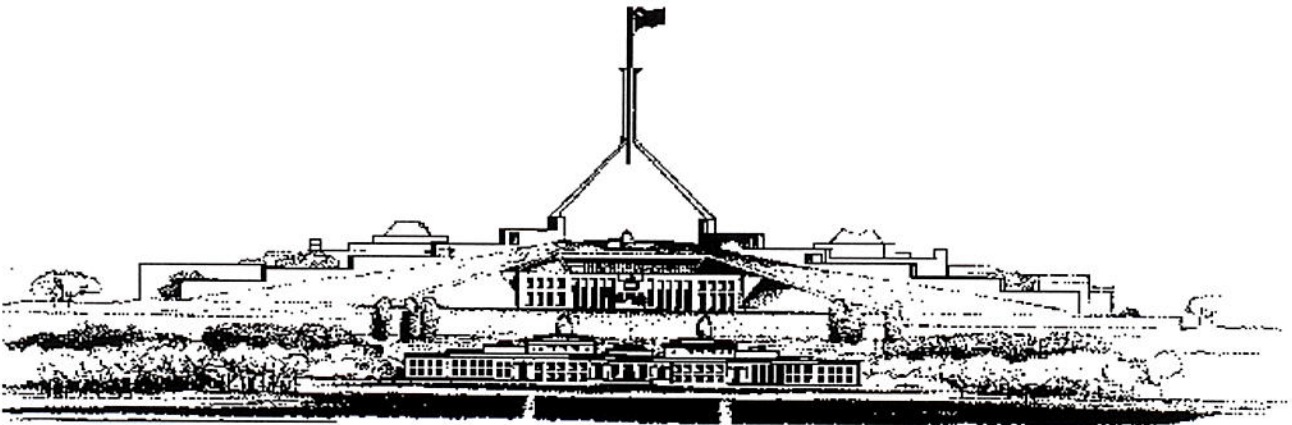




COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



House of Representatives

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FORTY-SECOND PARLIAMENT
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BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

on previous NHMRC committees or the Council of NHMRC. Nominations were received from 119 individuals. A full and short list of nominees were provided to me for consideration.

When considering appointments I assessed the capacity of nominees to contribute to the functions of the PCHC, including their breadth of expertise and experience in community, public, environmental and Indigenous health, and consumer advocacy.

- (e) The positions were not advertised via the media. Nominations were sought as per my response to question (d).
- (f) One of the ten PCHC members is a food and grocery expert. This person has expertise and interests in public health nutrition and improving population health through improving the nutritional quality of the food supply. This person was appointed for individual expertise and not as an industry representative.

Health and Ageing: Media Monitoring

(Question No. 1056)

Mr Dutton asked the Minister for Health and Ageing, in writing, on 28 October 2009:

What sum of money was spent on media monitoring services by her department in 2008-09.

Ms Roxon—The answer to the honourable member's question is as follows:

Expenditure by the Department of Health and Ageing on media monitoring services in 2008-09 totalled \$1,178,811.

Kosher and Halal Meat Production

(Question No. 1058)

Ms Parke asked the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, in writing, on 28 October 2009:

- (1) In respect of the exemptions from animal welfare standards for at least four abattoirs to allow ritual slaughter of sheep for kosher and halal meat production without pre-stunning, is he and/or the Primary Industries Ministerial Committee considering revoking the exemptions on grounds of animal welfare; if not, why not; if so, what is the expected process and timeframe.
- (2) Given the vast majority of halal meat produced in Australia involves electrical stunning and most Muslim countries accept this practice, what grounds were used for granting the exemptions in part (1) for halal meat production.
- (3) Given the vast majority of kosher meat produced in Australia involves electrical stunning, what grounds were used for granting the exemptions in part (1) for kosher meat production.
- (4) To 28 October 2009, what consultations has the Government had in Victoria with representatives of the Jewish and Islamic faiths and animal welfare groups on the issue of ritual slaughter without pre-stunning.

Mr Burke—The answer to the honourable member's question is as follows:

- (1) No. Compliance with current arrangements approved by AQIS and Primesafe Victoria meets the mandatory requirements, detailed in the Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production and Transportation of Meat and Meat Products for Human Consumption (AS4696), to protect animal welfare during ritual slaughter.
- (2) Ritual slaughter without prior stunning for Halal is permitted under clause 7.12 of the Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production and Transportation of Meat and Meat Products for Human Consumption (AS4696).

- (3) Ritual slaughter without prior stunning for Kosher is permitted under clause 7.12 of the Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production and Transportation of Meat and Meat Products for Human Consumption (AS4696).
- (4) Up to 28 October 2009 government officers consulted with representatives of the Australian Islamic and Jewish communities as well as RSPCA Australia. The consultations included national peak bodies, the Executive Council of Australian Jewry and the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils, who represent the views of their affiliates in each state and territory.

**Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan: Social Housing Initiative
(Question No. 1059)**

Mr Morrison asked the Minister for Housing, in writing, on 28 October 2009:

In respect of the Social Housing Initiative under the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan:

- (1) Has Australian Government funding been allocated to construction project (a) BG2I8, Koonwarra Street, Albury, (b) BG2FU, Kiewarra Street, Kingsgrove, (c) BFFSK, Parkinson Street, Muswellbrook, (d) BG2M2, Mandarin Street, Fairfield East, (e) BG2M3, Jean Street, Fairfield East, (f) BG2M7, Prince Street, Canley Heights, and (g) BG2MU, Webster Road, Lurnea; if so, what is the total sum.
- (2) Has the New South Wales Government contributed towards the funding of these projects; if so, what is the total sum.
- (3) How many new dwellings are involved in each project.
- (4) What is the number of existing dwellings that have been or will be demolished as a consequence of these projects.
- (5) Has any construction work begun on these projects; if so, on what dates.
- (6) Has the Government imposed any requirement on these developments to erect and display signage advertising the Nation Building Economic Stimulus Plan; if so, what was the associated total cost.

Ms Plibersek—The answer to the honourable member's question is as follows:

- (1) Total funding of \$24.107 million has been allocated under the Social Housing Initiative to the projects identified.
- (2) The NSW Government is not making any cash contributions to the identified projects, however, each project is being undertaken on land contributed by the State Government.

In addition, the NSW Government is providing funding through a number of other programs to replace dwellings that will be in excess of the number of dwellings being demolished.

- (3) The number of dwellings for each project are:

Project	New Dwellings
BG2I8, Koonwarra Street, Albury	8
BG2FU, Kiewarra Street, Kingsgrove	15
BFFSK, Parkinson Street, Muswellbrook NOTE: Project BFFSK does not exist. There are two projects located at Muswellbrook on Parkinson Avenue, projects C-71712 and C-72783	19
BG2M2, Mandarin Street, Fairfield East	14
BG2M3, Jean Street, Fairfield East	20
BG2M7, Prince Street, Canley Heights	6
BG2MU, Webster Road, Lurnea	6

- (4) A total of 35 dwellings will be demolished that have been assessed by the NSW Government as being at or approaching the end of their economic life.