016 (*Hansard*, 15 June 2004, page 29857), can he say why the Commissioner of Taxation’s Report for 2002-2003 did not explain why the ATO did not detect the members of the legal profession who were operating for many years outside of the taxation system.
 - (2) Will he provide an explanation now; if not, why not.
 - (3) Can he say why the Commissioner of Taxation’s Report for 2002-2003 did not explain why the ATO employed Mr Clarrie Stevens over a period of eight years during which he did not lodge an income tax return.
 - (4) Will he provide an explanation now; if not, why not.
- 15 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to question No. 2836 (*Hansard*, 25 May 2004, page 28959), where does it state in the Commissioner of Taxation’s Report for 2002-2003, (a) how many barristers were not up-to-date with the lodgement of their tax returns as at 1 December 2003, and (b) how many barristers were not up-to-date with the lodgement of their tax returns as at 3 March 2003 or at the time of the last review by the Commissioner of Taxation.
- 16 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to part (1) of question No. 2857 (*Hansard*, 25 May 2004, page 28959), where does it state in the Commissioner of Taxation’s Report for 2002-2003 how many barristers failed to lodge one or more tax returns for the financial year ending 30 June (a) 2001, (b) 2002, and (c) 2003.
- 17 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—Further to the answer to part (4) of question No. 3158 (*Hansard*, 13 May 2004, page 28553), can he explain why the Government will not change its superannuation policy to enable Australia’s police officers to retire at the age of 55 years with access to superannuation entitlements.
- 35 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 3157 (*Hansard*, 11 May 2004, page 28217), has his attention been drawn to a leaflet circulated by the Liberal candidate for Lowe, Mr John Sidoti, titled *MRI Machine for our local hospital*, which states “The Howard Liberal Government will issue a licence for a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine for our local hospital”.
 - (2) Can he explain why from 15 May 2002 to the present, in his replies to eleven questions on notice about granting an MRI licence for Concord Hospital, he and his predecessor would not give any indication that the Government intended to grant an MRI licence for Concord Hospital; if not, why not.
 - (3) Has he made a decision to grant Concord Hospital a licence for a Medicare-eligible MRI machine; if so, (a) when, and (b) was the decision publicly announced; if so, when; if not, (i) why not, and (ii) who has been informed of the decision and when were they informed.
- 36 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Further to the answer question No. 3583 (*Hansard*, 3 August 2004, page 31943), what sum has the Howard Government budgeted for its Strengthening Medicare advertising campaign.
 - (2) When will the evaluation of this campaign be completed.
 - (3) When will the evaluation report be finalised and published.
- 37 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 3582 (*Hansard*, 5 August 2004, page 32199), why has the Government not made a decision on whether the evaluation of its \$9 million media campaign titled ‘Here’s the prescription for a healthy Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme’ would be publicly released.
 - (2) When will a decision be made on whether to publicly release the evaluation report.
 - (3) Will the Government release the evaluation report before 31 March 2005; if not, why not.
- 40 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—What is the Minister doing to ensure visually impaired and blind people are able to independently cast a vote at the next federal election.

- 48 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Did his Department receive a licence agreement for the Super Dome box at the 2000 Sydney Olympics; if so, what was the basis of the agreement.
 - (2) In addition to the \$850,000 for the cost of tickets to the Olympics for use by Government, the \$240,000 for use of a 20-seat box at Stadium Australia, and the \$120,000 for an 18-seat box at the Super Dome, what was the breakdown of other costs incurred by him and other Ministers when entertaining guests during the Olympic Games.
- 49 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—What sum was spent during (a) 1998-1999, (b) 1999-2000, and (c) 2000-2001 on (i) consultation, (ii) transport, (iii) acquisition, and (iv) storage in respect of wines for the Prime Minister's Lodge and Kirribilli House.
- 51 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a letter published in The Sydney Morning Herald on 1 August 2002 from Mr Arthur Sinodinos of his Office, which states that those of his children who live at Kirribilli House and are financially independent pay board to the Commonwealth.
 - (2) Which of his children currently live at Kirribilli House.
 - (3) What sum is paid per month for their upkeep at Kirribilli House.
 - (4) On what basis is the amount paid assessed, and does it include such things as meals, laundry and telephone.
 - (5) To which Commonwealth Department is the board paid.
- 52 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Is it the case that the Lodge has been used by Prime Ministers as an official residence since the election of the Lyons Government in 1931.
 - (2) Is it the case that Kirribilli House was refurbished in 1957 as a residence for use by visiting guests of the Commonwealth and the Prime Minister when in Sydney.
 - (3) Is he aware that Kirribilli House was referred to in a paper presented to the Cabinet Amenities Committee in 1957 "as an additional residence available to the Prime Minister in Sydney as necessary".
 - (4) Is he aware that Kirribilli House was never intended to be the primary residence of the Prime Minister.
 - (5) How many days has he spent at (a) the Lodge, and (b) Kirribilli House in (i) 1996-1997, (ii) 1997-1998, (iii) 1998-1999, (iv) 1999-2000, (v) 2000-2001, (vi) 2001-2002, (vii) 2002-2003, and (viii) 2003-2004.
 - (6) What was the cost of maintaining (a) the Lodge, and (b) Kirribilli House in (i) 2002-2003, and (ii) 2003-2004.
 - (7) How many staff are currently employed at (a) the Lodge, and (b) Kirribilli House.
 - (8) What has been the cost of (a) his, and (b) his staff's travel between Sydney and Canberra in (i) 1996-1997, (ii) 1997-1998, (iii) 1998-1999, (iv) 1999-2000, (v) 2000-2001, (vi) 2001-2002, (vii) 2002-2003, and (viii) 2003-2004.
 - (9) Does he recall that his major reason for residing at Kirribilli House was that he had dependent children.
 - (10) Does he still have dependent children; if not, why does he maintain Kirribilli House as his primary residence.
- 53 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—What was the total cost, including a breakdown of costs for travel, accommodation, security and other expenses, of the Prime Minister's visit to the United Kingdom in November 2003.
- 55 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Since December 2001, what official gifts have been presented to visiting Heads of State, Heads of Government and Ministers of foreign governments.
 - (2) Who presented these gifts and what was the value of each gift.
 - (3) Since December 2001, what official gifts have been purchased for presentation by Australian Parliamentary delegations travelling overseas and what was the value of those gifts.

57 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 328 (*Hansard*, 21 October 2002, page 8389), how many of the outstanding 106 kilometres of the Hume Highway between Sydney and Albury that were not duplicated at 22 October 2002 remain unduplicated and what are the unduplicated sections.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of duplicating each section.
- (3) Are there any projects underway or plans for completing the outstanding duplication works over the next five years; if so, what are the projects and when and where will they be undertaken.
- (4) How many road accidents and fatalities have occurred on each section of the highway not yet duplicated.
- (5) When will the Albury-Wodonga bypass duplication commence, what is the detailed estimated cost of undertaking this project and what is the expected date of completion of the project.

58 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Would he provide a description of all the programs administered by his department including (a) the number of people directly receiving funds or assistance under the program, (b) a breakdown on those receiving funds/assistance under the program by electoral division, (c) the policy objective of the program, (d) whether the program is ongoing, and (e) the funding in each financial year of the forward estimates for the program (with a breakdown of administered and departmental expenses), including (i) how much funding was allocated for the program, (ii) how much is committed to the program, (iii) how much is unspent, and (iv) whether an evaluation of the program's effectiveness has been conducted; if so, when that evaluation occurred and what were its conclusions.
- (2) How many Senior Executive Service Officers (or equivalent) were employed by his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (3) What was the base and top (including performance pay) salaries of APS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (or equivalent), Executive Level 1 and 2 (or equivalent), and SES Band 1, Band 2 and Band 3 (or equivalent) in his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (4) What was the average salary of SES (or equivalent staff) in his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (5) How many staff were issued with mobile phones by his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (6) What was the total mobile phone bill for his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (7) How many SES (or equivalent) were issued with cars by his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (8) What are the details of all 'management retreats/training' conducted by his department which were attended by employees during (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004, indicating, in respect of those meetings held off departmental premises, (i) where (location and hotel) and when they were held, (ii) how much was spent in total, (iii) how much was spent on accommodation, (iv) how much was spent on food, (v) how much was spent alcohol/drinks, and (vi) how much was spent on transport.
- (9) How many overseas trips were taken by employees of his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004 and what were their destinations.
- (10) In respect of overseas travel by staff of his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004, what was the cost (i) in total, (ii) for accommodation, (iii) for meals and incidentals allowances, and (iv) for airfares.
- (11) In respect of domestic travel by staff of his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004, what was the cost (i) in total, (ii) for accommodation, (iii) for meals and incidentals allowances, and (iv) for airfares.

- (12) How many overseas trips of ministerial staff were paid for by his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (13) What was the total cost of overseas trips of ministerial staff paid for by his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (14) What sum was spent on advertising by his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (15) Did his department produce publications that provided a breakdown of spending on Government programs by electoral division in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (16) What sum was spent on advertising which provided a breakdown of spending on Government programs by electoral division in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (17) How much was spent on consultancies by his department in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (18) Did his department conduct any surveys of attitudes towards programs it was responsible for in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004 to date; if so, (i) on which programs were the surveys conducted, and (ii) what were the findings.

59 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Would he provide a description of all the programs administered by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) including (a) the number of people directly receiving funds or assistance under the program, (b) a breakdown on those receiving funds/assistance under the program by electoral division, (c) the policy objective of the program, (d) whether the program is ongoing, and (e) the funding in each financial year of the forward estimates for the program (with a breakdown of administered and authority expenses), including (i) how much funding was allocated for the program, (ii) how much is committed to the program, (iii) how much is unspent, and (iv) whether an evaluation of the program's effectiveness has been conducted; if so, when that evaluation occurred and what were its conclusions.
- (2) How many Senior Executive Service Officers (or equivalent) were employed by CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (3) What was the base and top (including performance pay) salaries of APS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (or equivalent), Executive Level 1 and 2 (or equivalent), and SES Band 1, Band 2 and Band 3 (or equivalent) in CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (4) What was the average salary of SES (or equivalent staff) in CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (5) How many staff were issued with mobile phones by CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (6) What was the total mobile phone bill for CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (7) How many SES (or equivalent staff) were issued with cars by CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (8) What are the details of all 'management retreats/training' conducted by CASA which were attended by employees during (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004, indicating, in respect of those meetings held off CASA premises, (i) where (location and hotel) and when they were held, (ii) how much was spent in total, (iii) how much was spent on accommodation, (iv) how much was spent on food, (v) how much was spent alcohol/drinks, and (vi) how much was spent on transport.
- (9) How many overseas trips were taken by employees of CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004 and what were their destinations.

- (10) In respect of overseas travel by staff of CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004, what was the cost (i) in total, (ii) for accommodation, (iii) for meals and incidentals allowances, and (iv) for airfares.
- (11) In respect of domestic travel by staff of CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004, what was the cost (i) in total, (ii) for accommodation, (iii) for meals and incidentals allowances, and (iv) for airfares.
- (12) How many overseas trips of ministerial staff were paid for by CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (13) What was the total cost of overseas trips of ministerial staff paid for by CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (14) What sum was spent on advertising by CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (15) Did CASA produce publications that provided a breakdown of spending on Government programs by electoral division in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (16) What sum was spent on advertising which provided a breakdown of spending on Government programs by electoral division in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (17) How much was spent on consultancies by CASA in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004.
- (18) Did CASA conduct any surveys of attitudes towards programs it was responsible for in (a) 1996-1997, (b) 1997-1998, (c) 1998-1999, (d) 1999-2000, (e) 2000-2001, (f) 2001-2002, (g) 2002-2003, and (h) 2003-2004; if so, (i) on which programs were the surveys conducted, and (ii) what were the findings.
- 61 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Was he, his department or Airservices Australia consulted by the operators of Avalon Airport, Jetstar Airlines or Qantas about the lack of Aviation Rescue and Fire Fighting Services at Avalon Airport prior to the announcement by Jetstar Airlines that it would use Avalon Airport; if so, what was the response.
 - (2) Will the Government act to ensure there will be a dedicated Aviation Rescue and Fire Fighting Service at Avalon Airport from the time Jetstar Airlines commences operation from Avalon Airport.
- 62 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) When did he direct the Australian Transport Safety Bureau to investigate the effectiveness of fire fighting arrangements at Bankstown Airport.
 - (2) When did he write to the General Manager of (a) Bankstown, (b) Moorabbin, (c) Archerfield, and (d) Jandakot Airport to seek their views on the provision of enhanced interim fire fighting arrangements.
 - (3) What has been the response from each airport.
 - (4) What types of 'enhanced interim fire fighting arrangements' are proposed at these airports and who would pay for these arrangements.
 - (5) Can he confirm that (a) Yulara, and (b) Maroochydore Airport has reached the established figure of 350,000 passenger movements per annum; if so, when will Aviation Rescue and Fire Fighting services be introduced at these airports.
- 63 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) When was the deadline for the submission of security plans for all ports, port facilities and Australian-flagged ships ahead of the 1 July 2004 deadline for the implementation of the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code (ISPS).
 - (2) Which ports, port facilities and Australian-flagged ships met the deadline to submit security plans.
 - (3) Which ports, port facilities and Australian-flagged ships did not meet the deadline to submit security plans.

- (4) What reasons have been cited by each port, port facility and Australian-flagged ship for not meeting the deadline to submit security plans.
- (5) What directives have been issued for those ports, port facilities and Australian-flagged ships that did not meet the deadline to submit security plans.
- (6) What impact does the failure of those ports, port facilities and Australian-flagged ships to meet the deadline to submit security plans have on the meeting by the Australian maritime industry of the 1 July 2004 implementation of the ISPS Code.

64 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) In respect of the commencement of Jetstar operations from Avalon Airport, has either Avalon Airport or Jetstar provided the Government with anticipated passenger figures for (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005; if so, what are they.
- (2) Has Avalon Airport contacted the Government in respect of aviation rescue and fire fighting services; if so, what are the details.
- (3) Has Avalon Airport been granted an exemption by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority from the usual regulatory provisions relating to aviation rescue and fire fighting services.
- (4) Does he intend to allow Jetstar services to operate from Avalon Airport for 12 months before an aviation rescue and fire fighting service is established.
- (5) Is he aware that (a) the nearest fire fighting response to Avalon Airport is 30 minutes away, and (b) the local brigade tasked with the responsibility is not accredited to respond to aircraft incidents.
- (6) Is a 30 minute delay in aviation rescue and fire fighting services acceptable for an airport that will accommodate at least seven Boeing 717 flights each day.

66 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—What are the itemised costs of developing the National Airspace System incurred by the Department of Transport and Regional Services and other agencies in his portfolio.

67 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) In respect of the Asia Pacific Space Centre, at what stage are negotiations between the Australian and Russian Governments on the finalisation of the Technology Safeguard Agreement (TSA) and the Technical Recognition Memorandum of Understanding (TRMOU).
- (2) Has a timeline for finalisation of these negotiations been established; if so, when will the TSA and the TRMOU be finalised.
- (3) At what stage of the approval phase is the construction Environment Management Plan (EMP) for the proposed space centre on Christmas Island.
- (4) Is it the case that a space licence application cannot be approved until the TSA and TRMOU with the Construction EMP have been approved.

76 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) For the electoral division of Throsby, how many general practitioners were practising in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, and (d) 2003.
- (2) For each year since 2000, (a) how many general practitioners were practising, and (b) what was the general practitioner to population ratio in the postcode area (i) 2502, (ii) 2505, (iii) 2506, (iv) 2526, (v) 2527, (vi) 2528, (vii) 2529, and (viii) 2530.
- (3) For each year since 2000, (a) how many general practitioners were practising, and (b) what is the general practitioner to population ratio in (i) the Wollongong Local Government Area, and (ii) the Shellharbour Local Government Area.
- (4) For (a) Australia, (b) New South Wales, and (c) the electoral division of Throsby, (i) how many general practitioners are practising, and (ii) what is the general practitioner to population ratio.
- (5) For the electoral division of Throsby, how many specialist medical practitioners were practising in (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, (d) 2003, and (e) 2004.
- (6) Which part(s) of the electoral division of Throsby can be classified as a District of Workforce Shortage.

85 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware that childcare workers at the Dapto Cuddles Childcare Centre have not been receiving employer contributions under the *Superannuation Guarantee Charge Act 1992* for up to six years.

- (2) Is he aware that in the case of one of the employees, a sum of approximately \$18-20,000 is owing and that a total of approximately \$45,000 has not been paid.
- (3) What action will he take to ensure that the company, Work Childcare Management, pays its employees their legal entitlements.
- (4) What assurance can he give the staff that their complaints will be dealt with expeditiously and that monies owing are paid in accordance with the law.

87 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) How many (a) males, (b) females, and (c) people in total with an outstanding or accumulated HECS debt reside in the postcode area (i) 2502, (ii) 2505, (iii) 2506, (iv) 2526, (v) 2527, (vi) 2528, (vii) 2529, and (viii) 2530.
- (2) How many undergraduate students paid (a) upfront HECS fees, and (b) upfront full-fees in 2003-2004 in the postcode area (i) 2502, (ii) 2505, (iii) 2506, (iv) 2526, (v) 2527, (vi) 2528, (vii) 2529, and (viii) 2530.
- (3) How many (a) males, (b) females, and (c) people in total not currently enrolled at a university have an outstanding or accumulated HECS debt in the postcode area (i) 2502, (ii) 2505, (iii) 2506, (iv) 2526, (v) 2527, (vi) 2528, (vii) 2529, and (viii) 2530.
- (4) What is the average HECS debt per (a) male, (b) female, and (c) person in (i) Australia, (ii) New South Wales, and the postcode area (iii) 2502, (iv) 2505, (v) 2506, (vi) 2526, (vii) 2527, (viii) 2528, (ix) 2529, and (x) 2530.
- (5) What is the average age for paying off a HECS debt for (a) males, and (b) females in (i) Australia, (ii) New South Wales, and the postcode area (iii) 2502, (iv) 2505, (v) 2506, (vi) 2526, (vii) 2527, (viii) 2528, (ix) 2529, and (x) 2530.

89 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) For the year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004 how many applications for funding under the Regional Partnerships Program, or its predecessor, were submitted from the electoral division of Throsby and how many applications submitted during 2003-2004 are awaiting determination.
- (2) For the electoral division of Throsby and for the year 2003-2004, who has applied for funding under the Regional Partnerships Program and what are the details of each application.
- (3) For the year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004 what are the details of the grants applied for and received under the Regional Partnerships Program, or its predecessor, in the electoral divisions of (i) Throsby, (ii) Hume, (iii) Macarthur, (iv) Cunningham, and (v) Gilmore.
- (4) For the year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004 how many applications under the Regional Partnerships Program, or its predecessor, were approved and how many were rejected in the electoral divisions of (i) Throsby, (ii) Hume, (iii) Macarthur, (iv) Cunningham, and (v) Gilmore.

92 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is he aware that engineers of the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) conduct inspections of the F3 Freeway between Sydney and Newcastle and does his department receive advice of such inspections and their outcomes.
- (2) Does the Government provide funding to maintain and repair the F3 Freeway on the advice of the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority.
- (3) Is he aware that recent inspections by RTA officers have found evidence of cracked, dropped or crowned concrete slabs that require urgent replacement North of the Toronto interchange; if not, why not.
- (4) Is he aware of 'spalls' or 'potholes' on the F3 Freeway North of the Toronto interchange that have required constant repair for the last thirteen years; if not, why not.
- (5) Will he provide urgent funding to upgrade this section of road before motorists are killed or injured; if not, why not.

93 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) What sum was provided to (a) government, and (b) non-government schools in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752 for 2004.
- (2) What was the (a) expenditure on, (b) location of, and (c) purpose of each grant in 2004.

- (3) What sum will be provided to (a) government, and (b) non-government schools in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752 for 2005.
- (4) What will (a) the expenditure be for, (b) be the location of, and (c) be the purpose of each grant in 2005.

95 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) How many people with an outstanding or accumulated HECS debt reside in the postcode area (a) 3074, (b) 3075, (c) 3076, (d) 3082, (e) 3083 (f) 3087, (g) 3088, (h) 3089, (i) 3090, (j) 3091, and (k) 3752.
- (2) How many people with an outstanding or accumulated HECS debt not enrolled in tertiary studies reside in the postcode area (a) 3074, (b) 3075, (c) 3076, (d) 3082, (e) 3083 (f) 3087, (g) 3088, (h) 3089, (i) 3090, (j) 3091, and (k) 3752.
- (3) What is the total outstanding or accumulated HECS debt of people who reside in the postcode area (a) 3074, (b) 3075, (c) 3076, (d) 3082, (e) 3083 (f) 3087, (g) 3088, (h) 3089, (i) 3090, (j) 3091, and (k) 3752.

106 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many recipients of the Family Tax and Child Care benefit received letters of debt notification in relation to overpayment of those benefits in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, and (c) 2004-2005 in the electoral division of Scullin.
- (2) How many recipients of the Family Tax and Child Care benefit received letters of debt notification in relation to overpayment of those benefits in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, and (c) 2004-2005 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083 (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091 and (xi) 3752

113 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) How many Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (RPBS) prescriptions were filled for DVA treatment card holders during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (2) How many RPBS prescriptions were filled for DVA treatment card holders during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

114 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Government considering removing branded pharmaceuticals from the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) list.
- (2) How many PBS prescriptions were filled during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (3) How many PBS prescriptions were filled during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (4) How many PBS prescriptions were filled for concession card holders during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (5) How many PBS prescriptions were filled for concession card holders during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (6) How many PBS prescriptions were filled for people who did not hold concession cards during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (7) How many PBS prescriptions were filled for people who did not hold concession cards during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- (8) How many PBS prescriptions were filled for scripts that cost the consumer a maximum of \$23.70 during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (9) How many PBS prescriptions were filled for scripts that cost the consumer a maximum of \$23.70 during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

- (10) How many PBS prescriptions were filled for scripts that cost the consumer a maximum of \$3.80 during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- (11) How many PBS prescriptions were filled for scripts that cost the consumer a maximum of \$3.80 during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- 115 MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) How many individuals have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (2) How many individuals have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
 - (3) How many families have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (4) How many families have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
 - (5) How many families have registered for the Medicare Safety Net during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (6) How many families have registered for the Medicare Safety Net during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- 116 MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) How many individuals have reached the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (2) How many individuals have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
 - (3) How many families have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (4) How many families have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- 117 MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) How many individuals held a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (2) How many individuals held a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
 - (3) How many families held a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (4) How many families held a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- 118 MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) How many individuals held a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (2) How many individuals held a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
 - (3) How many families held a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (4) How many families held a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.

- 119 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What proportion of Medicare services by broad type of service were direct billed during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (2) What proportion of Medicare services by broad type of service were direct billed during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- 120 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) How many Medicare services were provided during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (2) How many Medicare services were provided during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- 121 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) How many Medicare services were provided per capita during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (2) How many Medicare services were provided per capita during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- 122 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) How many Medicare services were provided at or below the scheduled fee during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in (i) Victoria, and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
 - (2) How many Medicare services were provided at or below the scheduled fee during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in the postcode area (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090, (x) 3091, and (xi) 3752.
- 123 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What is the breakdown of the proportion of total unreferral GP attendances bulk-billed for the electoral division of Scullin for the 12 months ending (a) 30 June 2002, (b) 30 June 2003, and (c) 30 June 2004.
 - (2) What is the breakdown of the number of total unreferral GP attendances bulk-billed for the electoral division of Scullin for the 12 months ending (a) 30 June 2002, (b) 30 June 2003, and (c) 30 June 2004.
 - (3) What is the breakdown for the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) for total unreferral GP attendances for the electoral division of Scullin for the 12 months ending (a) 30 June 2002, (b) 30 June 2003, and (c) 30 June 2004.
 - (4) What is the breakdown for the number of services for total unreferral GP attendances for the electoral division of Scullin for the 12 months ending (a) 30 June 2002, (b) 30 June 2003, and (c) 30 June 2004.
- 137 **MR CAUSLEY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—
- (1) Is it the responsibility of the Electoral Commission to ensure the rolls are accurate.
 - (2) Does the Electoral Commission immediately check the legitimacy of provisional voting claims after an election.
 - (3) Were 1500 provisional votes claimed in the electoral division of Richmond in the 2004 election.
 - (4) Were 500 provisional votes not counted in the electoral division of Richmond because of doubts about their legitimacy.
 - (5) Has the Electoral Commission checked the residential addresses to see that the claimed provisional votes are legitimate; if so, how many discrepancies were there and what was the result of the check of addresses.

18 November 2004

- 141 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Does the Governor-General receive copies of Cabinet submissions and Cabinet Minutes.
 - (2) Are Cabinet submissions provided to the Governor-General prior to their consideration by Cabinet.

- (3) Are there any categories of Cabinet documents that are not routinely circulated to the Governor-General, for example, those relating to the office of the Governor-General.
- (4) Does the Governor-General regularly receive copies of papers prepared for or arising from meetings of the National Security Committee of Cabinet.
- 142 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Did His Excellency The Hon. Sir Guy Green receive copies of Cabinet Submissions and Cabinet Minutes during his service as Administrator of the Commonwealth.
- (2) Did Sir Guy Green receive copies of papers prepared for or arising from meetings of the National Security Committee of Cabinet.
- 143 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Will he provide a complete list of the organisations for which (a) the Governor-General, and (b) Her Excellency Mrs Jeffrey have agreed to serve as Patron or Patron-in-Chief.
- 145 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Did the Governor-General seek or receive advice from him, the Attorney-General, any other Minister, his department or the Attorney-General's Department before the Governor-General agreed to serve as Patron-in-Chief of the Constitutional Prize Program of the Constitution Education Fund – Australia (CEF-A).
- (2) Was the Governor-General informed, or otherwise made aware, of the CEF-A's close association and co-location with Australians for Constitutional Monarchy and that its Executive Director is Ms Kerry Jones.
- (3) Has he discussed with the Governor-General the potential for patronage of the CEF-A to involve the Governor-General and his office in debate on Australia's constitutional future, especially the question of an Australian Republic.
- 146 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) For each financial year since 1996-1997, how many meetings of the Federal Executive Council were presided over by (a) the Governor-General, (b) an Administrator of the Commonwealth, and (c) the Vice-President of the Executive Council.
- (2) For each financial year since 1996-1997, how many meetings of the Federal Executive Council were attended by (a) him, (b) the Deputy Prime Minister, (c) the Leader of the Government in the Senate, and (d) the Vice-President of the Executive Council.
- 147 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—For each financial year since 1996-1997, on how many occasions has he called at Government House or Admiralty House for (a) meetings of the Federal Executive Council, (b) other meetings with the Governor-General or Administrator excluding attendance at functions, and (c) to attend functions including luncheons, dinners and receptions etc.
- 150 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) In respect of the Governor-General's interview reported in the *Sunday Herald-Sun* on 7 November 2004 in which the Governor-General referred to his "new role of 'super diplomat' representing Australian interests overseas", can he explain Government's position on the Governor-General's role in the foreign relations of Australia.
- (2) Is it appropriate for the Governor-General, on the advice of the Prime Minister or relevant Ministers, to engage in substantive discussions of foreign policy and strategic issues with foreign Heads of State, Ministers or officials.
- (3) Does he contemplate that the Governor-General will engage in such exchanges while travelling overseas.
- 151 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Which countries have been visited by (a) Sir William Deane, (b) Dr Peter Hollingworth, and (c) Major-General Michael Jeffery in his capacity as Australian Governor-General.
- (2) In respect of each visit, (a) when did it take place, and (b) what was its primary purpose.
- 152 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) In respect of the Governor-General's position under Section 2 of the Constitution as "Her Majesty's representative in the Commonwealth" and the fact that the Governor-General cannot discharge his constitutional functions while outside Australia, is it necessary to seek formal approval from the Queen before the Governor-General travels overseas.

- (2) In granting approval for overseas travel by the Government-General, is the Queen advised directly by the Prime Minister or is the advice conveyed to the Queen with the Prime Minister's approval by the Governor-General.
- 154 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Has the Governor-General been briefed on his role or that of any person serving as Administrator of the Commonwealth in the event that a Continuity of Government plan is activated.
- 157 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—What sum has been provided for facilities, accommodation, staff, travel arrangements etc. for the former Governor-General, Dr Peter Hollingworth, since his resignation as Governor-General on 28 May 2003.
- 158 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Can he confirm that the Commonwealth Government has made donations to the Constitution Education Fund – Australia (CEF-A) – ABN: 76 750 439 829 an allowable tax deduction; if so, when and by whom was the decision made and announced.
 - (2) Were representations made to (a) him, (b) the then Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer, Senator Helen Coonan, (c) his department, and (d) the Australian Taxation Office about making donations to the CEF-A an allowable tax deduction; if so, when and by whom were the representations made.
 - (3) Is he aware that the CEF-A is collocated with and controlled by leading members of Australians for a Constitutional Monarchy with Ms Kerry Jones serving as the CEF-A's Executive Director.
- 159 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What sum did the Government spend on its Strengthening Medicare advertising program prior to the Federal Election (a) in total on all media, and (b) in Sydney on the electronic and print media.
 - (2) What sum was spent on this advertising campaign in the electoral division of Lowe and what are the details.
 - (3) Is he aware that during the last week of the 2004 Federal election campaign in the electoral division of Lowe the Liberal Party distributed a DL-sized information card titled MEDICARE in which the Liberal candidate claimed that “only the Liberals have improved and strengthened Medicare by increasing the rate of bulk-billing to 100%”.
 - (4) What action is he taking to correct this misinformation and to inform the constituents of the electoral division of Lowe that Medicare bulk-billing rates have decreased under the Howard Government from approximately 80% to 70% nationally and that in the electorate of Lowe the rate of bulk-billing is approximately 91%.

29 November 2004

- 169 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) For each financial year since 1996-1997, how many meetings of the Federal Executive Council were held at (a) Government House in Canberra, (b) Admiralty House in Sydney, and (c) any other location.
 - (2) In respect of Federal Executive Council meetings held at locations other than Government House or Admiralty House, at what specific locations and on what dates were those meetings held.
- 170 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) What is the total estimated value of gifts he has received since 11 March 1996 and declared to his department in accordance with the Government's guidelines concerning the receipt of gifts.
 - (2) In respect of each gift received by him and declared to his department, (a) what was the nature of the gift, (b) who or which organisation presented it and when did they do so, (c) when was it declared to his department, (d) what was the valuation of it, (e) was it retained by him, if so, (i) did he pay the difference between the stated valuation limit and the value of the gift, and (ii) when was payment made, and (f) was the gift surrendered by him to his department; if so, what was then done with the gift (i.e. loaned to a Minister's Office or government department, donated to a non-profit organisation or charity, or otherwise disposed of).
- 171 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) What is the total estimated value of gifts received by the Deputy Prime Minister since 11 March 1996 and declared to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (the department) in accordance with the Government's guidelines concerning the receipt of gifts.

- (2) In respect of each gift received by the Deputy Prime Minister and declared to the department, (a) what was the nature of the gift, (b) who or which organisation presented it and when did they do so, (c) when was it declared to the department, (d) what was the valuation of it, (e) was it retained by the Deputy Prime Minister, if so, (i) did the Deputy Prime Minister pay the difference between the stated valuation limit and the value of the gift, and (ii) when was payment made, and (f) was the gift surrendered by the Deputy Prime Minister to the department; if so, what was then done with the gift (i.e. loaned to a Minister's Office or government department, donated to a non-profit organisation or charity, or otherwise disposed of).

172 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What is the total estimated value of gifts received by the Treasurer since 11 March 1996 and declared to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (the department) in accordance with the Government's guidelines concerning the receipt of gifts.
- (2) In respect of each gift received by the Treasurer and declared to the department, (a) what was the nature of the gift, (b) who or which organisation presented it and when did they do so, (c) when was it declared to the department, (d) what was the valuation of it, (e) was it retained by the Treasurer, if so, (i) did the Treasurer pay the difference between the stated valuation limit and the value of the gift, and (ii) when was payment made, and (f) was the gift surrendered by the Treasurer to the department; if so, what was then done with the gift (i.e. loaned to a Minister's Office or government department, donated to a non-profit organisation or charity, or otherwise disposed of).

173 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What is the total estimated value of gifts received by the Minister for Foreign Affairs since 11 March 1996 and declared to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (the department) in accordance with the Government's guidelines concerning the receipt of gifts.
- (2) In respect of each gift received by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and declared to the department, (a) what was the nature of the gift, (b) who or which organisation presented it and when did they do so, (c) when was it declared to the department, (d) what was the valuation of it, (e) was it retained by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, if so, (i) did the Minister for Foreign Affairs pay the difference between the stated valuation limit and the value of the gift, and (ii) when was payment made, and (f) was the gift surrendered by the Minister for Foreign Affairs to the department; if so, what was then done with the gift (i.e. loaned to a Minister's Office or government department, donated to a non-profit organisation or charity, or otherwise disposed of).

174 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What is the total estimated value of gifts received by the Leader of the Government in the Senate since 11 March 1996 and declared to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (the department) in accordance with the Government's guidelines concerning the receipt of gifts.
- (2) In respect of each gift received by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and declared to the department, (a) what was the nature of the gift, (b) who or which organisation presented it and when did they do so, (c) when was it declared to the department, (d) what was the valuation of it, (e) was it retained by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, if so, (i) did the Leader of the Government in the Senate pay the difference between the stated valuation limit and the value of the gift, and (ii) when was payment made, and (f) was the gift surrendered by the Leader of the Government in the Senate to the department; if so, what was then done with the gift (i.e. loaned to a Minister's Office or government department, donated to a non-profit organisation or charity, or otherwise disposed of).

184 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What is the latest estimate by his department on the projected revenue from petroleum sales in 2004-2005.
- (2) How does this estimate vary from earlier estimates of revenue from this source.

185 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—What advice has he received from (a) his department, and (b) the Reserve Bank of Australia about the likely inflationary impact of increased world oil prices.

186 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) What is the most recent calculated liability of the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme.
- (2) How does this liability compare to estimations made in the previous 10 years.
- (3) What are the current and projected assets of the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme.
- (4) What action is the Government taking to achieve full funding of the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme.

- (5) What is the estimated date at which the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme will be fully funded.
- (6) Is he able to say how the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme's funding levels compare to State Government based superannuation schemes.

187 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads—

- (1) What is the projected expenditure under the National Roads Program for (a) 2004-2005, (b) 2005-2006, (c) 2006-2007, and 2007-2008.
- (2) Have any of the National Roads Program funds been allocated for works associated with level crossings in 2004-2005; if so, what are the details.

190 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is he aware that Kirribilli House was never intended to be the primary residence of the Prime Minister.
- (2) Does he recall that the reason he gave for using Kirribilli House as his primary residence was that he had dependent children attending schools in Sydney when he became Prime Minister.
- (3) Can he indicate how many of his children (a) continue to reside at Kirribilli House, (b) continue to attend school, and (c) continue to be dependent.
- (4) Can he say when he will move his official primary residence to the Lodge in Canberra.

MR BEVIS: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 194 - 211)—How many employees of the Minister's department (a) had their conditions of employment set by an AWA at (i) 30 June 2001, (ii) 30 June 2002, (iii) 30 June 2003, and (iv) 30 June 2004, and (b) currently have their conditions of employment set by an AWA.

207 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

208 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

214 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the ABC provides a very adequate service for those who enjoy youth rock music (JJJ) and classical music (ABC Classic FM).
- (2) Will the Minister take steps to support the ABC management to introduce a contemporary music mainstream ABC FM station to cater for the vast majority of people who exist between these two extremes; if not, why not.

30 November 2004

224 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) Has the Minister seen the statistics provided by the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) following the federal election of 9 October 2004 that reveal a marked increase in the informal vote, particularly in thirteen electoral divisions located in Sydney.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that research undertaken by the AEC demonstrates that many informal votes cast during the 2004 federal election were not deliberate and may be the result of frustration or an inability to understand Australia's complex voting system.
- (3) What is the AEC doing to (a) provide more educational resources to voters in electoral divisions that recorded a high informal vote, (b) simplify ballot papers that will reduce confusion between federal, state and local government electoral systems, and (c) permit alternative methods of marking ballot papers, for example a tick or cross, so that a voter's intention is unambiguous.

226 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) For the year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004, how many applications for funding under the Regional Partnerships Program, or its predecessor, were submitted from the electoral division of Brand and how many applications submitted during 2003-2004 are awaiting determination.
- (2) For the electoral division of Brand and for the year 2003-2004, who has applied for funding under the Regional Partnerships Program and what are the details of each application.
- (3) For the year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004, what are the details of the grants applied for and received under the Regional Partnerships Program, or its predecessor, in the electoral divisions of (i) Brand, (ii) Canning, and (iii) Hasluck.

- (4) For the year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004, how many applications under the Regional Partnerships Program, or its predecessor, were approved and how many were rejected in the electoral divisions of (i) Brand, (ii) Canning, and (iii) Hasluck.

227 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) What sum was provided to (a) government and (b) non-government schools in the electoral division of Brand and in the postcode area (i) 6165, (ii) 6167, (iii) 6168, (iv) 6169, (v) 6170, (vi) 6171, (vii) 6172, (viii) 6173, (ix) 6174, (x) 6175, (xi) 6176, and (xii) 6210.
- (2) What was the (a) expenditure on, (b) location of, and (c) purpose of each grant in 2004.
- (3) What sum will be provided to (a) government, and (b) non-government schools in the electoral division of Brand and in the postcode area (i) 6165, (ii) 6167, (iii) 6168, (iv) 6169, (v) 6170, (vi) 6171, (vii) 6172, (viii) 6173, (ix) 6174, (x) 6175, (xi) 6176, and (xii) 6210 for 2005.
- (4) What will (a) the expenditure be for, (b) be the location of, and (c) be the purpose of each grant in 2005.

1 December 2004

236 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) How many Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (RPBS) prescriptions were filled for DVA treatment card holders during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in (i) Western Australia, and (ii) the electoral division of Brand.
- (2) How many RPBS prescriptions were filled for DVA treatment card holders during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in postcode area (i) 6165, (ii) 6167, (iii) 6168, (iv) 6169, (v) 6170, (vi) 6171, (vii) 6172, (viii) 6173, (ix) 6174, (x) 6175, (xi) 6176, and (xii) 6210.

237 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) How many individuals have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Western Australia, and (ii) the electoral division of Brand.
- (2) How many individuals have reached the Medicare Safety Net threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 6165, (ii) 6167, (iii) 6168, (iv) 6169, (v) 6170, (vi) 6171, (vii) 6172, (viii) 6173, (ix) 6174, (x) 6175, (xi) 6176, and (xii) 6210.
- (3) How many families have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Western Australia, and (ii) the electoral division of Brand.
- (4) How many families have reached the Medicare Safety Net threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 6165, (ii) 6167, (iii) 6168, (iv) 6169, (v) 6170, (vi) 6171, (vii) 6172, (viii) 6173, (ix) 6174, (x) 6175, (xi) 6176, and (xii) 6210.
- (5) How many families have registered for the Medicare Safety Net during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Western Australia, and (ii) the electoral division of Brand.
- (6) How many families have registered for the Medicare Safety Net during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 6165, (ii) 6167, (iii) 6168, (iv) 6169, (v) 6170, (vi) 6171, (vii) 6172, (viii) 6173, (ix) 6174, (x) 6175, (xi) 6176, and (xii) 6210.

238 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) How many individuals held a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Western Australia, and (ii) the electoral division of Brand.
- (2) How many individuals held a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 6165, (ii) 6167, (iii) 6168, (iv) 6169, (v) 6170, (vi) 6171, (vii) 6172, (viii) 6173, (ix) 6174, (x) 6175, (xi) 6176, and (xii) 6210.
- (3) How many families held a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Western Australia, and (ii) the electoral division of Brand.
- (4) How many families held a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 6165, (ii) 6167, (iii) 6168, (iv) 6169, (v) 6170, (vi) 6171, (vii) 6172, (viii) 6173, (ix) 6174, (x) 6175, (xi) 6176, and (xii) 6210.

239 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) How many individuals held a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Western Australia, and (ii) the electoral division of Brand.

- (2) How many individuals held a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 6165, (ii) 6167, (iii) 6168, (iv) 6169, (v) 6170, (vi) 6171, (vii) 6172, (viii) 6173, (ix) 6174, (x) 6175, (xi) 6176, and (xii) 6210.
- (3) How many families held a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) Western Australia, and (ii) the electoral division of Brand.
- (4) How many families held a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 6165, (ii) 6167, (iii) 6168, (iv) 6169, (v) 6170, (vi) 6171, (vii) 6172, (viii) 6173, (ix) 6174, (x) 6175, (xi) 6176, and (xii) 6210.

MR BEAZLEY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 241 - 242)—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the offshore platform, 'Buffalo', is available for possible conversion to a surveillance platform in the Timor Sea.
- (2) Is the Minister aware of the Christmas/New Year deadline for the demolition of that platform.
- (3) Is it the case that in the Persian Gulf and elsewhere the United States of America and other countries have developed offshore platforms for the surveillance of important assets and the defence of sea routes and, in particular, that Qatar is developing a number of platforms for the defence of its assets.
- (4) Will the Government consider acquiring or leasing the Buffalo platform for a similar purpose; if not, why not.

241 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

251 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) During 2003-2004, were any Executive Council Minutes not approved by the Governor-General-in-Council at the Federal Executive Council meeting at which the Minute was first considered; if so, how many.
- (2) On how many occasions during 2003-2004 did the Governor-General, before approving an Executive Council Minute, seek information and/or advice from the Government in addition to that contained in the relevant Explanatory Memorandum accompanying the Minute.

252 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Can he confirm that the average time he took to lodge answers to written questions during (a) 2001-2002 was 55 days for questions asked in the House and 45 days for questions asked in the Senate, (b) 2002-2003 was 66 days for questions asked in the House and 62 days for questions asked in the Senate, and (c) 2003-2004 was 104 days for questions asked in the House and 83 days for questions asked in the Senate.
- (2) How does he explain the progressively longer times it has taken him to respond to written questions asked of him both directly in the House and through the Leader of the Government in the Senate.
- (3) What specific measures has the Secretary of his department implemented to improve performance and ensure more rapid responses to written questions.
- (4) What specific measures has he implemented to improve performance and ensure more rapid responses to written questions.

253 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is he aware of the accident record of the section of the Calder Freeway at Taylors Lakes from the intersection with Sunshine Avenue to the intersection with Calder Park Drive.
- (2) Is he aware that the Victorian Government has proposed constructing several interchanges along this section of freeway, at Sunshine Avenue, Kings Road and Calder Park Drive, and closing the intersection with Robertsons Road.
- (3) Will the Commonwealth match the State Government's commitment of 50 per cent of the estimated total cost of \$60 million to allow construction of the proposed interchanges.
- (4) Has the Commonwealth previously committed any funding to commence the construction of the interchanges; if not, will he commit the Commonwealth to funding the construction of the Kings Road interchange, to alleviate the dangerous situation facing motorists along this stretch of the Calder Freeway.

254 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) Has the Minister read the article titled 'PM rejects voluntary vote call' in the *Australian Financial Review* on 22 November 2004 which reported that the Prime Minister will not abolish compulsory voting.

- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the Government will not change Australia's system of compulsory voting for federal elections and referenda; if not, why not.

2 December 2004

256 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—How many Child Support Agency clients currently reside in (a) Victoria, (b) the electoral division of Melbourne Ports, and (c) the postcode area (i) 3161, (ii) 3162, (iii) 3163, (iv) 3182, (v) 3183, (vi) 3184, (vii) 3185, (viii) 3205, (ix) 3206, and (x) 3207.

MS ROXON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 262 - 278)—

- (1) What sum did the Minister's department spend during 2003-2004 on outsourced (a) barristers, and (b) solicitors (including private firms, the Australian Government Solicitor and any others).
- (2) What sum did the Minister's department spend on internal legal services.
- (3) What is the projected expenditure on legal services for 2004-2005 for the Minister's department.

266 **MS ROXON:** To ask the Minister assisting the Minister for Defence.

277 **MS ROXON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

278 **MS ROXON:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

280 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Does Her Majesty, The Queen of Australia, inform the Governor-General and/or the Prime Minister before she travels outside the United Kingdom.

282 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Arts and Sport—In respect of each occasion since March 1996 when persons have been granted access to Commonwealth records under the Special Access provisions of the *Archives Act 1983* (subsection 56(2) of the Act and Archives Regulation 9), (a) who was granted access, (b) which Commonwealth records were involved, (c) when was access granted, and (d) what was the reason for granting access.

283 **MR L. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) How many 410 visas have been (a) applied for, and (b) issued in each year since the introduction of this provision.
- (2) How many successful applicants for this class of visa have not had the requisite finances at the conclusion of the four year period.
- (3) In respect of those who have failed to meet the financial requirement at the conclusion of the four year period, how many remain in Australia.
- (4) How many holders of a current 410 visa have applied for another class of visa.
- (5) How many holders of a current 410 visa who are in Australia are in the queue for a parent visa.
- (6) Are any people who were granted a 410 visa and who are in Australia subject to visa cancellation or deportation; if so, how many.

290 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Will the Coastal Catchment Initiative along the Great Barrier Reef conclude at the end of 2005-2006; if not, what sum has been allocated for (a) 2006-2007, and (b) 2007-2008.
- (2) Which are the 'high priority' regions and how are they determined.
- (3) When will preparation of the Water Quality Improvement Plans commence, and who will prepare those plans.
- (4) What is the process the Australian Government and the agents preparing the Water Quality Improvement Plans will follow to bring this about (a) in reef catchments, and (b) specifically for each urban catchment.

291 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What is the Government's priority for improving and protecting water quality in the Great Barrier Reef and how does this compare to other environmental issues in the Reef and its catchments.
- (2) What priority is Reef water quality in making Commonwealth investments through the regional component of the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT).
- (3) What sum has been spent through the NHT extension on water quality improvements in the Great Barrier Reef and what is each project's title and its NHT contribution.

295 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Does the Minister consider the current loads of nutrients and sediment to the Great Barrier Reef to be ecologically sustainable.
- (2) Which catchments discharge ecologically unsustainable loads of pollutants to the Reef, and why have those catchments been identified.
- (3) In determining water quality targets for the Great Barrier Reef, (a) how does the Government determine the appropriate mix of Reef protection outcomes and regional economic outcomes, and (b) what importance does the Government give to Reef protection in determining this mix.
- (4) Does the Minister seek independent scientific advice on the suitability of water quality targets, and the timing of those targets, to achieve ecological sustainability.
- (5) What minimum requirements are expected in Reef Natural Resource Management (NRM) plans to satisfy the Minister that those Plans, if implemented, will protect the Reef.
- (6) Does the Minister consider regional NRM groups have the capacity, access to available science and support from the Australian and international community to make decisions on the management of this international environmental icon.
- (7) In respect of developing water quality targets by July 2005, (a) what progress has been made, (b) what is the process for developing those targets, (c) what is the timing of key points in that process, and (d) what role will regional NRM groups play in developing those targets.
- (8) What progress has been made in ensuring pollution load targets are specified in accredited NRM plans for Reef catchments.
- (9) What is the 'high quality' process that has been followed by Reef NRM groups to develop water quality targets in accredited NRM plans which was referred to during Budget Estimates on 27 May 2004.
- (10) How does the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's monitoring program (a) relate to catchment management activities, (b) inform the Ministerial Council on the effectiveness of the Reef Plan during the life of the Plan, and (c) contribute to the capacity to develop water quality targets.
- (11) What predictive tools, modelling systems or planning processes are being used to predict the relationship between water quality targets and catchment management actions and where and by whom is this being done.
- (12) At the time of NRM plan accreditation, (a) which catchments will have end-of-river pollutant load targets set, (b) what are those targets, (c) are those targets set for ecosystem sustainability, and (d) are those targets demonstrably supported by catchment management actions.
- (13) What is the relationship between the water quality targets set by July 2005, the end-of-river load targets set in any accredited regional NRM plan, and load targets identified in Water Quality Improvement Plans.
- (14) Is the Minister satisfied that best available information is being used by regional groups in developing water quality load targets and in identifying cost-effective management interventions; if so, on what basis is he satisfied.
- (15) What progress has there been in implementing Strategy C2 of the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan (Reef Plan) and has a report been presented to Ministers; if so, what were the major findings and/or recommendations to Ministers.
- (16) What progress is there in implementing Strategy C3 of the Reef Plan and will a report be presented to Ministers by 1 January 2005.
- (17) In respect of the Reef Plan, (a) what progress is there in implementing Strategy D8 of the plan; (b) what is the definition of nutrient sensitive zones, and (c) what further land use planning, regulatory, market and voluntary mechanisms could be, or are planned to be, applied in these zones.
- (18) In respect of the Reef Plan, (a) what progress is there in implementing Strategy F6 of the plan, (b) which peak industry bodies are involved in implementing this strategy, and (c) how has this strategy assisted in achieving the Reef Plan's goal.
- (19) In respect of the Reef Plan, (a) what progress is there in implementing Strategy F7 of the plan, and (b) is there a need for, and is it cost beneficial, to implement a herbicide and pesticide reporting system; if so, why; if not, why not.
- (20) In respect of the Reef Plan, (a) what progress has been made implementing Strategy C8 of the plan, (b) which regions are currently developing Water Quality Improvement Plans, and (c) how has the Government facilitated information sharing between these regions.

- (21) What progress is there in implementing Strategy C9 of the Reef Plan.
- (22) Why is no key agency or milestone identified for Strategy G2.
- (23) Will the Minister explain the Government's strategies for ensuring Reef water quality monitoring strategies and investment priorities are aligned with monitoring achievement of reef water quality targets.
- (24) What measures are each of the Reef NRM groups taking to ensure compliance with Strategy H1.
- (25) What are the consequences of NRM groups not developing water quality load targets by July 2005 and will these targets be developed in the context of "the actions which are going to be necessary to meet those targets and get real change happening in the catchments"; if so, what additional consultative processes will be undertaken, supplementary to that already undertaken in developing regional NRM plans.
- (26) What milestones have been determined for Strategies I4 and I5.
- (27) What is the projected additional cost of operating water quality monitoring programs for the (a) Herbert, (b) Fitzroy, and (c) Burdekin Rivers, in respect of (i) program design, (ii) water quality monitoring infrastructure, (iii) sampling, (iv) analysis, and (v) reporting during the life of the Reef Plan in order to determine whether management of these river basins has achieved the Reef Plan's water quality objectives for those catchments.
- (28) What progress has there been in implementing the Great Barrier Reef Coastal Wetlands Protection Program.
- (29) Will the Minister explain (a) the process whereby wetlands are prioritised for the purpose of improving and/or protecting Reef water quality, (b) how investments will be made in protecting or enhancing wetland function for this purpose, (c) the cost-effectiveness of improved wetland management for this purpose (compared to other management interventions), and (d) what relevance this program has to water quality improvement in the Reef.
- (30) In respect of the Fitzroy Basin NRM plan, (a) has it been accredited, (b) why does the May 2004 version of the NRM plan fail to provide water quality targets of any form for Reef water quality, (c) on what basis is the mix of land management interventions determined, (d) how will the indicative targets proposed for the first year, the refined targets at three years and the five-year 'confirmed' targets be used in catchment management, and (e) how will the Government modify its investments in Reef water quality, through the Fitzroy Basin NRM plan, over time to account for the 'indicative', 'refined' and 'confirmed' targets.
- (31) Will targets be developed for the resource condition indicators (heavy metals, pesticides, macro-invertebrates, pH and dissolved oxygen) in the accredited Fitzroy Basin NRM plan; if so, when will those targets be developed and how will those targets inform regional NRM.
- (32) In respect of the commitment of \$10.85 million for implementation of the Reef Water Quality Protection under the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) announced on 7 July 2004, (a) over which financial years does this apply, (b) will the Minister provide a breakdown of the \$10.85 million against specific Reef Plan strategies, for each financial year, and (c) what is the budget for implementation of the Reef Plan to the end of the NHT extension, by year, per strategy.

6 December 2004

296 **MR BEAZLEY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How much ammonium nitrate is (a) produced in, and (b) imported into Australia each year.
- (2) Which Australian ports handle ammonium nitrate and how much nitrate passes through each port.
- (3) Which vessels have carried ammonium nitrate, and, of these vessels, which (a) are owned by Australian shipowners, and (b) have been operated under a flag of convenience.
- (4) For each of the last five years, how many single or multiple voyage permits have been issued for coastal trade to ships carrying ammonium nitrate operating (a) under flags of convenience, and (b) other non-Australian flags.

298 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Are anticipated diplomatic vacancies, including Ambassadorial-level appointments, advertised.
- (2) Are all candidates for diplomatic appointments required to make formal applications; if not, what other procedures are used.
- (3) Is there a selection panel which decides on diplomatic appointments; if so, (a) who appoints its members, (b) who is on it, and (c) can he or the Prime Minister overrule its decisions.

- (4) What is (a) his, and (b) the Prime Minister's role in the selection of candidates for diplomatic posts.
- (5) What senior diplomatic vacancies at Australia's overseas posts are expected to become available in 2005.

299 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Will the position of (a) Ambassador to France, (b) Ambassador to the United States, and (c) High Commissioner to the United Kingdom become vacant in 2005; if so, for each position, (i) when and where was the position advertised, (ii) what are the selection criteria for the position, and (iii) how many candidates have applied.
- (2) In respect of each position, has he asked that any people who are not employees of his department be considered; if so, how many and who are they.
- (3) In respect of each position, when does he expect to announce the appointment.

304 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What discussions did his department have with Indonesian authorities prior to 17 October 2004 on the prospect of a security treaty between Australia and Indonesia.
- (2) Did he instruct his department prior to 17 October 2004 to engage in talks with Indonesian authorities about the prospect of a security treaty between Australia and Indonesia.

308 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) In respect of the Regional Partnership grant for (a) Blayney Sea Link, and (b) MacSmith Milling Manildra in the electoral division of Calare announced during the 2004 election campaign, (i) what date was the project approved, (ii) what date did the Area Consultative Committee recommend funding the project, (iii) which Regional Partnerships eligibility criteria did the project satisfy, (iv) what are the expected employment outcomes for the project, (v) what sum was contributed to the project by the applicant, (vi) when did the project satisfy due diligence requirements, and (vii) what supporting documentation was supplied with the application.
- (2) Is he aware that his Parliamentary Secretary told ABC Radio in Orange on 26 November 2004 that the due diligence investigation of the two projects was yet to be completed.
- (3) Is he (a) aware that the recipient of the Manildra grant told the same ABC program that an offer "was on the table"; and (b) satisfied this comment indicated the project had been satisfactorily approved.
- (4) Can he confirm that the statement in the *Western Advocate* on 29 November 2004 quoting his spokesman as saying "funding is yet to be approved for the Blayney Sea-Link service" was correct at the time.
- (5) Is he aware that the then Parliamentary Secretary informed me on 28 and 29 September 2004 in separate letters that the projects had been approved.
- (6) Can he explain the contradiction between the two announcements.
- (7) Has each project received its funding; if so, when did this occur.

310 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What recent advice has he received from his department regarding the anticipated current account deficit in 2005.
- (2) What recent advice has he received from his department regarding the anticipated growth in Australia's net foreign debt.
- (3) What specific Government policies will address the growth in net foreign debt.

311 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) For how long can the Australian economy sustain imports at almost three times the level of exports.
- (2) What advice has he received on the implications for the Australian economy if the imbalance persisted through 2005 and 2006.
- (3) What advice has he received on the impact on interest rates of a continuing and growing trade imbalance.

312 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) How does the Minister reconcile the Government's election commitment in October regarding the preservation of a further 170,000 hectares of Tasmanian old growth forest with reports in *The Australian* on 1 December 2004 that this target will not be met.
- (2) When does the Minister anticipate that the Federal and Tasmanian Governments will achieve agreement on Tasmanian old growth forests.

313 **MR BALDWIN:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many Australian military personnel in D Company, 6RAR were involved in the Battle of Long Tan on 18 August 1966 (a) in total, (b) who were National Service Conscripts, and (c) who were Regular Enlisted Personnel.
- (2) What was the name and rank of the (a) National Service Conscripts, and (b) Regular Enlisted Personnel involved in the Battle of Long Tan.
- (3) How many Australian military personnel in D Company, 6RAR were killed in the Battle of Long Tan on 18 August 1966 (a) in total, (b) who were National Service Conscripts, and (c) who were Regular Enlisted Personnel.
- (4) What was the name and rank of the (a) National Service Conscripts, and (b) Regular Enlisted Personnel involved in the Battle of Long Tan.
- (5) How many Australian military personnel in D Company, 6RAR were injured in the Battle of Long Tan on 18 August 1966 (a) in total, (b) who were National Service Conscripts, and (c) who were Regular Enlisted Personnel.
- (6) What was the name and rank of the (a) National Service Conscripts, and (b) Regular Enlisted Personnel injured in the Battle of Long Tan.
- (7) How many Australian military personnel in D Company, 6RAR were awarded citations, medals or awards as a result of their involvement in the Battle of Long Tan on 18 August 1966 (a) in total, (b) who were National Service Conscripts, and (c) who were Regular Enlisted Personnel.
- (8) What was the name and rank of the (a) National Service Conscripts, and (b) Regular Enlisted Personnel who were awarded citations, medals or awards as a result of their involvement in the Battle of Long Tan.
- (9) How many Australian military personnel in D Company, 6RAR were awarded citations, medals or awards posthumously as a result of their involvement in the Battle of Long Tan on 18 August 1966 (a) in total, (b) who were National Service Conscripts, and (c) who were Regular Enlisted Personnel.
- (10) What was the name and rank of the (a) National Service Conscripts, and (b) Regular Enlisted Personnel who were awarded citations, medals or awards posthumously as a result of their involvement in the Battle of Long Tan.

314 **MR BALDWIN:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—

- (1) During which years did Australian military personnel serve in Vietnam.
- (2) How many Australian (a) Army, (b) Air Force, and (c) Navy personnel (i) in total, (ii) who were National Service Conscripts, and (iii) who were Regular Enlistment Personnel served in Vietnam.
- (3) How many Australian (a) Army, (b) Air Force, and (c) Navy personnel (i) in total, (ii) who were National Service Conscripts, and (iii) who were Regular Enlistment Personnel were killed in Vietnam.
- (4) How many Australian (a) Army, (b) Air Force, and (c) Navy personnel (i) in total, (ii) who were National Service Conscripts, and (iii) who were Regular Enlistment Personnel were injured in Vietnam.
- (5) How many Australian (a) Army, (b) Air Force, and (c) Navy personnel (i) in total, (ii) who were National Service Conscripts, and (iii) who were Regular Enlistment Personnel were awarded citations, medals or awards in Vietnam.
- (6) How many Australian (a) Army, (b) Air Force, and (c) Navy personnel (i) in total, (ii) who were National Service Conscripts, and (iii) who were Regular Enlistment Personnel were awarded citations, medals or awards posthumously in Vietnam.

316 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—For (a) Australia, and (b) the electoral division of Fowler, what was the (i) total outstanding Student Financial Supplement Scheme loan balance at the conclusion of the scheme, and (ii) number of outstanding loans at the conclusion of the scheme.

DR LAWRENCE: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 321 - 325)—For each of the last five years, what are the details and amount of each grant and service payment by the Minister's department and agencies within the Minister's portfolio to (a) the Hillsong Foundation, and (b) its associated entities.

322 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

MR QUICK: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 326 - 343)—

- (1) For the year 2003-2004, what sum was spent by the Minister's department on (a) domestic, and (b) overseas air travel.
- (2) For the year 2003-2004, what proportion of domestic air travel by employees of the Minister's department was provided by (a) Qantas, (b) Regional Express, and (c) Virgin Blue.
- (3) For the year 2003-2004, what was the actual expenditure by the Minister's department on domestic air travel provided by (a) Qantas, (b) Regional Express, and (c) Virgin Blue.
- (4) For the year 2003-2004, what sum was spent by the Minister's department on business class travel on (a) domestic routes, and (b) overseas routes.
- (5) For the year 2003-2004, what sum was spent by the Minister's department on economy class travel on (a) domestic routes, and (b) overseas routes.
- (6) For the year 2003-2004, what proportion of the expenditure on air travel by the Minister's department was on the domestic routes (a) Sydney to Canberra, (b) Melbourne to Canberra, (c) Sydney to Melbourne, (d) Sydney to Brisbane, (e) Melbourne to Hobart or Launceston, and (f) Sydney to Perth.
- (7) For the year 2003-2004, how many employees of the Minister's department had membership of the (a) Qantas Chairman's Lounge, (b) Qantas Club, (c) Regional Express Membership Lounge, and (d) Virgin Blue's Blue Room paid for by the department.

327 **MR QUICK:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

328 **MR QUICK:** To ask the Treasurer.

330 **MR QUICK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

343 **MR QUICK:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

7 December 2004

344 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Did his department undertake a review of the Guidance on Caretaker Conventions issued in September 2001 and its application during the 2001 federal election campaign prior to the issue of the updated Guidance on Caretaker Conventions in July 2004; if so, what were the findings of the review.
- (2) Which senior officers of his department were responsible for the provision of advice to Ministers, other departments and agencies concerning the application of the Guidance on Caretaker Conventions (issued in July 2004) during the 2004 federal election campaign.
- (3) Did any (a) Ministers, (b) departments, and (c) agencies contact his department seeking advice concerning the application of the Guidance on Caretaker Conventions during the 2004 election campaign; if so, (i) what were the matters raised, and (ii) when did the consultation take place.
- (4) Did his department become aware of any actions or practices by (a) Ministers, (b) departments, (c) agencies, and (d) any other developments, that were not consistent with the application of the Guidance on Caretaker Conventions during the 2004 election campaign; if so, in respect of each case, (i) which Ministers, departments or agencies were involved, (ii) what was the issue in question, (iii) when did the matter arise, and (iv) how was the issue resolved.
- (5) Following the 2004 election, has his department undertaken a review of the implementation of the Guidance on Caretaker Conventions by Ministers, departments and agencies; if so, what are the findings of the review; if a review has not been undertaken or is not planned, why not.

345 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is he aware of the arguments made by Sir David Smith in his submission to the Senate Legal and Constitutional References Committee inquiry into an Australian Republic and subsequently published in *Quadrant* (July-August 2004) that the Governor-General is Australia's Head of State.
- (2) Is he aware that in an interview with Mr Bruce Stannard reported in the *Canberra Times* on 6 November 2004, the Governor-General, Major-General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC (Retd), said "Her Majesty is Australia's Head of State" and that he was the representative of the Head of State.
- (3) Is The Queen of Australia, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Australia's Head of State.

347 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Since March 1996, has The Queen of Australia, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, exercised any statutory power under the provisions of the *Royal Powers Act 1953*; if so, what power or powers did Her Majesty exercise and when did she do so.
- (2) What purpose is now served by the retention of the *Royal Powers Act 1953*.

- (3) Will the Act be subject to a parliamentary review with a view to its repeal.
- 350 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Does the Royal Australian Air Force and/or the Department of Defence maintain records of the food and beverages purchased for and consumed on Special Purpose Flights.
 - (2) Do these records indicate the quantities of food and/or beverages consumed on individual Special Purpose Flights.
 - (3) For how long are these records retained.
- 352 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) In respect of the Government's *Securing Our Regional Skies* package announced during the election campaign, have any funds from this package been earmarked for security projects or measures at Bankstown Airport; if so, what security projects or measures have been identified for Bankstown Airport.
 - (2) In respect of the Government's *Enhanced Aviation Security* package announced in December 2003, have any funds from the \$35 million grant program to assist eligible smaller airports with security measures been allocated to Bankstown Airport; if so, what sum has been made available to Bankstown Airport for security measures.
 - (3) What are the details of the security measures that (a) have been completed at, (b) have commenced at, and (c) are planned for, Bankstown Airport.
 - (4) What other action has the Government taken to improve security at Bankstown Airport since September 2003.
- 353 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) In respect of \$35 million announced by the Government on 11 May 2004 to assist smaller airports to implement security measures (Ref: TRS11/Budget), (a) what sum has been expended, (b) which organisation has been used to allocate the funds, (c) how was the organisation allocating the funds selected, (d) what was the cost of using an external organisation to administer government funds including both direct costs to the organisation and administrative costs to his department, (e) which projects have been funded, including (i) the full the cost of each project, (ii) co-contributions (if any), (iii) details of the proponents, and (iv) the expected commencement and completion dates of each project, (f) have guidelines been developed for the expenditure of the funds; if so, will he provide a copy, and (g) how did each of the successful projects meet the guidelines.
 - (2) For each of the seven areas identified in the Government's announcement on 23 August 2004 of \$48 million to improve security at Australia's 146 regional airports (Ref: A94/2004), (a) what sum has been expended, (b) which projects have been funded, including (i) the full the cost of each project, (ii) co-contributions (if any), (iii) details of the proponents, and (iv) the expected commencement and completion dates of each project, (c) have guidelines been developed for the expenditure of the funds; if so, will he provide a copy, and (d) how did each of the successful projects meet the guidelines.
- 362 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) To what extent does the Airservices Australia Noise and Flight Monitoring System monitor aircraft noise at reference points above ground level that are over-flown by aircraft as opposed to height above aerodrome reference.
 - (2) Is the Government considering modifications or extensions to the measurements used in the Airservices Australia Noise and Flight Path Monitoring System; if so, what are the details.
- 363 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that on 3 October 1998 the Prime Minister committed the Government to the cause of true reconciliation with the Aboriginal people of Australia by the Centenary of Federation; if not, why not.
 - (2) Has the Minister read the article titled 'Reconciliation a must, says Howard' in *The Age* on 14 December 2000 which reported the Prime Minister as saying Australia's priority should be to strengthen support for reconciliation between blacks and whites and the mood of the community was now "overwhelmingly in favour of reconciliation" and "an unstoppable force".
 - (3) Has the Minister read the article titled 'Reconciliation: Howard's unfinished business' in *The Canberra Times* on 8 November 2001 which reported that the Prime Minister failed to deliver reconciliation in his second term and has now dedicated the Government to achieving practical

reconciliation, “a term coined by his government to bury the rights agenda and focus instead on education, health, unemployment and housing”.

- (4) Has the Minister read the article titled ‘PM vows to aid Aboriginal cause’ in *The Age* on 6 December 2004 which reports that the Prime Minister is prepared to go more than halfway to meet indigenous leaders to fix Aboriginal problems.
- (5) Will the Minister explain the difference between ‘reconciliation’ and ‘practical reconciliation’.
- (6) Why did Australia fail to achieve reconciliation by the Centenary of Federation and what progress had been made toward achieving this commitment.
- (7) Can the Minister say when Australia will achieve lasting reconciliation between indigenous and non-indigenous Australians.

8 December 2004

365 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—In respect of each visit to an Australian port by a United States Navy or Royal Navy vessel during the period 1 April 2004 to 7 December 2004, (a) what was the name of the visiting vessel, (b) what was the type or class of the vessel, (c) was the vessel nuclear powered, (d) which Australian port did the vessel visit, and (e) what were the dates of arrival and departure from the port.

369 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) How many individuals have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during 2004 in (a) New South Wales, (b) the electoral division of Prospect, and (c) the postcode area (i) 2145, (ii) 2148, (iii) 2164, (iv) 2165, (v) 2175, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2178, (viii) 2759 and (ix) 2766.
- (2) How many families have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during 2004 in (a) New South Wales, (b) the electoral division of Prospect, and (c) the postcode area (i) 2145, (ii) 2148, (iii) 2164, (iv) 2165, (v) 2175, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2178, (viii) 2759 and (ix) 2766.

376 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How many applications were submitted from the electoral division of Scullin for funding under the Regional Partnerships Program, or its predecessor, for the year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, (d) 2003-2004, and (e) 2004-2005 and what are the details of each application.
- (2) How many applications submitted from the electoral division of Scullin for funding under the Regional Partnerships Program are awaiting determination and what are the details of each application.
- (3) What are the details of the grants applied for and received in the electoral divisions of Scullin under the Regional Partnerships Program or its predecessor for the year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, (d) 2003-2004, and (e) 2004-2005.
- (4) How many applications from the electoral divisions of Scullin under the Regional Partnerships Program, or its predecessor, were approved for the year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004, and, in respect of each approved project, (i) what date was it approved, (ii) what date did the Area Consultative Committee recommend funding it, (iii) which Regional Partnerships eligibility criteria did it satisfy, (iv) what are its expected employment outcomes, (v) what sum was contributed by the applicant, (vi) when did it satisfy due diligence requirements, and (vii) what supporting documentation was supplied with the application.

9 December 2004

377 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) For each of the last ten years, (a) how many tonnes of ammonia nitrate were carried around the Australian coast by single-voyage permit ships, (b) what was the (i) name, and (ii) country of origin of each ship that carried ammonia nitrate, (c) which ships that carried ammonia nitrate were granted unrestricted access to Australian ports, and (d) does his department or any other agency have a record of the crew on each ship that carried ammonia nitrate; if so, what was the (i) name, (ii) nationality, and (iii) security status of each crew member.
- (2) What security measures were employed for handling ammonia nitrate on these ships and what assurances can he give about their integrity.
- (3) Can he say how Australian security measures for single-voyage permit ships carrying ammonia nitrate compare with those in other Western countries, such as the United States of America.

- (4) Is he aware that only 2,300 tonnes of ammonia nitrate caused untold destruction in the Port of Texas City in New Mexico and 145 people died.
- (5) Does he intend to review current security arrangements to ensure the safety of Australian ports.
- 378 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Is it the case that the Official Establishments Trust has in past years recommended that planning commence for a new official residence for the Prime Minister in Canberra.
- (2) Can he confirm that he has indicated to the Official Establishments Trust that planning for a new residence should not be pursued; if so, when did he do so.
- (3) Will he reconsider the Official Establishments Trust recommendation.
- (4) Will planning for a new official residence for the Prime Minister be undertaken in 2005, 2006 or 2007.
- 379 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Does the Government routinely provide the Governor-General with copies of significant cablegrams and other diplomatic communications relating to the conduct of Australia's foreign relations; if not, why not.
- (2) Who determines which cablegrams and other diplomatic communications are provided to the Governor-General.
- 381 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What is the involvement of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) in radiation protection planning for visits to Australian ports by nuclear powered warships.
- (2) Which Australian ports have been the subject of a radiological assessment by ARPANSA (or the former Nuclear Safety Bureau) for visits by nuclear powered warships and when were those assessments undertaken and finalised.
- 383 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) What sum was provided to (a) government, and (b) non-government schools in the electoral division of Banks, and in the postcode area (i) 2210, (ii) 2211, (iii) 2212, (iv) 2196, (v) 2209, (vi) 2223, (vii) 2222, (viii) 2213, and (ix) 2214 for 2004.
- (2) What was the (a) expenditure on, (b) location of, and (c) purpose of each grant in 2004.
- (3) What sum will be provided to (a) government, and (b) non-government schools in the electoral division of Banks and in the postcode areas (i) 2210, (ii) 2211, (iii) 2212, (iv) 2196, (v) 2209, (vi) 2223, (vii) 2222, (viii) 2213, and (ix) 2214 for 2005.
- (4) What will (a) the expenditure be for, (b) be the location of, and (c) be the purpose of each grant in 2005.
- 390 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Can she confirm that the independent review panel into the claim by veterans from Ubon for recognition of their service was completed earlier this year.
- (2) Is she aware that the RAAF Ubon Group, which sought a copy of the report in August, has not yet received it.
- (3) Will she give a commitment to release the report (a) to the RAAF Ubon Group, and (b) for public scrutiny; if so, when; if not, why not.
- 394 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Is she aware of the decision of the Medical Board of Western Australia, delivered on 20 July 2004, following its inquiry into the conduct of a Medical Doctor, a Navy Reserve Commander, which found him guilty on a number of charges relating to improper conduct, misconduct and gross carelessness or incompetency in respect of his conduct as a naval doctor, involving a female Lieutenant Commander who was at that time the Executive Officer at *HMAS Stirling* in Western Australia.
- (2) Can she confirm that the Board commented unfavourably on the Navy Reserve Commander, in particular, that (a) it had "significant concern about the evidence of the Practitioner. Some aspects of it were entirely unconvincing. Others raise serious questions as to its reliability and his veracity", and (b) the fact that "he permitted a sworn statement of his evidence-in-chief to be tendered knowing that it was inaccurate is particularly disturbing", and (c) "The Practitioner displayed... a willingness to give evidence which was at odds with what appeared in his written statement".

- (3) Can she confirm that the Board concluded that the conduct of the Practitioner was found to have been unacceptable and identified a number of serious deficiencies in the discharge of his professional obligations and marked departures from the standard of care, treatment and management demanded of a competent general practitioner.
 - (4) Can she confirm that the Board also concluded that the proven wrongdoing of the Practitioner was not confined to a single aspect of his care, treatment and management of his patient and encompassed a diverse range of failures and multiple infractions and that the nature and broad range of his professional misconduct required the Board to take action to protect the public interest.
 - (5) Has the Department of Defence made any payments for the Reserve Doctor's legal representation, penalties or costs associated with this matter, including inquiries conducted by the Defence Ombudsman and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.
 - (6) Can she confirm that the medical board concluded the female victim gave evidence in a way that might be expected of a long-serving and senior officer in the Australian Defence Force and that neither her demeanour nor her performance as a witness was reflective of a lack of truthfulness.
 - (7) Can she confirm that the female victim has not received any financial support for costs associated with these matters.
 - (8) Will she ensure that the victim receives full and proper compensation for her costs and damages caused by the improper conduct of the Navy Reserve medical officer.
 - (9) Was the medical officer the same person who administered inoculations to Australian troops deployed to Iraq, giving rise to complaints by some troops who refused to have the inoculations.
 - (10) Has the medical officer since been recommended for promotion.
 - (11) What disciplinary action has been taken against the medical officer.
- 404 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of the article titled 'Care Crisis – Bed shortages leave elderly in despair' in the *Village Voice* in November 2004 which reported that hundreds of older people in the Canada Bay region are being deprived of care because of a chronic shortage of aged-care places and that a combination of insufficient federal funding, staff shortages and an ageing population has meant many have to wait months and sometimes years for a nursing home bed.
 - (2) What arrangements exist between the Commonwealth, State and Local governments to address the unmet demand for aged care places in (a) hostels, (b) nursing homes and (c) palliative care units.
 - (3) What capital funding has the Government provided for aged care places in (a) hostels, and (b) nursing homes in the electoral division of Lowe, and the postcode area (i) 2045, (ii) 2046, (iii) 2047, (iv) 2131, (v) 2132, (vi) 2133, (vii) 2134, (viii) 2135, (ix) 2136, (x) 2137, (xi) 2138, and (xii) 2140.
 - (4) What operational funding does the Government provide aged care providers operating (a) hostels, and (b) nursing homes in the electoral division of Lowe and the postcode area (i) 2045, (ii) 2046, (iii) 2047, (iv) 2131, (v) 2132, (vi) 2133, (vii) 2134, (viii) 2135, (ix) 2136, (x) 2137, (xi) 2138, and (xii) 2140.
- 408 **MRS ELLIOT:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the RAAF has accepted liability for the serious health effects suffered by personnel as the result of negligent Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) practices in desealing and resealing the fuel tanks of F111 aircraft.
 - (2) Can the Minister confirm that aircraft refuelers, including tanker crew, and the wives of personnel are also experiencing health problems as a result of the negligent OH&S practices.
 - (3) When will the Government take action to assist these people and their families by properly compensating them for their illnesses and for their inability to be employed because of these illnesses.
- 409 **MRS ELLIOT:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Has planning for the Tweed After Hours clinic commenced; if so, (a) what is the planning process, and (b) how long will the process take; if not, when does the Government expect planning to commence.
 - (2) Has he chosen a location for the Tweed After Hours clinic; if so, (a) what are the details, and (b) why was it chosen; if not, what is the Government doing to find a suitable location.
 - (3) Has the Government had any discussions with the Tweed Hospital regarding arrangements for the Tweed After Hours clinic; if so, what are the details of those discussions; if not, when will he contact the Hospital regarding these arrangements.

- (4) What security measures have been or will be put in place to ensure the safety of patients and staff at the Tweed After Hours clinic.
- (5) How will the Tweed After Hours clinic be funded.
- (6) What sum will be provided annually to the Tweed After Hours clinic.
- (7) Will funding for the clinic be available in the next budget.

8 February 2005

410 **MR QUICK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Has the Australian Broadcasting Commission issued a tender for the provision of air travel services; if so, when does it close.
- (2) Does the tender specifically ask tenderers to provide details of Chairman's Lounge membership free of charge; if so, will Regional Express, Virgin Blue and other domestic carriers which do not normally offer Chairman's Lounge membership be penalised for not offering it.
- (3) Does the tender specifically ask tenderers to provide details of upgrades to other classes of travel; if so, will Regional Express, Virgin Blue and other domestic carriers which normally offer only one class of travel be penalised for not offering upgrades to other classes of travel.
- (4) Will the ABC withdraw its current tender and remove any reference to those aspects of which favour one airline before reissuing it; if not, why not.
- (5) For the financial years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004, what sum was spent on (a) domestic airline travel, and (b) international airline travel by (i) employees of the ABC, (ii) members of the Board of the ABC, and (iii) ABC contractors.
- (6) For the financial years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004, what sum was spent on domestic airline travel on (a) Regional Express, (b) Qantas, and (c) Virgin Blue by (i) employees of the ABC, (ii) members of the Board of the ABC, and (iii) ABC contractors.
- (7) For the years 2002-2003 and 2003-2004, how many memberships of the (a) Chairman's Lounge, (b) Qantas Club, (c) Regional Express Club, and (d) Virgin Blue Room, that were paid for by the ABC, were held by (i) employees of the ABC, (ii) members of the Board of the ABC, and (iii) ABC contractors.
- (8) In respect of each membership in part (7), what was the cost to the ABC of the membership and who received it.

411 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the current laws and guidelines that apply to the Pension Bonus Scheme have the result that some Australians who would prefer to participate in the scheme rather than receive a pension are refused.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that some Australians who are over 60 years of age who are able and willing to work are being refused access to the Pension Bonus Scheme because of the anomalous application of some rules.
- (3) Will the Minister explain why there are rules that operate to penalise Australians for seeking to work.
- (4) Will the Minister review the rules that lead to this situation that acts as a disincentive for people to keep working; if not, why not.

412 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that current Government policy denies transport concessions to some people living on very low incomes.
- (2) Is it the case that when students are enrolled at a university outside their home state, they are denied transport concessions granted to other full-time students and to other low income recipients of social security benefits; if so, does the Government intend to review this anomaly and grant full-time students living on Austudy low income transport concession cards if they do not hold a university issued concession card.

413 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) In which Australian airports is it possible to buy potentially dangerous items (eg nail clippers, children's craft sets with utility knives included and sharp pieces of jewellery) after coming through the airport security screening area and before boarding a plane.

- (2) Are there any regulations controlling what can be sold in these areas; if so, (a) which authority has made them, and (b) how are they enforced; if there are no regulations or restrictions regarding what can be sold in these areas, can he explain why.
- (3) Why is it possible for items which are liable for confiscation to be purchased on the air travel side.
- 414 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Minister for Trade—Was concern raised in 2003 at the World Trade Organisation concerning delays in processing Chile's request for access to the Australian market for Chilean table grapes; if so, (a) what issues were raised, (b) what was Australia's response, (c) how long has this issue been under discussion between Chile and Australia, and (d) is the matter now resolved.
- 415 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—In respect of the Government's decision to grant Senators and Members access to the Telstra Mobile Online SMS Business Service for one of their mobile phones, (a) does the service extend to the phones held by Senators and Members, and members of their staff, in their capacities as Ministers and Shadow Ministers, (b) what consultations were undertaken by the Government before making the decision, (c) were representations made by any Senators or Members or political parties requesting this service; if so, by whom and on what date(s), and (d) what is the estimated cost over the next three financial years if the service is fully utilised by Senators and Members.
- 416 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—Further to the answer to question No. 71 concerning the right of members to use their printing entitlement to print how-to-vote cards, did members of the House of Representatives have a right to use their printing entitlements to print how-to-vote cards for the House of Representatives elections held in (a) 1996, (b) 1998, and (c) 2001.
- 417 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—In respect of Australian Government conditions on the sale of uranium to other countries, (a) which countries are signatory to the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty, (b) with which countries does Australia have bilateral agreements on nuclear safeguards, (c) with which countries is Australia currently negotiating a bilateral agreement on nuclear safeguards, and (d) for each of the last ten financial years, to which countries has Australia sold uranium oxide.
- 418 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—In respect of the introduction of Regional Aviation Rapid Deployment Teams, (a) where will the teams be located, (b) what will be the hours of work for the teams and how many people will be deployed to each team, (c) what will be the duties and powers of members of the team, (d) for which airports will each team have responsibility, (e) how will the teams move from one airport to another, (f) what training have team members received, (g) what are the terms and conditions of employment of members of the teams, and (h) what security assessments were made of members of the teams.
- 419 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) In respect of the Australian Customs Service (ACS) at airports, what consultation takes place between border control agencies such as ACS, AQIS, the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, and airline, airport and tourism industry representatives concerning the provision of border control services.
 - (2) For each financial year since March 1996, what sum was spent by the ACS on border control services at each international airport.
 - (3) For each financial year since March 1996, what was the total number of (a) inward, and (b) outward bound passenger movements at each international airport.
- 420 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Has the Government made a submission to the ACCC concerning the application by the Board of Airline Representatives of Australia for authorisation of its collective bargaining activities; if so, what was the Government's view of this application on behalf of airlines operating international air services.
- 421 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) When will the Government commence its review of Sydney's airport needs.
 - (2) Have draft terms of reference been prepared.
 - (3) Who will conduct the review.
 - (4) Will the review include consideration of (a) the Badgery's Creek site, and (b) Bankstown, Camden, Richmond, Newcastle and Canberra airports.

- 422 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) In respect of the legal action taken by Mr Dick Smith against Airservices Australia, (a) what is the nature of the action taken, (b) when was it commenced, (c) which courts heard the action, (d) when was the action withdrawn, and (e) did Mr Smith provide any reasons for withdrawing the action; if so, on what basis was the action withdrawn.
 - (2) What costs have been incurred by each Government agency involved with the legal action and for what purposes were these sums expended.
 - (3) Will the Australian Government recover any or all of those costs; if so, what sum.
 - (4) Which solicitors were engaged by Australian Government agencies.
 - (5) Were Mr Smith's reasons for withdrawing the action related in any way to the change in Government policy announced during the election campaign in relation to the rules governing control of airspace over regional airports.
- 423 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—What is the composition of the Government's VIP airline fleet and how was each of the aircraft used during the week 15-22 December 2004.
- 424 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—
- (1) When did the Government establish Indigenous Business Australia.
 - (2) What sum has been allocated for the initiative.
 - (3) On what has the sum been spent and in which businesses has it been invested.
- 425 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—
- (1) What is the status of the National Tourism Incident Response Plan.
 - (2) How was it developed.
 - (3) Which state and federal departments and agencies are involved in its implementation.
 - (4) When was it last reviewed.
- 426 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—
- (1) What is the World Tourism Organisation's (WTO) status in the United Nations.
 - (2) What is the cost of Australia's candidature to become a member of the WTO and what will be the annual membership fee.
 - (3) Can he say how the membership fees of the WTO are determined.
- 427 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—
- (1) What sums have been allocated by the Government since 1999 to develop a national tourism accreditation system.
 - (2) On what have the sums been spent.
 - (3) What stage of development has the accreditation system reached.
- 428 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—
- (1) When was the International Tourism Ambassador Program commenced.
 - (2) What sum has been spent on the program.
 - (3) Who are the current ambassadors.
 - (4) What was the date of each ambassador's appointment.
 - (5) How and by whom was each ambassador selected.
- 429 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—What is the status of the Government's proposal to establish, through Tourism Research Australia, a Tourism Statistics Regional Advisory Service and Tourism Events Australia.
- 430 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—Further to the answer to question No. 74 (*Hansard*, 7 December 2004, page 93) concerning Act of Grace payments and Waiver of Debts under sections 33 and 34 of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, in respect of each recipient of the Act of Grace and Waiver of Debt payments since the Act commenced, in which postcode areas did they reside.
- 431 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) For each year since 1996, what increases have been applied to the Passenger Movement Charge.

- (2) Since March 1996, what sum has been collected by the PMC each calendar month from (a) overseas visitors, and (b) Australian residents departing Australia.
- (3) For each financial year since 1995-1996, what sum was spent by the Australian Customs Service at airports, itemised by expenditure type (eg staffing, equipment, capital expenses, etc).

432 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) When did the Government commence reducing Parliamentary Contribution Superannuation Scheme (PCSS) benefits for former Senators and Members, or the spouse of a former Senator or Member, where the recipient receives remuneration by holding another Commonwealth office (eg an Ambassadorship or other Ministerial appointment).
- (2) Is the reduction in a PCSS benefit always made when the recipient is appointed to a salaried (a) Commonwealth office, and (b) State or Territory office.
- (3) What is the formula used for reducing the pension or annuity.
- (4) Does a similar system for reducing benefits apply to other beneficiaries of Commonwealth superannuation schemes, such as those for former public servants, members of the Defence Forces or the judiciary; if so, what are the details of the system and how is it applied.
- (5) Is a person eligible for a benefit under the PCSS who serves as a State or Federal judge eligible to receive two pensions on retirement; if so, what consideration has the Government given to eliminating this double-dipping.
- (6) Is it the case that a retiring Governor-General may not draw a benefit under, for example, the PCSS, or a defence pension or a Federal/State judicial pension, in addition to the superannuation entitlement available under the superannuation scheme applicable to former Governors-General.
- (7) Does the Commonwealth reduce the benefit payable for a Commonwealth appointment where the appointee is in receipt of a State or Territory parliamentary, judicial, governor/administrator or public service pension or annuity; if not, why not.

433 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) In respect of the travel entitlements of former parliamentarians, (a) how many holders of Life Gold Passes are there, (b) who are they, (c) when did each Life Gold Pass holder retire, and (e) what is the value of the travel each Life Gold Pass holder has used since their retirement.
- (2) In respect of the widows of former Prime Ministers, (a) how many are entitled to travel at Commonwealth expense, (b) when did their husbands die, and (c) what is the value of the travel each has used since the death of their husbands.
- (3) In respect of the widows and widowers of Life Gold Pass holders, (a) how many are entitled to travel at Commonwealth expense, (b) when did their spouses or partners die, and (c) what is the value of the travel each has used since the death of their spouse or partner.
- (4) When did the Government determine that Life Gold Pass holders should use frequent flyer points for travel.
- (5) What sum has been spent on travel for Life Gold Pass holders since the Government determined that Life Gold Pass holders should use frequent flyer points for travel and what is the value of the travel that has been claim by redeeming frequent flyer points.

434 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Does Mrs Pixie Skase hold an Australian Passport; if not, which country issued the passport she used to enter Australia and what category of visa was issued to her.

435 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Trade—

- (1) Is he aware of the case of Mr Joseph Haj, who has not received any payment for \$182,000 worth of fruit exported to Kuwait.
- (2) What action has Austrade taken to assist Mr Haj.
- (3) Can he confirm that Austrade advised Mr Haj to reduce his claim to \$100,000 and that Austrade advised Mr Haj that, because he was dealing with a member of the Kuwaiti Royal Family, his chances of being paid were minimal.
- (4) Has he taken any steps to warn other exporters that they may well not be paid if they do business with the Kuwaiti Royal Family.
- (5) Has he made any representations to the Kuwaiti Ambassador in Australia requesting his assistance in obtaining full and proper payment for Mr Haj; if so, what was the response.

- 436 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Child Support Agency clients currently reside in (a) New South Wales, (b) the electoral division of Prospect, and (c) the postcode area (i) 2176, (ii) 2178, (iii) 2164, (iv) 2165, (v) 2145, (vi) 2148, (vii) 2759, and (viii) 2766.
- 437 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many community-based child care centres were located in the electoral division of Prospect in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, and (c) 2004-2005.
 - (2) What was the (a) name and address of each centre, and (b) the sum of Commonwealth funding it received.
 - (3) In respect of each centre, what sum was paid as (a) an operational subsidy, (b) a special needs subsidy, (c) an establishment grant, and (d) block grant assistance (transitional assistance).
 - (4) For the years (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, and (c) 2004-2005, which Commonwealth funded child care centres located in the electoral division of Prospect were overpaid and what sum has or will each centre be asked to repay.
- 438 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is he aware of the case of Ms Liu Fenggang who has been imprisoned in China for collecting information on the desecration of Protestant churches and the harsh treatment suffered by members of various church organisations.
 - (2) Is he able to provide any up-to-date information on the status of Ms Fenggang.
- 439 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) What sum was spent during 2004 on recruitment agencies for Commonwealth Departments and Agencies.
 - (2) What sum was spent for this purpose during (a) 2001, (b) 2002, and (c) 2003.
 - (3) Will the Minister provide a list of recruitment agencies which are used by Commonwealth Government Departments and Agencies.
- 440 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—
- (1) Can he give details, including the value, of support or incentives, if any, provided by the Commonwealth to the company Delphi Automotive Systems Australia Ltd.
 - (2) Are there any conditions placed upon this support; if so, what are they.
- 441 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads—
- (1) Is he aware of the concerns of the residents of Dartmoor regarding the proposed Dartmoor Truck Bypass Route.
 - (2) Has he considered these concerns in the planning process; if not, will he delay the finalisation of this project so that the Dartmoor residents' concerns can be given due consideration.
 - (3) Have alternative routes for the Dartmoor Truck Bypass project been considered.
 - (4) Will he consider alternative routes which ensure that local residents are not subjected to the noise and inconvenience associated with the proposed route.
- 442 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What representations has the Government recently made at an international level in respect of the banning of anti-vehicle land mines.
 - (2) Does Australia intend to participate in the development of international measures to ban anti-vehicle land mines; if so, what will be the nature of Australia's involvement in that campaign.
- 443 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Has any part of the sum allocated in the 2004-05 Budget for the development, supply or manufacture of electronic passports been paid to contractors; if so, (a) when, (b) to whom, (c) for what purpose, and (d) who served on the panel which selected the contractors.
 - (2) Has any person who served on the panel which selected the contractors been engaged at any time as an employee or sub-contractor by any of the selected contractors; if so, (a) who, (b) which contractor employed or sub-contracted them, (c) what position or contractual relationship do or did they hold with the contractor, (d) for what period were they engaged by that contractor, (e) for what period of time did they serve on the selection panel, (f) what position(s) did they hold within the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), and (g) for what period were they engaged by DFAT.
 - (3) Are there any plans to let contracts for further work in this area; if so, what for and when; if not; why not.

- 444 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What is the rate of non-compliance for ‘timely and accurately reported cargo information’ for cargo processed through (a) Melbourne, (b) Sydney, (c) Brisbane, and (d) Fremantle, for (i) individuals, and (ii) overall.
 - (2) How are the non-compliance figures determined.
 - (3) What are the figures for the timeliness of sea cargo reporting at (a) Melbourne, (b) Sydney, (c) Brisbane, and (d) Fremantle for (i) 2001-2002, (ii) 2002-2003, and (iii) 2003-2004.
 - (4) What are the figures for the timeliness of air cargo and export reporting for (a) 2001-2002, (b) 2002-2003, and (c) 2003-2004.
- 445 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) In respect of the reference on page 34 of the Australian Customs Service (ACS) report for 2003-2004, can the Minister explain which activities of the ACS are (a) prioritised as ‘core activities’, (b) considered to be of a “lower priority and minimal impact on border security”, and (c) classified as ‘enforcement operations’.
 - (2) In respect of those activities classified as core activities since 2002, (a) how many (i) full-time, and (ii) part-time staff were reallocated within the ACS to perform these core activities, (b) what are their current broadband classifications, (c) how many are (i) on-going, and (ii) non-ongoing, (d) what are their job titles, and (e) from which activity (whether core or otherwise) was each staff member reallocated.
 - (3) Since 2002, (a) how many (i) full-time, and (ii) part-time staff were reallocated within the ACS to perform first-port boarding of commercial vessels (and any affiliated activities supporting first-port boarding of commercial vessels in an operational capacity), (b) what are their current broadband classifications, (c) how many are (i) on-going, and (ii) non-ongoing, (d) what are their job titles, and (e) from which activity (whether core or otherwise) was each staff member reallocated.
 - (4) On what specific items will the \$2.8 million allocated for 2004-2005 to increase first-port boarding be spent.
- 446 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Has the Australian Customs Service (ACS) requested or commenced a study or investigation into the potential effect of the proposed Joint Offshore Protection Command maritime security regime upon the geographical location of strategic taskings of Australian Customs vessels; if so, when was it commenced or requested, and what were its results; if not, does the ACS intend to conduct a study or investigation, and if it does, when will it commence.
 - (2) Has the ACS requested or commenced a study or investigation into the potential effect of the proposed Joint Offshore Protection Command maritime security regime upon the operational vessel days completed by Australian Customs vessels; if so, when was it commenced or requested, and what were its results; if not, does the ACS intend to conduct a study or investigation, and if it does, when will it commence.
- 447 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—Will the Minister provide further details of the administered expenses (including third party outputs) incurred by the Australian Customs Service as reported on page 30 of its report for 2003-2004, in particular, (a) confirm that total actual administered expenses were \$23,123,000 for the 2003-2004 reporting period, (b) what was the nature of each administered expense, and (c) for each administered expense, what was the difference, if any, between the actual administered expense and the sum allocated for the administered expense in the 2003-2004 budget.
- 449 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What sum was spent on maintenance for the fleet of single-engine helicopter, Islander aircraft and Shrike aircraft for 2003-2004.
 - (2) Is the Australian Customs Service investigating, or does it intend to investigate, the maintenance costs of extending the existing contracts for the single-engine helicopter, the Islander aircraft or the Shrike aircraft to 30 June 2007.
 - (3) What are the current anticipated maintenance costs for the fleet of single-engine helicopter, Islander aircraft and Shrike aircraft for (a) 2004-2005, (b) 2005-2006, and (c) 2006-2007.
- 450 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What sum was allocated to the Cargo Management Re-Engineering project in the 2003-2004 budget and what was the total cost of this program for 2003-2004.

- (2) In respect of the reference on page 9 of the Australian Customs Service (ACS) report for 2003-2004, which ACS programs had “higher than expected costs” and what was the difference between the expected and the actual costs for each project.
- 451 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) When did the Australian Customs Service (ACS) review the assumption of a ten minute delay between aircraft arrival and the time passengers arrive at the ECP queue for calculating the facilitation rate of international air passengers in Australian airports.
 - (2) Will the Minister provide details of the formula and explain how it is used to calculate the facilitation rate.
 - (3) Is the ACS able to apply the formula to the international air passengers facilitation rates reported in its report for 2003-2004; if not, why not; if so, what are the results of applying the formula.
- 452 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Does an existing Act or Regulation empower the Joint Offshore Protection Command to order Australian Defence Force or Australian Customs Service (ACS) personnel or agents to intercept, board and search any vessel within 1000 nautical miles of the Australian mainland or Territories; if so, what are the details; if not, (a) what matters are required to be legislated upon, (b) are amendments to existing legislation required for the implementation of these measures; if so, what are the details, and (c) when does the Government plan to introduce the legislation.
 - (2) Which ACS staff will be responsible for executing an order by the Joint Offshore Protection Command to intercept, board and/or search any vessel within 1000 nautical miles of the Australian mainland or Territories.
 - (3) Will ACS staff need to be seconded or transferred from existing duties to execute orders by the Joint Offshore Protection Command; if so, (a) what are the details, and (b) will those duties be undertaken by other ACS staff.
 - (4) Will the ACS need to engage additional staff to implement these measures.
- 453 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Has the National Clandestine Laboratory Database project produced any papers to date; if so, in respect of each paper (a) when, (b) what is its the title, and (c) is it publicly available.
 - (2) Has the Australian Customs Service (ACS) been invited to attend any discussions after the release of the most recent paper; if so, when did or will the discussions occur.
 - (3) When is it estimated that this database will be operational.
 - (4) Has the National Industrial Chemical Notification and Assessment Scheme Database project produced any papers to date; if so, in respect of each paper, (a) when, (b) what is its the title, and (c) is it publicly available.
 - (5) Has the ACS been invited to attend any discussions after the release of the most recent paper; if so, when did or will the discussions occur.
 - (6) When is it estimated that this database will be operational.
- 454 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—What measures has the Australian Customs Service taken in response to each of the 9 recommendations made by the Auditor-General in the Auditor-General’s Audit Report No. 37 of 2003-2004 on the National Marine Unit.
- 456 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) In respect of the regional rapid response teams’ canine bomb-detector squads, what sum is required for (a) training the bomb-detector dogs, (b) training the bomb-detector dog personnel, and (c) maintaining the canine bomb-detector squads each year (including the dogs and personnel).
 - (2) How many assessments of passengers, luggage and airport facilities will the canine bomb-detector squads undertake in 2004-2005.
- 457 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—For each type or class of vessel and aircraft used by the Australian Customs Service in the Coastwatch program, (a) how many are in use, and (b) what is the operating cost per 24 hours.
- 458 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—For each of the 146 regional airports in Australia that will be protected by the regional rapid response teams, (a) what is its name and location (including suburb, and State and/or Territory), (b) within which electoral division

is it located, and (c) what is the distance in kilometres to the closest major metropolitan airport (ie Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane or Perth).

459 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Has the Government established any new counter terrorism regional engagement teams; if not, does it still intend to establish two new counter terrorism regional engagement teams.
- (2) Has the Government established any new regional criminal intelligence teams; if not, does it still intend to establish two regional criminal intelligence teams.
- (3) Has the Government established any new regional counter-terrorism surveillance teams; if not, does it still intend to establish two regional counter-terrorism surveillance teams.
- (4) In respect of the (a) regional engagement teams, (b) criminal intelligence teams, and (c) counter-terrorism surveillance teams, (i) what date will they be operational, (ii) what is the estimated cost of establishing and maintaining them over 5 years, (iii) what will be their size, (iii) from which other parts of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) will the team members be drawn, (iv) will they be armed; if so, with what weaponry and/or armour (personal or otherwise), and (v) within which countries may they be required to conduct counter-terrorism engagement activities.
- (5) Will the teams be deployed only at the formal request of a regional nation or will the Government seek permission from the relevant regional nation prior to their deployment.
- (6) Will the teams coordinate or liaise with ASIO, DIO or any other Australian security or information agencies; if so, what arrangements (if any) are currently in place.

460 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) How many Australian Federal Police (AFP) officers were deployed overseas during 2004.
- (2) What was the highest number of AFP officers that were deployed overseas during 2004 at any given time.
- (3) In respect of the AFP officers deployed overseas, what was the name and location (including city/town and State) of the AFP investigation, inquiry, team, squad or unit from which each officer was seconded.
- (4) In respect of each AFP investigation, inquiry, team, squad or unit which released an officer or officers to be deployed overseas, how many officers were in it at the commencement of (a) 2004 and (b) 2005.
- (5) How many AFP officers were permanently based in Western Australia on (a) 5 January 2004 and (b) 3 January 2005.

461 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Did ASIO conduct a review of aviation and/or maritime security policy settings during or after 2003-2004; if so, when and what was the outcome.
- (2) When was the last review conducted prior to 2003-2004.

462 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) For 2003-2004, what sum was allocated to ASIO for the Commonwealth Contact Reporting Scheme.
- (2) How many ASIO staff were directly involved in the coordination and management of the scheme in 2003-2004.
- (3) Does the Government intend to increase (a) funding, and (b) staffing for the scheme in 2004-2005; if so, how many additional staff will be employed.

463 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What was the date and the nature of each alteration, amendment or other variation to (a) ASIO business continuity plans and (b) the ASIO Fraud Control Plan that was made during 2003-2004.
- (2) What administrative or procedural shortcomings were identified by ASIO during 2003-2004 in respect of (a) compliance with the *Crimes Act 1914*, (b) compliance with the *NSW Law Enforcement and National Security (Assumed Identities) Act 1998*, (c) cash policy and procedures, (d) payroll compliance, and (e) public line calls and calls from the National Security Hotline.

464 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Were any treaties, agreements or understandings, whether formal or informal, operating between ASIO and regional law enforcement and intelligence agencies regarding Jemaah Islamiyah during 2003-2004; if so, in respect of each one, (a) which regional law enforcement and intelligence agencies were parties, and (b) what date did it commence.

- (2) Did ASIO conduct any investigations or inquiries into the possible forms of attack by Jemaah Islamiyah operatives against Australian interests in South-East Asia during 2003-2004.
- (3) How often are such investigations or inquiries conducted.
- 465 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What sum did ASIO spend on advertising for its graduate entry program in 2003-2004.
- (2) Were any consultants engaged to prepare advertisements for the graduate entry program; if so, in respect of each consultant, (a) what was their name, (b) what was the cost of the consultancy, (c) for what purpose were they engaged, and (d) when were they engaged.
- 466 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Was a revised catalogue of security products endorsed by ASIO for use in government departments and agencies released in 2004; if so, on what date.
- 467 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Has ASIO produced a Status of Security Report in 2004; if so, (a) when was it completed, and (b) is it a public document; if so, will he provide a copy.
- (2) Has ASIO produced an IASF overview report in 2004; if so, (a) when was it completed, and (b) is it a public document; if so, will he provide a copy.
- 468 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is ASIO permitted to provide classified material to the Critical Infrastructure Advisory Council; if so, (a) are there procedures regulating ASIO's disclosure of such material and do the procedures vary according to the level of classification of the material.
- (2) Will he provide a copy of the relevant procedures for each level of classification.
- (3) What is the highest level of security clearance or classification that ASIO may provide to the Critical Infrastructure Advisory Council.
- 469 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Has ASIO conducted a survey of non-SES ASIO staff since 30 June 2004; if so, (a) when, and (b) what were the outcomes.
- 470 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—What are the details of the cost-recovery basis upon which ASIO's protective security advice and services are provided.
- 471 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What are the 12 critical infrastructure assets identified as nationally 'vital' by ASIO during 2003-2004.
- (2) For each critical infrastructure asset identified, what is the threat assessment given by ASIO.
- (3) Can he say which further 'vital' critical infrastructure assets ASIO will prepare threat assessments for during 2004-2005 and, in respect of each one, what is the preliminary threat assessment.
- 472 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—When was the *Emerging Issues in Protective Security* paper completed and will he provide a copy.
- 473 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) In respect of the statement on page 7 of the ASIO report for 2003-2004 that "about 50% of staff have been with the Organisation for five years or less", which five groups, divisions, branches or other work units (however named) have the largest numbers of staff that have been with ASIO for five years or less.
- (2) How many staff in total are there in each work unit identified in (1).
- 474 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Which groups, divisions, branches and other work units (however named) were assigned the 145 ASIO staff employed during 2003-2004 and how many staff were assigned to each work unit.
- (2) How many full-time equivalent staff were employed in each work unit identified in (1), (a) prior to the assignment of new staff, and (b) after the assignment of new staff.
- (3) In respect of each work unit, how many (a) ongoing, and (b) non-ongoing staff are employed and what are their broad-banded classifications.
- (4) What were the operating costs for each work unit for 2003-2004.
- (5) What are the budgeted operating costs for each work unit for (a) 2004-2005, and (b) 2005-2006.
- 475 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What are the groups, divisions, branches and other work units (however named) within the National Threat Assessment Centre.

- (2) How many full-time equivalent staff currently work in each work unit.
 - (3) In respect of each work unit, how many (a) ongoing, and (b) non-ongoing staff are employed and what are there broad-banded classifications.
 - (4) What was the operating cost of each work unit for 2003-2004.
 - (5) What are the budgeted operating costs for each work unit for (a) 2004-2005, and (b) 2005-2006.
- 476 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Why did ASIO conduct the polygraph trial referred to on page 32 of its report for 2003-2004.
 - (2) When will ASIO present its report to the Government on the polygraph trial.
 - (3) Will the report be a public document.
- 477 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) In respect of the statement on page 34 of the ASIO report for 2003-2004 that it had endorsed four additional safe-hand and overnight courier companies on behalf of the Interdepartmental Security Construction and Equipment Committee, (a) what are the names of the companies and (b) what are the criteria used to assess a company before it is endorsed.
 - (2) Have any of the four companies endorsed previously been used by ASIO; if so, what was the value and duration of the relationship.
- 478 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) During 2003-2004, did ASIO conduct an assessment of the threat to oil and gas production; if so, (a) when was the assessment commenced and completed, (b) which oil and gas production facilities were included and (c) in respect of each facility assessed, what was ASIO's threat assessment.
 - (2) During 2003-2004, did ASIO conduct an assessment of the threat to transport infrastructure; if so, (a) when was the assessment commenced and completed, (b) what transport infrastructure was included, and (c) in respect of the infrastructure assessed, what was ASIO's threat assessment.
- 479 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What sum was spent on advertising and market-research services by his department during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004.
 - (2) What sum was spent on non-campaign advertising purposes, such as recruitment, job vacancies and tender notices during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004.
 - (3) What sum was spent on government campaign advertising during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004.
- 480 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is there a joint initiative between the Government and the National Institute of Forensic Science to minimise the potential criminal use of explosives in Australia; if so, (a) when, and (b) where will the results be publicly available.
 - (2) Can he confirm that (a) stage one, and (b) stage two of the joint initiative has been completed; if not, in respect of each stage, why not and when will it be completed.
 - (3) What was the allocation for the joint initiative for 2003-2004.
 - (4) What sum has been spent on the project as at 1 January 2005.
 - (5) What sum was allocated for the joint initiative for 2004-2005.
- 481 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Has his department implemented all of the 66 recommendations contained in the COAG report *Natural disasters in Australia: Reforming mitigation, relief and recovery arrangements*; if not, which recommendations have not been implemented.
 - (2) Has his department taken any steps to implement those recommendations that have not been implemented; if so, what are the details.
- 482 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Is he aware of any investigation into the number of people that would require treatment by nuclear antidote pharmaceuticals following the detonation of a dirty bomb in any Australian capital city; if so, can he say what were the results or other findings.
 - (2) What stocks of nuclear antidote pharmaceuticals are held by the Commonwealth Government within the boundaries of each State and Territory and for how many people would those stocks provide treatment.

- (3) Has the Government ordered additional stocks of nuclear antidote pharmaceuticals since 27 November 2004; if so, (a) what amounts, (b) when will they be received, and (c) will they be distributed to the States and Territories; if so, when and in what quantities.
- 483 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) How many clearance requests did the Australian Security Vetting Service (ASVS) receive from Government agencies during 2003-2004.
 - (2) For 2003-2004, of the requests received, (a) how many did the ASVS complete, and (b) how many was the ASVS unable to complete.
 - (3) Does the ASVS maintain a record of the reasons why it was unable to complete a clearance request; if so, what were the reasons for each failure to complete a clearance request.
 - (4) Does the ASVS have a target period within which it aims to complete requests for clearance; if so, how many such requests were completed within the period during 2003-2004.
- 484 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What recommendations were made during 2003-2004 as a result of the audit database developed to assist the Audit Committee to monitor the implementation of recommendations made in audit reports.
 - (2) Has his department reviewed the effectiveness of the audit database; if so, what were the outcomes.
 - (3) What recommendations have been made since 30 June 2004.
- 485 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What was the breakdown of funding for each phase of the Chemical, Biological and Radiological Enhancement Program (CBREP) for (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004.
 - (2) What is the forecasted expenditure on each phase of the CBREP for (a) 2004-2005, and (b) 2005-2006.
- 487 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What gaps did his department identify in emergency management competency standards during 2003-2004 as noted on page 103 of its report for 2003-2004.
 - (2) What amendments or alterations have been made to emergency management competency standards to address each gap.
 - (3) Was his department aware at any time prior to 2003-2004 of the existence of any gaps.
 - (4) Has his department conducted a review of emergency management competency standards prior to 2003-2004; if so, did it identify gaps similar or identical to gaps that were identified in 2003-2004 and if it did what were they.
 - (5) Did his department make any amendments or alterations prior to 2003-2004 to emergency management competency standards to address any gaps.
- 489 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—In respect of the operating deficit of \$10.5 million for his department in 2003-2004, (a) which major programs incurred lower than expected expenditure, (b) what sum was allocated for each of these programs, (c) what sum was spent on each of these programs, (d) for each program, what were the reasons for the discrepancy and (e) are any of the programs behind schedule; if so, by what magnitude.
- 490 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) How many individual firearms were legally imported during 2003-2004.
 - (2) How many individual handguns were legally imported during 2003-2004.
 - (3) How many individual firearm parts were legally imported during 2003-2004.
 - (4) How many individual hand gun parts were legally imported during 2003-2004.
 - (5) What sum was spent advertising the National Handgun Buyback program during 2003-2004.
 - (6) Why did the administered expenses for the Handgun Buyback Program increase from \$224,000 in 2003 to \$84,407,000 in 2004 as reported on page 148 of his department's report for 2003-2004.
- 491 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—In respect of each of the 127 community legal centres that were funded in 2003-2004, (a) what was its name, (b) what date was its funding allocated, (c) what sum was it allocated, and (d) in which State or Territory and federal electoral division is it located.
- 492 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) How many community groups were awarded grants under the National Community Crime Prevention Program (NCCPP) (a) during 2003-2004, and (b) since 30 June 2004.

- (2) In respect of each grant, (a) what was the name of the community group, (b) for what project was the grant awarded, and (c) what sum did it receive.
- (3) In respect of each grant, (a) when was the application lodged, (b) when was the decision to award the grant made, and (c) when was the grant made.

493 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Was industry consulted during the development of the National Counter-Terrorism Handbook; if so, (a) which industry organisations were consulted, (b) what was the date and duration of the consultation, (c) how were they consulted, and (d) will he provide a summary of the results or conclusions of the consultations.
- (2) How many industry organisations were invited to participate and, of these, how many decided not to participate.

494 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—In respect of the National Security Hotline for 2003-2004, (a) what sum was allocated for advertising, (b) what sum was spent on advertising, (c) what sum was allocated for administration, and (d) what sum was spent on administration.

495 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Were any Australian officials deployed in Papua New Guinea (PNG) agencies during 2003-2004 as part of the Enhanced Cooperation Package between Australia and PNG; if so, how many.
- (2) Will any Australian officials be deployed in PNG agencies during 2004-2005 as part of the Enhanced Cooperation Package; if so, (a) how many, (b) when, (c) to which PNG agencies in which PNG locations, and (d) for how long.

496 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What sums from the proceeds of crime has the Australian Government (a) requested, and (b) received from foreign countries following mutual assistance requests.
- (2) Of the \$6 million frozen in foreign countries that the Australian Government assisted in identifying as proceeds of crime in 2003-2004, what sums has it (a) requested, and (b) received.
- (3) Of the \$6 million frozen in foreign countries, (a) what sums were frozen on what dates in which countries.

497 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) In respect of the 154 decisions on individual matters relating to federal prisoners as stated at page 90 of his department's report for 2003-2004, how many (a) applications were for the exercise of the Royal Prerogative of Mercy, (b) applications were for pardons, (c) pardons were granted, (d) applications were for a remission of sentence, (e) remissions were granted, (f) applications were for a remission of a fine, (g) remissions of fines were granted.
- (2) In respect of each successful application, (a) what date was it received, (b) what date was it granted, (c) what are details of the request, and (d) what was the effect of the exercise of the Royal Prerogative of Mercy.
- (3) In respect of each of the five prisoners transferred from Australia to the Netherlands in 2003-2004, (a) what was the date of the request, (b) when was it approved, (c) when did the transfer take place, (d) what were the offences of the applicant, (e) what was the prison sentence imposed for the offences, (f) when did the sentence take effect, (g) is the person still incarcerated in the Netherlands; if not, when were they released, and (h) will Australia be notified when they are released; if so, how.
- (4) Were there any instances in 2004 when Ministers exercised their ministerial discretion to deny a request for the international transfer of an individual.

498 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What is the total cost of the 8 new Remote Positioning Vehicles (RPVs) to be provided by the National Counter-Terrorism Committee (NCTC).
- (2) Has the cost been substantially revised from the original estimate; if so, by what sum.

499 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) For which financial years has his department failed to maintain adequate accounts and records in respect of payments against the special appropriations made under the *National Firearms Implementation Act 1998*, the *Law Officers Act 1954* and the *High Court Justices (Long Leave Payments) Act 1979*.
- (2) Has his department conducted a review into its failure to maintain adequate accounts and records; if so, (a) when, (b) what were the outcomes, and (c) what were the measures it implemented as a result.

- (3) Has there been a review the effectiveness of these measures; if so, (a) when, and (b) what were the results.
- 500 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) In respect of the most recent meeting organised by the Watch Office of Australian Government agencies to review and improve cross-portfolio communications and cooperative relationships between various incident rooms and operations centres, (a) when did it occur, and (b) which agencies attended.
 - (2) For which incident rooms and operations centres are the agencies which attended responsible and which of these rooms and centres (a) currently operate, and (b) are capable of operating on a 24 hour basis.
 - (3) Has his department or the Watch Office conducted a review of the cross-portfolio communications and cooperative relationships between any of these listed incident rooms or operations centres; if so, (a) when, (b) to which incident rooms, operations centres, and agencies did it relate, (c) what were the recommendations, and (d) to which incident rooms, operations centres, and agencies did the recommendations relate.
- 501 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—For each type or class of vessel and aircraft used by the Department of Defence in the Coastwatch program, (a) how many are in use and (b) what is the operating cost per 24 hours.
- 502 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) How many unacceptable behaviour complaints were reported in the Army during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in the category (i) sexual offences, (ii) sexual harassment, (iii) general harassment, (iv) discrimination, (v) abuse of power, (vi) bullying and (vii) inappropriate workplace relations.
 - (2) How many unacceptable behaviour complaints were reported in the Navy during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in the category (i) sexual offences, (ii) sexual harassment, (iii) general harassment, (iv) discrimination, (v) abuse of power, (vi) bullying and (vii) inappropriate workplace relations.
 - (3) How many unacceptable behaviour complaints were reported in the Air Force during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in the category (i) sexual offences, (ii) sexual harassment, (iii) general harassment, (iv) discrimination, (v) abuse of power, (vi) bullying and (vii) inappropriate workplace relations.
 - (4) How many unacceptable behaviour complaints were reported in the Australian Public Service in the Minister's department during (a) 2002-2003, and (b) 2003-2004 in the category (i) sexual offences, (ii) sexual harassment, (iii) general harassment, (iv) discrimination, (v) abuse of power, (vi) bullying and (vii) inappropriate workplace relations.
- 503 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—For the (a) C130H, and (b) C130J aircraft, (i) how many are currently in service with the RAAF, (ii) what date did it enter service, (iii) how many missions were undertaken during 2003-2004, (iii) how many missions were undertaken since 30 June 2004, (iv) how many missions in total were delayed or cancelled, (v) how many missions were delayed or cancelled due to maintenance requirements or other mechanical difficulties related to the aircraft, (vi) what sum was allocated for maintenance or repair during 2003-2004, (vii) what sum was spent on maintenance or repair during 2003-2004, (viii) what sum was allocated for maintenance or repair for 2004-2005, and (ix) what sum has been spent on maintenance or repair since 30 June 2004.
- 504 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Is he aware that Senator the Hon. Helen Coonan has described herself as the 'Patron Senator for Cunningham' in a media release dated 25 January 2005.
 - (2) Is this an official position in the Government; if so, (a) when was Senator Coonan appointed, (b) what are Senator Coonan's duties and responsibilities in this role, and (c) are there any other 'Patron Senators' for other electoral divisions and, if so, who are they and which electoral divisions do they serve.
 - (3) Is it appropriate for all Members of the House of Representatives to be informed of Government announcements and initiatives.
 - (4) What role does the Senator as Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, have in administering programs in the Transport and Regional Services portfolio.
 - (5) Can he explain why the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts would be involved in announcing funding allocations under the Regional Partnerships Program.

505 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) How many times has he visited the electoral division of (a) Cunningham, (b) Throsby, (c) Gilmore, (d) Hughes, and (e) Hume from 1996 to 2004.
- (2) What were the dates and purposes of each of his visits to these electoral divisions.
- (3) Can he say how many times the (a) Hon. R. J. L. Hawke, and (b) Hon. P. J. Keating visit the electoral division of (a) Cunningham, (b) Throsby, (c) Gilmore, (d) Hughes, and (e) Hume during his term of office.

506 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What factors determine the level of short term interest rates.
- (2) What was the short term interest rate in (a) Australia, (b) Canada, (c) France, (d) Germany, (e) Italy, (f) Japan, (g) New Zealand, (h) the United Kingdom, and (i) the United States of America for each quarter since November 2000.
- (3) What factors determine the level of long term interest rates.

507 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many times has he visited the electoral division of (a) Cunningham, (b) Throsby, (c) Gilmore, (d) Hughes, and (e) Hume from 1996 to 2004.
- (2) What were the dates and purposes of each of his visits to these electoral divisions.

509 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister for Trade—

- (1) Is the Export Market Development Grants (EMDG) program under review; if so, (a) when will the review be completed, (b) which agency or consultant is conducting the review, and (c) will the results of the review be publicly released.
- (2) How many applications under the EMDG program were received from businesses in the electoral division of (a) Cunningham, (b) Throsby, and (c) Gilmore for the years 1993 to 2004.
- (3) How many applications under the EMDG program were successful in the electoral division of (a) Cunningham, (b) Throsby, and (c) Gilmore for the years 1993 to 2004.
- (4) What was the industry category of each recipient of a grant and what was the average grant received under the EMDG program in the electoral division of (a) Cunningham, (b) Throsby, and (c) Gilmore for the years 1993 to 2004.

510 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For the years 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004, what sum was allocated to each project that was funded in the electoral division of (a) Cunningham, (b) Throsby, (c) Hughes, and (d) Gilmore under the (i) Roads to Recovery, (ii) Roads of National Importance, and (iii) Blackspot Program.

511 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What sum has been allocated for the implementation of the Auslink White Paper, and specifically to each of the priorities indicated at page 35.
- (2) What sum has been allocated to the Sydney-Wollongong link of interregional corridor investments for the five-year period 2004-2005 to 2008-2009.

512 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) What sum was provided to (a) government, and (b) non-government schools in the postcode area (a) 2500, (b) 2508, (c) 2515, (d) 2516, (e) 2517, (f) 2518, (g) 2519, (h) 2525, and (j) 2526 for 2004.
- (2) What was the (a) expenditure on, (b) location of, and (c) purpose of each grant in 2004.
- (3) What sum will be provided to (a) government, and (b) non-government schools in the postcode area (a) 2500, (b) 2508, (c) 2515, (d) 2516, (e) 2517, (f) 2518, (g) 2519, (h) 2525, and (j) 2526 for 2005.
- (4) What will (a) the expenditure be for, (b) be the location of, and (c) be the purpose of each grant in 2005.

513 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) For each calendar year since 1996, how many people who reside in the postcode area (a) 2500, (b) 2508, (c) 2515, (d) 2516, (e) 2517, (f) 2518, (g) 2519, (h) 2525, and (i) 2526 were enrolled in (i) University, and (ii) Vocational, Education and Training.
- (2) For each calendar year since 1996, how many people who reside in the postcode area (a) 2500, (b) 2508, (c) 2515, (d) 2516, (e) 2517, (f) 2518, (g) 2519, (h) 2525, and (i) 2526 were enrolled in a (i) bachelor degree, and (ii) postgraduate degree.

514 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What salary and allowances are paid by the Commonwealth Government to State Governors who serve as Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia.
- (2) Can he say whether State Governors serving as Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia continue to receive salary or allowances from their State during their service as Administrator.

515 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is it the case that the *Cabinet Handbook*, Fifth Edition, March 2004, provides that a record is to be kept of persons who have had access to each Cabinet document.
- (2) For each financial year since 1996-1997, how many times has his department been informed or become aware of the loss or disappearance of a Cabinet document created by his Government.
- (3) For each instance of the known loss or disappearance of a Cabinet document, (a) when was the loss or disappearance of the document reported to his department, (b) did the document have a security classification in addition to the classification of “Cabinet-in-Confidence”; if so, at what level, (c) was the document subsequently located or otherwise accounted for, and (d) was the person responsible for the safe custody of the document (i) a Minister or Parliamentary Secretary, (ii) a Member of the staff of a Minister or Parliamentary Secretary, (iii) the Secretary of a Department or an equivalent head of a statutory authority, (iv) an SES officer in the Australian Public Service (APS) or an Officer of equivalent rank in the Australian Defence Force (ADF), or (v) an APS officer or ADF Member.

516 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is it the case that the *Cabinet Handbook*, Fifth Edition, March 2004, provides that once a Minister vacates office, hard copies of Cabinet documents held by the Minister must be destroyed according to the procedures set out in the *Protective Security Manual* and that in the case of submissions, memoranda, corrigenda and minutes, a record of each document destroyed (including the copy number) must be kept so that, if required, the holder can certify that destruction has occurred.
- (2) Can he confirm that all persons who have vacated Ministerial office since March 1996 have ensured that all Cabinet documents held by them or their Office have been destroyed in accordance with the requirements of the Cabinet Handbook and the Protective Security Manual.
- (3) As at (a) 16 November 2004, and (b) the present, which, if any, former Ministers of his Government had not destroyed all Cabinet documents held by them or their former Office.

517 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is it the case that the *Cabinet Handbook*, Fifth Edition, March 2004, provides that Ministers must write to the Prime Minister seeking his or, at his discretion, Cabinet’s approval of significant Government appointments.
- (2) For the financial year 2003-2004, how many appointments were brought to the Prime Minister’s attention which were for (a) significant full-time or part-time appointments to boards, commissions or statutory offices, (b) full-time Chief Executive Officer positions in government agencies, (c) first-time acting appointments in the above categories where the acting appointment is for three months or more, (d) appointments to significant non-statutory tribunals, advisory bodies and commissions of inquiry, (e) appointments as heads of missions other than Austrade managed posts, and (f) other significant appointments.
- (3) For each category in (2), how many recommendations for appointments were (a) approved, and (b) not approved by (i) him, and (ii) Cabinet.

518 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Were copies of Cabinet submissions and Cabinet minutes regularly provided to Sir William Deane and Dr Peter Hollingworth during their service as Governor-General.
- (2) Were Cabinet submissions provided to both the former Governors-General prior to their consideration by Cabinet.
- (3) Were there any categories of Cabinet documents that were not routinely circulated to the former Governors-General, for example, those relating to the office of the Governor-General.
- (4) Did the former Governors-General regularly receive copies of papers prepared for or arising from meetings of the National Security Committee of Cabinet.

519 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Why was it necessary during the course of 2003 to reinstate arrangements to provide Cabinet documents to the Governor-General.

520 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has a review of arrangements for Commonwealth-State consultation on treaties been commissioned under the auspices of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG); if so, (a) when was it commissioned, (b) will it include the 1996 COAG Principles and Procedures for Commonwealth-State Consultation on Treaties, (c) what are its terms of reference, (d) who will undertake it, and (e) will it include consultation with the (i) Joint Standing Committee on Treaties, (ii) Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, and (iii) the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee; in respect of each committee, if not, why not.
- (2) Will the review process include the opportunity for submissions to be made by members of the public including interested academics and other experts; if not, why not.
- (3) When is the review scheduled to be completed.
- (4) When will the outcomes of the review be made public.

521 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Can he confirm that the average time he took to lodge answers to questions in writing asked in the House of Representatives during the 38th Parliament was 93.0 days.
- (2) Can he confirm that the average time he took to lodge answers to questions in writing asked in the House of Representatives during the 39th Parliament was 99.6 days.
- (3) Can he confirm that the average time he took to lodge answers to questions in writing asked in the House of Representatives during the 40th Parliament was 175.1 days.
- (4) Will he explain the progressively longer times it has taken him to respond to questions in writing asked of him in the House of Representatives, especially the average of 175.1 days during the 40th Parliament.
- (5) What specific measures has the Secretary of his department and the heads of other portfolio agencies implemented to improve performance and ensure more rapid responses to written questions asked in the 41st Parliament.
- (6) What specific measures has he implemented to improve performance and ensure more rapid responses to written questions asked in the 41st Parliament.

522 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) Is the Department of Finance and Administration aware of any travel undertaken during the period 30 December 2002 to 31 December 2004 by any person which was purportedly authorised under the *Members of Parliament (Life Gold Pass) Act 2002* when the person was not eligible to undertake such travel at the expense of the Commonwealth.
- (2) In respect of any travel undertaken at the expense of the Commonwealth which was, but should not have been, approved under the provisions of the *Members of Parliament (Life Gold Pass) Act 2002*, (a) who was the person or persons who undertook the travel, (b) over what route or routes did the travel take place, (c) what was the cost of the travel, and (d) what action was taken under section 33 of the Act for the recovery of expenses as a debt due to the Commonwealth.

523 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) In respect of the Minister's travel to the Cocos and Christmas Islands in April 2004, (a) what was its purpose, (b) what meetings did the Minister have on each day he was absent from Australia, and (c) what other activities were undertaken by the Minister on each day he was absent from Australia.
- (2) Who accompanied the Minister and what was the official function performed by each person.
- (3) Why did Mrs K. Minchin travel to the Cocos Islands and Christmas Island.
- (4) Why did Ms A. Minchin travel to the Cocos Islands and Christmas Island.

524 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What role does Boeing Australia play at the Naval Communications Station (NCS) at North West Cape.
- (2) When did the current contract between the Australian Government and Boeing Australia relating to the NCS at North West Cape commence and what is its duration.
- (3) How many Boeing Australia personnel are currently employed at the NCS at North West Cape.
- (4) How many Australian Army, Navy, Air Force and Defence civilian personnel are currently employed at the North West Cape NCS.

- (5) Are any United States citizens employed at the North West Cape NCS; if so, (a) how many, and (b) which department, agency or contractor employs them.
- (6) For each financial year since 1996-1997, (a) what has been the cost to the Australian Government of operating the North West Cape NCS, and (b) what contribution did the United States Government make to the operating costs of the NCS.
- 525 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) What is the current status of negotiations between the Australian and United States Governments for an agreement relating to the operation of, and access to, the Australian Naval Communication Station (NCS) at North West Cape.
- (2) When did the current negotiations commence.
- (3) What level of access by the United States to the NCS is contemplated in the proposed agreement.
- (4) What is the anticipated duration of the proposed agreement.
- (5) What contributions will the United States make to operating costs, logistical support and capital upgrades for the NCS at North West Cape.
- (6) When does the Government expect the new agreement will be finalised.
- 526 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) When will the Government release the findings of the review into the Volunteer Management Program (VMP) and the Voluntary Work Initiative (VWI) Program.
- (2) Is the Government aware that uncertainty regarding future funding for these two programs is having a negative impact on local organisations.
- (3) Is it the Government's intention to fund the VMP on an annual basis or the previous triennial funding arrangements.
- (4) Is it the case that the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations will administer the VMI Program in future.
- (5) When will local organisations such as Volunteering Illawarra receive advice in regard to their future plans and funding arrangements.
- 527 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Has he read the article titled 'National interest may block Xstrata' in *The Age* on 17 December 2004 which reported that Senator Ross Lightfoot said that Xstrata's recent closure of the Windimurra vanadium mine should disqualify it from taking over WMC Resources and that if the take over went ahead jobs will be lost.
- (2) Can he confirm that WMC Resources owns the Olympic Dam uranium and copper mine in South Australia which is the world's biggest uranium deposit containing 38% of the world's known economically recoverable uranium.
- (3) Has he met with Xstrata Chief Executive, Mr Mick Davis, to discuss Xstrata's bid for WMC Resources; if so, when and what are the details.
- (4) Can he confirm that under the *Foreign Acquisition and Takeovers Act 1975* the Government has the power to block the Xstrata bid on national interests grounds; if not, why not.
- (5) Will he use the *Foreign Acquisition and Takeovers Act 1975* to block Xstrata's bid for WMC Resources; if not, why not.

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- 528 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Since March 1996, on what dates have meetings of the Commonwealth-States Standing Committee on Treaties taken place and which treaties, conventions or other agreements were considered at each meeting.
- 529 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—
- (1) How many (a) high care places, (b) low care places, and (c) community packages are there in the (i) Wollongong Local Government Area (LGA), (ii) Shellharbour LGA, (iii) Kiama LGA, and (iv) Illawarra Region.
- (2) How many people over 70 years of age are there in the (a) Wollongong LGA, (b) Shellharbour LGA, (c) Kiama LGA, and (d) Illawarra Region.

- (3) What is the ratio of (a) high care places, (b) low care places, and (c) community packages per 1000 people over 70 years of age for the (i) Wollongong LGA, (ii) Shellharbour LGA, (iii) Kiama LGA, and (iv) Illawarra Region.
 - (4) How does the provision of (a) high care places, (b) low care places, and (c) community packages per 1000 people over 70 years of age for the (i) Wollongong LGA, (ii) Shellharbour LGA, (iii) Kiama LGA, and (iv) Illawarra Region compare with the Government's target of 108 operational places for every 1,000 people over 70 years of age.
 - (5) How many additional bed places would be required to meet the Government's stated target in the (a) Wollongong LGA, (b) Shellharbour LGA, (c) Kiama LGA, and (d) Illawarra Region.
 - (6) How does the Illawarra Region compare with other Regions of NSW in the provision of (a) high care places, (b) low care places, and (c) community packages.
 - (7) In which categories of places/packages in the Illawarra Region does provision fall below the NSW average.
 - (8) How many (a) high care places, (b) low care places, and (c) community packages have been allocated to the (i) Wollongong LGA, (ii) Shellharbour LGA, (iii) Kiama LGA, and (iv) Illawarra Region.
 - (9) How many residential places approved for the Illawarra Region have yet to become operational and where are they located.
 - (10) Which organisations in the Illawarra Region applied for and received approval in the (i) Wollongong LGA, (ii) Shellharbour LGA, and (iii) Kiama LGA, in the most recent Approvals Round.
 - (11) Which applications for (a) high care places, (b) low care places, and (c) community packages from the Illawarra Region were not approved in the most recent Approvals Round and, in respect of each application, what was the reason for its non-approval.
- 530 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) How many people in Australia (a) in total, and (b) between 20 and 45 years of age are currently suffering Parkinson's disease and what are the projected figures for 2020.
 - (2) What is the estimated number of people with undiagnosed Parkinson's disease in the Australian community.
 - (3) What current research relating to prevalence data for Parkinson's disease is being conducted by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).
 - (4) What is the nature of the AIHW Burden of Disease study and is it being regularly up-dated.
 - (5) What is the estimated cost to the Government of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme subsidies on drugs specifically available for the treatment of Parkinson's disease.
 - (6) Is there an available measure of the direct and indirect costs to the community of the rapidly increasing population of people suffering from Parkinson's disease.
 - (7) What financial assistance is provided by the Government to assist the work of Parkinson's Australia and its State bodies.
- 531 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) For the years 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004, what sum was allocated to each project funded in the electoral division of Throsby under the (a) Roads to Recovery, (b) Roads of National Importance, and (c) Black Spot Program.
 - (2) What sums were granted for what purposes under the (a) Roads to Recovery, (b) Roads of National Importance, and (c) Black Spot Program to the (i) Wollongong City Council and (ii) Shellharbour City Council.
- 532 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) What sum was provided to (a) government, and (b) non-government schools in the postcode area (i) 2502, (ii) 2505, (iii) 2506, (iv) 2526, (v) 2527, (vi) 2528, (vii) 2529, and (viii) 2530 for 2004.
 - (2) What was the (a) expenditure on, (b) location of, and (c) purpose of each grant in 2004.
 - (3) What sum will be provided, in total, for each individual school and for what purpose to (a) government, and (b) non-government schools in the postcode area (i) 2502, (ii) 2505, (iii) 2506, (iv) 2526, (v) 2527, (vi) 2528, (vii) 2529, and (viii) 2530 for 2005.
- 533 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Disability Support Pension recipients reside in (a) the electoral division of Throsby and (b) the postcode area (i) 2502, (ii) 2505, (iii) 2506, (iv) 2526, (v) 2527, (vi) 2528, (vii) 2529, and (viii) 2530.

534 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 39 (*Hansard*, 8 February 2005, page 72), can he confirm that it is possible for services performed under item nos 16525, 35639, 35640 and 35643 in the General Medical Services Table to include the performance of procedures intended, and intended only, to cause an abortion.
- (2) Can he alter the description of item nos 16525, 35639, 35640 and 35643 by regulation to require that services under those items are not performed solely for the purpose of causing an abortion and to provide a new item to specifically cover services performed to cause an abortion while ensuring the privacy of the patient; if so, would the changes eventually establish an authoritative information base on the number of abortions performed in Australia.
- (3) Will he require his department to develop initiatives to provide additional practical support to pregnant women who would otherwise choose an abortion; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.

MR MURPHY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 535 - 537)—

- (1) What support does the Minister's department provide to (a) pregnant women and (b) new mothers.
- (2) Will the Minister require the department to provide further financial and practical support to pregnant women who would otherwise choose an abortion; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.

535 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.

536 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

537 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Human Services.

538 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Of the Government's proposed \$500 million donation to assist Indonesian tsunami victims, what sum will be disbursed in (a) 2004-2005, (b) 2005-2006, (c) 2006-2007, (d) 2007-2008, and (e) 2008-2009.
- (2) What sum in bilateral aid to Indonesia was projected in the (a) 2004-2005 Budget, and (b) Forward Estimates for (i) 2005-2006, (ii) 2006-2007, (iii) 2007-2008, and (iv) 2008-2009.
- (3) Of the Government's proposed \$500 million concessional loans to assist Indonesian tsunami victims, what sum will be disbursed in (a) 2004-2005, (b) 2005-2006, (c) 2006-2007, (d) 2007-2008, and (e) 2008-2009.
- (4) What rate of interest will apply to these loans and when will they fall due for repayment.

539 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) In respect of Australian veterans at the Battle of Long Tan in the Vietnam War, can the Minister confirm that all Australians who were awarded an individual citation from the then Government of the Republic of Vietnam have been given permission to wear them.
- (2) Has the Government also authorised the wearing, by Australian veterans, of unit citations and awards provided by the then Government of the Republic of Vietnam; if so, when; if not, why not.

540 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 3481 (*Hansard*, 3 August 2004, page 31941), is there a performance standard for the time to appoint a Complaint Resolution Agency case officer after an appeal has been made for a review of a complaint to the Service Chief; if so, what is it; if not, why not.
- (2) Is a delay of seventeen months from when an applicant asks for a review by the Service Chief to when a Complaint Resolution Agency case officer is appointed acceptable.

541 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many Australian Defence personnel served at CENTCOM HQ in Tampa, Florida with the Coalition HQ during Operation Slipper.
- (2) How many of those personnel were deployed forward to the Middle East during Operation Slipper.
- (3) What are the criteria for the awarding of the clasp of ICAT for service in Operation Slipper.
- (4) In determining the award for the clasp of ICAT for service in Operation Slipper, was consideration given to recognising the service of Australian Defence personnel at CENTCOM HQ in Tampa Florida with the Coalition HQ; if so, how many have been awarded; if not, why not.

542 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many naval and army personnel were involved in Operation Relax.
- (2) What was the geographical area covered by Operation Relax.

- (3) What was the (a) normal and (b) longest tour of duty for a (i) sailor and (ii) soldier.
- (4) Were there any navy or army personnel who did more than one posting.
- (5) Were any medals or awards made available to those who served on Operation Relex; if so, what were they; if not, why not.

543 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) On what date did the Government appoint the Regional Business Development Analysis (RBDA).
- (2) On what date did the RBDA report to the Government.
- (3) What were the recommendations of the RBDA.
- (4) Which recommendations of the RBDA has the Government implemented.
- (5) Which recommendations of the RBDA has the Government still to implement.

544 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—What is the status of the Government's election commitment to introduce the Regulation Reduction Incentive Fund.

545 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has Australia expelled an Israeli diplomat; if so, when and what was the reason for the expulsion.
- (2) Did the Israeli diplomat have any involvement with the two Israelis recently jailed in New Zealand for passport crimes.

10 February 2005

546 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many (a) community-based and (b) private childcare centres are located in the electoral division of Ballarat and what is the name and address of each centre.
- (2) In respect of each centre, what sum did the Commonwealth provide for the financial year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004 and from which programs was the funding provided.
- (3) How many children in the electoral division of Ballarat were catered for in (a) community-based and (b) private childcare centres.
- (4) How many children in the electoral division of Ballarat are (a) under two years of age and (b) under two years of age and enrolled in (i) community based and (ii) private child care centres.
- (5) How many Commonwealth funded places for (a) Before School Care, (b) After School Care, and (c) Vacation Care are there in the electoral division of Ballarat.
- (6) Which organisations in the electorate of Ballarat coordinate the provision of these services.

547 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many Health Care Card holders reside in (a) Victoria, (b) the electoral division of Ballarat, and (c) the postcode area (i) 3461, (ii) 3460, (iii) 3458, (iv) 3451, (v) 3446, (vi) 3444, (vii) 3371, (viii) 3370, (ix) 3364, (x) 3363, (xi) 3357, (xii) 3356, (xiii) 3355, (xiv) 3352, (xv) 3351, (xvi) 3350, (xvii) 3345, (xviii) 3342, (xix) 3341, (xx) 3340, (xxi) 3334, and (xxii) 3333.
- (2) How many Health Care Card holders who do not receive a Centrelink payment, pension, benefit or equivalent payment reside in (a) Victoria, (b) the electoral division of Ballarat, and (c) the postcode area (i) 3461, (ii) 3460, (iii) 3458, (iv) 3451, (v) 3446, (vi) 3444, (vii) 3371, (viii) 3370, (ix) 3364, (x) 3363, (xi) 3357, (xii) 3356, (xiii) 3355, (xiv) 3352, (xv) 3351, (xvi) 3350, (xvii) 3345, (xviii) 3342, (xix) 3341, (xx) 3340, (xxi) 3334, and (xxii) 3333.

548 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many community-based child care centres were located in the electoral division of Ballarat in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, and (c) 2004-2005.
- (2) What was the (a) name and address of each centre and (b) the sum of Commonwealth funding it received.
- (3) In respect of each centre, what sum was paid as (a) an operational subsidy, (b) a special needs subsidy, (c) an establishment grant, and (d) block grant assistance (transitional assistance).
- (4) For the year (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, and (c) 2004-2005, which Commonwealth funded child centres located in the electoral division of Ballarat were overpaid and what sum has or will each centre be asked to repay.

549 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Child Support Agency clients currently reside in (a) Victoria, (b) the electoral division of Ballarat, and (c) the postcode area (i) 3461,

(ii) 3460, (iii) 3458, (iv) 3451, (v) 3446, (vi) 3444, (vii) 3371, (viii) 3370, (ix) 3364, (x) 3363, (xi) 3357, (xii) 3356, (xiii) 3355, (xiv) 3352, (xv) 3351, (xvi) 3350, (xvii) 3345, (xviii) 3342, (xix) 3341, (xx) 3340, (xxi) 3334, and (xxii) 3333.

550 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Disability Support Pension recipients currently reside in (a) Victoria, (b) the electoral division of Ballarat, and (c) the postcode area (i) 3461, (ii) 3460, (iii) 3458, (iv) 3451, (v) 3446, (vi) 3444, (vii) 3371, (viii) 3370, (ix) 3364, (x) 3363, (xi) 3357, (xii) 3356, (xiii) 3355, (xiv) 3352, (xv) 3351, (xvi) 3350, (xvii) 3345, (xviii) 3342, (xix) 3341, (xx) 3340, (xxi) 3334, and (xxii) 3333.

551 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Parenting Payment Single recipients currently reside in (a) Victoria, (b) the electoral division of Ballarat, and (c) the postcode area (i) 3461, (ii) 3460, (iii) 3458, (iv) 3451, (v) 3446, (vi) 3444, (vii) 3371, (viii) 3370, (ix) 3364, (x) 3363, (xi) 3357, (xii) 3356, (xiii) 3355, (xiv) 3352, (xv) 3351, (xvi) 3350, (xvii) 3345, (xviii) 3342, (xix) 3341, (xx) 3340, (xxi) 3334, and (xxii) 3333.

552 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—

(1) For the financial year 2003-2004, how many individuals (a) in total, and (b) the postcode area (i) 3461, (ii) 3460, (iii) 3458, (iv) 3451, (v) 3446, (vi) 3444, (vii) 3371, (viii) 3370, (ix) 3364, (x) 3363, (xi) 3357, (xii) 3356, (xiii) 3355, (xiv) 3352, (xv) 3351, (xvi) 3350, (xvii) 3345, (xviii) 3342, (xix) 3341, (xx) 3340, (xxi) 3334, and (xxii) 3333 received a debt notification in relation to the overpayment of a Centrelink-administered benefit.

(2) What was the total debt for each category of benefit.

MS C. KING: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 553 - 554)—

(1) Does the Minister's department administer any Commonwealth funded programs for which community organisations, businesses or individuals in the electoral division of Ballarat can apply for funding; if so, what are the programs.

(2) Does the Minister's department advertise these funding opportunities; if so, (a) what print or other media outlets have been used for the advertising of each of these programs and (b) were these paid advertisements.

(3) With respect to each of the Commonwealth funded programs referred to in part (1), (a) what is its purpose and (b) who is responsible for allocating funds.

(4) With respect to each of the Commonwealth funded programs referred to in part (1), how many (a) community organisations, (b) businesses or (c) individuals in the electoral division of Ballarat received funding in 2001 and 2002.

(5) What sum of Commonwealth funding did each recipient receive in 2001 and 2002.

(6) What is the name and address of each recipient.

553 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

554 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

555 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

(1) How many applications were submitted from the electoral division of Ballarat for funding under the Regional Partnerships Program, or its predecessor, for the year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, (d) 2003-2004, and (e) 2004-2005 and what are the details of each application.

(2) How many applications submitted from the electoral division of Ballarat for funding under the Regional Partnerships Program are awaiting determination and what are the details of each application and how does this compare with other electorates in Victoria.

(3) What are the details of the grants applied for and received in the electoral division of Ballarat under the Regional Partnerships Program, or its predecessor, for the year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, (d) 2003-2004, and (e) 2004-2005.

(4) How many applications from the electoral division of Ballarat under the Regional Partnerships Program, or its predecessor, were approved for the year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004, and, in respect of each approved project, (i) what date was it approved, (ii) what date did the Area Consultative Committee recommend funding it, (iii) which Regional Partnerships eligibility criteria did it satisfy, (iv) what are its expected employment outcomes, (v) what sum was contributed by the applicant, (vi) when did it satisfy due diligence requirements, and (vii) what supporting documentation was supplied with the application.

556 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) How many Job Network providers are currently operating in the electoral division of Ballarat and what are their names and addresses.
- (2) How many job seekers are currently registered with (a) each Job Network provider and (b) each office of each provider operating in the electoral division of Ballarat.
- (3) For the year (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, (d) 2003, and (e) 2004, in (i) Australia and (ii) the electoral division of Ballarat, how many Newstart or Youth Allowance recipients were placed into jobs through assistance from Job Network providers.
- (4) For the year (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, (d) 2003, and (e) 2004, how many long-term unemployed people (i) in total, and (ii) as a proportion of all unemployed people, participated in intensive assistance programs in the electoral division of Ballarat.
- (5) For the year (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, (d) 2003, and (e) 2004, how many of the people who have participated in intensive assistance in the electoral division of Ballarat have participated on (i) one occasion, (ii) two occasions, (iii) three occasions, and (iv) more than three occasions.
- (6) For the year (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, (d) 2003, and (e) 2004, how many job seekers who participated in intensive assistance in the electoral division of Ballarat found employment and what proportion found (i) full-time, (ii) part-time, and (iii) casual employment.
- (7) How many Work for the Dole providers are currently operating in the electoral division of Ballarat, what are their names and addresses and what programs do they offer.
- (8) For the year (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, (d) 2003, and (e) 2004, how many people who participated in a Work for the Dole program in the electoral division of Ballarat found employment.
- (9) For the year (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, (d) 2003, and (e) 2004, what proportion of people who participated in a Work for the Dole program in the electoral division of Ballarat found (i) full-time, (ii) part-time, and (iii) casual employment following their placement.
- (10) For the year (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, (d) 2003, and (e) 2004, how many people who participated in a Work for the Dole program in the electoral division of Ballarat were in (i) full-time, (ii) part-time, (iii) casual employment three months after completing their placement.

557 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) What sum was provided to (a) government, and (b) non-government schools in the electoral division of Ballarat, and in the postcode area (i) 3461, (ii) 3460, (iii) 3458, (iv) 3451, (v) 3446, (vi) 3444, (vii) 3371, (viii) 3370, (ix) 3364, (x) 3363, (xi) 3357, (xii) 3356, (xiii) 3355, (xiv) 3352, (xv) 3351, (xvi) 3350, (xvii) 3345, (xviii) 3342, (xix) 3341, (xx) 3340, (xxi) 3334, (xxii) 3333 for 2004.
- (2) What was the (a) expenditure on, (b) location of, and (c) purpose of each grant in 2004.
- (3) What sum will be provided to (a) government, and (b) non-government schools in the electoral division of Ballarat and in the postcode areas (i) 3461, (ii) 3460, (iii) 3458, (iv) 3451, (v) 3446, (vi) 3444, (vii) 3371, (viii) 3370, (ix) 3364, (x) 3363, (xi) 3357, (xii) 3356, (xiii) 3355, (xiv) 3352, (xv) 3351, (xvi) 3350, (xvii) 3345, (xviii) 3342, (xix) 3341, (xx) 3340, (xxi) 3334, (xxii) 3333 for 2005.
- (4) What will (a) the expenditure be for, (b) be the location of, and (c) be the purpose of each grant in 2005.

558 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—What action has the Government taken on the House of Representatives Select Committee Report on the Recent Australian Bushfires (October 2003) recommendation that the Commonwealth require State and Territory governments to put in place comprehensive bush fire management plans as a pre-requisite for accessing funding from the National Heritage Trust and like programs.

559 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Is it still the Australian Government's position, as stated by the then Prime Minister in answer to question No. 27 (*Hansard*, 22 March 1977, page 470), that the Order of St John in Australia (a) is a private organisation, (b) that any awards that it might make to its members are for the organisation to determine and are not a matter involving the Government, and (c) that its awards are not part of the Government's recognised honours system and hence have no official recognition.

560 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has he read the article titled 'Protesting her innocence' in *The Australian* on 28 January 2005 which reported that an Australian citizen, Ms Schapelle Corby, who is in custody and accused of drug smuggling by Indonesian police, is adamant that scientific investigation important to her case has not occurred.

- (2) Can he confirm that Ms Corby could be sentenced to death if found guilty; if not, why not.
 - (3) Can he confirm that (a) no scientific tests have been done by Bali police, even though Ms Corby's defence lawyers believe they could produce evidence to support her claim that an unknown person put the marijuana in her luggage, and (b) fingerprints have not been taken from the plastic bags containing the marijuana despite repeated requests from Ms Corby's defence; if not, why not.
 - (4) Can he confirm that the Australian Federal Police has offered to conduct an in-depth forensic analysis of the drugs and the plastic bags but the offer has been refused by the Indonesian Police; if not, why not.
 - (5) What assistance has the Australian Government provided Ms Corby.
 - (6) Will he make representations to the Indonesian Government in order to (a) arrange bail for Ms Corby and (b) ensure that Ms Corby's defence is able to present all relevant evidence for her defence; if so, when; if not, why not.
- 561 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many community based child care centres were located in the electoral division of Melbourne Ports in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, and (c) 2004-2005.
 - (2) What was the (a) name and address of each centre, and (b) the sum of Commonwealth funding it received.
 - (3) In respect of each centre, what sum was paid as (a) an operational subsidy, (b) a special needs subsidy, (c) an establishment grant, and (d) block grant assistance (transitional assistance).
 - (4) Which Commonwealth funded child centres located in the electoral division of Melbourne Ports have been overpaid and what sum will each centre be asked to repay.
- 562 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) What sum in child care assistance per child per annum was allocated to (a) family, (b) private long, and (c) community long day care in (i) Australia and (ii) Victoria.
 - (2) What sum in child care assistance per child per annum was allocated to (a) family, (b) private long, and (c) community long day care in the postcode area (i) 3004, (ii) 3006, (iii) 3161, (iv) 3162, (v) 3182, (vi) 3183, (vii) 3184, (viii) 3185, (ix) 3205, (x) 3206, and (xi) 3207.
- 563 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—What projects were funded during (a) 2001, (b) 2002, (c) 2003, and (d) 2004 in the electoral division of Melbourne Ports under the (i) Roads to Recovery, (ii) Roads of National Importance, and (iii) Blackspot Program.
- 564 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Attorney-General—What is the incidence of reported crime by type in (a) Victoria, and (b) the postcode area (i) 3004, (ii) 3006, (iii) 3161, (iv) 3162, (v) 3182, (vi) 3183, (vii) 3184, (viii) 3185, (ix) 3205, (x) 3206, and (xi) 3207.
- 565 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads—What sum was allocated in local government financial assistance grants during (a) 2003-2004 and (b) 2004-2005 to the (i) City of Port Phillip and (ii) City of Glen Eirae.
- 566 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What role has the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) played in the current dispute regarding the Southern Region SLSA Rescue Helicopter Service, which had its Wollongong-based crew stood down on 24 December 2004.
 - (2) Does CASA have any concerns regarding the fitness of the Wollongong-based crew to perform its flying duties; if so, what are the concerns.
 - (3) Can he confirm that on 2 February 2005 CASA stated to a number of media outlets including the *Illawarra Mercury* and WIN Television that it had “No concerns regarding the fitness for duty of the Wollongong-based crew”.
 - (4) Can he confirm that on 3 February 2005 CASA refused a request by the South Coast Labour Council (SCLC) to put the media statement in writing and that CASA also was unable to repeat its media statement to the New South Wales Industrial Relations Commission and instead indicated that this was a matter for determination by the Chief Pilot of the Service.
 - (5) Has the management or an employee of Southern Regions SLSA Rescue Helicopter Service or any other person made contact with CASA on or about the 2 or 3 February 2005 in relation to this matter.

- (6) Was pressure bought to bear on CASA to decline the request from the SCLC to issue a statement and or to change its position regarding the fitness of the Wollongong-based crew to perform its duties; if not, can he explain why CASA altered its position.

14 February 2005

567 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) In respect of the anti-finning regulations in the Northern Territory Joint Authority Shark Fishery, how and where are the shark trunks being landed at the Port of Darwin being disposed of.
- (2) What records are available in respect of shark trunk disposal.
- (3) How is compliance with the anti-finning regulations being determined.
- (4) To what extent are shark trunks still being discarded at sea.
- (5) What is the level of compliance investment and presence in the Northern Territory Shark Fishery.
- (6) What level of training in fisheries compliance is given to the compliance officers and can he confirm that the compliance officers are members of the Northern Territory police force.

568 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) On what scientific, institutional or programmatic bases has the Government decided that the National Action Plan's (NAP) environment objectives can be delivered by regional communities during the initial seven-year life of the NAP.
- (2) What other models for regional or catchment scale delivery of Commonwealth funding were evaluated in deriving the preferred model (ie where regional groups adopt full responsibility for planning, targets, actions, monitoring and reporting).
- (3) Is it normal practice for the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO), when assessing the effectiveness of a Government program, to exclusively survey the views of organisations benefiting from program funding.
- (4) Would regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) groups, who receive the majority of their cash funding from the Commonwealth, be the only groups or organisations with a view on the competence of the NAP program.
- (5) Of the regional NRM groups that responded to this survey, what proportion of those NRM groups had accredited NRM plans at the time of the survey.
- (6) How does the Government intend to bring about landscape scale change, including on agricultural lands, if there are not commercially attractive treatment and land management options, and there is no incentive for regional NRM groups to pursue landscape change.
- (7) In respect of that part of the ANAO report which stated that agencies considered that "the Australian Government was seeking to purchase outcomes" through the regional investment process "rather than providing funding on request", (a) what outcomes is the Australian Government seeking to purchase at the regional level, (b) how does funding projects identified through NRM plans differ to providing funding on request, and (c) does funding projects identified through NRM plans increase the transaction costs.
- (8) Is the Minister aware of whether the ANAO considers the overall costs of program administration, including by the Ministerial Board, State agencies and regional bodies, represents an efficient program.
- (9) Are there any NAP regions which are not eligible for NHT funding.
- (10) In light of the shortcomings in NRM plans identified by ANAO and CSIRO/Bureau of Meteorology reports, how will the Minister demonstrate with a reasonable degree of confidence that improvements in salinity and water quality have occurred as a result of the NAP.
- (11) Is the NAP a targeted investment model; if so, can he explain how the NAP is targeted and, in particular, is it targeted by the nature of (a) critical levels of investment in any region to address a specific environmental theme, (b) the program addressing matters of national environmental significance, and so supporting protection measures under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, and (c) ensuring nationally agreed best practice planning strategies are implemented across all NRM regions.
- (12) Will achieving the NAP's objectives require landscape scale changes to land and water management, requiring strong leadership at all levels of Government and industry; if so, how does the Minister reconcile these requirements with the findings of the CSIRO and the ANAO.

- (13) Did the Government consider a phased rollout of the NAP in a limited number of regions, as a means of testing the model for its capacity to deliver NRM outcomes; if so, (a) why did the Government decide not to implement the NAP in a staged fashion (in say one or two regions per State) and (b) why did the Government commit to a seven year program costing \$1.4 billion to the Australian public, when the outcomes were unknown.
- (14) On what basis did the Government consider that the NAP/NHT regional delivery model, applied Australia-wide, would deliver NRM planning outputs, financial accountability and environmental quality outcomes that have not been previously achieved by any jurisdiction in Australia.
- 569 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) In respect of that part of the ANAO report which states that the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) and bilateral agreements “contributed to important policy changes in natural resource management”, will the Minister explain what the important policy changes for each jurisdiction are that can be exclusively attributed to the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) (ie those policy changes which were not already underway or to which there were commitments by the State or Territory, such as for example in commitments to implement the COAG Water reform Framework).
 - (2) What has the Commonwealth done to ensure regional body members declare any conflict of interest, real or perceived, which they may have directly or indirectly, in relation to the expenditure of NAP funds and what written commitments are made by regional group members to respond to potential conflicts of interest.
 - (3) Will the Minister provide a copy of the *Review of the NAP Governance and Control Framework* dated March 2004.
 - (4) What is the longer-term natural resource policy outcome sought by Commonwealth agencies that has contributed to delays in the establishment of the NAP bilateral agreements and what policy or funding reforms were sought through the bilateral agreements to secure that outcome.
 - (5) How do the policy or funding reforms in part (4) differ from those already underway or committed to by the jurisdiction, such as under the COAG Water Reform Framework.
- 570 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) In respect of the ANAO and CSIRO/Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) reports which note the inadequate science and absence of predictive tools in Natural Resource Management (NRM) planning, (a) on what basis are value for money investments identified by the Commonwealth, (b) does the Government fund projects recommended by NRM groups, and (c) does the Commonwealth determine its priorities for investment; if so, will the Minister provide examples and explain how the Commonwealth determines its priorities.
 - (2) Can the Minister confirm that the agencies’ response to the ANAO report which notes that regional groups are ‘implementing a consistent’ approach to planning for ‘landscape change and sustainable use of natural resources’ is correct; if so, can he explain how it is supported by the findings of the ANAO and CSIRO/BoM reports.
 - (3) Has the failure of the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) planning process to implement the National Water Quality Management Strategy (NWQMS) prejudiced the capacity of Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) investments to deliver water quality outcomes.
 - (4) What are the implications of the failed NAP/NHT planning process for meeting the Government’s commitment to spending at least \$350 million of the NHT directly on measures to improve water quality.
 - (5) What degree or level of assurance is required from regional NRM groups that their investment proposals are efficient and effective in achieving (a) the NAP’s objectives as they relate to a specific region and (b) achieving resource condition targets.
 - (6) How do regional NRM groups (a) apply the precautionary principle in determining the minimum set of management actions needed to achieve the NAP’s objectives as they relate to a specific region and (b) account for (i) uncertainty in baseline environmental trend information, (ii) the effectiveness of management interventions, and (iii) climatic variability or seasonal factors in determining management interventions.
 - (7) Can the Minister explain why sub-standard NRM plans have been accredited when the consistency and competence of regional NRM plans is a priority for achieving “longer-term natural resource policy outcomes”.

- (8) How can the Government claim to be implementing a National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality when that action plan fails to implement agreed national best practice guidelines for water quality management, specifically the NWQMS.
 - (9) How does the Minister reconcile the ANAO's comments on the failure of regional NRM groups to implement the NWQMS guidelines with (a) multilateral and bilateral agreements, and (b) previous Government commitments that (i) regional NRM plans would implement national strategies such as the NWQMS, and (ii) NRM plans would not be accredited unless they were consistent with such strategies.
 - (10) In which NAP regions is improving environmental flows not considered to be beneficial.
 - (11) For the NAP regions within the Murray Darling Basin, what proportion of the total NAP investment is being used directly to improve environmental flows in that system.
 - (12) In which NAP regions are adjustment and property amalgamation issues being addressed and how many agricultural enterprises/farmers are expected to be adjusted out of the respective industry as a result of the NAP and decisions taken by regional NRM groups.
 - (13) What tools, frameworks or methodologies are regional NRM groups employing to demonstrate and assure the Commonwealth that regional NRM plans and projects will not have a detrimental impact on matters of national environmental significance.
 - (14) Has the Government audited regional NRM plans and investment strategies for their likely impact on matters of national environmental significance; if so, which regional NRM plans and investment strategies have been evaluated and what were the findings of the evaluations.
- 571 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Does the Government obtain third party advice on the competence of Natural Resource Management (NRM) plans, prior to accreditation; if so, (a) who provides that advice and how are they remunerated and (b) what skills in biodiversity conservation or environmental protection do those independent consultants bring to the evaluation of NRM plans.
 - (2) Was the decision to prepare accreditation guidelines and criteria that were “broad and non-prescriptive” ill-conceived and would more detailed guidelines and criteria would have better assisted NRM groups to develop high quality NRM plans suitable for timely accreditation.
 - (3) Would the development of detailed and clear guidelines also have assisted National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) agencies to better understand the NRM planning process and establish reasonable expectations of NRM groups.
 - (4) Can the Minister explain how successful the accreditation process for regional plans has been for the purpose of quality control.
 - (5) Which internal processes required streamlining as noted in the ANAO report and how will this ensure higher quality NRM plans.
- 572 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) During which month of the 2003-2004 financial year was the risk management plan finalised.
 - (2) What specific measures is the Government taking, through its proposed risk management or adaptive management approaches, and during the remaining years of the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP), to ensure the National Water Quality Management Strategy (NWQMS) is consistently applied across all Natural Resource Management (NRM) regions and that its investments in salinity and water quality are underpinned by NWQMS planning processes.
 - (3) Will the Minister provide an implementation strategy for the achievement of intended outputs.
 - (4) Why did the Government fail to prepare a risk management plan for the NAP until 2003-2004.
 - (5) Does the NAP agencies' risk management plan address the risk (a) that there are insufficient resources under the NAP to achieve its objectives, (b) that in some regions dryland salinity is very difficult to prevent, stabilise or reverse during the life of the NAP, (c) that regional NRM groups lack the capacity to deliver NAP objectives, (d) of difficulty targeting cost-effective actions, (e) that commercially attractive treatment options (ie options which would attract private investment) for regions may not be available, (f) of delays establishing bilateral agreements, accreditation criteria and frameworks, (g) of delays or failure to establish resource condition targets, (h) of the absence or inadequacy of predictive models, (i) that monitoring strategies are incapable of tracking attainment of targets, (j) of failure of regional NRM groups to implement nationally agreed strategies, such as the National Water Quality Management Strategy, (k) if delay in NAP decision-making due to the involvement of multiple jurisdictions and Ministers, the timing of State and Federal elections and the

establishment of regional NRM groups; and (l) of limited opportunities for adaptive management during the life of the NAP that result from delayed NRM plan accreditation, three year investment strategies and regional and community expectations; if so, what are the proposed treatments for those risks.

- (6) Why is the ANAO not reviewing administration of the NAP until 2008 at the end of the program.
- (7) Would it be a useful risk management measure for the ANAO to undertake annual reports on the NAP.
- (8) In respect of the risk management plan, (a) how frequently is it formally reviewed, (b) has it been presented to NAP Ministers for approval, (c) are reviews of the plan presented to NAP Ministers for approval, (d) who approves the plan, and (e) which guidelines are used to guide preparation and review of the risk management plan.
- (9) Is the Minister aware that NRM groups are already exhausted by NRM planning, management, monitoring and evaluation obligations.
- (10) What additional resources will the Commonwealth provide to assist regional groups to improve their risk/adaptive management systems.
- (11) What will be the Government's approach to implementing risk management procedures for NRM at the regional level during the period of the NAP and what specific human resources will be dedicated in the joint agencies to ensure risk management is comprehensively and competently employed by regional groups.

573 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) How does the Government propose to implement adaptive management arrangements in the Natural Resource Management (NRM) process to overcome the failures acknowledged by the ANAO.
- (2) What action is being taken by agencies to remedy shortcomings in the quality of regional plans and to ensure the guidelines are implemented by all NRM groups, in particular, will the Minister provide details of the specific actions, timelines, budgets and staff resourcing to achieve this by the end of the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP).
- (3) Will the application of adaptive management principles during the life of the NAP be adequate to (a) deliver the NAP objectives and (b) ensure the establishment of resource condition and management action targets that are sufficiently robust to arrest or reverse declining salinity and water quality.
- (4) Are NAP agencies using the prospect of adaptive management or continuous improvement as an offset to their failure to require implementation of best practice planning guidelines, such as the National Water Quality Management Strategy (NWQMS) and is incremental change over time a suitable alternative to undertaking competent NRM planning in the first instance.
- (5) Can the Minister explain how the administration of the NAP can be improved sufficiently for it to achieve its objectives.
- (6) Has the Government made NAP funding to regions conditional on those regions, as a matter of priority, undertaking supplementary planning to improve the accredited plans, such as for example supplementary planning to implement the NWQMS planning, management and monitoring guidelines.
- (7) Is the prospect of adaptive management being used by the Government as a response to failing to support the development and accreditation of competent regional NRM plans, for example, NRM plans that implement the National Water Quality Management Strategy.

574 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) How does the Government intend to monitor and evaluate revegetation and engineering works and communicate this information across other regions during the remaining years of the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP).
- (2) How do accredited regional Natural Resource Management (NRM) plans demonstrate with an acceptable degree of certainty that the management action targets will substantially assist in achievement of resource condition targets, and that the resource condition targets are relevant in degree and timing to achievement of the aspirational targets.
- (3) Are ambient monitoring programs funded under the NAP based on tracking achievement of resource condition targets approved under accredited regional NRM plans; if so, how are these obligations defined in respect of targets such as (i) native vegetation communities' integrity, (ii) inland aquatic ecosystems integrity, and (iii) nutrients in aquatic environments.

- (4) In instances where a region does not set a target (a) does the NAP fund projects that relate to a matter for which a resource condition target has not been set, (b) does the region explain why it has chosen not to set a target, (c) is there a confidence threshold employed by the region against which it decides not to set a target; if so, does the Commonwealth give prior agreement to that confidence threshold, (d) which matters for targets are, in general, not seeing resource condition targets set, and (e) are there any instances where the failure to establish a measurable target relates to the protection of matters of national environmental significance.
- (5) Will monitoring systems under the NAP, with an acceptable degree of confidence, determine whether management actions funded by the Commonwealth are achieving the NAP's objectives; if so, what is an acceptable degree of confidence of attainment of the NAP objectives (eg prevent, stabilise and reverse trends in dryland salinity).
- (6) How is concentrated action under the NAP program defined and how will this program deliver concentrated action.
- (7) Will the Minister provide examples of where targets set out in accredited NRM plans have been adjusted as a result of continuous improvement or adaptive management approaches implemented under the respective accredited NRM plan.

575 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Can the Minister explain (a) why the three-year funding cycles for implementation of Natural Resource Management (NRM) plans is an appropriate arrangement and (b) how the three-year funding cycles would be appropriate for NRM-related non-regional delivery projects, such as, for example, the biodiversity hotspots program; if not, why not.
- (2) Why is the Government providing comparable levels of investment across the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) regions, regardless of the relative quality of those NRM plans and investment strategies.
- (3) Have the NAP agencies identified and documented the Commonwealth's investment priorities for each NRM region, and the outcomes it plans to secure through the funding of investment strategies; if so, will the Minister provide the investment priorities and intended outcomes for the regions for which three-year investment strategies have been agreed.
- (4) Which NRM regions have either established or are moving to establish three-year funding cycles and, once three-year funding agreements are established, what capacity is there to adjust the investment strategy to accommodate revised Commonwealth priorities, or to account for new information.
- (5) Will the Minister explain why a payment was made to an unincorporated body as identified in paragraph 4.17 of the ANAO report which noted that "one region...was not an incorporated body at the time of receipt of NAP funds".
- (6) Would the Minister estimate the administrative cost to all levels of Government, including the regional NRM group, as a proportion of the overall cost of implementing the NAP and how does this compare to the administrative costs of implementing the first phase of the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT).
- (7) For each year of the program, will the Minister provide a table of the (a) NAP and (b) extension of the NHT expenditure, accounting for all levels of investment, the proportion of payments made from the respective financial year budget in each month.
- (8) In respect of the statement in the ANAO report that "in one State, payments were not released from the SHA to the regions for some 5 months" (a) did the 5 month period overlap financial years, (b) what is the maximum period from which a payment is made by the Commonwealth into a single holding account and the related payment being made by the State, (c) what has been the maximum period between making a payment to a single holding account and the subsequent payment by a State, and (d) will the Minister provide a table that shows on a monthly basis the quantum and timing of payments into single holding accounts and the quantum and timing of payments from those accounts by States/Territories to other parties.
- (9) In respect of the agreement between the agencies for all future policy processes involving the allocation of public funds to regions or areas of need, to document and demonstrate the comparative assessment of regional needs as a basis to policy decisions, should this principle also apply when allocating future NAP funds between regions and in making Commonwealth investments within a region; if so, what procedures will the Minister require of the agencies in meeting comparative assessment objectives for investment purposes.

- (10) In respect of statement in the ANAO report that the Collie River catchment and associated initiatives have received NHT funding support and are now “a priority area for investment under the National Action Plan”, (a) is this a priority area of investment in terms of the region, the state or the nation, (b) what are the attributes of the Collie River catchment initiative that makes it a priority for NAP investment, (c) what proportion of the total investment for the relevant region does this ‘priority’ represent, (d) what are the other NAP investment priorities for this region, and (e) how does this priority compare by way of investment to other priorities in that region.
- (11) In respect of the statement in the ANAO report that there is “credible evidence to suggest that once established, dryland salinity is very difficult to contain, or reverse, in some regions” and the statement in the CSIRO/Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) report to Ministerial Council that expressed doubts that the targets in some plans were “sufficiently robust to arrest or reverse the decline in some catchments”, does this mean that (a) public investments in salinity management in some regions are a waste of money, and (b) if management action targets are inadequate for achieving the desired environmental quality outcome in some regions, should these funds be spent in regions where there are more important environmental assets and the potential for environmental protection is greater.
- (12) Will the Government be focusing NAP investments on preventing future damage to high value assets rather than seeking to improve degraded areas.
- (13) What priority will the Government give to investments in protecting or improving the condition of public assets, rather than private (eg agricultural) assets.
- 576 **MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—
- (1) Why are Centrelink’s property valuations approximately 25% higher than valuations by the South Australian Valuer General.
 - (2) What warning is provided to pensioners whose pensions are reduced or cut off that there will be significant changes to their income as a result of an Australian Valuation Office valuation of their property.
 - (3) What assets held by pensioners are exempt, or partly exempt, from asset testing by Centrelink.
- 577 **MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Was the Adelaide Airport Curfew breached by a cargo jet at 4.30 a.m. on 9 February 2005.
 - (2) Was a dispensation requested and granted for the emergency landing of the aircraft; if not; what action will be taken against the operators of the aircraft.
- 578 **MR GEORGANAS:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) How many penalties have been imposed for breach of curfew since the Adelaide Airport curfew was introduced.
 - (2) Where will aircraft engines be tested now that Harbortown is developed.
 - (3) Will the noise insulation program be extended to address the needs of residents adjacent to the new terminal in the Brooklyn Park area.
 - (4) Will he rule out (a) increasing the number of dispensations to the curfew and (b) any changes to the existing curfew and, in particular, to the shoulder times.
 - (5) What proportion of the funds allocated for the noise insulation program has been used and what sum is remaining.
 - (6) How many houses are there along the perimeter of Kingsford Smith Airport and how many have been provided with insulation under the noise insulation program.
- 579 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) What are the procedures for determining whether people in immigration detention suffer from any form of mental illness.
 - (2) Have protocols been agreed with the private Detention Service Providers (DSP), including Global Solutions Limited (GSL), for the treatment and management of people with mental illness; if so, (a) are they contained in the Immigration Detention Standards and (b) would the Minister publish these protocols or provide a copy to House.
 - (3) What are the provisions for monitoring compliance with such contracts/ protocols and what penalties apply when these provisions are breached.
 - (4) Are there any provisions for complaint by detainees, detention centre staff, visitors or attending mental health professionals about the medical treatment provided to individuals in detention.

- (5) Since the move to private DSPs, has there been a change in practice, as reported in *The Age*, in relation to external specialists providing assessment, treatment and facilitating psychiatric hospitalisation where necessary; if so, what are the details.
 - (6) What is the legal authority for the current practice of non-consensual treatment of hunger strikers who are mentally competent.
 - (7) How many persons in detention (a) have a mental illness and (b) are on prescribed medication for a mental illness.
 - (8) What treatments, other than prescription medication, are provided, by whom are they administered and how many detainees receive these treatments.
 - (9) What restrictions are there on psychiatrists attending on detainees at the detainees' request.
 - (10) What criteria are used by the department and DSPs when determining whether to transfer a detainee to a mental health treatment facility.
 - (11) What processes are in place for the transfer of a detainee who is in need of inpatient treatment.
 - (12) Have there been instances where the department or a DSP continued to keep a detainee in a detention centre when professional staff were of the view that the detainee required treatment in a psychiatric facility or mental institution.
 - (13) Is the department or a DSP required to accept the advice of any psychiatrist or psychologist regarding treatment and location of a detainee; if not, why not.
 - (14) In respect of the isolation management units in Immigration Detention Centres (IDCs), (a) under what circumstances may detainees be placed in them, in particular, at the Baxter facility, (b) is there a limit to the time for which a detainee can be held in one, and (c) is there any scrutiny of detainees in the management units by trained mental health professionals.
 - (15) In respect of the allegations that Ms Cornelia Rau was abused while in the Baxter IDC, can the Minister guarantee she has experienced no such abuse.
 - (16) Is the Minister aware that the psychologist employed at the Baxter IDC told the Federal Court in the case of SXMB that there was a conflict between his role as therapist and as an employee of DIMIA/GSL.
 - (17) Is it the case that there were no visits by departmental or GSL contracted psychiatrists between August 2004 and February 2005 and can the Minister say how often such visits are normally made.
 - (18) Is it correct that a General Practitioner visits the Baxter IDC from time to time but does not deal with mental health issues.
 - (19) Why was the South Australian Public Advocate refused access to Ms Rau in the Baxter detention centre.
- 580 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) At what stage are the negotiations on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Minister's department and the South Australian Government on the health and medical needs of detainees and when does the Minister expect they will be concluded.
 - (2) How does the Minister's department ensure that MOUs are adhered to and what review processes are in place to ensure that MOUs are operating as agreed.
 - (3) In respect of the discussions with the South Australian Government regarding clinical protocols for the health and medical treatment and the assessment of detainees, (a) for how long have the discussions been proceeding and (b) have the protocols been signed; if not, when does the Minister expect them to be signed.
 - (4) What mechanisms will the protocols include to ensure that they are adhered to.
- 581 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) How many asylum seekers from tsunami affected countries are (a) being held in detention and (b) on temporary protection visas (TPVs).
 - (2) Will the Government urgently review the applications for permanent protection for those asylum seekers from tsunami affected countries.
 - (3) Has the Minister's department been approached by any asylum seekers from tsunami affected countries requesting assistance relating to the welfare of their families in tsunami affected areas; if so, (a) how many and (b) is the Minister able to assist those families; if so, how.

582 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What financial and other assistance has the Government provided to the tsunami relief effort in Sri Lanka.
- (2) Can he confirm Australian aid is reaching all affected areas in Sri Lanka on the basis of need; if not, why not.
- (3) Where are the Australian agencies serving the affected areas of Sri Lanka located and what aid are they providing.
- (4) Can he say where the United Nations agencies serving the affected areas of Sri Lanka are located and what aid they are providing.
- (5) Is the Sri Lankan Military assisting with the distribution of Australian aid to Tamils living in Northern or Eastern Sri Lanka; if so, what is their role.
- (6) Is the Government monitoring the distribution of (a) Australian and (b) international aid to ensure its fair distribution to the affected areas of Sri Lanka on the basis of need; if so, what is the monitoring revealing; if not, why not.
- (7) Is the Government working with the Tamils Rehabilitation Organisation to ensure aid reaches the affected areas in the North and East of Sri Lanka on the basis of need; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.

583 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has he read the article by Tony Wright in *The Bulletin* on 15 February 2005 attributing comments made by him concerning Australia's cross-media laws.
- (2) Can he confirm that he was correctly quoted as saying “if we end up with everyone coming in for a chop and the thing being impossible to resolve, we'll just leave it as it is”; if so, can he explain what he meant.
- (3) Will he guarantee that any Bill to be introduced by his Government into this Parliament will not allow further concentration of media ownership; if not, why not.

15 February 2005

584 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What consultations were undertaken by the Commonwealth with the Victorian Government concerning the upgrade of the Tullamarine Expressway and the Calder Highway at Essendon Airport.
- (2) What impact will the upgrade have on the boundary of Essendon Airport.
- (3) Will any payments have to be made to the company leasing the airport to compensate it for the extension of the expressway.

585 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is he aware of the conventions governing the caretaker period following the dissolution of the House of Representatives prior to an election.
- (2) Is he aware that the Member for Indi announced the allocation of Regional Partnerships Program funding for two projects in her electorate during the caretaker period leading up to the 2004 election.
- (3) Has the Member for Indi breached caretaker conventions by announcing Regional Partnerships Program project funding; if not, will he explain how the announcements of funding for a child care centre in Mt Beauty and a multi-purpose community centre at Wangaratta during the 2004 election campaign period do not breach the caretaker convention; if so, what does he propose to do about it.

586 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) When was (a) he and (b) the Governor-General first informed of the intention of the heir to the Australian throne, His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, to wed Mrs Parker Bowles.
- (2) By whom and through what channel was (a) he and (b) the Governor-General informed.

587 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has the Government had any discussions or exchanges with (a) The Queen and (b) His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, concerning the Royal Style and Titles Prince Charles will adopt in the event that he accedes to the Australian throne.
- (2) Has the Government considered whether the Royal Style and Titles to be adopted in the event that Prince Charles becomes King of Australia will include references to the Monarch's “other Realms and Territories” and status as “Head of the Commonwealth”.

588 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Has the Minister read the article titled ‘Baxter’s mentally ill denied full psychiatric care’ in the *Sunday Age* on 13 February 2005 which reported that while Ms Cornelia Rau was hidden inside the detainee population at Baxter Detention Centre “psychiatric care was in pitifully short supply”.
- (2) Has the Minister read the article titled ‘Everybody knew who she was except Immigration’ in the *Sun-Herald* on 13 February 2005 which reported that “Cornelia Rau, the Australian woman who immigration authorities could not identify for 10 months, was well known to Federal Police, Foreign Affairs and Trade officials, two state police forces and leading hospitals in Queensland and NSW”.
- (3) What evidence can the Minister provide to counter media reports that there is a deep-seated culture of denial on the part of immigration officials in handling detainees suffering from acute psychotic disorders caused by prolonged periods of detention.
- (4) What proportion of the Baxter Detention Centre’s 256 detainees exhibit disturbed and psychotic behaviour.
- (5) Can the Minister confirm that the Baxter Detention Centre does not have a full-time psychiatrist; if not, why not.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that there is no nurse available on a regular basis for detainees at the Baxter Detention Centre and that all medication is distributed by guards with no medical qualifications; if not, why not.
- (7) Can the Minister say how the (a) medical and (b) psychiatric care of detainees held in Immigration Detention Centres compares with the medical and psychiatric care of prisoners held in correctional facilities administered by State governments.
- (8) Can the Minister guarantee that medical and psychiatric care for Immigration detainees will be improved to levels provided in correctional facilities; if so, how; if not, why not.
- (9) Can the Minister guarantee that no other Australian will suffer prolonged detention in an Australian Immigration detention centre; if so, how; if not, why not.

589 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Did the Minister read the article by Mr Alan Kohler titled ‘Media merger punters may do their dough’ in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 12 February 2005.
- (2) In respect of that part of the report which stated “Perhaps the only significant deal that might get done after the removal of cross-media rules would be a Packer sale of Nine to Murdoch”, can the Minister guarantee that the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill will not allow such concentration of media ownership in Australia; if not, why not.

590 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Is he aware that the administrators of the collapsed Walter Construction Group have described the group as “hopelessly insolvent”.
- (2) Was he aware of the possibility of the collapse before it occurred.
- (3) How many employees, contractors and subcontractors have been affected by the collapse.
- (4) Will the employees of the collapsed Walter Construction Group receive 100% protection of their entitlements as was the case for the workers at National Textiles; if not, why not.
- (5) What action will the Government take to assist affected subcontractors to remain solvent.
- (6) What is the reason for denying assistance to subcontractors under the GEERS scheme.

16 February 2005

591 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—In respect of each application in the electoral division of Melbourne Ports for funding under the Stronger Families and Communities Strategy, (a) what was the name and postal address of each individual or organisation that applied, (b) for what purpose was the funding sought, (c) which applications were successful, and (d) in respect of each successful application, what sum was granted.

592 **MS C. KING:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) When were the allegations of child abuse against a cadet at a Cadets Promotion 1/04 Course Training Camp at Puckapunyal first brought to the attention of the Minister and the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence.

- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the investigation into the allegation against the cadet concluded that (a) a written apology should be made, (b) there should be a review of practices and policy, (c) formal warnings should be issued, and (d) there should be a review of the training material for Officers of Cadets; if so, can the Minister also confirm that the Parliamentary Secretary informed the Cadet of these recommendations in a letter dated 21 October 2004.
 - (3) On what date was the Parliamentary Secretary first made aware of the report's recommendations.
 - (4) Can the Minister explain why the cadet and his family have not received an apology four months after being promised an apology by the Parliamentary Secretary.
 - (5) Will the Minister ensure that the cadet receives an apology; if so, will the Minister also ensure that the misconduct is properly addressed as recommended in the report by the Headquarters, Australian Army Cadets, Victoria.
 - (6) Has the review of practice and policy referred to in the letter dated 21 October 2004 from the Parliamentary Secretary to the cadet's father been completed; if so, what were the findings; if not, when will it be completed.
 - (7) Have the formal warnings referred to in the letter dated 21 October 2004 from the Parliamentary Secretary to the cadet been issued; if not, why not.
 - (8) Has the review of the training material for Officers of Cadets referred to in the letter dated 21 October 2004 from the Parliamentary Secretary to the cadet been completed; if not, why not.
- 593 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Has the Government made any representations to the Egyptian Government regarding the incarceration and alleged torture of Mr Mamdouh Habib by Egyptian authorities; if so, (a) what was the content of the representations, (b) when were they made, and (c) what was the response.
 - (2) What consular assistance, if any, was provided by the Australian Government to Mr Habib while he was in Egyptian custody.
 - (3) What inquiries has the Australian Government or any Australian Government agencies made in respect of Mr Habib's allegations of torture in Egypt.
 - (4) Has the Government, or any Government agency, interviewed Mr Habib regarding these allegations; if so, (a) who conducted the interview(s), (b) when did it or they occur, and (c) what further action was or is being taken.
- 594 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is the legal maxim 'innocent until proven guilty' part of government policy.
 - (2) Is the Government taking any action to promote the presumption of innocence within the community.
 - (3) Has Mr Mamdouh Habib been convicted of, or charged with, any offence.
 - (4) Does the Government intend to charge Mr Habib with any offence; if not, will the Government accord to Mr Habib the presumption of innocence and, if it will not accord to Mr Habib the presumption of innocence, can he explain why not.
- 595 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Can he confirm the report in *The Age* on 28 January which stated that a person accompanied by three security guards on a Thai Airlines flight had been chained by the hands and feet and had gaffer tape around his head covering his mouth; if so, were these actions taken by the Australian Government and, if they were, why.
 - (2) How was this passenger able to eat, drink or go to the toilet.
 - (3) Have there been other instances of people being transported under similar conditions; if so, how many.
- 596 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is it the case that airline passengers suffer inconvenience when they are asked to board an aircraft and are then subject to lengthy delays before the plane takes off.
 - (2) Does the Government collect or have access to information on the length of time planes take to take off after passengers have been asked to board; if so, will he make it publicly available.
 - (3) Can he confirm that one of a number of areas in which Qantas service standards have declined since the collapse of Ansett is in an increase in the length of time before its planes take off after passengers have boarded.

- (4) Will he ask Qantas to explain (a) why passengers are asked to board planes which are not ready to take off and (b) what purpose is served by having passengers sit in aircraft waiting on the tarmac.

597 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Can the Minister outline the extent of the problem of coastal acid sulfate soils in Australia.
- (2) What action has the Government taken to address the problem.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the Victorian Department of Primary Industries has identified acid sulfate soils in key development areas on Victoria's coast, in particular, on the Bass Coast at Venus Bay and Anderson's Inlet.
- (4) What action will the Federal Government take to ensure drainage or excavation work at popular coastal development sites, such as Venus Bay and Anderson's Inlet, does not cause significant negative environmental externalities for the indigenous ecosystem (such as disturbances in water quality) and to the built environment.
- (5) Are any species of flora or fauna located at Venus Bay and Anderson's Inlet listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).
- (6) Is the Government aware of any species of flora and fauna located at Venus Bay and Anderson's Inlet that potentially could be subject to the conservation provisions of the EPBC Act.
- (7) What action will the Federal Government take to ensure any species located at Venus Bay and Anderson's Inlet, already identified or potentially subject to the EPBC Act, are protected from the disruption of coastal acid sulfate soils.

598 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Is he aware of the successful outcomes of the Illawarra Shoalhaven Apprenticeship Pilot Program under which 100 young people have secured apprenticeship placements in less than a year.
- (2) Is he aware that (a) funding for this program under his department's Employment Innovation Fund is soon to end and (b) the program has already exceeded the target for placements originally set as a condition of its modest grant.
- (3) Will he assure the local committee that the Government will continue to fund the program.
- (4) What level of funding will be provided for the next 12 months to ensure the program can continue.

599 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is he aware that the company, TEC Plus Limited, went into liquidation in 2004.
- (2) Can he confirm that the liquidator, Bentleys MRI Perth Pty Ltd, has paid the employee superannuation entitlement of TEC Plus Limited to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).
- (3) When will these entitlements be reinstated to the former employees of TEC Plus Limited.
- (4) Can he confirm that compensation will be paid by the ATO so that the earnings on these superannuation funds whilst they are being held by the ATO will be credited to the employees.

600 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What proportion of Australian households currently subscribe to (a) Foxtel and (b) all pay-television services.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the intention of the anti-siphoning provisions contained in the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* is to ensure free-to-air television networks have an opportunity to acquire exclusive live broadcasting rights to major and nationally significant sporting events; if not, why not.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that (a) Ashes Test Cricket is on the anti-siphoning list, (b) pay-television licensees are prohibited from acquiring the exclusive live broadcast rights prior to any delisting of this event, (c) Fox Sports has been able to acquire the exclusive live broadcast rights of the 2005 Ashes Series because it is not a pay-television licensee, and (d) as a result, commercial free-to-air networks have decided not to acquire the free-to-air broadcast rights of the 2005 Ashes Test Series; if not, why not.
- (4) Will the Minister amend the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* to ensure that (a) pay-television providers like Fox Sports are not able to circumvent the Government's anti-siphoning regime and (b) free-to-air television networks are guaranteed an opportunity to acquire the exclusive live broadcast rights to listed events; if not, why not.

- (5) Can the Minister confirm that (a) 14.8 million Australians watched the 2002 FIFA World Cup, (b) the 2006 FIFA World Cup is currently listed on the anti-siphoning list, and (c) SBS Television has acquired the exclusive live broadcasting rights to this event; if not, why not.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that (a) FIFA is presently negotiating the broadcast rights for the 2010 FIFA World Cup and (b) the 2010 FIFA World Cup is not listed on the anti-siphoning list.
- (7) Can the Minister explain why the 2010 FIFA World Cup is not listed on the anti-siphoning list; if not, why not.
- (8) Can the Minister confirm that, for sporting events not listed on the anti-siphoning list, free-to-air television networks are forced to compete with the pay-television industry for the exclusive live broadcast rights; if not, why not.
- (9) Will the Minister ensure the current anti-siphoning list is amended to include the 2010 FIFA World Cup; if so, when; if not, why not.
- 601 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Has the Minister read the article titled ‘When the journalist is a party spin doctor, it’s bad PR for real news’ in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 15 February 2005.
- (2) In respect of those parts of the report that say “In shades of Australia’s cash-for-comment scandal, a conservative syndicated US columnist and pundit... has been secretly contracted for \$307,000 by the Bush Administration to promote the President’s education policies in his columns and TV appearances” and “it is no longer clear who is and who isn’t a journalist in the US”, can the Minister guarantee that the Australian Government has not entered into any similar agreement with a journalist or commentator in Australia; if not, why not.
- 602 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that she has been holding meetings with a variety of representatives of media companies in response to the Government’s intention to amend Australia’s cross-media ownership laws.
- (2) Has the Minister indicated to all of those representatives that the Government will not allow a further concentration of ownership of traditional media in Australia; if not, why not.
- 603 **MS LIVERMORE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) How many visas have been issued at the request of Teys Bros meatworks in Rockhampton.
- (2) In respect of each successful applicant, (a) what was their country of origin, (b) what was the skills classification specified by Teys Bros, (c) what examination of the skills claimed was carried out by the Minister’s department, and (d) for what period of time has the visa been issued.
- (3) What examination of the labour market in Rockhampton was carried out by the Minister’s department.
- (4) How did the department satisfy itself that there were no suitably qualified people in Rockhampton to fill job vacancies at Teys Bros meatworks.
- 604 **MS LIVERMORE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—In respect of the Stronger Families and Communities Strategy, (a) which organisations and (b) what projects have been funded in (i) Rockhampton, (ii) Yeppoon, (iii) Emu Park, (iv) Gracemere, and (v) Mount Morgan since the introduction of the program, and (c) what sum did each organisation receive.
- 605 **MS LIVERMORE:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—What support, both financial and in-kind, did the Government provide for the organisation and running of the World Brahman Congress held in Rockhampton in 2002.

17 February 2005

- 606 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) On what date did the Prime Minister’s Community Business Partnership receive a copy of the report, *A Not-for-Profit Council? Discussion of Need and the Options for the Way ahead*.
- (2) Has the Government considered the report; if so, what was the outcome.

607 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Can she confirm that the Government provides full medical support to all totally and permanently incapacitated (TPI) Veterans with service related injuries and disabilities; if not, why not.
- (2) Can she confirm that the daily care fee for Prisoners of War receiving low-level hostel nursing care is fully subsidised; if not, why not.
- (3) Does the Government provide low-level, or similar, non-means tested nursing care for TPI Veterans; if so, what are the details; if not, why not

608 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Can she confirm that from May 2005 totally and permanently incapacitated (TPI) Veterans will (a) no longer be able to obtain their free or subsidised footwear from a podiatrist and footwear supplier of their choice and (b) receive free or subsidised footwear supplied by a company nominated by the Department of Veterans' Affairs; if so, why.
- (2) What are the details of the company or companies nominated by her department to supply footwear to TPI Veterans from May 2005.

609 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Will the Government provide a special commemoration to mark the sixtieth anniversary of the end of World War II to honour all Veterans who served Australia between 1939-1945; if so, what are the details.
- (2) Will all World War II Veterans receive some form of personal recognition; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.

610 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that it is in Australia's national interest to help develop an international agreement that will address climate change; if not, can the Minister explain why.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the Kyoto Protocol is (a) the first real international effort to address global warming and (b) an essential first step towards the international community solving the global problem of climate change; if not, why not.
- (3) Is it the case that (a) 141 countries have ratified the Kyoto Protocol and (b) the Government's refusal to ratify the Kyoto Protocol isolates Australia from the economic opportunities arising from emissions trading and renewable energy; if not, why not.
- (4) Will the Government join the international effort to address climate change and ratify the Kyoto Protocol; if so, when; if not, why not.

611 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Has he read the article titled 'Dental crisis exposes great divide' in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 15 February 2005 which reported that "poor oral health has been linked to diabetes, stroke, cancer and low-birthweight babies" and "oral health has declined since the Federal Government withdrew its funding for public dental programs after the 1996 election".
- (2) Can he confirm that a significant proportion of Australians have very poor oral health; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.
- (3) How many Australians are currently on (a) dental assessment and (b) dental care waiting lists.
- (4) What is the total cost to the Commonwealth of medical treatment directly linked to poor oral hygiene.
- (5) Will he re-introduce a Commonwealth dental health program to address the dental health crisis in Australia; if so, when; if not, why not.

612 **MR L. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—For 2003-2004 and for the electoral division of (a) Mallee, (b) Murray, and (c) Riverina, how many (i) people were detained for working illegally, (ii) people were detained for overstaying, and (iii) employers were prosecuted as a result of the activities of the Minister's department.

613 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) In respect of rods coated in an alloy of beryllium used in scaling hammers, also known as "jason pistols", used by the Department of Defence in the scouring of paint and rust on Royal Australian Navy vessels, (a) during which years, (b) in which locations, and (c) on which vessels were they used.
- (2) How many Defence personnel were exposed to the dust produced by their use.
- (3) Were other Defence personnel exposed to beryllium in other ways.

- (4) What action has been taken to notify those who may have been exposed.
 - (5) What action has been taken to provide a free medical assessment to those who may have been exposed.
 - (6) What consideration has been given to compensating those who have suffered from exposure to the beryllium dust.
 - (7) Have any compensation payments been made arising from exposure to beryllium; if so, how many and when were they made.
 - (8) Are any legal processes pending in relation to the exposure of personnel to beryllium.
- 614 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) What sum will be spent to purchase twelve MHR 90 troop lift helicopters as Phase 2 of Air 9000.
 - (2) What is included in the total package being obtained for that sum.
 - (3) Are the MHR 90s to augment or replace any of the current inventory.
 - (4) What enhancements in capability does the augmented fleet of helicopters provide.
 - (5) Is it anticipated that local industry will be involved in assembly or other work on the introduction of the new helicopters.
 - (6) Are twelve helicopters sufficient for industry to invest in the necessary plant and equipment to take part in this program.
- 615 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) In respect of the findings of the W.A. Medical Board of Inquiry against Dr McKenzie, did Dr McKenzie pay the fine of \$10,000 imposed on him or was it paid by Defence.
 - (2) Did the W.A. Board order Dr McKenzie to pay 75% of the Board's legal costs; if so, (a) what was that sum and (b) what proportion of that sum was paid by Defence.
 - (3) Did the legal firm, Phillip Fox, bill Defence for 1,178.5 hours for its services in defending Dr McKenzie; if so, what was that sum.
 - (4) Is the Minister able to say what costs were incurred by the female officer who was the victim in this case.
 - (5) Has Defence met any of the costs incurred by the victim in this case; if so, what sum; if not, why not.
- 616 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Is Defence planning to purchase training simulators to prepare Leopard tank crews for the transition to the Abrams tank; if so, (a) how many simulators are being purchased, (b) what is the cost of the purchases, (c) when will each simulator arrive, (d) where will the simulators be based, (e) when will training on the simulators begin, and (f) when will training on the simulators be completed.
 - (2) When will the Abrams tanks arrive.
 - (3) When will the conversion from the Leopard to the Abrams be completed and the Abrams be fully operational.
- 617 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Does the Government intend to proceed with the purchase of the F-35; if so, (a) when will the first F-35s arrive and (b) how many will arrive in the first delivery.
 - (2) Will the F-35s be delivered progressively over the two-year period or will they all arrive together at some point within the two-year period.
 - (3) When is it planned to withdraw the F-111s from service.
 - (4) When is it planned to withdraw the F/A-18 Hornets from service.
 - (5) What contingency plans have been made in case the delivery of the F-35 is delayed.
- 618 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) What sum has the Government outlaid to date on the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF), F-35, project.
 - (2) What is the value of the contracts received to date by Australian firms for the JSF project.
 - (3) What expectations does the Minister have for the awarding of future contracts.
 - (4) Is the Government pressuring Lockheed Martin for more contracts; if so, how is this being done; if not, why not.

- 619 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Has the Independent Review Panel on Vietnam Campaign Recognition for RAAF Service at Ubon 1965-1968 produced its report; if so, (a) when did the Minister receive it, (b) who else has received a copy, and (c) when will it be made public.
 - (2) Can the Minister confirm that the report was presented seven months ago; if so, why has it not been released.
 - (3) Has the RAAF Ubon Recognition Group made a Freedom of Information application for a copy of the report; if so, has the FOI request been granted; if so, when; if not, why not.
- 620 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) What proportion of the SAS personnel who were eligible for re-enlistment in 2004 decided not to re-enlist.
 - (2) What are the main reasons why SAS members are not re-enlisting.
 - (3) Are re-enlistment bonuses offered to SAS members to re-enlist; if so, what is the value of the bonus; if not, why not.
- 621 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) In respect of the compensation to be paid to those affected by the F-111 Deseal/Reseal process, how is the value of compensation for each applicant to be determined.
 - (2) When will each of the applicants be advised of the procedure of applying for compensation.
 - (3) When will compensation be paid.
 - (4) Is the payment to each applicant contingent on no further legal action being taken on the part of the applicant.
- 622 **MS CORCORAN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—
- (1) How many (a) community-based, and (b) private childcare centres are located in the electoral division of Isaacs.
 - (2) What is the name and address of each centre.
 - (3) In respect of each centre, what sum did the Commonwealth provide for the financial year (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004 and from which programs was the funding provided.
 - (4) How many children in the electoral division of Isaacs were catered for in (a) community-based, and (b) private childcare centres.
 - (5) How many children in the electoral division of Isaacs are (a) under two years of age, and (b) under two years of age and enrolled in (i) community based, and (ii) private child care centres.
 - (6) How many Commonwealth funded places for (a) Before School Care, (b) After School Care, and (c) Vacation Care are there in the electoral division of Isaacs.
 - (7) Which organisations in the electorate of Isaacs coordinate the provision of these services.
- 623 **MS CORCORAN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services— How many Child Support Agency clients currently reside in (a) Victoria, (b) the electoral division of Isaacs, and (c) the postcode area (i) 3195, (ii) 3175, (iii) 3197, (iv) 3201, (v) 3196, (vi) 3174, (vii) 3173, (viii) 3977, (ix) 3194, and (x) 3192.
- 624 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—
- (1) What is the name and street address of each aged care facility in the electoral division of Banks that receives Commonwealth funding.
 - (2) Have any facilities referred to in part (1) failed accreditation; if so, which.
 - (3) Has a surprise inspection of any facility referred to in part (1) been undertaken by the department; if so, what was the date of each inspection.
- 625 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) In respect of the proposal to place six Telstra towers on Leichhardt Oval in Rozelle, what community consultation took place before deciding to place the Telstra Towers at this site, in particular, what are the details of notices, meetings and information provided.
 - (2) What are the reasons for choosing this location as an appropriate site for a Telstra tower and were factors such as the population density in this area and community and local government opposition considered.

- (3) Have alternative sites been considered for the Telstra towers.
- (4) What assurances can the Minister give that community objections were considered.
- (5) Can the Minister explain why it is appropriate to place the Telstra towers in this location without appropriate community consultation.
- (6) What action will the Minister take to ensure that the community's views are taken into consideration.

626 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) In respect of the imminent closure of the Ashfield and Strathfield Centrelink Offices in Sydney which are to be amalgamated into one office at Burwood, what community consultation took place before the decision to close the offices was made.
- (2) What client consultation took place before the decision to close the offices was made.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the Ashfield Centrelink office specifically catered for elderly and immobile clients who will now have to travel a further 4 kilometres to attend the Burwood Centrelink office and what measures will be put in place to assist these people.
- (4) What are the access arrangements at Burwood (ie lifts, ramps, stairs etc.).
- (5) What is the range of services available at Burwood.
- (6) Are there specialised services for the elderly at Burwood.

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*627 **MR G. M. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) What is the name and street address of each aged care (a) hostel, (b) nursing home, and (c) palliative care facility in the electoral division of Corio that received Commonwealth funding in (i) 2000, (ii) 2001, (iii) 2002, (iv) 2003, and (v) 2004.
- (2) How many (a) high care places, (b) low care places, and (c) community packages were allocated to recipients of funding identified in part (1) in (i) 2000, (ii) 2001, (iii) 2002, (iv) 2003, and (v) 2004.
- (3) What sums were provided for capital funding for aged care places in (a) hostels and (b) nursing homes in the electoral division of Corio in (i) 2000, (ii) 2001, (iii) 2002, (iv) 2003, and (v) 2004.
- (4) What sums were provided for operational funding to aged care providers operating (a) hostels and (b) nursing homes in the electoral division of Corio in (i) 2000, (ii) 2001, (iii) 2002, (iv) 2003, and (v) 2004.

DR LAWRENCE: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. *628 - *639)—For each of the last five years, what are the details and sum of each grant and service payment by the Minister's department and agencies within the Minister's portfolio to (a) the Hillsong Foundation, and (b) its associated entities.

*628 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Prime Minister.

*629 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

*630 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

*631 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

*632 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Attorney-General.

*633 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.

*634 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

*635 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

*636 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

*637 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

*638 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Human Services.

*639 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

*640 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—In respect of the Minister's statement "...there's no carbon trading taking place at the moment... and the costs of setting that up are so high they outweigh the benefits" which was reported in *The Age* on 6 December 2004, would the Minister provide the evidence supporting the cost-benefit analysis referred to in the statement.

- *641 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—
- (1) In respect of the General Employee Redundancy Scheme, (a) what was the date of its commencement and (b) what was the basis for determining redundancy payments payable under the terms of the agreement.
 - (2) Since the commencement of the scheme what payments have been made and how many employees have been covered by each payment.
 - (3) Does the Government intend to review the payments permissible under the scheme to consider the recommendation of the Workplace Relations Commission that eight weeks redundancy be paid for any employee with four years service rising to sixteen weeks after nine years.
- *642 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—In respect of the department's Volunteer Small Equipment Grant 2005, were all members advised of the existence of these grants; if so, by what means and on what date.
- *643 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—
- (1) In respect of the Newspaper/Periodical and Supplementary Publications entitlement, what was the entitlement of Senators and Members prior to the decision to introduce a single capped allocation for (a) Members in metropolitan electorates of \$3,000 per annum, (b) Members in non-metropolitan electorates of \$4,000 per annum, and (c) Senators of \$4,000 per annum.
 - (2) For each of the last five financial years, what was the average sum spent by (a) Members and (b) Senators under the Newspaper/Periodical and Supplementary Publications entitlement.
 - (3) Can the Minister explain the reasons for the Government's decision to change the entitlement, in particular, how did the Minister determine the respective payments to Members and Senators and which Members and Senators were consulted about the proposed change in the entitlements.
- *644 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 50 concerning the provision of wines and liquor for Kirribilli House and the Lodge, for each year since Mr Bourne was appointed (a) on what contractual basis has he been engaged and (b) what has been the cost to the Department.
 - (2) What is the policy on the cellaring of wines.
 - (3) What is the volume of alcoholic beverages held for (a) Kirribilli House and (b) the Lodge and what is its estimated value.
- *645 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) In respect of the vessel *Capitaine Tasman* (IMO Number 9210725), (a) has it ever operated in Australian waters under a single or continuous voyage permit; if so, when, (b) does it operate a regular service through Australian ports, (c) does it have an approved security plan which complies with the International Ship and Port Facility Code (ISPS), (d) has the Office of Transport Security ever had any concerns in relation to the security of this vessel, and (e) has it ever been boarded and inspected by the (i) Office of Transport Security and (ii) AMSA officials; if so, when.
 - (2) Was the Office of Transport Security aware that the crew of this vessel was denied access to shore leave when the ship arrived in Australia on 17 February 2005.
 - (3) Can he confirm that the denial of shore leave for the crew of this vessel was a breach of Australia's obligations under the ISPS.
 - (4) Was the denial of shore leave in any way related to security concerns in respect of (a) the vessel and (b) any of the crew.
 - (5) Is the Office of Transport Security aware of any current security alerts regarding the ISPS for ports in Fiji.
- *646 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Can he confirm that (a) Australia is a signatory to the International Ship and Port Security (ISPS) Code as part of the Convention on the Safety of Life at Sea, (b) the *Maritime Security Act 2004* was based on the ISPS and that Australia is a contracting Government to the code, (c) the code states that "procedures for facilitating shore leave for ship's personnel or personnel changes, as well as visitors to the ship including representatives of seafarers' welfare and labour organisations" must be incorporated into security plans for ships and ports, (d) this requirement was included in the Maritime Security Regulations in recognition of the special condition whereby ships are both a workplace and a home for seafarers, and (e) if a security plan for a port, port facility or ship did not comply with all of the relevant provisions included in the legislation and regulations, that it would be deemed to not comply with the ISPS.

- (2) Can he also confirm that the Office of Transport Security has ensured that access for welfare and labour organisations has been included in all approved security plans, and that no impediment is being permitted on the part of port facilities and/or ship operators that would put the safety or wellbeing of either foreign or Australian seafarers at risk.
- (3) Have any ports or port facilities breached these regulations; if so, what action has been taken against them.
- *647 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) In respect of the vessel *Capitaine Tasman* (IMO Number 9210725), (a) on what basis was the crew denied special purpose visas when the ship arrived in Australia on 17 February 2005, (b) were any members of the crew given a reason (either in writing or orally) why they were not allowed access to shore leave, (c) for how long will current and future foreign crews of this vessel be denied access to special purpose visas, and (d) has it been of concern to immigration officials in the past; if so, (i) why and (ii) what action has been taken against it and/or its owners.
- (2) What is the Government's policy in relation to special purpose visas for foreign seafarers on ships arriving in Australia.
- (3) Does the Minister intend to adopt a policy of denying foreign seafarers on foreign vessels access to leave whilst their ships are in Australia by not issuing special purpose visas.
- (4) In the event that a crew or crew-member is denied a special purpose visa, despite meeting the requirements advised to visiting ships (ie passport and seafarer identity, and a crew list provided 48 hours in advance), is there any mechanism for appeal.
- (5) Is the Minister aware of any other vessels whose crews will also be denied special purpose visas on arrival in Australia; if so, on what basis will shore leave be denied.
- (6) Is the Minister aware that access to shore leave is a requirement of the International Ship and Port Security (ISPS) Code to which Australia is a contracting government through the International Maritime Organisation.
- *648 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Further to the answers to question Nos 24, 26, 27, 28 (*Hansard*, 17 February 2005, pages 104-5) 160, 161, 162, 164 and 165 (*Hansard*, 17 February 2005, pages 108-9), why will the Minister not guarantee that the Government's media-reform agenda will prohibit Mr Packer's and Mr Murdoch's media companies being allowed to buy more newspapers, television networks and radio stations.
- *649 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Did the Minister see the article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 17 February 2005 by Mr Paul McIntyre titled 'Minister doubts benefits of fourth TV licence'.
- (2) With respect to those parts of the article which reported that no one had come to the Minister with a compelling case for a fourth television licence and that the Minister is interested in ensuring diversity, can the Minister explain why a fourth television network would not provide viewers with a greater diversity of news, information and entertainment; if not, why not.
- *650 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) When did the Australian Broadcasting Authority (ABA) first form the view that an additional wide-coverage community radio service should be made available in Sydney.
- (2) When did the ABA decide to make the 1386 AM radio frequency available in Sydney for a community broadcasting service instead of a narrowcasting service.
- (3) Why did the ABA (a) reject all eight applications for the 1386 AM radio frequency in Sydney in March 2003, (b) deny the grant of a temporary radio licence, and (c) call for another round of public comment on or about 22 April 2004.
- (4) What is the current status of the granting of a radio licence for the 1386 AM frequency.
- (5) Will a licence for the 1386 AM frequency be granted; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that Sydney Christian Broadcasters Ltd, known as Radio Rhema, was one of the applicants when the ABA called for applications for the 1386 AM frequency for a community radio station in March 2003; if so, can the Minister also confirm that it demonstrated the highest

public interest submission, presenting a membership of some 4,000 persons with over 750 letters in support and representing close to 460,000 persons in the greater Sydney region.

- (7) Will the Minister take action to ensure that no further delay occurs in the granting of a Sydney community radio licence on the 1386 AM frequency; if so, what action; if not, why not.

*651 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Can he confirm that the Tamils Rehabilitation Organisation (TRO) is recognised by the Sri Lankan Government as a Non-Government Organisation (NGO) delivering disaster-relief services in the North-East of Sri Lanka; if not, why not.
- (2) Does the Australian Government recognise the TRO as an NGO delivering disaster-relief services in the North-East of Sri Lanka; if not, why not.

*652 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has he read The Bureau of Transport Economics (BTE) report titled ‘Urban Transport – Looking Ahead’ which reports that traffic congestion in Australia’s major cities will cost the Australian Economy around \$30 billion per year by 2015; if not, why not.
- (2) Has he also read the recently released report commissioned by the City of Sydney titled “Integrated Transport Strategy – Mass Transit for CBD and Inner Sydney” (Report to City of Sydney, February 2005) which states that South-East Queensland achieved an immediate 10% lift in public transport patronage when it introduced the world’s largest integrated fares network, covering the region between Noosa and the NSW border; if not, why not.
- (3) What is the Government doing to prevent the \$30 billion per year loss of productivity to the Australian economy expected by 2015 due to traffic congestion in Australia’s major cities.
- (4) Will he cooperate with state and local governments to fund (a) research into the transport needs of public transport users and other commuters in Sydney and all major cities, (b) feasibility and cost studies into public and private funding for mass transit or light rail networks in Sydney and all major cities, and (c) planning and the installation of mass transit or light rail networks in Sydney and all major cities; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.

*653 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What is the Government doing to advance the Millennium Development Goals to which Australia committed in 2000.
- (2) Will he or the Prime Minister be representing Australia at the United Nations summit on the Millennium Development Goals in September 2005.

*654 **MR L. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Were members of the crew of the *Capitaine Tasman* denied visas for shore leave on its most recent visit to Australia; if so, why.
- (2) Was the refusal to issue visas related to previous immigration issues; if so, (a) what was the nature of the problems, (b) how many individuals were involved, and (c) when did these events occur.
- (3) Were any (a) members of the crew and (b) trainees illegal immigrants or permanent visa applicants.
- (4) Who owns the ship and where is it registered.
- (5) What action was taken by DIMIA after any immigration violations before the latest boat arrival.

*655 **MR L. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) In respect of the Central Queensland University campus in Fiji, how many (a) undergraduates have sought student visa entry to Australia, (b) applicants for student visas have been rejected, (c) of those admitted to Australia, have had their visas cancelled for not abiding by visa requirements, and (d) of those admitted, are currently involved in DIMIA determinant processes relating to (i) the cancellation of visa and (ii) attempts to migrate permanently through Australian qualifications.
- (2) How many successful applicants for student visas with some Fiji campus studies have subsequently gained permanent residence in Australia.

*656 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is he aware of the community campaign in Wollongong to have the Government allocate an MRI licence to Wollongong Hospital.
- (2) Will he list the occasions his office and department have communicated with constituents and community groups in the electoral division of (a) Cunningham and (b) Throsby, including details of

the identity of the correspondent and the date and mode of correspondence (ie letter, facsimile, and email), concerning the allocation of an MRI licence to Wollongong Hospital.

- *657 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—How many Community Development Employment Projects (CEDP) are currently provided in the electoral division of (a) Cunningham, (b) Throsby, and (c) Gilmore and which indigenous organisations provide them.
- *658 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Is it the case that Broadband service is not available in all areas of the electoral division of Cunningham; if so, which areas do not have access to Broadband.
 - (2) What reasons does Telstra give for not providing access to Broadband.
 - (3) What action is Telstra taking to address this situation.
 - (4) Is the Minister able to say when Broadband services will be available throughout the electoral division of Cunningham.
- *659 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Disability Support Pension recipients reside in the (a) electoral division of Cunningham and (b) postcode area (i) 2500, (ii) 2508, (iii) 2515, (iv) 2516, (v) 2517, (vi) 2518, (vii) 2519, (viii) 2525, and (vix) 2526.
- *660 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—
- (1) How many Child Support Agency clients who (a) make and (b) receive payments reside in (i) Australia, (ii) NSW, and (iii) the electoral division of Cunningham.
 - (2) How many Child Support Agency clients who (a) make and (b) receive payments reside in the postcode area (i) 2500, (ii) 2508, (iii) 2515, (iv) 2516, (v) 2517, (vi) 2518, (vii) 2519, (viii) 2525, and (vix) 2526.
- *661 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) For the electoral division of Cunningham and for each year of the operation of Family Tax Benefit (FTB), how many families and/or individuals, (a) in total and (b) as a proportion of all FTB recipients, have an outstanding debt to the Commonwealth due to an overpayment of the FTB.
 - (2) For the electoral Division of Cunningham and for each year of the FTB operation, what is the (a) sum of FTB debt, (b) average debt per family, and (c) average income of the families and/or individuals that have incurred a debt.
 - (3) For the electoral division of Cunningham and for each year of the operation of the FTB, how many FTB debts (a) have been referred to debt collectors and (b) are currently with debt collectors.
 - (4) What was the most common method of payment for FTB debts of the families and individuals in the electoral division of Cunningham.
 - (5) For the electoral Division of Cunningham and for each year of the FTB operation, how many families and/or individuals with a FTB debt had part or all of their tax return withheld to repay the debt.
- *662 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of Mr Lajos (Ludwig) Polgar who is currently living in Fern Tree Gully in Melbourne.
 - (2) Is the Minister aware of the recent report in *Magyar Élet*, an Hungarian language newspaper in Melbourne, that Mr Polgar said that at 18 years of age he joined the Hungarian national-socialist movement and remained a member until he was 24 years of age.
 - (3) Is the Minister able to produce Mr Polgar's 1949 application to migrate to Australia from Hungary.
 - (4) Is the Minister able to provide records on the activities Mr Polgar has been involved in since arriving in Australia and on what he said was his occupation and history prior to arriving in Australia.
 - (5) Is the Minister aware of the organisation called Arrow Cross Party which was the national-socialist movement of which Mr Polgar was a member in Hungary.
 - (6) Is the Minister aware that members of this organisation roamed the streets of Hungary during 1944 in quasi-military uniforms, hunting-down Jews and sending them to Auschwitz or shooting them and throwing them into the Danube River.
 - (7) Can the Minister say whether any other members of the Arrow Cross Party were allowed to enter Australia after World War II.

- *663 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) In respect of the listing by the Department of Environment and Heritage in May 2004 of a proposal by New Dimension Homes to construct a residential estate adjacent to the Seaford Wetlands as a “controlled action, requiring the proposal to be subject to a Commonwealth Environmental Assessment involving the submission of preliminary information requested by the Department”, can the Minister confirm that, rather than comply with this requirement, New Dimension Homes withdrew its application in December 2004; if so, can the Minister also confirm that New Dimension Homes lodged a new application at the same time consisting of only minor changes to the original application.
 - (2) Does the Department intend to deal with the revised proposal as a controlled action, requiring New Dimension Homes to meet a Commonwealth Environmental Assessment.
 - (3) Can he say whether any developers have evaded the intent of the legislation and the listing of projects as controlled actions by withdrawing an application and lodging a new application; if so, can he explain why this is permitted.
- *664 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—When the Joint Offshore Protection Command is established, will it exercise any powers other than those that existed prior to its establishment under Customs legislation or Defence legislation.
- *665 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—What sum has been allocated to the Australian Customs Service for intelligence.
- *666 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—Can the Minister explain the discrepancy between the sum budgeted for the Australian Customs Service (ACS) for Administered Expenses (including third party outputs) for 2003-2004 of \$248,000 and the Actual Administered Expenses of \$23,123,000 as reported on page 30 of the ACS report for 2003-2004.
- *667 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What is the policy of the Australian Customs Service in respect of foreign fishing vessels, in particular, in respect of (a) interdiction, (b) boarding, and (c) detention of (i) vessels and (ii) crew.
 - (2) During 2003-2004, how many foreign fishing vessels were (a) apprehended and (b) released.
 - (3) During 2003-2004, were any directions issued by the Australian Customs Service putting a restriction on the number of foreign fishing vessels apprehended; if so, (a) what was the nature of the direction and (b) is it still current.
- *668 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Who gives directions to Customs Officers as to the manner in which they are required to perform their duties.
 - (2) Who disciplines Customs Officers for failure to perform the duties required of them.
 - (3) Is it the case that from time to time Customs Officers require the advice of immigration officials at airports and ports.
 - (4) Do immigration officials have power of direction or authority over Custom Officers in respect of immigration matters; if so, what is the basis of that power.
 - (5) Is there any capacity for the Australian Customs Service to second quarantine or immigration officers to assist in respect of customs related matters at airports and ports.
 - (6) Does the Australian Customs Service at ports and airports have any role in respect of quarantine matters; if so, what is the extent of that role.
- *669 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—In respect of passenger liners arriving at ports, what responsibilities does the Australian Customs Service have in relation to (a) examining passengers and their documentation for compliance with immigration requirements and (b) examining passengers and their belongings for compliance with quarantine requirements.
- *670 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Prior to the establishment of the Joint Offshore Protection Command (JOPC), under what power, legislative or otherwise, does the Australian Customs Service (ACS) have authority to order a vessel within the 1000 nautical mile ‘Australian Maritime Information zone’ to report the contents of its cargo.

- (2) When the JOPC is established, under what power, legislative or otherwise, will it have authority to order vessels within the 1000 nautical mile 'Australian Maritime Information zone' to report to the ACS the contents of its cargo.
 - (3) Prior to the establishment of the JOPC, what is the jurisdictional limit (in nautical miles) from the coast of the Australian mainland or an Australian Territory for an ACS officer to intercept, board and/or search a vessel and what is the legislative basis for these powers.
 - (4) When the JOPC is established, what will be the jurisdictional limit (in nautical miles) from the coast of the Australian mainland or any Australian Territory for an ACS officer to intercept, board and/or search a vessel and what will be the legislative basis for these powers.
 - (5) Has the ACS (a) requested and (b) received any legal advice concerning the ability of the JOPC to order the interdiction of any vessel within the 1000 nautical mile 'Australian Maritime Information zone'; if so, when was the legal advice (i) sought and (ii) received and (iii) what was the nature of the advice.
 - (6) Can the Minister confirm that the proposed 1000 nautical mile reporting zone extends five times further than Australia's existing maritime boundary—the 200nm Exclusive Economic Zone—and overlaps the maritime jurisdiction of Indonesia and New Zealand; if so, what is the legal basis for requiring vessels to report within these areas.
 - (7) Will the head of the JOPC have authority to make orders and give directions to (a) Australian Customs Service vessels and (b) Australian Defence vessels.
 - (8) What is the extent of the head of the JPOC's powers, in particular, will he or she have authority to direct the crew of a (a) Navy and (b) ACS vessel to (i) interdict a vessel, (ii) board a vessel, and (iii) exercise lethal force.
 - (9) What legislation will the JOPC be responsible for enforcing and will that legislation give the JOPC authority to (a) interdict vessels, (b) board vessels, and (c) exercise coercive force.
 - (10) What assets will be available to the JOPC, in particular, (a) how many vessels, (b) how many aircraft and (c) what other infrastructure.
 - (11) Will the JOPC have a role in terms of future strategic planning in respect of border protection and in particular in respect of decisions regarding the future acquisition and use of assets; if so, what.
- *671 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—What capacity does the Australian Customs Service have to test containers for radiological material.
- *672 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Will the Minister provide a detailed account of the progress that has been made to implement recommendations 1-8 of the Auditor-General's Audit Report No 16, 2004-2005.
 - (2) Can the Minister say when each of the Auditor-General's recommendations will be implemented.
- *673 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) For 2003-2004, how many containers arrived at (a) Australia and (b) the port of (i) Sydney, (ii) Melbourne, (iii) Brisbane, and (iv) Fremantle.
 - (2) For 2003-2004, how many containers were classified (a) priority 1, (b) priority 2, (c) priority 3, and (d) priority 4, at the port of (i) Sydney, (ii) Melbourne, (iii) Brisbane, and (iv) Fremantle.
 - (3) For 2003-2004, how many priority 1 containers were not physically examined at the port of (i) Sydney, (ii) Melbourne, (iii) Brisbane, and (iv) Fremantle.
 - (4) Since 30 June 2004, how many containers arrived at (a) Australia and (b) the port of (i) Sydney, (ii) Melbourne, (iii) Brisbane, and (iv) Fremantle.
 - (5) Since 30 June 2004, how many containers were classified (a) priority 1, (b) priority 2, (c) priority 3, and (d) priority 4, at the port of (i) Sydney, (ii) Melbourne, (iii) Brisbane, and (iv) Fremantle.
 - (6) Since 30 June 2004, how many priority 1 containers were not physically examined at the port of (i) Sydney, (ii) Melbourne, (iii) Brisbane, and (iv) Fremantle.
- *674 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) In respect of the statement on page 79 of the Auditor-General's Audit Report No.16 of 2004-2005 that 12 per cent of all sea cargo reports were not reported at least 48 hours prior to arrival at an Australian port as required by customs legislation, can the Minister confirm that the 12 per cent figure relates to 2003-2004; if not, to which financial year does it relate.
 - (2) In respect of the 12 per cent of sea cargo reports which were late, how many containers do they represent.

- (3) Of the late cargo reports, how many reports were not provided until the cargo vessels (a) entered an Australian port and (b) docked at an Australian port.
- (4) Of the late cargo reports, how many containers are represented by reports not provided until the cargo vessels (a) entered and (b) docked at the port of (i) Sydney, (ii) Melbourne, (iii) Brisbane, and (iv) Fremantle.
- (5) For the reporting period after that covered by the Auditor-General's Audit Report No.16 of 2004-2005, (a) how many cargo reports have been reported, (b) of these, what proportion were reported late (ie within 48 hours of arriving at an Australian port), and (c) how many containers are represented by the late cargo reports.
- (6) For the reporting period after that covered by the Auditor-General's Audit Report No.16 of 2004-2005, how many of the late cargo reports were not provided until the cargo vessels (a) entered an Australian port and (b) docked at an Australian port.
- (7) Of the late cargo reports during the reporting period after that covered by the Auditor-General's Audit Report No.16 of 2004-2005, how many containers are represented by reports not provided until the cargo vessels (a) entered and (b) docked at the port of (i) Sydney, (ii) Melbourne, (iii) Brisbane, and (iv) Fremantle.

*675 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Does the Australian Customs Service (ACS) monitor and undertake surveillance in the area surrounding the Torres Strait island of Daru; if so, what surveillance activities does the ACS undertake, in particular, in respect of gun smuggling and drug trafficking.
- (2) What resources (eg vessels) are available to the ACS to monitor and conduct surveillance in this region.
- (3) How many ACS officers monitor and conduct surveillance in the area surrounding the Torres Strait island of Daru.
- (4) For the last twelve months, how many ACS patrols or other surveillance activities were conducted in the area surrounding the Torres Strait island of Daru (a) generally and (b) specifically to prevent gun smuggling and drug trafficking.

*676 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Does the Australian Customs Service (ACS) maintain records on the nature of each complaint it receives; if so, what was the nature of the majority of complaints received in relation to Container Examination Facilities (CEFs).
- (2) Has the ACS conducted a review of why the number of complaints it received increased and the number of compliments it received decreased during 2003-2004 compared to 2002-2003; if so, what was the outcome; if not, does the ACS intend to conduct a review.
- (3) Has the ACS conducted a review of complaints about CEFs; if so, what was the outcome; if not, does the ACS intend to conduct a review.

*677 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) In respect of the statement about armoured protection vehicles made by Australian Federal Police (AFP) Commissioner Keelty at the Senate Estimates Committee hearing on 15 February 2005, what are the details of the armoured vehicles used by the AFP for close personal protection duties, in particular, (a) what types of armoured vehicles are used, (b) how many of each type does the AFP have, (c) how many Australian manufactured vehicles were acquired by the AFP during (i) 2000-2001, (ii) 2001-2002, (iii) 2002-2003, and (iv) 2003-2004, and (d) how many Australian manufactured vehicles will be acquired by the AFP during (i) 2004-2005 and (ii) 2005-2006.
- (2) Which company or companies manufactures these vehicles in Australia.
- (3) What do these vehicles usually cost to manufacture in Australia.
- (4) What are the detailed costs involved in having these vehicles bullet-proofed, including the costs associated with transporting them to and from the USA.
- (5) Which company or companies bullet-proofs these vehicles in the USA.
- (6) Is there the capacity in Australia in the (a) private and (b) public sector to have these vehicles bullet-proofed.
- (7) Have enquiries been made as to whether the vehicles can be bullet-proofed in Australia; if so, what is the estimated cost.

- (8) What are the “maintenance and other” issues which arise in the course of the use of these vehicles that make them “some of the most difficult to use”.
 - (9) Why are the vehicles inappropriate for use in the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.
 - (10) Have any AFP armoured vehicles been deployed to Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea for the protection of AFP officers; if so, (a) which vehicles, (b) how many, and (c) when were they deployed abroad.
 - (11) What is the nature of the review being conducted into these vehicles.
 - (12) Has consideration been given to the manufacture and use of other armoured vehicles that would be appropriate for use in the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.
- *678 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) How many Australian Federal Police (AFP) officers are based at the AFP station in the Torres Strait.
 - (2) How many AFP officers are currently assigned to conduct joint patrols to combat transnational crime between PNG and Australia.
 - (3) Does the AFP plan to introduce any other measures to combat the drug trade between PNG and Australia.
- *679 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What measures, procedures or policies does the Australian Federal Police (AFP) have in place to replace the occupants of the positions held by AFP officers in Australia prior to their deployment overseas.
 - (2) What tasks, activities or positions have AFP officers been removed from prior to their deployment to Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.
 - (3) Do any of these tasks, activities or positions presently remain unfilled; if so, which ones.
 - (4) What procedures are there to assist with the transition of files and/or investigations from an AFP officer who is being deployed overseas to the AFP officer assuming responsibility for that file or investigation.
 - (5) Have any files and or investigations been left in abeyance as a result of overseas deployments.
 - (6) Has the AFP conducted an inquiry or requested a report on the effect of the deployment of AFP officers overseas on the ability of the AFP to deliver key capabilities in Australia; if so, what are the details and the findings.
 - (7) Does the AFP intend to conduct an inquiry or has the AFP requested a report on the effect of the deployment of AFP officers overseas on the ability of the AFP to deliver key capabilities in Australia; if so, when; if not, why not.
- *680 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Can he say whether any countries have agreed to a regional counter terrorist team being based in their country; if so, which countries.
- *681 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) On what basis were the 146 regional airports that are to be protected by the rapid response teams selected.
 - (2) What is the target response time for the regional rapid response teams for each of the 146 regional airports.
 - (3) Are the rapid response teams to have dedicated air transport to travel to regional airports; if not, (a) why not and (b) how will they get to regional airports.
 - (4) Will the teams use commercial flights for travel to the regional airports; if so, (a) are all the regional airports serviced daily by flights to one of Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, or Perth and (b) will the teams automatically be allocated seats on a flight to a regional airport and, if they will not automatically be allocated seats on a commercial flight, will he explain the arrangements in place for the allocation of seats to the teams.
 - (5) Which airports have been visited by a rapid response team and how much time did the team spend there.
 - (6) In respect of each visit to a regional airport by a rapid response team (a) what duties were performed by the team(s) at the airport and (b) how many passengers were screened by the team(s).
 - (7) Will regional airports in (a) South Australia, (b) Tasmania, (c) the Northern Territory, and (d) the Australian Capital Territory be protected by the rapid response teams; if not, why not; if so, which regional airports will be protected by the teams and, for each regional airport protected by the teams,

what is the (i) closest team base, (ii) distance to the closest team base in kilometres, and (iii) flying time from the closest base to the regional airport.

*682 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) To what extent is information acquired in criminal investigations shared between the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and state law enforcement agencies.
- (2) Is there a common computer network available to both Commonwealth and State law enforcement agencies for use in investigations as opposed to the information contained in Crimtrac.
- (3) In circumstances where an AFP officer is investigating a matter, are there procedures or computer systems that automatically advise a state police officer investigating a related matter of additional information that may be added to the AFP investigation files.
- (4) Are there procedures or computer systems that automatically advise AFP officers of additional information which may be added to State databases.
- (5) In circumstances where an AFP officer is investigating a matter, are there procedures or computer systems that automatically advise ASIO of any additional information that may be added to the Federal investigation files.
- (6) Are there such procedures computer systems that automatically advise AFP officers of additional information which may be added to ASIO databases.

*683 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What are the “agreed timeframes” for the assessment of temporary and permanent visa applications referred to at page 25 of the ASIO Report for 2003-2004.
- (2) Why were 38 per cent of permanent visa applications not assessed within the agreed timeframes in 2003-2004.

*684 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Can he confirm that the ASIO benchmark for the provision of security assessment advice in respect of new personnel in Commonwealth agencies is for 75 per cent to be completed within 14 days.
- (2) For each of the last four financial years, has ASIO met the 14 day benchmark for the completion of security assessment advice in respect of new personnel in Commonwealth agencies; if not, what proportion of assessments was completed within 14 days.
- (3) For each of the last four financial years, has ASIO met the 21 day benchmark for the completion of security assessment advice regarding new personnel in Commonwealth agencies; if not, what proportion of assessments was completed within 21 days.
- (4) Does ASIO maintain records of the Commonwealth agencies that request assessments and the number of assessments requested.
- (5) For each Commonwealth agency, how many assessments were not completed within (a) 14 and (b) 21 days.
- (6) Has ASIO conducted an inquiry into security issues arising from the failure by ASIO to achieve performance benchmarks in providing security assessment advice in respect of new personnel in Commonwealth agencies; if not, why not; if so, (i) when was it conducted, (ii) when was it completed, and (iii) what were its findings.
- (7) At 1 July 2003, how many assessment officers were engaged on providing security assessment advice in respect of new personnel in Commonwealth agencies.
- (8) In 2003-2004, how many assessment officers were temporarily required to work on “higher priorities”.
- (9) What were the “higher priorities” referred to on page 30 of the ASIO report for 2003-2004.

*685 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Has the scheme referred to on page 32 of the ASIO report for 2003-2004 to introduce a maritime security identification card for people working in the maritime industry been initiated; if not, why not; if so, how many people have undergone an ASIO security check under the scheme.
- (2) For how many persons does ASIO expect to provide security checks in (a) 2004-2005 and (b) 2005-2006.
- (3) Has ASIO consulted the maritime industry in respect of the implementation of this scheme; if so, (a) which maritime organisations, corporations or other bodies were consulted, (b) when they were consulted, and (c) what was the method of the consultation.

- (4) Were any other recommendations made by the Secretaries Committee on National Security in relation to the introduction of a maritime security identification card; if so, what were they.
- *686 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) How many of the 12 Top Secret (TS) facilities provided with reports by ASIO detailing the physical security improvements they required to meet minimum standards for TS certification have acted upon the reports.
 - (2) How many of the 12 facilities now meet minimum standards for TS certification.
 - (3) When does ASIO anticipate that all 12 facilities will meet the minimum standards for TS certification.
 - (4) What is the total anticipated cost of upgrading all 12 facilities to meet the minimum standards for TS certification.
 - (5) Does ASIO have guidelines indicating the maximum or benchmark period for TS facilities to comply when provided with a report by ASIO detailing physical security improvements required to meet minimum standards for TS certification; if so, (a) will he provide a copy and (b) how many of the 12 facilities have complied.
- *687 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) In respect of the report in the *West Australian* on 18 December 2004 that ASIO surveillance operatives following Faheem Khalid Lodhi prematurely intercepted a dead drop—a package deliberately left in a public place to be covertly collected later by another—does ASIO have a procedure regulating the circumstances in which a dead-drop is to be intercepted; if so, was it complied with in this instance.
 - (2) Has ASIO conducted an internal investigation into whether procedures were complied with in this instance; if not, why not; if so, has ASIO taken any action as a result of the findings and, if it did, what action was taken.
 - (3) Has ASIO conducted further investigation into the intended recipient of the dead drop.
- *688 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What were the process improvements recommended in the August 2003 review of the Joint Counter Terrorism Intelligence Coordination Unit processes and methods of operations which was referred to on page 43 of the ASIO report for 2003-2004.
 - (2) Have the process improvements been adopted by ASIO; if so, have they been implemented; if not, when will they be implemented.
- *689 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) How is information received on the National Security Hotline stored.
 - (2) Are there procedures providing for information to be checked against state criminal investigation databases.
 - (3) Do other law enforcement agencies, in particular, state law enforcement agencies, have access to the information provided on the hotline.
- *690 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Has ASIO conducted a threat assessment of the public transport system (other than aviation), in particular, has it been tasked with providing threat assessments in respect of commuter rail services in a State or States; if so, what is its assessment of the threat level facing commuter rail services in those States.
 - (2) To what extent is ASIO involved in rail security initiatives being discussed between the Commonwealth and the State and Territory Governments.
- *691 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Since Mr Willie Brigitte was deported from Australia, has ASIO had access to Mr Brigitte for the purpose of conducting an interview; if not, has ASIO or any other government agency sought access.
- *692 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Has ASIO sought or obtained details from authorities in the United States of America on Mr Omar Mohamed's activities when he was in Australia on the five occasions referred to on page 18 of the ASIO report for 2003-2004.
- *693 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Has the Attorney-General's Department provided policy advice to the Minister for Justice and Customs on the national regulation of firearms possession and ownership; if so, when and what was the nature the advice.

- (2) Did the advice concern (a) the use and storage of firearms by the private security industry, (b) firearms theft and diversion, (c) firearms importation, (d) film armourer regulations, (e) firearms manufacturing, (f) firearms training standards, (g) the regulation of weapons and crossbows, and (h) paintball regulations; if so, what was the nature of the advice in respect of each matter.

*694 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) When will the Government release an exposure draft bill, based on the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force, to implement new global standards to combat money laundering and terrorist financing.
- (2) What has been the reason for the delay in the release of the exposure draft bill.
- (3) Have the Financial Action Task Force recommendations been implemented.
- (4) Has his department provided any advice on the Financial Action Task Force.

*695 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) In respect of the statement on page 86 of his department's Report for 2003-2004 that, in June 2003, the Government had worked on proposals to solve the problem of identity misuse, had the Government considered legislation to establish a (a) proof-of-identity framework and (b) document verification service, prior to the 2004 Federal election; if so, does the Government intend to introduce legislation and, if it does, when.
- (2) Can he explain how the proof of identity framework will work.

*696 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) In respect of the 100,000 copies of the information kit *How to prevent and respond to identity theft* produced by his department during 2003-2004 for distribution to the public, on what basis was it determined who would receive the kits.
- (2) Have the kits been distributed; if not, when will they be distributed.
- (3) What sum was spent on the production and distribution of the kits.

*697 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Who was the Minister responsible for granting embryo export approvals in (a) 2002-2003 and (b) 2003-2004.
- (2) Has Regulation 7 of the *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1956* been amended in 2003-2004.

*698 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Has the Government ratified the United Nations Protocol To Prevent, Suppress And Punish Trafficking In Persons, Especially Women And Children; if not, why not.

*699 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) In respect of the review of protective security strategies for Australian office holders and diplomatic and consular missions referred to on page 111 of his department's Report for 2003-2004, (a) when was it conducted, (b) what were its outcomes, and (c) when will the outcomes be implemented.
- (2) Has the Government received any of the 10 armoured vehicles purchased for the protection of visiting foreign dignitaries referred to in his department's report for 2003-2004; if so, how many and on what date was each vehicle received; if not, when will the vehicles be delivered.
- (3) What sum was (a) allocated in 2003-2004 for, and (b) spent on, the purchase of the 10 armoured vehicles.

*700 **MS CORCORAN:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) How many aged care beds in (a) low care places, (b) high care places, (c) community aged care packages, and (d) extended aged care at home packages are there in the electoral division of Isaacs.
- (2) If the information requested in (1) is unavailable for the electoral division of Isaacs, what is it for the Aged Care Planning Region which includes the electoral division of Isaacs.

*701 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that on 5 November 2004 a young Iranian Christian man was taken from the Baxter Detention Centre, searched by 20 officers and then taken by charter plane to the Detention Centre at Perth Airport.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the young man was told that he was being relocated.

- (3) Is the Minister aware that if he is returned to Iran he will be punished or executed because of his religious beliefs.
 - (4) Can the Minister provide an assurance that if the young man is returned to Iran he will not be punished or sent to his death.
- *702 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Is the Minister aware that Mr Peter Qasim has been in detention in Australia for over six years.
 - (2) Is the Minister also aware that Mr Qasim has made several attempts to return to India and has been denied entry as a result of the Indian Government's refusal to accept the fact that he is a citizen of India.
 - (3) What action will the Minister take to ensure that Mr Qasim receives the appropriate humanitarian assistance to maximise his chances of being released from detention.
- *703 **MS GRIERSON:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—For the year (a) 2000, (b) 2001, (c) 2002, (d) 2003, and (e) 2004, how many laptop computers were stolen from, or otherwise remain unaccounted for at, the Australian Tax Office in (i) Newcastle, (ii) Albury-Wodonga, (iii) St Leonards, (iv) Hurstville, (v) Parramatta, (vi) Wollongong, and (vii) the Sydney CBD.
- *704 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Is he aware of a report prepared by the Parliamentary Library 'Medication for Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD): an analysis by Federal Electorate (2001 – 03)'.
 - (2) Can he explain the variation in prescriptions for dexamphetamine sulfate between electoral divisions; if not, why not.
 - (3) Does he plan to investigate the diagnosis and treatment of ADHD; if so, how will this be conducted and when; if not, why not.



I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives



OCCUPANTS OF THE CHAIR

The Speaker

Mr Hawker

The Deputy Speaker

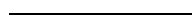
Mr Causley

The Second Deputy Speaker

Mr Jenkins

Speaker's Panel Members

Mr Adams, Mr Baldwin, Mrs B. K. Bishop, Mr Hatton, Mr Lindsay, Mr McMullan, Mr Quick, Mr Scott, Mr Somlyay, Mr Wilkie.



COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise shown, appointed for life of 41st Parliament

Standing

Pursuant to standing orders

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS: Mr Wakelin (*Chair*), Ms A. L. Ellis, Mr Garrett, Dr Lawrence, Mr Robb, Mr Slipper, Mr Snowdon, Dr Southcott, Mr Tuckey, Mrs D. S. Vale.

AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY: Mr Schultz (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr M. J. Ferguson, Mr M. D. Ferguson, Mr Forrest, Mr Lindsay, Mr G. M. O'Connor, Mr Secker, Mr Tuckey Mr Windsor.

Current inquiry:

The impact on agriculture of pest animals.

COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS: Jackie Kelly (*Chair*), Mrs B. K. Bishop, Mr Garrett, Mr Griffin, Mr Johnson, Mr Keenan, Dr Laming, Mr Murphy, Ms Owens, Mr Ticehurst.

ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION: Mr Baird (*Chair*), Mr Bowen, Mr Ciobo, Mr Fitzgibbon, Ms Grierson, Mr McArthur, Mr Robb, Mr Somlyay, Mr Tanner, Mr Turnbull.

Current inquiry:

Review of the Reserve Bank of Australia Annual Report 2004.

EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING: Mr Hartsuyker (*Chair*), Mr Bartlett, Ms Bird, Ms Corcoran, Mr Fawcett, Mr M. D. Ferguson, Mr Henry, Ms Livermore, Mrs Markus, Mr Sawford.

Current inquiry:

Teacher education.

EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION: Mr Barresi (*Chair*), Mr Baker, Mr A. S. Burke, Ms A. L. Ellis, Ms Hall, Mr Henry, Mrs May, Mr B. P. O'Connor, Mr Randall, Mr Vasta.

Current inquiries:

Increasing participation in paid work.

Independent contractors and labour hire arrangements.

ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE: Dr Washer (*Chair*), Mr Broadbent, Ms George, Ms Hoare, Mr Jenkins, Jackie Kelly, Mr Kerr, Mr McArthur, Mr Turnbull, Mr Wood.

Current inquiry:

Sustainable cities 2025.

FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES: Mrs B. K. Bishop (*Chair*), Mr Cadman, Ms K. M. Ellis, Mrs Elson, Mr Fawcett, Ms George, Mrs Irwin, Mrs Markus, Mr Quick, Mr Ticehurst.

Current inquiries:

Adoption of children from overseas.

Balancing work and family responsibilities.

The impact of illicit drug use on families.

HEALTH AND AGEING: Mr Somlyay (*Chair*), Mr Cadman, Mrs Elliot, Mrs Elson, Mr Georganas, Ms Hall, Mr Johnson, Ms King, Mr Turnbull, Mr Vasta.

HOUSE: The Speaker, Mr Baldwin, Mr Broadbent, Ms Hall, Mr Price, Mr Sawford, Mr Somlyay.

INDUSTRY AND RESOURCES: Mr Prosser (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mrs B. K. Bishop, Mr Cadman, Mr M. J. Ferguson, Mr Haase, Mr Hatton, Mr Katter, Jackie Kelly, Mr Tollner.

LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS: Mr Slipper (*Chair*), Mrs Hull, Mr Kerr, Mr Melham, Mr Murphy, Ms Panopoulos, Ms Roxon, Mr Secker, Mr Tollner, Mr Turnbull.

Current inquiry:

Harmonisation of legal systems.

LIBRARY: The Speaker, Mr Adams, Mr Broadbent, Mr Georgiou, Mr Hatton, Mrs Hull, Mr B. P. O'Connor.

MEMBERS' INTERESTS: Mr Ciobo (*Chair*), Mr Baldwin, Mr Byrne, Mr Jenkins, Mr Neville, Mr Quick, Mr C. P. Thompson.

PRIVILEGES: Mr C. P. Thompson (*Chair*), Mr Baldwin, Ms A. E. Burke, Mrs Draper, Mrs Gash, Mr Hartsuyker, Mr Melham, Mr McMullan, Ms Plibersek (nominee of the Deputy Leader of the Opposition), Mr Price, Mr Somlyay (nominee of the Leader of the House).

PROCEDURE: Mrs May (*Chair*), Mrs B. K. Bishop, Mrs Draper, Ms Hoare, Mr Melham, Mr Neville, Mr Price.

Current inquiry:

The standing orders relating to anticipation.

PUBLICATIONS: Mrs Draper (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Baker, Mr Baldwin, Ms Corcoran, Mrs Hull, Mr Price.

SCIENCE AND INNOVATION: Mr Georgiou (*Chair*), Mr Byrne, Mr Jenkins, Dr Jensen, Jackie Kelly, Mr Price, Mr Quick, Mr Tollner, Mrs D. S. Vale, Dr Washer.

SELECTION: Mr Causley (*Chair*), Mr Barresi, Mr Bartlett, Mr Danby, Mr Forrest, Mrs Gash, Ms Hall, Mr McArthur, Mr Neville, Mr Price, Mr Wilkie.

TRANSPORT AND REGIONAL SERVICES: Mr Neville (*Chair*), Ms Bird, Mr Gibbons, Mr Haase, Ms Hall, Dr Jensen, Mr McArthur, Mr Richardson, Mr Ripoll, Mr Schultz.

Joint Statutory

ASIO, ASIS AND DSD: Mr Jull (*Chair*), Mr Beazley, Mr Kerr, Mr McArthur, Senator Ferguson, Senator Sandy Macdonald, Senator Ray.

Current inquiries:

Review of listing of the Abu Sayyaf Group as a Terrorist Organisation under the *Criminal Code Amendment Act 2004*.

Review of listing of the Armed Islamic Group as a Terrorist Organisation under the *Criminal Code Amendment Act 2004*.

Review of listing of the Jamiat ul-Ansar (JuA) as a Terrorist Organisation under the *Criminal Code Amendment Act 2004*.

Review of listing of the Salafist Group for Call and Combat as a Terrorist Organisation under the *Criminal Code Amendment Act 2004*.

Review of listing of Al Qa'ida as a Terrorist Organisation under the *Criminal Code Amendment Act 2004*.

Review of listing of Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) as a Terrorist Organisation under the *Criminal Code Amendment Act 2004*.

Review of Division 3 Part III of the *ASIO Act 1979* under Part 4 Section 29 (bb)(i)(ii) and (c) of the *Intelligence Services Act 2001*.

Review of the administration, expenditure and financial statements of ASIO, ASIS and DSD.

AUSTRALIAN CRIME COMMISSION: Mr Byrne, Mrs Gash, Mr Kerr, Mr Richardson, Mr Wood, Senator Denman, Senator Ferris, Senator Greig, Senator Hutchins, Senator Santoro.

BROADCASTING OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS: The Speaker, The President, Mr Baldwin, Mr Bartlett, Mr Lindsay, Mr McMullan, Ms Vamvakinou, Senator Faulkner, Senator Ferris.

CORPORATIONS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES: Senator Chapman (*Chair*), Mr Bartlett, Mr Bowen, Ms A. E. Burke, Jackie Kelly, Mr McArthur, Senator Brandis, Senator Lundy, Senator Murray, Senator Wong.

Current inquiries:

Accounting Standards tabled in compliance with the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Exposure draft of the Corporations Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2005.

Regulation of property investment advice.

Regulation of the time share industry.

NATIVE TITLE AND THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LAND FUND: Mr McMullan, Mr Randall, Mr Slipper, Mr Tollner, Ms Vamvakinou, Senator Carr, Senator Crossin, Senator Johnston, Senator Lees, Senator Scullion.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT: Mr Baldwin (*Chair*), Mr Broadbent, Ms A. E. Burke, Ms Grierson, Jackie Kelly, Ms King, Dr Laming, Mr Somlyay, Mr Tanner, Mr Ticehurst, Senator Hogg, Senator Humphries, Senator Moore, Senator Murray, Senator Scullion, Senator Watson.

Current inquiries:

Indigenous law and justice.

Review of Auditor-General's reports, 3rd quarter 2003-2004.

Review of Auditor-General's reports, 4th quarter 2003-2004.

Review of Auditor-General's reports, 1st quarter 2004-2005.

Review of Auditor-General's reports, 2nd quarter 2004-2005.

PUBLIC WORKS: Mrs Moylan (*Chair*), Mr Forrest, Mr Jenkins, Mr B. P. O'Connor, Mr Ripoll, Mr Wakelin, Senator Ferguson, Senator Forshaw, Senator Judith Troeth.

Current inquiries:

Civic, ACT—Fitout of new leased premises for the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources.

London, UK—Proposed refurbishment of Australia House.

Maribyrnong, Vic—Additional accommodation and related works at Maribyrnong Immigration Detention Centre.

McDowall, Qld—Development of land for Defence housing.

Port Wakefield, SA—Ordnance breakdown facility, proof and experiment establishment site.

Puckapunyal, Vic—Development of on-base housing for Defence.

Singapore—Mid-life upgrade of existing chancery building for the Australian High Commission.

Joint Standing

ELECTORAL MATTERS: Mr A. D. H. Smith (*Chair*), Mr Ciobo, Mr Danby, Mr Melham, Ms Panopoulos, Senator Brandis, Senator Carr, Senator Forshaw, Senator Mason, Senator Murray (*Formed 18 November 2004*).

Current inquiries:

Conduct of the 2004 Federal Election.

Disclosure of donations to political parties and candidates.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE: Senator Ferguson (*Chair*), Mr Baird, Mr Baldwin, Mr Barresi, Mr Danby, Mrs Draper, Mr Edwards, Mrs Gash, Mr Gibbons, Mr Haase, Mr Hatton, Mr Jull, Mrs Moylan, Mr Prosser, Mr Scott, Mr Sercombe, Mr Snowdon, Mr Turnbull, Ms Vamvakinou, Mr Wakelin, Mr Wilkie, Senator Bolkus, Senator Cook, Senator Eggleston, Senator Harradine, Senator Hutchins, Senator Johnston, Senator Kirk, Senator Lundy, Senator Sandy Macdonald, Senator Payne, Senator Stott Despoja (*Formed 18 November 2004*).

MIGRATION: Mr Randall (*Chair*), Mr L. Ferguson, Mrs Irwin, Mr Keenan, Dr Lawrence, Dr Southcott, Senator Bartlett, Senator Eggleston, Senator Kirk, Senator Tchen (*Formed 18 November 2004*).

NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES: Senator Lightfoot (*Chair*), Ms A. L. Ellis, Mr Neville, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Secker, Mr Snowdon, Senator Crossin, Senator O'Brien, Senator Scullion, Senator Stott Despoja (*Formed 18 November 2004*).

Current inquiries:

Adequacy of funding for the Australian Antarctic Program.

Sustainability of government arrangements on Norfolk Island.

TREATIES: Dr Southcott (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Johnson, Mrs May, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Ripoll, Mr Scott, Mr Turnbull, Mr Wilkie, Senator Bartlett, Senator Collins, Senator Mackay, Senator Mason, Senator Santoro, Senator Stephens, Senator Tchen (*Formed 18 November 2004*).

Current inquiries:

Proposed agreement between Australia and the United States of America relating to the International Criminal Court.

Treaties tabled 7 December 2004 (V&P, 7 December 2004, page 100).

Treaties tabled 8 February 2005 (V&P, 8 February 2005, pages 141-2).

APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY BODIES

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES: Mr Somlyay (*appointed 15 May 2002, for a period of 3 years*).

COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA: Mr M. J. Ferguson (*elected 21 August 2002, for a period of 3 years*).

PARLIAMENTARY RETIRING ALLOWANCES TRUST: Mr Bartlett (*appointed 11 August 2004*), Mr Price (*appointed 1 December 2004*).