

2004-2005

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE PAPER

No. 29

MONDAY, 23 MAY 2005

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

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

Presentation and statements

- 1 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Report on the review of the Reserve Bank of Australia report for 2003-2004. (*Statements to conclude by 12.40 p.m.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Notices

- 1 **MR M. D. FERGUSON:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Flags Act 1953* to enable the flying of the Australian National Flag in a heritage place without unnecessary encumbrance. (*Flags Amendment (Flying the Australian National Flag in a Heritage Place) Bill 2005*) (*Notice given 10 May 2005. Time allowed—5 minutes.*)
- †2 **MR CADMAN:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises the 30th anniversary of the arrival in Australia in May 1975 of Vietnamese refugees, the beginning of the flow of refugee families;
 - (2) pays tribute to the courage, determination and commitment to freedom and democracy of those escaping the takeover of South Vietnam by the forces of the North;
 - (3) expresses its appreciation to all those who came from Vietnam, men, women and children, for their contribution to Australia, the economy, our culture and our values; and
 - (4) further pays tribute to the compassion and hospitality of the Australian people who so readily accepted the new arrivals. (*Notice given 10 May 2005. Time allowed—30 minutes.*)
- †3 **MR BOWEN:** To move—That this House calls on the Australian Government to make representations to the newly elected Transitional Government of Iraq to ensure that the Assyrian, Chaldaen, Syriac and Mandaean peoples of Iraq:
- (1) will be constitutionally guaranteed the right to freely exercise their customs, religion, language and traditions;
 - (2) are given the same protection by law enforcement and international security forces as other ethnic groups; and
 - (3) will be entitled to proper representation and participation in all levels of government. (*Notice given 7 March 2005. Time allowed—remaining private Members' business time prior to 1.45 p.m.*)
- †4 **MR BARTLETT:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes the role of the housing sector in job generation and the traditional role that investment properties play in people's retirement incomes;
 - (2) recognises the valuable assistance provided to first home owners by the Federal Government's First Home Owner Grant Scheme;

* *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.*

- (3) expresses its concern at the impact of the New South Wales Government's land tax increase and vendor tax on Australian investors, on the building industry and on property rents; and
- (4) calls on the New South Wales Government to overturn its inequitable and unproductive burden on the property sector and building industry. (*Notice given 10 May 2005. Time allowed—30 minutes.*)

†5 **MS HALL:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes this is the 90th anniversary of the Gallipoli campaign and in doing so remembers our most famous Anzac, Private John Simpson Kirkpatrick;
- (2) recognises the extraordinary deeds of John Simpson Kirkpatrick who demonstrated courage above and beyond the call of duty when he and his donkeys rescued injured soldiers from the battle fields in Gallipoli;
- (3) calls for the Government to award a posthumous Victoria Cross to 'Simpson' in this year of the 90th anniversary of Gallipoli and in accordance with the wishes of his WW1 Commanding Officers and the many thousands of Australians both young and old who demand this recognition for his acts of bravery;
- (4) believes it is a travesty of justice that he has been denied the award of the Victoria Cross for all these years; and
- (5) notes that all Australians would strongly support the posthumous awarding of this honour. (*Notice given 7 March 2005. 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. 1) 2005-2006** (*Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 May 2005—Mr Abbott*).
- 3 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 2) 2005-2006** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 10 May 2005—Ms Gillard*).
- 4 **APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL (NO. 1) 2005-2006** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 10 May 2005—Ms Gillard*).
- 5 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 5) 2004-2005** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 10 May 2005—Mr Sercombe*).
- 6 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 6) 2004-2005** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 10 May 2005—Mr Sercombe*).
- *7 **TAX LAWS AMENDMENT (PERSONAL INCOME TAX REDUCTION) BILL 2005** (*Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 May 2005—Ms Gillard*).
- 8 **SKILLING AUSTRALIA'S WORKFORCE BILL 2005** (*Minister for Vocational and Technical Education*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 May 2005—Ms Macklin*).
- 9 **SKILLING AUSTRALIA'S WORKFORCE (REPEAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Vocational and Technical Education*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 May 2005—Ms Macklin*).
- *10 **SUPERANNUATION BILL 2005** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 May 2005—Mr Fitzgibbon*).
- *11 **SUPERANNUATION (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2005** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 May 2005—Mr Snowden*).
- 12 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY PHARMACY AUTHORITY) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Ageing*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 May 2005—Ms Macklin*).
- 13 **AUSTRALIAN TECHNICAL COLLEGES (FLEXIBILITY IN ACHIEVING AUSTRALIA'S SKILLS NEEDS) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Vocational and Technical Education*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 May 2005—Mr McClelland*).

Notice

- 1 **MR ABBOTT:** To move—That standing order 47 be suspended for the remainder of this period of sittings, except when a motion is moved pursuant to the standing order by a Minister.

Orders of the day—continued

- *14 **TAX LAWS AMENDMENT (2005 MEASURES NO. 3) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 May 2005—Mr Fitzgibbon*).
- 15 **HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT AMENDMENT (MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY PRIVATE) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Education, Science and Training*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 16 March 2005—Mr G. M. O'Connor*).
- 16 **TAX LAWS AMENDMENT (2005 MEASURES NO. 2) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 March 2005—Mr McClelland*).
- 17 **BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IMPROVEMENT BILL 2005** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2005—Mr McClelland*).
- 18 **BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY IMPROVEMENT (CONSEQUENTIAL AND TRANSITIONAL) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2005—Mr McClelland*).
- 19 **HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT AMENDMENT (ABOLITION OF COMPULSORY UP-FRONT STUDENT UNION FEES) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Education, Science and Training*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 May 2005—Mr Keenan*).
- 20 **NEW INTERNATIONAL TAX ARRANGEMENTS (FOREIGN-OWNED BRANCHES AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 March 2005—Ms George*).
- 21 **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*).
- 22 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (BETTER BARGAINING) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2005—Mr McClelland*).
- 23 **OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT) AMENDMENT (PROMOTING SAFER WORKPLACES) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2005—Mr McClelland*).
- 24 **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”.
- 25 **COPYRIGHT AMENDMENT (FILM DIRECTORS' RIGHTS) BILL 2005** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 March 2005—Ms George*).
- 26 **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*).
- 27 **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*).
- 28 **POSTAL INDUSTRY OMBUDSMAN BILL 2005** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 9 March 2005*).
- 29 **PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE ON CORPORATIONS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES:** Consideration of Senate’s message No. 4. (*from 29 November 2004*).

- 30 **AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY AGENCY—QUARTERLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE PERIOD 1 OCTOBER TO 31 DECEMBER 2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 May 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the document.
- 31 **REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY REFORMS—INQUIRY REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 May 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 32 **FOREIGN INVESTMENT REVIEW BOARD—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—CORRIGENDUM—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 May 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 33 **TOBACCO ADVERTISING PROHIBITION ACT 1992—REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY TO 31 DECEMBER 2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 16 March 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the document.
- 34 **DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY—MID-YEAR ECONOMIC AND FISCAL OUTLOOK 2004-2005—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 March 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the document.
- 35 **DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS—2004 ACCESS AND EQUITY ANNUAL REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 March 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the document.
- 36 **AUSTRALIAN TECHNOLOGY GROUP LIMITED—2004 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 March 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the document.
- 37 **SINGAPORE-AUSTRALIA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT AMENDMENTS—TREATY—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 March 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr McGauran—That the House take note of the document.
- 38 **AUSTRALIA'S AID: AN INTEGRATED APPROACH—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 March 2005—Mr Downer*) on the motion of Mr Downer—That the House take note of the document.
- 39 **MIGRATION AGENTS REGISTRATION AUTHORITY—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 40 **INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS—VIEWS—COMMUNICATION NO. 1011/2001—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 41 **CORRIGENDA TO INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD REPORT FOR 2003-2004—DOCUMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 March 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 42 **POOLED DEVELOPMENT FUNDS REGISTRATION BOARD—REPORT FOR 2003-2004—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 March 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 43 **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.
- 44 **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.
- 45 **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.
- 46 **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.

- 47 **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.
- 48 **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.
- 49 **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.
- 50 **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.
- 51 **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.
- 52 **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.
- 53 **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.
- 54 **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.
- 55 **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.
- 56 **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.
- 57 **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.
- 58 **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.
- 59 **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.
- 60 **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.
- 61 **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.
- 62 **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.
- 63 **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.
- 64 **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.

- 65 **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.
- 66 **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*).
 Customs Tariff Proposal No. 2 (2005)—*moved 10 May 2005*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Sercombe*).
- 67 **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*) 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 5 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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*) 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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 3 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT—EXPANDING AUSTRALIA'S TRADE AND INVESTMENT RELATIONS WITH THE GULF STATES—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 March 2005*) on the motion of Mr Baird—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 23 May 2005.*)
- 4 **ASIO, ASIS AND DSD—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT—REVIEW OF THE LISTING OF SIX TERRORIST ORGANISATIONS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 March 2005*) on the motion of Mr McArthur—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 23 May 2005.*)
- 5 **PROCEDURE—STANDING COMMITTEE—THE ANTICIPATION RULE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 March 2005*) on the motion of Mrs May—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 23 May 2005.*)
- 6 **ASIO, ASIS AND DSD—PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF ADMINISTRATION AND EXPENDITURE FOR ASIO, ASIS AND DSD—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 March 2005*) on the motion of Mr McArthur—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 23 May 2005.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS—*continued*

Notices given for Monday, 23 May 2005

1 MR GEORGANAS: To move—That this House:

- (1) notes that:
 - (a) since the abolition of the Commonwealth Dental Program waiting lists for dental services have increased by over 30 per cent;
 - (b) an increasing number of Australians are unable to afford private dental treatment and are waiting up to 5 years for dental care;
 - (c) older Australians, in particular, are at risk of poor health and a diminished quality of life as a result of long waiting lists and the lack of affordability of private dental services and private health insurance;
 - (d) the working poor, ineligible for health care cards and unable to afford private health insurance, are either postponing essential dental care, or risking high interest health credit products to access essential dental care to avoid further work absence;
 - (e) poor dental health can contribute to deterioration in overall health and can lead to premature admission to nursing homes or even death;
 - (f) oral health issues are often divorced from mainstream health issues even though there is a strong link between poor dental health and health problems such as diabetes, stroke, heart disease, endocarditis, and nutritional deficiencies;
 - (g) the postponement of dental treatment has led to an increase in the demand for emergency dental care, exacerbating ongoing preventative treatments which provides greatest long term benefits to both the community and the Commonwealth budget; and
 - (h) early intervention is important for maintaining a healthy and quality lifestyle and reducing future burdens on the health system; and
- (2) calls on the Government to:
 - (a) recognise Ben Chifley's vision when he amended the Constitution in 1946 to recognise dental treatment as a legitimate medical treatment;
 - (b) acknowledge that existing policies, as highlighted by the House of Representatives Inquiry into Long Term Strategies for Ageing Over the Next 40 years, "fall short of providing access to preventative dental care";
 - (c) reinstate a Commonwealth dental program, and adopt Labor's Australian Dental Care plan; and
 - (d) work cooperatively with the States and Territories to ensure that services are delivered to the most vulnerable in our community, including the elderly and the working poor. (*Notice given 12 May 2005.*)

2 MS A. E. BURKE: To move—That this house:

- (1) notes that there has been an increased global trend for companies to relocate various parts of their operations to locations outside of the country where the service is being delivered - a practice often referred to as off-shoring;
- (2) notes that the practice of off-shoring has seen jobs and skills lost from the IT and finance sector in Australia and that Deloitte Research predicts that 15% of all financial sector jobs will be moved off-shore by 2008;
- (3) recognises that participating in the global economy may deliver lower costs for local consumers and companies, however it must be done in a transparent and equitable manner; and
- (4) calls on the Government to act now, before the flood of jobs offshore sees Australia losing out, by:
 - (a) ensuring privacy protection for consumers;
 - (b) providing consumers with a "right to know" so that service providers disclose the country of origin which provides their services, equivalent to country of origin product labelling;
 - (c) developing a national skills base that is suited to the changing needs of the economy;

- (d) providing assistance in reskilling displaced workers; and
 - (e) ensuring employees of the country where the jobs are relocated are also protected by ILO Labour Standards. (*Notice given 12 May 2005.*)
- 3 **MS KING:** To move—That this House:
- (1) recognises that:
 - (a) symphysis pubis dysfunction (SPD) or pelvic instability in pregnant women can affect 1 in 36 pregnant women; and
 - (b) the condition can be debilitating with symptoms ranging from pain in the front and back of the pelvis, to difficulty walking, bending or straddling and an inability to carry out many daily activities;
 - (2) congratulates the newly formed Pelvic Instability Association for its work to raise awareness of this condition; and
 - (3) urges the Government to:
 - (a) further promote awareness of pelvic instability in pregnant women;
 - (b) fund Australian-based research into its incidence and guidelines for treatment and rehabilitation; and
 - (c) provide assistance to the Pelvic Instability Association in supporting women with this condition. (*Notice given 12 May 2005.*)
- 4 **MR KERR:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* to deny election funding to political candidates accepting gifts derived from tobacco smoking, and for related purposes. (*Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Preventing Smoking Related Deaths) Bill 2005*) (*Notice given 12 May 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 3 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 3 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 4 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 4 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

5 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 4 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

6 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 4 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

7 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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 8 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

- 9 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

- 10 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

- 11 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

12 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

13 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

14 **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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

15 **MR PRICE:** To move—That this House:

- (1) congratulates the Rotary Club of Mt. Druitt on the occasion of Rotary's 100th anniversary;
- (2) congratulates Mt Druitt, Blacktown and Prospect Rotary on the occasion of their successful combined anniversary dinner at Bowman Hall, Blacktown and Master of Ceremonies Fr Patrick Colbourne;
- (3) notes that the Rotary Club of Mt. Druitt has been committed to serving the local community since it was established on 24 September 1969;
- (4) values the contribution that the Rotary Club of Mt. Druitt has made to the local community through its extensive charity and fundraising work; and
- (5) congratulates the president of the Rotary Club of Mt Druitt, Mr Bob White, his committee and members for their leadership in our community. (*Notice given 7 March 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

16 **MR ANDREN:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the current situation in Australia and elsewhere of commercial enterprises using legal action to silence protesters;
- (2) notes that in the United States these suits are known as 'Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation' or 'SLAPP' suits;
- (3) notes that in many cases SLAPP suits have no real legal foundation, but their aim is to intimidate individual protesters into silence by the prospect of costly and time-consuming legal action;
- (4) notes that common law action against protesters may take several different forms, including the torts of nuisance, unlawful interference in business, conspiracy to damage commercial interests and defamation, and that such torts are largely areas of State jurisdiction;
- (5) notes that SLAPP suits could be discouraged if State Governments legislated to allow for the summary dismissal of unsoundly based SLAPP suits;
- (6) notes that the insertion of an express right of freedom of speech in the Constitution, to impress upon courts that common law torts should be interpreted so as to ensure the protection of freedom of speech would also discourage unsound SLAPP suits;

- (7) calls on State Governments, through the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General, to establish preliminary procedures which would allow unsoundly based SLAPP suits to be dismissed by a court at an early stage in proceedings;
- (8) encourages the Attorney-General to place this matter on the agenda of the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General; and
- (9) supports a referendum to amend the Constitution to include express recognition of the right of freedom of speech. (*Notice given 7 March 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 17 **MR ALBANESE:** To move—That:
- (1) this House recognises:
- (a) the significant contribution Clean Up Australia has made to the Australian environment and community over the last 15 years;
- (b) the 6 million Australians who have volunteered their time since 1989 to help Clean Up Australia make a difference to their local environment;
- (c) that over the past 15 years Clean Up Australia volunteers have collected more than 196,000 tonnes of rubbish;
- (d) that on Sunday 6 March 2005 more than 700,000 Australians volunteered to help clean up Australia; and
- (e) that over 35 million volunteers from 114 countries participated in Clean Up the World in September 2004, making it the world's largest community based environmental event; and
- (2) Parliament congratulates Ian Kiernan for his outstanding leadership of Clean Up Australia and, more recently, Clean Up the World. (*Notice given 7 March 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 18 **MS HALL:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes the vital importance of the Aeropelican air service which operates out of Belmont in Lake Macquarie between Belmont and Sydney and is appalled at the owner's decision to cease operation out of Belmont;
- (2) notes that there is no other commercial air service operating out of either Lake Macquarie or the Central Coast of New South Wales;
- (3) recognises that Aeropelican is vital regional infrastructure which provides essential public transport;
- (4) notes that air travel from Williamtown is not a viable option for people living in Lake Macquarie and on the Central Coast of New South Wales when they travel to Sydney, and that the closure of Aeropelican will increase the traffic on the F3 Freeway between Lake Macquarie and Sydney; and
- (5) notes the transfer of Aeropelican's air service to Williamtown will result in staff losing their jobs. (*Notice given 10 March 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 19 **MRS ELLIOT:** To move—That this House:
- (1) congratulates the members of the local Volunteer Coast Guard Associations on the service they provide to the community;
- (2) notes that the Association has been served by dedicated volunteers who have selflessly serviced the community in the Federal electorate of Richmond;
- (3) expresses the appreciation of the countless recreational boat users whose lives have been saved as a result of this service;
- (4) values the contribution they have made to North Coast tourism by their contribution to safer boating; and
- (5) expresses the deep appreciation of the constituents of Richmond for their work past, present and future. (*Notice given 14 March 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 20 **MRS ELLIOT:** To move—That this House:
- (1) values the contribution of serving men and women of the Australian Defence Forces, past and present;
- (2) appreciates the sacrifices of their friends and family and in particular all those who have suffered as a result of their service;

- (3) notes that the TPI veterans pensions are not fully indexed to Male Average Weekly Earnings;
- (4) supports the TPI Association's call for an improvement in TPI pensions; and
- (5) calls on the Howard Government to provide fewer words and more action on this issue. (*Notice given 14 March 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

21 **MS VAMVAKINOU:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review conference commencing on 1 May 2005 in New York and the vital importance of the NPT as an instrument of both nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;
- (2) expresses its deep concern over the:
 - (a) proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and
 - (b) danger to humanity posed by the possible use of nuclear weapons;
- (3) acknowledges the significant steps taken towards nuclear disarmament since the previous NPT Review conference including the signing of the Strategic Offensive Reductions Treaty between Russia and the United States of America in 2002 and calls for the full implementation of all relevant articles of the treaty including Articles I and II on non-proliferation and Article VI on the achievement of general and complete disarmament;
- (4) affirms the vital importance of the unequivocal undertaking made at the 2002 NPT Review conference by the nuclear weapons states, to accomplish the elimination of nuclear weapons arsenals, and of the 13 steps agreed to at that meeting;
- (5) urges the Government to:
 - (a) pursue a balanced and integrated approach on both disarmament and non-proliferation at the NPT Review Conference,
 - (b) call on the nuclear weapons states and nuclear capable states not to develop new types of nuclear weapons, in accordance with the commitment to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in security policies, and
 - (c) call for concrete agreed steps by nuclear weapons states and nuclear capable states to lower the operating status of nuclear weapons systems in their possession, as called for by Australia's L23 Path to a Nuclear Free World;
- (6) welcomes the appeal, signed by 30 Nobel prize-winners, calling on the governments of the United States of America, Russia, China, France, the United Kingdom, India, Pakistan, Israel and North Korea, to support and implement steps to lower the operational status of their nuclear weapon systems in order to reduce the risk of nuclear catastrophe;
- (7) notes and strongly affirms continued efforts by the Government to secure universal adherence to, and ratification of, the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) and urges the Government to press for the early entry into force of the CTBT; and
- (8) requests that this resolution be conveyed to the foreign ministries and United Nations (UN) missions of all participants in the NPT Review conference, the UN Secretary-General, the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Chair of the 2005 NPT Review conference, as well as the governments of India, Pakistan and Israel. (*Notice given 17 March 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

22 **MR HARTSUYKER:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the results of research which indicates that indoor air pollution can represent a significant threat to the health of Australians;
- (2) notes that levels of indoor air pollution can be up to ten times greater than acceptable standards for outside air quality;
- (3) notes that unflued gas heaters are responsible for high levels of nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide, formaldehyde and carbon dioxide in the home or school; and
- (4) recognises the need for Government to establish standards in relation to indoor air quality and products which can generate pollutants within an indoor environment. (*Notice given 17 March 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

23 MR PRICE: To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises the devastating impact of the Boxing Day earthquakes and tsunamis;
- (2) thanks the Australian public for its generous response to the tragedy;
- (3) notes that 16 January 2005 was observed as a National Day of Mourning and Remembrance for victims of the tsunami;
- (4) proposes that from next year onwards, 16 January should be marked as a National Day for Giving to Humanity: a day for us to remember the victims of all disasters, natural and man-made, and a reminder of the benevolence that Australians are capable of towards our fellow man irrespective of race, colour or religion. (*Notice given 10 May 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

24 MR M. J. FERGUSON: To move—That this House:

- (1) notes:
 - (a) the important role played by the National Library of Australia in building a collection of digital publications so that all Australians can freely and easily access information online now and in the future—in effect, an Australian national digital library;
 - (b) that the National Library of Australia is collecting, preserving and providing public access to a selection of Australian publications that exist only on the Internet in digital form;
 - (c) that the National Library of Australia is creating digital images of items in its Australian collection so that Australians outside Canberra can have access to Australia's documentary heritage over the Internet;
 - (d) that the National Library of Australia is collaborating with the Australian library sector in an attempt to provide all Australians with access to journals in digital form that are purchased from major Australian and overseas publishers; and
 - (e) the launch in December 2004 by the National Library of Australia of a major new service, Libraries Australia, which provides information about, and access to, 13 million resources held in Australia's libraries; and
- (2) calls on the Government to support Australia's National Digital Library by:
 - (a) considering the need for funding a national digital library (the governments of New Zealand and the United States have done this); and
 - (b) recognising the need for a whole-of-government approach to ensure that Commonwealth Government publications in digital form are reported to the National Library of Australia and permission is accorded to the National Library by government agencies for the collecting, provision of public access to and preservation of these publications. (*Notice given 10 May 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

25 MRS MOYLAN: To move—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges concern for the global incidence and impact of HIV/Aids, particularly in the Asia/Pacific area;
- (2) notes that UNAIDS expects that Asia will overtake Africa in absolute numbers of HIV infection by the year 2010 and that 40% of new infections will be in Asia/Pacific by 2010 if the region is unsuccessful in turning the epidemic around;
- (3) recognises the strong link between injecting drug use and HIV transmission in parts of Asia;
- (4) commends the Australian Government for the programs funded through AusAID in Asia and acknowledges the co-operation of countries and agencies working with AusAID staff abroad;
- (5) commends the tremendous work carried out in the field by staff of AusAID and the difficult conditions under which they often work;
- (6) recognises that HIV/Aids epidemics among injecting drug users can be prevented, stabilised and reversed, through timely and vigorous interventions;
- (7) whilst not condoning illicit drug use, endorses support for continuing to fund harm reductions strategies; and
- (8) acknowledges the Australian Government's strong and longstanding support of international efforts to expand the response to the HIV/Aids epidemic through increased resources and political commitment. (*Notice given 10 May 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

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

- (1) notes:
 - (a) that in the last census, there were an estimated 100,000 homeless people in Australia; and
 - (b) the high social costs of homelessness; and
- (2) recognises that:
 - (a) the reasons behind homelessness are complex and varied but that governments do have a role to play in ameliorating homelessness; and
 - (b) the joint Commonwealth/State funded Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) is an example of a vital service provided to the homeless and to those at risk of homelessness; and
- (3) calls on the Federal Government to:
 - (a) promote awareness of the issue of homelessness among the public;
 - (b) develop strategies aimed at preventing homelessness;
 - (c) work co-operatively with other levels of government to reduce homelessness;
 - (d) increase funding for crisis accommodation and support; and
 - (e) set realistic targets for the reduction of homelessness. (*Notice given 10 May 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)

27 **MR WINDSOR:** To present a Bill for an Act concerning ethanol content in fuel. (*Fuel Quality Standards (Ethanol Content) Amendment Bill 2005*) (*Notice given 10 May 2005. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 6 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 11 **MARITIME SALVAGE:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 March 2005*) on the motion of Mr M. J. Ferguson—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 12 **ADOPTION:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 March 2005*) on the motion of Mr M. D. Ferguson—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;
 - (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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 13 **LANGUAGE:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 March 2005*) on the motion of Ms Vamvakinou—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 14 **AUSTRALIA-CHINA TRADE:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 March 2005*) on the motion of Mr Johnson—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 15 **ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 March 2005*) on the motion of Mr Lindsay—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 16 **TRAFFICKING FOR SEXUAL SERVITUDE:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 March 2005*) on the motion of Mr Price—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 17 **LEBANON'S FORMER PRIME MINISTER, MR RAFIK HARIRI:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 March 2005*) on the motion of Ms Owens—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 2005.*)
- 18 **MENTAL ILLNESS:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 March 2005*) on the motion of Mrs Gash—That this House:
- (1) notes:
 - (a) the prevalence of mental illness in Australia and its impact on the community;
 - (b) the concerns expressed by the community for the need to improve mental health services; and
 - (c) the need to increase funding to mental health services and to provide proper care to those afflicted with serious mental illness; and
 - (2) calls on all Governments:
 - (a) to work cooperatively to increase their contribution towards funding mental health services and to maintain that support in real terms;
 - (b) to take urgent steps to address the prevalence of cases that are not properly and fully managed;
 - (c) to review the policies that allow people with serious mental illness to live virtually unattended in the community;
 - (d) to increase efforts to assist in the early identification of mental illness cases and to put in place early intervention measures, particularly amongst the young;

- (e) to investigate the high rate of mental illness that has been found amongst prisoners in our jails with the view of providing appropriate care; and
- (f) instigate research to determine precisely the extent of the problem in Australia. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 23 May 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 **PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (EXCISE) LEVIES AMENDMENT (RICE) BILL 2005** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 10 March 2005—Mr G. M. O'Connor*).
- 2 **DEATH OF THE HONOURABLE SIR JOHANNES BJELKE-PETERSEN, KCMG—COPY OF THE CONDOLENCE MOTION MOVED BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 12 May 2005—Mr Georganas*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 3 **DEATH OF THE HONOURABLE ALBERT JAIME GRASSBY, AM—COPY OF THE CONDOLENCE MOTION MOVED BY THE PRIME MINISTER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 May 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 4 **DEATH OF HIS HOLINESS POPE JOHN PAUL II—COPY OF THE CONDOLENCE MOTION MOVED BY THE PRIME MINISTER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 May 2005—Ms Gillard*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 5 **60TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY—COPY OF THE MOTION OF THANKS MOVED BY THE PRIME MINISTER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 12 May 2005—Ms J. Bishop*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 6 **IRAQ: AUSTRALIAN TASK GROUP DEPLOYMENT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 March 2005—Mr Ticehurst*) on the motion of Mr Abbott—That the House take note of the document.
- 7 **INDIAN OCEAN TSUNAMI—COPY OF MOTION BY THE PRIME MINISTER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 March 2005—Mr Baldwin*) on the motion of Mr Pearce—That the House take note of the document.

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

Order of the day

- 1 **EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—WORKING FOR AUSTRALIA'S FUTURE: INCREASING PARTICIPATION IN THE WORKFORCE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 14 March 2005*) on the motion of Mr Barresi—That the House take note of the report.
- 2 **HEALTH AND AGEING—STANDING COMMITTEE—FUTURE AGEING: REPORT ON A DRAFT REPORT OF THE 40TH PARLIAMENT: INQUIRY INTO LONG-TERM STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THE AGEING OF THE AUSTRALIAN POPULATION OVER THE NEXT 40 YEARS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENT:** Resumption of debate (*from 17 March 2005—Jackie Kelly*) on the motion of Mr Somlyay—That the House take note of the report.



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

- 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.
- 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 Minister for Revenue and Assistant 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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.

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.

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.

18 November 2004

- 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.
- 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

- 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).

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

8 December 2004

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.

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.

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.

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.

8 February 2005

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.

416 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—Further to the answer to question No. 71 (*Hansard*, 9 February 2005, page 80), 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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, (a) what sum was spent on advertising, (c) what sum was allocated for administration, and (d) what sum was spent on administration.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

9 February 2005

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.

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.

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.

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.

10 February 2005

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.

14 February 2005

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 ANOA.
- (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.

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.

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

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.

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.

16 February 2005

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.
- 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.
- 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.

17 February 2005

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

7 March 2005

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.

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

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

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.

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.

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

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.

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 Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (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.

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.

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.

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.

8 March 2005

710 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport—

- (1) In respect of the decision to disband the Community Cultural Development Board (CCDB) of the Australia Council, (a) when was it made, (b) what were the reasons for it, and (c) was there any community consultation prior to the decision; if not, why not.
- (2) What plans are in place to ensure the body of specialist skill and expertise built up within the CCDB is not lost to the organisation.
- (3) What is the position of staff who previously worked for the CCDB in terms of their ongoing employment.
- (4) For each year from 1996 to 2004, what sums were allocated by the Council to the CCDB.
- (5) For each year from 1996 to 2004, in respect of each project funded by the CCDB in the Illawarra region, (a) what was its nature and (b) what sum was it allocated.
- (6) What assurances can be given to community groups that there will be no loss of overall funding to the community arts sector and that projects and activities embracing diverse communities will continue to be supported and funded.

712 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—For the electoral division of Batman, (a) how many operational aged care beds are there, (b) how many additional beds have been approved, (c) when were the additional beds approved, and (d) to which organisations were the additional beds allocated.

717 **MS LIVERMORE:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) For the financial year 2003-2004, how many individuals (a) in total, and (b) in the postcode area (i) 4699, (ii) 4700, (iii) 4701, (iv) 4702, (v) 4703, (vi) 4704, (vii) 4705, (viii) 4706, (ix) 4707, (x) 4710, (xi) 4712, (xii) 4713, (xiii) 4714, (xiv) 4715, (xv) 4716, (xvi) 4717, (xvii) 4718, (xviii) 4719, (xix) 4721, (xx) 4741, (xxi) 4742, (xxii) 4743, (xxiii) 4744, (xxiv) 4745, (xxv) 4746, and (xxvi) 4804 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.

718 **MS LIVERMORE:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Child Support Agency clients currently reside in (a) Queensland, (b) the electoral division of Capricornia, and (c) the postcode area (i) 4699, (ii) 4700, (iii) 4701, (iv) 4702, (v) 4703, (vi) 4704, (vii) 4705, (viii) 4706, (ix) 4707, (x) 4710, (xi) 4712, (xii) 4713, (xiii) 4714, (xiv) 4715, (xv) 4716, (xvi) 4717, (xvii) 4718, (xviii) 4719, (xix) 4721, (xx) 4741, (xxi) 4742, (xxii) 4743, (xxiii) 4744, (xxiv) 4745, (xxv) 4746, and (xxvi) 4804.

MS LIVERMORE: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 723 - 725)—

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

723 **MS LIVERMORE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

724 **MS LIVERMORE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.

725 **MS LIVERMORE:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

726 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—Further to the answer to question No. 47 (*Hansard*, 16 February 2005, page 161), have the figures provided in the answer been confirmed by both the internal and external auditors examining the receipts from the Collector of Public Monies, the section

93 receipts and the figures published in the departmental financial statements prepared for the annual reports from 1998-1999 to 2003-2004; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.

9 March 2005

730 **MS ROXON:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he aware of the case of Ms Vivienne Phillips-Crole, a Family Law matter which was heard by Justice Hannon.
- (2) Is he aware of a delay in the delivery of the judgment in this case; if so, what action has the Government taken in this matter.
- (3) Is he aware of other matters before Justice Hannon that have involved delays in the delivery of a judgment; if so, how many.
- (4) Has the Government taken any action in relation to delays in matters being heard by Justice Hannon.
- (5) How many Family Law matters take (a) 0-6 months, (b) 6-12 months, (c) 12-18 months, (d) 18-24 months, and (e) 24 months or more between the final hearing and the delivery of judgment.
- (6) Have Act of Grace payments ever been made to litigants in Family Law matters; if so, (a) how often and (b) what sum has been paid in each instance.
- (7) What are the criteria for making an Act of Grace payment.
- (8) Have Act of Grace payments ever been made to litigants in other matters where the Commonwealth is not a party; if so, (a) how often and (b) what sum has been paid in each instance.

734 **MR HATTON:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) What is the name and street address of each aged care facility in the electoral division of Blaxland that receives Commonwealth funding.
- (2) Have any facilities in part (1) failed accreditation; if so, which facilities.
- (3) Has a surprise inspection of any facility in part (1) been undertaken by the Department of Health and Ageing; if so, what was the date of each inspection.

736 **MRS ELLIOT:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) How many community aged care packages (CAPs) have been allocated in the electoral division of Richmond during 2004-2005 and what proportion of the demand for these places have they met.
- (2) Which organisations in the electoral division of Richmond received funding for the packages.
- (3) How many CAPs have aged care providers in the electoral division of Richmond applied for in 2004-2005.
- (4) How many CAPs have been allocated in the electoral division of McPherson.
- (5) How many extended aged care at home (EACH) packages have been allocated in the electoral division of Richmond during 2004-2005 and what proportion of the demand for these places have they met.
- (6) Which organisations in the electoral division of Richmond received funding for EACH packages.
- (7) How many EACH packages have aged providers in the electoral division of Richmond applied for in 2004-2005.
- (8) How many EACH packages have been allocated in the electoral division of McPherson.
- (9) Is she aware that there is a six to seven month waiting list for people living in the electoral division of Richmond to access CAPs or EACH packages.

742 **MS CORCORAN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) For the financial year 2003-2004, how many individuals (a) in total and (b) in the postcode area (i) 3195, (ii) 3175, (iii) 3196, (iv) 3197, (v) 3201, (vi) 3192, (vii) 3174, (viii) 3173, (ix) 3975, (x) 3194, (xi) 3172, and (xii) 3977 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.

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

- (1) When does the department expect that the final decision will be made on permanent protection for asylum seekers who landed by boat in 2001.

- (2) If an asylum seeker's claim is rejected, does he or she have a right to apply to the Refugee Review Tribunal for review; if so, what is the estimated cost of such a review.
 - (3) Where the review process concurs with the original decision, what right of appeal is there to the (a) Federal Court and (b) High Court and what is the estimated cost of an appeal.
 - (4) At what stage in the appeal process will the applicant (a) become ineligible for Medicare benefits and (b) lose permission to work.
 - (5) At what stage in the appeal process is an applicant detained.
- 753 **MR L. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) What commitment has the Minister's department given to support staff named in legal action by dissatisfied clients.
 - (2) How many DIMIA staff have been named personally in legal action by dissatisfied clients.
 - (3) What guarantees of indemnity exist for financial damages or penalties awarded against staff, even when the staff member has shown due diligence in an affected case.
 - (4) Why have some staff not been informed that they have been named in an action in relation to their duties as a DIMIA officer.
- 754 **MR L. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—How many detainees have been in detention for over (a) 4 years, (b) 3.5 years, (c) 3 years, (d) 2.5 years, (e) 2 years, (f) 1.5 years, and (g) 1 year.
- 757 **MR L. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Can the Minister confirm reports of an alleged beating by GSL guards of Mr Ghorban Ali Barzegar Toppeh at the Villawood detention centre, or any other detention centre, while he was in the custody of the Minister's department.
- 758 **MR L. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Is the Minister aware that Mr Woo Jin Park, who formally worked at Unit 12, 5 Bayview Avenue, The Entrance, NSW, fled when confronted by Immigration officers.
 - (2) Is the Minister aware that Mr Park was deported as an illegal overstayer and used a fake company to subcontract his services to the Di Lorenzo Company of Sydney.
 - (3) Can the Minister advise of the circumstances surrounding this case.
 - (4) Is the Minister aware that Mr Jin Park has returned to Australia on a false passport under a different name and has been seen by former co-workers.
- 763 **MR L. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) How many individuals were held in the management unit, Red One, at Baxter Detention Centre for (a) less than one week, (b) more than one week, and (c) more than one month.
 - (2) On how many occasions has each individual in (1) been held in the unit at the centre during 2004.
 - (3) What is the management charter in respect of periods of solitary confinement.
 - (4) For what periods of time may detainees be held in the unit.
- 773 **MR B. P. O'CONNOR:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—When sending a debt notice, what obligations does Centrelink have to its clients in respect of (a) an explanation of the reason for the alleged debt, (b) a presumption of a client's innocence in respect of the alleged debt, (c) the time permitted for a client to respond to the alleged debt, and (d) the time from notification of a debt before requiring repayment.
- 775 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Can he confirm that the (a) Whitlam, (b) Fraser, (c) Hawke, and (d) Keating Government provided funding for mass transit or light rail projects; if not, why not.
 - (2) What funding has the Government provided for mass transit or light rail projects and where are the projects located.
 - (3) What is the Government doing to assist state and local governments to promote public transport and alleviate traffic congestion in (a) Sydney and (b) Australia's other major cities.

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

- (1) Has he read the article titled 'Anderson spurns call for advisory body' in the *Australian Financial Review* on 8 March 2005 which reported that he rejected the need for a new national infrastructure advisory council to co-ordinate a national response to Australia's infrastructure crisis.
- (2) Can he confirm that a national infrastructure advisory council would be able to independently determine state and federal responsibilities and promote private investment in rail, road, water and energy projects; if not, why not.
- (3) Can he confirm that The Business Council of Australia and the Australian Council for Infrastructure Development believe a national infrastructure advisory council is necessary; if not, why not.
- (4) Will the Government establish a national infrastructure advisory council; if so, when; if not, why not.

10 March 2005

777 **MR DANBY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) How many members of the Australian Parliament travelled to observe the (a) presidential elections in the Palestinian Territories and (b) Transitional National Assembly elections in Iraq.
- (2) What was the cost of sending these observers.
- (3) By whom was this cost met.
- (4) On what basis were the observers selected.
- (5) Was the Opposition invited to send observers to these elections; if not, why not.
- (6) Since 1996, how many other elections outside Australia have been observed by Members of the Australian Parliament.
- (7) For each instance in (6), did the observers travel as delegations of the Parliament or as representatives of the Government.
- (8) For each instance in (6), was the Opposition invited to send observers; if not, why not.

778 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) With respect to the decision by SBS to televise the Ashes cricket series on free to air TV, what 'prodding' was undertaken by the Minister and Prime Minister of SBS and whom did that 'prodding' involve.
- (2) What is the value of the television deal and did any discussions take place between the Government and SBS management concerning a possible additional financial contribution by the Government to SBS to assist in securing the television rights.

780 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) At 1 March 1996, what were the salary and conditions of employment, including any allowances and bonuses paid, to the (a) Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia and (b) Secretary to the Treasury.
- (2) Since 1 March 1996, what increases in salary and improvements in conditions of employment, including any allowances and bonuses paid, have applied to the (a) Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia and (b) Secretary to the Treasury.
- (3) For each financial year since 1 March 1996 what have been the movements in the (a) Consumer Price Index, (b) Average Weekly Ordinary Time Earnings, and (c) Average Weekly Earnings.

781 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What was the nature of the selection or tender process used to appoint Mr Pearson to advise the Government on welfare to work policy.
- (2) What was the nature of the consultation between the Government and Mr Pearson leading to this engagement.
- (3) Who initiated the contract and who was involved in consultations relating to his engagement.
- (4) In respect of Mr Pearson's consultancy, (a) what is its duration, (b) from which location will he work, and (c) is there a statement of the duties he is to carry out; if so, (i) what is it, (ii) when was it agreed, and (iii) what is the contracted cost of office accommodation and secretarial support for the duration of the contract.
- (5) What are the terms of, and conditions of payment for, Mr Pearson's consultancy (including superannuation payments, travel entitlements, salary and whether he will be paid in the form of salary or whether fees will be paid to a company structure).

782 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What is the itemised cost to the Australian Government, including the cost of security and transport, of the visits to Australia by (a) Prince Frederik and Princess Mary of Denmark and (b) Prince Charles.
- (2) Will any of these costs be borne by State and Territory Governments, private businesses, or charities; if so, what are the details.

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

- (1) Has he read the article titled 'Give us GST share and we'll cut tax: Carr' in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 9 March 2005 which reported that the Premier of NSW claimed NSW would be able to cut taxes if the Federal Government stopped short-changing the State on GST revenue; if not, why not.
- (2) Can he confirm that the Government (a) collects \$13 billion in GST from the people of NSW per year and (b) provides NSW only \$10 billion of GST revenue per year; if not, why not.
- (3) Will he return to NSW all the GST paid annually by the people of NSW; if so, when; if not, why not.

791 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training —For (a) Australia, and (b) the electoral division of Prospect, what was the (i) total outstanding Student Financial Supplement Scheme loan balance and (ii) number of outstanding loans, at the conclusion of the scheme.

792 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) How many Youth Allowance recipients in the electoral division of Prospect were undertaking (a) secondary studies, (b) tertiary studies at a university, and (c) tertiary or post-secondary studies at another approved education institution at 30 June 2004.
- (2) How many Austudy recipients in the electoral division of Prospect were attending (a) primary school, (b) secondary school, (c) another approved education institution, and (d) undertaking postgraduate studies at 30 June 2004.

794 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) What is the name and street address of each aged care facility in the electoral division of Prospect that receives Commonwealth funding.
- (2) Have any facilities in part (1) failed accreditation; if so, which facilities.
- (3) Has a surprise inspection of any facility in part (1) been undertaken by the Department of Health and Ageing; if so, what was the date of each inspection.

14 March 2005

795 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What sum did the Commonwealth collect in excise on petroleum and other fuel products in (a) 2001-2002, (b) 2002-2003, and (c) 2003-2004.
- (2) What sum was returned to the States.
- (3) For the financial year (a) 2001-2002, (b) 2002-2003, and (c) 2003-2004, what sum did the Commonwealth spend (i) in total on road funding, (ii) on construction of the National Highway system, and (iii) on maintenance of the National Highway system.

797 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Were there any special conditions attached to the sale of Aeropelican to International Airports after the collapse of Ansett; if so, what are the details.

802 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) Has he read the article titled 'Low R&D spending a turn-off' in the *Australian Financial Review* on 13 December 2004 which reported that the proportion of research and development (R&D) performed in Australia that is basic research has fallen by about 12 per cent over a decade and that no progress was made during the year in boosting the national R&D effort above today's mediocre levels; if not, why not.
- (2) Can he confirm that Australia's overall spending on R&D is only 1.62% of GDP which is well below the OECD average of 2.3%; if not, why not.
- (3) Can he confirm that Australian business investment in R&D is only 0.79% of GDP and ranks fourteenth in the OECD; if not, why not.
- (4) What is the Government doing to (a) increase Australia's investment in R&D, (b) ensure Australia at least achieves the OECD average of R&D investment, and (c) encourage Australian business to increase its investment in R&D.

- (5) Can he say if Australia's overall investment in R&D as a proportion of GDP will (a) reach the OECD average spending on R&D and (b) exceed the OECD average spending on R&D; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (6) Can he say if Australia's business investment in R&D as a proportion of GDP will (a) reach the OECD average spending on R&D and (b) exceed the OECD average spending on R&D; if so, when; if not, why not.
- 806 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Has the Defence Department been involved in any studies concerning the possible impact of sonar on whales and dolphins; if so, what are the details.
 - (2) Has the Defence Department been monitoring studies concerning the possible impact of sonar on whales and dolphins.
 - (3) Is the Minister aware of (a) any evidence or reports linking whale and/or dolphin beaching with sonar use, (b) reports of the stranding of about eighty dolphins in Florida, USA earlier this year following use of mid-frequency and high-frequency sonar by the *USS Philadelphia* in the area of the stranding, (c) reports of thirty five whales being stranded off the Outer Banks of North Carolina in the last two months which coincided with US Navy sonar exercises in the area, and (d) a report by the International Whaling Commission in 2004 which supported a link between sonar use and whale deaths.
 - (4) What procedures are in place with the RAN for the use of sonar in circumstances that may cause injury to marine mammals.
- 810 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) How many Migrant Information Centres currently operate in Australia.
 - (2) What are the distinctions between Migrant Resource Centres and Migrant Information Centres.
 - (3) Does he intend to establish any new Migrant Information Centres anywhere in Australia.
- 811 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) In respect of the appointment of Board members to the Eastern Melbourne Migrant Information Centre in December 2004, what advice did he act upon in determining that the Board's recommendation of Mr Tony Robinson should not be accepted.
 - (2) How does he reconcile his view that Mr Robinson lacked experience with migrant settlement services with the fact of Mr Robinson's leadership of a Victorian Parliamentary Committee inquiry into Cultural Diversity which delivered a report in September 2004 featuring extensive comment on how settlement services could be enhanced.
 - (3) Did he receive any oral, written, or electronic advice from the Member for Deakin recommending that Mr Robinson's appointment not proceed.
 - (4) Did his office disclose to the Member for Deakin any indication of his decision on board member approvals prior to the receipt by the former Migrant Information Centre Board Chairman of the Minister's advice.
- 812 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Has he or his office staff, at any time, sought advice on ways in which Migrant Resource Centres might have their constitutions changed to allow the Minister greater influence in the appointment of directors.
 - (2) Has he or his office staff, at any time, received advice on the possibility of Migrant Resource Centre constitutions being changed through the withholding of Commonwealth funds, with a view to allowing the Minister greater influence in the appointment of board members.
 - (3) Has the Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs provided any advice referred to in (2) to the office of the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs or any other Minister in the past three years; if so, (a) what are the details of the advice and (b) to whom was it provided.

15 March 2005

- 814 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Has the Government agreed to the use of the Woomera airfield for testing of the high altitude unmanned Zephyr 3 aircraft; if so, to whom was the authority to use the airfield given.
 - (2) Does the Australian Defence Department have any role in these tests.

- (3) Are any of the test results being provided to the Australian Defence Forces or any other Australian government department or agency; if so, (a) what type of information is being provided and (b) to which agencies is the information being provided; if not, why not.

819 **MR GARRETT:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) What specific measures has the Government undertaken to ensure the Malabar Headland site is adequately administered.
- (2) Will the Minister support the draft listing of the Malabar Headland site on the New South Wales State Heritage Register.
- (3) Is the Minister aware of any important World War II sites; if so, what is the condition of these sites.
- (4) Are any important World War II sites in need of repair or restoration; if so, will the Minister take measures to ensure these important sites are protected from further degradation.
- (5) Is the Minister aware of any significant Aboriginal sites; if so, what measures are being taken to ensure these sites are preserved.
- (6) Is the Minister aware of the feral weed problem, including the existence of Bitou Bush, Lantana and Pampas Grass on the Malabar Headland site.
- (7) Is there a plan to tackle the noxious weed problem, in particular, in the area covering the old landfill.
- (8) Can the Minister guarantee that the Malabar Headland site is safe from unexploded munitions.
- (9) Is the Minister aware that the Eastern Bushland section of the Malabar Headland site contains 270 native plant species, including the protected Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub.
- (10) Is the Minister aware that the Western Bushland section of the Malabar Headland site contains 226 native plant species, including 70 that do not grow in the Eastern section.
- (11) Is there a plan to ensure this area retains its natural beauty.
- (12) Will the Minister confirm that any decision made relating to the Malabar Headland site will take into account the Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub and its listing as an 'Endangered ecological community' under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act 1999*.
- (13) Is there a management plan for the endangered Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub; if not, is one being prepared.
- (14) Can the Minister confirm that the Government has decided to relocate the Anzac Rifle Range and that \$9 million has been allocated from the Federation Fund for the relocation of the Anzac Rifle Range.
- (15) Is the Minister aware that the former Minister for Finance and Administration announced in September 1998 that the Anzac Rifle Range would be cleaned up and turned over for public use by 2001-2002.
- (16) Will the Minister confirm whether the New South Wales Government has fulfilled its obligation by providing the Government with alternative sites for the Anzac Rifle Range; if so, (a) has the Commonwealth Government made a decision on an appropriate, alternative site for the Anzac Rifle Range and (b) when will the Anzac Rifle Range be relocated.
- (17) What are the reasons for the delay in handing the land over to the New South Wales Government.
- (18) Can the Minister confirm that the Commonwealth Government has received nine separate items of correspondence from the New South Wales Government regarding the Malabar Headland site, including six to the Prime Minister; if so, when will the New South Wales Government receive a response to its requests for the Commonwealth Government to fulfil its promise to return the site to the people of New South Wales.
- (19) Has the Minister's department assessed the cost of cleaning up the site.
- (20) What are the Government's intentions in relation to development of the Western Section of the Malabar Headland site.
- (21) Is the Minister aware that the New South Wales Government and Randwick City Council are in favour of creating a National Park on the Western Section of the Malabar Headland site.
- (22) What has the Interagency Group coordinated by the Randwick City Council achieved.
- (23) What is the progress of the Facility Management Plan and when will it be publicly released.
- (24) Will the Minister provide a long term land use plan and is the Minister aware that the absence of such a plan is hindering the Interagency Group.
- (25) Is the Minister aware of any lead pollution resulting from previous use of the Anzac Rifle Range.
- (26) Has the site been valued; if so, what was the valuation.

- (27) Does the Commonwealth Government have an environmental management plan for the site.
- (28) Will the Minister guarantee that any plan will be developed in conjunction with the New South Wales Department of Environment and Conservation.
- (29) Is the Minister aware that the New South Wales Environment Protection Agency issued a draft significant risk of harm statement in April 2001; if so, what was the Commonwealth Government's response to the statement.
- (30) Is regular testing of groundwater at the Malabar Headland site currently being undertaken; if so, can the Minister advise on the safety of the Malabar Headland site for future use as public open space.
- (31) Can the Minister confirm the presence of mercury at the Malabar Headland site.
- (32) Can the Minister advise whether the measures taken to address the leachate problem at South Maroubra Beach have been assessed and whether the discharge is being measured and monitored.
- (33) Can the Minister guarantee that the leaching does not affect the safety of South Maroubra Beach and the health of those residents who frequent the area.
- (34) Has the Malabar Headland site been tested for the presence of asbestos; if so, in what quantities is asbestos present.
- (35) Which heavy metals have been found to be present in the groundwater and in what concentrations.
- (36) Have the soil assessments of the site recommended by Dascem in 1999 been undertaken; if so, what were the results.

16 March 2005

820 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) How many people in the electoral division of Shortland were receiving (a) Newstart Allowance, (b) Partners Allowance, (c) Wife Pension, (d) Youth Allowance, (e) Special Benefit, (f) Sickness Allowance, (g) Supporting Parent Benefit, (h) Disability Support Pension, (i) Abstudy, (j) Austudy, (k) Carers Payment, (l) Mature Aged Allowance, (m) Aged Pension, (n) Widows Allowance, and (o) Widow B Pension (i) in 1996, (ii) in 1998, (iii) in 2000, (iv) in 2001, (v) in 2002, (vi) in 2003, (vii) in 2004, and (viii) on 14 March 2005.
- (2) What was the average number of people in federal electoral divisions in NSW who were receiving (a) Newstart Allowance, (b) Partners Allowance, (c) Wife Pension, (d) Youth Allowance, (e) Special Benefit, (f) Sickness Allowance, (g) Supporting Parent Benefit, (h) Disability Support Pension, (i) Abstudy, (j) Austudy, (k) Carers Payment, (l) Mature Aged Allowance, (m) Aged Pension, (n) Widows Allowance, and (o) Widow B Pension (i) in 1996, (ii) in 1998, (iii) in 2000, (iv) in 2001, (v) in 2002, (vi) in 2003, (vii) in 2004, and (viii) on 14 March 2005.
- (3) What was the average number of people in all federal electoral divisions who were receiving (a) Newstart Allowance, (b) Partners Allowance, (c) Wife Pension, (d) Youth Allowance, (e) Special Benefit, (f) Sickness Allowance, (g) Supporting Parent Benefit, (h) Disability Support Pension, (i) Abstudy, (j) Austudy, (k) Carers Payment, (l) Mature Aged Allowance, (m) Aged Pension, (n) Widows Allowance, and (o) Widow B Pension (i) in 1996, (ii) in 1998, (iii) in 2000, (iv) in 2001, (v) in 2002, (vi) in 2003, (vii) in 2004, and (viii) on 14 March 2005.

821 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many people in the electoral division of Shortland had been in receipt of Newstart Allowance for 5 years or more (a) in 1996, (b) in 1998, (c) in 2000, (d) in 2001, (e) in 2002, (f) in 2003, (g) in 2004, and (h) on 14 March 2005.

822 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) When did the Government decide to sell 245 hectares of Commonwealth land at Wacol in Brisbane's south-west.
- (2) Has the Government consulted with the community or other stakeholders about the sale of the land.
- (3) Has the Government consulted with the Queensland Government or local government authorities in relation to the sale of the land.
- (4) What steps were taken to inform the public about the sale of the land.
- (5) What steps were taken to inform local representatives at all levels of government about the sale.
- (6) Has the Government put any restrictions on the uses of the site; if so, what are they.
- (7) Does the Government have a view on what the land should be used for once sold.
- (8) Has a study been conducted into the possible impact that the sale of land will have on the local community.

- (9) Has a study been conducted into the possible impact that the sale of land would have on local roads, in particular, the Ipswich Motorway.
- (10) Will developers of the land be expected to contribute to road or other infrastructure upgrades before the site is redeveloped.
- (11) Has the Government considered the impact that low investment in road infrastructure in the area, in particular, in the Ipswich Motorway, has had on the value of the land.
- (12) Is the Minister aware of the comments made by Senator Ian Campbell during Senate Estimates hearings on 14 February 2005 which criticised local and State governments for poor planning along the Ipswich Motorway corridor and put the view that the Ipswich Motorway is 'now stuffed as a major corridor'.
- (13) Do Senator Campbell's views accurately reflect Government policy.
- (14) Does the decision to sell 245 hectares of Commonwealth land, some of which runs parallel to the Ipswich Motorway, without any commonwealth plans for further investment in local road infrastructure, constitute poor planning.
- (15) Does the Government have a timetable or priorities for the upgrading of roads affected by the site, in particular, the Ipswich Motorway.
- (16) Is the sale of the land related to the removal of night tolls for trucks on the Logan Motorway.
- (17) Is the sale of the land related to, or affected by, the possibility of the construction of a northern bypass of the Ipswich Motorway.

823 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Does the Government have a preferred outcome for the feasibility study into the northern bypass of the Ipswich Motorway.
- (2) Will the Government accept the outcome of the feasibility study into the northern bypass of the Ipswich Motorway.
- (3) How did the Government determine that a northern bypass of the Ipswich Motorway would solve the traffic problems on the motorway.
- (4) Is it the Government's intention that the northern bypass on the Ipswich Motorway will become part of the national highway network if the feasibility study determines that the project is feasible.
- (5) Is it the Government's intention that the Ipswich Motorway will cease to be part of the national highway network if the feasibility study into the northern bypass determines that the project is feasible.
- (6) Is it the Government's intention to build the northern bypass of the Ipswich Motorway regardless of the outcome of the feasibility study.
- (7) Do the claims made by the Member for Blair during the 2004 federal election campaign that the northern bypass of the Ipswich Motorway would take "half the time" at "half the cost" of upgrading the Ipswich Motorway, accurately reflect Government policy; if so, what study or report is the basis of this view.
- (8) What sum has been allocated for the construction of the northern bypass of the Ipswich Motorway and when will it be made available.
- (9) What other options are being considered to deal with traffic problems on the Ipswich Motorway.
- (10) Has the community been consulted on the construction of the northern bypass of the Ipswich Motorway; if so, when and by whom.
- (11) What is the Government's timeframe for solving the traffic problems in Brisbane's south-west, in particular, in relation to the Ipswich Motorway.
- (12) Is the statement that the Government has committed \$627 million to this project over the next five years made in relation to the Ipswich Motorway by the Prime Minister on 4BC on 28 September 2004 still Government policy; if so, when will the money be available to complete the full-upgrade of the Ipswich Motorway.

824 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Has the Government (including agencies) had discussions with ship builders about equipping the amphibious ships with aircraft takeoff and landing capability; if so, (a) with whom, (b) what was the nature of the discussions, and (c) what was the outcome.
- (2) What is the estimated cost of equipping the amphibious ships with this capability.
- (3) What types of aircraft are intended to use the take off and landing capability.

- (4) What types of aircraft would be able to use the take off and landing capability.
 - (5) What costs are associated with these aircraft and when would they be operational.
 - (6) Are any discussions regarding equipping the amphibious ships with aircraft takeoff and landing capability planned for the future; if so, with whom are these discussions planned.
 - (7) What is the latest estimate of the cost of the amphibious ship project and over what period of time will these costs be incurred.
 - (8) When will these ships be operational.
- 830 **MRS IRWIN:** 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 Fowler, and (c) the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2177, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
- 833 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—
- (1) How many Health Care Card holders reside in (a) New South Wales, (b) the electoral division of Fowler, and (c) the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2177, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
 - (2) How many Health Care Card holders who do not receive a Centrelink payment, pension, benefit or equivalent payment reside in (a) New South Wales, (b) the electoral division of Fowler, and (c) the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2177, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
- 838 **MRS IRWIN:** 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) New South Wales and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
 - (2) How many individuals have reached the Medicare Safety Net threshold during (a) 2003 and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
 - (3) How many families have reached the Medicare Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003 and (b) 2004 in (i) New South Wales and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
 - (4) How many families have reached the Medicare Safety Net threshold during (a) 2003 and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
 - (5) How many families have registered for the Medicare Safety Net during (a) 2003 and (b) 2004 in (i) New South Wales and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
 - (6) How many families have registered for the Medicare Safety Net during (a) 2003 and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
- 839 **MRS IRWIN:** 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) New South Wales and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
 - (2) How many individuals held a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2003 and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
 - (3) How many families held a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2003 and (b) 2004 in (i) New South Wales and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
 - (4) How many families held a Safety Net Concession Card during (a) 2003 and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
- 840 **MRS IRWIN:** 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) New South Wales and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
 - (2) How many individuals held a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2003 and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
 - (3) How many families held a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2003 and (b) 2004 in (i) New South Wales and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
 - (4) How many families held a Safety Net Entitlement Card during (a) 2003 and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
- 843 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) In respect of his travel to the UK, Switzerland, Spain, Denmark and Sweden in January-February 2001, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental

staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.

- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the UK, the USA, Brazil, Argentina and Chile in March-April 2001, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Papua New Guinea in April 2001, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Turkey, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Kenya, South Africa and the UK in April-May 2001, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Japan, the Republic of Korea and Hong Kong in May-June 2001, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to East Timor in July 2001, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.

- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Singapore and Vietnam in July 2001, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the UK and Indonesia in September 2001, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the USA in September-October 2001, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to China in October 2001, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Nauru, Fiji, Vanuatu and New Zealand in December 2001, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the UK in December 2001, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the Solomon Islands in January 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the UK, Spain, Germany, Italy, Poland and Russia in January-February 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Indonesia in February-March 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Belgium and India in April 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to East Timor, Thailand and Indonesia in May 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on

ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.

- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the USA in July 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Brunei and Malaysia in July-August 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the USA in September 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Burma, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia in October 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Indonesia in October 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.

- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.
- 865 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) In respect of his travel to the USA, Canada and the UK in October-November 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.
- 866 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) In respect of his travel to Japan and China in November 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.
- 867 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) In respect of his travel to Papua New Guinea in November 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.
- 868 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) In respect of his travel to the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Samoa and New Zealand in December 2002, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.
- 869 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) In respect of his travel to Switzerland, Belgium, Germany and France in January-February 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the Republic of Korea in February 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Indonesia in March 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the USA in March-April 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Indonesia in April 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Japan, the UK, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Iraq, Iran and Sri Lanka in May 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Cambodia in June 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport,

(f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.

- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Singapore and Vietnam in July 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Solomon Islands in July-August 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Papua New Guinea in September 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the USA and Italy in September 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Thailand in October 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the UK, the Netherlands and Singapore in November 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Indonesia in December 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to New Zealand in December 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Tonga and Fiji in December 2003, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the US, Ireland, Switzerland and the Middle East in January 2004, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Belgium and Libya in May 2004, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used

by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.

- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Papua New Guinea in June 2004, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.

- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Malaysia and Singapore in June 2004, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.

- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Indonesia in June-July 2004, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.

- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the UK in July 2004, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.

- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Thailand in July 2004, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.

- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to Indonesia in January 2005, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the USA in January 2005, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

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

- (1) In respect of his travel to the UK, France, Belgium and Luxembourg in January-February 2005, (a) what was the total cost of travel and accommodation for him and his party, (b) what sum was spent on airline travel (i) in total and (ii) for his personal staff, (c) how many personal staff accompanied him, (d) what class of air travel was used by (i) his personal staff and (ii) departmental staff, (e) what sum was spent on ground transport, (f) what modes of ground transport were used, (g) how many hotel rooms were booked for him and his staff, and (h) what standard of hotel room was booked for (i) him and (ii) staff.
- (2) In respect of each official function he hosted on this trip, (a) when and where was it held, (b) how many official guests attended, (c) what sum was spent on (i) food and (ii) beverages, and (d) what entertainment was provided and what did it cost.

17 March 2005

901 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport—Following the draft findings and recommendations of the national review of Australia's symphony orchestras conducted by Mr James Strong, can the Minister guarantee that there will be no Commonwealth funding cuts to any of those orchestras; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.

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

- (1) Is he aware of recent media reports on the views of some Government backbench members that lower and middle income earners pay far too much income tax.
- (2) Will the Government respond to those members of the Coalition who are calling for the income tax-free threshold to be raised to \$10,000 per annum; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.
- (3) Will the Government respond to those members of the Coalition who are calling for the top marginal rate of income tax to start at \$100,000 per annum; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.

906 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—What target has the Government set for gross expenditure on Research and Development as a proportion of GDP and how will this target be met.

908 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) Will the Government address the decline in participation in science education at the (a) primary, (b) secondary, (c) undergraduate, and (d) post-graduate level; if so, how; if not, why not.
- (2) Will the Government address the skills shortage of scientifically trained professionals in Australia; if so, how; if not, why not.

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

- (1) Can he confirm that the allocation for 2004-2005 for the various state and territory Public Health Outcome Funding Agreements is \$15.4 Million.

- (2) Which Family Planning Organisations (FPOs) will be recipients of this funding.
 - (3) What are the reporting requirements and performance indicators relating to family and reproductive health specified in the agreements.
 - (4) Is one of the clinical services provided by the FPOs the provision of ‘consultations, counselling and provision of contraceptives’; if so, which contraceptives do the FPOs recommend.
 - (5) Do the FPO’s provide community education programs focusing on informing the community about (a) reproduction, (b) contraceptive methods, and (c) relationships and self esteem; if so, what are the details.
 - (6) Which Commonwealth funded FPOs provide advice and counselling on (a) abstinence of sex outside of marriage as a preferred lifestyle choice, (b) alternatives to all forms of abortion, including physical and chemical abortion, including adoption and single parent child rearing, and (c) the high risks associated with sexually transmitted diseases irrespective of use of ‘safe sex’ practices; if no FPOs provide these services, why not.
 - (7) Will he act to ensure that FPOs only receive Commonwealth funding on the condition that they provide the advice and counselling in part (6); if not, why not.
 - (8) What advice and counselling services do FPOs provide to prevent and reduce the high incidence of abortion in Australia; if no advice and counselling services are provided, why not.
- 915 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Youth Allowance recipients currently reside in (a) New South Wales and (b) the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
- 916 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Newstart Allowance recipients currently reside in (a) New South Wales and (b) the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177
- 917 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Family Payment Greater than Minimum recipients currently reside in (a) New South Wales and (b) the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
- 918 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Age Pension recipients currently reside in (a) New South Wales and (b) the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
- 919 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—
- (1) How many people have taken up the Government’s Pension Bonus Scheme in (a) Australia and (b) in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, and (vii) 2177.
 - (2) How many people have been excluded from the scheme after it commenced due to lack of continuity.
 - (3) How does the performance of the scheme compare to original targets.
 - (4) How many representations has he received from Commonwealth Members of Parliament about the Pension Bonus Scheme since its inception.
- 923 **MRS IRWIN:** 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 Fairfield and (ii) City of Liverpool.
- 925 **MRS IRWIN:** 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) New South Wales, and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
 - (3) How many PBS prescriptions were filled during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2177.
 - (4) How many PBS prescriptions were filled for concession card holders during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in (i) New South Wales, and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
 - (5) How many PBS prescriptions were filled for concession card holders during (a) 2003-2004, and (b) 2004-2005 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2177.
 - (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) New South Wales, and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.

- (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) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2177.
- (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) New South Wales, and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
- (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) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2177.
- (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) New South Wales, and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
- (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) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2177.
- 926 **MRS IRWIN:** 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) New South Wales, and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
- (2) How many individuals have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2177.
- (3) How many families have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in (i) New South Wales, and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
- (4) How many families have reached the PBS Safety Net Threshold during (a) 2003, and (b) 2004 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2177.
- 927 **MRS IRWIN:** 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) New South Wales, and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
- (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) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2177.
- 928 **MRS IRWIN:** 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) New South Wales and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
- (2) How many Medicare services were provided during (a) 2002-2003 and (b) 2003-2004 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2177.
- 929 **MRS IRWIN:** 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) New South Wales and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
- (2) How many Medicare services were provided per capita during (a) 2002-2003 and (b) 2003-2004 in the postcode area (i) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2177.
- 930 **MRS IRWIN:** 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) New South Wales and (ii) the electoral division of Fowler.
- (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) 2163, (ii) 2165, (iii) 2166, (iv) 2168, (v) 2170, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2177.
- 931 **MRS IRWIN:** 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 Fowler 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 Fowler 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 Fowler 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 Fowler for the 12 months ending (a) 30 June 2002, (b) 30 June 2003, and (c) 30 June 2004.

932 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) For each year since 2002, how many (a) general practitioners, (b) other Medicare providers, and (c) specialists were there in (i) the electoral division of Fowler, (ii) Sydney, (iii) New South Wales, and (iv) Australia.
- (2) For each year since 2002, what was the ratio per 1000 head of population of (a) general practitioners, (b) other Medicare providers, and (c) specialists in (i) the electoral division of Fowler, (ii) Sydney, (iii) New South Wales, and (iv) Australia.
- (3) For each year since 2002, how many (a) general practitioners, (b) other Medicare providers, and (c) specialists were there in the local government area of the (i) City of Fairfield, (ii) City of Liverpool.
- (4) For each year since 2002, what was the ratio per 1000 head of population of (a) general practitioners, (b) other Medicare providers, and (c) specialists in the local government areas of (i) City of Fairfield, (ii) City of Liverpool.

933 **MRS IRWIN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) For each year since 2000, how many (a) general practitioners, (b) other Medicare providers, and (c) specialists were practising in the electoral division of Fowler.
- (2) For each year since 2000, what was the ratio of (a) general practitioners, (b) other Medicare providers, and (c) specialists per 1000 head of population ratio for (i) Australia, (ii) Victoria, and (iii) the electoral division of Fowler.

937 **MRS IRWIN:** 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 Fowler; if so, which regions or areas do not have access to Broadband.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that a substantial number of commercial enterprises in the electoral division of Fowler are unable to obtain Broadband services.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the owners of these businesses are being advised that the reason is that they are either (a) too far from the Exchange, (b) the service is not available due to insufficient pair gains or copper cable, or (c) they are on a rim that does not support ADSL.
- (4) Is the Minister aware of the numerous approaches made to Telstra by business owners in the electoral division of Brand regarding their inability to obtain Broadband services.
- (5) What has been the response from Telstra and what action is Telstra taking to address this situation.
- (6) Can the Minister say when Broadband services will be available throughout the electoral division of Fowler.

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

- (1) How many transcripts of television interviews and television appearances involving the Member for Griffith did his office purchase during the 40th Parliament.
- (2) Which interviews, appearances and comments were they.
- (3) What sum was spent (a) in total and (b) on each transcript.

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

- (1) How many transcripts of radio interviews, comments on radio and radio talkback involving the Member for Griffith did his office purchase during the 40th Parliament.
- (2) How many audio tapes, CDs or electronic files of radio interviews, comments on radio and radio talkback involving the Member for Griffith did the Foreign Minister's office purchase during the 40th Parliament.
- (3) Which radio interviews, comments on radio and radio talkback were they.
- (4) What sum was spent (a) in total, (b) on each tape, and (c) on each transcript.

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

- (1) How many transcripts of speeches involving the Member for Griffith did the Foreign Minister's office purchase during the 40th Parliament.
- (2) Which speeches were they.
- (3) What sum was spent (a) in total and (b) on each transcript.

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

- (1) What was the total sum that the Government paid to media monitoring companies for transcripts, tapes (audio or visual), CDs (audio or visual), DVDs (audio or visual) and electronic files (audio or visual) involving the member for Griffith.
- (2) Do any members of his staff transcribe interviews or speeches, in part or in whole, of the Member for Griffith; if so, (a) on how many occasions has this happened and (b) on which APS salary bands are these members of the Minister's staff employed.

945 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Has Defence chartered any aircraft to meet the ADF's requirements for a cargo service to the Middle East in support of the International Coalition against Terror; if so, in respect of each aircraft chartered since January 2003, what was (a) the date of the charter, (b) the cost of the charter, (c) the purpose of the charter, (d) the company from which the aircraft was chartered; and (e) the type of aircraft that was chartered.
- (2) Were any of the aircraft chartered in breach of any aircraft noise regulations applicable to any Australian or overseas jurisdictions; if so, what are the details of any waivers issued for breaches including an explanation of the reasons behind the granting of the waiver
- (3) Were any aircraft chartered contrary to any clauses of any tender issued by the Department of Defence for this purpose.

949 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) How many individuals in the electoral division of Shortland are clients of CRS Australia.
- (2) What is the (a) longest, (b) shortest, and (c) average length of time individuals in the electoral division of Shortland have been on a CRS program.
- (3) How many individuals in the electoral division of Shortland on a CRS program are in receipt of the (a) Disability Support Pension and (b) Newstart Allowance.
- (4) How many people in the electoral division of Shortland on a CRS program have been in receipt of Newstart Allowance for more than (a) 1 year, (b) 2 years, (c) 3 years, (d) 4 years, (e) 5 years and are entering the workforce for the first time.
- (5) How many of the people in part (4) were registered with a job network provider prior to their acceptance by CRS and what was the average period of registration.
- (6) How many people are waiting to be accepted by CRS at (a) Wyong and (b) Charlestown.
- (7) What is the average length of CRS programs in the electoral division of Shortland.
- (8) How many CRS clients in the electoral division of Shortland are undertaking (a) training, (b) work training, and (c) return to work programs.
- (9) How many CRS clients in the electoral division of Shortland are involved in (a) vocational, (b) avocational, (c) independent living/return to the community, and (d) jobs in jeopardy programs.
- (10) What proportion of CRS clients in the electoral division of Shortland have conditions which are (a) compensable and (b) non-compensable.

950 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many people in (a) Australia and (b) NSW had been in receipt of Newstart Allowance for 5 years or more (i) in 1996, (ii) in 1998, (iii) in 2000, (iv) in 2001, (v) in 2002, (vi) in 2003, (vii) in 2004, and (viii) on 14 March 2005.

951 **MS HALL:** 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 Shortland, and (c) the postcode area (i) 2280, (ii) 2281, (iii) 2281, (iv) 2282, (v) 2290, (vi) 2259, (vii) 2262 and (viii) 2263.

954 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) How many Health Care Card holders reside in (a) New South Wales, (b) the electoral division of Shortland, and (c) the postcode area (i) 2280, (ii) 2281, (iii) 2281, (iv) 2282, (v) 2290, (vi) 2259, (vii) 2262, and (viii) 2263.

- (2) How many Health Care Card holders who do not receive a Centrelink payment, pension, benefit or equivalent payment reside in (a) New South Wales, (b) the electoral division of Shortland, and (c) the postcode area (i) 2280, (ii) 2281, (iii) 2281, (iv) 2282, (v) 2290, (vi) 2259, (vii) 2262, and (viii) 2263.

10 May 2005

956 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) When will the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority release a draft 1080 review report for public comment.
- (2) Will he explain the reasons for the delay by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority in issuing a 1080 review report as a review report had been scheduled for release in 2003.

MR KERR: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 957 - 958)—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that, according to Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission data, people with disabilities experience a higher unemployment rate than other Australians' (8.6% compared to 5%) as well as lower incomes, and that these figures have failed to improve notably over the last decade and in some areas have become worse.
- (2) How many people with disabilities are currently employed by Commonwealth Departments.
- (3) Is the Minister able to provide statistics revealing patterns of employment of people with disabilities by Commonwealth Departments over the last decade.

957 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

958 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister for Workforce Participation.

959 **MR BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) What additional tasks and deployments have been assigned to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) over the past five years.
- (2) What proportion of the AFP workforce is deployed offshore.
- (3) From which areas have the officers deployed overseas been removed.
- (4) Have the vacancies caused by the officers deployed overseas been filled.
- (5) How many sworn officers (a) does the AFP (i) have now and (ii) expect to have in 2010 and (b) did the AFP have in 1988.
- (6) How long does it take for a recruit to become internationally deployable.
- (7) How many people does the AFP expect to recruit this year.

960 **MR BYRNE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Who has the authority to close or evacuate all or part of an airport in response to a security breach.
- (2) Does anyone have the authority to prevent the Australian Federal Police - Protective Service closing or evacuating all or part of an airport if the AFP thinks it necessary to do so; if so, (a) who and (b) in what circumstances is it appropriate for them to decline a request from the AFP seeking to close or evacuate an airport wholly or partially.
- (3) Has anyone requested the Australian Federal Police - Protective Service not to close or evacuate all or part of an airport when the AFP thought it necessary to do so; if so, (a) when and (b) was the request granted.

961 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Which weapons systems currently in service with, or proposed for acquisition by the Australian Defence Force (ADF), incorporate the use of depleted uranium.
- (2) In respect of each weapons system which uses depleted uranium, what amount of depleted uranium is used and for what purpose.
- (3) Which types of aircraft operated by the ADF incorporate the use of depleted uranium for ballast or other purposes.
- (4) In respect of each type of aircraft which uses depleted uranium, what amount of depleted uranium is used and for what purpose.
- (5) For what other purposes does the ADF or the Department of Defence use depleted uranium.
- (6) What safety precautions are laid down for maintenance and other personnel who may come into contact with depleted uranium used by the ADF or the Department of Defence.

- (7) What provision has been made for public health and safety in the event of dispersal of depleted uranium from ADF or Department of Defence activities.

962 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What provision is made for the protection of public health and safety in Australia in the event of the dispersal of depleted uranium as the result of an aircraft crash or other event.
 (2) What are the likely consequences for individual health in the event of ingestion of depleted uranium.

963 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Which types of civil aircraft operating in Australia incorporate the use of depleted uranium for ballast or other purposes.
 (2) In respect of each type of civil aircraft which uses depleted uranium, what amount of depleted uranium is used and for what purpose.
 (3) What safety precautions are laid down for maintenance personnel and other persons who may come into contact with depleted uranium in aircraft.
 (4) What provision has been made for public health and safety in the event of the crash of an aircraft which might cause the dispersal of depleted uranium.

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

- (1) Is the Department of Defence planning to rewrite the Defence Instruction relating to the engagement of contracted staff.
 (2) In respect of the department's tendering process for health practitioners, pharmacists and dentists, is Defence now favouring incorporated companies over individuals.
 (3) For each year since 2001, how many tenders for the delivery of health, pharmacy and dental services were let to (a) incorporated companies and (b) individuals.
 (4) Is the department aware of contractor disquiet over the tender process for these services, in particular, with claims of irregularities such as (a) documents requesting incorrect qualifications for particular positions, (b) the required business and professional insurances being difficult to arrange, and (c) information at public meetings addressed by Area Health Service (AHS) South Queensland personnel being inconsistent.
 (5) Is the department aware that some practitioners currently doing the work have refused to participate in the tendering process because the process was so poor.
 (6) Is the department aware that even some applicants who were identified as preferred tenderers resigned in disgust and refused to participate further in the process.
 (7) Is the department aware that some applicants, on receiving the letters of the successful tenderers, resigned immediately, disgusted with the process.
 (8) Has the department sought to cover these sudden vacancies by sourcing staff from employment agencies; if so, (a) which agencies provided staff, (b) how many staff have been placed by agencies, and (c) how many of the new staff needed to be trained in Defence procedures.
 (9) Did the AHS assure contractors that if they had the technical experience but their price was too high, the AHS would negotiate first with those identified as being the most technically able to provide the service; if not, why not.
 (10) Why did the AHS tell contractors in south Queensland that they should sign up with an agency prior to tendering submissions as well as putting in individual tenders.
 (11) Is it the case that companies that are in negotiations with the AHS are applying pressure to staff to sign with them for \$3 to \$4 per hour less than they are currently receiving with the threat that, if they reject the proposal, they will not be considered for Defence employment; if so, how does the Minister justify this.
 (12) Can the Minister confirm that the mandatory qualifications for the employment of general and other medical practitioners by the AHS South Queensland are (a) qualifications as a Medical Practitioner and eligible for unrestricted registration in the State or Territory of application, (b) vocational registration, undergoing an appropriate program of medical training or able to show evidence of active participation in continuing professional development, and (c) strong oral and written communication skills and the ability to communicate at all levels of the organisation.
 (13) Since 1 September 2003, have all medical practitioners employed by the AHS South Queensland directly or by a firm contracted by the AHS South Queensland to provide medical practitioners met these mandatory qualifications; if not, why were they employed.

- (14) Since 1 September 2003, have any firms been contracted by the AHS South Queensland to provide medical practitioners; if so, what are the names of those firms.
- 965 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm the report in *The Courier-Mail* on 17 March 2005, which stated that sufficient land would be retained to meet the further expansion needs of the Ipswich Motorway; if so, which part of the land at Sanananda Barracks will not be sold to accommodate future expansion of the Ipswich Motorway; if not, will the federal government need to re-acquire some of it in the future to provide for the upgrade of the Ipswich Motorway.
 - (2) Does the Government intend to retain 4.6 hectares of land at Sanananda Barracks as implied by the press statement released by the Parliamentary Secretary for Defence on 16 March 2005 which said that 4.6 hectares of land at Sanananda Barracks may be required to accommodate the widening of the Ipswich Motorway.
- 966 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—Can he say when a Medicare Office will be opened in Gungahlin in the electoral division of Fraser, one of eight new offices to be opened, as indicated in the Health Insurance Commission's announcement of 31 August 2004 which can be viewed on its website.
- 967 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) Does the Minister's department still pay for massages for its staff; if so, how many massages were paid for by the department during 2004.
 - (2) Did any staff make use of this service on more than one occasion; if so, what was the maximum number of massages received by an individual staff member.
 - (3) What was the cost per massage.
 - (4) What was the name of each company or individual contracted to provide massages and what sum was each paid during 2004.
- 968 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—
- (1) Are debt collection companies engaged to assist in the recovery of Family Debt overpayments; if so, what sum was paid to debt collection companies during 2004.
 - (2) How many overpayments were referred to debt collection companies.
 - (3) What is the name of each debt collection company engaged for this purpose.
- 969 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) How many applications were (a) received and (b) approved under the Infrastructure Borrowings Tax Offset Scheme in (i) 1997, (ii) 1998, (iii) 1999, (iv) 2000, (v) 2001, (vi) 2002, (vii) 2003, and (viii) 2004.
 - (2) What revenue has been forgone under the scheme since it commenced.
 - (3) Which infrastructure projects have been approved under the scheme since it commenced.
 - (4) How many times did the relevant Cabinet Committee meet in (a) 1997, (b) 1998, (c) 1999, (d) 2000, (e) 2001, (f) 2002, (g) 2003, and (h) 2004 to consider applications under the scheme.
- 970 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For the years 2002, 2003 and 2004, what sum was allocated to each project that was funded in the electoral division of (a) Prospect, (b) Lindsay, and (c) Greenway under the (i) Roads to Recovery, (ii) Roads of National Importance, and (iii) Blackspot Program.
- 971 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) When will he be making an announcement on the future of Badgerys Creek Airport.
 - (2) What further studies, reports or reviews are necessary before he makes a definitive announcement on the future of the proposed Badgerys Creek Airport.
- 972 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—
- (1) How many grants were made under the Small Business Enterprise Culture Program in 2004.
 - (2) What was the total cost of the program in 2004.
 - (3) What was the name and postal address of each organisation that (a) applied for, and (b) received a grant.
 - (4) In respect of each successful application for funding, what sum was granted.

- 973 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) What was the total value of grants awarded by Festivals Australia in 2004.
 - (2) How many grants were awarded.
 - (3) What were the names and postal addresses of the local councils, organising committees and cultural organisations which received grants from Festivals Australia in 2004.
 - (4) In respect of each successful application, (a) what sum was granted and (b) for what purpose was the grant awarded.
- 974 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) What sum was awarded under the Volunteering Small Equipment Grant in (a) 2002, (b) 2003, and (c) 2004.
 - (2) How many grants were made under the program in 2004.
 - (3) What was the name and postal address of each organisation that (a) applied for, and (b) received a grant in 2004;
 - (4) In respect of each successful application, (a) what sum was granted and (b) for what purpose was the grant awarded.
- 975 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What is the breakdown of the number of total unreferral GP attendances bulk-billed for the electoral division of Prospect in 2004.
 - (2) What is the breakdown for the number of services for total unreferral GP attendances for the electoral division of Prospect in 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 Prospect for the year ending 31 December 2004.
- 976 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) For 2003 and 2004, how many students residing in (a) the electoral division of Prospect and (b) the postcode area (i) 2145, (ii) 2148, (iii) 2164, (iv) 2165, (v) 2175, (vi) 2176, (vii) 2178, (viii) 2759, and (ix) 2766 undertook undergraduate university study.
 - (2) For 2003 and 2004, how many and what proportion of undergraduate university students in the electoral division of Prospect undertook study in (a) law, (b) medicine, (c) veterinary science, (d) economics, (e) accounting, (f) engineering, (g) teaching, and (h) nursing.
 - (3) For 2003 and 2004, of all higher education students, what proportion undertook study at the University of Western Sydney.
 - (4) For 2003 and 2004, what proportion of undergraduate students in the electoral division of Prospect paid (a) upfront HECS fees and (b) full fees.
- 977 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—What sum did the Commonwealth provide to (a) Banks Public School, St Clair, (b) Beresford Public School, Greystanes, (c) Blackwell Public School, St Clair, (d) Bossley Park High School, Bossley Park, (e) Bossley Park Public School, Bossley Park, (f) Clairgate Public School, St Clair, (g) Edensor Park Public School, Edensor Park, (h) Emmaus Catholic College, Erskine Park, (i) Erskine Park High School, Erskine Park, (j) Fairfield Heights Public School, Fairfield Heights, (k) Fairfield High School, Fairfield, (l) Fairfield Public School, Fairfield, (m) Fairfield West Public School, Fairfield West, (n) Fairvale High School, Fairfield West, (o) Fairvale Public School, Fairfield, (p) Governor Phillip King Public School, Edensor Park, (q) Greystanes High School, Greystanes, (r) Greystanes Public School, Greystanes, (s) Holroyd High School, Greystanes, (t) Horsley Park Public School, Horsley Park, (u) James Erskine Public School, Erskine Park, (v) King Park Public School, Wakeley, (w) Marion Primary, Horsley Park, (x) Mary Immaculate Primary, Bossley Park, (y) Mary MacKillop College, Wetherill Park, (z) Our Lady of the Rosary Primary, Fairfield, (aa) Our Lady Queen of Peace Primary, Greystanes, (ab) Patrician Brothers College, Fairfield, (ac) Prairievale Public School, Bossley Park, (ad) Prairiewood High School, Wetherill Park, (ae) Ringrose Public School, Greystanes, (af) Smithfield Public School, Smithfield, (ag) Smithfield West Public School, Wetherill Park, (ah) St Clair High School, St Clair, (ai) St Clair Holy Spirit Primary School, St Clair, (aj) St Clair Public School, St Clair, (ak) St Gertrudes Primary, Smithfield, (al) St Johns Park High School, St Johns Park, (am) St Pauls Catholic College, Greystanes, (an) Trinity Catholic Primary School, Kemps Creek, (ao) Widemere Public School, Greystanes, (ap) William Stimpson Public School, Wetherill Park, in the year (i) 2000, (ii) 2001, (iii) 2002, (iv) 2003, and (v) 2004.

- 978 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Disability Support Pension recipients currently reside 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.
- 979 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) What sums were provided for which specific services and projects under the (a) Community Settlement Services Scheme, (b) Living in Harmony program, (c) Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy, and (d) Migrant Resource Centre program in the electoral division of Prospect in (i) 2002-2003 and (ii) 2003-2004.
 - (2) What was the name and address of each organisation that received funding under these programs.
- 980 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is he aware that the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission has awarded a contract of \$19,660.00 to the company 'Life Story Productions'.
 - (2) What services will be provided under the contract.
- 981 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport—
- (1) What sum was allocated for the Australia Council's (a) Community, Cultural Development Fund: Skills and Arts Development Program, (b) Dance Fund: Key organisations - triennial grants and program grants, (c) Dance Fund: New Work, (d) Music Fund: Key organisations - triennial grants and program grants, (e) Music Fund: Skills and Arts Development, (f) New Media Arts Fund: Fellowship, (g) New Media Arts Fund: New Work, (h) New Media Arts Fund: Presentation and Promotion, (i) New Media Arts Fund: Research and Development, (j) New Media Arts Fund: Run-Way, (k) New Media Arts Fund: Skills and Arts Development, (l) New Media Arts Fund: Synapse, (m) Theatre Fund: New Work, (n) Theatre Fund: Presentation and Promotion, (o) Theatre Fund: Skills and Arts Development, (p) Visual Arts/Craft Fund: New Work, and (q) Visual Arts/Craft Fund in 2003-2004.
 - (2) What projects have been funded under the Australia Council's (a) Community, Cultural Development Fund: Skills and Arts Development Program', (b) Dance Fund: Key organisations - triennial grants and program grants, (c) Dance Fund: New work, (d) Music Fund: Key organisations - triennial grants and program grants, (e) Music Fund: Skills and Arts Development, (f) New Media Arts Fund: Fellowship, (g) New Media Arts Fund: New Work, (h) New Media Arts Fund: Presentation and Promotion, (i) New Media Arts Fund: Research and Development, (j) New Media Arts Fund: Run-Way, (k) New Media Arts Fund: Skills and Arts Development, (l) New Media Arts Fund: Synapse, (m) Theatre Fund: New Work, (n) Theatre Fund: Presentation and Promotion, (o) Theatre Fund: Skills and Arts Development, (p) Visual Arts/Craft Fund: New Work, and (q) Visual Arts/Craft Fund in (i) 2003-2004 and (ii) 2004-2005 and what sum was allocated to each project.
 - (3) What was the name and postal address of each organisation that received funding for a project in part (2).
- MR BOWEN:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 982 - 998)—
- (1) Does any agency for which the Minister is responsible pay for massages for its staff; if so, what sum did each agency spend on this purpose in 2004.
 - (2) What was the cost per massage.
 - (3) How many staff made use of this service.
- 982 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Prime Minister.
- 983 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- 984 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer.
- 985 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Trade.
- 986 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.
- 987 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- 988 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.
- 989 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 990 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 991 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.
- 992 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

993 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

994 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

995 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

996 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

997 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

998 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

MR BOWEN: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 999 - 1023)—

- (1) How many Cabcharge cards are currently issued to staff members in the Minister's office.
- (2) What sum was spent on Cabcharge cards in the Minister's office in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, and (c) 2004-2005 to date.

999 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Prime Minister.

1000 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1001 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer.

1002 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

1003 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1004 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

1005 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.

1006 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1007 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.

1008 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

1009 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

1010 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

1011 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

1012 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

1013 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

1014 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

1015 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

1016 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs.

1017 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport.

1018 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs.

1019 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer.

1020 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State.

1021 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Ageing.

1022 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism.

1023 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

MR BOWEN: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1024 - 1041)—Did the department or any agency under the Minister's portfolio engage the services of a graphic design company to assist in the production of annual reports or other publications in 2004; if so, what was the name and postal address of each company engaged for this purpose and what sum was it paid.

1024 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Prime Minister.

1025 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1026 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer.

1027 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

1028 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1029 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

- 1030 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.
- 1031 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 1032 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 1033 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 1034 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.
- 1035 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.
- 1036 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- 1037 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.
- 1038 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.
- 1039 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.
- 1040 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 1041 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
- MR BOWEN:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1042 - 1066)—
- (1) Did the department or any agency under the Minister's portfolio engage the services of a media training company in 2004; if so, how many individuals (by agency/department) received media training.
 - (2) Did the Minister personally receive any media training.
 - (3) What was the cost of the media training.
 - (4) What was the name and postal address of each company engaged to provide media training.
- 1042 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Prime Minister.
- 1043 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- 1044 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer.
- 1045 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Trade.
- 1046 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.
- 1047 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- 1048 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.
- 1049 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 1050 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 1051 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 1052 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.
- 1053 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.
- 1054 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- 1055 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.
- 1056 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.
- 1057 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.
- 1058 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 1059 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs.
- 1060 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport.
- 1061 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs.
- 1062 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer.
- 1063 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State.
- 1064 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Ageing.
- 1065 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism.
- 1066 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

MR BOWEN: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1067 - 1084)—

- (1) Did the department or any agency under the Minister's portfolio conduct or commission an opinion poll, focus group or market research in 2004; if so, what was the (a) purpose and (b) cost of each opinion poll, focus group or market research survey conducted.
- (2) What was the name and postal address of each company engaged to conduct the poll, focus group or research.

1067 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Prime Minister.

1068 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1069 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer.

1070 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

1071 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1072 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

1073 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.

1074 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1075 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.

1076 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

1077 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

1078 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

1079 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

1080 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

1081 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

1082 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

1083 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

1084 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

MR BOWEN: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1085 - 1102)—

- (1) Did the department or any agency under the Minister's portfolio engage the services of a public relations, public affairs or media management consultancy in 2004; if so, what was the (a) purpose and (b) cost of each engagement.
- (2) What was the name and postal address of each company engaged for these purposes.

1085 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Prime Minister.

1086 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1087 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer.

1088 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

1089 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1090 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

1091 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.

1092 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1093 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.

1094 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

1095 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

1096 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

1097 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

1098 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

1099 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

- 1100 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.
- 1101 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 1102 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
- MR BOWEN:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1103 - 1120)—
- (1) What sum was spent on recruitment agencies in (a) 2001, (b) 2002, (c) 2003, and (d) 2004 by each department and agency in the Minister's portfolio.
 - (2) Will the Minister provide a list of the recruitment agencies which are used by the department and agencies in the Minister's portfolio.
- 1103 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Prime Minister.
- 1104 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- 1105 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer.
- 1106 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Trade.
- 1107 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.
- 1108 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- 1109 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.
- 1110 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 1112 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 1113 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.
- 1114 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.
- 1115 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- 1116 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.
- 1117 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.
- 1118 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.
- 1119 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 1120 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
- 1121 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) By what value have the assets of Australian retirees increased during the last five years.
 - (2) What proportion of the increase in the value of the assets of Australian retirees is attributable to rising property values.
 - (3) How many pensioners have experienced a reduction in their pension resulting from the effect of increased property values on the application of the assets test.
 - (4) How many pensioners have experienced a reduction in their pension on account of the application of the assets test to their other assets.
 - (5) What sum has not been expended on age pensions as a result of pension reductions attributable to increased property values.
- 1122 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—
- (1) In respect of the 180 nominations received from World War II veterans throughout Australia to take part in the Australian Government's commemorative mission to mark the 60th anniversary of Victory in Europe in May 2005, can she confirm that, of the 18 veterans selected, 2 are from the ACT, 6 are from NSW, 2 are from WA, 3 are from Vic, 3 are from Qld, 1 is from Tas, and 1 is from SA.
 - (2) From which federal electoral division was each of the 18 individual successful nominations chosen.
- 1123 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—Are there any plans to close the Medicare office located in 16 Walkers Arcade, Coburg.
- 1124 **MR SERCOMBE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Does the Minister acknowledge that Australia has a particular responsibility and special obligation to help our South Pacific neighbours in their efforts to achieve sustainable development.

- (2) Is the Minister aware of the extreme threat that global warming and the associated rise in the sea level and other adverse environmental impacts pose for South Pacific countries, particularly the smaller atoll countries.
- (3) Is the Minister aware of the various statements from many South Pacific Forum Members and of the Forum Secretariat expressing disappointment at the refusal of the United States of America to ratify the Kyoto Protocol and welcoming the decision by Russia to ratify, thus bringing the Protocol into effect.
- (4) Is the Minister aware of the statement on 21 February 2005 by the Director of the Secretariat of the South Pacific Regional Environment Program, of which Australia is a member, welcoming the coming into force of the Protocol on 16 February 2005 and calling on developed countries to do more to combat global warming.
- (5) Does the Government accept that it has to respond to these concerns and review its refusal to ratify the Kyoto Protocol.
- (6) What is the Government doing to implement its election commitments on assisting Australia's neighbours to deal with global warming, including the establishment of an Asia-Pacific Climate Change Exchange.

1125 **MR SERCOMBE:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) When will the Government announce a suitable ongoing commemoration of Australian Federal Police Officer Adam Dunning's service and sacrifice for Australia.
- (2) Does he support the establishment of a trust or endowment in Adam Dunning's name which could provide support for the education of young Solomon Islanders.

1126 **MR SERCOMBE:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is he aware of Commissioner Keelty's statement on 15 February 2005 that one of the men charged with Adam Dunning's murder in the Solomon Islands had absconded on bail prior to the murder.
- (2) Is he also aware of Commissioner's Keelty's comment "that the issue that we are going to follow up is the issue of bail because we have a number of offenders over there who have re-offended".
- (3) Is he aware that the co-accused on the Adam Dunning murder, Mr John Ome, was on bail at the time of the murder and was facing charges of abduction relating to an earlier murder.
- (4) What representations have been made to the Solomon Island authorities in relation to bail matters.

1127 **MR SERCOMBE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 19 February 2005 which reported that Sean Evans, Law Enforcement Adviser for the Pacific Islands Forum, said that Australian officials are aware that criminals have obtained Pacific Island diplomatic passports by bribing politicians; that most of the Chinese on the move are ultimately trying to get to Australia, New Zealand, the US or Canada, and that many of them have succeeded, but that it is impossible to know exact numbers.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm these claims and provide an assurance that Australia's borders are adequately protected from criminal entry.

1128 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has the Government contributed any funds for the upkeep, maintenance or construction work at Gallipoli since 2001; if so, what sums were contributed and for what purposes.
- (2) Did the Australian Government offer to contribute toward the cost of the road works at Anzac Cove undertaken after the letter dated 2 August 2004 was sent by the former Minister for Veterans Affairs' to the Turkish Government.
- (3) Did the Australian Government contribute toward the cost of the road works at Anzac Cove undertaken after the 2 August 2004 letter from the former Minister for Veterans' Affairs to the Turkish Government; if so, (a) what sum, (b) on what was it spent, (c) from where was the contribution drawn, and (d) who approved the expenditure.

1129 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) How many Photovoltaic Rebate Program (PVRP) rebates have been (a) applied for and (b) granted each year since the program began.
- (2) What sum has been spent on PVRP rebates each year since the program began.
- (3) What were the initial aims and guidelines of the PVRP.

- (4) What are the performance indicators for the PVRP and how has it performed against the indicators.
- (5) What mechanisms are used to monitor the effectiveness of the (a) PVRP generally and (b) photovoltaic systems installed under the PVRP.
- (6) What is the Government's assessment of the (a) current state and (b) future of the solar energy market in Australia.
- (7) What research and analysis has been done in relation to the solar project running at Newington, near Olympic Park, Sydney, since it commenced in 2000 and will the Minister make reports of the Newington project available.
- (8) Is it the Government's intention to extend the PVRP in the same or a similar form beyond June 2005; if so, (a) for how long and (b) what sums will be allocated for this period.
- (9) What steps has the Government taken to consult with industry and other stakeholders about the future of the program or potential replacement programs.
- (10) Has the Government reviewed the PVRP to determine whether it or a similar program should be in place beyond June 2005; if so, (a) what are the results and (b) did the review recommend the PVRP or a similar program should continue to be supported by Government.

1130 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) What are the measures of unmet demand for child care used by the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS), in particular, will the Minister (a) identify the various measures (eg, by number of places requested by services, waiting lists, media reports, etc), (b) describe their methodology in brief, and (c) specify whether each measure is applied by FACS to assess unmet demand for each different service type (eg, family day care, long day care, before and after school care, occasional care).
- (2) How often does FACS measure unmet need (eg quarterly, annually, on an ad-hoc basis).
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that 'Local Government Planning Area' is the term used to designate each part of Australia into segments for the assessment of unmet demand; if not, what is.
- (4) Will the Minister explain, (a) how local areas are determined (eg, by local council boundaries) and (b) whether they are ever changed; if so, (i) why and (ii) how often.
- (5) What data is collected by FACS from each planning area and when is it collected.
- (6) Will the Minister provide the most recent figures on unmet demand for (a) Family Day Care (FDC), (b) Long Day Care (LDC), and (c) before and after school care using each different measure used by FACS and specifying for each figure which measure of unmet demand is being used, for each (i) State and Territory, (ii) electoral division, (iii) local planning area, and (iv) any other geographic or jurisdictional indicator used.
- (7) Can the Minister confirm that it remains a FACS strategy to "develop and implement measures to improve the availability...of quality child care...".
- (8) Can the Minister confirm that one aim of this strategy is to ensure that there is enough child care to meet community demand.
- (9) What is the policy rationale for caps on places for all child care services other than LDC.
- (10) Can the Minister confirm that one consequence of the 'cap' policy is that approved child care centres which have staff and space sufficient to offer places for more children cannot do so unless they are allocated more places; if so, what problems have been identified with this policy.
- (11) Can the Minister confirm that the Government will not allow services with the space and staff to care for children in excess of that service's allocated places to offer places for children whose parents are prepared to accept a non-CCB funded place; if so, what problems have been identified with this policy.

1131 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Does the Department of Family and Community Affairs (FACS) have a database identifying areas in Australia where there are (a) insufficient child care services and (b) an oversupply of child care services; if so, (a) how often is it updated, (b) is the information provided to (i) existing child care providers and (ii) prospective child care providers, and (iii) any other persons or organisations (other than FACS officials).
- (2) Does FACS analyse raw data on shortages or surpluses for any particular area, or does it simply collect and supply raw data where appropriate.
- (3) Will the Minister provide copies of the analyses done for all areas over the last 2 years.

- (4) Will the Minister explain the process by which persons or organisations may obtain unpublished data kept by FACS that indicate undersupply and oversupply of child care services, in particular, do they (a) have to apply in writing; if, not, how may they apply, (b) have to pay a fee, and (c) need to establish anything about themselves or their objective, before receiving any information.
- (5) Have any requests for information on child care oversupply or undersupply by service providers or prospective providers been refused in the last 3 years; if so, (a) how many times, (b) why was the request refused, and (c) were reasons for the refusal given.
- (6) Do any child care providers listed on the stock exchange receive demographic or market information kept by FACS (a) automatically; if so, when and on what basis, (b) regularly; if so, when and how often, and (c) on any basis different from that of non-ASX listed providers.
- (7) Is there any evidence that oversupply or undersupply of child care services in areas of Australia has a correlation to the average income in that area; if so, what is the relationship.

1132 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many child care centres have ASX-listed child care providers (a) established as a new service, (b) purchased as going concerns from existing providers, and (c) closed since 2000.
- (2) For each financial year since 2000-2001, in respect of each ASX-listed child care centre owner and for each type of service (eg Long Day Care (LDC), Family Day Care (FDC), after school care) what was the (a) total Child Care Benefit (CCB) received in fee relief, (b) number of CCB places allocated, (c) number of CCB places allocated but not fully utilised, and (d) the number of CCB places used by children 0-2 years of age.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that some child care centres owned by ASX-listed child care providers do not take children aged between 0 and 2 years of age; if so, how many do not take children 0-2 years of age; if not, can the Minister explain why this information is unavailable.
- (4) For each financial year since 2000-2001, will the Minister list the child care services in each electoral division which are owned by ASX-listed companies and which have received (a) establishment funding, (b) operational funding, and (c) other types of funding other than CCB from the Commonwealth.

1133 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Does the (a) Department of Family and Community Affairs (FACS) and (b) Office for Women collect and analyse data on employment conditions (eg the availability of maternity leave, sick leave, carer's leave) for casual workers and, in particular, for women; if not, why not.
- (2) What policy initiatives have been developed to encourage more family-friendly workplaces in the private sector.
- (3) What are the Government's main priorities to help families achieve a better work/family balance.
- (4) What is the Government doing in relation to employers to help families achieve a better work/family balance.
- (5) What are the main barriers or problems facing employees who want to change their work/family balance.

1134 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many (a) long day care (LDC) and (b) after school centres are operating legally but do not have CCB-funded places.
- (2) For each electoral division, what is the average level of Commonwealth subsidy (other than CCB) given to LDC services.
- (3) Can the Minister explain why the Long Day Care Incentive Scheme is available only to providers for long day care centres in rural and outer metropolitan areas and not also available in inner metropolitan areas where there is a shortage of places.
- (5) Has the Government considered expanding the Long Day Care Incentive Scheme to apply to any area where there is demonstrable, chronic undersupply.
- (6) What Commonwealth subsidies are available to prospective LDC providers in inner metropolitan areas.
- (7) Is the Government planning to address unmet demand for child care in inner metropolitan areas; if so, what are the details.
- (8) For each electoral division, how many set-up assistance grants have been (a) awarded and (b) rejected since July 2004.

- (9) What is the application and approval cycle for the Minor Capital Upgrading grants and when is funding made available.
 - (10) What are the selection criteria for the Minor Capital Upgrading fund and will the Minister provide a copy.
 - (11) For each electoral division for the last three financial years, which child care services have been granted Minor Capital Upgrading funding and when were the grants paid.
 - (12) Is it the case that private LDCs that are approved by the Government and have CCB places are not eligible to apply for Minor Capital Upgrading funds.
 - (13) Which grants may (a) LDC (b) Family Day Care (FDC) and (c) after school existing and prospective services apply for in (i) inner metropolitan areas and (ii) outer metropolitan areas and regional Australia.
 - (14) When did each State and Territory Planning Advisory Committee (PAC) meet since January 2002.
 - (15) Will the Minister provide a list of all minutes from PAC meetings since the decision was made that they should be publicly available.
- 1135 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) For each State and Territory, what is the (a) highest, (b) median, (c) lowest, and (d) average fee charged per day for long day care (LDC).
 - (2) For each State and Territory, what is the proportion of centres that charge around the (a) highest, (b) median, (c) lowest, and (d) average fee charged per day for LDC.
- 1136 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) Has the Minister decided to abolish the (a) Special Needs Subsidy Scheme and (b) Disabled Supplementary Services Program; if so, when will (i) this occur and (ii) the services and individuals funded under the program cease to be funded.
 - (2) Can the Minister confirm that funds from the Disabled Supplementary Services Program are being used to pay some child care workers who care for a disabled child in the child's home; if so, can the Minister confirm that this is an appropriate use of these funds, in particular, in relation to children whose disabilities are so severe that they are precluded from attending long day care (LDC) or family day care (FDC) services.
 - (3) Can the Minister guarantee that existing funding currently applied to help defray the cost to parents of severely disabled children cared for at home by a child care worker will not be cut as a result of the broadband changes.
 - (4) Can the Minister confirm that the In-Home Care (IHC) program review includes care for disabled children; if so, why has the review been extended to include financial support for the care of disabled children.
 - (5) How many parents of disabled children supported under the IHC program sought a review of the program.
 - (6) What is the estimated number of disabled children who are currently cared for at home who could or should be cared for within LDC or FDC environments.
 - (7) What were the identified gaps in the provision of child care which were referred to in the special edition of *Child Care News* in which the former Minister, Mr Anthony, announced the Professional Support and Inclusion Program.
 - (8) Were the gaps in the provision of child care identified in respect of children with (a) any or (b) particular disabilities and, if the gaps were identified in respect of children with particular disabilities, what were those disabilities.
 - (9) In respect of the Inclusion and Professional Support Program, (a) when will it be fully operational and (b) will intellectually disabled children currently not cared for within mainstream LDC or FDC services whom the Government deems should be cared for in such a service be placed with children who match their developmental or physical age.
 - (10) How many Inclusion Support Agencies (ISAs) will be created in (a) Australia, (b) NSW, (c) Victoria, (d) Qld, (e) SA, (f) WA, (g) the ACT, and (h) the NT.
 - (11) When are tenders due for the ISAs and will the Minister provide a copy of the tender documentation.
 - (12) Are there any restrictions on companies applying for the ISA contracts (eg, on the profit that ISAs can make from FACS funding); if so, what are the restrictions.

- (13) Will non-profit children's services be assessed on the same basis as commercial companies in applications for ISA tenders.
- (14) When will the decision on successful ISAs be made and announced.
- (15) How many people in the Minister's department are currently employed administering the (a) In-Home Care Program, (b) Special Needs Subsidy Scheme, and (c) Disabled Supplementary Services Payment.
- (16) What sum will be saved on (a) program and (b) administrative expenditure by abolishing the (i) In-Home Care Program, (ii) Special Needs Subsidy Scheme, and (iii) Disabled Supplementary Services Payment.
- (17) Have the savings identified in part (16), including staff costs, been re-allocated to the Inclusion and Professional Support Program and what are the forward estimates for this program.
- (18) How many departmental staff currently involved in running the various programs that are being abolished will be retrenched.
- (19) In respect of the Professional Support Coordinator (PSC), (a) what are the Coordinator's responsibilities, (b) what sum has been allocated for, and must be spent on, direct service provision, (c) what are the forward estimates for (i) substantive functions (eg, support and funding of Professional Support Providers, direct service provision), and (ii) administrative costs, (d) will each PSC be prohibited from spending money allocated to program support on administration; if so, (i) how and (ii) will the prohibition be included in the contracts between the department and PSCs, (e) what are the restrictions on the extent of service provision by PSCs, (f) what criteria must PSCs use in selecting Professional Support Providers, (g) will equitable access to services by all members of the community to child care, including children whose first language is not English or whose parents are refugees or on Temporary Protection Visas, be a selection criterion, (h) will the Minister provide a copy of the (i) obligations which will be imposed on PSCs and (ii) tender documentation for PSC positions.
- (20) Has the Government decided to establish and fund a new agency to monitor the Professional Support Providers in each state on the basis that this is a more efficient mode of provision than having the department perform this function; if so, can the Minister explain how this can be so and provide a summary of the cost-benefit analysis supporting the decision (eg including the expected savings, if any).
- (21) Will companies be eligible to tender for the PSC function; if so, will there be any restrictions on the profit a PSC can make from performing this function.
- (22) Which organisations in NSW that are directly providing services for children with special needs are funded by the Commonwealth and what sum has each received each year since its funding was commenced.
- (23) Can the Minister confirm that there was no evaluation of the organisations in NSW funded by the Commonwealth to provide services for children with special needs before the decision was made to cease their funding by December 2005.
- (24) How many new Resource and Advisory Services have been funded by the Commonwealth since the results of the broadband review were announced and how many of these have been told their funding will cease by December 2005 (unless they transform their service into training services, and tender on this basis).
- (25) Can the Minister confirm that one of the services that will lose Commonwealth funding from December 2005 is the Ethnic Child Care Family and Community Services Co-operative in Marrickville, NSW.
- (26) What does the Government intend to do to assist the hundreds of trained workers employed in the programs run by the Ethnic Child Care Family and Community Services Co-operative to find similar work, and will the NSW PSC be obliged to consider re-employing any or all of these specialist workers.
- (27) Can the Minister confirm that all the services currently being provided by the Ethnic Child Care Family and Community Services Co-operative will continue after its funding has ceased; if not, which services currently run by the Co-operative would the Minister allow to cease.
- (28) What services will be available to culturally and linguistically diverse families in NSW at 1 January 2006 to help them find child care that meets their special needs.

- (29) Does the Minister support any or all of the child care-assistance programs currently run by the Ethnic Child Care Family and Community Services Co-operative being funded under the Stronger Families and Communities Program; if not, why not.
- 1137 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Will he provide a copy of the policy and eligibility guidelines relating to work-related child care expenses and Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) and the circumstances in which FBT exemption for child care is given.
 - (2) For each financial year since 2000-2001, how many employers claimed FBT exemptions for business expenses relating to child care and what sum did the exemption cost the Commonwealth.
 - (3) How many employers that were exempt from paying FBT relating to child care had (a) less than 20 employees, (b) between 21 and 100 employees, and (c) more than 100 employees.
 - (4) For each financial year since 2000-2001, how many employers who were registered as fringe benefit tax employers claimed child-care related business expenses.
 - (5) For each financial year since 2000-2001, how many employers reported fringe benefits relating to child care.
 - (6) For each financial year since 2000-2001, how many employees had reportable fringe benefits relating to child care reported by their employer.
 - (7) For each financial year since 2000-2001, what was the (a) highest, (b) lowest, and (c) average value of reported child care fringe benefits for employees.
- 1138 **MS PLIBERSEK:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Who will be representing Australia at the United Nations Summit on the Millennium Development Goal Progress in New York in September.
 - (2) What package of initiatives to progress the Millennium Development Goals will the Government take to the United Nations Summit.
- 1139 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Has he agreed to require a Family Impact Statement for Cabinet submissions; if so, (i) what factors and issues will be considered in drafting Family Impact Statements and (ii) what definition, category and structure of 'family' will a Family Impact Statement include.
 - (2) Which department or agency will be responsible for drafting a Family Impact Statement for Cabinet submissions.
 - (3) Will the Family First Senator be privy to, or consulted on, the drafting of a Family Impact Statement.
 - (4) Will the Family Impact Statement be incorporated in the Explanatory Memorandum of Bills before the House of Representatives; if not, why not.
- 1140 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Can he confirm that Regional Impact Statements are still included in Cabinet submissions.
 - (2) What factors and issues are considered in the drafting of Regional Impact Statements.
 - (3) Which department or agency is responsible for drafting Regional Impact Statements.
- 1141 **MS BIRD:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Can he provide details on the Australian Government's contribution to and implementation of the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals.
 - (2) Has the Government considered the British Government report by the Commission for Africa *Our Common Interest*; if so, what is the Government's response.
- 1142 **MR PRICE:** 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 (a) Chifley, (b) Greenway, and (c) Lindsay in (i) 2002-2003, (ii) 2003-2004, and (iii) 2004-2005.
 - (2) What was the (a) name and address of each centre and (b) sum of Commonwealth funding each centre 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).
- 1143 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—Which organisations (a) applied for and (b) received funding under the Volunteer Small Equipment Grants program in (a) 2003 and (b) 2004 in the electoral division of (i) Chifley, (ii) Greenway, and (iii) Lindsay.

1144 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What year was the Medicare office at Mt Druitt closed.
- (2) How many transactions were completed in the last 12 months of operation at the Mt Druitt Medicare Office.
- (3) What was the value of dead rent paid for the Mt Druitt Office.
- (4) In respect of each Medicare office that has been opened since the Medicare Office at Mt Druitt was closed, (a) what is its address, (b) in which electoral division is it located, and (c) what is the annual number of transactions it processes.
- (5) For the most recent calendar year for which the information is available, which Medicare office processed the (a) highest and (b) lowest number of transactions and how many did it process.
- (6) For the most recent calendar year for which the information is available, what is the (a) average and (b) modal number of transactions processed by all Medicare offices combined.

1145 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Are recipients of the Disability Blind Pension (DSB) subject to an income and/or an asset test; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.
- (2) Are recipients of the DSB required to report their income to Centrelink.
- (3) Are DSB recipients who are not in residential care and not receiving Centrelink rent assistance but have a partner receiving Centrelink benefits subject to a Centrelink income reporting obligation; if so, why; if not, why not.
- (4) Is it the case that DSB recipients may have their DSB benefit withheld if they have a partner receiving a Centrelink benefit who fails to report income to Centrelink; if so, why; if not, why not.
- (5) Will the Minister guarantee that DSB recipients not in residential care or not receiving rent assistance will not be sent Centrelink Income Reporting Maintenance Period letters; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (6) Will the Minister guarantee that DSB recipients not in residential care or not receiving rent assistance will not have their benefit withheld if they have a partner receiving a Centrelink benefit who fails to report their income to Centrelink; if so, when; if not, why not.

1146 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Does the music album titled *The Marshall Mathers LP* by Eminem depict a warning regarding its explicit lyrics as prescribed in the Australian Music Retailers Association (AMRA's) Australian Labelling Code of Practice; if so, what is the level of the warning.
- (2) Is he aware that this album is being sold in Australia; if not, why not.
- (3) Has he heard or is he aware of the lyrics in the track titled *Kill You*, in particular, that include "...wives, nuns, sluts; bitch I'm-a kill you! You don't wanna f with me'.
- (4) Has he read the media statement by His Eminence Cardinal George Pell titled 'Why Eminem is beyond the limits of toleration' in which he states that "the controversial American rap singer, Eminem, rapturously imagines the joy of murdering any woman he might come across' in the track *Kill you*.
- (5) What was the basis of AMRA's ruling in respect of the album and, in particular, how did it consider the issue of whether the lyrics (a) promote, incite, or instruct violence, (b) are exploitative, (c) offend moral values, (d) lack artistic merit, and (e) depict cruelty, sexual violence, abhorrent or revolting activity in a way that would outrage or disgust most adults.
- (6) Will he require the classification of the album to be reviewed to determine whether it exceeds the standard of a Level 3 Warning which would prevent the album being sold in Australia; if not, why not.

1147 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—In respect of the visit by the Governor-General to Great Britain to attend the wedding of Prince Charles, (a) what are the guidelines concerning the approval of overseas travel by the Governor-General, (b) who accompanied the Governor-General, (c) what was the travel itinerary of the Governor-General and his party, and (d) what was the itemised cost of the travel, accommodation and meals of the Governor General and his party.

1148 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is he aware of an incident that occurred at the Port of Wallaroo in South Australia on 12 March 2005 involving the merchant bulk carrier the *Flecha* (IMO 8022456) where the master of the ship falsely called a Level 2 security alert as a means of dealing with an industrial issue.

- (2) Were the appropriate measures taken to notify the Australian Office of Transport Security that the ship was on Level 2 alert; if so, what were these measures.
- (3) Was the action taken by the *Flecha* in breach of the *Maritime Transport Security Act 2004* and the International Ship and Port Security Code; if so, what action was taken against the (a) master of the ship and (b) shipping agent in relation to the breach of Australian legislation.
- (4) Will this incident be investigated by the recently appointed Inspector of Transport Security; if so, (i) what will be the terms of reference of the investigation and (ii) will the results be made public; if there will not be an investigation, will he explain why.
- (5) How does the Government intend to ensure that ships, ports and port facilities are prevented from misusing maritime security alerts in similar circumstances.

1149 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 353 (*Hansard*, 14/3/2005, page 109), are the administrative costs of the Government's smaller airport security program recoverable from the \$35m budget allocation.
- (2) In respect of each airport which has had a payment approved for the upgrade of its security, (a) what is the nature of the security upgrade and (b) what sum did or will the airport receive.
- (3) what are the details of the payments made to each regional airline which has received a payment from the Securing Our Regional Skies initiative.
- (4) What sum remains for future payments under the Securing Our Regional Skies initiative.

1150 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) What is the business name and address of each of the brokers appointed to administer the Tutorial Voucher Initiative in each State and Territory.
- (2) What process was used to select the brokers.
- (3) On what day were the details of each broker posted on the department's web site.
- (4) In respect of each student voucher valued at \$700.00, what sum will be paid to the (a) school, (b) parents, (c) tutor, and (d) broker.

1151 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What was the cost of producing the report of the Productivity Commission study, 'Assistance To Tourism: Explanatory Estimates'.
- (2) Which State, Territory and Commonwealth Government Departments and Agencies and which private sector organisations and unions did the Productivity Commission consult with before preparing the report.

MR M. J. FERGUSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1152 - 1176)—

- (1) In respect of the provision of Telstra Mobile Online SMS Business Services or similar services to the Minister and the Minister's staff, (a) does the Minister's department provide such a service to the (a) Minister and (b) Minister's staff; if so, when was the service first made available to the (i) Minister and (ii) Minister's staff.
- (2) What has been the cost of providing the service to the (a) Minister and (b) Minister's staff since it was introduced.

1152 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister.

1153 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1154 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer.

1155 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

1156 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1157 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

1158 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.

1159 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1160 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.

1161 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

1162 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

- 1163 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.
- 1164 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- 1165 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.
- 1166 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.
- 1167 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.
- 1168 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 1169 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs.
- 1170 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport.
- 1171 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs.
- 1172 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer.
- 1173 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State.
- 1174 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Ageing.
- 1175 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism.
- 1176 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
- 1177 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—
- (1) How many people in (a) Australia, (b) NSW, (c) the electoral division of Charlton, and in the postcode area (d) 2259, (e) 2264, (f) 2265, (g) 2267, (h) 2276, (i) 2278, (j) 2282, (k) 2283, (l) 2284, (m) 2285, (n) 2287, (o) 2289, (p) 2299, and (q) 2290, are recipients of the (i) Aged Pension, (ii) Disability Support Pension, (iii) Carer Allowance, (iv) Newstart Allowance, (v) Youth Allowance, (vi) Parenting Payment Single, (vii) Parenting Payment Partnered, (viii) Family Tax Benefit A, (ix) Family Tax Benefit B, (x) Child care Benefit, and (xi) Rent Assistance.
 - (2) In (a) Australia, (b) NSW, and (c) the electoral division of Charlton, how many people and what proportion of the population are receiving income assistance.
 - (3) In (a) Australia and (b) the electoral division of Charlton, how many recipients of Family Tax Benefit A received a debt notice in (i) 2002-2003 and (ii) 2003-2004.
 - (4) In (a) Australia and (b) the electoral division of Charlton, how many recipients of Family Tax Benefit B received a debt notice in (i) 2002-2003 and (ii) 2003-2004.
 - (5) What was the average Family Tax Benefit debt per family or individual in the electoral division of Charlton in (a) 2002-2003 and (b) 2003-2004.
 - (6) How many families or individuals in the electoral division of Charlton received a Family Tax Benefit debt notice despite having informed Centrelink within 14 days of a change in their circumstances.
 - (7) How many families with a Family Tax Benefit debt had part or all of their income tax refunds withheld to repay a debt in (a) 2002-2003 and (b) 2003-2004.
- 1178 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—
- (1) Can he confirm that recipients of the age pension receive a utilities allowance twice a year; if so, what is the amount of the utilities allowance paid to (a) single and (b) couple pensioners.
 - (2) Can he explain why people in receipt of disability support pensions and other income support under age pension age do not receive a utilities allowance.
 - (3) Can he explain why couples of age pension age are paid, on an individual basis, half the amount of utilities allowance that a single eligible person would receive.
- 1179 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—
- (1) Can she confirm that recipients of the veterans' affairs pensions of age pension age receive a utilities allowance twice a year; if so, what is the amount of the utilities allowance paid to (a) single and (b) couple pensioners.
 - (2) Can she explain why veterans in receipt of veterans' affairs pensions under age pension age do not receive a utilities allowance.
 - (3) Is it the case that the living costs of veterans receiving veterans' affairs pensions is independent of age and that all veterans would benefit from the payment of the utilities allowance.
 - (4) Will she ensure that all veterans eligible for veterans' affairs pensions are paid the utilities allowance; if not, why not.

- 1180 **MR EMERSON:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—What was the rationale for an end date of 31 December 1966 to qualify for the Pingat Jasa Malaysia (PJM), a commemorative medal awarded by the Malaysian Government to Australian servicemen and women who served in Malaysia from 1957 to 1966.
- 1181 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) What sum (a) in total, and (b) as a proportion of funds allocated, has been allocated to Indigenous organisations from the (i) Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) (Phase One and Phase Two) and (ii) National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP) since its inception.
 - (2) What is the breakdown of funds allocated to Indigenous organisations from the (a) NHT (phase 1 and phase 2) and (b) NAP for each year since its inception, by State and Territory, in total and as a proportion of funds allocated.
- 1182 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Further to the answer to question No. 148 (*Hansard*, 17 February 2005, page 106), why is correspondence between Australia's Head of State, Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II, and her constitutional representative in Australia, the Governor-General, solely of "a private and personal nature".
- 1183 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport—Will the Government act to ensure that correspondence between Australia's Governors-General and Australia's Head of State, Her Royal Highness Queen Elizabeth II, is examined for public release after thirty years and specifically brought within the definition of 'Commonwealth records' in the *Archives Act 1983*.
- 1184 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport —
- (1) Is he aware that the National Archives of Australia holds two sealed boxes of letters written by Sir John Kerr as Governor-General to Her Majesty the Queen and/or Her Majesty's Private Secretary (National Archives Series AA1984/609).
 - (2) Will he seek Her Majesty's agreement to the public release of this correspondence at the same time as the Whitlam Government's Cabinet records for 1975 are released on 1 January 2006 and other relevant Commonwealth Records become available for public access; if not, why not.
- 1185 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Further to the answer to question No. 141 (*Hansard*, 10 May 2005, page 82), will he explain the reasons for the Government's practice of (a) providing the Governor-General with Cabinet minutes, (b) not providing the Governor-General with Cabinet submissions or memoranda, and (c) not providing the Governor-General with Cabinet minutes relating to meetings of the National Security Committee meetings.
- 1186 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Does the Governor-General receive regular oral or written briefings on (a) intelligence, (b) security and (c) counter-terrorism issues by the (i) Office of National Assessments and (ii) Australian Security Intelligence Organisation.
- 1187 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Has his department undertaken or commissioned research on the Governor-General's constitutional position as Commander-in-Chief of Australia's Defence Forces; if so, what was the nature of it.
 - (2) What is his understanding of the nature of the Governor-General's role and responsibilities as Commander-in-Chief.
- 1188 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Does the Secretariat of the Federal Executive Council maintain a list of Federal Executive Councillors.
 - (2) What are the names of all current Executive Councillors and the dates on which they were sworn as Executive Councillors.
- 1189 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Apart from meetings to approve the issue of writs, were any Federal Executive Council Meetings held during the caretaker period preceding the 1998, 2001 or 2004 federal elections, and, if so, on what dates were any meetings held.
- 1190 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) What are the names and dates of appointment of persons who have served as Secretary to the Federal Executive Council.
 - (2) Is the Governor-General consulted prior to the appointment of a person as the Secretary to the Federal Executive Council; if so, does the Governor-General approve this appointment.
- 1191 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) What is the form of words employed in oaths and affirmations taken by Federal Executive Councillors.

- (2) Why is it necessary for Executive Councillors to take a specific oath or affirmation when they have already sworn or affirmed their allegiance to the Queen as Members of Parliament in accordance with section 42 of the Constitution and the related Schedule.

1192 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is it the Government's view that the Governor-General may seek independent advice on legal and constitutional issues from any person other than himself and/or the Attorney-General.
- (2) Is it permissible for the Governor-General to obtain advice on legal or constitutional issues from the Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia.

1193 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 156 (*Hansard*, 17 February 2005, page 107), why have the Governors of New South Wales and Victoria been appointed as the Governor-General's Deputies, but not the Governors of the other States.
- (2) Since 11 August 2003, has the Governor of New South Wales or the Governor of Victoria exercised any powers or functions as a Deputy to the Governor-General; if so, what powers or functions were exercised and on what occasions.

1194 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What sum was spent by the Commonwealth Government on (a) travel, (b) accommodation, and (c) other expenses (including meals and incidentals) incurred on the visit of the Governor-General and Mrs Jeffery to the United Kingdom and Singapore between 29 February and 11 March 2004.
- (2) What are the details of the accommodation used by the Governor-General and Mrs Jefferys on this journey.
- (3) Who accompanied Their Excellencies on this journey overseas.

1195 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What sum was spent by the Commonwealth Government on (a) travel, (b) accommodation, and (c) other expenses (including meals and incidentals) incurred on the visit of the Governor-General and Mrs Jeffery to Denmark and Germany between 5 and 17 May 2004.
- (2) What were the details of the accommodation used by the Governor-General and Mrs Jefferys on this journey.
- (3) Who accompanied Their Excellencies on this journey overseas.

1196 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What sum was spent by the Commonwealth Government on (a) travel, (b) accommodation, and (c) other expenses (including meals and incidentals) incurred when the Governor-General and Mrs Jeffery attended the state funeral of the former President of the United States, Mr Ronald Reagan, in Washington on 11 June 2004.
- (2) What were the details of the accommodation used by the Governor-General and Mrs Jefferys on this journey.
- (3) Who accompanied Their Excellencies on this journey overseas.

1197 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Where was the Governor-General placed in the order of precedence of foreign heads of state, heads of government, ministers and other dignitaries attending the state funeral of the former President of the United States, Mr Ronald Reagan, in Washington on 11 June 2004.

1198 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What sum was spent by the Commonwealth Government on (a) travel, (b) accommodation, and (c) other expenses (including meals and incidentals) incurred on the visit of the Governor-General and Mrs Jeffery to the United Kingdom and Italy between 6 and 12 April 2005.
- (2) What were the details of the accommodation used by the Governor-General and Mrs Jefferys on this journey.
- (3) Who accompanied Their Excellencies on this journey overseas.

1199 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Where was the Governor-General placed in the order of precedence of foreign heads of state, heads of government, ministers and other dignitaries attending the funeral of His Holiness, Pope John Paul II, in Rome on 8 April 2005.

1200 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Further to the answers to question Nos 138 and 139 (*Hansard*, 16 February 2005, page 163), why did the Governor of Victoria, His Excellency John Landy AC MBE serve as Administrator of the Commonwealth during the absence of the Governor-General overseas from 6 to 12 April 2005, instead of the most senior State Governor, the Governor of Western Australia His Excellency Lieutenant-General John Sanderson, AC.
- (2) Why was the Governor of Western Australia unavailable to serve as Administrator of the Commonwealth on this occasion.

1201 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Further to the answer to question No. 143 (*Hansard*, 14 March 2005, page 102) and the amended supplementary answer, why did the Official Secretary to the Governor-General fail in the first instance to provide him with complete and correct information.

1202 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Further to the answer to question Nos 143 (*Hansard*, 14 March 2005, page 102) and 144 (*Hansard*, 17 February 2005, page 105), what social or public policy purposes are served by the Governor-General's formal association with the (a) Australia Club, Melbourne, (b) Australia Club, Sydney, (c) Bowral Golf Club, (d) Commonwealth Club, (e) Harvey Golf Club, (f) Queensland Club, (g) Royal Adelaide Golf Club, (h) Royal South Yarra Lawn Tennis Club, (i) Royal Sydney Golf Club, (j) Royal Sydney Yacht Club, (k) The American Club, Sydney, (l) Union Club of Sydney, (m) University and Schools Club, and (n) Western Australian Club, either through vice-regal patronage or honorary membership.

1203 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) On how many nights since he took office as Governor-General has His Excellency Major General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC stayed at (a) Government House, Canberra, (b) Admiralty House, Sydney, (c) other locations in New South Wales, (d) Melbourne (e) other locations in Victoria, (f) Brisbane, (g) other locations in Queensland, (h) Adelaide, (i) other locations in South Australia, (j) Hobart, (k) other locations in Tasmania, (l) Perth, (m) other locations in Western Australia, (n) Darwin, (o) other locations in the Northern Territory, (p) Norfolk Island, (q) other Australian Territories, and (r) locations overseas.
- (2) On what dates has the Governor-General resided at Admiralty House.

1204 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Why are Letters of Credence and Letters of Recall for foreign Ambassadors accredited to Australia addressed to Her Majesty the Queen and not to the Governor-General who signs the Letters of Credence and Letters of Recall for Australian Ambassadors accredited to foreign countries.

1205 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—What are the names and academic qualifications of the managers of the (a) Corporate Services Branch, and the (i) Human Resource/Industrial Relations Section, (ii) Finance and Business Support Section, (iii) Information and Communications Technology Section, (iv) Risk Management and Internal Audit Section, and (v) Security Section, (b) Regulatory Branch, and the (i) Nuclear Installations Section, (ii) Facilities and Sources Section, and (iii) Regulatory Strategy and Policy Section, (c) Medical Radiation Branch, and the (i) Medical Physics Section, (ii) Ionizing Radiation Section, (iii) Radiopharmaceuticals Section, and (iv) Personal Radiation Monitoring Service Section, (d) Non-Ionizing Radiation Branch, and the (i) Ultraviolet Radiation Section, (ii) Electromagnetic Radiation Section, (iii) Engineering Support Services and Quality Assurance Section, and (iv) Publications and Multimedia Section, and (e) Environmental and Radiation Health Branch, and the (i) Analysis and Monitoring Section, (ii) Environmental Radioactivity Section, (iii) Health Physics Section, and (iv) Standards Development and Committee Support Section of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency.

1206 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is he aware that in some areas of Aceh survivors of the tsunami are still without adequate housing, food and water.
- (2) Can he say how long it takes for money donated by the Australian community to reach the tsunami survivors.
- (3) Is the money donated provided to the Indonesian Government or directly to the Aid Organisations.
- (4) How long does it take for Australian Government funds to reach the tsunami survivors.
- (5) Are Australian Government funds provided to the Indonesian Government or directly to the Aid Organisations.

1207 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) When will the Australian Broadcasting Authority's (ABA) NewsRadio planning for the Ballarat, Bendigo and Goulburn Valley transmission areas be completed.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that there is a very strong community push for Maryborough to have its own community radio station.
- (3) Is the Minister also aware that the Maryborough community has raised sufficient funds for the establishment of its own community radio station.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that Lawrence Derrick & Associates, an approved ABA Radio Engineering Consultant and Radio Frequency Spectrum Assigner, identified an available frequency; if so, can the Minister explain why the expectation that a Temporary Community Broadcasting Licence (TCBL) would be granted was not met.
- (5) Would the Minister reconsider the granting of a TCBL to Strengthening Goldfields Community Radio Inc. (SGCR) on condition that (a) if there is any interference to other radio frequencies that SGCR would cease transmission and (b) following the completion of the NewsRadio planning, SGCR could be moved to a new frequency if necessary.

1208 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that anomalies exist in the Telephone Allowance (TAL) Payment provided to pensioners by Centrelink.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the TAL quarterly payment is intended to assist with the cost of maintaining a telephone service and is not paid to assist with the cost of telephone calls; if so, can the Minister explain why pensioners who only receive incoming calls and do not pay rental on their telephone service receive the TAL payment.
- (3) In circumstances where a pensioner couple is separated by ill health, can the Minister explain why each pensioner is paid the full TAL payment.
- (4) Can the Minister explain the rationale behind a single pensioner receiving the full TAL payment whereas the TAL payment is halved if only one member of a couple is a pensioner.
- (5) Is the Minister aware that where one member of a couple is a pensioner they feel they are discriminated against because they only receive half of the TAL although a single pensioner receives the full TAL amount.

1209 **MR GIBBONS:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) For the period April 2004 to April 2005, what proportion of imported honey was tested for nitrofurans and what were the results of the testing.
- (2) What guarantee can he give that imported honey arriving in Australia is free of chemicals and, in particular, free of nitrofurans.
- (3) What steps has he taken to ensure that imported honey containing nitrofurans is not blended with Australian honey to help preserve the clean green image of the Australian honey industry.
- (4) Can he provide information on proposals to test all imported honey to ensure that it is chemical and pesticide free and that it meets the same standards as Australian honey.

1210 **MS MACKLIN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) Which (a) universities, (b) campuses, and (c) controlled entities was he referring to at the Sustaining Prosperity Conference on 31 March 2005 when he stated that 14 Australian universities operate campuses or controlled entities that do not comply with the National Protocols for Higher Education Approval Processes.
- (2) Which aspects of the National Protocols do these campuses or controlled entities fail to comply with.

1211 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) How many import containers (a) per day and (b) per year pass through the port of (i) Melbourne, (ii) Sydney, (iii) Brisbane, (iv) Fremantle, (v) Newcastle, (vi) Hay Point, (vii) Port Adelaide, (viii) Gladstone, (ix) Townsville, (x) Port Hedland, (xi) Bunbury, (xii) Port Kembla, (xiii) Geelong, (xiv) Portland, and (xv) Launceston.
- (2) How many import containers are inspected or scanned by Customs (a) per day and (b) per year at the port of (i) Melbourne, (ii) Sydney, (iii) Brisbane, (iv) Fremantle, (v) Newcastle, (vi) Hay Point, (vii) Port Adelaide, (viii) Gladstone, (ix) Townsville, (x) Port Hedland, (xi) Bunbury, (xii) Port Kembla, (xiii) Geelong, (xiv) Portland, and (xv) Launceston.

- (3) What is the timeframe for inspecting import containers following their arrival at Australian ports.
 - (4) Will the Minister provide the information sought in parts (1) and (2) in respect of all other Australian ports through which import containers pass.
- 1212 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What is the Government's policy on interdicting and boarding cargo vessels that fail to provide cargo reports detailing the content of their cargo 48 hours prior to arriving at an Australian port, as required under s 64AB of the *Customs Act 1901* and r 26B of the *Customs Regulations 1926*.
 - (2) What maritime capacity does the Australian Customs Service (ACS) have to interdict and board late reporting cargo vessels.
 - (3) How are the ACS vessels armed.
- 1213 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) How many Australian Federal Police Officers were deployed outside Australia on 1 March 2005.
 - (2) In which countries were the officers deployed and how many were deployed in each country.
 - (3) For what periods of time were the officers deployed in each country.
 - (4) How many Australian Federal Police Officers were there at 1 March 2005.
- 1214 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—Has the Australian Customs Service developed a boarding guide or manual to guide officers in respect of suspect illegal entry vessels; if so, what procedures and processes are set out in that guide or manual.
- 1215 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) How many (a) Australian Customs Service (ACS), (b) Coastwatch, and (c) naval vessels were assigned at 1 April 2005 to patrol Australia's northern waters against suspect illegal foreign vessels.
 - (2) How many patrols are made (a) each month and (b) each year by (i) ACS, (ii) Coastwatch, and (iii) naval vessels in Australia's northern waters.
 - (3) From which ports do the patrols originate.
 - (4) What is the area (in nautical miles) covered by each patrol.
- 1216 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What is the full list of groups, divisions, branches and other work units (however named) in the Australian Customs Service.
 - (2) How many full-time equivalent staff currently work in each work unit.
 - (3) In respect of each work unit, how many staff are (a) ongoing and (b) non-ongoing and what are their broadband classifications.
 - (4) What was the operating cost of each work unit in 2003-2004.
 - (5) What is the budgeted operating cost of each work unit for (a) 2004-2005 and (b) 2005-2006.
- 1217 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What is the Government's policy on screening and inspecting empty cargo containers imported to Australia.
 - (2) What is the (a) legislative and (b) administrative obligation on the Australian Customs Service to inspect and screen empty cargo containers imported to Australia.
 - (3) Are there guidelines for inspecting and screening empty cargo containers imported to Australia; if so, what are they.
- 1218 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) How many empty cargo containers were imported to Australia in 2003-2004.
 - (2) Of these containers, how many were (a) screened and (b) inspected.
- 1219 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Is Australian Customs Notice No. 2004/33 regarding 'Sea Cargo Examination Arrangements' issued on 6 August 2004 which states that "Empty containers and export cargo are inspected where there is an identified need to do so" the most recent Notice regarding the inspection of empty cargo containers.
 - (2) What are the guidelines or rules for determining whether there is an 'identified need' to inspect empty containers.
 - (3) In what circumstances will there be an 'identified need' to inspect empty containers.

- 1220 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute Report dated 19 April 2005 titled *Future Unknown: The Terrorist Threat to Australian Maritime Security*.
 - (2) Will the Australian Customs Service implement any of the recommendations contained in the report; if so, which ones.
- 1221 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—What steps is the Minister taking to improve cargo reporting of container vessels arriving at Australian ports from the current rate of 16% of container reports being late reported.
- 1222 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—What are the (a) general orders and (b) naval orders applicable to naval officers boarding suspect illegal entry vessels.
- 1223 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Do the Navy's rules of engagement allow naval vessels to fire into the propulsion system of a suspect foreign vessel attempting to flee from Australian waters.
 - (2) Does the Navy have authority to exercise any other powers to prevent suspect foreign vessels fleeing from Australian waters; if so, what are they.
- 1224 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Has the Minister's department developed a boarding guide or manual to guide officers in respect of suspect illegal entry vessels; if so, what procedures and processes are set out in that guide or manual.
 - (2) To whom is the manual or guide provided.
- 1225 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) How many naval vessels were assigned at 1 April 2005 to patrol Australia's northern waters against suspect illegal foreign vessels.
 - (2) How many patrols are made (a) each month and (b) each year by naval vessels in Australia's northern waters.
 - (3) From which ports do the patrols originate.
 - (4) What is the area covered by each patrol.
- 1226 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is he aware of the report produced by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD titled *Review of Administration and Expenditure for ASIO, ASIS and DSD* dated 7 March 2005.
 - (2) Does the Government intend to implement any of the recommendations made in the report; if so, (a) which ones and (b) when will they be implemented.
- 1227 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is he aware of the Report of the Inquiry into Australian Intelligence Agencies dated July 2004.
 - (2) What steps has the Government taken to implement each of the recommendations in the report.
- 1228 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) What is the full list of groups, divisions, branches and other work units (however named) in his department.
 - (2) How many full-time equivalent staff currently work in each work unit.
 - (3) In respect of each work unit, how many staff are (a) ongoing and (b) non-ongoing and what are their broadband classifications.
 - (4) What was the operating cost of each work unit in 2003-2004.
 - (5) What is the budgeted operating cost of each work unit for (a) 2004-2005 and (b) 2005-2006.
- 1229 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—What steps has the Government taken to implement the Local Government Security Partnership Program announced on 30 September 2004.
- 1230 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Has the Government established the Office of Local Government Emergency Management; if not, what is the timeframe for establishing this office and when will it become operational.
 - (2) What work will the Office perform.
- 1231 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Does his department provide training support for emergency services volunteers, including country fire service volunteers in each of the States and Territories, to respond to acts of terrorism; if so, what is the nature and extent of the training.

- 1232 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—In the last twelve months has he, or anyone on his behalf, had discussions with representatives of the Government of (a) Indonesia, (b) Malaysia, (c) Papua-New Guinea, (c) The Philippines, and (e) Singapore about assisting it to police its maritime borders and territorial waters in respect of (i) pro-active intelligence exchange; (ii) the provision of coastal surveillance technologies; (iii) the institution of joint patrols, and (iv) the establishment of communication platforms and technologies; if so, will he provide details including the date, nature and outcome of the discussions.
- 1233 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—What steps has his department taken since 1 January 2004 to (a) improve the security of (i) railroad infrastructure, (ii) major rail facilities, and (iii) key rail hubs and (b) improve the security of passengers travelling by rail.
- 1234 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Has an agreement been entered into between the Commonwealth and the State and Territory governments since 11 September 2001 to (a) improve the security of (i) railroad infrastructure, (ii) major rail facilities, and (iii) key rail hubs and (b) improve the security of passengers travelling by rail; if so, what are the details; if not, have any negotiations taken place between the Commonwealth and the State and Territory governments since 11 September 2001 to (a) improve the security of (i) railroad infrastructure, (ii) major rail facilities, and (iii) key rail hubs and (b) improve the security of passengers travelling by rail; if so, what are the details.
- 1235 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Has the Government developed a nationally consistent approach to protect railroad infrastructure, major rail facilities, key rail hubs and rail passengers from the threat of a terrorist attack; if so, what are the details.
- 1236 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Does responsibility for the security of Australia's (a) railroad infrastructure, (b) major rail facilities, and (c) key rail hubs rest with the States and Territories; if not, what Commonwealth (i) financial, (ii) legal, and (iii) administrative assistance has it provided to the States and Territories.
- 1237 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has his department developed a comprehensive security framework for the supply chain of container transportation across Australia, including rail yards, road stops and shipping/loading terminals; if so, what are the details.
 - (2) Has an agreement been entered into between the Commonwealth and the State and Territory governments to improve the security of the supply chain of container transportation across Australia; if so, what are the details; if not, have any negotiations taken place between the Commonwealth and the State and Territory governments to improve the security of the supply chain of container transportation; if so, what re the details.
- MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1238 - 1239)—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute Report dated 19 April 2005 titled *Future Unknown: The Terrorist Threat to Australian Maritime Security*.
 - (2) Will the Minister's Department implement any of the recommendations contained in the report; if so, which ones.
- 1238 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- 1239 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 1240 **MS GEORGE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Is the Minister aware that the decision of January 2005 to amend anti-dumping measures has not resulted in the expected price increases for Korean copper tube in the Australian market.
 - (2) Is the Minister aware of the specific nature of the complaints raised by Kembla Tube and Fittings in correspondence dated 14 March 2005 and at a meeting with Australian Customs Service (ACS) officers on 1 March 2005.
 - (3) What is the reason for the lack of response by the ACS to the issues raised by Kembla Tube and Fittings.
 - (4) What investigations have taken place to determine how the Global Metal Group (GMG), an importer of copper tube from Korean manufacturer Dae Jin, is able to sell imported tube at prices lower than those predating the January 2005 decision.
 - (5) Has the ACS visited GMG to conduct a thorough investigation; if not, why not.
 - (6) Has a sales route exercise been undertaken; if not, (a) why not and (b) when will one be undertaken.
 - (7) Is the lack of action by the Dumping Liaison Unit of ACS a result of inadequate resources and staff.

- (8) What action is being undertaken to ensure compliance with the amended anti-dumping measures applying to copper tube exported by Korea.
- (9) What are the 'errors' referred to in the Minister's letter to Kembla Products dated 13 April 2005 which states that "Customs has identified some errors as a result of its monitoring activity and is in the process of conducting further inquiries" and are penalties to be imposed to ensure 'errors' do not recur.
- (10) Will the Minister agree to the request by Kembla Tube and Fittings for a full investigation into the reports of copper tube sold at a loss by Global Metal Group; if not, why not.
- (11) Is the Minister aware that jobs at Port Kembla could be lost if importers of copper tube from Korea are able to flout the revised anti-dumping measures announced on 12 January 2005; if so, what action does the Minister propose to ensure this does not occur.
- (12) What action will the Minister take to address the problems which are causing material injury to the operations and employment at Kembla Tube and Fittings.

1241 **MS CORCORAN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Who is conducting the review to examine how best to implement the recommendations in the report by the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) on the Therapeutic Goods Administration.
- (2) When is the review expected to be completed.
- (3) Will the review be examining all the recommendations in the ANAO report; if not, which recommendations are being examined by the review.
- (4) Have any of the recommendations been implemented; if so which ones.
- (5) How is the review being funded.

1242 **MS CORCORAN:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—How many Child Support Agency clients live in (a) the electoral division of Isaacs, (b) the postcode area (i) 3173, (ii) 3194, (iii) 3195, (iv) 3196, (v) 3197, and (vi) 3201, and (c) that part of postcode area (i) 3174, (ii) 3175, (iii) 3192, and (iv) 3977 falling within the electoral division of Isaacs.

MS CORCORAN: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1243 - 1244)—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that Codex Alimentarius is considering the adoption of new guidelines for Vitamin and Mineral Supplements at its meeting in July 2005 and that the Australian submission on the proposed guidelines includes the statement that Australia will not be bound by the guidelines.
- (2) Will the Minister explain Australia's position on the guidelines being considered by Codex.

1243 **MS CORCORAN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.

1244 **MS CORCORAN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

1245 **MS ROXON:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What was the value of Australian aid provided to Eritrea in each financial year since 1990-1991.
- (2) What is the expected value of Australian aid to be provided to Eritrea in 2004-2005.
- (2) What was the nature and purpose of Australian aid to Eritrea in (a) 2003-2004 and (b) 2004-2005.
- (3) What are the details of each project in Eritrea that has received Australian aid in 2003-2004 and 2004-2005, in particular, (i) which projects have received Australian aid, (ii) who received the financial aid, (iii) who administers the project, (iv) what is the aim or purpose of the project, and (v) what is the current status of the project.
- (4) Is the Government considering further aid projects in Eritrea; if so, what are the details.

1246 **MR L. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) What is the Minister's response to the report *Language Policy* by five Australian linguists (D. Eades, H. Fraser, J. Siegel, T. McNamara, and B. Baker) published in 2003 which casts serious doubt on the assumptions and methods used by the companies, Eqvator and Sprakab, which are contracted by the Government to produce language analysis reports to assist with the determination of claims for refugee status.
- (2) What is the Minister's response to the set of guidelines for the use of language analysis in relation to questions of national origin issued by an international group of linguists – Language and National Origin Group (2004) – and published in the *International Journal of Speech, Language and the Law* in 2004.

- (3) How does the Government justify the continued use of Eqvator and Sprakab in the investigation of the nationality claims of asylum seekers.
- (4) What is the cost of a language analysis report from (a) Eqvator and (b) Sprakab.
- (5) What sum has DIMIA spent on these reports in the last 12 months.
- (6) What investigations have been undertaken by the Department to ascertain more reliable means of verifying nationality claims of asylum seekers.

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1247 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) When did the Government decide to retain a minimum level of Government borrowing in order to ensure the continued existence of the bond market and when did this decision take effect.
- (2) On average, what rate of interest did the Government pay on outstanding Commonwealth debt in (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004.
- (3) On average, what was the value of Government funds on deposit at the Reserve Bank in (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004 and can he say why these sums are a great deal larger than the equivalent sums on deposit during the 1990s.
- (4) On average, what rate of interest did the Commonwealth receive on its deposits at the Reserve Bank in (a) 2000-2001, (b) 2001-2002, (c) 2002-2003, and (d) 2003-2004.

1248 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Does the Australian Government have an estimate of when global oil production is likely to peak; if so, in what year does the Government expect this will occur.
- (2) Does the Government have an estimate of the likely rate of annual decline in production after global oil production passes its peak; if so, what are the details.
- (3) Does the Government have estimates of the impact on global oil prices of continuing decline in global oil production; if so, what are they.
- (4) Has the Government undertaken any economic modelling to determine the consequences for the Australian economy of very large and sustained increases in global oil prices; if so, what are the outcomes of that modelling.

1249 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—What sum was spent by the Commonwealth Government on (a) travel, (b) accommodation, (c) security, and (d) all other expenses for the visit to Australia by His Royal Highness Prince Charles between 28 February 2005 and 5 March 2005.

1250 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—What sum was spent by the Commonwealth Government on (a) travel, (b) accommodation, (c) security, and (d) all other expenses for the visit to Australia by Their Royal Highnesses, Crown Prince Frederick and Crown Princess Mary of Denmark between 27 February 2005 to 11 March 2005.

1251 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 142 (*Hansard*, 10 May 2005, page 82), what is the reason for the practice of not providing Cabinet Minutes to Administrators of the Commonwealth.
- (2) In this matter, how does the position of an Administrator serving for an extended period (such as Sir Guy Green in 2003) differ from the position of the Governor-General.

1252 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is he aware that the Letters Patent constituting the Office of the Governor-General of New Zealand include a requirement that Ministers of the Crown in New Zealand shall keep the Governor-General fully informed concerning the general conduct of the New Zealand Government and, so far as they are responsible, that Ministers shall furnish the Governor-General of New Zealand with such information as she may request with respect to any particular matter.
- (2) In the absence of any similar provision in the Australian Constitution or the Letters Patent constituting the Office of the Governor-General of Australia, has he made written instructions or directions to Ministers to ensure that the Governor-General is fully informed concerning the general conduct of the Australian Government and is provided with any information he may request; if so, (a) what are they and (b) when were they given.

1253 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What sum was spent by the Commonwealth Government on (a) travel, (b) accommodation, (c) security, and (d) all other expenses for his visits to (i) Santiago, Chile, to attend the annual Asia-

Pacific Economic Cooperation leaders' meeting on 18 November 2004, (ii) Vientiane, Laos, to attend the ASEAN-Australia and New Zealand Leaders' Summit on 30 November 2004, (iii) the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos, Switzerland, from 28 to 30 January 2005, Singapore on 1 to 2 February 2005 and Banda Aceh, Indonesia on 2 February 2005, (iv) New Zealand from 19 to 21 February 2005, and (v) China, Japan, Turkey and Greece from 18 to 29 April 2005.

(2) Who accompanied him on each journey.

1254 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What paintings and art works are currently on loan from the Australian National Gallery to the Governor-General's residence at (a) Government House, Canberra, and (b) Admiralty House, Sydney.
- (2) In respect of each painting or art work on loan to the Office of the Governor-General, when was it loaned and when will it be returned to the National Gallery.

1255 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Since March 1996, on how many occasions has Her Majesty the Queen of Australia honoured Australian citizens with awards in Her personal Order or other honours which are within Her Majesty's own gift.
- (2) What awards or honours were involved.
- (3) In presenting honours or awards that are within Her Majesty's own gift, does the Queen consult with or seek the concurrence of the Prime Minister of Australia in respect of Australian recipients.

1256 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) On how many occasions since March 1996 has Her Majesty the Queen of Australia approved recommendations relating to the Australian honours system.
- (2) Have any changes or other decisions been made; if so, what were they and when were they approved by Her Majesty.
- (3) Who makes recommendations to Her Majesty concerning the Australian Honours System, in particular, is it the Governor-General on the advice of the Prime Minister or the Prime Minister directly to the Queen.

1257 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) When was a recommendation made to Her Majesty the Queen of Australia concerning the extension of the Humanitarian Overseas Service Medal (HOSM) announced by the Prime Minister on 13 April 2005.
- (2) Who made the recommendation.
- (3) When did Her Majesty give in-principle approval to this recommendation.
- (4) Why was the announcement of the extension of the HOSM made by the Prime Minister rather than the Governor-General.

1258 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—What are the responsibilities of (a) The Queen and (b) the Governor-General in respect of the Australian Honours System.

1259 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Further to the answer to question No. 143 (*Hansard* 14 March 2005, page 102), why is it necessary for the Governor-General to serve as Patron of the ACT Association of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire.

1260 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Further to the answer to question No. 143, (*Hansard* 14 March 2005, page 102), why is it necessary for the Governor-General to serve as Patron of the Military and Hospitaller Order of St Lazarus of Jerusalem Grand Priory of Australia.

1261 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) In respect of the implementation of the Guidelines concerning the Acceptance and Wearing of Foreign Honours and Awards by Australians approved by Her Majesty the Queen of Australia on 5 December 1997, is it the case that a Registrar of Awards appointed by the Governor-General maintains a register of Australian citizens who have been given formal permission to accept particular foreign awards or honours.
- (2) Is the register open to public inspection; if not, why not.
- (3) In respect of each occasion since 5 December 1997 that the Governor-General has given permission for Australian citizens to accept and wear foreign honours and awards, what was the honour or award and on what date did the Governor-General grant approval for it to be accepted and worn.

- (4) Have any applications for approval to accept and wear a foreign honour or award been declined by the Governor-General; if so, (a) what was the honour or award, (b) on what date was the application declined, and (c) what was the reason for the decision.

1262 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Who attended the celebration of Her Majesty the Queen of Australia's birthday at Government House, Canberra, on 21 April 2004 and 21 April 2005.
- (2) What sum was spent on each of these functions.

1263 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Further to the answer to question No. 149 (*Hansard*, 17 February 2005, page 106), has the timing of a visit by the Governor-General to China been mutually agreed between the Governments of the People's Republic of China and Australia; if not, why has the Governor-General's website revealed that his visit to China is scheduled for October 2005.

1264 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What sum was spent by the Commonwealth Government on (a) travel, (b) accommodation, and (c) other expenses (including meals) incurred as a consequence of the visit by the Governor-General to the Solomon Islands and East Timor on 10 and 11 December 2004.
- (2) What were the details of the accommodation used by the Governor-General on this journey.
- (3) Who accompanied the Governor-General on this journey.

1265 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) What costs have been or will be incurred by the Commonwealth Government on (a) travel, (b) accommodation, and (c) other expenses (including meals) as a consequence of the Governor-General's official visit to the Russian Federation in May 2005.
- (2) What are the details of the accommodation used by the Governor-General on this trip.
- (3) When was the Governor-General invited to attend the celebrations in Moscow to mark the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe, and when was the invitation accepted.
- (4) Where was the Governor-General placed in the order of precedence of foreign heads of state, heads of government, ministers and other dignitaries attending the celebrations in Moscow to mark the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe.
- (5) Did the Governor-General make any public statement concerning the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe, including any reference to the occupation of the Baltic Republics by the Soviet Union.
- (6) Who accompanied the Governor-General on this journey.
- (7) Will he explain why neither he nor the Governor-General issued a media release concerning the visit to the Russian Federation prior to the Governor-General's departure from Australia on 5 May 2005.
- (8) Why did the Prime Minister's media release of 8 May 2005 concerning the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe make no reference to the Governor-General's attendance, on behalf of Australia, at the celebrations in Moscow.
- (9) Is a brief item in the Vice Regal News usually the only public notification of an official visit by the Governor-General to a foreign country.

1266 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Further to the answers to question Nos 138 and 139 (*Hansard*, 16 February 2005, page 163), why did the Governor of Victoria, His Excellency John Landy AC MBE assume the Administration of the Commonwealth Government during the absence of the Governor-General overseas in May 2005 instead of the most senior State Governor, the Governor of Western Australia His Excellency Lieutenant-General John Sanderson, AC.
- (2) Why was the Governor of Western Australia unavailable to serve as Administrator of the Commonwealth on this occasion.

1267 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) When did Her Majesty the Queen indicate to the Government that she has accepted the invitation to officially open the Commonwealth Games on 15 March 2006.
- (2) Did Her Majesty convey this advice to him or to the Governor-General in the first instance.
- (3) In respect of his press release on 7 May 2005 announcing the visit to Australia by Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, why did he rather than Her Majesty's constitutional representative in Australia, the Governor-General, make the announcement.

- 1268 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—What was the purpose of the Governor-General’s discussions on 24 August 2004 with Mr Andrew Metcalfe, Deputy Secretary, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet; Lieutenant Colonel Gus Gilmore, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet; Mr Ed Tyrie, PSM APM, Executive Director, Attorney-General’s Department; Mr Mika Kontianinen, Assistant Secretary, Attorney-General’s Department and Mr Corey Bacon, Attorney-General’s Department.
- 1269 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—What was the purpose of the Governor-General’s luncheon discussion on 8 July 2004 with Mr Ian Carnell, Mr Robert Cornall, Mr Bill Farmer, Commissioner Michael Keelty, APM, Mr Dennis Richardson AO, and Dr Peter Shergold AM.
- 1270 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Is the Minister aware that the National Archives of Australia holds two sealed boxes of letters written by Sir John Kerr as Governor-General to Her Majesty the Queen and/or Her Majesty’s Private Secretary (National Archives Series AA1984/609).
 - (2) Will the Minister write to the Prime Minister to recommend that he approach Her Majesty to obtain her agreement for the public release of this correspondence at the same time as the Whitlam Government’s Cabinet records for 1975 are released on 1 January 2006 and other relevant Commonwealth Records become available for public access; if not, why not.
- 1271 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 218 (Hansard, 9 February 2005, page 112), what regulations, guidelines or other written directions govern the conduct of Resistance to Interrogation (RTI) exercises conducted by the Australian Defence Force.
 - (2) What information do participants in RTI training receive about what they can expect during RTI exercises so as to ensure that there is fully informed consent to the training on their part.
 - (3) Are RTI participants advised of their right to (a) terminate their participation in the exercise and (b) register any complaint about their treatment.
 - (4) Who is responsible for the overall conduct of RTI exercises.
 - (5) Aside from RTI interrogators and participants, who else is involved in RTI exercises (eg who is responsible for the detention of participants).
 - (6) Who supervises RTI exercises in the field, including in relating to health and safety issues, and what is the minimum rank of a supervisor.
 - (7) What arrangements are in place to ensure that an RTI exercise does not involve physical or sexual assault or other harm to any participants.
 - (8) In respect of the Minister’s advice concerning the practice of making RTI participants wear blacked ski goggles or airline sleeping masks, for how long may a RTI participant be vision deprived.
 - (9) In respect of the Minister’s advice concerning the practice of stripping participants naked during “advanced practical training”, for how long have RTI participants been left naked and what is the maximum permissible time that they may be deprived of clothing.
 - (10) In respect of the Minister’s advice that there is no physical contact between RTI interrogators and participants (except to lead a participant for safety reasons), is there physical contact between RTI participants and other persons involved in RTI exercises (eg Military Police or other persons responsible for the custody of RTI participants).
 - (11) In respect of the Minister’s advice concerning sleep deprivation, (a) what is the maximum time an RTI participant has been deprived of sleep, (b) what is the maximum permitted period of sleep deprivation, and (c) what means are employed to deprive RTI participants of sleep.
 - (12) In respect of the Minister’s advice concerning threats of physical and/or sexual abuse as a psychological ploy, what forms of physical or sexual abuse may be threatened by RTI interrogators and are any types of threats not permitted.
 - (13) Can the Minister confirm that guard dogs have been used to intimidate and harass RTI participants; if so, are guard dogs employed in the presence of naked RTI participants.
 - (14) Since March 1996, have any persons sustained injuries as a consequence of their participation in RTI exercises; if so, how many persons were injured and what were the injuries involved.
 - (15) Since March 1996, have any RTI participants made any complaints as a consequence of their treatment by interrogators or other any persons involved in such exercises; if so, what was the nature of each complaint, what investigations were undertaken, and what was the outcome in each case.
 - (16) What records are maintained concerning the treatment of individual participants in RTI exercises.

- (17) What records are maintained on the techniques employed by RTI interrogators in relation to individual participants.
- 1272 **MR FITZGIBBON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) What revenue has the General Interest Charge raised each year since its introduction.
 - (2) What sum has been (a) levied and (b) paid in penalties by tax payers associated with (i) mass marketing schemes and (ii) employee benefit arrangements.
 - (3) How many small businesses (with annual turnover of less than \$1 million) have been in arrears with their GST payments in each quarter of each financial year since the introduction of the GST.
 - (4) What was the average value of GST arrears in each quarter of each financial year since the introduction of the GST.
- 1273 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is he aware that advice from Consular Operations of his department provided to the families of the Australian citizens recently arrested in Denpasar, Indonesia on suspicion of drug trafficking indicates that consular officers are not able to arrange or pay for interpreters.
 - (2) Can he confirm that consular services are unable to provide assistance with (a) arranging and (b) paying for interpreters in circumstance in which an Australian citizen is arrested in a foreign country; if so, can he explain why.
 - (3) In respect of Australian citizens who are arrested whilst overseas, are interpreters provided by consular services at any stage during their detention, in particular, when they are first arrested and questioned by police.
 - (4) Are Australian citizens arrested overseas on suspicion of committing offences for which the death penalty may be imposed entitled to assistance with interpreters from consular services; if not, why not.
 - (5) Can he explain how the details of interpreters are provided to Australian citizens who have been arrested and what assistance, if any, consular services provides to engage the services of interpreters.
- 1274 **MS HOARE:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is he aware that section 8(1A) of the *Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act 1987* provides that “a request by a foreign country for assistance under this Act must be refused if it relates to the prosecution or punishment of a person charged with, or convicted of, an offence in respect of which the death penalty may be imposed in the foreign country, unless the Attorney-General is of the opinion, having regard to the special circumstances of the case that the assistance requested should be granted.”.
 - (2) In respect of the recent arrest of nine Australian citizens suspected of drug offences in Indonesia for which the death penalty may be imposed, has he exercised his discretion to grant assistance to the Indonesian authorities under the provisions of section 8(1A) of the *Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act 1987*; if so, can he explain what were the special circumstances under which the grant of assistance was made.
- 1275 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Is he aware that his department has engaged Swell Design as a consultant on new government branding.
 - (2) What work did Swell Design conduct as part of this contract.
 - (3) Can he confirm that \$165,000 was spent on this consultancy.
 - (4) Have any other consultants been engaged in this process; if so, what are their names and postal addresses.
 - (6) What sum was spent on each consultancy.
- 1276 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Is the Minister aware that Old Parliament House has spent \$7,956 on a consultant to assist in an interpretation evaluation project.
 - (2) What work was carried out under the contract.
 - (4) What was the name and postal address of the consultant.

MR BOWEN: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1277 - 1301)—

- (1) What sum was spent on media monitoring and clipping services engaged by the Minister's office in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, and (c) 2004-2005 to date.
- (2) What was the name and postal addresses of each media monitoring company engaged by the Minister's office.

1277 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Prime Minister.

1278 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1279 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer.

1280 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

1281 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1282 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

1283 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.

1284 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1285 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.

1286 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

1287 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.

1288 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.

1289 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.

1290 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.

1291 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.

1292 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

1293 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.

1294 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs.

1295 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Arts and Sport.

1296 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs.

1297 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer.

1298 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State.

1299 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Ageing.

1300 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Small Business and Tourism.

1301 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

MR BOWEN: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1302 - 1319)—

- (1) What sum was spent on media monitoring and clipping services engaged by the department and agencies in the Minister's portfolio in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, and (c) 2004-2005 to date.
- (2) Did the department or any agency in the Minister's portfolio order newspaper clippings, television appearance transcripts or videos, radio transcripts or tapes on behalf of the Minister's office in (a) 2004 and (b) 2005; if so, what sum was spent by the department or agency on providing this service.

1302 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Prime Minister.

1303 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.

1304 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer.

1305 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

1306 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence.

1307 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

1308 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing.

1309 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Attorney-General.

1310 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Administration.

- 1311 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 1312 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs.
- 1313 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training.
- 1314 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- 1315 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources.
- 1316 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations.
- 1317 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.
- 1318 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 1319 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
- 1320 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Can the Minister guarantee that passengers' luggage is safe from interference at Australia's airports and, in particular, that persons in the cargo handling areas cannot place illegal drugs in luggage; if not, why not; if so, how.
 - (2) Can he confirm that security cameras in the cargo handling areas of Sydney airport have been stolen or interfered with; if not, why not; if so, what are the details.

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- 1321 **MR L. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Is the Minister's department aware of the claim made in March by Rwanda's Deputy Attorney-General, Mr Martin Ngoga, that as many as 300 Rwandans implicated in the genocide against Tutsis have been accepted in Australia and other nations; if so, has the validity of this claim been investigated; if not, will the validity of this claim now be investigated.
 - (2) How many applications for migration made by Rwandans were (a) accepted and (b) rejected in (i) 1996, (ii) 1997, (iii) 1998, (iv) 1999, and (v) 2000.
 - (3) What action is taken to minimise the possibility of perpetrators of major human rights abuses migrating to Australia.
- 1322 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—
- (1) When and how extensively has Dapsone been used within the Australian Defence Force.
 - (2) What side effects does Dapsone have.
 - (3) Have tests ever been conducted in Australia to measure the side effects of Dapsone and have the results of these tests been made public; if so, where.
 - (4) Have tests been conducted and results not been made public; if so, why.
 - (5) Has Dapsone been linked to cancer.
 - (6) Do U.S. Veterans' studies show a link between Dapsone and brain tumours.
- 1323 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—What sum was spent by the Commonwealth Government on (1) travel, (2) accommodation, (3) security, and (4) all other expenses for the visit to Australia by Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Victoria of Sweden in March 2005.
- 1324 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—In respect of the allocation in the 2005-2006 budget of \$1.453 million over two years for the construction of a new building for the Honours and Awards Secretariat at Government House, Yarralumla, (a) what time frames have been set for the completion of this project and (b) how many staff will be housed in the new building.
- 1325 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) In respect of the allocation in the 2005-2006 budget of \$7.7 million over four years from 2005–2006 and additional funding of \$7.3 million to be provided beyond the forward estimates to 2014–2015 to support the implementation of the ten-year Heritage Property Master Plan for the repair, maintenance and development of vice-regal properties, what are the main features of the Heritage Property Master Plan.
 - (2) What consultations took place with (a) the Official Establishments Trust and (b) the National Capital Authority in the course of the development of the Heritage Property Master Plan.

- (3) What specific works or programs are to be carried out under the Heritage Property Master Plan at (a) Government House, Yarralumla, and (b) Admiralty House, Kirribilli in (i) 2005-2006, (ii) 2006-2007, (iii) 2007-2008, and (iv) 2008-2009.
- (4) Is the Heritage Property Master Plan publicly available; if not, will the Prime Minister ask the Official Secretary to the Governor-General to make the plan available to the public via the Governor-General's website.

1326 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Which Commonwealth Government agencies are connected with Fedlink, the secure electronic communication network.
- (2) Are any State and Territory government departments or agencies connected with Fedlink; if so, which departments or agencies.
- (3) What sum was spent on operating Fedlink each financial year since the system's establishment.
- (4) Have there been any instances where the security of transmission of information via Fedlink has been compromised; if so, on how many occasions is this known to have occurred.

1327 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) How many Job Network providers are currently operating in the Fairfield/Liverpool Employment Service Area (ESA) and what are their names and addresses.
- (2) How many job seekers are currently registered with each Job Network employment services provider in the Fairfield/Liverpool ESA.
- (3) For the years 2002, 2003 and 2004, how many (a) Newstart and (b) Youth Allowance recipients were placed in jobs through assistance from Job Network providers in (i) Australia and (ii) the Fairfield/Liverpool ESA.
- (4) For the years 2002, 2003 and 2004, how many long-term unemployed people (a) in total, and (b) as a proportion of all unemployed people, participated in (i) intensive assistance programs and (ii) the Active Participation Model in the Fairfield/Liverpool ESA.
- (6) According to the Post Program Monitoring survey, (a) how many job seekers who participated in intensive assistance in the Fairfield/Liverpool ESA found employment and (b) what proportion who participated in intensive assistance in the Fairfield/Liverpool ESA found (i) full-time, (ii) part-time and (iii) casual employment in 2002, 2003 and 2004.
- (7) How many Community Work Co-ordinators are currently operating in the Fairfield/Liverpool ESA and what are their names and addresses.
- (8) Will he provide a description of each individual activity run by each Community Work Co-ordinator in the Fairfield/Liverpool ESA in 2004.
- (9) According to the Post Program Monitoring survey, (a) how many job seekers who participated in a Work for the Dole activity in the Fairfield/Liverpool ESA found employment and (b) what proportion who participated in a Work for the Dole activity in the Fairfield/Liverpool ESA found (i) full-time, (ii) part-time and (iii) casual employment in 2002, 2003, and 2004.

1328 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—How many broadband customers were there in the electoral division of Prospect in (a) 2002, (b) 2003, and (c) 2004.

1329 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Who are the members of the Board of Festivals Australia.
- (2) What was the date of appointment of each member.
- (3) What is the remuneration of each member.
- (4) How many times in 2004 did the Board of Festivals Australia meet.

1330 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Who are the members of the Visions for Australia Committee.
- (2) What was the date of appointment of each member.
- (3) What is the remuneration of each member.
- (4) How many times in 2004 did the Visions for Australia Committee meet.

- 1331 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Who are the members of the Board of the National Food Industry Council.
 - (2) What was the date of appointment of each member.
 - (3) What is the remuneration of each member.
 - (4) How many times in 2004 did the National Food Industry Council meet.
- 1332 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) Who are the members of the Civics Education Group.
 - (2) What was the date of appointment of each member.
 - (3) What is the remuneration of each member.
 - (4) How many times in 2004 did the Civics Education Group meet.
- 1333 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Who are the members of the Financial Sector Advisory Council.
 - (2) What was the date of appointment of each member.
 - (3) What is the remuneration of each member.
 - (4) How many times in 2004 did the Financial Sector Advisory Council meet.
- 1334 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Who are the members of the Board of Taxation.
 - (2) What was the date of appointment of each member.
 - (3) What is the remuneration of each member.
 - (4) How many times in 2004 did the Board of Taxation meet.
- 1335 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Who are the members of the National Demonstration Hospitals Program Steering Committee.
 - (2) What was the date of appointment of each member.
 - (3) What is the remuneration of each member.
 - (4) How many times in 2004 did the National Demonstration Hospitals Program Steering Committee meet.
- 1336 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Who are the members of the Council for Multicultural Australia.
 - (2) What was the date of appointment of each member.
 - (3) What is the remuneration of each member.
 - (4) How many times in 2004 did the Council for Multicultural Australia meet.
- 1337 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Who are the members of the Immigration Detention Advisory Group.
 - (2) What was the date of appointment of each member.
 - (3) What is the remuneration of each member.
 - (4) How many times in 2004 did the Immigration Detention Advisory Group meet.
- 1338 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Which Australian embassies have undergone refurbishment, renovation or relocation in (a) 2002-2003, (b) 2003-2004, and (c) 2004-2005.
 - (2) What are the details of the extent of each refurbishment and/or renovation.
 - (3) What sum was spent on each refurbishment and/or renovation.
 - (4) In the case of an embassy being relocated, what costs were associated with the move between premises.
- 1339 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What is his department's assessment of Iran's capabilities with respect to short and medium range ballistic missiles and its ability to target those missiles.

- (2) Can he say whether Iran's recent statements regarding its intention to retaliate using short and medium range missiles should Israel or the United States attack Iran's nuclear facilities pose any danger for our forces deployed in Iraq.
- (3) What is the department's assessment of the risk posed to regional security by Iran's capacity to enrich uranium.
- (4) What is the department's assessment of the role played by other regimes such as North Korea in the apparent pursuit of nuclear weapons by Iran.

1340 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What is his department's assessment of the recent statement by Admiral Lowell Jacoby, Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, that North Korea has the capability to arm a missile with a nuclear weapon.
- (2) What is the department's assessment of North Korea's relationship with Iran with respect to nuclear technology.
- (3) What is the department's assessment of the strategic impact of a successful North Korean nuclear test on countries in the region, such as South Korea and Japan.

1341 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What is his department's assessment of the capacity of (a) India and (b) Pakistan to fit nuclear weapons in medium-range ballistic missiles.
- (2) What is the department's assessment of the command and control arrangements put in place by (a) India and (b) Pakistan to mitigate against the unauthorised or unintended launching of ballistic missiles.
- (3) What is the department's assessment of Pakistan's role in nuclear proliferation in the aftermath of the revelations regarding the activities of Dr Abdul Qadeer Khan.

1342 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) How many Australian (a) diplomatic, (b) official and (c) ordinary passports are currently (i) valid and (ii) recorded as missing or stolen.
- (2) How many departmental employees involved in the processing of passport applications, in Australia or abroad, have been subjected to (a) disciplinary proceedings or (b) security investigations since 1996.
- (3) What functions do Australia Post employees perform in processing passport applications.
- (4) What functions do locally engaged staff at overseas missions perform in processing passport applications.
- (5) Have there been any instances where Australian or locally engaged staff have been found to be involved in passport fraud; if so how many and where were they located.
- (6) Have there been any instances where Australia Post employees have been found to be involved in passport fraud; if so how many.
- (7) What security checks are undertaken on locally engaged staff involved in processing of passport applications.
- (8) What security checks are undertaken on Australia Post staff involved in processing of passport applications.
- (9) How many passports issued overseas were recorded as missing or stolen in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.

1343 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Did the Australian Government make formal representations to the member states of the United Nations Security Council regarding the findings of the independent commission of inquiry established under UN Security Council resolution 1564 in respect of the Sudan; if so, (a) which member states, (b) when did this occur, and (c) what was the substance of the representations.
- (2) Did he personally make formal representations to the member states of the United Nations Security Council regarding the findings of the independent commission of inquiry established under UN Security Council resolution 1564 in respect of the Sudan; if so, (a) which member states, (b) when did this occur, and (c) what was the substance of the representations.

- 1344 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Has he ever provided information contained within any top secret national security document to an unauthorised person.
 - (2) Has his office ever provided information contained within any top secret national security document to an unauthorised person.
- 1345 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What is the process for making Head of Mission-level appointments.
 - (2) Has he discussed the position of Australian Ambassador to the United States with Senator Hill.
 - (3) Has he discussed the position of Australian Ambassador to the United States with Mr Ric Smith.
 - (4) Has he discussed the position of Australian Ambassador to the United States with General Peter Cosgrove.
- 1346 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What sum has been spent on the “Smart Traveller” campaign to date and will he provide a detailed breakdown of this expenditure.
 - (2) How many “displays” of the campaign are there and where are they located.
 - (3) Who designed the (a) campaign material and (b) “displays”.
 - (4) Did his office have any input into the design and content of (a) campaign material and (b) the “displays”; if so, what was the substance of this input.
 - (5) Did his (a) department and (b) office recommend that the (i) campaign material and (ii) the “displays” feature a picture of him.
- 1347 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) How many Embassy or High Commission Chancery buildings does the Australian Government (a) own and (b) lease.
 - (2) How many Chancery buildings have colocated residences for Heads of Mission.
 - (3) How many overseas missions have separate residences for Heads of Mission.
 - (4) How many government owned or leased chanceries and consulate premises have (a) tennis courts and (b) swimming pools.
 - (5) How many Head of Mission residences have (a) tennis courts, (b) swimming pools and (c) pianos.
 - (6) Who maintains the (a) tennis courts, (b) swimming pools and (c) pianos.
 - (7) What sum is spent annually on the maintenance of (a) tennis courts, (b) swimming pools and (c) pianos.
- 1348 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What sum was spent by his department to facilitating the Prime Minister’s visit to the UK and Ireland in 2003, in particular, what sum did the department outlay for (a) transport and (b) functions/events associated with the visit.
 - (2) How many functions/events were held in honour of the Prime Minister’s visit.
 - (4) In respect of each function: (a) what sum was spent, (b) what entertainment was provided, (c) who attended, (d) which agencies paid for it, and (e) how were the costs apportioned between agencies.
- 1349 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) How many contracts were entered into between the department and businesses providing interior design advice for Australian chanceries in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
 - (2) What sum was spent on interior design advice to the department in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- 1350 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Will he explain the tendering process for the (a) maintenance and (b) cleaning services for Australian chancelleries.
- 1351 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) How many security breaches by departmental employees were recorded in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.

- (2) How many disciplinary proceedings were entered into as a result of security breaches by departmental employees in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.

1352 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) How many of his department's staff were employed at the Senior Executive Band 1 level in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- (2) How many of his department's staff were paid at the Senior Executive Band 1 level in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- (3) How many of his department's staff were employed at Senior Executive Band 2 level in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- (4) How many of his department's staff were paid at Senior Executive Band 2 level in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- (5) How many of his department's staff were employed at Senior Executive Band 3 level in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- (6) How many of his department's staff were paid at Senior Executive Band 3 level in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.

1353 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) How many speeches did he ask the department to draft in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- (2) How many speeches that he asked to be drafted in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005 were sent back to the department for redrafting.
- (3) How many speeches did the Parliamentary Secretary ask the department to draft in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- (4) How many speeches that the Parliamentary Secretary asked to be drafted in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005 were sent back to the department for redrafting.

1354 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) How many Freedom of Information (FOI) requests were made of the department in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- (2) How many FOI requests in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005 were complied with (i) in full and (ii) in part.
- (3) How many FOI requests were denied in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- (4) How many of the department's responses to FOI requests were challenged in courts or tribunals in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- (5) In how many of the cases in part (5) were adverse findings made against the department.
- (6) What legal costs, both internal and outsourced, did the department incur defending its FOI decisions in legal proceedings in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- (7) What sum did the department spend on staff training on FOI in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.

1355 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Has he or his department sought legal advice on section 98 of the *International Criminal Court Act 2002*; if so, when was the advice requested and received.

1356 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) How many complaints have been made to the Commonwealth Ombudsman in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005 in relation to the actions of (i) his department, (ii) AusAID, and (iii) Austrade.
- (2) How many of the complaints were upheld.
- (3) What was the nature of each complaint that was upheld.
- (4) What action has the department taken in response to complaints upheld by the Ombudsman.

1357 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) How many requests for compensation for detriment caused by defective administration were made in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005 in relation to the actions of (i) his department, (ii) AusAID, and (iii) Austrade.
- (2) How many requests for compensation resulted in a finding of defective administration on the part of the agency or its officers.
- (3) What was the nature of each complaint that was upheld.
- (4) What was the value of the compensation paid in each case.

1358 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) How many contracts for the procurement of goods or services did his department enter into as a result of a direct sourcing procurement process in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
- (2) Which goods and services were procured in this way.
- (3) What was the value of the contracts.

1359 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) How many car park spaces does his department lease or have access to at Angel Place, 117 – 123 Pitt Street, Sydney.
- (2) What is the annual cost of each car park space.
- (3) On what basis are the car parking spaces allocated.

1360 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What is the nature of the services provided under the department's contract valued at \$100,000 with Gapbuster Systems Asia Pacific Limited.
- (2) Was the contract subject to a tender process; if so, will he provide the details of the tender process.

1361 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What sum did his department spend in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005 on the refurbishment, renovation, improvement, relocation or upgrade of the (i) Embassy in Rome and (ii) residence for the Head of Mission.
- (2) Has the department purchased or leased new furniture for (a) the Embassy and (b) the Head of Mission residence in Rome since 1996; if so, what sum was spent.

1362 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Was the contract for “information technology support” valued at \$218,712 awarded to Wallis & Brandis Pty Ltd subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.
- (2) Was the contract for “support and maintenance of the communication systems, equipment and infrastructure surrounding Pics, Delta and Tardis dedicated passport systems” valued at \$2,530,980 awarded to Wallis & Brandis Pty Ltd subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.
- (3) Was the contract for “the provision of specialist services for the development and support of the Tardis and Pics Passport Systems” valued at \$1,572,480 awarded to Kayarm Pty Limited subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.

1363 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What is the nature of the goods and services provided under the department's contract with Bligh Voller Nield Pty Ltd valued at \$118,650.
- (2) Was this contract subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.

1364 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What is the nature of the goods and services provided to the department under its contract with Catalyst Interactive Pty Ltd valued at \$1,017,280.
- (2) Was this contract subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.

1365 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What is the nature of the goods and services provided under the department's contract with Covington and Burley valued at \$155,795.
- (2) Was this contract subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.

- 1366 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What is the nature of the goods and services provided under the Department's contract with Geoscience Australia valued at \$3,217,578.
 - (2) Was this contract subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.
- 1367 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) How many contracts does the department have with the company International Economics Unit Trust.
 - (2) What is the nature of the goods and services provided under these contracts.
 - (2) Were these contracts subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.
- 1368 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What is the nature of the goods and services provided under the department's contract with Parker and Partners Pty Ltd valued at \$1,605,780.
 - (2) Was this contract subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.
- 1369 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Can he provide further details on the nature of the goods and services provided under the department's contract with United Process Solutions Pty Limited valued at \$46,977,725 for property management services.
 - (2) Was this contract subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.
- 1370 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Was the contract for "Development and implementation of a Teachers Resource Kit for introduction to schools in selected Arab countries" value at \$571,000 awarded to Ryebuck Media Pty Ltd subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.
 - (2) How many Teachers Resource Kits were (a) produced and (b) sent to selected Arab countries.
 - (3) To which countries were the kits sent.
- 1371 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Was the contract for "Design consultancy services" valued at \$118,560 awarded to MSA & Associates Pty Ltd subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.
 - (2) What are the details of the services provided by the contractor.
 - (3) Did the services provided include interior design.
- 1372 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Was the contract for "Provision of national and international removals and storage services" valued at \$16,500,000 awarded to Sirva (Australia) Pty Ltd subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.
 - (2) When does the existing contract expire.
 - (3) Will there be a tender process for a new removals and storage services contract.
- 1373 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Was the contract for "Design consultancy services" valued at \$637,450 awarded to GHD Pty Ltd subject to a tender process; if so, what are the details of the tender process.
 - (2) What are the details of the services provided by the contractor.
 - (3) Did the services provided include interior design.
- 1374 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Has his department conducted an assessment of the earthquake preparedness of its overseas missions; if so, have any concerns been raised about the earthquake preparedness of any of Australia's diplomatic and consular missions overseas and what action is the department taking to address these concerns.
- 1375 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) How many locally engaged staff did his department employ in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005.
 - (2) How many of the locally engaged staff in part (1) were performing duties for (a) his department and (b) other agencies.
 - (3) What security checks are conducted prior to the engagement of locally engaged staff and are locally engaged staff subjected to ongoing security checks.

- 1376 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Can he provide details of the Government’s progress towards implementing the (a) Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, (b) Achieve universal primary education, (c) Promote gender equality and empower women, (d) Reduce child mortality, (e) Improve maternal health, (f) Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases, (g) Ensure environmental sustainability, and (h) Develop a global partnership for development, Millennium Development Goals.
- 1377 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) In respect of the visit to Australia by Australia’s European Heads of Mission between 14 and 22 February 2005, (a) how many and which Heads of Mission participated in the visit, (b) how many and which Heads of Mission were accompanied by spouses or partners, (c) what sum was spent by the department on (i) airfares to Australia, (ii) transport, (iii) accommodation, (iv) social functions/entertainment, and (v) travel allowances for Heads of Mission and their accompanying spouses or partners.
 - (2) Which cities did the Heads of Mission visit while in Australia.
 - (3) What was the program of activities for the visit.
- 1378 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Can he provide a list of all contracts to the value of \$100,000 or greater entered into by (a) AusAID, (b) Austrade, (c) ACIAR, (d) the Australia-Japan Foundation in 2004-2005.
- 1379 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—What is his response to the recommendations concerning reform of the United Nations in the High Level Panel report on ‘Threats, Challenges and Change’.
- 1380 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—How many Australian-based consular staff were employed in (a) 1996, (b) 1997, (c) 1998, (d) 1999, (e) 2000, (f) 2001, (g) 2002, (h) 2003, (i) 2004, and (j) 2005 on a (i) full time, (ii) part time and (iii) casual basis.
- 1381 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 560 (*Hansard*, 14 March 2005, page 176), has he read the report titled ‘Corby’s team accuses AFP of lying’ in *The Canberra Times* on 18 April 2005 which reported that there had been a lack of cooperation from the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and that it had refused to assist Indonesian authorities with finger-printing the plastic bag containing marijuana.
 - (2) Has he seen the report on the *Sunday Program* on 8 May 2005 which showed an AFP Officer describing new evidence supporting Ms Schappelle Corby’s claim that baggage handlers could have been involved in the drug smuggling and that in June 1997 the Australian Consulate in Bali was advised by an Australian couple that they arrived at their Bali hotel on a flight from Melbourne and found a large block of compressed marijuana in their luggage.
 - (3) Can he confirm that the Australian Consulate in Bali has previously advised Australians who found illegal drugs in their luggage to destroy or dispose of the drugs; if not, why not.
 - (4) Has this ever been investigated by the AFP; if so, when and what are the details, if not, why not.
 - (5) Did the Australian Consulate advise (a) Ms Corby’s defence or (b) Indonesian authorities that other Australians had previously arrived in Bali unsuspectingly carrying illegal drugs; if so, when and what are the details; if not, why not.
 - (6) Has the Australian Government assisted Ms Corby’s defence; if so, how, if not, why not.
 - (7) Has the Australian Government made any representations to Indonesian authorities on Ms Corby’s behalf; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.
- 1382 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 582 (*Hansard*, 16 March 2005, page 197), can he guarantee that in the tsunami-affected districts of Sri Lanka the distribution of aid, including pharmaceuticals and medical equipment, is being distributed fairly; if not, why not; if so, how.
 - (2) What has the staff of the Australian High Commission in Colombo reported to (a) the Australian High Commissioner and (b) the Australian Government about the fair distribution of aid, particularly in the North-East areas of Sri Lanka.
 - (3) Is the Australian High Commissioner in Colombo satisfied that the Tamils living in the North-East areas of Sri Lanka have received a fair distribution of aid; if not, why not; if so, on what basis has this assessment been made.
- 1383 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Is he aware that the Sri Lankan Government intends to impose customs duties on a significant proportion of the aid provided to the people of Sri Lanka

affected by the tsunami; if not, why not; if so, what are the details and what can the Government do to resolve this problem.

1384 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is he aware that hostilities ceased in Sri Lanka following the signing of an interim agreement between the Sri Lankan Government and the LTTE.
- (2) Is he aware that the peace process has stalled in Sri Lanka since that time.
- (3) What is the Government doing to encourage the resumption of the Norwegian initiative to broker a permanent peaceful settlement of the conflict in Sri Lanka.

MR MURPHY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 1385 - 1386)—

- (1) Can the Minister explain the level of importance of the Australian victory in the first Papua New Guinea campaign of 1942-43 which saved Australia from the Japanese armed forces.
- (2) Did that campaign end with the battle for the beaches of Gona, Buna and Sanananda and what were the details and significance of the number of Australian casualties during that campaign.
- (3) Has any Australian Prime Minister or Minister for Veterans' Affairs ever officially visited the places of these battles.
- (4) Are the battles for the beaches of Gona, Buna and Sanananda recorded on the Australian War Memorial in London; if not, why not.
- (5) What recognition has the Australian Government given to the men and women who lost their lives in these battles.

1385 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister.

1386 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

1387 **MS A. E. BURKE:** To ask the Minister for Workforce Participation—

- (1) What is the current unemployment rate for people with a disability.
- (2) How many, and what proportion of, Job Network Providers are devoted solely to assisting those with disabilities find employment.
- (3) What has been the percentage increase in the number of people with disabilities entering the workforce since the introduction of the Disability Discrimination Act a decade ago.
- (4) What measures are being taken to boost the number of Job Network Providers devoted solely to assisting those with disabilities find meaningful employment.
- (5) How many, and what proportion of, people with a disability are employed by Job Network Providers as advocates or in another capacity.
- (6) What is the Government's current investment in assisting people with disabilities to secure employment and how does this compare with the OECD average.
- (7) Will the Government implement a key finding of its Employer Incentive Strategy to develop a public awareness campaign aimed particularly at employers to encourage the hiring of people with disabilities; if so, when.
- (8) What measures is the Government taking to counter negative employer attitudes that prevent economic participation for those with disabilities.
- (9) Is he aware that the proportion of Federal public servants with a disability has fallen from 5.8% to 3.8% during the period of the current Government and can he say what steps are being taken by the Government to reverse this decline.
- (10) Why has the Government delayed the training and employment measure announced in the 2002 Federal budget.

23 May 2005

*1388 **MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) How many Superannuation Contributions Surcharge exceptions were there at 1 April 2005.
- (2) What is the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) estimate of the sum of uncollected surcharge revenue to date.
- (3) How many outstanding surcharge exceptions were there at 1 April 2005.
- (4) What initiatives has the ATO adopted to resolve the number of outstanding surcharge exceptions.

- (5) Has the ATO engaged in the practice of excluding categories of members from assessment; if so, (a) who authorised this practice, (b) when was it authorised; and (c) what criteria were used to determine which groups were excluded.
- (6) How many exceptions had been set aside using the Commissioner's general discretionary powers at 1 April 2005.
- *1389 MR BOWEN:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) What sum has been spent on advertising relating to the taxation debate with the Western Australian Government.
 - (2) In which newspapers and on which television and radio stations have advertisements been placed.
 - (3) Have any consultancies been engaged by his department on the advertising campaign; if so, (a) what was the name and postal address of each consultancy involved and what sum was it paid or is it owed.
- *1390 MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) What sum has been spent on advertising on the Government's Tasmanian Forest Policy announced on 13 May 2005.
 - (2) What sum and what proportion of the expenditure on the campaign has been funded by the (a) Tasmanian Government and (b) Commonwealth Government.
 - (3) In which newspapers and on which television stations and radio stations have advertisements been placed.
- *1391 MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—
- (1) In respect of the allocation of \$9 million over three years in the 2005-2006 Budget for 'Australian Workplace Agreements – encouraging upturn by small business', what sum has been allocated for advertising this program.
 - (2) Has any research been undertaken to establish why small business take-up of AWAs is low; if so, will he make the research available.
 - (3) What are the performance indicators for this program.
 - (4) What targets have been set for the take-up of AWAs by small business (a) during and (b) at the end of the three year program.
- *1392 MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—
- (1) In respect of the allocation of \$200,000 to the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations in the 2005-2006 Budget for the 'Workplace Dispute Settlement Pilot Program', what will be the main expenses in this program.
 - (2) What objectives and performance indicators have been set to evaluate the success of the program.
 - (3) What proportion of the \$100,000 allocated to this program in 2004-2005 was spent and on what was it spent.
- *1393 MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—
- (1) In respect of the allocation of \$2 million over three years in the 2005-2006 Budget for the 'Small Business Collective Bargaining Campaign', what sum has been for allocated for advertising.
 - (2) What key performance indicators and other measures have been set to measure the success of the program.
- *1394 MR BOWEN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) In respect of the allocation of \$15 million over four years in the 2005-2006 Budget for the 'Women's Leadership and Development Program', what measures will be taken to (a) support the appointment of women to corporate boards, (b) support the appointment of women to government boards, and (c) increase the participation of women in sport.
 - (2) What key performance indicators or other evaluation measures have been set to measure the success of the program.
 - (3) What sum has been allocated for advertising this program.
- *1395 MS HOARE:** To ask the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) In what circumstances is an individual who has renounced their Australian citizenship able to apply successfully for its reinstatement.
 - (2) Is he aware of the recent instance where Mrs Pixie Skase, who had renounced her citizenship publicly to assist her husband avoid extradition, had her citizenship reinstated following a decision by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

- (3) What sum was spent on the action in an attempt to prevent Mrs Skase's application for reinstatement of her citizenship succeeding.
- (4) Will the Minister introduce legislation to amend the *Australian Citizenship Act 1948* to ensure that an individual who has renounced their citizenship to avoid arrest, extradition or for personal gain, is unable to apply for the reinstatement of Australian citizenship; if not, why not.
- *1396 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Has a Letter of Intent to purchase twelve MRH-90 troop-lift helicopters been signed; if so, when; if not, why not and when will a contract be signed.
- (2) Was the signing delayed; if so, why.
- *1397 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—Is the Department of Defence considering the Aermacchi M-346 as a trainer for the Joint Strike Fighter; if so, what plans does it have for the BAE Hawk; if not, does it intend to use the BAE Hawk as a trainer beyond 2012 when the Government claims the Joint Strike Fighter will be in service.
- *1398 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Which company supplied the body armour used by members of the Australian Defence Force.
- (2) Has the body armour been tested to determine its effectiveness; if not, why not; if so, (a) what tests were undertaken, (b) by whom, and (c) what were the results.
- *1399 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—
- (1) Is his department conducting a survey on work and family commitments; if so, how has the survey sample been selected and what cohort is it intended to represent.
- (2) Have consultants or contractors been engaged to conduct or advise on the conduct of the survey; if so, who was so engaged and, in each case, for what services and at what cost.
- (3) Does the survey ask (a) what is your average weekly income before tax, (b) how long have you been with this company, (c) have you received a pay rise in the last year, (d) do you have access to a performance bonus, (e) are you a member of a union, (f) are you paid under an Award, a Certified Agreement (CA), or an Australian Workplace Agreement (AWA), (g) Please circle a number to indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with these statements: I get paid fairly for the things I do in my job; I do lots of different tasks in my job; I feel secure about my future in my job; My job is very stressful; This is a good place to work; I often think about leaving my job, (h) Do you: Own your own house with no mortgage; Own your own house with a mortgage; Rent private; Rent public/community/housing commission; Other (please specify); if so, can he explain how the questions relate to the balance of work and family commitments.
- *1400 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Is he aware of the application of the GST on the State Fire Levy on insurance premiums.
- (2) What sum is collected as a result of charging the GST on the State Fire Levy on insurance premiums.
- (3) Does charging the GST on the State Fire Levy on insurance premiums constitute taxing a tax.
- (4) Does he intend to take any action concerning the GST on the State Fire Levy on insurance premiums.
- *1401 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Has the Minister read the article titled 'A department of mean spirit' in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 7 May 2005 which reported that in the past fortnight 50 East Timorese asylum seekers have received letters from the Department of Immigration, Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs informing them that the Minister has decided not to use her discretion to grant them a visa and that they should now make arrangements to leave Australia.
- (2) How many of these applicants came to Australia as survivors of the Santa Cruz Massacre in Dili in 1991.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that most of the applicants (a) have been living in Australia for at least ten years, (b) have learnt English, (c) have held stable jobs, and (d) have young families attending Australian primary and high schools; if not, why not.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that other East Timorese asylum seekers, including some family members of the 50 applicants, have been granted permanent residency in Australia; if not, why not, if so, what are the details.
- (5) Will the Minister reconsider and grant the 50 East Timorese asylum seekers permanent residency in Australia; if so, when; if not, why not.

*1402 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 537 (*Hansard*, 10 May 2005, page 173), is the Department of Human Services (DHS) responsible for the development, delivery and coordination of government services, including Commonwealth agencies such as the Health Insurance Commission (HIC).
- (2) Prior to December 2004, was the function of the HIC the responsibility of the Commonwealth Health and Ageing Portfolio.
- (3) Is the DHS responsible for the development, delivery and coordination of HIC services, including Medicare benefits paid for those medical procedures that cause abortions.
- (4) What is the relationship between the DHS's responsibility for the development, delivery and coordination of the HIC in respect of its policies on benefits paid for medical procedures which cause abortions and the Department of Health and Ageing's (DHA) provision of funding for family planning organisations and 'pregnancy support services' funded through the Family Planning Program.
- (5) Does the DHS or the DHA coordinate policies in the field of Public Health Outcome Funding Agreements, particularly in respect of Family Planning Associations that assist with arranging abortions; if not, will he arrange a meeting between the DHS and the DHA with the objective of reducing the number of abortions in Australia and, if he will not arrange a meeting, why not.

*1403 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Can he confirm that the Classification Review Board has reviewed the decision of the Classification Board in respect of the film *9 Songs* from X18+ to R18+, permitting explicit sex scenes to be viewed in mainstream theatres throughout Australia, as reported in the article titled 'Uncomfortable position' in *The Australian* on 4 May 2005; if so, can he explain the basis of this classification decision.
- (2) Does the classification of *9 Songs* as R18+ conform to the standards for the R18+ classification in the (a) Classification Code and (b) Classification Guidelines.
- (3) Do all films depicting explicit sex scenes subject to assessment by the Office of Film and Literature Classification now fall within the R18+ category.
- (4) What action will he take to prevent explicit sex scenes being screened in mainstream theatres.
- (5) What is the current composition of the Classification Review Board.
- (6) What is the statutory number of positions permitted on the (a) Classification Board and (b) Classification Review Board.
- (7) Are churches, young Australians, elderly Australians and other persons represented on the (a) Classification Board and (b) Classification Review Board.
- (8) What is the background of each of the eight members of the Classification Board and in which industries have they worked.
- (9) Will he take action to broaden the representation on the (a) Classification Board and (b) Classification Review Board so that churches, consumer groups, the young, older Australians and other persons other than those currently on the board, are represented; if so, what; if not, why not.

MR MURPHY: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. *1404 - *1405)—

- (1) Did the Prime Minister say that the Government would grant a Gold Card to all ex-servicemen who served in Japan with the British Commonwealth Occupation Forces (BCOF) after the cessation of hostilities following World War II; if so, what are the details; if not, why not.
- (2) Will the Government grant a Gold Card to the ex-servicemen who served in Japan with the BCOF after 29 October 1945; if so, when; if not, why not.

*1404 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Prime Minister.

*1405 **MR MURPHY:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

*1406 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Have there been any safety incidents for aircraft approaching or departing Townsville Airport in the last 18 months; if so, what are the details.
- (2) Has there been an incident where a passenger jet aircraft received a terrain warning advisory because it descended below the specified approach path, or a similar type of incident; if so, what are the details.

*1407 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What is the role of the Australian Communications Authority (ACA) in relation to the authorisation of telecommunications carriers' actions in the inspection of land for, and the installation of, low-impact telecommunications facilities.
- (2) Does the ACA have a role in the determination of whether a telecommunications facility is a low impact facility; if so, what is it; if not, which agency has that responsibility.
- (3) Are there Guidelines for the roll out of telecommunications base stations; if so, do they provide details indicating where a proposed base station would not comply with (a) State legislation, (b) Council regulations, and (c) the Telecommunications (Low Impact Facilities) Determination.

*1408 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Has the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) introduced new guidelines for establishing sanitation effectiveness and toxicity levels for all pool products using chlorine as a benchmark against which alternative sanitisers will be compared before being considered for approval; if so, when were these guidelines introduced.
- (2) Has the APVMA conducted testing to establish that chlorine is capable of meeting the criteria laid down in the new guidelines.
- (3) Has the APVMA commissioned scientific testing to establish that chlorine is capable of meeting the criteria laid down in the new guidelines; if not, is the Minister concerned that the APVMA might be the subject of civil actions by people who relied on published guidelines, yet sustained injury (possibly fatal) while swimming in a domestic swimming pool.
- (4) Will the Government direct the APVMA to carry out the efficacy and toxicity testing required to validate the assertion that chlorine can meet the new guidelines; if so, will the Government publish the results.
- (5) Will the Government consider abolishing the new guidelines in favour of the guidelines maintained until recently by the various State and Territory Departments of Health before they were replaced by the APVMA guidelines.

*1409 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Is he aware of the article in the *Sunshine Coast Daily* on 9 April 2005 which reported that a prominent swimming coach believes his long-term exposure to chlorine has resulted in cancer, blindness and poor health; if not, will he read the article.
- (2) What is the Government's position on the statement in the article by a Sunshine Coast University senior lecturer in chemistry who said that "the main concern of chlorine was irritation of the eyes, and rashes of the skin" and that "chlorine was a carcinogenic but the risk of cancer was lower than the risk of communicable diseases which would otherwise breed in the water".
- (3) Will he commission a scientific study on the short- and long-term effects of exposure to chlorine and report on the effectiveness of alternative sanitation technology now available to the Australian people.
- (4) Is he aware that in the State of California, where an estimated 3 million domestic swimming pools are installed, there are no guidelines published by any level of Government nominating a specific sanitation regime for domestic pools.

*1410 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Is the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) requiring suppliers of silver and copper ionisers to register anodes made from silver and copper which, when activated, inject silver and copper ions into swimming pool water on the Agvet Code register.
- (2) Will he instruct the APVMA to exempt anodes containing silver and copper to bring the administration of this Authority into line with the intention of the Act under which it was established.
- (3) Will he instruct the APVMA to publicise a retraction of its sustained publicity campaign in which it conveyed the impression that silver and copper ions are considered dangerous when used as sanitisers for swimming pools.
- (4) Is he aware that on 2 August 2004, one ioniser supplier was advised that the results of an efficacy test carried out by a NATA approved microbiology laboratory were "inconsistent with information available to the APVMA", and were therefore set aside.
- (5) What was the source of, and will he provide, the scientific data on which the APVMA relied when it discarded the findings of a NATA approved microbiology laboratory referred to in part (4).

*1411 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Is he aware that in 2004, as part of a product recall process involving swimming pool ionisers, the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) required that suppliers direct their existing clients to use chlorine in conjunction with silver and copper ionisers in their swimming pools.
- (2) Did the APVMA subsequently change its directive to the industry instructing suppliers to convey to their clients that the APVMA simply recommends the use of chlorine; if so, why did the APVMA do this.

*1412 **MR RUDD:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Who is on the (a) board of management of the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) and (b) APVMA's technical committees.
- (2) What prerequisites does a candidate need to meet to be selected to sit on (a) the management board and (b) a technical committee.
- (3) Do any particular qualifications disqualify a candidate from sitting on (a) the board of management and (b) a technical committee.
- (4) Do any members of the (a) board of management and (b) technical committees have a background in the chemical industry.
- (5) Is he aware that Senator Richard Colbeck gave an undertaking in a letter to a Queensland resident on 31 March 2005 that he would institute an independent review of the APVMA's performance in the near future.
- (6) In respect of the review referred to in part (5), can he say (a) when it will commence, (b) what will be its terms of reference, and (c) what are the name and background of the independent person who will undertake it.

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.

Current inquiry:

Indigenous employment.

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 inquiries:

Rural skills training and research.

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 Hayes, Mr Johnson, Mr Keenan, Dr Laming, Ms Owens, Mr Ticehurst.

Current inquiry:

The uptake of digital television in Australia.

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 inquiry:

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.

Current inquiry:

Health Funding.

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.

Current inquiry:

Developing Australia's non-fossil fuel energy industry.

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 inquiries:

Harmonisation of legal systems.

Federal implications of statehood for the Northern Territory.

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.

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

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

Current inquiry:

Pathways to innovation.

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.

Current inquiry:

The integration of regional rail and road freight transport and their interface with ports.

Joint Statutory

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

Current inquiry:

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*.

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:

Bali, Indonesia—New offices for the Australian Consulate-General.

Baulkham Hills, NSW—Reserve Bank of Australia Business Resumption Site.

Black Mountain, ACT—CSIRO Entomology Bioscience Laboratory.

Canungra, Qld—Redevelopment of Kokoda Barracks.

Darwin, NT—Upgrade patrol boat facilities at Darwin Naval Base.

Holsworthy, NSW—Special operations working accommodation and Base redevelopment Stage 1.

London, UK—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.

Vientiane, Laos—Construction of a new chancery building for the Australian Embassy.

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*).

Current inquiries:

Australia's Defence Relations with the United States of America.

Australia's Human Rights Dialogue Process.

Australia's Relations with the Republic of Korea.

Review of the Defence Annual Report 2003-2004.

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

Current inquiry:

Skills recognition, upgrading and licensing.

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.

Governance arrangements for the Indian Ocean Territories.

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

APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY BODIES

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES: Mr Somlyay (*appointed 11 May 2005, 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*).