

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF VICTORIA

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

No 1

No 1 — Tuesday 20 December 2022

The House started at 11.00 am.

- 1 **PROCLAMATION SUMMONING PARLIAMENT TO MEET** — The House met at 11.00 am in accordance with a Proclamation of the Governor dated 13 December 2022, which was read by the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly as follows:

PROCLAMATION

I, Linda Dessau AC, Governor of the State of Victoria, acting under sections 8 and 20 of the *Constitution Act 1975* and all other powers vested in me, fix Tuesday 20 December 2022 at 11.00 am as the time for the commencement and holding of the first session of the Sixtieth Parliament of Victoria for the dispatch of business, at Parliament House, Melbourne. The Members of the Legislative Council and the Members of the Legislative Assembly are required to attend at that time and place.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the State of Victoria, at Melbourne, this 13th day of December 2022.

(LS)

THE HONOURABLE LINDA DESSAU AC
Governor

By Her Excellency's Command
DANIEL ANDREWS MP
Premier

- 2 **COMMISSION FOR THE COMMENCEMENT AND HOLDING OF THE PRESENT SESSION OF PARLIAMENT** — The Honourable Justice Karin Emerton, having entered the House and been conducted by the Serjeant-at-Arms to the Chair, said:

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY:

The Governor has caused a Commission to be issued under the Seal of the State constituting her Commissioners to do in her name all that is necessary to be performed in this Parliament. This will more fully appear from the Commission which will be now read by the Clerk.

The Clerk read the Commission:

BY HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE LINDA DESSAU AC
GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA

TO THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE ANNE FERGUSON
CHIEF JUSTICE OF VICTORIA
AND
TO THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE KARIN EMERTON
PRESIDENT OF THE COURT OF APPEAL

GREETING:

Acting under all available powers and with the consent of the Premier, I commission each of you, on my behalf, to open the first session of the Sixtieth Parliament at 11.00 am on the morning of Tuesday the twentieth day of December 2022 and to do all other things that it is necessary or usual for me to do on the opening of a new Parliament (other than to give my speech).

Given under my hand and the seal of Victoria on this 19th day of December 2022.

(LS)

THE HONOURABLE LINDA DESSAU AC
Governor

By Her Excellency's Command
DANIEL ANDREWS MP
Premier

- 3 **COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER OATH OR AFFIRMATION TO MEMBERS** — The Honourable Justice Karin Emerton announced that she had received from the Governor a Commission to administer the oath or affirmation of allegiance to Members of the Legislative Assembly, which the Clerk read as follows:

BY HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE LINDA DESSAU AC
GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA

TO THE HONOURABLE JUSTICE KARIN EMERTON
PRESIDENT OF THE COURT OF APPEAL

GREETING:

Acting under section 23 of the *Constitution Act 1975* I authorise you, in the Parliament Houses, Melbourne, on the twentieth day of December 2022, to administer the prescribed Oath or Affirmation of allegiance to Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Given under my hand and the seal of Victoria on this 19th day of December 2022

(LS)

THE HONOURABLE LINDA DESSAU AC
Governor

By Her Excellency's Command
DANIEL ANDREWS MP
Premier

- 4 **WRIT** — The Clerk announced that a writ issued by the Governor for the election of members to serve in the Legislative Assembly of Victoria had been returned by the Electoral Commissioner, and the following members were elected for the districts listed:

Albert Park	Nina Taylor
Ashwood	Matt Fregon
Bass	Jordan Crugnale
Bayswater	Jackson Taylor
Bellarine	Alison Marchant
Benambra	Bill Tilley
Bendigo East	Jacinta Allan
Bendigo West	Maree Edwards
Bentleigh	Nick Staikos
Berwick	Brad Battin
Box Hill	Paul Hamer
Brighton	James Newbury
Broadmeadows	Kathleen Matthews-Ward
Brunswick	Tim Read
Bulleen	Matthew Guy
Bundoora	Colin Brooks
Carrum	Sonya Kilkenny
Caulfield	David Southwick
Clarinda	Meng Heang Tak
Cranbourne	Pauline Richards
Croydon	David Hodgett
Dandenong	Gabrielle Williams
Eildon	Cindy McLeish
Eltham	Vicki Ward
Essendon	Danny Pearson
Eureka	Michaela Settle
Euroa	Annabelle Cleeland
Evelyn	Bridget Vallence
Footscray	Katie Hall
Frankston	Paul Edbrooke
Geelong	Christine Couzens
Gippsland East	Tim Bull
Gippsland South	Danny O'Brien
Glen Waverley	John Mullahy
Greenvale	Iwan Walters
Hastings	Paul Mercurio
Hawthorn	John Pesutto
Ivanhoe	Anthony Carbines
Kalkallo	Ros Spence
Kew	Jess Wilson
Kororoit	Luba Grigorovitch
Lara	Ella George
Laverton	Sarah Connolly
Lowan	Emma Kealy

Macedon	Mary-Anne Thomas
Malvern	Michael O'Brien
Melbourne	Ellen Sandell
Melton	Steve McGhie
Mildura	Jade Benham
Mill Park	Lily D'Ambrosio
Monbulk	Daniela De Martino
Mordialloc	Tim Richardson
Mornington	Chris Crewther
Morwell	Martin Cameron
Mulgrave	Daniel Andrews
Murray Plains	Peter Walsh
Narracan	NONE – FAILED ELECTION
Narre Warren North	Belinda Wilson
Narre Warren South	Gary Maas
Nepean	Sam Groth
Niddrie	Ben Carroll
Northcote	Kat Theophanous
Oakleigh	Steve Dimopoulos
Ovens Valley	Tim McCurdy
Pakenham	Emma Vulin
Pascoe Vale	Anthony Cianflone
Point Cook	Mathew Hilakari
Polwarth	Richard Riordan
Prahran	Sam Hibbins
Preston	Nathan Lambert
Richmond	Gabrielle de Vietri
Ringwood	Will Fowles
Ripon	Martha Haylett
Rowville	Kim Wells
Sandringham	Brad Rowsell
Shepparton	Kim O'Keeffe
South Barwon	Darren Cheeseman
South-West Coast	Roma Britnell
St Albans	Natalie Suleyman
Sunbury	Josh Bull
Sydenham	Natalie Hutchins
Tarneit	Dylan Wight
Thomastown	Bronwyn Halfpenny
Warrandyte	Ryan Smith
Wendouree	Juliana Addison
Werribee	Tim Pallas
Williamstown	Melissa Horne
Yan Yean	Lauren Kathage

- 5 **MEMBERS' ALLEGIANCE** — All of the above members took and subscribed the oath or affirmation as required by law, except Cindy McLeish and Tim Pallas (who were not present).

Then the Commissioner said:

The Governor will attend the Parliament later this day to inform you and Members of the Legislative Council of the reasons for calling this Parliament together, and as it is necessary before you proceed with business that a Speaker of the Legislative Assembly be chosen, the Governor requests that you proceed to the choice of a Speaker.

The Commissioner then retired from the House.

- 6 **ELECTION OF SPEAKER** — Mary-Anne Thomas proposed the Member for Bendigo West, Maree Edwards, as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and moved, That the Member for Bendigo West take the Chair of this House as Speaker. The motion was seconded by Chris Couzens.

Maree Edwards accepted the nomination.

As no other member was proposed, the Clerk declared that the Member for Bendigo West had been duly elected as Speaker.

Maree Edwards was accompanied to the Chair by Mary-Anne Thomas and Chris Couzens, where she acknowledged the great honour conferred upon her. The Mace was then placed on the Table.

Daniel Andrews and John Pesutto congratulated the Speaker.

- 7 **ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER** — Anthony Carbines proposed the Member for Ashwood, Matt Fregon, as Deputy Speaker and moved, That the Member for Ashwood be appointed Deputy Speaker of this House. The motion was seconded by Sarah Connolly.

Matt Fregon accepted the nomination.

As no other member was proposed, the Speaker announced that the Member for Ashwood had been duly elected Deputy Speaker.

[The Speaker left the chair at 11.45 am and resumed it at 2.02 pm]

- 8 The Speaker read the Prayer and made an Acknowledgement of Country.

- 9 **PRESENTATION OF THE SPEAKER** — The Speaker advised that she had today presented herself to the Governor as the choice of the Legislative Assembly and that the Governor had been pleased to address her in the following terms:

Speaker

I have pleasure in congratulating you on your election to the high and important office of Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

The able manner in which you have discharged the duties you have undertaken during your parliamentary career is recognised by the members of the Legislative Assembly who in their wisdom have selected you as their Speaker.

I have confidence that you will fulfil the duties of this distinguished office and hold fast to its traditions and customs.

THE HONOURABLE LINDA DESSAU AC
Governor of Victoria

Melbourne
20 December 2022

- 10 **MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR** — The following message was delivered by the Usher of the Black Rod:

Speaker:

The Governor desires the immediate attendance of the members of the Legislative Assembly in the Legislative Council Chamber.

Accordingly, the Speaker with the House went to attend the Governor — And having returned —

[The Speaker left the Chair at 2.34 pm and resumed it at 4.00 pm]

- 11 **COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER OATH OR AFFIRMATION TO MEMBERS** — The Speaker announced that she had received a Commission from the Governor, which the Clerk read as follows:

BY HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE LINDA DESSAU AC
GOVERNOR OF VICTORIA

TO THE HONOURABLE MAREE EDWARDS
SPEAKER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF VICTORIA

GREETING:

Acting under section 23 of the *Constitution Act 1975* I authorise you, from time to time, in the Parliament Houses, Melbourne, to administer the prescribed Oath or Affirmation of allegiance to any Member of the Legislative Assembly who has not already taken and subscribed the same since his or her election to the Legislative Assembly.

Given under my hand and the seal of Victoria on this 20th day of December 2022.

(LS)

THE HONOURABLE LINDA DESSAU AC
Governor

By Her Excellency's Command
DANIEL ANDREWS MP
Premier

12 **MEMBERS' ALLEGIANCE** — Cindy McLeish and Tim Pallas took and subscribed the oath as required by law.

13 **QUESTION TIME.**

14 **IBAC ACTING COMMISSIONER** — The Speaker advised that, on 8 December 2022, she administered to Stephen John Farrow, the Acting Commissioner of the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission, the affirmation required by s 31 of the *Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission Act 2011*.

15 **APPOINTMENT OF THE CLERK OF THE PARLIAMENTS** — The Speaker advised that, under s 8 of the *Parliamentary Administration Act 2005*, on the recommendation of the Presiding Officers, the Governor in Council has appointed Bridget Noonan to the office of the Clerk of the Parliaments effective from 31 October 2022 as a consequence of the resignation of Andrew Young.

16 **RACING AMENDMENT (UNAUTHORISED ACCESS) BILL 2022** — Anthony Carbines introduced 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Racing Act 1958* to prohibit unauthorised access to certain areas of race-courses during race-meetings and official trial meetings and for other purposes'; and, after debate, the Bill was read a first time. In accordance with SO 61(3)(b), the House proceeded immediately to the second reading.

Anthony Carbines tabled a statement of compatibility in accordance with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Motion made and question proposed — That this Bill be now read a second time (Anthony Carbines).

The second reading speech was incorporated into Hansard.

Motion made and question — That the debate be now adjourned (Tim Bull) — put and agreed to.

Ordered — That the debate be adjourned for two weeks. Debate adjourned until 3 January 2023.

17 **BUILDING AND PLANNING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2022** — Sonya Kilkenny introduced 'A Bill for an Act to amend the *Building Act 1993*, the *Architects Act 1991*, the *Surveying Act 2004* and the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and for other purposes'; and the Bill was read a first time. In accordance with SO 61(3)(b), the House proceeded immediately to the second reading.

Sonya Kilkenny tabled a statement of compatibility in accordance with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Motion made and question proposed — That this Bill be now read a second time (*Sonya Kilkenny*).

The second reading speech was incorporated into Hansard.

Motion made and question — That the debate be now adjourned (*David Hodgett*) — put and agreed to.

Ordered — That the debate be adjourned for two weeks. Debate adjourned until 3 January 2023.

- 18 **HUMAN RIGHTS AND HOUSING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (ENDING HOMELESSNESS) BILL 2022** — Motion made and question — That the Member for Prahran introduce ‘A Bill for an Act to amend the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* to establish a right to housing, to amend the *Housing Act 1983* to set a target of ending homelessness in Victoria by 2030, to require a plan to be developed to meet the target and to require annual reporting on progress towards the target and for other purposes’ (*Sam Hibbins*) — put.

The House divided (the Speaker, Maree Edwards, in the Chair) —

AYES 29

Brad Battin; Jade Benham; Tim Bull; Martin Cameron; Annabelle Cleeland; Chris Crewther; Sam Groth; Matthew Guy; Sam Hibbins; David Hodgett; Emma Kealy; Tim McCurdy; Cindy McLeish; James Newbury; Danny O’Brien; Michael O’Brien; Kim O’Keeffe; John Pesutto; Tim Read; Richard Riordan; Brad Rowswell; Ellen Sandell; David Southwick; Bill Tilley; Bridget Vallence; Gabrielle de Vietri; Peter Walsh; Kim Wells; Jess Wilson.

NOES 54

Juliana Addison; Jacinta Allan; Daniel Andrews; Colin Brooks; Josh Bull; Anthony Carbines; Ben Carroll; Darren Cheeseman; Anthony Cianflone; Sarah Connolly; Chris Couzens; Jordan Crugnale; Lily D’Ambrosio; Daniela De Martino; Steve Dimopoulos; Matt Fregon; Will Fowles; Ella George; Luba Grigorovitch; Bronwyn Halfpenny; Katie Hall; Paul Hamer; Martha Haylett; Meng Heang Tak; Mathew Hilakari; Melissa Horne; Natalie Hutchins; Lauren Kathage; Sonya Kilkenny; Nathan Lambert; Gary Maas; Alison Marchant; Kathleen Matthews-Ward; Steve McGhie; Paul Mercurio; John Mullahy; Tim Pallas; Danny Pearson; Pauline Richards; Tim Richardson; Michaela Settle; Ros Spence; Nick Staikos; Natalie Suleyman; Jackson Taylor; Nina Taylor; Kat Theophanous; Mary-Anne Thomas; Emma Vulin; Iwan Walters; Vicki Ward; Dylan Wight; Gabrielle Williams; Belinda Wilson.

Question defeated.

19 DOCUMENTS

JUDICIAL COLLEGE OF VICTORIA — Report 2021–22 tabled by leave (*Anthony Carbines*).

VICTORIA LAW FOUNDATION — Report 2021–22 tabled by leave (*Anthony Carbines*).

CONSUMER POLICY RESEARCH CENTRE — Report 2021–22 tabled by leave (*Danny Pearson*).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RATE CAPPING MECHANISM REVIEW — Final report tabled by leave (*Melissa Horne*).

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RATE CAPPING MECHANISM REVIEW — Government response tabled by leave (*Melissa Horne*).

VISIT VICTORIA — Report 2021–22 tabled by leave (*Steve Dimopoulos*).

DOCUMENTS TABLED BY COMMAND OF THE GOVERNOR — The Clerk announced that the following documents had been lodged for presentation by Command of the Governor:

Children’s Court of Victoria — Report 2021–22

County Court of Victoria— Report 2021–22

Ordered to be tabled.

DOCUMENTS TABLED UNDER ACTS OF PARLIAMENT — The Clerk tabled:

Accident Compensation Conciliation Service — Report 2021–22

Adult, Community and Further Education Board — Report 2021–22

Adult Parole Board Victoria — Report 2021–22

Agriculture Victoria Services Pty Ltd — Report 2021–22

Albury Wodonga Health — Report 2021–22

Alexandra District Health — Report 2021–22

Alfred Health — Report 2021–22

Alpine Health — Report 2021–22

Alpine Resorts Co-ordinating Council — Report 2021–22

Ambulance Victoria — Report 2021–22

AMES Australia — Report 2021–22

Auditor-General:

Report on the Annual Financial Report of the State of Victoria: 2021–22 — released on 28 October 2022

Regulating Victoria’s Native Forests — released on 6 October 2022

Victoria’s Alcohol and Other Drug Treatment Data — released on 6 October 2022

Austin Health — Report 2021–22

Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI) — Report 2021–22

Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission — Report 2021–22 under s 30L of the *Surveillance Devices Act 1999*

Australian Grand Prix Corporation — Report 2021–22

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency — Report 2021–22

Bairnsdale Regional Health Service — Report 2021–22

Ballarat General Cemeteries Trust — Report 2021–22

Barwon Health — Report 2021–22

Barwon Region Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

Bass Coast Health — Report 2021–22

Beaufort and Skipton Health Service — Report 2021–22

Beechworth Health Service — Report 2021–22

Bendigo Health — Report 2021–22

Boort District Health — Report 2021–22

Breakthrough Victoria Pty Ltd — Report 16 March 2021 to 30 June 2022

Calvary Health Care Bethlehem — Report 2021–22

Cenitex — Report 2021–22

Central Gippsland Health Service — Report 2021–22

Central Gippsland Region Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

Central Highlands Region Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

Cohuna District Hospital — Report 2021–22

Colac Area Health — Report 2021–22

Coliban Region Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

Commercial Passenger Vehicles Commission — Report 2021–22

Commission for Children and Young People — Report 2021–22 — Ordered to be published

Confiscation Act 1997 — Asset Confiscation Operations Report 2021–22

Consumer Affairs Victoria — Report 2021–22 — Ordered to be published

Corangamite Catchment Management Authority — Report 2021–22

Coroners Court of Victoria — Report 2021–22

Coronial Council of Victoria — Report 2021–22

Corryong Health — Report 2021–22

Country Fire Authority (CFA) — Report 2021–22

Court Services Victoria — Report 2021–22

Dairy Food Safety Victoria — Report 2021–22

Dental Health Services Victoria — Report 2021–22

Development Victoria — Report 2021–22

Disability Services Commissioner — Report 2021–22

Docklands Studio Melbourne Pty Ltd — Report 2021–22

Duties Act 2000:

Report 1 January to 30 June 2022 of Foreign Purchaser Additional Duty Exemptions under s 3E
Report 2021–22 of concessions and exemptions under s 250B

East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority — Report 2021–22

East Gippsland Region Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

East Grampians Health Service — Report 2021–22

East Wimmera Health Service — Report 2021–22

Echuca Regional Health — Report 2021–22

Emergency Services Superannuation Scheme (ESSSuper) — Report 2021–22

Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA) — Report 2021–22

Energy Safe Victoria — Report 2021–22

Essential Services Commission — Report 2021–22

Falls Creek Alpine Resort Management Board — Report 2021

Fed Square Pty Ltd — Report 2021–22

Film Victoria (VicScreen) — Report 2021–22

Financial Management Act 1994:

Financial Report for the State of Victoria 2021–22, incorporating Quarterly Financial Report No 4 — released on 14 October 2022

Reports from the Minister for Agriculture that she had received the reports 2021–22 of the: Murray Valley Wine Grape Industry Development Committee

Phytogene Pty Ltd

Veterinary Practitioners Registration Board of Victoria

Victorian Strawberry Industry Development Committee

Report from the Minister for Education that she had received the Report 2021–22 of the Queen Victoria Women’s Centre Trust

Report from the Minister for Education that she had not received the Report 2021–22 of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority, together with an explanation for the delay

Report from the Minister for Environment that she had received the Report 2021–22 of the Commissioner for Environmental Sustainability

Report from the Minister for Environment that she had not received the reports 2021–22 of the: Caulfield Racecourse Reserve Trust

Dhelkunya Dja Land Management Board

Environment Protection Authority

Gunaikurnai Traditional Owner Land Management Board

Trust for Nature

Yorta Yorta Traditional Owner Land Management Board —

together with an explanation for the delay

Report from the Minister for Health that she had received the reports 2021–22 of the:

Mildura Cemetery Trust

Victorian Pharmacy Authority

Report from the Minister for Health that she had not received the reports 2021–22 of the:

Benalla Health

Casteron Memorial Hospital

Central Highlands Rural Health

Dhelkaya Health

Gippsland Southern Health Service

Kilmore District Health

Kyabram District Health

Omeo District Health

Peter MacCallum Cancer Institute

Portland District Health —

together with an explanation for the delay

Report from the Minister for Planning that she had received the reports 2021–22 of the:

Architects Registration Board of Victoria

Heritage Council of Victoria

Surveyors Registration Board of Victoria

Report from the Minister for Planning that she had not received the reports 2021–22 of the:
Cladding Safety Victoria

Victorian Building Authority —

together with an explanation for the delay

Report from the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events that he had not received the reports 2021–22 of the:

Emerald Tourist Railway Board

State Sport Centres Trust —

together with an explanation for the delay

Fire Rescue Victoria — Report 2021–22

Forensic Leave Panel — Report 2021–22

Game Management Authority — Report 2021–22

Game Management Authority — Report 2021–22 under s 30L of the *Surveillance Devices Act 1999*

Geelong Cemeteries Trust — Report 2021–22

Geelong Performing Arts Centre Trust — Report 2021–22

Geoffrey Gardiner Dairy Foundation — Report 2021–22

Gippsland and Southern Rural Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority — Report 2021–22

Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority — Report 2021–22

Goulburn Valley Health — Report 2021–22

Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority — Report 2021–22

Great Ocean Road Health — Report 2021–22

Greater Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust — Report 2021–22

Greyhound Racing Victoria — Report 2021–22

Harness Racing Victoria — Report 2021–22

Health Purchasing Victoria (HealthShare) — Report 2021–22

Heathcote Health — Report 2021–22

Hesse Rural Health Service — Report 2021–22

Heywood Rural Health — Report 2021–22

Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission:

Report 2021–22 — Ordered to be published

Special reports on:

Corruption risks associated with donations and lobbying — released on 12 October 2022

Police misconduct issues and risks associated with Victoria Police's Critical Incident Response Team — released on 25 October 2022

Independent Pandemic Management Advisory Committee:

Review of COVID-19 Communications in Victoria

Review of COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination Orders in Victoria

Infrastructure Victoria — Report 2021–22

Inglewood and Districts Health Service — Report 2021–22

Integrity and Oversight Committee:

The independent performance audits of the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission and the Victorian Inspectorate — released on 31 October 2022

Report on the Performance of the Victorian integrity agencies 2020–21: focus on witness welfare — released on 6 October 2022

Interpretation of Legislation Act 1984 — Notice under s 32(3)(a)(iii) in relation to Statutory Rule 112 (*Gazette G45, 10 November 2022*)

Kardinia Park Stadium Trust — Report 2021–22

Kerang District Health — Report 2021–22

Kooweerup Regional Health Service — Report 2021–22

Labour Hire Licensing Authority — Report 2021–22

LanguageLoop — Report 2021–22

Latrobe Regional Hospital — Report 2021–22

Legal Practitioners' Liability Committee — Report 2021–22

Legal Profession Uniform Law Application Act 2014 — Practitioner Remuneration Order 2023

Legal Services Council and Commissioner for Uniform Legal Services Regulation — Report 2021–22

Library Board of Victoria — Report 2021–22

Lower Murray Urban and Rural Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

Mallee Catchment Management Authority — Report 2021–22

Mallee Track Health and Community Service — Report 2021–22

Mansfield District Hospital — Report 2021–22

Maryborough District Health Service — Report 2021–22

Melbourne and Olympic Parks Trust — Report 2021–22

Melbourne City Link Act 1995:

Deed of Lease (Western Link Upgrade) — WLU Company Lease

Deed of Lease (Western Link Upgrade) — WLU Trust Concurrent Lease

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Trust — Report 2021–22

Melbourne Market Authority — Report 2021–22

Melbourne Recital Centre — Report 2021–22

Mental Health Complaints Commissioner — Report 2021–22

Mental Health Tribunal — Report 2021–22

Mercy Hospitals Victoria Ltd — Report 2021–22

Mildura Base Public Hospital — Report 2021–22

Mount Buller and Mount Stirling Alpine Resort Management Board — Report 2021

Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board — Report 2021

Moyne Health Services — Report 2021–22

Museums Board of Victoria — Report 2021–22

National Health Funding Pool, Administrator of — Report 2021–22

National Health Practitioner Ombudsman and Privacy Commissioner — Report 2021–22

National Parks Act 1975 — Report 2021–22 on the working of the Act

National Parks Advisory Council — Report 2021–22

National Rail Safety Regulator, Office of the — Report 2021–22

NCN Health — Report 2021–22

North Central Catchment Management Authority — Report 2021–22

North East Catchment Management Authority — Report 2021–22

North East Link State Tolling Corporation — Report 2021–22

North East Region Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

Northeast Health Wangaratta — Report 2021–22

Northern Health — Report 2021–22

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004:

Order approving the Managing Exposure to Crystalline Silica: Engineered stone compliance code (*Gazette G41, 13 October 2022*)

Order revoking the Managing Exposure to Crystalline Silica: Engineered stone compliance code (*Gazette G41, 13 October 2022*)

Ombudsman:

Ombudsman's recommendations — fourth report — released on 28 September 2022
Report 2021–22 — released on 20 October 2022

Orbost Regional Health — Report 2021–22

Parks Victoria — Report 2021–22

Peninsula Health — Report 2021–22

Phillip Island Nature Parks — Report 2021–22

Planning and Environment Act 1987 — Notices of approval of amendments to the following Planning Schemes:

Ararat — C46

Ballarat — C233, C238

Banyule — C119, C162, C167, C171

Bass Coast — C163

Baw Baw — C147

Bayside — C160, C193, GC197
Boroondara — C333 Part 2, C383
Brimbank — C212, GC199, GC207
Cardinia — C238, C266
Casey — C259, C287
Campaspe — C118, C121
Colac Otway — C111, C119
East Gippsland — C162
Glen Eira — C248
Golden Plains — C91
Greater Dandenong — C241, C242
Greater Geelong — C391, C408, C448, C449
Greater Shepparton — C228, C234
Hobsons Bay — GC199
Horsham — C83
Hume — C211, C264
Kingston — GC197
Knox — C174
Macedon Ranges — C143
Manningham — C135, C137
Mansfield — C52
Maribyrnong — C164, C180, GC207
Maroondah — C134, C136, C149
Melbourne — C364, C394, C402, C404, C409, C436, C439
Melton — C182, C230
Mildura — C113
Monash — GC197
Moonee Valley — C224, C225, C230, GC207
Moreland — C212
Mornington Peninsula — C227, C228, C282
Murrindindi — C72
Nillumbik — C150
Port Phillip — C180
Stonnington — C319, C323, C327
Strathbogie — C78
Surf Coast — C142
Swan Hill — C77
Victoria Planning Provisions — VC201, VC222, VC224, VC226, VC227, VC228
Wangaratta — C91, C92
Warrnambool — C205
Whitehorse — GC197
Whittlesea — C267
Wodonga — C138
Wyndham — GC199, C252, C264
Yarra — C280, C310, C311
Yarra Ranges — C148, C195, C213, C214

Police Informants Royal Commission Implementation Monitor Act 2021 — Royal Commission into the Management of Police Informants: Progress Report 2021–22

Police Registration and Services Board — Report 2021–22

Port of Hastings Corporation — Report 2021–22

Portable Long Service Benefits Authority — Report 2021–22

Ports Victoria — Report 2021–22

Post Sentence Authority — Report 2021–22

PrimeSafe — Report 2021–22

Project Development and Construction Management Act 1994 — Documents under s 9 in relation to the Ground Lease Model 2 Project (three documents)

Public Advocate, Office of — Report 2021–22 — Ordered to be published

Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008:

Documents under s 165AQ on the making of pandemic orders implemented on:
8 September 2022
22 September 2022

Public Interest Monitor — Report 2021–22

Public Prosecutions, Office of — Report 2021–22

Queen Elizabeth Centre (QEC) — Report 2021–22

Radiation Advisory Committee — Report 2021–22

Recreational Fishing Licence Trust Account — Report 2021–22 on the disbursement of revenue

Remembrance Parks Central Victoria — Report 2021–22

Renewable Energy (Jobs and Investment) Act 2017 — Victorian Renewable Energy Target 2021–22 Progress Report

Residential Tenancies Bond Authority — Report 2021–22

Robinvale District Health Service — Report 2021–22

Rochester and Elmore District Health Service — Report 2021–22

Rolling Stock (Victoria-VL) Pty Ltd — Report 2021–22

Rolling Stock (VL-1) Pty Ltd — Report 2021–22

Rolling Stock (VL-2) Pty Ltd — Report 2021–22

Rolling Stock (VL-3) Pty Ltd — Report 2021–22

Royal Botanic Gardens Board — Report 2021–22

Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital — Report 2021–22

Royal Women’s Hospital — Report 2021–22

Rural Northwest Health — Report 2021–22

Sentencing Advisory Council — Report 2021–22

Seymour Health — Report 2021–22

Shrine of Remembrance Trustees — Report 2021–22

South Gippsland Hospital — Report 2021–22

South Gippsland Region Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

South West Healthcare — Report 2021–22

Southern Alpine Resort Management Board — Report 2021

Southern Metropolitan Cemeteries Trust — Report 2021–22

St Vincent’s Hospital (Melbourne) Ltd — Report 2021–22

State Electricity Commission of Victoria — Report 2021–22

State Trustees Ltd — Report 2021–22

Statutory Rules under the following Acts:

Accident Towing Services Act 2007 — SR 128

Bail Act 1977 — SR 116

Building Act 1993 — SR 122

Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 — SRs 118, 119

Children, Youth and Families Act 2005 — SR 100

Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021 — SR 94

City of Melbourne Act 2001 — SR 104

Community Based Sentences (Transfer) Act 2012 — SR 92

Coroners Act 2008 — SR 109
County Court Act 1958 — SR 90
Crimes Act 1958 — SR 110
Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978 — SR 83
Dangerous Goods Act 1985 — SR 115
Domestic Animals Act 1994 — SR 77
Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Act 1981 — SRs 96, 112, 113
Electoral Act 2002 — SR 127
Electricity Safety Act 1998 — SR 103
Environment Protection Act 2017 — SRs 85, 86, 120
Family Violence Protection Act 2008 — SR 123
Fire Rescue Victoria Act 1958 — SR 82
Forests Act 1958 — SR 84
Health Services Act 1988 — SR 121
Juries Act 2000 — SR 78
Liquor Control Reform Act 1998 — SRs 81, 111, 124
Local Government Act 2020 — SRs 104, 126
Magistrates' Court Act 1989 — SRs 79, 101, 102
Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990 — SR 97
Mutual Recognition (Victoria) Act 1998 — SR 107
Planning and Environment Act 1987 — SR 114
Port Management Act 1995 — SR 105
Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 — SRs 88, 89
Residential Tenancies Act 1997 — SR 125
Retail Leases Act 2003 — SR 99
Road Safety Act 1986 — SRs 98, 106, 129, 130
Subordinate Legislation Act 1994 — SRs 80, 95
Surveillance Devices Act 1999 — SR 117
Terrorism (Community Protection) Act 2003 — SR 91
Trans-Tasman Mutual Recognition (Victoria) Act 1998 — SR 108
Victorian Energy Efficiency Target Act 2007 — SR 93
Wildlife Act 1975 — SR 87

Subordinate Legislation Act 1994:

Documents under s 15 in relation to Statutory Rules 55, 56, 70, 74, 77, 82, 85, 86, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 94, 95, 96, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 109, 110, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133

Documents under s 16B in relation to:

Drugs, Poisons and Controlled Substances Regulations 2017:

Secretary Approval Nurse Immunisers — SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) VACCINE

Secretary Approval Pharmacist Immunisers — SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) VACCINE

Education and Training Reform Act 2006 — Ministerial Order No 1388 — Teaching Service (Employment Conditions, Salaries, Allowances, Selection and Conduct) Order 2022

Electricity Industry Act 2000 — General Exemption Order 2022

Electricity Safety Act 1998 — Exemption order under s 120W

Great Ocean Road and Environs Protection Act 2020 — Declaration of the Great Ocean Road coast and parks

Health Services Act 1988 — The Victorian Duty of Candour Guidelines
Liquor Control Reform Act 1998 — Ministerial Order under s 18D
Municipal Association Act 1907 — Municipal Association of Victoria Rules 2022

Suburban Rail Loop Authority — Report 2021–22

Sustainability Victoria — Report 2021–22

Swan Hill District Health — Report 2021–22

Tallangatta Health Service — Report 2021–22

Terang and Mortlake Health Service — Report 2021–22

Timboon and District Healthcare Service — Report 2021–22

Treasury and Finance, Department of — Report 2021–22

Tweddle Child and Family Health Service — Report 2021–22

V/Line Corporation — Report 2021–22

VicForests — Report 2021–22

Victims of Crime Assistance Tribunal — Report 2021–22

Victims of Crime Commissioner — Report 2021–22

Victoria Legal Aid — Report 2021–22

Victoria Police:

Report 2021–22 under s 133 of the *Criminal Organisations Control Act 2012*

Report 2021–22 under s 20R of the *Witness Protection Act 1991*

Victoria Police, Chief Commissioner — Report 2021–22 under s 148R of the *Liquor Control Reform Act 1998*

Victoria State Emergency Service Authority (SES) — Report 2021–22

Victoria's Mental Health Services — Report 2021–22

Victorian Arts Centre Trust — Report 2021–22

Victorian Assisted Reproductive Treatment Authority — Report 2021–22

Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) — Report 2021–22

Victorian Disability Worker Commission and Disability Worker Registration Board of Victoria — Report 2021–22

Victorian Electoral Commission — Report 2021–22

Victorian Environmental Assessment Council — Report 2021–22

Victorian Environmental Water Holder — Report 2021–22

Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission:

2021 report on the Operation of the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities — Ordered to be published

Report 2021–22 — Ordered to be published

Victorian Fisheries Authority:

Report 2021–22

Report 2021–22 under s 30L of the *Surveillance Devices Act 1999*

Victorian Funds Management Corporation — Report 2021–22

Victorian Health Promotion Foundation — Report 2021–22

Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal — Members of Parliament (Victoria) Guidelines No 1/2022 — released 11 October 2022

Victorian Inspectorate:

Inspection Report under s 37D of the *Terrorism (Community Protection) Act 2003* Report 2021–22

Special Report — IBAC's referral and oversight of Emma's complaints about Victoria Police's response to family violence by a police officer — released on 11 October 2022

Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine — Report 2021–22

Victorian Institute of Sport Trust — Report 2021–22

Victorian Institute of Teaching — Report 2021–22

Victorian Law Reform Commission — Report 2021–22 — Ordered to be published

Victorian Legal Services Board and the Victorian Legal Services Commissioner — Report 2021–22 — Ordered to be published

Victorian Marine and Coastal Council — Report 2021–22

Victorian Multicultural Commission — Report 2021–22

Victorian Planning Authority — Report 2021–22

Victorian Plantations Corporation — Report 2021–22

Victorian Professional Standards Councils — Report 2021–22

Victorian Registration and Qualifications Authority — Report 2021–22

Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation — Report 2021–22

Victorian Small Business Commission — Report 2021–22 — Ordered to be published

Wannon Region Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority — Report 2021–22

West Gippsland Healthcare Group — Report 2021–22

West Wimmera Health Service — Report 2021–22

Western District Health Service — Report 2021–22

Western Health — Report 2021–22

Westernport Region Water Corporation — Report 2021–22

Wimmera Catchment Management Authority — Report 2021–22

Yarram and District Health Service — Report 2021–22

Yarrawonga Health — Report 2021–22

Yea and District Memorial Hospital — Report 2021–22

Youth Parole Board — Report 2021–22

Zoological Parks and Gardens Board — Report 2021–22.

PROCLAMATIONS — Under SO 177A, the Clerk tabled the following proclamations fixing operative dates:

Agriculture Legislation Amendment Act 2022 — Part 1, Part 2, Part 3 (except ss 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38 and 49), Part 5 (except ss 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87 and 88), Part 7 (except ss 112, 113, 114, 115 and 135) and Part 10 — 1 October 2022; Part 6 — 31 October 2022; Part 4, the remaining provisions of Part 5, Part 11 and Part 12 — 1 January 2023 (*Gazette S506, 27 September 2022*)

Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021 — Divisions 1, 2, 3 (other than s 87), 4 (other than s 88), 6, 8 and 11 of Part 6 and s 111 — 27 September 2022; Division 5 of Part 6 — 1 March 2023 (*Gazette S506, 27 September 2022*)

Education Legislation Amendment (Adult and Community Education and Other Matters) Act 2022 — Section 54 — 21 September 2022 (*Gazette S489, 20 September 2022*)

Gambling and Liquor Legislation Amendment Act 2022 — Remaining provisions of Part 4 — 4 October 2022 (*Gazette S489, 20 September 2022*)

Liquor Control Reform Amendment Act 2021 — Sections 4(4)(a), 5, 7, 14 and 56 — 27 September 2022 (*Gazette S489, 20 September 2022*)

Monitoring of Places of Detention by the United Nations Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (OPCAT) Act 2022 — Whole Act — 11 October 2022 (*Gazette S540, 11 October 2022*)

Public Health and Wellbeing Amendment Act 2022 — Sections 4, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18 and 19 — 1 October 2022; Section 9 — 1 January 2023 (*Gazette S489, 20 September 2022*)

Road Safety Legislation Amendment Act 2022 — Sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17 — 5 October 2022 (*Gazette S524, 4 October 2022*)

Victims of Crime (Financial Assistance Scheme) Act 2022 — Sections 1 and 2 and Division 6 of Part 8 — 31 October 2022 (*Gazette S524, 4 October 2022*).

- 20 **SITTING OF THE HOUSE** — Motion made and question — That the House, at its rising, adjourns until 7 February 2023 at 12.00 noon (*Mary-Anne Thomas*) — put and agreed to.
- 21 **GOVERNOR'S SPEECH** — The Speaker reported that today the House attended the Legislative Council Chamber, where the Governor was pleased to make a speech to both Houses of Parliament. The speech was as follows:

Introduction

Honourable President and Members of the Legislative Council:
Honourable Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:

First, I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land upon which we are gathering and pay my respects to their Elders past and present. I extend that respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples here today.

Following the results of the general election on 26 November, I commissioned the Leader of the Victorian Labor Party, Mr Daniel Andrews, to form a government.

Accordingly, I have called you together on this day, the first session of the 60th Parliament, to outline the policy agenda and legislative intentions of the Government in its third term.

Summary

The Government has spent the last four years building the hospitals, schools and roads that Victorians need and removing level crossings as part of the Big Build. The Government has introduced free TAFE courses, invested in renewable energy, created thousands of well-paid jobs and made wage theft and workplace manslaughter a criminal offence to ensure workers' rights are protected.

In its third term, the Government will continue to do what matters to create a stronger Victoria.

The Government will deliver on improving hospitals, building new facilities and training thousands of nurses and paramedics to make sure Victorians get the best care. Kinder will be free, saving Victorian families money and time, and bringing back the State Electricity Commission will create new jobs and secure Victoria's renewable energy future.

Over the next four years, the Government will focus on energy, health, education, transport and jobs.

Energy

Bringing back the SEC

Bringing back the State Electricity Commission will deliver government ownership of energy generation and create thousands of jobs building new renewables like wind, solar and batteries.

The Government will step up renewable electricity targets to 95 per cent by 2035, with emissions reduction targets of 75-80 per cent by 2035 and net zero emissions by 2045. One hundred neighbourhood batteries will also be installed across Victoria to create localised energy storage.

The Government will seek to own a majority of new energy generation projects built by the SEC, ensuring that profits will go back into helping to keep bills down for Victorians.

The Government will invest at least \$20 million to prepare the SEC for its new role in our energy market, including setting up an office in Morwell.

\$6 million will be invested to create a purpose-built training centre for workers in our emerging offshore, and growing onshore, wind industry.

By building a government-owned energy company, the Government will support 59,000 jobs through to 2035, at least 6,000 apprenticeships and traineeships, and will put power back in the hands of Victorians.

Health

The Government understands that there's nothing more important than getting the very best care, close to home.

Investing in our healthcare system

The Government will fund a number of large-scale hospital projects across Victoria, which represents a significant increase in the size of the current health infrastructure delivery program.

This includes delivering the biggest hospital infrastructure project in Australia's history by building new Royal Melbourne and Royal Women's Hospitals alongside Metro Tunnel's new Arden Station, to give patients across Victoria access to the very best of care.

From 2025, both the Parkville and Arden medical precincts will have brand-new train stations and be linked, making it a two-minute trip between hospital campuses, and connecting them to the Monash Medical Centre in Clayton.

Once completed, the project will deliver an increased capacity of 10,500 elective surgeries per year, 1,000 patients receiving critical care per year, 2,500 births per year and 66,000 additional emergency department presentations per year.

Additionally, other new hospitals and upgrades to existing hospitals will include a new Queen Elizabeth II hospital in Melbourne's East, a new West Gippsland Hospital and upgrades to Wonthaggi Hospital, Austin Hospital, Dandenong Hospital, Northern Hospital and a bigger and better Monash Medical Centre.

Investing in Women's Health

The Government will continue its focus on women's health by delivering its \$71 million package to create 20 new women's health clinics at public hospitals, a new state-wide service and more sexual and reproductive health hubs across Victoria. The Government will also work with Aboriginal health organisations to deliver the first ever dedicated Aboriginal-led women's health clinic.

Delivering new women's health clinics will completely change the way women's health issues are treated in Victoria and will provide comprehensive care for Victorians experiencing conditions like endometriosis, pelvic pain, polycystic ovary syndrome, and perimenopause and menopause.

In response to women feeling ignored, dismissed and often undiagnosed, the Government will invest \$64.8 million to double the number of endometriosis and associated condition surgeries, delivering an estimated extra 10,800 laparoscopies over the next four years.

With an aim to find solutions, the Government will establish an Inquiry into Women's Pain Management, chaired by a panel of experts who will hear directly from women about their experience accessing treatment.

The Government will also invest \$5 million into women's health medical research to ensure better treatment and pain management for diseases that specifically impact women.

The Government will expand its network of sexual and reproductive health hubs, providing \$6.4 million to establish an additional nine locations across the State, and ensuring that women have access to services and advice on contraception, pregnancy and sexual health.

The Government will establish a mobile Women's Health Clinic to visit remote parts of the State to ensure all Victorian women have access to the care they need and will provide

\$20,000 scholarships for 100 additional women's healthcare specialists to increase the State's network of specialist healthcare workers.

To ensure that lessons learned at the new Women's Health Clinics can inform the Inquiry and be used to improve patient care, \$4 million will be put into research support services, and \$2 million will be invested to establish support groups and mental health programs for women tackling challenging health issues like endometriosis.

Improving access to fertility services

The Government will continue to ensure that IVF is accessible to all and will invest an additional \$13.6 million into Australia's first public IVF service, to help further expand access for women and families. The Government will also ensure more availability and access to fertility services for Victorians living in regional areas, by establishing satellite services in Bendigo, Mildura, Shepparton, Geelong, Ballarat and Warrnambool. Satellite services will also be established in Epping, Sunshine and Heidelberg.

Once fully operational, this investment in free IVF will mean up to 5,000 people each year will have access to the services, saving up to \$10,000 for eligible Victorians.

Creating more paramedic positions

To ensure that sick and injured Victorians can receive the treatment they need when they need it, the Government, in an Australian-first, will create the new position of Paramedic Practitioner.

Paramedic Practitioners will receive advanced clinical training to ensure they are able to assess, diagnose and provide urgent care to patients in the field and make clinical decisions, taking pressure off our busy emergency departments by eliminating the need for a trip to the hospital.

The Government will invest \$20 million to establish the role of Paramedic Practitioner, with an agreed model of care that can strengthen the ambulance service while reducing pressure on the hospital system. Paramedic Practitioners will be rolled out in rural and regional areas first, and there will be at least 25 Paramedic Practitioners trained for free through government-provided scholarships and on the road by 2026.

The Government will also fund an additional 40 MICA paramedics. Having more of these highly skilled crews on the road will ensure patients are getting the best care in the most urgent circumstances.

The Government will also establish an Australian-first Centre for Paramedicine in partnership with Victoria University. The centre will focus on training the next generation of ambulance paramedics, providing advanced teaching methods – with the capacity to train around 1,500 paramedic students each year.

And to assess whether outsourcing remains the most effective model to deliver non-urgent transport, the Government will review the existing procurement arrangements for patient transport ambulances.

Education

The Government knows that education changes lives.

In its third term, the Government will continue its investment in kindergartens, local schools and specialist schools to ensure that all Victorians have access to quality education.

Free kinder and more childcare centres

To deliver greater access to kindergartens and give kids the best start in life, the Government will make three and four-year-old kinder free, saving families up to \$2,500 per child, per year.

The Government will build and expand around 180 government-owned kinders so it's easier to find a place, ensuring that families will have more choice in finding a kinder closer to home.

The Government will continue to support working families by opening 50 new government-owned and run childcare centres in the communities that need them most, building them near schools where possible to avoid the double drop-off for busy parents.

Upgrading local schools

The Government knows the importance of access to great local schools, which is why they will build and upgrade schools right across the State.

The Government will continue its delivery of good-quality schools by building and opening 100 brand-new schools to ensure that all families have access to a great school in their area.

Improving specialist schools

To support families of kids with disability, the Government will deliver a \$207 million package to transform specialist schools through upgrades and more support for students in the classroom.

The Government will also extend outside-hours care to every specialist school in the State with the next 25 rolling out from 2024 and will create onsite space for allied health appointments to better support families.

NDIS Navigators will be introduced in all 89 Victorian specialist schools, employed by the Government but working for families to help them navigate the NDIS system.

The Government's expansive package will also include:

- \$8.1 million for more extracurricular activities for specialist schools
- \$11.3 million to deliver scholarships to attract more speech pathologists and occupational therapists to regional areas
- \$2 million for professional development for health care workers, including how to communicate with people with autism
- \$8.2 million for TAFE transition officers to support students with a disability
- \$25 million to build aqua-therapy pools at specialist schools
- Establishing a Premier's Advisory Committee
- \$100,000 for specialist schools to apply for access to Proloquo2Go, an app for those who are non-verbal
- \$5 million to train more therapy animals.

The Government will abolish the age threshold for a "proof of age" card so that parents of non-verbal children, or children with an intellectual disability who wish for them to carry ID, can do so.

The Government will also undertake a review of current eligibility processes for specialist schools, including current cognitive thresholds, so that more families can choose the school that best suits their needs.

Transport

The Government is continuing the infrastructure Big Build, including removing level crossings, completing the Metro Tunnel, building the Suburban Rail Loop and capping V/Line fares at metro prices so that Victorians can get home sooner and safer.

Removal of more level crossings

Reducing congestion and improving travel for all Victorians, whilst creating thousands of jobs, is critical, which is why the Government will have removed 110 level crossings by 2030.

Completing the Metro Tunnel

The Government continues work on the Metro Tunnel, which will enable more trains to run, more often. Tunnelling is now finished, and five underground stations are taking shape beneath our city. These new stations will change the face of travel in Melbourne, and when Airport Rail is complete, trains in the Metro Tunnel will take Victorians to the airport in just 30 minutes.

Building the Suburban Rail Loop

The Suburban Rail Loop will change transport within Victoria. The loop will connect rail lines and make it easier for many Victorians to get to work, university, TAFE, hospitals and the airport. Regional Victorians will also benefit by no longer having to change at Southern Cross Station, so they'll get to where they're going faster.

This is a big project that will create thousands of jobs.

More V/Line services, more often

In response to increasing financial pressures on Victorians, the Government will cap regional public transport fares, making it easier for families and commuters in regional Victoria to get around by train and bus.

Capping regional prices will deliver savings to passengers, with daily peak fares from Geelong, Bendigo and Ballarat all reduced to the daily metro rate.

The Government will also add almost 200 weekend services on regional lines around Victoria and will build another 23 VLocity 3 car sets to replace older trains so that there are enough trains to run these additional services.

Jobs

The Government believes that every Victorian deserves a good, stable job with a decent wage. To help put Victorian workers and Victorian jobs first, the Government is extending Free TAFE, making studying nursing and midwifery free and delivering the 2026 Commonwealth Games.

Extending Free TAFE

To support the further education of Victorian workers, the Government will expand eligibility for Free TAFE, so that all Victorians can study for in-demand jobs like healthcare, mental health, construction, early childhood and hospitality.

The Government will change the once-in-a-lifetime limit so Victorians can take multiple Free TAFE courses when they are continuing select training pathways and will build and upgrade TAFE campuses across the State so that Victorians can continue to study in quality facilities.

Investment from the Clean Energy TAFE Fund will support a number of TAFEs with a range of initiatives focused on renewable energy jobs.

And the Government will legislate to ensure that TAFE funding is protected. Free TAFE is helping Victorians train for their future.

Making nursing free

To help train the next generation of healthcare workers, the Government will make studying nursing and midwifery free.

More than 10,000 students will have the cost of their nursing or midwifery undergraduate studies paid for, while scholarships will be available for thousands more who complete postgraduate studies in areas of need including intensive care, cancer care, paediatrics and nurse practitioner specialities.

The Government will provide \$20 million to support the growing number of graduate and postgraduates as they transition to working in our hospitals, ensuring they have access to the clinical educators, preceptors and study time they need.

The Government will also provide a \$5,000 sign-on bonus for nurses who graduate in the next three years - rewarding those who choose to take up careers in Victoria's public health system.

Commonwealth Games

Victoria will host the Commonwealth Games across regional Victoria in March 2026.

The Games will bring together athletes, communities, cultures and businesses in an exciting program of events expected to support more than 7,500 Victorian jobs, with the majority in regional Victoria.

As part of delivering the games, the state will invest in new and upgraded infrastructure that will provide both a first-class games experience and improved facilities for Victorians into the future.

More social and affordable housing will also be created as part of the athletes' villages that will be constructed as part of the games, supporting more Victorians to have a place to call home.

Closing

Honourable Members, I have outlined for you the Government's program for this Parliament.

It is a positive plan that demonstrates the Government's commitment to creating a stronger Victoria.

This Parliament is diverse and offers a range of different perspectives, which is critical for the functioning of democracy.

I trust that you will work together and serve the people of Victoria with integrity and conviction.

It is now my pleasure to wish you well and declare open the 60th Parliament of Victoria.

- 22 **ADDRESS-IN-REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH** — Motion made and question proposed — That the following Address, in reply to the speech of the Governor to both Houses of Parliament, be agreed to by this House —

Governor:

We, the Legislative Assembly of Victoria assembled in Parliament, wish to express our loyalty to our Sovereign, and to thank you for your speech which you have made to the Parliament (*Martha Haylett, seconded Dylan Wight*) — and, after debate —

Motion made and question — That the debate be now adjourned (*Mary-Anne Thomas*) — put and agreed to.

Ordered — That the debate be adjourned until later this day.

- 23 **POSTPONEMENT OF REMAINING BUSINESS** — Motion made and question — That the consideration of remaining business be postponed (*Mary-Anne Thomas*) — put and agreed to.
- 24 **ADJOURNMENT** — After debate, the Deputy Speaker left the Chair at 7.44 pm.

BRIDGET NOONAN
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

MAREE EDWARDS MP
Speaker