

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Friday 28 September 1984

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE A

Chairman:

Mr Max Brown

Members:

The Hon. Jennifer Adamson
 Mr D.M. Ferguson
 Mr J.H.C. Klunder
 Ms S.M. Lenehan
 Mr E.J. Meier
 Mr J.K.G. Oswald

The Committee met at 9.30 a.m.

 Tourism, \$7 400 000
Witness:

The Hon. G.F. Keneally, Minister of Tourism and Minister of Local Government.

Departmental Advisers:

Mr G.J. Inns, Director, Department of Tourism.
 Mr A.B. Noblet, Deputy Director, Department of Tourism.
 Mr L.J. Penley, Assistant Director, Development and Regions.
 Mr D.E. Packer, Assistant Director, Administration and Finance.
 Mr P.J. Van Der Lee, Assistant Director, Planning and Research.

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps at some time we might be given an idea when we will be finishing the tourism line so that we will know our programme and also allow the Minister the opportunity of knowing when we will start with local government. I declare the proposed expenditure open for examination.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: As the Committee will appreciate, it is difficult to compare this year's Estimates of Payments with last year's because of the restructuring of the manner in which they are presented. In particular, the provision for Regional Tourist Associations appears in several places, and one can only assume that the aggregate of this year's reference to Regional Tourist Associations is the equivalent of last year's single line, but there are other lines that do not appear to relate to last year.

The assistance for Facilities Development is a new and better name for grants for the development of regional tourism resorts. My first question seeks to lay the ground. I would like the Minister to outline the manner in which the Department has structured these lines as distinct from last year's structuring to enable a more accurate comparison with last year's Budget.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Perhaps I could ask the honourable member whether she could indicate her planned time table so that I can advise my colleagues from the Department of Local Government at what hour they should attend. Some notice would be useful.

The CHAIRMAN: I understood from an earlier discussion with the member for Coles that the Committee will consider that vote no earlier than 3 o'clock.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: Yes, Mr Chairman I thought I was to indicate that later in the morning. It would not be long before 3 o'clock or not much after it.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The question that the member asks is a sensible one and, if I was sitting in her place, I would be tempted to ask the same question. The Estimates have not been broken down in such a way as to enable comparison of this year's expenditure line by line with last year's: that information can be derived by asking the appropriate questions. The honourable member is correct in assuming that last year's line can be compared with the Regional Tourist Associations allocation in this year's Budget Estimates. Consideration was given as to whether or not we could provide a comparison sheet such as the honourable member has requested, but it was decided that that would not be necessary as this system will apply from now on. Certainly, it will be much easier to compare next year's figures with this year's figures. The time and effort required to draw up those comparisons this year was considered to be an unnecessary waste of time and resources.

To answer the honourable member's question 'No', I do not have the comparable break-downs except in totals for each line. Comparable figures for administrative expenses, Regional Tourist Associations, advertising, and so on are available, but we are now dealing with programmes.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: That being the case, I will seek that information by way of Question on Notice. I refer to 'Corporate Management Objectives' on page 4 of the yellow book, as follows:

To ensure ease of access to the State's holiday experiences.

One way to achieve this is to ensure that in-bound traffic has direct access to Adelaide or to South Australia. Members of this Committee are concerned, as is the Minister, to see that our visitation from Japan increases. That would be much easier to achieve with direct flights. What negotiations, if any, has the Minister had with Qantas, and why, in light of Qantas's increased flights to Australia announced 10 days ago, are there no inbound direct flights from Tokyo to Adelaide?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I have had discussions with the Chairman of Qantas both as to direct Japan to Adelaide flights and direct west coast to Adelaide flights. The Chairman expressed the desire that that service should be provided, if the market requires it. Discussions held three or four months ago with the Chairman revolved mainly around the west coast. The Chairman's view was that in the future there would be good economic grounds for flying into Adelaide but he argued that those grounds currently did not exist, and I suppose was referring to seat occupancy.

On my recent visit to Japan I had discussions with both Qantas and Japan Airlines about their services to Australia. At that time there was talk about new services, particularly for next year, but the decision had not been finally made. Whilst not wanting to become involved in what might be termed an economic political argument between the airlines, the Chairman of Qantas indicated he was strongly interested in increasing the flights between Japan and Adelaide.

In regard to our flight out of Japan there were a number of people on standby, waiting to get on the plane. Certainly there were not enough seats and all the evidence indicated that the demand would be sufficient to justify additional services. We were told by Japan Air Lines and Qantas that there would be nine or 10 additional flights provided this year, I think four in October and five in November, to accommodate the peak of passenger demand and that from April next year permanent additional flights would be provided.

One of the strange facts that came out of the discussion (which obviously the industry was aware of but I was not

until the discussion) was that the flights between Australia and Japan have a large freight component, thereby reducing the number of seats available per flight because of that need to take freight. An agreement between the airlines has been reached, I understand, that will enable a weekly freight flight to operate between Australia and Japan, and will thus free up many more seats for normal flights. Therefore, in addition to the increased services to be provided, more seats will be available on the traditional services.

In terms of Adelaide, we were involved in two areas of discussion when we were in Japan. One concerned encouraging Japan Air Lines and Qantas to fly from Tokyo to Sydney and into Adelaide, so there could be a direct flight because as everyone knows, there are some problems with that with Qantas's agreement with the domestic airlines. Discussions were also held concerning an option which, hopefully, a number of Japanese are contemplating. The figures indicate that a direct Osaka-Singapore-Adelaide link is likely to be successful. It is arguable that many people, certainly tourists in Osaka do not want to fly to Tokyo's Narita Airport and then to Sydney, because of the chances of not being able to make the connection. The fact is that the first leg of the journey begins in Japan as it does in Adelaide for international travellers from Australia. Tourists like to get on a plane and fly straight out of the country if they are flying internationally. In regard to the people flying from Osaka we would encourage them to fly to Singapore, to stay the night there, and then fly to Adelaide.

The demand in the Japanese market for visiting Adelaide, according to the people we talked to in Japan, currently does not warrant in their view a direct flight between Japan and Adelaide. We are seeking to increase the awareness of South Australia in the Japanese market to such an extent that the very demand of tourists coming to Australia, particularly to Adelaide, will require the airways to put on such a direct flight. I have been given no indication that that is likely to occur in the short term. I think it lies with us to work very hard and for the industry in South Australia to work very hard to prove to the airways that it is in their financial interest to run that direct service. I believe that that is the best hope that we have. In the meantime, we will be certainly working on the Osaka-Singapore-Adelaide direct link for Japanese visitors to Australia.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: Pursuing that same matter of ease of access to the State's holiday experience, it was very apparent to me during my study tour of South-East Asia, during which I visited Singapore and Hong Kong, that the travel industry in those two countries appeared to be almost entirely ignorant of South Australia. The comment was made in many quarters that, whilst the State Government, through the Travel Centre, had bought space in the *Travel Trade Gazette*, the South Australian tourist industry itself was never seen or heard of and no tour operators had ever attempted to sell their products in South Australia.

My impression is that the industry here needs quite a bit of guidance before it ventures into foreign lands. It needs to have its hand held, so to speak. Can the Minister say whether this year's marketing budget contains provision for a Government led tour of Singapore and possibly Hong Kong in order to encourage tour operators here to package their products and sell them to the South-East Asian market in much the way as there have been Government led tours to the ITB in Berlin?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I will respond to the honourable member's first point and then address her question. I have just come back from a brief visit to Singapore. I do not share the honourable member's view of the awareness in Singapore of South Australia. Singapore Airlines has done a lot to encourage Singaporeans to include South Australia, particularly Adelaide, in their holiday considerations. When

I was there there was a fair bit of publicity and I was quite impressed by a section in my hotel's magazine given over to Adelaide and South Australia.

We have recently placed an officer in Singapore with the ATC. His job will be to heighten the awareness in that market of South Australia because of the direct flights into Adelaide. My feeling is that people in Singapore over the past few months have gained an increasing awareness of South Australia in that market because of newspaper articles, some of which appeared while I was there. I have not been to Hong Kong as Minister so I cannot say the same about it. However, neither the Government nor the Department has focused heavily on Hong Kong as a priority, so I think that perhaps the points that the honourable member has made about Hong Kong are valid.

The question of whether or not the Government would support an industry led delegation to those two markets has been considered. The suggestion was put to me and to the Department by the member for Mawson that we ought first to hold a seminar in South Australia for local industry about the needs of our Asian markets, particularly Japan, and that we ought to sit down and work out what we have in terms of services and understanding of the Japanese market, and seek to improve that understanding and those services by having appropriate inputs to that seminar from people who understand the Asian market and who can heighten the appreciation of the local industry.

I agree with the honourable member, because Asia traditionally has not been a South Australian market and we do not have available the skills and services, such as interpreters. The matter of interpreters for those who do not speak English was taken up with me last night very strongly by Jan Springett. This is not a problem in Hong Kong and Singapore, but in Japan it is. I think that the honourable member's suggestion is a good one. It has certainly been a matter that was put to the Government, but our initial decision has been to look at the suggestion of a seminar, and to follow on from there. I think that what we hope to get from a seminar is identification of who would gain most from a mission to Asia. That would, I think, enable us to better prepare any such trade delegation that might go from here. I think that the idea is certainly a good one, but we do not have any plans about it at the moment. It is something that we can work on, but I would not like to suddenly put together a delegation and arrive in one of those markets without really preparing the foundation for that.

Ms LENEHAN: My question has partly been answered by the Minister, but it is the reverse side of the coin to what was asked previously by the member for Coles. The third point, under 'Corporate Management Objectives', at page 4 is:

To ensure the attainment of high levels of visitor satisfaction . . .

I guess that is the reverse side of what the Minister has just described. However, it seems to me that it is really important that we promote travel of our tourist operators to our key markets such as South-East Asia (in particular, Japan) not just to raise the awareness of the Japanese about the destination of Adelaide and South Australia as being desirable, but indeed to ensure that our tourist operators have a better understanding of the needs and requirements of our potential markets so that, instead of people coming here and our saying, 'We will show them what we think they should see,' and providing facilities that we think they need, it is essential that we know what they want to see and what facilities they want when they come here.

I would like a more specific answer directly related to that question. Is the Government, obviously in co-operation with the officers at the table and the travel industry, planning any sort of partly sponsored (in conjunction with Qantas

and other airlines) incentive type of arrangement for tour operators in South Australia to visit the South-East Asian and Japanese markets to familiarise themselves with the requirements of those markets? I guess that we could then look at other target markets in the world to ensure that we are providing for them as well.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Of course, what the honourable member says is right. South Australian tour or travel operators do need to have a better understanding of what our markets require in terms of holiday facilities. They should be encouraged to be aware of that so that they can better provide for those markets. Various international markets look for different things when they come to South Australia. I was certainly surprised to find out some of the things that those markets looked for. I thought that Japan, because it has a very highly crowded and intense living environment, would look for wide open spaces and something completely different from what the Japanese people experience at home.

However, I was surprised to find out that they are looking for cities, shopping and night life—in a sense, duplicating their own lifestyle with which they feel very comfortable, but at the same time having a Western component in it.

On the other hand, some of our European markets are looking for the wide open spaces—the Flinders Ranges, the outback and Coober Pedy, etc. I must say that the Japanese show an acute interest in Coober Pedy and the opals. That was my impression, which I thought might have been held by other people. However, it is useful for the industry itself to ascertain exactly what that market requires. People within the industry can travel under the Export Market Development Grant Subsidy scheme at a 75 per cent rebate on their costs.

Already, very strong encouragement is provided by Government to people to go to those markets. I do not believe it is necessarily the role of the State Government to financially subsidise the tourist industry to go to these markets when they have access to them already in a highly subsidised way. We should encourage them and the encouragement, in terms of the South-East Asian market, is along the lines that the honourable member suggested: we should have a seminar in South Australia that could work on our awareness and needs. I am certain that if suddenly many Japanese tourists arrived in Adelaide we would not be able to cater for them appropriately. We do not have the interpretive skills, we do not cater for their shopping or transport needs—

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: Food.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Yes, and food, as the honourable member said. There are a whole range of things that we need to provide. We are in the chicken and egg situation: the industry in South Australia has not been exposed to the Japanese market (the same thing applies to Singapore, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Indonesia, etc.) and has not needed to provide for it. We therefore do not have the infrastructure on the ground. On the other hand, the prospective tourists might feel reluctant to come here because they do not see us as providing the special needs for which they are looking in a holiday experience. We cannot sit around waiting for the tourists to get here before we do something. When they inevitably come, it is the Government's responsibility to do that. I have to encourage the industry to start showing a bit of confidence in this market, learning skills in the way that the honourable member says, by going to South-East Asia and putting the lessons that they learn into effect. It will be costly, but I think it will be rewarding.

We have been bringing wholesalers here—the operators and travel media—from South-East Asian regions to assess our product. This has been going on for a number of years. The wholesalers and the people who sell travel in that market will be interested to see what we have to provide so that they can sell South Australia. The airlines are con-

tributing in a significant way to that programme. We are getting a lot of support. The point I am making is that people are coming from South-East Asia. I know the point that the honourable member is making is that people from this country should go to South-East Asia, and I agree with that.

Ms LENEHAN: I am pleased that the Minister referred to the seminar that I suggested we should organise in South Australia, particularly concerning the Japanese market, but certainly aimed at encompassing the whole South-East Asian market. It is important that it is used as a two-way medium: to find out from tourist operators in South Australia their understanding of the overseas markets and to increase their awareness.

One thing that the Minister touched on is something that he knows has been an issue very dear to my heart, that is, the provision of interpreting facilities. On a smaller scale, the provision of multi-lingual tapes at key tourist areas for things such as a walk along North Terrace or looking through the Festival Centre could encompass Italian, Japanese, German or any other language. I raised this matter in my report to the Minister and have raised it several times in Parliament, and I think that the media has picked it up. It is my understanding, having spoken to people in the industry, that the provision of multi-lingual tapes can be easily accessed through the travel centre or at points that people visit. Has the Minister initiated with his officers the implementation of that suggestion?

I would like to reiterate that it is my understanding that this would not be a very expensive initiative and, in fact, I am sure that the operators in private industries would be delighted to take up the initiative. However, I feel that it may well have to come from the Travel Centre itself.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I want to correct an impression I might have given to the Committee a moment ago when I was talking about the awareness of the tourist industry in South Australia about the need for South-East Asian and Japanese interpreters. That does not suggest that there is not an awareness out there: there is. There are a lot of people in the industry in South Australia who are very much aware of the need, but they have been rather hesitant in converting that awareness into investment and we are looking forward to that happening. In regard to the particular matter that the honourable member raises, we do not have any plans at present to develop a library of multilingual tapes, although the suggestion that she makes is a valid one.

At the moment, all of our emphasis is very much directed at bringing people here and, once that has been as successful as we are confident it will be, then the matter of the State Government's providing this service can be considered. We see our role as advertising South Australia, promoting the product we have and bringing people here. We are looking to the industry's picking up that challenge and providing for the needs of people when they come here. We cannot do it all and I do not think that that is our role. However, we need to play our part in promoting South Australia. We also need to play our part in developing awareness and giving leads to the industry, and I think that that is the point the honourable member makes.

We are developing a pool of interpreters in Adelaide to cater for the various language needs of our visitors, and this week we have needed the services of three or four interpreters for visitors who are coming here. So, increasingly people who speak a sole language that is not English are coming to South Australia from a variety of locations. I think that the idea of the industry providing these tapes is a good one and I would be quite happy and I am sure that my Department would be very happy to talk to the appropriate components of the industry about that. It might well be that they would see it in their best financial interests—

and that is the motivator, we understand, for making that sort of investment—and they will do that.

The Director has pointed out to me that Ansett Briscoe is already considering putting tapes in coaches and I think that those members of the Committee who have been to Japan are impressed by the fact that once they get into airport buses to go into Tokyo—that long, long trip—there are both Japanese and English explanations of where one is going, what one is likely to see, etc. So, the idea is great. We do not have any plans to do it: we are still concentrating on promoting South Australia and we would be happy to talk to the industry about it. As has been pointed out, Ansett Briscoe is already picking up that challenge.

Ms LENEHAN: As a follow up to that, might I suggest through you, Mr Chairman, and the Minister to Mr Noblet that in organising the seminar perhaps attention could be paid to those sorts of aspects—making sure that time is given to talking about the provision of interpreting facilities and multilingual facilities, among a myriad of other things.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I am sure that Mr Noblet has taken note of that. I do not know whether we have got down to any basic planning in regard to that. I very much doubt that we have. I will ask Mr Noblet to speak about that subject.

Mr Noblet: The date is not finalised, but it is likely to be late October, to cover Japan and the South-East Asian markets. About half of the day will be for tourism industry people to talk to the South Australian industry on their experiences in that market. A section is devoted to the Australian Tourist Commission to discuss its marketing strategies, but a significant part of the day will be given over to forum discussion so that ideas that are being brought forward by people who have some experience in that market can be discussed by all those attending.

As a result of that forum discussion a number of ideas would be picked up by industry sectors and not necessarily be left to the Department. It is proposed that that seminar would also include people who already have a strong knowledge of the Japanese market in particular—people such as the Himeji/Adelaide Sister City Committee, the Japan-Australia Foundation, Mitsubishi, Bridgestone and other companies and organisations which have close links between those markets and South Australia.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Invitations will be issued to members on both sides of the House who have a direct interest in tourism. We will invite them to come and participate.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I refer to page 5 of the yellow book, the Agency Overview, and to the increase in staffing by 11.9 average full-time equivalents. Looking through the various programmes, I point out that it is not possible to tell where those new people will be placed because one cannot distinguish between the new and the old. Can the Minister identify the offices that will be filled by those 11.9 average full-time equivalents and, in doing so, can he also refer to page 12 of the yellow book under 'Strategic Planning and Policy Formulation' in the policy area of economic development, and clarify how the proposed expenditure of \$183 000 in that area can relate to the fact that 2.6 full-time equivalents will be engaged on it? It seems that it might be the Director full-time plus another officer earning even more full-time. Again, linked with that total staffing, on page 16, reference is made to liaison with the travel trade—3.6 average full-time equivalents. Are the 3.6 equivalents the Singapore and Los Angeles appointments, or is that some other area?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: In response to the question as to what constitutes that increase in the employment numbers, part of it is the transfer of the Minister's office from Local Government to Tourism. We are now part of the Tourism

Department. My Ministerial office grouping forms part of that.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: How many?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Seven. There are three new positions: the Manager, Singapore; Regional Manager, Adelaide; and Senior Development Manager, Adelaide. Those three positions are spread over the various programmes.

This is part of the confusion of the system under which we are working. We have to make an effort to identify and cost the programmes. The other positions involve just the transfer of my office from local government with a subsequent reduction in personnel. I think seven people are transferred from my office. The honourable member drew attention to the total programme expenditure of \$183 000. I have forgotten the point she made.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: The \$183 000 by way of assistance in terms of policy advice to industry presumably is staff time, yet the full-time equivalents allocated to provide that service are 2.6. That would suggest that officers on an extremely high salary level are being used for that purpose. I do not think the Department employs anyone on a salary level of \$70 000. Will the Minister explain the apparent discrepancy?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I will take that question on notice and try to get an explanation before the end of the allocated tourism time.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I refer to page 16 of the yellow book where reference is made to the liaison with the travel trade for which an allocation of 3.6 full-time equivalents is made. Will the Minister identify precisely in what area that occurs? Does it refer to Singapore and Los Angeles or to the work done in the travel centres in Australia? Immediately under that is an allocation of .35 FTE for assistance to conventions. Is that normal departmental communication with the Adelaide Visitors and Convention Bureau, or is it a third of someone's time with the responsibility for promoting the Adelaide Convention Centre for which \$100 000 has been allocated.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The 3.6 FTE does not include the position in Los Angeles, which will be filled early in the new year. We have given that commitment and we will honour it. In fact, that position will not appear in the documents: we will find the resources within the present establishment, or will be granted an additional position between now and January. That position will be filled. The 3.6 involves a full-time sales manager and a percentage of time for a variety of other positions. I can give the honourable member a further breakdown so that she can identify each of the positions relating to the 3.6 FTE.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I note that there is an allocation of \$100 000 to market the Adelaide Convention Centre. Rather than relating that to the .35 FTE what are the staffing arrangements, who will be responsible for that marketing (will it be a single officer or a group of officers), and does the .35 FTE and the line 'Assistance for Conventions' relate specifically to marketing the Adelaide Convention Centre or to general conventions?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The .35 relates to positions that are already provided within the Department. Officers work with ACVB marketing conventions generally. The Director of the Department will be responsible for the marketing of the new State convention centre; the marketing will be undertaken within the resources available. The Director and the Deputy Director will have the responsibility, and no additional staff resources will be required, because most of the work will be put out to contract to marketing people within private industry including ACVB, which could participate in those marketing contracts. There is no reason why ACVB might not be one of the agencies that are given funds to undertake a marketing programme. No staff

resources will be required. Marketing will be controlled by the Director and the Deputy Director using consultants from the private sector.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I am relieved to hear that consultants will be engaged. I was somewhat disconcerted when the Minister said that the Director and the Marketing Director would be responsible, because marketing convention centres is obviously a highly specialised area, one in which the Adelaide Convention and Visitors Bureau has expertise. I doubt that other consultants are readily available in Adelaide who have such developed expertise, simply because no-one else in this city has done that sort of work in the same way as the convention centre.

Can the Minister outline the precise breakdown of the \$100 000 in terms of consultancy fees, promotional material and whatever other resources will be used for marketing the centre: in other words, the breakdown of the budget of the \$100 000 for the marketing of the convention centre?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I disagree with the honourable member. Certainly, ACVB has developed particular marketing skills in terms of conventions, and one would expect that, because that is part of the role it plays. It services convention needs in South Australia and, as an extension of that, it certainly markets South Australia as an ideal convention area. However, on the question of marketing skills in regard to conventions, I believe that there are a number of consultants in Adelaide who would be and who are able to provide an excellent service. By its very nature ACVB is one of those, and I accept the honourable member's comments on that body.

There will be promotional kit material, which is essential because, if we need to market the convention centre, we need to be able to say what will be the finished product. That could raise a question in itself, because we are only now in a position to say what the finished product will be that we are marketing, and that involves about \$18 000. The cost of engaging an operator will be about \$6 000 in advertising and selection, and the balance of about \$76 000 will be split on work that we will give ACVB and work given to the company that will get the contract, which is for one year. I understand that ACVB will not be tendering for the major contract, but I understand that funds will be spent to commission ACVB to undertake work for us out of the \$76 000 left.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I am not sure whether I heard the Minister correctly, but I thought he mentioned something about a one-year contract. I would have thought that for a marketing job of this order and significance the contract should be longer than one year. Can the Minister say why one year has been chosen? It seems to run counter to all the normal principles of getting to know markets and products and getting to work with the Department and the Bureau. It could take a significant part of one year for whoever is the successful consultant to get that act together, let alone start selling.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: It is an interim arrangement and there will be rights of renewal. I will ask the Director to explain what is taking place in terms of that contract.

Mr Inns: There are two phases to the marketing and the operating of the ASER convention centre. In the first instance, there are the interim arrangements that must be made in order to get the marketing thrust of that convention centre up and running now. Now that the design and the content of that convention centre have been determined, the committee that was appointed by the Premier has moved quickly to appoint two consulting arms: one to prepare the promotional material, and the other to do the initial marketing thrust so that in the first 12 months of the convention centre's activity it does not spend a great deal of its time in the dark.

The other phase is the appointment of an operator manager on a full-time and continuing basis. That will take some little time to complete, and it is for that reason that the interim arrangements and hence the \$100 000 provision are being made. The ASER co-ordinating committee has in fact advertised for a registration of interest of groups, companies and consortia that would be interested in tendering for the operator manager contract.

The Government is of course the lessee of the convention centre and has decided that that should be operated under a sub-lease arrangement. The sub-lessee will be the operator manager who it is hoped will be appointed at the beginning of next year, or at least will receive notification of his or her contract at the beginning of next year, and that of course will not form part of the \$100 000 that is provided for this financial year in the Department of Tourism's budget.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: Again, I am not sure whether I heard correctly, but the Director seemed to imply that following the appointment of the operator manager it may then be the operator manager's job rather than the State Government's job to market the convention centre. I cannot believe that that is a correct understanding, so I ask the Minister to clarify that. What is proposed after the one-year interim period in terms of responsibility for marketing the centre which is utterly critical to its success, and certainly critical to the burden or otherwise that will be placed on the South Australian taxpayer henceforth?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I think the honourable member's understanding of what the Director said is correct: it will be the task of the person who is appointed to market and manage the facility; that is the policy at the moment. The best way that the Government can market the facility is to put it out to those people whose expertise is in that area. As the Director has said, we have called for a register of interest in the appropriate way by people who are able to market and manage, and that register of interest will in due course be considered and a decision made. I am not sure of the point that the honourable member is making. Is she suggesting that we should approach this matter in some other way?

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: From all my observations in relation to the marketing of convention centres, in whatever location (be it a province, State or country), the local tourist authority is actively involved in the marketing of the centre. I want to clarify whether the Government intends to dissociate itself from any responsibility for the marketing of the centre once it has engaged an owner/operator, or whether it intends to participate in that marketing.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: We will not wash our hands of any responsibility for marketing the centre. That will still be a responsibility of the State Government. Of course, the agent, or whoever is managing the centre, will have a responsibility as well. We will impose on them as part of the agreement the responsibility for marketing the centre. We will certainly be looking very closely at that, although the Government will still have a marketing function. I point out that most of the convention centres in the American States (and I saw many convention centres during my recent trip through North America) are owned and run by the city authorities. In Los Angeles, for instance, there are six or seven convention centres which are all run by the individual city authorities within that metropolis. For example, there are convention centres in Anaheim, Los Angeles and Santa Monica. The centres are owned by the cities responsible for them and are run by the Convention and Visitors Bureau, which is an arm of the city management.

Of course, it is different in South Australia because the convention centre will not be run by the Adelaide City Council. Basically, in terms of investment breakdown, the

State Government controls the lease of the convention centre, which will be sub-contracted to a manager. However, that does not mean that the Government will step back from any responsibility for the centre. The Government will undertake a continuing marketing function in relation to the centre through the Department. However, we believe that the operators will be responsible for marketing the centre. In fact, we consider that the operator would have the main responsibility for that, and that will be part of the agreement.

Mr OSWALD: I refer to page 128 of the Estimates of Payments and to the line 'Assistance for facilities development' for which an amount of \$574 000 has been allocated. Can a breakdown of that amount be provided? If the information is not immediately available, it could be incorporated in *Hansard* later. Is provision made in that allocation, or elsewhere in the Budget, to provide a grant to assist the Adelaide City Council in upgrading the banks of the Torrens River? As the Minister would know, from time to time I have received deputations seeking improvements to Elder Park as a tourist facility with the upgrading of the banks and the kiosk. I know that the Minister for the Arts is responsible for the kiosk, but it has been suggested to me that it might be possible to provide some sort of assistance to the City Council in this area. Does that grant appear in any of the Budget papers?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The answer to the major part of that question is 'No', there is no money provided in that line to assist Adelaide City Council with work on the Torrens River bank. In fact, there is no application before the State Government from the council in relation to such work. I am very much aware of the honourable member's work over the past two years in an attempt to have the Torrens River bank beautified. It is certainly a work programme that the State Government, through the Department of Tourism, would support. However, the responsibility for that rests with the Adelaide City Council and we cannot provide a line of expenditure for that work when the council has made no application to us. In saying this I am in no way putting out feelers for the Adelaide City Council to make such an application; that is its decision.

I turn now to the breakdown of the \$574 000. I have a graph of approvals giving details of this breakdown, but it will require me to read out a lot of information about caravan parks, information bays, look outs, public toilets, recreation areas, tourist road signs, and so on. Therefore, I seek leave to have this information inserted in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

SUBSIDY PROGRAMME 1984-85		\$
Total Subsidy Line	.....	574 000
Projects approved at 1.9.84	.....	278 362
Balance available	.....	295 638
Less Approvals with Minister	.....	94 000
Balance	.....	<u>\$201 638</u>

Proposed Projects

Planning Status		
A	Moonta Bay Caravan Park—Stage I	100 000
B	Port Vincent Caravan Park Consultancy	5 438
B	Porter Bay Consultancy	10 000
A	Hawker—Paraplegic Toilets	3 200
B	Millicent—Information Bay	12 500
B	Wuddina—Information Bay Complex	10 000
A	Robe—Information Bay	2 500
B	Cape Jervis—Lookout	1 500
B	Beachport—Woakwine Cutting	7 000
B	Renmark—Wayside Stop Toilets	10 000
B	Renmark—Plushes Bend Toilets	3 500
B	Robe—Interpretation Centre	16 000

SUBSIDY PROGRAMME 1984-85		\$
B	Fleurieu—Road Signs	5 000
B	Loxton—Houseboat Wharf	12 500
C	Mount Barker Road—Information Bay Consultancy	2 500
		<u>\$201 638</u>

Mr OSWALD: I refer to page 4 of the yellow book under 'Corporate/Management Objectives', as follows:

The Department's principal objective is: To increase travel to and within South Australia while . . .

4. To stimulate investment in desirable tourism products . . .

The Opposition totally agree with that concept, but is concerned that over recent years there have been increases in taxes and charges that have worked against the tourism and hospitality industry in this State. The recent ETSA charge increases are monumental, and they will affect refrigeration and air-conditioning costs. Since coming to office the Government has increased or introduced 139 taxes and charges in this State, including an increase in liquor licensing fees. That increase hit the hospitality industry and has been equated with an amount of \$8 million withdrawn for that industry with a resultant lower profit and disincentive to employ. There have been increases in taxes on petrol and fuels, thereby increasing costs to the motoring public, which reduces their mobility and works against the principles of the corporate management objectives of the Department.

We have increased costs in operating motels, hotels and caravan parks in remote areas and increased freight costs in getting provisions out to those facilities, and the general insurance levy has been brought in, which is affecting the tourism industry greatly. If the Government is sincere in its stated objective to stimulate investment in desirable tourism products, will it give the hospitality and tourism industry some form of relief from the recent heavy increases in State taxes and charges so that entrepreneurs in the industry can commence new ventures with some degree of economic certainty, build up assets in the industry, reinvest in the industry and be in a position to provide more jobs in the industry? Will the Government redress this present system of State taxes and charges which, at the moment, is working as a disincentive to employment and is working directly against the corporate management objectives of the Department?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I have to disagree with much of what the honourable member says, because the basis of that question is that there is great disincentive to investment in the tourist infra-structure in South Australia. He argues that it is a disincentive investment and reinvestment. The facts are quite different. In the history of South Australia there has never been so much investment going into tourism as there is at the moment. Of course, we in the Department, and I am sure the honourable member himself, would know of many other projects that are on the drawing board, the proponents of which are most enthusiastic about their potential in South Australia. We have the ASER project, the Porter Bay project, the recent development at Glenelg, the *Philanderer* and one or two others that I will mention in due course. In South Australia, we are seeing a boom in the provision of tourism facilities such as has never been experienced before.

That runs counter to the point the honourable member made. There are people who have investment dollars to spend and who appreciate the potential in South Australia, because for many years the tourism potential (not only in South Australia or Australia but almost world wide) was not appreciated. I am one of those who believe that the time for tourism has arrived. That is not because of what we are doing in South Australia or Australia; it happens to be acknowledged around the world as an important economic generator and provider of jobs. So, the world is moving

into tourism facilities, as are we in South Australia. The honourable member is able to make the points he raised, but I point out to the Committee that the facts discount what he is saying. At the moment we have an estimated investment commitment to tourism infra-structure in South Australia of \$0.5 billion—the most we have ever had.

Mr OSWALD: Page 4, under 'Strategies', states:

Expand the State's marketing efforts in Western Australia, Queensland, Asia, North America and Japan;

I notice that we have already canvassed a fair amount of that point, but I would particularly like to zero in on the Western Australian and Queensland promotions. What are we doing in the next 12 months in those States? For example, is it intended in Western Australia to use Elders as a general sales agent, or is the Government planning separate representation in that State?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: At this stage, it is not proposed to change our agency in Western Australia. For the time being, we will recommitment (I guess that is the right word) the contract we have with Elders in Western Australia. We are also looking at appointing agents in Queensland. That decision has not yet been made but it is something that we are committed to in this 12-month period. Frankly, taking up the honourable member's point, there is very good reason to do so. One has only to look at the number plates on cars driving around South Australia to see the number of Queensland plates, indicating an interest in South Australia in that State. Victoria and New South Wales remain our major markets.

We are aware of the potential in Western Australia, particularly motoring Western Australian tourists who, if they want to go anywhere, go through South Australia. We need to be able to stop them and encourage them to spend some time in South Australia. We have been reasonably successful in that, but nevertheless we should never be happy with our percentage of the market from any of the States. I think that we can develop a better tourist trade from Western Australia. We will establish an agency in Queensland, but we are not putting an officer from the Department there this financial year. At the moment there is no such proposal.

Mr OSWALD: Do you mean in Brisbane or somewhere else in Queensland?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Initially, it will be in Brisbane. I take the point, because Queensland is such a decentralised State with major markets in its central and northern regions. We are looking at Brisbane. When we were in Japan recently we had discussions with Mr Tanaka, from Elders, about the future. We told him that, although we have a policy to work through the South Australian Tourist Commission, we are happy with the work he is doing.

I was impressed with the standing of Mr Tanaka in the tourist industry in Japan. It was quite a revelation to me. His officers are very well known and accepted giving South Australia a presence that is very pleasing. In the short term, we will be continuing our contract work with Elders, but we have had a long discussion about the future. There is an understanding of the commitment to the Australian Tourist Commission and, in the extension of their contract, one of their officers will work very closely and be in daily contact with the Commission.

In Japan the marketing of South Australia fits under the umbrella of the very excellent marketing work which the Australian Tourist Commission is doing, and which it will expand. We do not have the resources or the wish to market independently the South Australian product. That would be incredibly expensive and a waste of money. When I talked to the Federal Minister for Tourism two days ago, he made a call for more co-operation between the States and asked that they work with the Australian Tourist Commission to market Australia and to have tour packages within that

marketing strategy. That ties in the best of what Australia can provide, which means that one goes across States borders.

The Japanese and Americans are not the slightest bit interested in Australian State borders. I do not think that too many Australians would know the borders of the prefectures in Japan. That is about how much knowledge the Japanese have of the borders in Australia. One can understand that. We are trying to work with the Australian Tourist Commission and will be doing it through the Elders contract in Tokyo. The responsibility for Asia will be with our officer in Singapore. The responsibility for North America will be with a departmental officer seconded to the Australian Tourist Commission in Los Angeles in January 1985.

I would expect that officer to be most effective in ensuring that South Australian content is included in any marketing of Australia by the ATC in North America. Also (and this is something that I have not discussed at length with either the Department or the Premier's Department), I hope that that officer could be of assistance in the bi-State 1986 programmes with Texas.

Ms LENEHAN: I would love to pursue this whole line of promotion internationally. However, I am mindful of the Opposition's right to ask numerous questions, and I think that it is very important. However, by way of a link to the last line of questioning, while I was in Japan I mentioned to Mr Tanaka the proposed *Philanderer III* ferry, of which at that stage he was unaware. He was quite excited about the whole idea, particularly as Japanese tourists have such a short amount of time to spend in South Australia to be able to travel through the Fleurieu Peninsula on the ferry and then around the island.

He thought that it was quite an exciting initiative, which leads me to the question that I would like to ask: can the Minister tell the Committee what is the present state of construction of the *Philanderer III*, whether it is on schedule, the date at which it is planned to be operational, and also how far advanced the shore works are? I am mindful that it is very important and it is not merely a matter of constructing a vessel; obviously, wharf facilities have to be constructed, too.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I recently visited the Eglo works at Port Adelaide and I was assured by Mr March and the management that the vessel would be launched in November 1984. That was surprising to me because there seemed to be a lot of work to complete. However, they are on target with their construction programme, and I am assured that it will be launched in 1984. Really, it has to be to tap into the major holiday months for Kangaroo Island. The shore works at Penneshaw will cost \$152 000 and the construction programme there is very well under way, so it will be finished by the time the vessel is launched. The cost of the shore works at Cape Jervis is \$400 000.

A Government guarantee of \$1 million has been given to this project, and the honourable member would be well aware of that. So, we are very much committed to improving access to Kangaroo Island. I think that my figures are right (I will be corrected if they are not), but I think that 80 per cent of South Australians have not visited Kangaroo Island. This would suggest that the major market for Kangaroo Island initially is South Australia. There is no doubt that people coming to South Australia who can do a day trip to Kangaroo Island will take advantage of the opportunity that the *Philanderer III* ferry provides to them.

I always caution (and I think that it is appropriate to do so now) that when we are developing our tourist facilities on Kangaroo Island—which we will inevitably have to do as a result of the increased patronage—I think that great care should be taken to protect what is valuable on Kangaroo Island, as it is a very fragile ecological part of South Australia which could be destroyed very easily to the extent that that

which is valuable no longer existed and its attraction as a tourist destination would be reduced. So, I think it is important, and I have spoken to the people at Kangaroo Island who are very nervous, I might say, about the prospect of rapidly increasing tourist patronage. On the other hand, they are very proud and pleased that people want to go and see what they have to offer.

Both councils and the holiday providers there are conscious of the need to protect the environment and ecology of Kangaroo Island. By November this year we will all be able to take our cars to Cape Jervis and enjoy a day on Kangaroo Island.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I am sure that the Minister has been expecting this question; so I am also sure that he has the material with which to respond to it, that is, in relation to the regional tourist association grants. I want to clarify that the \$10 000 for strategic planning, the \$60 000 for marketing and the \$234 000 identified under the various programmes are cash to the associations rather than kind, in terms of staff assistance, and that we are working on a grant of \$304 000, which amounts to a \$14 000 increase over last year, which is very little more than \$1 000 increase per region if it is broken down proportionately between the regions. Can the Minister advise what is the grant to each region this year and how that compares with the previous year's grant to the same region? If the previous year's figures are not there, I am sure that they will be put on notice.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I have the previous year's figures; so comparisons can be made. I sent out the letters to the various tourist associations last night because I am conscious of what happened last year when the honourable member asked me this question and I felt constrained not to give her the information because the budget had not been agreed on. Subsequently, I have realised that I might have been able to provide the honourable member with information last year that I did not. This year, we have the information.

As the honourable member knows, there are two elements of the grant that we make to the regional tourist associations: one is a direct grant and the other is a subsidy that is designed to match the expenditure programmes that the regional tourist associations put to the State Government so that we can approve and match a certain percentage of those programmes with a subsidy. There is a figure of \$304 000 and it is, as the honourable member says, \$14 000 over and above the grants that were made last year. A number of adjustments have been made to the grants to the various associations.

It is fair to say that the Government has looked on these funds in a sense as seeding funds. We do not, nor can we, nor should we be expected to, fund entirely the operations of the regional tourists associations. We feel that our role is to encourage the private tourist providers—the entrepreneurs—within those areas to themselves support their regions. So, this year we have made a conscious and fairly tough decision in relation to the regional tourist associations. Those people whom we believe are fulfilling the role that has been given them, we are supporting; those who have not fulfilled that role, we are cutting back a bit. We will talk to them during this 12 months, try to counsel them and encourage them to be more active in the way that was originally designed. I do not want to say any more than that about the individual regions because it is not constructive for us to be discussing the regions, but it is fair to point out that the funds that we provide are there to be spent in the 12 months and not to be put away in bank accounts and be drawing interest. That matter has been brought to my attention.

Certainly, that is not a criticism I would make of the majority of the associations involved. The Barossa Valley

last year received a base grant of \$4 000 and a subsidy of \$11 000. This year we have increased the base grant to \$8 000, which is the key figure that enables it to have a set figure on which it can operate in terms of employing part-time people, etc. The subsidy line will be \$12 000, so the total this year is \$20 000 for the Barossa Valley as opposed to the total for last year of \$15 000.

Eyre Peninsula received a total of \$17 000 as it did last year. Last year the grant was \$4 000 and the subsidy \$13 000. This year we have increased the grant to \$9 000. The gross figure remains the same. The South-East last year received a \$5 000 grant and an \$18 000 subsidy, giving a total figure of \$23 000. This year the grant has been increased to \$8 000 and the subsidy has come down to \$16 000 and there has been an increase of \$1 000 overall, giving a total of \$24 000 for the South-East. The Flinders Ranges last year received a grant of \$4 000 and a subsidy of \$8 000, giving a total of \$12 000. This year the grant is \$8 000 and the subsidy \$9 000, giving a total of \$17 000. Yorke Peninsula last year had a grant of \$5 000 and a subsidy of \$11 000, giving a total of \$16 000. This year we have increased the grant from \$5 000 to \$7 000. We have reduced the subsidy line, for reasons which the honourable member would appreciate, giving a total of \$14 000. When I say that the honourable member would appreciate the reasons, I mean that we have to take into account the programmes that the regions put to us seeking subsidies.

One of the reasons for the readjustment of figures is to encourage people to be more innovative in providing the sorts of programmes to which a subsidy will accrue. The Riverland last year received a grant of \$4 000 and a subsidy of \$14 000, giving a total of \$18 000. This year the grant is \$5 000 and the subsidy \$12 000. The Riverland effectively has a reduction from \$18 000 to \$17 000 in total. Kangaroo Island last year received a grant of \$4 000 and a subsidy of \$9 000, giving a total of \$13 000. This year it receives a grant of \$12 000 and a subsidy of \$4 000. So, the emphasis is changed, with a total of \$16 000 for Kangaroo Island. Fleurieu Peninsula received a grant last year of \$5 000 and a subsidy of \$13 000, giving a total of \$18 000. This year it receives a grant of \$8 000 and a subsidy of \$10 000, for a total of \$18 000. The Mid-North last year received a grant of \$3 000 and a subsidy of \$8 000, giving a total of \$11 000. This year we have given it a grant of \$9 000 and a subsidy of \$2 000, for a total of \$11 000, which is the same.

There was no application for a subsidy from that region last year, so we have increased its grant from \$3 000 to \$9 000—an additional \$6 000. We are going to encourage them to try to get their act together in a sense. There are certain problems in the Mid-North as it is such a large area with diversity of interests, especially around the Clare Valley, Peterborough, Terowie, Ororoo, Port Pirie, etc. We need to get them together to put programmes to the State Government. We have only allocated \$2 000 subsidy because last year it did not take advantage of the subsidy. The total is \$11 000—the same as for last year. Last year the Lower Murray region received a \$3 000 grant and a subsidy of \$8 000 giving a total of \$11 000. This year we have only given a grant of \$4 000 and no subsidy has been granted to the Lower Murray, thus giving a total of \$4 000. The area has experienced a significant reduction. Here again we will be talking with them and the council over the coming 12 months and will be seeking to have that region incorporated as an effective unit within our regional tourist associations. I am sure that that can be achieved. This is one organisation that has money in the bank that it has not used, although that money has been granted by the State over the past couple of years. It has not been used in the way expected in the 12-month period.

The State Government is not a milking cow, and there ought not to be expectations of an annual increase in grant moneys and subsidies, no matter what happens in regions. We intend to encourage the regional organisations to perform as they were established to perform, and the honourable member would understand that, as she was the Minister when they were established. The objectives are to assist in the provision of permanent part-time staff and to develop a sound structure on a regional base.

We gave the Adelaide organisation a subsidy of \$10 000 last year, and that has been repeated this year. The grant to the Adelaide Convention and Visitors Bureau remains at \$120 000; the grant to the South Australian Tourism Industry Council, which was given for the first time last year to help in the employment of an executive officer, remains the same; SARTA has been allocated \$6 000 this year—the same as last year.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: What about SATIC?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The grant is \$10 000, the same as last year. We believe that eventually the South Australian Tourism Industry Council and the Regional Tourist Association ought to be able, or should seek, to provide for their own executive officer from within their resources, and the funding we are providing is to enable them as a body to become professional enough to do that. However, in the meantime the State Government is picking up a large proportion of the cost. The assistance was given on the understanding that it was not to be regarded as a permanent expectation of those organisations. We are really seeking to encourage the industry to stand on its own two feet.

The honourable member may be interested to know that I attended the presentation of the Australian tourism awards in Sydney recently, at which the excellence of the South Australian performance was not recognised as much as we had hoped it would be recognised. Nevertheless, we will be there in the award winners if not this year certainly next year. There was a great deal of emphasis on the distance between Government and the private sector in the tourism industry. It was pointed out continually that the heavily subsidised industries in Australia are those that are currently under stress whereas, as Mr Keith Williams from Queensland put it, the rugged individualism of the tourist industry is such that it is able to survive without needing constant handouts from the Government. The South Australian tourism industry would warm to such a philosophy—one that should be encouraged.

The grants to the tourist associations could be regarded in a sense as ceiling grants. As the honourable member would know, in addition we provide regional tourist officers to service these regions at considerable cost to the taxpayer. The sum of \$304 000 is by no means the extent of the State's contribution to the regions to assist them to help themselves. The member for Coles earlier asked a question about the 2.6 FTE set out on page 12 as related to the salary sum of \$183 000, and the Director now has a break-down of that information that we can provide to the Committee.

Mr Inns: The 2.6 FTE do not relate to the total salary sum of \$183 000, and significant sums are involved other than salaries. The salaries comprising the 2.6 FTE are the total of my own as Director of Tourism, a portion of the Deputy Director's salary and a portion of the salary of the Assistant Director, Development and Regions. There is also a portion of the salary of the Assistant Director, Planning and Research, and the fees for the Tourism Development Board are taken into account in the salary levels. In addition, there are portions of the salaries of the Planning and Research Division. Certainly, the salary component is not \$183 000: it is about \$150 000, and other contingency components and operating expenses that make up the balance.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: Certainly, the Government seems to be getting good value from the Director if his entire salary is allocated from that line, yet he is responsible for marketing the ASER project and sundry other programmes. Still in regard to regional associations, the Minister's response and the figures stated, I am not sure what the Department is basing its inflation expectations on, but I believe that the figures have not taken account of inflation. The Minister explained that the Department and the Government wanted the regions to be self-supporting as far as possible. From attending some annual general meetings and from communicating with regions, it became clear to me that they were expecting funds to be provided to enable them to employ staff to remove the burden from volunteers, and that is what is happening. I also have the strong impression that, if local government were more supportive in the regions, private operators in turn would be more supportive because of the strong influence of local government in the regions. I refer to page 4, item 10, under 'Corporate Management Objectives', and the objective of improving awareness of the tourism industry's contribution to the State economy which is a massive objective and which is achieved by all manner of strategies.

Can the Minister say what specific funds, if any, were spent on improving awareness of local government in the past year and what is proposed for this year? Are any initiatives in train as distinct from the normal advocacy undertaken by the Minister, his colleagues and departmental officers in raising the awareness of local government about the economic importance of tourism? I vividly remember in office that I had in mind specific strategies and was told by the Department that one could hardly embark on a general awareness campaign until target groups were sensitive and until local government was identified as one of the target groups. I am now inclined to believe that, if the Government went out directly to every person in the State, local government, by way of its political responsiveness, would be more inclined to respond to that broadly based campaign than to one directed solely at local government. What specifically has been done? What has it cost? What is planned and what will it cost?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The member raises an important point. I am much aware of it because I have the Ministerial responsibility of local government. Indeed, tourism and local government fit well together. We will not be able to achieve what we are hoping in the tourism industry in South Australia unless we have the co-operation and active support of local government throughout the State. In the short time that I have been Minister there has been an increasing awareness of the situation, and it is difficult to dissociate local government from our general awareness programme. I refer to the programme we funded ourselves in South Australia and our contribution this year of \$126 000 to the Federal Government's awareness programme. That will cost \$2 million of which \$1 million is provided by the Federal Government and \$1 million from the various States of which our contribution is \$126 000. Some of the Paul Hogan advertisements have been building awareness in Australia and these are part of a programme that this State Government contributes to. We are proud of that.

No specific funds were directed towards local government other than in the preparation of videos. We have two video programmes. One already available is being shown to local government and another video programme should be available for circulation in local government shortly. It is designed to increase awareness amongst local government organisations by focusing on their role in tourism. We are fortunate that the Lord Mayor of Adelaide has such a strong commitment to tourism. The member for Henley Beach has worked actively to encourage his local council to be interested

in tourism. It has picked up the challenge. I have spoken to other mayors in the western region, who are now certainly showing greater awareness.

I recently spoke to the Clare council and the Mayor and Town Clerk admitted that they were lukewarm towards tourism. That was strange having regard to the marvellous attractions of the Clare Valley and surrounding regions. They said they were lukewarm towards tourism until the shadow Minister of Tourism (the member for Coles) visited the area about a couple of months ago, and then they smartly came down to see me as Minister with a number of suggestions and proposals. We are now working with the Clare council in developing proposals for improved tourist facilities. Councils really only need a spark, and many people both inside and outside Parliament are working with local government. I know that as the Minister if I visit an area to talk to people in the tourist industry I am often running into local government people. Certainly, within the Regional Tourist Associations there is a large component of local government people. Although local government could be encouraged to be somewhat more constructive than it is in terms of financial support, I see that as the role that I should be playing both as Minister of Tourism and Minister of Local Government. Nevertheless, councils are certainly doing much better than in the past, particularly some of the smaller rural councils.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: Burra and Hawker.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Burra and Hawker, as the honourable member points out, are excellent examples that traditionally in the past have been not resentful but certainly not supportive of tourism. Now, the small regional councils are picking up the tourism challenge, running with it and doing extremely well, particularly Burra. Hawker council is one that I know very well, and it certainly appreciates the importance of tourism. There has been a problem, though, because the smaller councils do not have the resources always to provide for the needs of tourists. Because of that they may be reluctant to become more closely involved. The point the honourable member makes is a valid one. Money has not been spent specifically with local government and there is no line this year specifically for it but because closer relationships are obviously being developed between the two departments, I expect that our intrastate promotion budget will enable us to work even more closely with the local government authority.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I have often been tempted to throw an imaginary cordon around places like Victor Harbor, not let anyone through except the local residents and see how the local government and proprietors feel about their revenue after a week without any visitors at all. That would probably be the most effective awareness-raising exercise the Government could embark on, if only it were possible to do so.

I refer to page 13 of the yellow book under the programme title 'Marketing the State as a Tourist Destination', under the heading 'Major resource variations—1983-84 to 1984-85' and I am intrigued to see that the statement mirrors what I said in my Budget speech, namely, that the variation in programme expenditure of an increase of \$530 000 is mainly due to the effect of inflation, the provision of \$100 000 for marketing of the Adelaide convention centre and an increase in employed average FTE of 1.4 at a cost of \$55 000.

That statement virtually acknowledges that, in terms of the actual budget, the actual additional funds available to market the State in a more vigorous and effective way, or in a way additional to what has been done in the past are little or nothing. I realise that we will get increased visitors as a result of marketing the convention centre. Inflation has

obviously eaten up a lot of the media budget. What additional media time or space, if any, can be purchased as a result of the marketing budget this year over and above what was purchased last year because that statement about major resource variation seems to indicate that in real terms we are not one step further forward in our capacity to sell more effectively and to more markets?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I will ask my Deputy Director to respond to the aspect concerning purchase of additional time, etc. However, before doing that I would make a general comment about resources. I do not think the honourable member is suggesting that there should all of a sudden be a massive increase in resources towards the marketing of South Australia because, if we received that in one 12-month period, it would take 12 months to gear up for it. It is a very highly technical area, and if we were suddenly given a whole heap of money to work with, it would take more than 12 months to put programmes into effect to use that money. So, the whole emphasis of our marketing is to gradually and sensibly increase the programmes that we have marketing South Australia.

Secondly, it should be said—because a comparison might be made with other State marketing budgets—that it is not always the quantity that is available: it is the quality of the advertising or the promotion. South Australia is getting more than a fair share for its dollar expended in marketing. That is a credit to those people within the South Australian department who are working in that marketing area. The promotion of our State has been excellent, and it is widely acknowledged as such.

So, I would make those two points: first, in terms of increasing the marketing budget we, frankly, could not handle and give value for dollar to the taxpayer in South Australia a massive increase in the marketing budget this year. We could, if we were given a programme of years ahead, work towards spending massive increases. However, in what is a pretty tight budgeting situation, that is not a fair expectation. We have done very well in comparison to other departments in terms of the tourism budget.

I ought to say also that the marketing budget does not just cover the expense of media time, which is television. There is a whole range of marketing strategy, including brochure production, print media, and additional resources provided for additional markets that are outside of strict media time—television or video time. So, when one places a percentage increase across the board of our marketing budget, one will see that there are no minuses but considerable pluses in certain areas. I would ask the Deputy Director to give some specific details in reply to the questions asked.

Mr Noblet: There has been a reallocation of priorities between lines within the Department's budget this year which has left the Department still with significant funds available for actual media expenditure, despite the fact that it would appear that the total amount available has not significantly increased. The Department's main markets within Australia continue to be Victoria and New South Wales. The media activity in Victoria budgeted for 1984-85 is a 57 per cent increase in expenditure over 1983-84, a total of \$470 000 compared with \$298 000. Victoria is South Australia's main market.

The New South Wales media expenditure is \$355 000 compared with \$297 000 last year, an increase of 19.2 per cent. Western Australia is a higher percentage because it is building on a lower base. It is 600 per cent higher than last year: that is an increase from \$5 600 to \$40 000.

The total to be spent on television, press and radio advertising this current financial year is 14.3 per cent higher than in 1983-84. That is domestic media advertising. The international marketing budgets are all increased but marketing is used there in its broadest sense and it includes not the

cost of our representation in those markets but advertising in the travel industry publications as well as brochure distribution, some contribution to the cost of marketing consultants, etc. In New Zealand, the figure is \$110 000, compared to \$128 000 last year. It is lower in real terms but the New Zealand devaluation means that it will go 20 per cent further than last year.

The increase in South-East Asia was over 100 per cent, from \$24 000 to \$50 000; for the United Kingdom and Europe it was \$37 000 to \$70 000; for Japan, \$60 000 to \$108 000, and for North America, \$22 000 to \$60 000. In almost all the markets in which the Department will be active next year there have been significant increases. A reduction in expenditure on intrastate media activity is proposed this year. That decision recognises the strong support received for tourism by the media. As a result of lobbying and awareness activity, tourism is granted so much free time now on press, radio and television in Adelaide and regional South Australia that the Department can effectively withdraw (although not entirely) and thus reduce its financial commitment.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: Those very interesting figures naturally lead into the next question, which is not only a financial question but also a philosophical one related to marketing and research. I have placed some Questions on Notice about this in an attempt to get some answers in regard to this matter which is not at all simple. How does the Department make its decisions as to the dollar for dollar cost benefit of advertising in specific markets: in other words, asking ourselves how many visitors do we want *in toto* in South Australia, how much are we prepared to pay to get each one of them, and what is the return to us from each one of them? We know, for example, that the Japanese are the biggest *per diem* spenders, but how many of those people do we want and at what cost? Can the Minister or his officers indicate the type of research the Department undertakes to identify the cost benefit to the State of money spent in bringing visitors to South Australia? Is our research sophisticated enough to be able to measure the results?

I appreciate that sophistication in research is of comparatively recent origin and that we would be laying a base now for the future. I also appreciate that the questions and the answers do not take account of intangibles, such as the benefits derived from professionalism given when we sell in other markets and when we get visitors from interstate markets which, of course, are the most expensive visitors to obtain in terms of cost and effort. Are they the most rewarding visitors once we have them?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I would like to be able to say that all of that data is available to us for assessment and that we can make judgments based on the individual segments of that data. However, the truth is that we make somewhat arbitrary decisions about markets, but that is necessary. I might be wrong about this but I do not believe that any tourist operation in Australia, including some of the major private tour operators, has the sophisticated data referred to by the honourable member which, of course, would be ideal if it was available. The Australian Tourist Commission, of which the Director was a member for some time (and will be again, of course) does not have that sophistication. I think we need to be flexible enough to react in South Australia to the market changes, and these can be quite sudden.

A South Australian Government priority was to concentrate on the Japanese market before moving into the North American market. The Australian Tourist Commission and the Australian Government viewed those markets differently. An enormous and very successful marketing drive was undertaken in North America. In South Australia we had to change in order to tap into that North American emphasis,

and I think we have done that fairly effectively. On the marketing strategies that we had, Japan was indicated as being a higher priority than North America, but that has changed somewhat. We need to respond to the millions of dollars that the Federal Government is spending, and we must move in there very quickly and be part of that effort.

In terms of markets other than our traditional markets, there is the United Kingdom, New Zealand and the Singapore/Malaysia area, which has always shared a fairly close relationship with South Australia. Other markets include European countries: for example, visiting friends and relatives form a major component involving Greece, Italy and some of the other large European countries from which there is a large inflow of people to South Australia. We have had to respond to the Australian Tourist Commission's initiatives. I would like to follow up this matter with the Commission to see what sort of work it is doing to try to identify the dollar return from the different markets that are available to us.

Tourism generally is important, and I have a feeling about tourism transcending simply the normal dollar return aspect to the extent that it builds friendships and peace. I think we ought to be very active in encouraging all countries and all people to come to Australia and also encourage people to visit their countries of origin. Visitors flowing from country to country build up relationships that result in further visits to countries occurring and friendships being made—and it is very hard to argue or fight with your friends. I would like to see people visiting from all countries.

In answer to the honourable member, the Government makes arbitrary decisions, and although we have been working in our traditional markets, we respond to Australian Tourist Commission initiatives. We are aware that the Japanese are the highest *per diem* tourist spenders in the world tourism market. They seem to have a lot of money to spend in a very short time, and companies such as Kodak benefit quite considerably from Japanese tourists. I am anxious to ascertain whether such sophisticated data is available elsewhere.

Mr Noblet: The Department is not aware of the availability of a complex study such as that described by the honourable member. It is a very complex issue, and the activities of our competitors must be taken into account as well as the different costs of buying media outlets in our various markets. Information available to us on immediate trends and visitor statistics must be ascertained, and then we have to make a judgment as to whether we should commit further expenditure on maintaining a certain level or whether to put in further expenditure to try to increase the level instead of perhaps moving into a newer developing market. It is an exceedingly complex issue and one that we wish that we could address more scientifically.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The Assistant Director, Mr Penley, who has recently completed a course on tourism at the University of Hawaii, has pointed out that in the courses available there they use quantitative figures, but not to the degree referred to by the honourable member. But even there the sophistication alluded to by the honourable member is not available.

Ms LENEHAN: I concur with the Minister's statement that tourism is more than something seen only in terms of economic development and that cultural and a whole range of other very positive spin-offs are involved. However, my question is an economic one and relates to page 4, point 10 in the yellow book under 'Corporate/Management Objectives', which states:

To improve awareness of the tourism industry's contribution to the State economy.

I pick up a point made earlier by the member for Coles about making aware all levels of the economy from the

local deli, which may well be situated anywhere in South Australia, through to local councils and the State Government. It was brought to my attention when I was in Burra some time ago, and again recently, that one of the ways they were able to improve the degree of economic awareness in the area was by implementing a system whereby every merchant in the town kept a pad next to the cash register and marked down with each purchase whether the person making that purchase, whatever the goods or service, was known or unknown. This was an easy exercise because it is an isolated town.

Jenny O'Connor tells me that it was an incredibly successful part of her campaign to increase the awareness of local merchants in the town and the commitment of the Burra council, which I know every member here understands has dramatically supported tourism in Burra. This leads me to a question about another isolated area where some of the same techniques could be applied, that is, the town of Leigh Creek. I was one of the members of this Parliament fortunate enough to be taken to Leigh Creek and shown what happens there. I think that anyone who visits Leigh Creek cannot help but be overwhelmed by its enormous tourism potential. Will the Minister say what tourist initiatives, if any, the Government and Travel Centre are taking to develop the tourist potential of Leigh Creek—I think that the word 'develop' is essential in this question—so that it can provide the sorts of facilities and tours that tourists want to see, as well as seeing this monstrous project? Also, what sorts of initiatives are being taken in the promotion which would be the second stage of a tourism development project for the town of Leigh Creek? For too long Leigh Creek has been seen as an exit town if one is on a Government visit or going to visit relatives. However, there is the potential at the top of the Flinders Ranges to exploit this area.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I take it that when the honourable member describes the Leigh Creek project as 'monstrous' she means large?

Ms LENEHAN: Yes, I meant that in a positive way.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I will ask the Assistant Director, Mr Penley, to comment on this matter in a moment, because I know of his commitment to Leigh Creek as a potential tourist area. I believe that Leigh Creek fits in well with the whole Flinders Ranges tourist potential. I also believe that (and I know that this is something the member for Eyre and a number of other people have been promoting over the years) eventually we will have to open the track from Leigh Creek to Farina Town around the top of Lake Torrens to Andamooka so that people travelling from Adelaide to Alice Springs can pass through the Flinders Ranges and across the top of Lake Torrens to the Stuart Highway and continue on, or come back that way. Also, they could do the central trip from Adelaide through the Flinders Ranges around the top of the lake and go to Andamooka, which is a marvellous place to visit, to the Woomera rocket range area and then back down to Adelaide. At the moment one goes to the Flinders Ranges and is almost compelled to come out the same way as one goes in. Leigh Creek fits into this plan very well. I ask Mr Penley to answer the specific question about the Leigh Creek area.

Mr Penley: The Department has been very conscious of the fact that the sealing of the road to Leigh Creek has opened up a great tourist potential and, in particular, the chance for visitors to experience the mine, as well as the town, which is something quite unique in this State. The Electricity Trust of South Australia came to the Department five months ago and asked us to assist it with a development plan, including a look at some of the infra-structure needs of Leigh Creek, the area surrounding the mine and the Aroona Dam. We completed that plan and presented it to

ETSA. As a result of that, we are confident that a private investor is likely to pick up a \$500 000 investment in a 90-site caravan park and associated cabin development at Leigh Creek. Also, as a result of that there will be several roads, locations and destinations signposted.

As the Minister has pointed out, the next step from that is a connection through to the Farina track, and down around the western side of the lake, which provides a lengthy but interesting and unique tourist route for some time in the future. The open cut mine at Leigh Creek has the potential to be the largest man made attraction in the State. Certainly, if I had my way we would pursue this matter. There is no doubt that now Leigh Creek is connected by bitumen to Adelaide there are benefits to be had, and we intend that they be pursued.

Ms LENEHAN: While on the subject of the Mid North and Far North, I know I asked this question last year in the Estimates Committee, but as I have been described at times as a 'terrier' I will adopt that role again. A matter that has been raised with me on many occasions (and I know it has been raised with the Minister), about which I would like him to give me an update, is the progress being made in achieving the sealing of the Morgan to Burra road. Last year I said that it seemed to be essential not just to South Australia's but to Australia's tourist development that this road be sealed, so that people coming from interstate can come in a direct line, and travel from Morgan to Burra on the road that we all know is presently unsealed.

I was recently in Burra and, once again, this subject became the focal point of matters raised by people in the township. It is also a focal point for bus operators who took part in a survey conducted throughout Australia in which they were asked whether they would use a proposed bus park in Burra if it were established and were apparently also asked what was their biggest concern about going to Burra. The concern raised by almost all the operators was that the Morgan to Burra road is unsealed. Therefore, Burra is losing an enormous number of tourists, who I believe would stay in town if a bus park was established, along with facilities. The proposal is that buses stay overnight in Burra enabling people to look at all the historic aspects of the town. This would no doubt bring a lot of revenue to Burra. The stumbling block for many bus companies is the sealing of the Morgan to Burra road.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I am very much aware of the terrier qualities of the honourable member: it is true that she has raised this matter with me on a number of occasions. The Department of Tourism does not have any road building funds of its own. However, it makes recommendations to the Department of Transport in relation to tourist roads. The funds that the Highways Department has for tourist road expenditure would not touch the surface of that road. There has not been any money spent on it, as the honourable member has pointed out. We have had that road listed as a priority on our list submitted to the Highways Department for the bicentennial road programme funds in 1988. However, I do not know of any reason to expect that that work will start between now and 1988. It may, and I am trying not to be too negative about this matter. I have no knowledge of whether it will or will not commence. We agree with the honourable member's assessment of the tourist value of this road, so in our recommendations to the Highways Department that road is given a high priority. I do not want to start an argument amongst the various tourist regions of South Australia by saying that that has top priority as against something else. It was given a high priority, and I hope we will see some sealing work start under that programme.

Mr OSWALD: I refer to page 4, 'Corporate management objectives', as follows:

To ensure the attainment of high levels of visitor satisfaction. What is the Department doing to achieve this objective? I know of the work it is doing in the hospitality area, but I would still like to see more foreign signs in hotel bathrooms and such places to help Asians and others. How will the Government address the attitudes of workers in shops and the banking industry, bus and taxi-drivers, and so on, who come into contact with tourists? Those workers could be made far more tourist oriented or tourist conscious; they would then be aware of the impact they have on tourists, because in many cases they are the first point of contact. If those workers are rude or insulting to tourists, they will go away thinking that all South Australians are in the same category. It is an important area. What is the Department doing to address that question?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: This is an important area; in fact, it is critical. It is one of the key tourism aspects to address, because the personal experience of our level of professionalism in South Australia determines a tourist's commendation of our product. Word of mouth promotion is perhaps the most effective advertisement for tourism. We need that for South Australia.

I believe that we do quite a bit in this area. Mr Packer (one of our Assistant Directors who is a member of the Industry, Hospitality and Training Committee) will advise the Committee on the work that is being done. This area is being addressed at a number of levels: Regency Park better equips people who work in the tourist industry; they learn admirable skills. The Department of Further Education and TAFE colleges are introducing a tourism course of study, and the new Adelaide college will have courses in tourist related and hospitality industries. The AHA is active in this area. The 'SA Great' Des Colquhoun tourist advertisement (funded by the Government) also highlighted the need for professionalism, because no-one knows who a tourist is.

In a wide range of areas we are doing what we can to encourage the tourism industry to be more professional and provide a high level of visitor satisfaction. However, ultimately, it is the responsibility of the tourist activity concerned and its employees. The Government is doing a considerable amount to assist in developing that professional attitude. Mr Packer may be able to advise the Committee about the activities of the Industry, Hospitality and Training Committee.

Mr Packer: The training committee consists of essential industry groups with representation from the South Australian Government and, of course, the Commonwealth Government. The industry groups represented include the Hotels Association, motels, travel agents, restaurants, and associated bodies. I am the Department of Tourism representative on the committee. In addition, we provide accommodation for the two officers of the committee.

As the name suggests, the committee's activities essentially involve training: one of the two persons employed by the committee is engaged virtually full time on training industry personnel. A large proportion of his time is spent in relation to tourism awareness and raising the standards of staff employed in the industry.

The Minister mentioned education. The committee is responsible for preparing a diploma course in tourism. We hope that the first course will commence in 1986.

Mr OSWALD: I was very interested in what Mr Packer had to say, but I tried to preface my remarks by saying that we should not dwell on the hospitality industry—hotels, motels and the like. I stand to be corrected, but I believe that Mr Packer's answer concentrated on that part of the industry. Mr Packer seemed to overlook taxi-drivers, bus drivers, bank clerks, conductors at the railway station, and particularly shop assistants and a vast range of people who might upset tourists and cause them to go home with a bad

impression. There is another area of concern out there. Is the committee considering that area in relation to its role in educating the industry?

Mr Packer: No; the committee has not specifically picked up that issue.

Mr OSWALD: Does it intend to?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The people who attend the regional seminars are not essentially tourist or travel providers. In fact, chemists and people who provide a whole range of other services come along to those seminars. The honourable member mentioned taxis, buses and the railways. I think Mr Packer answered that question correctly. We have not focused on those people in order to build an awareness of the importance of catering for tourists. I am not sure how well or badly they do this; one hopes they do it well. The honourable member's point is well made and is something we could well look at.

Mr OSWALD: I was not attempting to be critical. I was asking whether we were looking at this area. 'Corporate/Management objectives' also states:

7. To ensure the availability of a comprehensive tourism information and reservation service for travel to and within South Australia.

Does this refer to the acquisition of some sort of computerised booking service? If so, what will it cost and will it be housed in the Travel Centre or will the terminals be situated elsewhere?

Mr Packer: In January this year I chaired a working party consisting of officers from the Department of Tourism. Its brief was to investigate the practicality of computerisation within the Department. About one month ago the working party advertised for a consultant to assist in the assessment of the technical requirements of the Department and to help finalise the report to management and, of course, to the Government. Interviews for the position of consultant were completed yesterday. At this stage we are trying to determine which consultants should get the job. We hope to complete the report by the end of November, when we will be in a better position to know precisely the direction we are taking. It is obvious that an important part of the Department's needs addresses the information and booking service of the Travel Centre, and that is part of the total study.

Mr OSWALD: I refer to 'Public Buildings Department debt servicing costs' on page 8 of the yellow book, which indicates that the 1983-84 proposed figure was \$198 000, the actual expenditure was \$264 000, and the proposed figure for 1984-85 is \$304 000. What is a 'debt servicing cost'? Is it common to all departments? What do those amounts of money represent? What debt is actually being serviced?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: This is not the Department's figure; it is from Treasury. It is comparable to all other departments. It is not a specific cost to our Department; it is in common with other departments as determined by Treasury. If I can provide further information, I will be happy to forward it to the honourable member.

Mr OSWALD: That information will help in my research in relation to debt servicing costs that occur in all departments. It is another project I am involved in.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: We will provide that information within the time required. In relation to a question asked earlier by the honourable member concerning tourist information services and the improvement in the performance of people in the industry in South Australia, a pamphlet entitled 'The Tourism Information Services in Country Areas of South Australia' would be a useful document. I will provide a copy to the honourable member. This document does not cover the whole of the question, but it does address part of it.

Mr OSWALD: The thought went through my mind of educating workers in the work place. Perhaps the Chamber

of Commerce should have a representative on the committee so that it could assist in educating taxi-drivers and shop assistants about their responsibilities. This area may not have been explored, but perhaps it could be looked at. There are other organisations, like the Chamber of Commerce, that could also be involved.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: At the last seminar we ran in Kadina I think four shop assistants attended. We are conscious of the point made by the honourable member. The Department is represented on the training committee, which is conducted by the Commonwealth. We can recommend that a representative from the Chamber of Commerce or another group involved in the tourist industry should participate. I agree with the member that it is the frontline person—the person behind the counter, in the office, on the bus or on the train—whom one makes a judgment about in relation to the standard of service and friendliness that exists. We will certainly take up the honourable member's point.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I refer to computers in relation to the booking functions of the Travel Centre. Page 24 of the yellow book indicates that the average full-time equivalent employment level for the booking service proposed in 1984-85 is 43.8. Without a doubt this is the biggest single category of staff employment. I know that the previous Administration experienced frustration in terms of all the things that needed to be done by the Department within its staffing level and that a large proportion of the staff was engaged in this booking function. Will there be any staffing implications as a result of the introduction of computer bookings by the Department? If so, what are they expected to be? Will the displaced staff be seconded or transferred to other parts of the Public Service, or will they be retrained to fulfil other functions in the Department?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I know that it is a typical politician's reply to say that the question is hypothetical. Unfortunately, I must reply in that way. One of the responsibilities of the committee that is currently looking at computerised booking is to report on the staffing implications and whether there is a need to increase or decrease the staff. This matter has not been addressed by the Department. I have not given it any thought, because it is part of the study. We will look at the implications when we receive the committee's report.

In relation to the full-time equivalents employed in information and booking, the member would be aware that these people provide more than a booking service; they also provide information, assist in familiarisation, and a general range of activities. I am not aware of the staffing implications; that will not become apparent until we receive the committee's report.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: The Travel Centre caters for South Australians who are in Adelaide to make bookings. As the Minister would know, the vast amount of shopping is done outside the metropolitan area at suburban shopping centres. Has the Government given any thought to decentralising the activities of the Travel Centre in order to cater for people in the suburban shopping centres and contracting out, if one likes, the information and bookings function and, if there are any plans on the drawing board, what is envisaged?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I am not in a position to make any judgment on shopping, because there is no-one less qualified than I am. I am one of those people who are dragged squealing into a shop and who try to get out as quickly as they can. My wife would certainly reinforce that. However, the honourable member has raised a matter that we have not considered. It is an ongoing study, I guess. The fact that regional shopping centres are the major focal point for many Adelaide citizens is well known: we appreciate

that. We have not made any decisions on either contracting the Department of Tourism work to the existing businesses in the shopping centres or establishing or extending our own operations to take in the shopping centres. However (and I hate to say this), it is a proposition that is under 'active consideration'. We have not made any decision on that. Again, I think that it is a worthwhile suggestion. We are looking at it in terms of resources and also in terms of the need to provide that service to an area where people congregate. I make the further point that the Glenelg council has established such a facility at Glenelg.

We would certainly encourage our local government and regional areas to do so, but I think that that begs the question that the honourable member asked: what are we doing in our Department to provide that service? We gave the Glenelg council a subsidy of \$25 000 towards its activity there, so I think that that is a fairly constructive way of providing a service that the honourable member mentioned.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: Page 17 of the yellow book, in regard to issues and trends, states:

There is a need to stimulate investment and upgrade existing plant and infra-structure.

It further states:

Key development project ideas have been identified for further more detailed examination.

This is not strictly to do with the tourism budget but very much to do with tourism because we are talking about the product that is being marketed. Can the Minister advise what, in the Department's opinion, are the priorities for, first, infra-structure, which is a Government responsibility and, secondly, the development projects, which may be a joint responsibility between the Government and private enterprise or which might be purely a private enterprise initiative?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: In terms of Government infra-structure, as the honourable member has said, I suppose that it is not strictly within the responsibility of the Department of Tourism to provide. In fact, it is outside our capacity to provide access to most of the important tourism infra-structure in terms of good roads and I think that the *Philanderer III* is an example of a Government involvement by providing support in upgrading the facilities at Penneshaw and Cape Jervis, and also providing a Government guarantee, which indicated our interest in that region, and it is within our capacity to assist in that way.

So, in terms of infra-structure we do what we can to encourage the other departments—mainly the Highways Department but also the Department of State Development under the Premier—in regard to the need to provide adequate support infra-structure for tourism. I do not know that I can usefully pinpoint what we would regard as the priority, but I think that it is adequate access. That is the point that the member for Mawson raised (and she may recall doing so) about the Burra-Morgan road. So, I am not sure whether that adequately answers the honourable member's question.

In terms of our co-operation with the industry generally about infra-structure, I personally felt that what we needed in South Australia was taken care of fairly well by the recent announcement about Glenelg. That incorporates a marvellous group of very badly needed tourist attractions in South Australia. We need a resort hotel on the coastline. We do need upgraded and improved facilities in that area for the yachting and boating fraternity, and that is in no way a reflection on the Patawalonga. However, there are certain problems that one hopes this development will solve, because boating, particularly fishing (and I read this just recently, as I think we probably all did), is the most strongly supported recreational activity in Australia and is growing at a very great rate, so we need to be able to cater for the fishing industry.

We are doing a lot of work with the industry in a number of areas. We prepared the Tourism Development Plan, which I think is part of the infra-structure (I guess that one could almost term it that) for Kangaroo Island to identify areas for investment. Our next area will be the Flinders Ranges. We want to do a Tourism Development Plan there. I know that the members for Henley Beach and Albert Park are anxious for us to look at a development plan in the western suburbs. I refer to the beach area between Port Adelaide and Brighton, and perhaps one could go even further. The member for Morphett would be interested, too. I am pointing out that the members for Henley Beach and Albert Park have actually made a submission to me. I think that that whole region has great tourist potential, and inevitably plans will be developed for the area. I am not sure whether I am actually focusing on the point that the honourable member made, so if I stop there she can bring me back to the subject of her question.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I was really saying to the Minister that, if the Department of Tourism had access to the funds of the infra-structure departments—such as the Departments of Transport, Marine and Harbors, Environment and Planning, and similar departments—how would they spend the money in support of tourism. I thought that the Minister might have a list of priorities as identified by the Department of Tourism in terms of infra-structure. If that list is available I would like to have it on the record.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: As the honourable member would appreciate, she has had access to our 'Tourism Investors Guide', and in that we do focus on all areas that we believe are priorities. They are probably better read in the 'Investors Guide' than listed here, but the honourable member raised an important point in terms of environmental planning and national parks. We are working very closely with National Parks and I hope to develop an appropriate tourist programme for our parks. We do not believe that the parks should be there essentially for a few people to enjoy; we believe that they should be there for the South Australian, Australian and international tourists to appreciate, but at the same time what is important about those parks should be protected.

I hope that very early next year a senior officer from my Department and a senior officer from the National Parks and Wildlife Service will be able to visit North America to look at how they run their parks and their visitor programmes within those parks. Access to those parks is very strictly controlled, not so much in terms of numbers but in what the visitors can do. They cannot get off the beaten track. This applies in Canada, and in some of the major United States parks, such as Yosemite and the Grand Canyon National Parks. If one wants to go to the Everglades and battle with the mosquitos in the middle of the summer, which I did and which I would not recommend to anybody, even in the Everglades one walks around those sensitive areas on wooden platforms, and the millions of people who come through are very strictly controlled.

The Flinders Ranges, Kangaroo Island and the Murray River are all very sensitive ecological areas that need to be protected, but that does not mean that people should be kept out of them. We have to develop a programme with our National Parks colleagues that will make what is very special and attractive in South Australia available to the visitor and at the same time protect it so that in 200 or 1 000 years people will still have access to the same areas, almost unchanged in their ecological content. That is where we are at the moment. We work with those other departments that we believe share a responsibility for tourism. It is fair to say that awareness not only was an important programme for the community at large, the industry at large and local

government at large, but also for State Government departments. That awareness is filtering through.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: On page 17, under '1984-85 Specific Targets/Objectives'—I will try to encompass my request for information in one question—the targets/objectives refer among other things to the development of a policy on interpretive centres, including specific development activity on the Flinders Ranges and Murray River interpretive centres. Further down, there is reference to the conduct of at least two more regional surveys and the commencement of production of flow-on strategy plans; further down it says:

To pursue the successful development of key State projects, namely, Victor Harbor tourist rail project, Porter Bay marina, *Philanderer III*, open range zoo, a major theme park.

Out of that list, can the Minister identify progress and cost from the Department's point of view (input this year in this Budget) on the Flinders Ranges and Murray River interpretive centres, the rough round average global cost of each regional survey and the progress on the projects identified, specifically the Victor Harbor tourist rail project, the open range zoo, and a major theme park?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: One of the reasons for my recent visit to North America was to look at interpretive centres in Canada and in the United States. I was informed that some of the best interpretive facilities in the world were there. The best interpretive centre that I have seen is the Shakespeare Interpretive Centre at Stratford-on-Avon, and I am not sure that what I saw in America was better than that. Nevertheless, we looked at three areas for interpretation. The first was the group of interpretive facilities at the Grand Canyon, which we thought would be relevant to our thoughts on the Flinders Ranges interpretive centre.

I went to the World Fair in New Orleans, where there was a paddle steamer as part of the Great River Road interpretive exhibit, because we thought that that might be able to contribute to our thinking on the Murray River interpretive centre. We went to the Napa Valley to look at interpretive centres there, because there is also a need in South Australia for wine interpretation. Having said that, I point out that the wineries themselves are very effective interpretive centres in their own right and, in a sense, that is what happens in Napa Valley. That matter might be addressed by people other than the Government.

We looked particularly at the interpretive facilities in the United States that might be relevant to the Flinders Ranges and the Murray River. The South Australian Cabinet has approved as a priority for Bicentennial funding interpretive centres for the Flinders Ranges and the Murray River. Funding for them will come from Bicentennial funds; so we have not provided any money in our lines this year for those two programmes.

The honourable member asked what we were doing in terms of the Victor Harbor tourist rail project. We have had an investigation of that—and the report is with me and with Cabinet—that can be acted on if the Federal Government closes the Adelaide-Victor Harbor railway. As a Government we have informed the Federal Government that we do not agree with the closing of either the passenger or freight service to Victor Harbor. As a result of that, the Federal Government has acted under the agreement and appointed an arbitrator—Mr Pascoe, former Commissioner of Railways in Western Australia—to arbitrate between the Federal and State Governments as to the future of the Victor Harbor line. The South Australian Government thought it appropriate to insist that the demand for both a tourist and a freight service down there was such that the railway ought to be continued.

We have not given, nor will we, any consideration to the Commonwealth other than that we object to the closing of

the line. If the Commonwealth, through the arbitrator, happens to achieve its aim of closing the line, we will need to look at options that are available and the report that has been given to us by that committee. We need to be positive in our attitude towards this line, and our positive position is that we insist that it continue and that the current passenger service provided by Steam Ranger—which has been an outstanding success—may be able to continue. What we would do in terms of the Victor Harbor tourist rail project depends on the decision of the arbitrator.

In regard to the Porter Bay marina, the Premier announced last Wednesday at the tourist business luncheon that he hopes to be in a position shortly to make another announcement in relation to the Porter Bay marina. It is coming along well and will be a great project, not only for Eyre Peninsula and Port Lincoln but for all South Australia. It is the first of the major resorts that we will be establishing in South Australia. The *Philanderer III* we have already reported upon.

I will have to obtain some information from my officers on the open range zoo. A committee was established by the Minister of Planning, and the Assistant Director, Mr Penley, is a member of that committee. We expect it to report to Cabinet in October. The theme park has certainly been identified as one of the priority tourist facilities for South Australia. A theme park committee has been established and Mr Penley is a member. It will have discussions with the proponents of the theme park, although those discussions are not continuing at the moment because of various factors, some relating to the identification of funds, etc. The proponents of the theme park are now looking to see what is in mind in relation to the new development at Glenelg.

I would say quite clearly that a large theme park can run in conjunction with the development at Glenelg. I do not think that the small fun park component in that development would rule out the requirement of a South Australian theme park, with the South Australian motif, which provides that sort of holiday or pleasure attraction to visitors. We are still very hopeful that a theme park development will take place, but we are dependent upon the private investor there. People are interested and we are still working with them. I missed one question.

The ACTING CHAIRPERSON (Ms Lenehan): I believe it was the second question about the projected budgeting for the regional surveys.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The Flinders Ranges is one. That has just been completed and the preparation of the final documentation on that report should not take long. The other region is the Barossa and Mid North. There will be contributions by the regions themselves and the State Department of Tourism in that survey. It could take almost the rest of the financial year.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: What will be the costs?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The cost will be only \$5 000—\$3 000 from us and \$2 000 from the regions themselves.

Mr OSWALD: Is the Minister or his Department co-operating with the Department of Fisheries to declare more non-netting zones around the coast to assist the recreational fishermen? We recognise the growth of the recreational boating and fishing area. The problem that a lot of potential boat owners have is trying to find a piece of South Australian coastline from which to catch fish. We can all cite examples of places where we used to go 15 years ago and catch a bag of fish and be home by lunch time. We can now chase those grounds all day and be lucky to catch a fish. If we are going to foster the recreational boating industry and be

sincere in getting it off the ground, an urgent need exists to create more non-netting zones so that we can provide for that group in the community that would like to go out to leisure fish.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: We are well aware of the importance of fishing to the South Australian tourism industry. Everyone can quote examples of people who called in to some of our smaller towns along the coastline, were pleased with the catch that they got, and stayed there, and have since returned year after year rather than go to other places. It is important. We have a member from the Department of Tourism on the Inshore Fisheries Advisory Committee, and our input to the decisions of that committee is significant. Some areas have had closures as a result of the importance of the area to tourism. I am very much caught up in one of the most active campaigns in South Australia as the local member for Port Augusta and Port Pirie.

We have the Eyre Peninsula Inshore Fisheries Advisory Committee (EPIFAC), which has an active representation from Port Augusta. I am continually being lobbied as Tourism Minister on the importance of fisheries to the tourism industry. The answer is 'Yes'; we are well aware of the importance of fisheries as a tourist attraction. We are represented on the key committee that advises the Government and the Minister of Fisheries on areas that ought to be left open and may have to be closed to provide for the recreational fishermen. I believe an awareness exists amongst professional fishermen in South Australia that there must be accommodation for the recreational fisherman. I am not sure of the number of amateur fishing licences in South Australia, but it is staggering. So, we can make a judgment about the number of people who are likely to use registered fishing equipment. I believe that the honourable member gets the drift of what I am saying. We are aware of the issue, and we are actively fulfilling our responsibility in terms of tourism in that area.

Mr OSWALD: I look forward to going fishing at Moonta Bay in a few years and seeing the fish stock returning, because it is very sparse at present. What net income did the South Australian Travel Centre receive as a result of bookings for travel and accommodation for intrastate and overseas in the last financial year? I am confused about the details shown at page 26 of the yellow book. I note that \$88 000 was spent in 1983-84 to arrange travel and accommodation bookings, issue tickets and prepare itineraries for Government agencies. Total programme receipts amounted to \$208 000. Does that mean that the Department made a profit on what the Government departments reimbursed? Do Government departments reimburse the Travel Centre for bookings made? What is the net income of the Travel Centre from all its bookings from members of the public and Government agencies in that financial year?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The Government Travel Centre provides a service for members of Parliament and public servants in regard to international and interstate bookings; that is the sole service provided by the Department in that regard. We see our role as encouraging people to come into South Australia and assisting them to travel around South Australia. We do not see our role as sending people outside South Australia, because that would be exporting instead of importing the tourist dollar. We provide a service for members of Parliament and public servants who go away on Government business. As a registered travel operator, the Department is paid a commission for tickets sold. That commission goes back into consolidated revenue, and last year income from that area was about \$617 000.

It is sensible for us to be involved in that area because, if we were not involved, that money would have gone to other people in regard to Government travel. We like to offer that service, because I believe that Government travel should be very tightly controlled. The expenditures of Ministers, members of Parliament and public servants should be tightly controlled and accountable, and we can ensure that by doing it ourselves. Every other State Government in Australia has the same philosophy and the same system.

Mr OSWALD: To what do the \$88 000 and the \$208 000 relate?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I am sorry, I have misled the Committee. The sum of \$617 525 represents total commission, including commission for travel that we sell within South Australia. The Government component is \$208 000.

Mr OSWALD: So the answer to the question 'What net income did the Travel Centre receive from all gross sales in the tourism packages?' is '\$617 000'?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Yes, as commissions.

Mr OSWALD: That includes members of the public, public servants and members of Parliament?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Yes.

[Sitting suspended from 12.59 to 2 p.m.]

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I refer to page 126 of the Estimates of Payments 'Salaries and wages and related payments'—Programme 1. The sum of \$76 904 is provided for Board members, executive and clerical staff. What is the annual fee paid to members of the Tourism Development Board? What proportion of staff time is spent on servicing the Board, and what is the cost of that? What is the breakdown of the \$76 904?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Board members receive \$2 000 each. The Board Chairman is an officer of the Department and is not included. I undertake to provide the information within the time scale available.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: As I understand it from the material that the Department is putting out, and from reading the programme notes, general observation and experience, the demand and requirement for research has been increasing annually and the quality of research is of a high order. In view of the increasing demand, I see no evidence in the Budget of any increased staffing in the Research Division. Is there any increased allocation to the research area above the simple inflation factor built into the Budget? If not, is there any provision for consultancy research, aside from the market surveys that would be allocated to marketing programmes, and presumably costed in them?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: There is no increase in staffing for planning and research. We intend to use consultants on our Flinders Ranges study, so there has been an additional vote for the consultants. That is the only addition. The sum of \$16 000 has been provided for that programme, which is really a tourism development plan for the Flinders Ranges.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: In an effort to ascertain what proportion of the Budget, in a global sense, goes on the provision directly by Government through its own employees of services, and what provision is made for consultancy services to the private sector, it is not possible to tell from these Budget papers or from the yellow book what is the total spent by the Department on consultancy services, including the advertising agency, market surveys and a whole range of other services. Has the Minister a figure for last year and a figure for this year? If he has not that information available, I can put the question on notice or he can have the information supplied to the Committee at a later date.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: That information is not readily available but we can provide the honourable member with

the information for last year and what is proposed this year. There will need to be some research done to identify the various research programmes but it is well within our capacity to do so and we shall do that.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I would not want undue time spent on checking those figures but it would be interesting for both the Parliament and the community to be aware of just what proportion of the tourism budget is spent in the private sector on consultancy services.

The Minister foreshadowed in his speech at the South Australian Tourism Industry Conference and again in the House, in response to a question from the member for Henley Beach, the Government's implementation of its undertaking to consider the establishment of a tourism commission or corporation. What is the timetable for the introduction of the legislation; what costs are estimated in terms of the changeover, if that is the Government's intention and Parliament's will; and is any provision made in this current budget for funds to prepare for the establishment of a commission?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: To answer the last question first, I point out that there is no provision in the current budget for the establishment of a tourism commission, and, if there was a decision by the Government to do this, then it would certainly not be in this financial year: we would be looking towards the future for the establishment of the commission.

The reason that I answered the member for Henley Beach in the way that I did and the reason that I mentioned this matter at the conference was to alert the industry in South Australia that I was thinking along those lines. Our policy has always been that we will look at the need to establish a commission but, that we will do it after discussion with the industry. That was done immediately on coming to office. I asked the Director to have this matter researched, and he did that. We then discussed it with the industry: it was given to the Tourism Development Board. The recommendation to me at the time was that there was no need to move in that way; there was no need to establish a tourism commission, because the Department had been operating very effectively and, as I said in the House, there is no point in having a commission merely for the perception rather than the reality.

Since then, New South Wales and Western Australia have implemented commissions and we have been very interested in that development. In fact, I was speaking to the Commissioner from Western Australia and the Commissioner from Victoria on Wednesday evening and they were most definite in their view that South Australia should move towards the establishment of a commission. So, we are building an understanding within the industry that that is how we are thinking.

I will not put before Cabinet a firm submission recommending a commission be set up until I have had further discussions with the industry, as that is a commitment that was made. I must say that I still feel that that is the way we will go. We will probably need to undertake further discussions with the Victorian and Western Australian commissions, particularly as I am most interested in the relevant legislation that is in operation there. We have not assessed the costs involved. This would not be undertaken during the current financial year, anyway. At this stage there is no intention to bring in legislation. We are still very much at the discussion stage. I still need to talk with the commissions and to ascertain how effective they are, and we also need to talk with the industry. I think it was just as well to advise the industry that the Minister had had a change of thinking, because a commitment was given that the Government would not make a decision until after discussions with the industry had taken place. We intend to have those discussions.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I refer to the line 'Assistance for facilities development' under programme 3 at page 128 of the Estimates of Payments. This matter has had a chequered history of ups and some most unfortunate downs. From a question that I asked about this matter last year I ascertained that applications in the pipeline have an aggregate worth of \$7 million. That is not to say that all those applications are worth funding, that they would be funded in accordance with the Tourism Development Plan in terms of its priorities, or that they are necessarily a Government responsibility. In regard to the applications worth approximately \$7 million, how many are regarded by the Department as having a priority, and, of that number, what proportion will be able to be funded from the allocated amount of \$574 000? Given that obviously they will not all be funded, on a triennial funding programme what is the Department's capacity to fund those applications that have been lodged?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I can recall the discussions that we had last year. I think that at that time I mentioned to the honourable member that it was our intention to try to tack this on to CEP funds in order to pick up any shortfall in the tourist subsidy lines. I think I ought to explain what has happened in that regard. We have not been as successful as we would have liked to be. The Departments of Tourism and Local Government got together and forwarded a submission to Cabinet. That was supported by Cabinet and sent to the CEP Committee requesting funding for projects worth some \$2.25 million to which we had given priority. We considered that it was an appropriate use of CEP funds and that at the same time the funding would assist in providing tourist infrastructure in areas that were finding difficulties with project funding. The decision of the CEP Committee was that the projects did not conform with the guidelines that had been laid down, and accordingly they were not approved. The application was sent back to us and we were advised to go back to the individual councils and to work with them to develop their individual submissions to be made to the committee for approval for CEP funding.

Therefore, our aim to have these projects funded under that programme was not successful. I must point out to the Committee that the CEP committee makes its own decisions, and merely because State Cabinet makes recommendations to it does not necessarily encourage it to breach its guidelines. In fact, we thought we were within the guidelines and had made a good submission. In any event, it was not approved. Almost \$7 million worth of projects have been submitted to us. Approximately 50 per cent of them are to be examined. They have been graded in order of priority. Some have been graded as having a 'very low' priority, as the honourable member would expect. We hope that we are able to spend the whole of the \$574 000 mentioned this year. There again, the very way in which our accounts are handled means that there is always likely to be some underspending.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: You didn't spend it all last year.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Work was done and the money that was not spent last year was spent this year. There is always a bit of a carry over. I think there was \$2 000 from the year before that was underspent. However, the work has been done and will be funded this year. I think the amount involved was \$11 000 or \$13 000 underspent. I hope that the whole \$574 000 is spent because the projects are certainly there to spend it on. If it is not spent that will merely be an accounting problem that will be picked up in the next year's Budget. However, that \$574 000 will enable a number of projects to be started. Some projects will be completed over two or three years, and up to five years in some cases.

It will certainly help us make some impact on the overall number of applications.

I think that it is true to say that our capacity to fund, mainly with local government, all of the infra-structure needs—and I talk of caravan parks, information bays, look-outs, public toilets and recreational areas, special projects such as tourist road signs, etc.—is not within our capacity and would need a massive injection of funds to do so. However, we have increased the line by about 60 per cent this year. I do not think we can continue that increase in percentage terms, even though I would like to say that we can. I will certainly be looking for major increases in this line annually. It certainly does not allow for funding of all the projects that we think are desirable.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: The marketing function of the Department covers a vast range of specific activities which do not show up directly in either the yellow book or the Estimates of Payments. Reference has been made to the fact that the media coverage of the State tourism product is taking a bit of pressure off expenditure in that area, and that is good.

The same, of course, applies to the international market, which identifies the importance that we should place on effective hosting of familiarisation tours by journalists from the international media. I understand from tourism operators around the State and also from reading minutes of SAARTO and the Tourism Industry Council meetings that familiarisation tours are placing very great pressure on departmental officers. I presume that much of this activity occurs in their private weekend time. This raises some serious questions, because that cannot be allowed to continue.

I also understand that tourism operators are complaining that they are not getting reimbursed or that there is a long time taken by the Department to reimburse them for accommodation or whatever else may be offered as part of these familiarisation tours. Can the Minister identify what plans the Government has to ensure that this critical aspect of marketing—hosting—and intangible public relations is dealt with in the most cost effective fashion? Has the Minister ever thought of making use of the wealth of expertise which lies beyond the Department but which would need to be trained and marshalled—that is, volunteers? By that I mean volunteers with appropriate qualifications. What is the Department's policy regarding reimbursing officers for costs incurred in hosting familiarisation tours for visiting journalists, or indeed anyone else?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: In answer to the question whether or not the Department takes advantage of the wealth of expertise that exists within the community, the Public Service Board has just approved an hourly rate for the Department to employ volunteers in a sense—people within the private sector—to go with these delegations of travel/trade/press people from other countries. We are aware of that and of the need to use the expertise that is very apparent within the private sector.

In answer to the second question, I understand that when we bring journalists or travel/trade people to South Australia and prepare a programme for them, we talk to the accommodation units here in South Australia advising them that we would like these visiting travel people to look at the area, and an offer is made of an accommodation concession. Perhaps it would be of more use to the Committee if Mr Noblet (our Deputy Director) expanded a little more on the policies or procedures that take place when we bring those people here.

Mr Noblet: During the last financial year familiarisation activity reached quite a high peak, particularly coinciding with the arrival of Singapore Airlines: the Department hosted some 250 travel agents and journalists from around the world within a short period. That caused a huge pressure

on departmental officers and operators within the region, as a result of which there were some difficulties in securing tour guides or appropriate people to act as hosts.

Also, there was a period of a few weeks that involved some late reimbursement to operators for accounts incurred. That results from internal pressures in hosting so many people within a short time, and we were not able to go through the normal processes as quickly as we might have liked. The Assistant Director, Administration and Finance, spoke to a recent SAARTO meeting about that. It is now resolved, and the problems are clearly understood by all parties.

On many occasions the Department has made use of freelance or volunteer tour guides to assist in the conduct of familiarisation tours. A current study is under way in this State in relation to how a pool of tour guides can be better developed for the future. As a result of the study we are hopeful that the Department will have a greater range of expertise, some voluntary and some to be reimbursed, and a greater pool from which to draw assistance in the hosting of that familiarisation programme. However, pressures will be less this financial year because we do not envisage the same level of activity that has taken place in recent months as a result of Singapore Airlines coming to Adelaide.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: By 'volunteers' do we mean the same thing: people doing something in an honorary capacity by choice?

Mr Noblet: Yes.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: Concerning the co-operative advertising campaign that the Department undertook last financial year (about which I have some Questions on Notice), what funds are allocated to advertising and promotion this year? What proportion of those funds will attract private sector dollar for dollar support? Can we look at advertising and promotion in terms of Government expenditure and ascertain the actual worth when some of it is related to joint Government and private sector co-operative advertising?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: As the honourable member said, the figures do not appear in the budget. The Deputy Director will be able to provide information on how the co-operative advertising expenditure will be met this financial year.

Mr Noblet: The co-operative press advertising campaign was launched in 1983-84 and received quite considerable support from the industry. It is proposed to continue that in 1984-85 with \$175 000 to be contributed by the Department of Tourism. Last year it was intended that the Department pay 60 per cent and the private sector 40 per cent of the advertising activity. The ultimate ratio was 62:38, with the Department accepting the major share. In 1984-85 it is intended to move more towards a 50:50 split. So, the \$175 000 allocated by the Department could be expected to be matched by the private sector and will contribute towards a total advertising campaign principally in South Australia, Melbourne, regional Victoria and Sydney.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: How does South Australia rate compared with other States in terms of input from the private sector to co-operative advertising campaigns? (I am not talking about actual dollar sums, but proportional figures.) It is my impression that an aggressive and vigorous advertising promotion is undertaken by Queensland tourist operators that is not matched by South Australian operators.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: We do not have any knowledge of how South Australia relates to the other States, but I share the honourable member's perception about some of the private tourist people in Queensland, and I suspect in Tasmania. Presently in South Australia a number of decisions have been made about major projects. There is certainly a

number on the drawing board. Those people involved in delivering the tourist product will aggressively market their own product. I am sure that they will seek to work with the Government and independently of the Government in that endeavour. I think that very soon (although we do not have any figures with which to compare South Australia and the other States) we will see a marked increase in the effort of the private tourist industry in South Australia in promoting its product.

I advise the Committee that earlier this afternoon I attended a luncheon that the Department hosted to present media tourism awards. The country media award went to the *Port Lincoln Times*, mainly for its coverage of the Porter Bay project and also for its support for tourism in that area. The radio award was won by 5DN, despite the fact that there was a lot of co-operative and contract work between the Government and 5DN, which was all excluded in the judging. *State Affair* won the electronic media award and the *Advertiser* won the printing media award. We gave one award to the printing media in the country and one to the *Advertiser*.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: Was that an incentive to do better?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The judging was very impartial and quite skilled, I am sure. I was certainly not a member of the judging panel. As always, when a Minister presents awards, one makes one or two friends and a lot of enemies. I was not in any way responsible for the decisions, but I am assured that the *Advertiser* was well supported by the judges. The *Advertiser* award was for a series of excellent articles that appeared some time ago. I thought that that information would be of interest to the Committee.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: We are all very interested in what the Minister has to say. I refer to the question of making the best use of resources available to us for product development and enhancement. Last week a representative of Keep Australia Beautiful expressed surprise about the lack of emphasis in the Tourism Development Plan in regard to the relationship of tourism authorities with other voluntary bodies in the community. KESAB plays a vital role in keeping the product clean, tidy and beautiful. The National Trust plays a vital role in developing, restoring, enhancing and promoting the heritage product.

On looking through the plan with a somewhat fresh eye after that conversation, I could see that the whole aspect of the immense richness of voluntary resources in South Australia has not been creatively linked to tourism. Obviously, that requires departmental resources, at least to act as facilitators and initiators. Has the Government any plans in the forthcoming year to draw together those voluntary bodies whose work relates to tourism—I include KESAB, the National Trust, the Nature Conservation Society, and a number of ethnic festival committees? They could all become involved and assist in product development.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I certainly take the honourable member's point. All I can say is that we can certainly look at future amendments to the plan with a view to including co-operative work with KESAB, the National Trust, and so on. In fact, that is already being done to some extent through the regional tourist associations, particularly in relation to the National Trust and KESAB. The honourable member's point is not whether we are doing this but whether part of our future planning includes a role for these organisations in the overall provision of excellent tourist facilities in South Australia. For instance, any tourist is delighted with a clean and beautiful environment. Adelaide has it; there is no doubt that it is one of the most beautifully kept cities in the world. If organisations like Keep South Australia Beautiful and the National Trust work to achieve that aim, they are working to assist tourism.

The National Trust is vital to our tourism product in South Australia, because it deals with the retention of our history. We are only a very young country, but if we adopt the habit of knocking down or pushing over buildings and other things associated with our valuable heritage, we will never have examples of our history for future generations.

Mr Mathwin interjecting:

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The member for Glenelg comes from the UK. One of the greatest tourist attractions in the UK, certainly for people from Australia and North America, is the ability to walk back into the fourteenth or fifteenth centuries.

Mr MATHWIN: All that money is supplied by the Government.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The honourable member's point is valid. Local government in the UK is very strong in relation to preserving and building on that country's heritage. I will take on board the suggestions of the honourable member. I have not read through the plan to see whether there is any reference to KESAB, the National Trust, and so on. I will study the tourist development plan to see whether those organisations should be included at our next conference.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: Page 15 of the yellow book mentions intrastate promotions. The cheapest targets of visitor promotion are our own citizens travelling within their own State. However, that has never been a profitable area for travel agencies. Looking through the programme papers, I note the development in that area. What is the estimated value of the Department's level of assistance for travel agents this year in terms of the design, production and distribution of selling aids for the South Australian tourism product, as identified on page 15?

How much advice is available to travel agencies in the preparation of window displays and advance notice of events? In other words, how much time and money is the Department providing this year for assistance to sell South Australia to South Australians by South Australians in the private sector? In referring to the actual money terms, could the reply also refer to the nature of assistance going past straight out posters to pin to the wall? What kind of films, videos and displays for travel agencies will be provided?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I will ask Mr Noblet to answer these specific questions. I add to what the honourable member had to say about our best customers being our own people—that is true. The biggest market we have in South Australia is South Australians. A view has been expressed that keeping South Australians holidaying in South Australia does not add greatly to the tourist dollar in South Australia. That misconstrues the position completely, because we are retaining dollars in South Australia that otherwise would have been spent in other States or internationally, and we are multiplying those tourist dollars in South Australia. There is incredible benefit for South Australia in keeping our tourists here. Not only is there tremendous economic benefit but also benefit for the South Australian tourist because our product is so good, but so rarely taken advantage of. I would like to encourage South Australians to consider taking at least part of their annual holidays in South Australia. I will ask Mr Noblet to answer the specific questions that the honourable member has posed regarding the cost of setting up selling aids for the industry in South Australia.

Mr Noblet: I can quote specific examples, but it is not possible without notice to provide individual amounts of money, as most of the items are covered under the heading 'General Promotion'. Many of the selling aids we produce are just as useful to intrastate travel agents as to interstate and international agents. We do not make an apportionment of cost between each of the market areas. Last year, for example, \$15 000 was spent on display kits for use by travel

agents, but that is not their exclusive use. We were also able to use them for our own displays from time to time in various locations.

Because we undertook that activity last year, there is only a need for \$5 000 to be allocated in the 1984-85 Budget for that item. It is not possible to quantify the share of posters and general brochures allocated for intrastate use as opposed to interstate or international use. That applies to publications such as *South Australian Holiday News*, the individual sight-seeing guides or regional brochures produced for each of the regions. It is not possible to separate the value of video tapes supplied for use on an intrastate basis as opposed to interstate.

The Department has undertaken two key initiatives, neither of which have come to fruition, but hopefully both will in 1984-85. That will affect the ability and enthusiasm for the retail sector to sell more South Australian product. The first is a working party established between the Department and members of the Australian Federation of Travel Agents to devise ways and means by which the travel industry could be encouraged to sell more holidays in South Australia to South Australians.

It is necessary for the Department to recognise the profit motive of the retail travel trade and we cannot expect the retail travel industry to undertake a general promotional role. It is necessary to give them something to sell. Therefore, we have been trying to devise a new range of well-priced packages and touring modules for sale by retail travel agents.

Secondly, during 1984-85 a product brochure will be launched not just for intrastate use: a South Australian holiday planning brochure containing wide representation of all appropriate South Australian touring packages will be released for national distribution, and there will be a similar publication for international distribution. Other than those specific examples, it is not possible to quantify the allocation of resources for intrastate, interstate and international in respect of items that are of a general promotional nature for use in all markets.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I was particularly interested to read about the AFTA committee and I was pleased to hear about the holiday planning brochure, because until now that has been an initiative which could be, but has not been, taken up by private operators. Another area that seems fairly minimal in terms of the total promotional budget of the Department (but in relation to which I am sure every member of Parliament would have had experience) relates to the groups and individuals who leave this State as its representatives, whether from service clubs, sporting clubs or for any other purpose. Those people are probably the best advocates and sales people for the State. They leave South Australia burning with enthusiasm to sell this State to their counterparts overseas, but invariably they are very disappointed about what is available in terms of what we call 'giveaways'.

I believe that the day has gone when we can make do with a few little badges—and we do not even give them away: people have to buy them—and a few pamphlets. Has the Department any plans for specific ambassadorial packs designed for private citizens in selling our State when they visit other countries? Some people do that superbly, and other States provide much better packages: for example, the Northern Territory is extraordinarily generous with its giveaways. I know that one can question the value of such a venture in terms of how we spend our dollars, but I believe that with the rising interest in South Australia there might be a response at Government level.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I must say that I agree with the honourable member. As she pointed out, members of Parliament and constituents, particularly schoolteachers, exchange teachers, students and sports directors, who travel

overseas seek appropriate material on South Australia. They want to be proud of South Australia. I am very impressed with the material that is available in some of the Canadian Provinces: it is beautiful material, presented at considerable cost. The honourable member alluded to the fact that traditionally the Department has provided a kit containing slides, books, stickers and badges. The most significant contribution to that basic material in recent times is the brochure that came out earlier this week. It is an excellent brochure, displaying the attractions in South Australia, but it is not for distribution in this State. It is really designed for the international market. When people travel overseas, we hope to have copies of the brochure available, and 100 000 copies have been printed at a cost of \$40 000.

Mr MATHWIN: Can one be made available for reference in the Library?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Certainly. We can do better than that and provide a copy for the member. These excellent brochures were launched on Monday. There is also the possibility that when approved groups go overseas we can lend them videotapes on South Australia to be shown overseas. This is an area that the South Australian Government could look at. It is not necessarily the responsibility of the Department alone, unless there is a particular funding line for us to do so. It is a promotion of South Australia generally, and it is a matter which I have taken up and which I intend to take up further with the Premier.

I acknowledge the point made by the member, because quite often a State, country or Government is judged by the quality of the material that it provides. We should not be found wanting in such judgments. Certainly, I will be encouraging the Government to provide excellent promotional material about South Australia for display overseas.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I refer to the reference on page 20 of the Programme Estimates, to advice and support to tourism development in the policy area of economic development. The member for Morphett earlier referred to the impact of Government decisions in other areas, particularly fiscal decisions on tourism. At page 20 the promotion of tourism awareness is linked to the receiving and reporting on tourism implications of Government proposals. This has huge Budget impacts, although one cannot point to a specific line in this Budget where there is an impact. Can the Minister say whether there is any formal procedure for tourism impact statements on Cabinet submissions by other Ministers? If not, will he consider such approach? If there is, what is it?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: There is not. Certainly, the suggestion has merit, and I am willing to look at it and discuss it with my colleagues. There is no doubt that many of the decisions made by other departments impact on tourist development in South Australia, and the Department ought to be aware of, and be able to have input, on that. As a former Minister and having wide experience in the area, the member knows that when a submission comes to Cabinet the Minister is able to have that submission delayed so that appropriate input can be made. By then it is often too late. If the input is to be useful and appropriate, it should be made in the early stages. We do not have any such process. However, I am willing to look at it and discuss it with my colleagues. Not all decisions will impact on tourism, but a significant number do. It is difficult to make up lost ground after a decision is made. I undertake to look at it. Perhaps the member can address a question to me later, when I shall be happy to advise her of the results of my representations.

The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON: I return to the Adelaide Convention and Visitors Bureau grant which from recollection—because it is not identified anywhere in the

Budget papers—is \$120 000. Again, from recollection, that would be the same as the previous year. In view of the value to the State, estimated last year at \$40 million, I understand, of convention visitor spending that is related directly to the work of the Bureau, and in view of the impact of inflation over the period, it would be hard to understand the reason why that grant has lost value in real terms.

Is it a policy decision by the Government to force the Bureau to call upon more of its own resources in the way that has been referred to as far as the Regional Tourism Association goes, and, if that is not the reason, what is the reason? A great deal of pressure was put on the previous Administration to increase the grant, and it was increased in recognition of the cost effectiveness of that money because of what it brings into the State. My impression is that the efficiency of the Bureau at present is hampered through lack of resources. I should have thought that the Government would provide more than \$120 000 this year.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Last year we provided \$120 000, comprising of \$110 000 to the ACVB and \$10 000 for the Adelaide region. This year it is \$120 000 to the ACVB plus \$10 000 to the region. So, in effect, there is a \$10 000 increase in direct funding. Also this year a regional officer will be provided for the Adelaide region. Last year an officer shared two regions but this year there will be an officer responsible for the Adelaide region.

This decision was not made with the view of forcing the members of the ACVB to increase their funding. However, I would certainly encourage the members and the Adelaide City Council to increase their funding. Had their funding increased at the same rate as the Government's funding has increased over the past five years, a lot more money would certainly be available for that organisation now. Some, if not all, major tourist operators are involved in the Adelaide region, and certainly I would encourage them to support the region financially to a larger extent than they have. It was not the basis of the decision. We did increase the direct grant by \$10 000 with provision for an officer who will be directly associated with the Adelaide region. In overall terms that is a significant increase.

Mr MATHWIN: Have any attempts been made to try to establish some agreement or deal relating to interstate travel concessions for *bona fide* tourists whether it be by air, rail or road? From our experience the Minister would realise that interstate travel is quite expensive, particularly by air. In America it is much easier and much simpler and it is used more or less as a bus service: that also applies to quite a number of countries in Europe. For a country the size of our country, it is imperative that we encourage people who, go to, say, Queensland but would like to come to South Australia. It is very important, and I wondered whether that matter had been approached?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: This is by and large an industry decision. I know that concessions are available with our domestic airlines: apex fares, etc., and the honourable member would be well aware of that. Yesterday, I was present at the launch of a hospitality card put out by the Town and Country Pub Association, so that people who apply for one of those cards are able to get a concession when staying at a Town and Country pub.

Another programme conducted by the 'Life. Be in it' people will soon be under way. The Town and Country Pub programme will now expand to all other States, so that the concessions that apply will be available throughout Australia. 'Life. Be in it' intends to register a number of hotels, motels, and caravan parks to provide for health needs in terms of bush walking, jogging tracks, gymnasiums, and so on. They will be licensed, and a card will be issued that will entitle people to a concession when they go to those establishments.

I think the point made by the honourable member is now being picked up by the industry in an increasing way. The industry is aware of the benefits of having concession programmes for accommodation, travel, bus tours, etc. I guess that the honourable member has had experience of this operating elsewhere. I believe that the industry in Australia has got out of its complacency, having believed that people would come to them, anyway, and that it is now marketing its product.

One of the very important marketing tools involves offering concessions to groups of people who have got together for a specific purpose. I agree with the honourable member's suggestions. We confer with the industry and generally people in the industry come and tell us their plans. However, this is a matter for the industry itself, because those in the industry are providing the concessions. The Government is not in the position (and I am sure the honourable member would agree with this) of subsidising such concessions. The benefits accrue to the industry due to the increased patronage that it gets as a result of those concessions. The point raised by the honourable member is important, and I think that the industry is now implementing the policies referred to.

Mr MATHWIN: I think that concessions in America are subsidised, but nevertheless I can understand the situation. Is it expected that there will be an expansion of the West Beach Trust area? A couple of weeks ago the Minister opened some log cabins built in the area. Although I think that such a development is a good idea, it perturbs me greatly that the outer cabins in the development have encroached on the sand dune area. Mistakes have been made along the coastline over the past 10 years, and even in the past five years, particularly in the West Lakes area, where buildings have been constructed right on the foreshore. It would concern me greatly if there was any significant expansion in the building of those log cabins further westward into the dunes.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: To the best of my knowledge there are no plans for any further development of those cabins on the West Beach Trust area. I can say that as both the Minister of Local Government and Minister of Tourism. In any event, any work or expansion of tourist facilities in that area would be subject to planning controls. I am sure that the honourable member is aware that the West Beach Trust provides an excellent range of low cost holiday opportunities for all tourists, and that is to be applauded. The cabins there provide a very good standard of accommodation at a reasonable price of which families can take advantage. In fact, the first family moved in on the day that the first cabin was opened. So there is certainly a demand for them.

I understand the honourable member's concern about development along the sand dunes and the need to look after the environment. Having said that, I should also point out that the foreshore area from Glenelg, including the developments that have taken place at Glenelg, down to Henley Beach and further, are excellent areas for development. Of course, we must ensure that any such development fits in with environmental needs. There is no plan to construct more log cabins. At the moment a submission is before the Planning Commission for a development in which John Gordon and Associates would like to be involved.

That relates to a refreshment cabin and restaurant service within the West Beach area. However, it is not in the sand dune area that the honourable member has mentioned. The matter is before the Planning Commission.

Mr MATHWIN: I understand it when the Minister says it becomes a matter of planning control, but when it is Government owned land, as it is at the West Beach Trust, decisions relating to planning can be, and have been in the past, a little flexible. However, I am prepared to take the

matter up with the Minister of Local Government when he sits in your chair!

The CHAIRMAN: There being no further questions, I declare the examination of the vote completed.

Local Government, \$9 338 000

Chairman:

Mr Max Brown

Members:

The Hon. B.C. Eastick

Mr D.M. Ferguson

Mr J.H.C. Klunder

Ms S.M. Lenehan

Mr I.P. Lewis

Mr J. Mathwin

Witness:

The Hon. G.F. Keneally, Minister of Tourism and Minister of Local Government.

Departmental Advisers:

Dr I. McPhail, Director, Department of Local Government.

Mr R.H. Maddocks, Director, South Australia Waste Management Commission.

Mr E. Miller, State Librarian.

Mr M. Herrmann, Chief Administrative Officer.

The CHAIRMAN: I declare the proposed expenditure open for examination.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: I suggest that we concentrate on either local government or library matters, if that is suitable to the Committee.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: If it suits the honourable member's programme, perhaps we might deal with libraries.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: I am happy to do that. We have a slight problem in relation to the capital line at the end, but the majority of information could come up in general lines.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: There is no capital line for libraries.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Could the Minister indicate any major changes in the administrative structure or developments in the past 12 months within the library? One is aware of the public appeal associated with the Australiana library. How well is that appeal going?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I suppose that the major event that has occurred in libraries since the Estimates Committee discussions last year relates to the Mortlock Library and the public appeal that has raised about \$240 000 to date. It was hoped at its launching to raise \$500 000 so that we could proceed with the development of the Mortlock Library. The programme will go ahead.

This means that we will not be able to develop the whole of the area. The Bastyan Wing will have to wait until funds are available. Most changes to the programme discussed last year came under various CEP projects. About 70 people were employed for various periods over the past 12 months on these programmes. Of those 70 people, 28 eventually went to permanent positions as a result of training they received under that programme. Ten were employed in the library. This year additional funds have been provided to give unemployed people the opportunity of learning new skills. Projects that have been funded to date include very essential work in the library.

This work was not provided merely to give people the opportunity for employment: the work was necessary. It

was outside our normal funding and the CEP programmes have been very beneficial in relation to the library's collection rationalisation, children's literature, microfilm package, assessing and indexing public records, the unemployed youth library and information needs, South Australian map cataloguing, a State Library user survey, microfilming newspaper collections, and a South Australian serials and monograph cataloguing backlog. There was a considerable backlog in the library and the job creation scheme was used to alleviate it. Dr McPhail can give further information to the Committee.

Dr McPhail: As the Minister outlined, the development of the State Library has probably been the single major funding exercise in the library system over this past year. The Public Works Committee approved the expenditure for the redevelopment of the Jervis Wing. We are now at the stage where we will shortly be ready to approach Cabinet in relation to the final cost. The appeal raised sufficient funds for the project to go ahead, even though some of the work in the existing wing of the library will not be able to go ahead in the immediate future. The Mortlock Library is proceeding on time and we are looking towards October 1985 as a completion date for that exercise.

Meanwhile, Cabinet approved the establishment of a position of Chief Librarian of the Mortlock Library—the Mortlock Librarian—which we expect to be a prestigious position in the library world, and a new position of Head of Reference Services, which is still the core of State Library activity. We are proceeding with the development of a Public Records Office because under the new arrangements the private records in our present archives will become part of the Mortlock Library. The remaining exercise will be a full scale Public Records Office. An exciting development in that is that we are part of a joint State/Commonwealth exercise to try to establish a common facility for Commonwealth and State archives for public records in South Australia. Meanwhile, the library development programme is designed to extend through South Australia and local government the public library programme, which is proceeding according to a plan established in 1978 by the Crawford Committee.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: That plan has been followed very closely by succeeding Governments.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Subsequent to the Crawford Committee, in the past 18 months there has been the creation of the Library's Advisory Committee which was identified last year as comprising Joan Brewer, A.J. Brown, J. Dwyer, Professor Foskett, Councillor Mills, E.M. Miller, R.K. Olding, N. Stockdale and E.J. Wainwright. Has that committee continued in existence, have there been alterations and, if so, what are they? What is the nature of any report that that advisory committee has given, a copy of which is available for public information?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I happened to attend briefly a meeting of the advisory committee on Tuesday morning this week. The advisory committee is made up of the Chief Librarians of various organisations. Mr Miller, as the State Librarian, is a member, and the other members of that committee represent various tertiary education institutions and the school libraries. Councillor Mills represents the Government association. There have not been any changes, but a change is pending. The representative of the South Australian College of Advanced Education, Mrs Brewer, is retiring shortly and will be replaced by Mr Mundy.

The work that they do is valuable, and the short time that I was with them on Tuesday certainly proved that. We are looking forward to some of the recommendations that they will make. Mr Miller might be able to advise the Committee of any reports that might be in the process of being compiled. Before those reports can be made available they will have to come to the Minister, because the committee

was established to advise the Minister. Mr Miller might be able to bring us up to date on that.

Mr Miller: The major task in which the committee has been engaged this year has been an inquiry into medical library services at the request of the University of Adelaide. There has been concern, and interest has been expressed by the Royal Adelaide Hospital, the University and the South Australian Institute of Technology, that maybe these services were being duplicated and perhaps some rationalisation was necessary. There has been a wide-ranging inquiry that has involved not only the Health Commission and the hospitals throughout the State but also major teaching institutions to ascertain whether some changes could be made, and quite a number of positive recommendations on that matter will come from the advisory committee to the Minister.

That has probably been the major project in which the committee has been involved this year. However, it has also been involved in a number of other issues. One of the cost saving initiatives it has been considering is the rationalisation of periodical collections among the major institutions, asking whether each institution needs to keep a full back set of periodical files or whether they could be shared. It has also been involved in a Statewide amnesty of library books over the past two weeks. Library Week is being celebrated now, and as part of that libraries throughout Australia have declared that there will be no fines charged or questions asked and that, if members of the public want to return their library books that they have had out for some time, they can do that. Each library has taken upon itself to return those books to the appropriate library. Quite a few hundred books have been returned already as a result of that. They are some of the things in which the committee has been engaged.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Mr Ray Olding, Chairman of the advisory committee, is doing excellent work in this regard. I do not know whether Mr Miller commented on the publishing of a brief guide to the major Adelaide libraries for free distribution to members of the general public having a serious need for access to libraries other than their own. The cost of the publication was jointly met by each of the participating libraries.

The committee has maintained dialogue with particular professional groups. I have a list of the matters in which the South Australian Library Advisory Committee has been involved over the past 12 months. It refers to maintaining dialogues with particular professional groups in the South Australian library community, encouraging and promoting effective voluntary library co-operation and obtaining the views of those libraries not directly represented on the Library Advisory Committee. So, the work of the Library Advisory Committee is important. At the moment no public reports have flowed from it. That is a matter for the Minister to decide if reports are submitted to him.

Mr Miller: The advisory committee produces an annual report that is submitted to the Minister. The report for 1983-84 is in preparation now and will be submitted to the Minister shortly.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: There is no reason why that annual report should not be made public. I will see that the honourable member gets a copy.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: An indication was given last year of the upgrading of equipment, machinery, and so forth. Has that proceeded apace, and are any major alterations intended for the coming year? I also point out that the Auditor-General's Reports, both in 1983 and 1984, have drawn attention to the fact that the computerised equipment has failed to perform as was intended. The 1983 report of the Auditor-General stated, at page 319:

As previously reported the Libraries Board acquired a computerised circulation system and associated hardware to cater mainly

for State Library and public libraries requirements. The system became fully operational in August 1982. However, because of excessive delays with system response times, particularly during peak periods, the Board has withheld 25 per cent of the purchase price until all conditions of the contract have been met. Negotiations have been held with the software supplier to rectify the problem.

At page 287 of the 1984 report, the Auditor-General states:

The circulation system which became operational in August 1982 is still experiencing processing problems. The Libraries Board is addressing these matters and has retained \$100 000 of the original purchase price until all conditions of the contract have been met.

Obviously, the time span is now becoming extensive. One would have anticipated in normal commercial pursuits that the system would be correct before having to be reported on in two Auditor-General's Reports. Can the Minister indicate precisely what the position is, what the time of completion of the necessary alterations is, and whether the company that has provided the equipment is working as expeditiously as might be expected by any normal purchaser?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Earlier this year the Director was able to go to Kansas City to talk to the manufacturers or providers of the equipment that we have in our library. That was a very useful and successful visit. It certainly brought home to them the concern that we felt about whether their machinery that is here—the software and the hardware in the library—is working effectively. They are very anxious to create a very good name among libraries throughout the world, and it is not in their interests to have equipment that is malfunctioning anywhere. I will ask the Director to report in a moment on the results of that visit to Kansas City. He may be able to tell the honourable member about the red carpet that was rolled out for him, indicating the depth of their concern.

It was agreed last January that they would supply and install a larger processing unit at no cost to the Government. The unit, which was installed in June, is operating satisfactorily and, as a result, the Supply and Tender Board has agreed to pay out the contract this month. Agreement has been reached, the operation is proceeding smoothly and payment will be made at the end of this month. Perhaps the Director, who has been able to visit the supplier in Kansas City, may like to comment.

Dr McPhail: All conventional commercial remedies were attempted in regard to the installation in the library, in particular the two obvious ones available to any commercial enterprise: first, the withholding of payment, because of the inadequacy of the system; and, secondly, pursuit through litigation. Basically, it came down to the American company having real difficulties with the Australian agent and, in fact, it is still in litigation with the Australian agent over what the agent allegedly owes the American principal. Consequently, to a certain extent, we were caught up in a dispute between the American supplier and the Australian agent. The American supplier is now seeking another Australian agent to carry its business. We were caught in the middle of a commercial dispute with a system that was excellent in design but inadequate in performance.

After two years the equipment and software suppliers have overcome the major problems relating to what is the single largest lending site certainly in the southern hemisphere and possibly in the world. Unfortunately, the system's design was not able to cope with that work load. We now have both the software and the hardware to cope with the work load. The American principals plan to send out a departmental head to look at further software developments. It has been a very difficult period involving major industrial difficulties. Initially it was a very disappointing performance on the part of the equipment but, after a long period of

time, it appears to have been resolved satisfactorily, with final payment now being made on the equipment.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: So, is there any problem with the ongoing servicing of the equipment and the replacement of parts?

Dr McPhail: Generally speaking, the hardware aspects of the installation have been satisfactorily handled by the supplier. Ultimately, however, it was the hardware that was inadequate in terms of capacity. Nevertheless, that part of the operation worked reasonably well. The relationship between the hardware and software suppliers, particularly in the provision of the processing system, has created difficulty. I will ask Mr Miller to comment, but at this stage we believe that the American firm supplying the software system will place itself in a position where it can give us proper support.

Mr Miller: The two companies supporting the system (Data General supplies the hardware) guaranteed under the original contract to have the computer operational 98 per cent of the time. In fact, the computer has exceeded that—it is operational well over 99 per cent of the time. We have a hardware maintenance support agreement with the company, and we are happy with their level of performance and support.

The software is arranged through IDAP Pty Ltd of Melbourne. Generally, the software support has been very satisfactory. The firm to which the Director referred and which was the agent for the parent company in America experienced some difficulties and, as a result, there have been problems with new enhancements to the system. However, the software maintenance agreement is working satisfactorily. Later this year we expect a visit from a representative of the parent company in America to discuss this issue. We hope to negotiate a new software support agreement that will provide not only maintenance for the existing system and the software but also enhancements.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The honourable member asked for details about the equipment purchased, and it is as follows:

EQUIPMENT—1984-85	
Office machines and equipment:	
Typewriters:	\$ \$
Archives	1 500
Reference	1 440
South Australian	750
P.L.D.	650
	4 340
Microfiche readers (Reference)	1 350
Microfilm readers (South Australian)	6 600
Microscope (Archives)	1 701
Guillotine (Bindery)	34 000
Folders (Bindery)	5 000
Backing machines (Bindery)	8 000
Microfilm reader/printer (Reference)	2 930
Processor (Photographic)	14 000
Enlarger (Photographic)	5 000
Multigrade systems (Photographic)	2 000
One Film Projector (Lecture Theatre)	750
Marley Haley display (Reference)	9 930
Word processors:	
P.L.D. (1)	
Cataloguing (3)	
Reference (1)	20 000
Photocopier (Archives)	4 000
	119 601
Other minor equipment	1 399
	121 000
Less charged to Public Libraries Division	6 000
	\$115 000

The typewriters referred to are actually word processors. The total expenditure of \$121 000 involves \$115 000 at page 133 of the Estimates of Payments under 'State Libraries Division, Purchase of office machines and equipment', and \$6 000 under 'Public Libraries Division, Purchase of office

machines and equipment'. This is part of a three-year programme to update equipment.

Mr FERGUSON: I note that new folders and a new guillotine will be provided for the bindery; does that mean that the area has been reorganised?

Mr Miller: It is not true to say that the area has been reorganised. This was part of a three-year programme, to which the Government agreed, to update all equipment in the bindery. This is the second year of that programme. Some equipment is still to be replaced. The only change in the operations of the bindery is that much greater emphasis has been given to the restoration and conservation of materials rather than production line binding.

Mr FERGUSON: Restoration and conservation is still encompassed in the bookbinding area?

Mr Miller: Yes. We are now gradually training all the library binders in the restoration and conservation techniques, and 12 binders have been trained. We hope that by the end of this financial year all the binders who wish to be trained in this technique will be trained.

Mr FERGUSON: Will the South Australian Collection be encompassed in the new Mortlock Library?

Mr Miller: Yes.

Mr FERGUSON: A tremendous amount of restoration is necessary in respect of the South Australian Collection because of neglect over our whole history. Is that one reason for increasing the number of restoration staff?

Mr Miller: The Government is setting up a centre for the conservation of cultural materials. It will be jointly operated by the Library, History Trust, Museum and Art Gallery. Two of our conservator binders will be joining that staff in January or February when the centre is opened. All the rare materials, especially the paper conservation work that will need to be undertaken not just for the Mortlock Library but for the whole State Library will be carried out at the centre. The work done at our bindery will be concentrated more on binding than on paper conservation. Other than paper conservation, all the work to be done for the Mortlock Library and other areas will be carried out by the binding staff, which is why we are training our staff in skills necessary to undertake that work.

The Australian Libraries and Information Council has been established by the various Arts Ministers throughout the Commonwealth and has been given funds this year to employ a person to assess conservation needs throughout the Commonwealth. That investigator will be coming to South Australia to look at our conservation needs, particularly those of national importance. It is the intention of the Federal Government to assess the projects that need the greatest amount of work in order to preserve that material, and that may become a Commonwealth programme for the 1988 bicentennial.

Mr FERGUSON: Which department will control the conservation centre?

Mr Miller: It will be run by a council or committee comprised of heads of the various institutions to which I referred on North Terrace. They have advertised for a centre director and interviews are expected to be held shortly. The director will be responsible to the council or committee, which will be determining priorities amongst the institutions for work to be done.

Mr FERGUSON: Will the centre be located in the library?

Mr Miller: It will be located as part of the Museum redevelopment and located in the Natural Sciences Building, which is part of the old trade training school of the TAFE college.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: I refer to the State Libraries financial statement for the year ended 30 June 1984, the administrative aspects, because the Auditor-General's Report at page 286 shows that the balance of funds held at 30 June

1984 was \$3 830 880. Can the Minister indicate why there was such a sum in trust or being held at that time?

The balance of \$3 830 880, represented by a lengthy list of funds in which the money is deposited. There is a public company debenture at face value of \$240 000. Can we be advised which company is involved? Relating to the activities for 1982-83, under the note No. 2 of the notes forming part of the Financial Statement, there was a sale of public company shares at a cost at the date of acquisition of \$673 624. Elsewhere it points out that there was a quite significant capital gain on the public company shares which had been held—I think I am correct in saying—of over \$90 000 by way of direct capital gain. How is the money able to be invested in public companies whereas the normal practice for most Government activities is with other forms of capital investment? I am not suggesting anything untoward but it is an unusual circumstance which needs to be brought to the fore.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I take the honourable member's point that he is not suggesting anything untoward because the Auditor-General has looked closely at this and in his reporting of it has not been in any way critical of the actions taken. Rather than asking the Director to give me the details to pass on to the Committee, which would be a little farcical, I will ask the Director to address himself to the Committee directly so that that information can be provided.

Dr McPhail: The library is in receipt of major benefactions. The largest of these is the Mortlock bequest and it is as a result of that bequest that the Mortlock Library is being funded in part and also being named after that family because of the contribution that it has made both to the State Library and to the University of Adelaide.

The Hon. B.C. Eastick: Roseworthy and Urrbrae agricultural colleges.

Dr McPhail: Quite so; in other words, major benefactors to institutions in South Australia. More is the pity that there is not actually a surviving member of that family that we can even locate to be immediately part of our celebrations.

However, that is a major bequest which began at about \$2 million but which has been adjusted according to the result of investments and expenditures and there are other several significant small bequests, all of which add up to a reasonably large sum. The Libraries Act specifically excludes the control of those investments from, if one likes, the conventional Government arrangements. This was done quite deliberately on the advice of the members of the Libraries Board so that individuals who wish to make bequests to the State Library should not believe that their funds were just being taken into the general fabric of Government revenues and would feel that their bequests were able to be used for special developments within the library system. As a result, these figures represent the activities of the Libraries Board in the market in relation to those funds.

As to what the public company debentures were at that date I do not know but we would be perfectly happy to provide the information and any other information in relation to those shares. The Libraries Board uses professional advice in the investment of the funds and, as a result of that professional advice, there have been significant gains made on the transactions.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: At page 285 of the Auditor-General's Report reference is made to subsidised libraries as follows:

The number of subsidised libraries increased by eight to 111. The increase in subsidies towards administration expenses, up \$697 000 to \$3.2 million, reflects the change in the method of calculating the subsidy from a fixed upper limit to a rate per capita. Subsidies towards capital costs, up \$346 000 to \$702 000, include retrospective payments to four libraries.

Which are the eight libraries that were added to bring the total number of subsidised libraries to 111 and what are those 111 libraries? What is the change in the method of calculating the subsidy? Further, to which four libraries were retrospective payments made, and is it common practice for retrospective payments of this nature to be made?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: In 1983-84 public library services were funded at Kadina, Aberfoyle Park, Peterborough, Kingston SE, Port Broughton, Keith, Renmark and Riverton. The library at Kingston is the only one that remains to be opened. The Kingston library will be a joint use service with the area school, and its completion has been delayed due to building delays associated with the new school. It is expected that it will be officially opened in February 1985. An interim service has been provided until then. The four libraries that receive retrospective payments are those at Fullarton, Payneham, Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully.

The honourable member drew attention to the change in calculating the subsidy from a fixed upper limit to a rate per capita. If the honourable member requires further information, that can be provided later. In 1984-85 public libraries will be established at Gawler, Mount Barker, Enfield, Strathalbyn, Lamerook, Meningie and Snowtown. Extensions will be made to the Henley and Grange Library. With the exception of those services, it is expected that in the two years remaining in the programme the final library services will be established to enable all South Australians to have access to their own public library.

I think I ought to pay a tribute to the Library Board, and particularly to Mr Crawford (I recall that the honourable member did likewise in a recent debate in the House). This whole programme has been outstandingly successful, and I believe it has provided South Australians with a library service which, hopefully, is second to none. We began from behind the eight ball in the regard to the provision of library services in South Australia. In some quarters I described it as being the worst service of all the States of Australia. However, at the completion of this programme the library services provided in South Australia will be equal to, if not better than, those that exist in other States.

Dr McPhail: Prior to the per capita subsidy being provided, administrative subsidies were made to libraries based on their branch structure. This was causing some difficulty between those councils that had a major central library and those that had a number of branch libraries. Whichever way one tried to play around with the number of library outlets, inequities were created. Therefore, we solved that problem by simply introducing a straight per capita payment which provides an administrative subsidy to a council, but councils are left to determine whether they want to operate on a branch library system or a central library system. In the first year some adjustments were made in regard to one or two councils, but all councils have accepted the new arrangements quite happily. It is a much more equitable way of funding individual councils.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: In relation to the programme that the Minister has indicated will conclude in two years, has the advisory committee, or any overview of the original Crawford Report, been able to identify within the State communities that at the completion of that two-year period will be without adequate library services? Also, has the Government started to consider how an approach will be made to provide a service to those communities or to individuals in more isolated places? In drawing attention to this matter, I make the point that when railway services were running rather differently from those of today, there was a large library lending service associated with on-rail distribution. I am not aware of that service being offered today by the bus services that replaced the train services. Therefore, I am interested to know how isolated communities

have been accommodated, or how it is contemplated that they will be accommodated in an on-going service.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: To address the last point first, we do have a country lending library service, and we propose to offer support to the services at Peterborough, Port Augusta, Port Lincoln and Ceduna. The mobile library service at Port Pirie services the council areas associated with Port Pirie. I understand that the Libraries Board believes that after the programme is completed—and it is not a two-year programme—in two years there will not be any significant areas that are not provided for, except the Roxby Downs area, and that area is now being considered for future library resources. Upon the completion of the programme, the Government will undertake a review of the library service provided on a State-wide basis to determine whether or not any pockets of the population have not been adequately provided for.

Our current belief is that when the programme is completed there will be no such communities that are not provided with access to adequate library facilities. Nevertheless, that review will be taken at the end of the two years. The Libraries Board, the group that the honourable member referred to, believes that there will not be any such pockets of population not being provided for at that time. We will review matters then. It is one thing to provide access and another to provide an adequate service. The review will be undertaken in order to determine whether adequate services are provided.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Is it contemplated that any existing libraries will be transferred to community libraries in association, particularly, with schools? I believe that ventures into that area have been successful, and complementary and, therefore, hopefully, more cost efficient. Is there any ongoing move to seek to extend the existing community service? Last year we were told that there was a likelihood of joint services, for example, a medical library with SAIT, the Health Commission and the universities. That might suggest the direction in which further improvement could take place. I am interested to know what attention has been or is being given to this sort of development.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I will ask one of my officers to address the particular points the honourable member has raised, but I agree with him that co-operation between the various education institutions and the libraries has been excellent: they provide a very good service to the community. Of course, that applies to the school libraries, TAFE libraries and so on. However, regarding medical libraries and the other questions asked by the honourable member, I ask the State Librarian to reply.

Mr Miller: In the public library area, the Board has another 15 joint use school/community libraries targeted to be completed by the end of the development programme. That will complete the service to the rural parts of South Australia. The only other areas where joint use libraries could be considered would be in the metropolitan area. At present we have three: the Parks Community Centre, the Noarlunga College (which is a joint project with the TAFE college) and Aberfoyle Park (which is a joint project with the high school). That is the most recent; it opened earlier this year.

The difficulty in the metropolitan area with further fully fledged joint services is to find a suitable location where we believe a joint service would be successful. We have to provide a location where both the public and the education institution will use it equally well. From a public library point of view, it is terribly important that the library be in an area adjacent to a shopping centre. Many of our high schools in the metropolitan area are not so located.

The experience of myself and other people in the profession in this State suggests that if libraries are not well located they are not used, so any joint proposition that did not take that into consideration obviously may fail. That is not to say that there would not be further joint ventures: the ventures that we have had to date have been very successful and I think we will treat with care any other possible prospects that come up. Certainly, in the newly developing suburbs of Tea Tree Gully and Noarlunga it may be possible for joint services to be planned.

The Minister referred to the Roxby Downs project at Olympic Dam: it is expected that that would also be a joint use service with the high school to be established there. At present, Roxby Downs is served from another school community library at Andamooka. We are certainly taking those matters into consideration.

The State Library (in terms of sharing its resources) is in a unique position in Australia with the university, the Institute of Technology and part of the South Australian College of Advanced Education almost on the one campus. Because of that, we are looking very closely (through the South Australian Library Advisory Committee earlier referred to) at ways in which our services could be more closely integrated.

As a small example, the British Parliamentary Papers that the State Library has in its collection have been transferred to the Barr Smith Library at the University of Adelaide on a temporary basis, because it has some gaps in its collections. We had to temporarily relocate our collections while the Mortlock Library was being established. In this way the university is providing a service both to the public and to its own staff and students.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: For the information of the honourable member, of the seven libraries that I mentioned that we propose to establish in 1984-85, five are joint use facilities: Mount Barker will be jointly used with the TAFE college; Strathalbyn, Lameroo, Meningie and Snowtown will all be jointly used with local secondary schools. The Henley and Grange, Gawler and Enfield libraries are public libraries; the rest are joint use libraries. We are very much aware of the benefit of that system.

Mr KLUNDER: I read in the press recently that the Department of Local Government was accepted as a pilot department to test the implementation of the initiatives canvassed in the initial report of the Review of Public Service Management (the Guerin report of March 1984). Can the Minister advise the Committee what action has been taken by his Department in implementing the recommendations contained in the report?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The Director of the Department, Dr I.R. McPhail, appointed a Delegations Committee chaired by the Deputy Director, Mr R.G. Lewis, to implement the recommendations of the report during the six-month trial period. Other members of the committee are senior officers of the Department, together with staff representatives and an adviser from the Public Service Board. The committee meets on a regular basis and during the months of July and August this year the following actions have been achieved:

1. The establishment of an Interim Librarians/Library Officers Classification Committee as no formal committee exists in the Public Service for these officers. The committee is chaired by a senior officer of the Department together with nominees of the librarian discipline and the Public Service Association.

2. A decision has been reached that line managers in the Department should have the responsibility of exercising certain of the delegations transferred from the Public Service Board, and the committee is currently deciding on the appropriate delegations.

3. Training seminars have been held to instruct line managers in the delegation procedures and, in particular, the matters to be considered before a delegation is exercised.

4. Some work has been carried out on job rotation and a report has been adopted for the rotation of base grade clerks in the State Library.

5. A delegations manual is being prepared in consultation with the Public Service Board to assist officers in carrying out their responsibilities under the delegation package.

6. To keep all departmental staff informed of the progress of the implementation of the committee's activities, monthly reports are submitted to the Public Service Board and these reports are made available to all staff.

7. The next matter to be addressed by the Delegations Committee is a review of the Department's organisation structure and functions.

It is my view that the programme has been well received by staff working in the Department and, in particular, line managers and divisional heads are co-operating fully to implement the recommendations of the Guerin Report. The Department is mindful of the assistance given to the Delegations Committee by the Public Service Board adviser to the Committee, Ms Judith Worrall. I am certain that the Department of Local Government is playing its role in this area, and those recommendations and the implementation of them are meeting with the support of the Department.

Mr LEWIS: I refer to the trend started by William Caxton when he first put ink on paper, and pressure caused the imprint. Libraries are a recent innovation and have two purposes historically: not only are they recreational and sources of entertainment for people who like reading but also sources of information and education. Acknowledging that that is so, I draw attention to the medium that some people regard as the state of the art in technology and communication. Can the Minister now see a role for educational material in the form of videotapes to be maintained by libraries, particularly in isolated rural communities?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The honourable member has pointed to the three features of libraries: the educational function, the provision of information and recreation. I believe that, in recognition of the importance of those three components, both Governments have worked enthusiastically towards achieving standards set down by the Crawford Committee's report. In principle I can see absolutely no problem with the provision of videos in all libraries, although the matter is one of resources. I have just been advised by the State Librarian that there is no such provision in the public libraries throughout the State, so that is probably the genesis of the honourable member's question. I also understand that the South Australian Film Corporation, through the Film and Video Library, plans to provide such a library of video tapes that will be available not only in the metropolitan area but also to some isolated areas in South Australia.

I expect that we will have to make a judgment whether or not that addresses the whole problem. My judgment is that it will not, but it will certainly be a step in the right direction, and it may well be that in some years time we will have video libraries in our public libraries, although I could not guess the time scale involved. The point that the honourable member raises is certainly a valid one and is appreciated. Some action is now being taken to address the matter.

Mr Miller: I can add to that that this collection is something that has been negotiated between the Libraries Board and the South Australian Film Corporation. The Government felt and the Board agreed that it was more important that we establish public libraries for people who do not have access to public libraries at all rather than enhance the existing ones. The resources are limited, and these decisions

have to be made. We have been negotiating with the South Australian Film and Video Library for a pilot collection of video tapes to be made available in both formats—VHS and Beta—and we expect to start this service early next year. We will select 12 libraries in South Australia as pilot libraries, including metropolitan and country libraries. We have invited councils to nominate whether they are interested in being part of this experimental project. The reason that we have negotiated this through the South Australian Film and Video Library is that we felt that it was very important that we were not competing with commercial interests in the duplication of video tapes. We are concentrating very much on informational material rather than on the features and movies that most video libraries have.

There is still some way to go before the service is established. Once the funding has been approved the South Australian Film and Video Library has to negotiate with the suppliers of films and tapes so that they can be duplicated and multiple copied to ensure that we have sufficient copies available in each library for the public to use. Also, tapes will be made available free of charge on the same basis as books, cassettes, paperbacks and every other form of media that libraries provide are now made available.

Mr LEWIS: I am pleased with the information I have been given and I am very grateful to the Minister and his officers for it. I underline the fact that I am not seeking, as I think the Minister and his officers have understood, to have entertainment fiction in the form of video tapes made available. That is quite properly a private sector growth industry at present. It is almost unprecedented in recent years.

I want to get from the Minister some undertaking that he understands the importance that people in isolated rural communities place on having access to this resource and their reasons for it. I want him first to understand that those communities that I represent, such as Lameroo, Keith, Meningie, and Kingston, although they will be getting in February next year their conventional libraries, and are very appreciative of that fact, nonetheless believe—quite properly—that, given their location, they simply cannot get access to colleges of advanced education or tertiary and further education courses; they are just too far away to be able to make contact.

Yet they still have the same needs in educational terms as people who live closer to where those institutions are found, and they sincerely believe that at least one of the mechanisms by which they can get access to this educational material is through video tapes made available through either schools or, more particularly, what they now have as school community libraries. That would not only be a help to the adult members of the community who want to learn foreign languages or new skills that are vocational in their orientation but also useful to the schools, especially where the pupils may decide not to proceed to matriculation at year 12, but to the senior secondary level, and cannot get access to a teacher for a subject that they would like to take.

Video tape material available in the school community library would expand and enhance the opportunities available to them in those communities. I want the Minister to understand that and to give me an indication as to where on the priority list he would place that identified need of people who do not have access to taxpayers' funds that are otherwise invested in the provision of post-secondary education facilities throughout the South Australian community.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I can assure the honourable member that the difficulties that he sees for many of his constituents in his wide-flung electorate are well known to me. The honourable member would know that I live at Port Augusta and that I am aware of the problems of the

parents of the children who are party to the School of the Air programmes. I am also aware of the problems of the parents and the families who are involved in the remote and isolated children's programmes that flow from Port Augusta. I am very much aware of the needs of the people who work in those line locations, both Port Augusta-Alice Springs and Port Augusta-Kalgoorlie. I am aware of the people who live and work on the stations throughout the pastoral areas in the north of South Australia and who use Port Augusta as their focal point. The very nature of living in Port Augusta makes me aware of the educational, informational and recreational needs that exist for all these people who live in isolated areas.

I can assure the honourable member that when my officer and I were talking about needs for videos in libraries we understood the point that he was making: that they should be educational and for the provision of information. We do not believe that print is the only medium that informs and educates; audio and video are equally, and in some cases, more effective in educating and informing.

The honourable member asks me where I place that in the priorities. It is important. What I will do, rather than making any strong commitment here—other than an acknowledgment of an understanding of the problem and a personal commitment—is have the honourable member's contribution studied by my officers and we will take up the challenge that he throws to us; and I might say that he has thrown it to the Education Department as well as to the libraries.

Inevitably, and unfortunately, the decision gets down to resources and, as the honourable member would understand but not necessarily approve, also to priorities. I do not want to give any commitments to the Committee or the honourable member that I am not able to fulfil, but I give the commitment that I understand the proposition he puts to us and will look at it. I will also undertake to give him a further report once we have done that. I will not let the matter lie merely by giving an answer here. We will have the matter looked at, as it is an important question not only for the honourable member's electorate but also for the electorate of the member for Eyre and my electorate, as those isolated communities lack facilities that allow not only adults but particularly children to have sufficient educational opportunities and information input.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: As a follow through from the questions that have been posed by the member for Mallee, has the Libraries Board or any section of the Department given any consideration at all to seeking to identify from overseas or elsewhere in Australia, should it apply, the implementation (or potential implementation) of enhanced library services making use of satellites, recognising that, in the not too distant future, the cost factor associated with these services is expected to be within financial bounds? It would be a natural follow-up to provide additional service, more specifically to the outback areas. When read against the cost of transporting books or of maintaining whole books from a reference viewpoint, the transposing of the image of identifiable pages, which can be done now by other forms of equipment, would be facilitated by use of the satellite.

I ask the question recognising that, although not in place at the moment, such an innovation is relatively close. The lead time in formulating a policy or attitude to these things is such that, if the people of this State are going to benefit to the maximum degree, I would hope that there might have been some preliminary discussion or consideration in the matter.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: As Minister I have not had any information past my desk of the type that the honourable member is seeking, but I believe that the Board has consid-

ered the matter, and I ask Mr Miller to give the Committee the benefit of any information he has about what developments the Board is involved in or what consideration the Board has given to that area.

Mr Miller: The Board has been examining the situation in Canada fairly recently. Canada has a fairly advanced network of educational transmission through satellite and also through land lines to a videotex system called Teledon. They use it for the transmission of information and for education. The honourable member is probably aware that Telecom in Australia is hoping to introduce its own videotex in February called Viatel. We have been having discussions with the Department of TAFE in South Australia about how best we can use that service.

The other area to which the honourable member referred is the satellite system. Australia is also to get its own Aussat domestic satellite system in the future. At this stage we have only made preliminary investigations into how we can use that. The Aussat system is a lot more expensive than videotex and has been designed basically for the major television media people to transmit information from one capital city to another.

There has been a lot of reference to isolated stations having access to AUSSAT, but we are not sure at this stage just how extensive that use can be. As the project develops we could certainly consider it.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: I note that one of the specific targets for 1984-85 for the libraries services is an attitudinal survey on library use. Is that programme in place and, if it is, what specific approach is intended? Is it based on other models utilised elsewhere in Australia?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: We have taken some action to commence that programme. Allocations have been made to the CEP to provide the resources, but the survey has not yet commenced.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: What are the terms of reference?

Mr Miller: I do not have the terms of reference, but I could provide them later. The intention is to carry out a study among three groups—non-users of the library, users and community leaders—to establish specifically in what directions the State Library should be going in terms of providing future services. Funds have been allocated to employ an officer, but no-one has been recruited to undertake the task.

It was decided that we should go ahead with this project, because last year we funded a study on the Youth Lending Service to establish who was using that service. As next year will be the United Nations Year of Youth, we believed it was important to examine the services and see how they could be improved. We undertook a study among young people in the community and discovered a number of interesting things. First, half the amount of use of the Youth Lending Service came from adults. In fact, the age group targeted was 13 to 17 years, but those between 15 and 25 years made most use of the service. Therefore, we have adjusted the collection, and use of that collection has increased markedly as a result.

We also discovered that there was a dearth of information for young people: while many crisis and telephone counselling centres around the State deal with adult problems, there is very little help for young people, particularly unemployed young people. We established an information service at the library to answer some of the questions posed by young people. This has led to increased use. Because of the success of that survey we felt that a broader survey was required to deal with adult use of the library, and we intend to carry that out. If the honourable member wants further details, I can provide them.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: That would be appreciated. Last year we established that consideration was being given

to re-positioning or relocating part of the library service at Netley. When the question was raised there was no clear indication that that would proceed: it was an option that was available. I would appreciate any information relative to the implementation of that proposal, whether it was not developed as an option or is not to be developed as an option, and the alternatives. The very fact that it was suggested as a necessity would indicate that, if the Netley proposition had proved to be non-viable for the purposes of the library, an alternative site would have been sought. I would appreciate details in that regard.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The building alterations at Netley are behind schedule but are expected to be completed in October. We will be moving a substantial portion of the library, including the archives, to Netley in a few weeks, and that will allow work to commence on the Mortlock Library. The move to Netley is critical, and we will be moving as soon as possible.

Dr McPhail: The move to Netley is critical in the development of the Mortlock Library. We have to clear material from the Jervois wing to enable renovation work to commence. It is vital work, which is scheduled to begin at the end of the year or early next year, depending on the tender process. Although people are moving to Netley, it is still only a relatively small repository for the material that we have in relation to the large potential volume of material that we have out in departments now. For these reasons we are conducting a joint Commonwealth-State exercise to determine whether we can develop significant joint Commonwealth-State public record storage that would meet all the necessary standards of the material, the custodial and physical care, and provide for the necessary professional services that go with that material. We must also look forward to the evolution of the freedom of information legislation, which will result in greater demand for access to public records than has been the case in the past. That has been demonstrated in Victoria and the Commonwealth where such legislation operates. Netley is vital. It is being occupied, but it is only a step towards getting much better accommodation in a joint Commonwealth-State arrangement.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: What is the desired schedule of the State in regard to completion of the Commonwealth-State initiative? I seek an indication of the relative increase in cost of obtaining book stock for 1984-85 over 1983-84. Is there a potentially cheaper alternative method of obtaining book stock? Will the increased cost of book stock, which is apparent to people buying books privately, be a limiting factor in the amount of material available, even from a State or public library?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: As a result of the bulk buying benefit, the public library can buy substantially better than private book shops. Since last year there has been an increase of 5 per cent for book stock. Libraries are buying very economically and, of course, that is a consideration. There is a great bargaining capacity simply because of the large quantity of books involved.

When the honourable member started his question he referred to the time schedule in relation to the joint Commonwealth-State Archive Committee. I understand that the committee has reached agreement on the size of the new facility required to allow both sets of records to have adequate storage and expansion space over the next few years. This is a matter to which the Director referred. An investigation of suitable buildings is being conducted by the committee. I understand that a site will be chosen within the next 12 months. Whilst on the face of it 12 months might seem a fair time, I believe things are progressing very expeditiously and, within a very short time in the life of the libraries, there will be adequate storage and care of the public records

of South Australia no doubt to the relief of many Government departments around South Australia. At present, the public records of South Australia cannot be said to be stored in the most efficient and most economic way. This joint facility will be of considerable benefit to both the Federal and State Governments.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: The attitude abroad has been that, whilst an institute library remains open in a particular area, the Libraries Board will not set up a library. I fully appreciate that the number of institute libraries is fast diminishing. Indeed, the Gawler area is scheduled to receive library services this year, which will see the demise of another institute library. Is the attitude still the same elsewhere, or is there a cut-off date when for the benefit of the people who might be being denied a proper library service the Board, in its programme, will seek to provide such a facility to a community?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: There is no policy which provides an institute library should cease operation because a public-funded library has been established. What happens is that the State subsidy or support for the institute library ceases on the establishment of the new library: this has happened on a number of occasions. The honourable member made the point that in many cases the cessation of the Government subsidy or financial support to institute libraries signals their death knell. Two libraries are not funded in one area but, if the institute library is able to continue, that is its decision.

The Institute Association, the Libraries Board and the Libraries Division generally work very closely and co-operatively, so there is an understanding of the policy. Quite clearly, the policy is that only one library is funded in any area. If a subsidy is provided to an institute library, that funding or subsidy ceases upon the establishment of a lending library or a public library, whether it be a direct public library or through the joint scheme with the Education Department.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Does the Government contemplate action that will see the final demise of the institute system as a result of the withdrawal of these subsidies?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: There are institute libraries in the metropolitan area that want to continue; that is a decision that they can make. They will continue without the subsidy from the Government that they have obtained for many years. There may be one or two institutes in the more remote areas that may want to continue, and they may be able to do so, although I am not aware of any. It is expected that once the support funding is withdrawn many institute libraries will decide to close. As the honourable member would understand, I cannot make decisions for the Institutes Association. What I am saying is merely what I believe will happen: it is not with any knowledge that it will happen, although realistically that is probably what will occur. While we do not have a policy or any desire to close down institute libraries, I think it will be a consequential result of our policy to withdraw funding; I guess it is open to interpretation. The Institutes Association will still have to make its own decisions.

Dr McPhail: I was a member of the original Crawford Committee which developed the Libraries Development Programme. At that time we contemplated working mainly on the basis that there would be conventional static libraries, generally speaking throughout South Australia, and that we might end up with a range of places in more remote areas which could not afford a public library and which might still have to continue with some variant of the institute library. The outstanding success of the community school library has pretty well removed that as a necessary option. There is virtually nowhere in the State that cannot be serviced through a community school library or a mobile

library, and even the most remote locations can probably have good depots and other types of services provided to them. A problem that we faced concerned the metropolitan area where there was a real possibility that two of the larger metropolitan councils would not provide library services. However, both of those councils (Glenelg and Kensington and Norwood) have made a decision to provide library services. In fairness, it needs to be said that the Glenelg institute library was probably the outstanding example of an institute library, as compared with the general standard of institutes. However, Glenelg is some two years down the line in regard to providing a library. Kensington and Norwood council has already begun to share costs with the Burnside council and is moving towards deciding on the establishment of its own library service.

Ms LENEHAN: I was delighted to hear that answer about the provision of municipal libraries, particularly in the Glenelg area. I refer to the provision of multicultural library services. Can the Minister outline for the Committee what developments have taken place in the provision of multicultural resource library kits as well as multilingual audio tapes and video cassettes for use by the many people in our community for whom English is not necessarily their first, or in some cases their second, language?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: In 1983-84 the Libraries Board Advisory Committee on multicultural library services launched a multicultural kit of local resource materials in a large number of languages to enable the public libraries to provide a better service to their ethnic users. Also, funding was provided for a pilot collection of videotapes in Italian and Greek languages for use in libraries to promote their collection and services. Both initiatives have proved very successful in the lending service of the State Library. I have had the opportunity to look at this, and there is no doubt of the success of that initiative, which was well warranted and for which there was a big demand.

In 1984-85 it is planned to extend the use of video tapes to public libraries and to purchase tapes in one other language. We have not yet decided on that language because there is difficulty in getting appropriate material in certain languages. However, the decision to expand the range to include another language has been taken and, hopefully, we will be able to make that decision fairly quickly.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: The only further question that I will be seeking to ask is under 'Miscellaneous' and relates to subsidies to local government libraries (page 134 of the yellow book). I will ask for the tabling of documents showing the amount allocated to each of the libraries in 1984. If that is done there will be no further need for Mr Miller's services, unless he wishes to stay and be edified on local government matters.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I can assure the honourable member that if it were appropriate to table such information at the present stage I would do so, as I am happy to table it at any time. I would not be happy to read it into the record because of its composition, but I will table it when we get to the 'Miscellaneous' line. I think what the honourable member is doing is signalling that one of the officers can be released.

The CHAIRMAN: We now move into the area of local government.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Can the Minister identify any particular changes that have taken place in the Department of Local Government since he became Minister? I recognise that the documents show that there have been considerable Ministerial staff changes with some people going to the Department of Tourism and others to the Department of Public Works, or to Housing and Construction. Because local government is now the lesser of the two departments for which the Minister is responsible—lesser not in form

but in the amount of time provided for it—will he say what specific changes have taken place and whether there are other changes contemplated relative to assistance or direction?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: There have been quite significant changes in staff resources. First, the housing responsibility went with the previous Minister, who is now Minister of Housing and Construction. He took with him three positions: a manager, an AO3; a senior project officer, an AO2; and a project officer, an AO1. They have gone over to the Office of Housing. Eight positions were attached to the Minister of Local Government in his office.

One of those positions has been made available to the Department of Tourism, and the other seven positions have now been transferred to that Department, while still remaining as the Minister's personal and office staff. As the honourable member would appreciate, personal staff is the personal assistant and the press secretary. The other five personnel are public servants who are now included under the Department of Tourism.

Of course, the Local Government Advisory Commission will need to be serviced, so two positions have been provided for it. Two officers from the Public Buildings Department who were seconded to work in the Building Control Unit for some time have been transferred to the Department of Local Government. So, there have been significant staff changes. I think it is fair to say that the honourable member is very well aware of some of the major changes that have taken place in local government administration in South Australia as a result of the major amendment (the first of a series of amendments) to the Local Government Act.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Some have some prickles in them.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I had not noticed any prickles, but I guess that we will need to address each matter as it arises. However, I think there was an agreement amongst all those involved, in those interesting weeks and months that the legislation was being discussed, developed and argued about, that changes as massive as the ones that we put through the Parliament, and one should take into account that, after a conference of the two Houses lasting some 12 hours, there is always likely to be some loose ends because of the compromises and agreements that need to be reached. So, there is likely to be a need to bring back before the House changes, either by regulation (and the honourable member has highlighted some of those himself in this House) or by way of a Bill. Certainly there have been significant changes in local government in South Australia, and it is contemplated that significant changes will still occur.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: The Minister alluded to the creation of the advisory commission. Can he say who are the members of that commission and what terms of reference it has been given by the Minister, and will the Minister give a general outline beyond the specific provisions made in the Bill?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The Chairman is Mr J.M. McElhinney who is a wellknown legal practitioner within local government in South Australia. Of course, it was a requirement of the Act that the Chairman be a legal practitioner of no fewer than seven years experience, and Mr McElhinney fulfils that requirement. The Local Government Association provided the Minister with three nominees, one of whom was Mrs Crome, who has been appointed to the Local Government Advisory Commission.

The Trades and Labor Council nominee is Mr John Dunery, who is a member of the Australian Workers Union, which has very close links with local government in South Australia. The Minister's appointee is Mrs Strickland, who is a councillor with many years experience on the Prospect council; and the departmental representative on the Com-

mission is the Executive Director of the Department of Local Government, Dr McPhail.

We will need to provide proxies for these members who will be having their first meeting, I understand, next Tuesday. At this stage those proxies have not been appointed, but we are in the process of preparing a submission to Cabinet. The terms of reference are those shown in the Act. I do not know whether the honourable member was asking me for the terms of reference or the references that I have sent to the Commission. I have not thought of any other terms of reference nor, frankly, would I. That would need to come back before Parliament, I suggest, before I would do that. The terms of reference to the Commission include a number of matters that have crossed my desk that, I imagine, will be considered on Tuesday.

A number of ward boundary changes have been before the Department and, indeed, were before it prior to the change in the legislation. I gave an undertaking that any submission that was before the Minister then would be referred to the Commission if the petitioner so wished. The honourable member would be interested in some small changes to the ward boundaries in Mallala.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: My colleague, the member for Goyder, would.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: There are one or two other local government boundary matters, but I suppose the major one would be the Keith/Tatiara boundary changes that are currently the subject of some contention and debate. That has also been submitted to the Commission. I assure the honourable member that the Commission will have plenty of work and it will be starting to address these matters on Tuesday.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: The South Australian Government (and this is of particular interest to local government) has been required to make submissions on the future of taxing and general tax raising. An inquiry was also initiated by the Hon. Tom Uren on the Federal scene. What contributions have been made by this State to either or both of those inquiries, highlighting the needs of this State and giving an indication of the Government's attitude in relation to those matters?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Earlier this year the Federal Minister for Territories and Local Government (Hon. Tom Uren) announced the inquiry into local government finance with the following terms of reference:

To review the local government tax sharing arrangements and any changes required to improve the operation of the Local Government (Personal Income Tax) Sharing Act, 1976, with reference to:

- (1) the respective roles of the Commonwealth and the States in regard to local government;
- (2) the purpose and function of local government revenue sharing;
- (3) the level and form for funding available from Commonwealth, State and local government sources and the proposals which should determine the level and allocation of local government revenue sharing funds between and within States.

The inquiry is expected to be conducted over a 12-month period, concluding around July/August, 1985. The South Australian Government is closely involved in the inquiry through Mr Peter Emery, the Deputy Under Treasurer, who is a member of the inquiry committee.

The inquiry is being treated as a matter of high priority within the Department. Grants Commission funds disbursed in August totalled around \$41 million representing something in the order of 15 per cent to 17 per cent of total local government revenue in the State. Accordingly, every effort is being made to ensure that the distribution and use of these funds is in accord with the long term development of South Australian local government.

The involvement of my Department and the South Australian Government with the inquiry is being handled at three levels:

- (1) The Interdepartmental Committee on Local Government (comprising representatives of the departments of Premier and Cabinet, and Treasury, and chaired by the Director, Department of Local Government) is preparing a submission for consideration by myself and Cabinet.
- (2) Informal contact is being maintained between officers of my Department and the secretariat to the inquiry. Indeed, the Director or the Department of Local Government and myself are scheduled to meet with the Chairman of the Inquiry on Monday 1 October.
- (3) Some consideration is also being given to the secondment of staff to the inquiry secretariat during the course of the inquiry.

The major issues to be canvassed through the inquiry include the following:

- (a) the extent to which these funds are designed to achieve fiscal equalisation;
- (b) the relationship between these funds and local government's own revenue raising efforts;
- (c) the effect of these grants on local government expenditure; and
- (d) the relationship between Commonwealth and State specific purpose funding and general revenue grants.

When one realises that the Grants Commission funds represent something like 15 to 17 per cent of the total local government revenue in the State (and in some small councils the percentage is much higher than that), I think that this whole inquiry raises questions of great importance. It is certainly the South Australian Government's desire and the Department's intent to be fully represented in the submissions we make to the inquiry.

Ms LENEHAN: My question is prompted by my involvement with my local community information service. The Information Services Advisory Committee, of course, is the umbrella body for the provision and supervision, I presume, of all community information services. Can the Minister tell the Committee a little about the history of this committee, for example, when it was set up, what are its specific aims, what is it currently undertaking and what are the future projections for this recently established umbrella organisation?

The Hon. B.C. Eastick interjecting:

Ms LENEHAN: It is a very important question. I have one of the largest information centres in the State in my area.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: What I am trying to do is precis in a very short time all the information inputs that are coming before me so that we do not delay the operation of the Committee. The Information Services Advisory Committee was established by Cabinet last year to advise the Minister on the following:

- the co-ordination and provision of information services
- development of a State-wide information network
- development of funding policies and guidelines
- appropriate State level support services for community information provision
- liaise with all levels of government and the voluntary sector with regard to information provision.

In June of this year cabinet appointed Ms Deborah McCulloch as Chairperson. ISAC's membership includes representatives from the community information field (ACASA and CISSA), local government (both the Department and the Association), State Government Depart-

ments—Health, Welfare and Ethnic Affairs—as well as the Department of Social Security as observers.

Since June, tasks undertaken by the committee include:

- examining funding policies and guidelines of both project and ongoing funding for information;
- establishing a subcommittee to investigate the impact of technology upon community information;
- bringing together publicity and information officers of State Government departments and also of State level specialist information providers; and
- instigating a development plan for information services at a local government level.

I recall that I spoke to a seminar recently on information services which was basically at a local government level. I was talking to these people about the need for information services. I had just been given a request from the Information Service Advisory Committee Chairperson, Deborah McCulloch, that I take up with the Federal Government its responsibility in funding the provision of information through these various localities. The reason that that request was made was that experience has shown that much of the information provided in these information centres is Commonwealth based. To date, the major funding components have been coming from State and local government sources.

As a result of the request from Deborah McCulloch, an approach has been made to the Federal Minister, who also addressed that seminar (we did not meet at the seminar, but afterwards). He is expecting this request to eventuate. There was a critical need to establish such an advisory committee that is able to co-ordinate the various information services throughout the State, not only so that they can advise the Minister but also so that they have a role in creating an awareness amongst local governments of the importance to their local government regions of their support for these information centres.

Ms LENEHAN: I am very pleased that the Minister has raised the question of funding, because that relates to my next question. Every year there is uncertainty in my local area about funding. We have an excellent community information centre, which is currently funded by local government and also by the State Government. Every year there is this degree of uncertainty amongst the community, the volunteer staff and the co-ordinator about whether the funding will be ongoing or locked in. I presume from the Minister's previous answer that he is suggesting that if we can get some Federal funding maybe we can get a formula that will ensure the ongoing funding for community information centres and they will not have to go through this yearly degree of uncertainty. Is that the Minister's intention?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Certainly, we have not had those discussions with the Federal Government. We certainly intend to develop a system in which the centres are not faced with any uncertainty, although at the moment one or two centres (certainly one, I can honestly say) have that concern. The centre within the honourable member's electorate is excellent and should be congratulated on that.

Within the advisory committee a subcommittee is to be established to advise the Government on the funding needs of the various information services. The Government intends to phase in (that word ought to be taken in its correct context) a system by which the funding is 50/50 between local government and the State Government.

That policy would have to be affected by any decision made by the Commonwealth Government to provide funding. Hopefully, the Commonwealth will pick up its responsibility in this area and provide the assistance. That is the policy of the State Government. It is clearly understood by local government that we want to share the cost of these information centres with the local government. It will be phased in. We will not go round and pressure people, but

local content can include the provision of office space; it can be either in cash or in kind. So that makes it easier for local governments to provide the 50 per cent input that we would like them to work towards.

Ms LENEHAN: I fully understand what the Minister is saying, but it seems to me that the information centre itself is caught in the middle of this changeover period. Concern has been expressed to me that perhaps some local governments are not as supportive of the need and the tremendous service that the local community information centre provides.

My concern is that, in switching over to a 50/50 arrangement, the service will be diminished or will not get the level of support and funding that it has had in the past. I want my concern to be put on the record. I am sure the Minister will note that concern because it is very genuine and real in the community.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The honourable member has colleagues in the Committee who are nodding their heads in agreement, which indicates that there seems to be a degree of nervousness about the information provided. I believe that our performance in Government should inspire some confidence.

Ms LENEHAN: It is not the State Government that we are worried about.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: There should be some confidence in the way that we are approaching the need to provide adequate information to these people in the community who have lacked it, because the old saying that knowledge is power is correct. Information is certainly necessary to allow people to utilise community services that are there for their use. Too often people do not have access to them, not because they do not wish to use them but because they have no idea that they are available. The provision of an information centre that does not have welfare or other oppressive connotations attached to it should be freely available to people to access. We would encourage councils to more enthusiastically support some of these centres. There is a variety of responses to that. Some councils in South Australia are remarkably supportive of these centres and some are less than enthusiastic. It is a matter of education. We still work with those local government communities to encourage them to pick up this challenge so that they can provide for the needs of people which they represent, along with the State and Federal Governments.

Ms LENEHAN: The Minister keeps provoking questions within me. The whole question of access to information as a means of participation in the community raises the issue of what kind of assistance is currently being provided for the education and training of local authority officers and elected members of local councils. A broad range of education items could be available. I am referring to page 63 of the yellow book.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: This year, assisted by a CEP scheme, the Department is preparing a handbook for councillors, which we hope will become something of a standard text and practical guide for elected members, especially newly elected members, on the powers, duties and functions of a council and the complex responsibilities of elected members. Included in the line for education and training of local authorities and officers is the sum of \$12 000 as an annual contribution to the operating costs of the Local Government Industry Training Committee.

All States now have these tripartite training bodies, and the South Australian committee is a pacesetter in the range of courses offered. The balance of its \$144 000 budget is met in the main by the Commonwealth Government and course fees. The actual input by CISSSA, which addresses the specific problems raised by the honourable member, is \$90 000, an increase of \$12 000 on the sum provided last

year. I believe that CISSSA has a responsibility to provide the educational component for local government. If the honourable member wants to know what we are doing in terms of educating local government practitioners or re-educating them through CISSSA, I believe that that answer covers it.

The CHAIRMAN: At this stage we need to resolve that the sittings of the Committee be extended beyond 6 p.m. I take it that that is now agreed.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: The Programme Estimates at page 36 give a background to the funding expended by the Department. In regard to 'Corporate/Management objectives' it states:

Promote and develop in elected members and officers of local authorities skills in interpreting legislation and responsibilities of office including administrative procedures.

The member for Mawson highlighted material that is also pertinent on page 63. The Minister indicated the important need to provide assistance for elected members of local government and said that \$90 000 has been made available this year. The Minister would be aware of the concern of a number of industries about the lack of uniformity of interpretation among local governing bodies and officers. I will give two quick examples, one in the field of development involving local government's view of its responsibilities under the Planning Act.

This matter is constantly subject to criticism, and that is acknowledged by the Minister for Environment and Planning and people in all facets of Government activity impinging on this area. The second example is in the construction field, where one finds that what is adequate for a footing in one interpretation is an entirely different matter in another. I refer to the interpretation of heights and quality of materials, and so forth. These major issues are costing not only local government but also young people seeking to build their own homes. What positive action does the Government contemplate to ensure that interpretative skills are more readily understood by local government at executive and officer level?

I am not suggesting that all the decisions are made at executive level. Good sound advice at executive level is quite often destroyed by the decisions of councillors who believe that they know better than the executive officer or who have some particular—I will not say vested but some environmental—interest in a proposition. I do not have to spell out the examples: the Minister would have had them drawn to his attention many times. I am suggesting that the \$90 000, if it is adequate and a worthwhile sum, should be put into improving understanding and interpretation and implementing a system of consultation or arrangement which will remove a number of these costly bottlenecks as quickly as possible to the advantage of the community at large.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: If I can make the distinction: the \$90 000 the honourable member refers to and the previous question referred to involves CISSSA; that is, to educate people in respect of information services. The particular problem that the honourable member has cited will not be funded from that line but nevertheless he has pointed to a real problem within local government. There have been problems that have occurred through the Planning Act and Building Act, and they are legend. The situation concerning the Planning Act is a matter that my colleague is aware of and, as the honourable member said, he is looking at it. As a result of the problems with the Building Act (not many councils were involved), the Housing Advisory Committee investigated them, and its report showed that only about three councils were setting unreasonable standards.

However, the Building Advisory Committee is currently looking at this matter to simplify the Act and to come up with a code of practice that local governments can relate to

and understand. The honourable member does draw the Committee's attention to a vital point, and it probably relates to the difficulty that we have in the writing of legislation and regulations, etc. Without any reflection at all on those people who write them, the documents in question are quite often like the Bible—people can draw different conclusions. However, that should not be the case and the Building Advisory Committee's work will ensure that it is not the case and that there is a code of practice with which local government will need to comply. It might be as well for the edification of the Committee if the Director also offered some comments on this matter.

Dr McPhail: There is one other element in the apparent problem of councils insisting under the Building Act on standards which developers may consider to be unreal, and this is as a consequence of court cases where councils have been found many years after the event (the courts concluded) that they had a duty of care to ensure that a building was structurally sound, with the result that the Campbelltown council in particular (which was the test case) had large damages awarded against it in a case in which it was involved.

That related to a house that had been built on cracked clay soil some 10 or 12 years previously. Some councils have been almost excessively cautious in relation to the standards laid down for foundations and footings. Estimates vary in regard to extra costs that may be involved: in some cases costs may be estimated at \$2 000 or \$3 000 more than what another engineer might consider to be suitable. The whole question of the principle of duty of care is causing a great deal of concern within local Government. Some eight cases are still pending before the courts, I believe, and some councils could find themselves faced with quite heavy damages, although decisions taken perhaps a decade ago may have seemed quite reasonable at the time.

The whole matter of whether the requirements of councils in exercising this duty of care responsibility should be modified in legislation is also a problem. If that duty is modified, there is the risk that councils may consider that general negligence responsibilities are in some way modified as well. It is proving to be an extremely difficult matter and, because of the complexities involved, it has not yet been resolved.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: The handbook and the ongoing programme are beneficial, but unless the matter is resolved the handbook will not be worth the funds used for its compilation. It is up to the community at large to ensure that these recognised and identified bottlenecks are cleared at the first possible opportunity. There have always been variations of interpretations and small hiccups along the way, but I suggest that at the moment they are almost in plague proportions in some areas. The interpretation of some practitioners at officer level is unreasonable. Regrettably, in some areas it is aided and abetted at council level.

I refer to the creation during the last financial year of the Local Government Finance Authority, as a result of a bipartisan approach to an activity that is recognised as being of value to local government. I note that the Local Government Finance Authority immediately took over responsibility for loans totalling \$92 649 371 made to local government authorities by the State Bank. This is referred to at page 289 of the Auditor-General's Report. A document sent to people with State Bank loans indicates the repayment of capital and the payment of interest would continue to be handled through the State Bank. What is the rationale behind the Government's approval of that proposal? What will be the cost to the Authority of the State Bank's handling this matter? I suspect that a discount or a rebate will be made available to the State Bank. That is a normal transaction, but under what terms will it occur?

In answering the question, will the Minister indicate whether all outstanding loans were picked up or only those that had an extended period to run? I am led to believe that at least in the initial approach some local governing bodies were not advised that their debenture loan, or whatever, was taken up by the authority.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Dr McPhail, the Director, is a member of the finance authority, so I will ask him to respond.

Dr McPhail: The situation is that the State Bank sold its local government debt to the Local Government Finance Authority. The Authority purchased the debt on the basis that in due course it could change the paper to inscribed stock and perhaps later market the debt. Most debts in the market are saleable; this is a similar exercise. I think that there was some misunderstanding, possibly because the letter sent out did not spell out matters clearly enough. I think, also, there was a misunderstanding at local government level that capital debt is marketable. They did not recognise that point and people became a little nervous about what was happening to their commitment.

At that stage the State Bank agreed that it would continue the receipt of payments of principal and interest without charge until such time as the finance authority could establish its own systems. It has not been decided whether or not the finance authority will take over once it establishes its own systems, or whether the State Bank will simply be permitted to charge a fee for the collection of those funds. At this stage the finance authority is not able to handle the bookwork associated with the transactions, so the State Bank has volunteered to continue with the collection of funds. The position regarding individual authorities is completely unchanged—they are making their principal and interest payments as established by the debentures in the same way as if the State Bank still owned the debt.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: I turn now to the Waste Management Commission. I refer to the recent distribution of a proposed 10-year plan seeking public comment and specific comments from local government bodies on how they see their future in this area. I appreciate the background that has gone into the seminars, and the various other approaches taken in relation to this matter. Can the Minister indicate whether local government and the other organisations involved have accepted the validity of the 10-year plan, or whether any major changes contemplated as a result of the distribution of the plan? I know, for example, that there is a suggestion that the facility provided by the Gawler corporation will soon come to a close and that a new site will be determined somewhere between Smithfield and east of Gawler. In fact, on Tuesday next there will be an inspection of a possible site.

I recognise the importance of a regionalisation of this facility so that one has maximum use of staff (not an over-supply) in a facility that can be run and kept in a totally competent fashion, environmentally safe, so that in the future a number of local government bodies will probably cross boundaries and use a common facility. That is an overview of the situation at present, and I am seeking any variation to the 10-year plan that may already be in contemplation. A 10-year plan is a living thing and it will be changed relatively frequently, but whether there are any major flaws I suppose is a question that arises from what has been circulated.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I will ask the Director of the Waste Management Commission to comment on the question addressed by the member for Light. However, I will give a little background. The consultation period will not end until the end of October. The report was made public with the request that all interested parties comment on it. The honourable member's feeling that it will be largely local

government may well be correct, but certainly other organisations (private contractors, unions and individuals) may wish to comment, and perhaps already have. I am not too sure what has been the response, because I have not asked the Director; he may wish to mention that. The need for a plan for waste management in South Australia is quite obvious. I have drawn honourable members' attention previously to the difference between the standard of managing waste in Sydney and that in Adelaide.

During our recent trip to America, the Director of Local Government and I were able to visit a couple of waste management depots on the recommendation of a professor at Edmonton University. That recommendation came through the Director. I believe that Sydney was certainly coping with its waste disposal as well as, if not better than, some of the major cities (if not all the major cities) in America; so, there is much to learn from New South Wales.

The plan released by the Waste Management Committee is not too dissimilar to the system that applies in Sydney. It could have been released earlier but I insisted that the newly appointed members of the Waste Management Committee should have the opportunity to look at what was happening in Sydney and also to see the 10-year plan before it was released. I am pleased to say that, after they looked at the Sydney operation, they returned and agreed with the plan. I do not see, at this stage anyway, the need for major changes to that plan. In any event, I think it would be inappropriate for me to say so until the consultation period has ended and we are able to assess the replies. The Director might like to add to that, but I just wanted to give a little background. He might be able to bring the Committee up to date on what is happening in relation to the plan and the consultation period, particularly in relation to the visit to the honourable member's region next week.

Mr Maddocks: The consultation period was originally set down for the end of September or thereabouts. However, in attempting to set up meetings with local government and regional authorities we found that we needed to expand that period: it is now the end of October. We have had meetings with about two-thirds of those parties who indicated an interest in speaking to the Commission about it.

Further consultation has to take place. The document made public by the Commission is considered to be a draft of what we term 'the first 10-year plan'. It is intended, after the consultation period has ended, that we note the comments at the consultation meetings and, in addition, take into account the written responses we are receiving and will receive over the next month. As a result of those consultations and written responses there may be a need to modify the draft. If so, the Commission will consider that and submit the suggested modifications to the Minister for consideration.

So far several general matters have arisen. One is the question of the implementation of the plan. This has been raised almost generally and I guess will continue to be raised during the next month. I refer to that because the plan does not consider or offer any options for the implementation of the suggested actions set down in it. That again is another matter for the Commission to consider and make submissions on for consideration by the Minister.

Another point raised during consultation is the matter of some form of control over pricing at our waste management facilities throughout the metropolitan area. We have had to explain at this stage that the Commission does not have any control over the pricing that is charged to the public. That again is another matter that the Commission will consider and make submissions on to the Minister. The visit next week, which was alluded to by the honourable member, is for the purpose of inspecting present waste facilities in the Barossa Valley and Lower North. However,

during that inspection we will be meeting with member councils of the Barossa Health Services Board and one or two other councils surrounding that area.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss with the Commission the possible future options for those areas. At this stage that is all I can say about that meeting. The purpose of the visit is to look at the outer metropolitan area, to see whether a plan can be drawn up in a similar way to the present metropolitan Adelaide solid waste management plan. So, the plan of the Commission is to gradually extend its planning activities into the area surrounding metropolitan Adelaide and eventually the whole rural area of the State.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Has there been any resolution of the difficulties of private enterprise action associated with waste management in the Wingfield, Waterloo Corner and Virginia area which earlier led to litigation and which also, in more recent times, has involved various action groups concerned with the establishment of essential depots in what to them are sensitive areas? When I say 'essential depots', I make the point that while one has a city and an urban population, one has to have somewhere to dispose of the rubbish. I view the word 'essential' as being an essential facility but perhaps not necessarily always on the site where it was originally intended. It is an overview of what action has presently taken place in concert with private enterprise and the specific activities in the Waterloo Corner and Virginia area.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The difficulty that has occurred with the private contractors over the past few years is a good reason why we should have a plan for the disposal of solid waste in South Australia that everyone can understand and work under.

The sooner that that is agreed upon and implemented the better. The answer to the honourable member's question is 'No'. Some of the problems to which he has alluded still need to be resolved. In one case litigation is continuing, in another case there is an appeal against the Planning Commission's decision, and in another instance there is an appeal against the Waste Management Commission's decision in relation to licensing. So, there continues to be a problem, and I suggest that it probably will continue until there is an agreed plan, until all sectors of the industry—private operators, local government and the community at large—understand the view of the Government and the Commission on waste management in South Australia and until there is an acceptance of that.

On my visit to the area that the honourable member has mentioned and to the Wingfield dump area, I was most unhappy generally with what I saw. It is my hope that a speedy resolution to those problems can be found, particularly in the Wingfield area. Any honourable member who wants to wander out there may find it difficult to find his way to the dump unless he is guided through paddocks full of debris and rubbish of all sorts. It is really like an ill planned moonscape and I do not think that that is really good enough. I think that a greater effort has to be made by all concerned—local government, private contractors and the Government—to fix up that area.

I acknowledge that it is not quite as bad as the Waterloo Corner area. Nevertheless, the matters that have been the subject of contention in terms of the Planning Commission and the Waste Management Commission are yet to be resolved. I might say that one of the areas about which I was unhappy during my most recent visit to the area was the liquid waste disposal systems that we have in South Australia. There is a lot to be done, and we will be seeking the co-operation of all in achieving that.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Without having an effect on the aquifers.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I think that the member for Light has raised a very important point as to the possible effect on the aquifers presented by the liquid waste. I think I am right in saying that the information given to us is that those wastes do not get into the aquifers, but I would not want to be responsible for a firm assurance to everyone concerned that that could not happen. It may not have happened, but the potential is always there for it to happen. I think that there should be a more appropriate area for disposal of our liquid wastes. The point that I am trying to make is that there is a need for this plan, for co-operation in the industry and for a well regulated industry in South Australia. That is what the Government is encouraging the Waste Management Commission to achieve.

Mr LEWIS: Has the Waste Management Commission of South Australia heard of Olivine, that is, the mineralisation of a variety of kinds? However, there is one particular pure kind that has been used successfully in the United States, where it is mined commercially to line solid waste disposal furnaces.

It apparently has some catalytic effect. I understand that the District Council of Mordialloc has spent some \$70 000-odd in lining a furnace with Olivine imported from the United States and has been very satisfied with the improvement in waste disposal. It has resulted in energy savings and a more thorough combustion at lower temperatures. There is also one at Orbest in the Lakes Entrance area.

It is a substance that has been used by NASA on the space shuttle to prevent oxidation of the space shuttle's skin. It is very heat resistant and has a very high K factor, with low conductivity of heat. Whether or not that in itself is the reason for its success I do not know. I am not a scientist. I merely report to the Committee what I have read about the matter, and it struck me as a useful piece of information that might be applied to the problems that we in South Australia face and that it might by some measure reduce the cost of disposing of those wastes that can be burned and result in a cleaner discharge to the atmosphere, with less carbon, and so on.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: Olivine is a product known to the Waste Management Commission. Information has been provided on it. As I understand it, it is not a material that assists in combustion so much as it provides a very effective lining of the furnaces. As you, Sir, know my limitations in matters technical, you will understand why I pass this over to the Director of the Waste Management Commission, who might be able to advise the member on some of the technical qualities of the product.

Mr Maddocks: The Commission was provided with a very short article from some source; it may have even come from the Parliamentary Library. I read it and understood that this mineral Olivine allows higher temperatures to be used within a furnace and thus ensures hotter and better combustion of the materials that are placed in the furnace. That is about all that I have knowledge of. We have not followed it up in detail.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: We no longer burn the wastes in metropolitan Adelaide; so olivine would not assist us in disposal in the metropolitan area. I think that the article to which Mr Maddocks is referring is the article which the member for Mallee provided me and which I provided to the Waste Management Committee. So he had first access to this document to which we are all alluding.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: I have no further questions relative to waste management. The Minister's predecessor, on the last occasion, was able to provide to the House an indication of the personnel associated with the Dog Control Act Review Committee, the Enfield General Cemetery Trust, the Building Advisory Safety Committee, the Libraries Board, the West Beach Trust, the Waste Management Commission,

the Parks Community Centre Board and the Public Parks Advisory Committee. I would appreciate it if that information, if not immediately available, was made available for *Hansard* in due course.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I seek leave to table that information for the honourable member and the information of which he gave notice previously that he would seek during this period.

Leave granted.

The CHAIRMAN: If the Minister tables it and gives it to *Hansard* it will be put in *Hansard*.

Building Advisory Committee

Membership:

- R.G. Lewis, Dip. L.G., A.A.S.A. (Chairman).
- Dr D.S. Brooks, M.I., Ph.D., M.I.E.Aust.
- C.J. Buttrose, Dip.Arch (SAIT), F.A.I.B.S.
- P.C. Ogden, B.Tech.
- J.D. Ramsay, B.Tech, F.I.E.Aust.
- D.A. Grubb, M.I.FireE.
- J.R. Dyer, M.A.I.C.S. (LGA).
- J.T. Walter, F.R.A.I. (RAIA).
- N.F. McPeake (HIA).
- L.T. McEntee, F.A.I.B., F.I.A.R.D.A., F.I.O.D. (MBA)

(Builder).

Authority:

Building Act, 1970-1982, section 62.

Engineer to the Committee:

Mr G.J. Brown.

Remuneration:

Chairman: Nil (public servant).

Members: \$1 700 per annum (other than public servant).

Dog Advisory Committee

Function:

To advise the Minister in relation to the making of grants from the Dog Control Statutory Fund and on any other matters related to the administration of the Dog Control Act.

Chairman:

Mr G.D. Johnson.

Members:

- Dr K.B. Little, Veterinarian, Private Practice.
- Mr R.A. Stewart, S.A. Canine Association.
- Judge L.K. Newman, R.S.P.C.A.

Authority for Establishment:

Appointed by the Minister of Local Government.

Remuneration:

Nil.

Enfield General Cemetery Trust

Function:

To establish and manage a public cemetery at Enfield.

Membership:

	Term of Appointment
Mr D.G. Noblet (Chairman)	1.7.80-1.8.88
Mr J.J. McVeity	1.7.83-30.6.87
Cr R.W. Robinson	1.7.79-30.6.87
Ald. R. Bonner	4.11.82-30.6.85
Mr G. Templer	1.7.80-1.8.88
Mr J.M. Harley, LL.B.	1.7.82-30.6.87
Mr R.L. Pash	1.8.84-1.8.88

Secretary/Manager:
Mr K. Crowden.
Authority for Establishment:
Enfield General Cemetery Act, 1944-1972 (section 4).
Remuneration:
Chairman: \$1 200 per annum.
Members: \$1 020 per annum.

The Institutes Standing Committee

Function:
Advise Libraries Board on administration of and purchasing for Institute Libraries of South Australia.
Membership:
Mr G.D. Hollige, Chairman, September 1984.
Mrs D.C. Williams, Vice, September 1984.
Mr J.A. Crawford, Member, February 1984.
Hon. R.A. Geddes, Member, September 1985.
Mr E.M. Miller, Member, February 1985.
Mr J.W. Olsen, Member, February 1985.
Mr F.C. West, Member, September 1984.
G. Davidson, Member, September 1985.
Remuneration:
Chairman: \$55 per session
Members: \$45 per session
(other than Crown employees)

Libraries Board of South Australia

Function:
To administer the State's library functions.

Chairman:	Term	Expires on
James Allen Crawford, A.O., F.A.I.M., M.C.I.T.	4 years	17.2.87
Deputy Chairman: John Jefferson Bray, A.C., Q.C., LLD.	4 years	17.2.87
Members:		
Mr Alexander Douglas McClure, M.B.E., F.I.M.A., J.P.	2 years	26.9.84
Vacant	2 years	17.2.85
The Hon. Donald William Simons, D.F.C., B.A., B.E.C., A.U.A.	2 years	17.2.85
Mr Antony Charles Foskett, M.A., F.L.A., A.L.A.A.	2 years	17.2.85
Ms Anne Marie Seery		17.2.85
Ms E.R. Mansutti		17.2.85

Remuneration:
Chairman: \$1 200
Members:
(other than Crown Employees) \$1 200

Local Government Advisory Commission

Function:
Consider matters in respect of boundary changes to Local Government bodies.
Membership:
Mr J.N. McElhinney, 9.8.88.
Mrs E.M. Crome, 9.8.88.
Mr J. Dunnery, 9.8.88.
Mrs J.S. Strickland, 9.8.88.
Dr I.R. McPhail, 9.8.88.

Executive Officer:
T.K. Bell
Remuneration:
Nil (at 28.8.84)

Local Government Finance Authority of South Australia

Functions:
Functions of the Authority are:
(a) to develop and implement borrowing and investment programmes for the benefit of councils and prescribed local government bodies;
(b) to engage in such other activities relating to the finances of councils and prescribed local government bodies as are contemplated by this Act or approved by the Minister.

Membership:

Chairman	Term Expires
Mr B.E. Anders	31.12.84
Members:	
Mr G.L.G. Anderson	31.12.84
Mr J.F. Keough	31.12.84
Mr D.R. Lee	31.12.84
Dr I.R. McPhail, Permanent Head Department of Local Government Mr P.J. Emery, Nominee of Under Treasurer Mr J.M. Hullick, Nominee of Local Government Association	

Remuneration:
Nil

Outback Areas Community Development Trust

Function:
To foster, direct and facilitate development projects in remote areas outside of local government recognising the special difficulties faced by people in isolated districts, to support and encourage activities of local community groups and other civic organisations, examine proposals for loan and grant assistance and recommend on the disbursement of such funds.
Membership:

	Retiring Date
Mr E. Connelly (Chairman)	Dec. 1985
A. Kinnear	May 1986
Mr M.K. Francis	May 1986
Mr M.J. Balharry	May 1987
Mrs J.A. Gann	May 1987

Staff:
Mr C. Nelligan (Executive Officer)
Remuneration:
Chairman: \$5 000 per annum
Members: \$1 275 per annum
Authority for Establishment:
Outback Areas Community Development Trust Act, 1978.

Parks Community Centre Board of Management

Function:
1. To manage and maintain the premises and property of the Centre;
2. To make the premises of the Centre available for the provision of a wide range of facilities, amenities and services for the benefit of the community served by the Centre;
3. To itself provide such facilities, amenities or services as it may think desirable;

4. To promote and encourage the use of all the facilities, amenities and services of the Centre;

5. To encourage and foster, wherever practicable, direct participation by members of the public in the provision of the facilities, amenities and services of the Centre;

6. To conduct, or assist in conducting, investigations into the recreational, cultural, social and welfare needs of the community served by the Centre, and to work toward the fulfilment of those needs;

7. To perform any other functions prescribed by this Act or assigned to the Centre by the Minister;

8. To perform such other functions as may be necessary or incidental to the foregoing.

Membership	Term of Appointment
B. Redpath (Chairman)	15.7.82-14.1.85
G. McCabe	15.7.82-14.1.85
M. Herrmann	14.1.82-14.1.86
J. Dyer	14.1.82-14.1.85
T. Tierney	14.1.82-14.1.85
E. Crisp	14.1.82-14.1.85
J. Bampton	14.1.82-14.1.85
R. J. Norton	26.1.84-14.1.85
B. Elleway	14.1.82-10.3.86
L. Bond	14.1.82-14.1.86
K. Davey	14.1.82-14.1.86
E. O'Loughlin	26.11.83-26.11.84

Remuneration:

Chairman: \$1 350 per annum.

Members: \$1 125 per annum (Mrs Elleway \$625).

Public Parks Advisory Committee

Function:

To advise the Minister of Local Government on the acquisition and granting of subsidies toward the capital cost of acquisition of land for open space and development of such area.

Chairman:

Mr R.G. Lewis, Deputy Director, Department of Local Government.

Members:

Mr J. Hodgson, Department of Environment and Planning.

Mr B.H. Bridges, Surveyor-General, Department of Lands.

Secretary:

Mr D.W. Starr, Department of Local Government.

Authority for Establishment:

Public Parks Act, 1969.

Remuneration:

Nil.

South Australian Local Government Grants Commission

Function:

To make recommendations to the Minister of Local Government for grants to councils sufficient to enable by reasonable effort to function at a standard not appreciably below that of other councils.

Membership	Term of Appointment
G.D. Johnson	19.6.80-19.5.85
W.H. Richards	19.6.80-19.5.85
J. Bormann	8.3.84-19.5.87

Remuneration:

Chairman: \$7 625 p.a.

Members: \$5 700 p.a.

Authority for Establishment:

S.A. Local Government Grants Commission Act 1976 (Section 9).

South Australian Waste Management Commission

Terms of Reference:

To promote effective, efficient safe and appropriate waste management policies and practices.

To reduce the generation of waste.

To conserve resources by means of the recycling and reuse of waste and resource recovery.

To prevent or minimise impairment to the environment occurring through the management of waste.

To encourage the participation of local authorities and private enterprise in overcoming problems of waste management.

Membership **Expiry Date**

Dr W.D. Symes (Chairman) 30.6.85

G. Simpson 30.6.85

A.E. Simmons 16.5.87

K.M. Cys 16.5.87

J. Dangerfield 30.6.87

K. Coventry 30.6.87

W. Harris 30.7.87

D.V. Cloher 16.5.87

M.D. Madigan 16.5.87

Remuneration:

Chairman: \$100 per half day.

Members: \$85 per half day.

Authority for Establishment:

The South Australian Waste Management Commission Act, 1979.

South Australian Waste Management Technical Committee

Terms of Reference:

1. To advise the Commission upon any aspect of waste management of a technical nature;

2. To report to the Commission on any services relating to waste management that should in the opinion of the technical committee be introduced or modified;

3. To investigate and report to the Commission on any matters referred to the technical committee for advice.

Members:

R.H. Maddocks (Chairman) Director, South Australian Waste Management Commission.

Dr. W.D. Symes, Nominee of the Minister of Local Government.

Mr H.M. Bubb, Director of Works & Operations, Corporation of Adelaide.

Mr P. Kopli, Environmental Officer, Department of Environment and Planning.

Mr M.N. Hiern, Chief Geologist, Department of Mines and Energy.

Mr G.B. Munday, Health Survey, City of Enfield.

Mr P. Jones, Engineering and Water Supply Department.

Mr D.J. Hill.

Mr G.L. Robinson, Chief Health Surveyor, South Australian Health Commission.

Mr B.C. Tonkin, Principal, B.C. Tonkin & Associates.

Mr R.E. Wilmshurst, Australian Mineral Development Laboratories.

Remuneration:

Chairman: \$60 per session.

Members: \$50 per session.

West Beach Trust

Function:

To provide for the creation and creation and management of a public reserve to be known as the West Beach Recreation Reserve.

Membership

	Term of Appointment
Hon. G.T. Virgo (Chairman)	29.2.84-28.2.89
Mr T.K. Bell	29.2.84-28.2.89
Mrs M. Fenwick	1.3.79-28.2.89

Mr D.G. Mason (Glenelg C.C.)	18.3.81-18.3.86
Mr R.E. Wait (West Torrens C.C.)	1.3.82-28.2.87
Mr M.J. Baker (Glenelg C.C.)	1.3.82-28.2.87
Mr H. W. Boyce (West Torrens C.C.)	18.3.81-18.3.86

Authority:

West Beach Recreation Reserve Act, 1954-1975. Sections 4 & 8.

Remuneration:

Chairman: \$3 300 p.a.
Members: \$2 125 p.a. (P.S. \$975 p.a.)

Secretary:

Mr R. Porter, Military Road, West Beach.

Public Libraries—Development Programme 1984-85

Public Libraries	Est. Capital	IBG	Books etc.	Admin.	Total
Enfield (Clearview)	130 000	49 500	19 225	3 000	201 725
Gawler	130 000	49 500	10 492	3 000	192 992
Mt Barker	32 500				32 500
Henley & Grange (extensions)	105 000				105 000
School/Community Libraries					
Snowtown	1 500	24 750	4 234	500	30 984
Strathalbyn	2 000	47 116	7 711	1 000	57 827
Lameroo	2 575	24 266	4 245	500	31 586
Meningie	1 000	24 750	4 438	500	30 688
Total	404 575	219 882	50 345	8 500	683 302

Public Libraries Maintenance Programme Subsidy Allocations 1984-85

Council	Service Points	Councils	Population Served	Capital		Books and Related Materials		Administration		Total	
				Subsequent Voted 83-84	84-85	Voted 83-84	84-85	Voted 83-84	84-85	Voted 83-84	84-85
Andamooka C/S			500	100	184	4 201	3 884	445	650	4 746	4 718
Baramba			4 300	250	1 250	9 378	9 819	19 840	22 750	29 468	33 819
Barossa Valley	3	2	9 620	500	250	16 835	17 283	32 000	32 410	49 335	49 943
Berni			6 440	1 375	1 725	10 243	11 268	24 000	29 360	35 618	42 353
Brighton			20 150	2 645	690	32 220	33 350	76 125	79 592	111 590	113 632
Browns Well C/S			380			1 380	2 097	150	150	1 530	2 247
Burnside										166 050	
East Torrens	2		46 400	4 250	14 000	65 940	69 121	122 000	183 280	16 350	266 401
Kensington and Norwood											
Burra C/S			2 450	370	470	5 237	5 255	851	980	6 458	6 705
Campbelltown	2		35 100	800	140	44 335	44 577	112 105	95 020	157 240	139 737
Clare/Blyth		2	4 720	750	1 875	6 645	9 157	23 875	24 305	31 270	35 337
Cleve C/S			2 600			4 167	4 428	223	315	4 390	4 743
Elliston (Lock) C/S			1 470			4 323	4 104	255	283	4 578	4 387
Cooper Pedy C/S			3 000	285	240	5 465	5 565	2 030	1 505	7 780	7 310
Coonalpyn Downs C/S			1 950	350	350	4 959	4 481	1 640	1 745	6 949	6 576
Elizabeth	3		32 480	75	12 670	58 610	58 163	126 375	128 296	185 060	199 129
Enfield	2		32 000	6 440	2 950	46 198	48 208	96 327	102 895	148 965	154 053
Eudunda C/S			1 410	250	100	4 160	4 345	295	350	4 705	4 795
Flinders Mobile		6	6 270		545	8 775	8 418	16 760	16 250	25 535	25 213
Franklin Harbor (Cowell)			1 340		324	4 374	4 181	790	490	5 164	4 995
Happy Valley	2		21 720	900	1 350	28 185	26 207	56 525	77 800	85 700	105 357
Henley and Grange			15 760	150	7 000	23 850	23 531	51 600	50 750	75 600	81 281
Hindmarsh			7 810	655	1 060	13 927	13 852	29 450	31 348	44 032	46 260
Jamestown C/S	2		2 350	750	1 107	5 075	4 406	1 000	650	6 825	6 163
Kadina/Bute	2		5 960		7 000	8 225	9 226	3 000	20 350		36 576
Kanyaka-Quorn C/S			1 410		388	5 469	4 167	540	595	6 009	5 150
Kapunda			2 620	1 880	1 600	4 745	5 173	6 250	6 465	12 875	13 238
Karoonda-East M. C/S			1 620	350	690	5 263	4 560	1 225	385	5 738	5 635
Kingscote/Dudley	2		3 850	475	375	5 275	6 312	23 875	26 265	29 625	32 952
Lacepede (Kingston) C/S			2 450		100	4 438	4 698	500	690	2 950	5 488
Le Hunte (Wudinna) C/S			1 500			2 600	3 180	350	355	2 950	3 535
Leigh Creek C/S			2 300			7 007	7 894	620	700	7 627	8 594
Loxton			7 170	2 320	3 450	10 705	13 373	21 830	23 075	34 855	39 898
Lucindale C/S			1 770	60		3 860	3 707	195	200	4 115	3 907
Mallala (Two Wells) C/S			3 790		1 000	6 470	6 054	2 050	2 500	9 020	9 554
Marion	3		69 000	5 660	8 535	69 525	77 893	187 500	225 320	262 685	311 748
Millicent/Beachport	2	2	10 180	6 000	9 825	16 200	18 673	38 438	40 225	60 638	68 523
Minlaton C/S			2 550		1 520	4 685	4 409	3 115	3 225	7 800	9 154
Mitcham	2		61 630	14 000	8 000	70 972	84 231	186 000	243 438	270 972	335 669
Moonta C/S			1 700	200		3 565	3 774	215	240	3 980	4 014
Mount Barker			12 920	350	400	11 635	15 918	14 027	16 585	26 012	32 903
Mount Gambier			19 340	1 250	3 000	27 025	27 922	55 450	59 700	83 725	90 622
Munno Para	2		27 860	3 845	7 980	33 961	34 522	37 408	107 013	125 214	149 515
Murray Bay (Ceduna) C/S			4 070	123		6 433	6 627	1 425	1 100	7 981	7 740
Murray Bridge	2		14 130	600	600	17 735	19 031	47 152	54 225	65 487	73 856
Naracoorte (M & DC)		2	7 530	2 305	600	8 270	9 188	26 438	32 500	37 013	42 288
Noarlunga	2		63 820	4 950	7 775	70 800	80 666	145 025	187 125	220 775	275 566
Orroroo C/S			1 050		4 000	3 085	2 954	200	200	3 285	7 154
Payneham			17 020	7 000	7 000	24 345	24 147	42 475	54 950	73 820	86 097

Public Libraries Maintenance Programme
Subsidy Allocations 1984-85

Council	Service Points	Councils	Population Served	Capital		Books and Related Materials		Administration		Total	
				Subsequent Voted 83-84	84-85	Voted 83-84	84-85	Voted 83-84	84-85	Voted 83-84	84-85
Peake (Coomandook) C/S			1 070		60	3 005	5 052	250	170	3 255	5 282
Penola C/S			3 850	100	985	6 637	6 345	750	1 530	7 487	8 860
Peterborough			2 770		650	4 675	5 453	10 000	9 540		15 643
Pinnaroo			1 500	660	60	3 721	4 655	819	905	5 200	5 620
Port Adelaide	3		36 490	6 550	7 925	53 185	53 534	106 860	120 150	166 595	181 609
Port Augusta			16 190		500	21 480	21 464	49 500	63 950	70 980	85 914
Port Broughton C/S			1 180		200	4 140	4 190	500	500		4 890
Port Lincoln			11 970	1 275	300	16 440	18 713	43 075	43 175	60 790	62 188
Port Pirie			16 260	1 400	2 125	16 065	21 505	45 000	45 400	62 465	69 030
Prospect			19 140	1 750	2 375	24 805	26 091	52 650	54 240	79 205	82 706
Renmark			8 560		250	10 150	12 230	3 000	25 050		37 530
Ridley (Cambrai) C/S			1 000	625		1 814	2 083	175	155	2 614	2 238
(Swan Reach) C/S			900			1 727	2 129	312	600	2 039	2 729
Riverton C/S			1 530		4 600	4 690	4 462	7 500	1 200	12 720	10 262
Robe			1 110	500	600	4 970	4 896	7 250	10 050	12 720	15 546
Saddledworth and Auburn			2 090	500	1 700	6 800	5 640	6 175	9 275	13 475	16 615
St Peters			8 690	2 750	2 300	14 500	13 133	40 000	46 000	57 250	61 433
Salisbury	5		89 680	5 672	9 270	91 294	108 442	319 125	354 236	416 091	471 948
Stirling			13 880	2 600	2 125	22 530	22 768	52 000	54 826	77 130	79 719
Streaky Bay C/S			2 400	250	488	4 707	4 928	2 925	3 452	7 882	8 868
Tatiara (Bordertown)			4 300			7 435	7 585	17 095	18 535	24 530	26 120
(Keith) C/S			2 530			4 544	4 931	500	750		5 681
Tea Tree Gully			33 000	1 655	7 000	47 978	53 453	123 750	130 350	173 383	190 803
Thebarton			9 410	2 270	1 950	14 215	15 156	34 030	37 875	50 515	54 981
Unley	3		37 230	5 875	2 435	70 121	72 203	131 625	147 058	207 621	221 696
Victor Harbor			5 960	4 153	1 290	9 235	8 756	28 000	29 400	41 388	39 446
Waikerie			4 680	300	300	8 405	8 242	22 000	24 400	30 705	32 942
Wakefield Plains (Bal. C/S)			4 410	450	300	5 875	7 442	1 300	1 310	7 625	9 052
Walkerville			7 120	105	205	12 125	12 696	37 000	46 000	49 230	58 901
West Torrens	2		37 000	4 890	5 860	40 612	51 825	133 220	138 590	178 722	196 275
Whyalla	3		31 020	1 145	1 500	40 660	40 962	95 025	106 005	135 830	148 467
Willunga			7 010	7 000	7 000	10 795	11 082	24 055	28 800	41 850	46 882
Woodville	4		79 900	14 850	19 830	92 300	94 888	285 675	281 135	392 825	395 853
Woomera			2 000			3 935	3 988	13 530	12 705	17 465	16 693
Yorketown-Warooka C/S		2	3 870	200	200	7 065	6 249	2 410	2 740	9 675	9 189
	112	96	1 117 360	139 378	206 514	1 483 358	1 641 170	3 360 945	3 838 457	4 983 681	5 686 141

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: I notice that one of the tasks that the Department undertakes is in relation to council auditing. Page 287 of the Auditor-General's Report refers to local government authorities and lists a number of councils using the services of the authority. It then indicates that others are making use of the services of 46 licensed local government auditors. It finishes with the comment:

Checks undertaken by officers of the Department of Local Government on statements for 1982-83 disclose that, whilst improvement in their preparation was evident, there were still some errors occurring. The Department referred these matters to councils concerned for explanation and comment.

Indeed, the Auditor-General can call into any local governing authority at any time to conduct a spot test. Have there been any cases of falsification, fraud or other activities within the last 12 months (they do not necessarily need to be revealed directly unless there is a cause that they be revealed)? More specifically, can the Minister indicate whether the quality of bookkeeping is improving or whether there are difficulties, directly associated with audits or some other action associated with trust funds or general conduct, which the Minister or his officer would care to comment upon?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: First, the investigation did not reveal any falsification or fraud, and we should all be pleased about that. It also indicates that the standard of accounting and book-keeping is improving, but there are still some disconcerting errors occurring from time to time. A detailed reply ought to come from the Director and I ask him to expand on those points.

Dr McPhail: As an introductory comment, the Auditor-General carries out very few spot inspections of councils, mainly because of the workload on his part and because the Department has been able to take over a little more of the accounting surveillance. The Department has been fortunate in having at least two experienced officers who have been able to analyse the annual accounts of councils very quickly, pick up errors and go out and work with the officers concerned. The errors come from about two groups of administrators. We would not be surprised that they are, first, the relatively unqualified clerks in the small councils who are struggling to cope with all the demands of accounting with very little support and with limited experience, and, secondly, the older clerks who are finding it difficult to cope

with modern changes to accounting styles and with computer-based accounting systems in which most councils are becoming involved. The service that the Department provides is, to a large extent, a constructive one designed to assist the clerks in coping with their accounting tasks. Where some of the errors are disconcerting, we have no hesitation in making clear to the council, or the administrators concerned, the substance of the problem. As far as we are concerned, the standard should be substantially improved. I believe that the combination is proving to be effective.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Changes are contemplated in relation to the association between the Central Board of Health and local government. In the not so distant past the Health Commission Act was amended to allow private hospitals to be taken from the control of local government. At present there is a great deal of discussion about a revitalised foods Act, which will again involve the Central Board of Health, the county boards of health, and the local boards of health through local government.

There was a major criticism in the Legislative Council when the Health Commission Act was amended that local government had not been properly consulted. More recently the West Torrens council highlighted that issue and stated that the changes were made behind the back of local government. The discussion was fairly limited, as evidenced by the information that was given in Committee by the Minister of Health on the Health Commission Act Amendment Bill. An undertaking was given in relation to the next phase, which will more specifically be associated with nursing homes (and I would extend that to whatever action is to be taken in relation to the new foods Act). The undertaking was that there will be open and total consultation with local government so that criticisms, which were levelled in recent times and which indeed were justified about a lack of consultation with a tier of government that both sides recognise as being an ally and a partner, are not repeated.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: As Minister of Local Government I take the responsibility to ensure, as best as I am able, that adequate discussions are held between the local government authority and the Local Government Association and any of the departments whose decision will impact on local government. I have given that undertaking, and to the best of my ability I will see that that is achieved.

There is a difference of opinion in relation to the decision to place the control of private hospitals with the Health Commission instead of local boards of health. I know that the Local Government Association believed that adequate discussion did not take place, but on the other hand my colleague assured me that he understood that adequate discussions had taken place—there is a difference of view. I can assure the Committee that there will not be any difference of view as to the extent of the wide ranging discussions that the honourable member has asked for on changes to the foods Act. There will be very comprehensive discussion.

If the previous discussions between the Health Commission and local government were not as satisfactory as the Local Government Association wished, this is a different matter. My recollection is that at least on one occasion I attended discussions, and I know that discussions took place on other occasions. Certainly, I give a commitment that is as strong as possible to this Committee that the Local Government Association will be given the opportunity for input regarding legislation that affects its operations. To the best of my ability I will ensure that that happens. I really believe, that the other authorities understand the role of local government and try to work in co-operation. If one or two measures get through, that is unfortunate: there have been one or two examples of that. I expect there will be times in the future when that will happen, but we will try to prevent it. In regard to the new foods legislation there will be those wideranging discussions; they have already started.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Can the Minister say what positive action he personally has taken since taking over this portfolio to either assist, hold steady or wind down community development boards?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I should give a more considered reply to this question because I have asked for a report to be prepared for me. In March 1983 community development boards requested that the Minister of Local Government set up an advisory committee to recommend future policy for the operations of boards and the Local Government Assistance Fund. The Department chose to divide the task among two committees. The first, the Local Government Assistance Fund Advisory Committee, was convened in September 1983. The committee consisted of a representative from community development boards, the South Australian Council of Social Services, the Local Government Association and the Department. The committee submitted its report to the Minister in April 1984, with the report being subsequently circulated for public reaction.

Final recommendations, taking into account public reactions, are currently being prepared for the Minister's consideration. Some recommendations regarding fund guidelines were implemented in the 1983-84 round of funding. A second committee, the Community Development Board Review Committee, has representation similar to the first committee. It is envisaged that this committee will be convened later this year and submit its recommendations to the Minister by the end of the financial year. Until those recommendations are received from the Community Development Board Review Committee, no decisions will be made to change the current operation of such boards. In June 1983 there were 51 boards in South Australia and in June 1984 there were 50 boards, so one has ceased operations, although I do not know which one. I seek leave to have inserted in the report the list of community development boards as at 31 August 1984.

Leave granted.

List of Boards at 31.8.84

Separate generalist groups:

Blyth	Murray Bridge
Brighton/Glenelg	Noarlunga
Burnside	Owen
Burra Burra	Penola
Clare	Port Adelaide
Enfield	Port Lincoln
Eudunda	Prospect/Walkerville
Hindmarsh	Renmark/Paringa
Kensington and Norwood	Robertstown
Kingscote	Saddleworth and Auburn
Laura	Snowtown
Lucindale	Stirling
Mallala	Tea Tree Gully
Marion	Thebarton
Minlaton	Waikerie/Morgan
Mitcham	Warooka
Munno Para	Willunga

Specialist/locality based:

Barossa D.C. (Network 9 also with council designated as Board)
 Henley and Grange City—specialist advisory committees
 Council or Council subcommittee designated as board:
 Angaston
 Elizabeth Community Resources Committee
 Gawler Health, Welfare and Recreation Committee
 Georgetown
 Moonta Community Development Committee—may change as result of Council amalgamation
 Onkaparinga
 Peterborough C.T.
 Peterborough D.C.
 Pinnaroo
 Port Pirie
 Salisbury Community Services Committee
 Streaky Bay
 Tumby Bay Health and Welfare Committee
 Yorketown

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: My final question in this area is about the second phase of the local government legislation rewrite. The Minister indicated a course of action that he had in mind about four weeks ago and since then several concerns have been expressed by people who have received this year's rate notices and suddenly found that a number of councils are approaching their revenue-raising rather aggressively. For example, I refer to people with holiday flats who find themselves being charged the minimum rate on each flat, notwithstanding that the motel next door or down the street is not similarly treated, when it can be argued that the facility is the same. In the Adelaide City Council area, and it may apply elsewhere, Rundle Mall stallholders are now being charged not only annual rental but also an annual rate of a considerable sum on top of the rental, notwithstanding that in October 1982 the Legislative Council disallowed a by-law associated with the commercial barrows and stalls in Rundle Mall.

The Adelaide City Council has continued to use the disallowed by-law, and the sums of money associated with that by-law, for the purpose of raising revenue. I believed that once a by-law had been disallowed any organisation—it being a local government organisation, involving a by-law—would be restricted to charging according to the original by-law. In due course, if necessary, I can make material available to the Minister, as I believe it is a matter that will have to be addressed in the rewrite section dealing with assessments, rates and other revenue-raising matters.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: First, we would be very interested to follow up the point that the honourable member has raised. It is certainly not a matter that was known to me and I am sure that my officers were not aware of it. I as Minister and the Department are concerned about some of the rating practices, and certainly I have been inundated—and that is the correct word—with complaints about the recent rate changes in many local government areas throughout South Australia. I have had to tell each of the complainants—deputations—that the Minister is unable to interfere with the rate decisions made by a properly elected

local government body. Even if I may have some feelings about those decisions, nevertheless the decision is for the local council to make.

We have assisted local councils that have made decisions which have been more than slightly unpopular, and we are always prepared to give technical advice where it is appropriate but we cannot interfere. The whole matter of rating and funding of local government is one that needs some very common ground rules. The whole matter of amendment rates is one that concerns many people. I know that there are councils in South Australia where at least 80 per cent or more of the assessments are at the minimum rate and many councils have minimum rate and capital ratings combined. In some cases the minimum rate is so high that a capital rating is not needed, and there is need for change.

This is such a sensitive and important area, dealing with not only the income of councils but the rates that the individual ratepayer in South Australia will have to face, that we propose to give it the widest circulation and the widest possible discussion time. I did not include this matter in the Governor's Speech for the very good reason that I was not confident that that discussion period would be completed and legislation drawn up and debated in this House within the time span of this session of Parliament. That is still my view, and the longer it takes to get the discussion paper out the more I am convinced in this particular session that the likelihood of that legislation appearing becomes less.

What we are planning to do—one could almost call it 'bits and pieces legislation'—is to introduce miscellaneous powers, etc., where local government legislation would be coming before the House. I did not want to mislead local government and give people the impression that the funding legislation would be introduced during this term of Parliament, no matter how desirable that would be: there is nothing that we can do with the rates that were established recently.

I certainly hope that by 1986 we will have forceful legislation in South Australia relating to rating systems. This is a matter of great importance and of some sensitivity on which the widest consultation is required. We propose to do that. We are still in the process of drawing up discussion papers that will be issued, because people will need to have a complete understanding of the rating system to enable them to make judgments. The system must be clear, simple and effective. I think everyone would agree with that. We are still working on that matter, and we propose to continue doing so. We will not release prematurely the papers formulated, and I do not believe the time constraints under which we are working should compel us to take action sooner than we believe is appropriate to do so.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: What is the Minister's attitude to the review of State Government concessions? In a final report that was circulated to members some three weeks ago a specific comment was made in relation to concessions made available in respect of rates.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I take it that the honourable member's question relates to the discussion that has just taken place and refers to the State Government's involvement in rate concessions. I suppose that all local members have been confronted by constituents with concerns about concessions and limitations that apply to them. The findings in the report will have to be considered in our inquiry. At this stage all I can say is that the concessions will remain as they are. However, the matter of concessions will be looked at as part of the inquiry and decisions will be made after all the relevant information has been received. Perhaps I could ask Dr McPhail to comment.

Dr McPhail: The matter of pensioner rebates is one of the sensitive matters that will come under discussion. The

objective of the pensioner rebate is to assist the owner/occupier in receipt of a pension to meet the rates levied on a property. However, councils tend to link their minimum rating policies to the maximum rebate available under the scheme. It thus becomes a question of which is driving which: is the decision in relation to the minimum rate being made in respect of the capacity of the population to pay, or is it being made in respect of the State's capacity to pay? It makes it a difficult matter.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Like all concessions, councils simply raise the charge made for the commodity to which the rebate has applied to a certain percentage of the population.

Mr LEWIS: What plans are there to amend the present law to make it unlawful for district councils to rate deficit funded hospitals? By way of explanation, I understand that in days of yore country communities got together, formed themselves into local government bodies and did things in their districts that they regarded as essential, such as building roads, and so on. They also formed progress associations and hospital committees, built hospitals and established the necessary equipment within those hospitals. It was thought by the people who lived in those communities to be counter productive to have the local government body in the community rate that hospital because it would simply mean that ratepayers using it would have to pay higher hospital fees in order for the hospital to pay those rates to local government.

Now, however, the whole structure of the way in which health services are paid for and delivered in the community has been dramatically altered. Over the past 15 years, and particularly in the past two years, the alteration has been such as members know, that a tax of 1 per cent applies to total income for Medicare. That money is made available through the mechanism of the State Health Department to deficit funded hospitals to meet their cost of operation. In the past, many of those hospitals never paid rates, for the reasons I have outlined. However, because the people in those communities are now paying their 1 per cent Medicare levy, they are subsidising the rates that are being paid in other local government areas where the hospital is rated. I understand from comments that I have heard that it is intended to make it unlawful for local government to rate deficit funded hospitals. If that is so, when is it planned to introduce that legislation?

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: The honourable member is addressing a matter that is under active consideration. Certainly discussions are taking place between the Health Commission and the Department of Local Government, and the Local Government Association also has a great interest in this matter. The matter remains unresolved to this stage, but those discussions are taking place. I understood that the Local Government Association believes that these deficit funded hospitals ought to be rated and that the rates can then be handed back to the hospital by the local council.

I will certainly take on board the comments made by the honourable member and refer them to those of my officers who are currently looking at this matter. I will certainly have discussions with my colleague, the Minister of Health, on this matter. I am interested in the comments that the honourable member has made and I can refer them on. All I can say at this stage is that we are looking at this very matter and that his input will be considered.

Mr LEWIS: How has the Minister come to the conclusion that it is reasonable and legitimate to require the Millicent District Council to meet the debts of the Tantoola District Council and the Boundaries Commission in paying Mr Altschwager the \$160 000 which was properly awarded to him by the courts for the injury that he suffered as a result of an accident he had on a roadway where roadworks were

being undertaken several years before in the District Council of Tantanoola and when it became a part of the District Council of Millicent, at which time the Boundaries Commission did not disclose that the District Council of Tantanoola had that outstanding liability? The State Government, the Minister, and the Premier in particular, have flatly refused to make any funds available to the District Council of Millicent to meet that enormous cost.

Not only is that financing the court case, but also the ratepayers at Millicent are required to fork out for a liability that was not disclosed at the time the Boundaries Commission met and Tantanoola eventually became part of Millicent.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I cannot believe that the honourable member is reflecting the views of the council. The honourable member said that it should not be liable for debts that were inherited as a result of a boundary change. Legally they are liable. The Local Government Department has flatly refused to pick up that debt; we have said that Millicent council is liable and should pay it, but we have made it much easier for the council to meet the debt by providing considerable financial assistance in other areas, such as road works (\$900 000), which otherwise would have to be paid by the council. If the honourable member discussed this matter with the Mayor and the District Clerk he would find that we refused for a very good reason: first, because of the legal situation and, secondly, because it would set a precedent. We are assisting the council by picking up costs in other areas that it would have to meet in its normal operations.

THE CHAIRMAN: There being no further questions, I declare the examination of the vote completed.

Works and Services—Department of Local Government,
\$3 600 000

Chairman:
Mr Max Brown

Members:
Mrs J.E. Appleby
The Hon. B.C. Eastick
Mr D.M. Ferguson
Mr J.H.C. Klunder
Mr I.P. Lewis
Mr J. Mathwin

Witness:

The Hon. G.F. Keneally, Minister of Tourism and Minister of Local Government.

Departmental Advisers:

Dr I. McPhail, Director, Department of Local Government.

Mr M. Herrmann, Chief Administrative Officer, Department of Local Government.

The CHAIRMAN: I declare the proposed expenditure open for examination.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: I refer to subsidies for public parks: I believe that there is sufficient evidence relative to expenditure of \$3 200 000 for effluent drainage. At page 133 of the Auditor-General's Report the point is made that the contract price for the scheme undertaken by the District Council of Berri increased by 103 per cent over the original tender price, which was particularly unfortunate. Although I agree that there should be consideration of likely problems associated with the heavy rock content in any future scheme, I hope that specifications for future programmes will not

mean considerable wastage of funds or over-testing to the detriment of funds subsequently distributed for effluent schemes.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: We are winding back the specifications, because they were too inflexible and costly. We are working to ensure flexibility. We have seen an alternative problem in Berri.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Obviously, details of the public accounts.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: We will do that.

The CHAIRMAN: There being no further questions, I declare the examination of the vote completed.

Minister of Local Government, Miscellaneous, \$9 660 000

Chairman:
Mr Max Brown

Members:
The Hon. B.C. Eastick
Mr D.M. Ferguson
Mr J.H.C. Klunder
Ms S.M. Lenehan
Mr I.P. Lewis
Mr J. Mathwin

Witness:

The Hon. G.F. Keneally, Minister of Tourism and Minister of Local Government.

Departmental Advisers:

Dr I. McPhail, Director, Department of Local Government.

Mr M. Herrmann, Chief Administrative Officer, Department of Local Government.

The CHAIRMAN: I declare the proposed expenditure open for examination.

The Hon. B.C. EASTICK: Will the Minister make available details of the proposed expenditure of \$2.59 million for community centre projects, \$585 000 for local government assistance funds, and \$6.249 million for local government libraries? Will the Minister state the method used to determine the \$88 000 likely to be necessary for the conduct of the Local Government Advisory Commission and how it is to be spent? I am not criticising it, but I would like to see the commitment. Obviously, this amount will increase as the work load increases. Will the Minister obtain information in relation to the over 300 per cent increase in the money made available for the Outback Area Community Development Trust? Last year's expenditure was \$106 640 and the sum of \$440 000 is contemplated this year.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: I will provide those details. Concerning the question of the Local Government Advisory Commission, the \$88 000 was based on experience with the Grants Commission. Members' fees are \$19 000 (the major part), travel expenses are \$8 000, transcript reporting is \$5 000, with postage, printing, motor vehicle hire, aircraft hire, etc. The Director may care to comment.

Dr McPhail: The Minister has summarised it perfectly.

Mr LEWIS: How much is being spent on the Border Anomalies Committee, and how much progress is being made in resolving the problems that have to be tackled by that committee, for instance, flood management, with water from Victoria coming into South Australia and creating enormous problems.

The Hon. G.F. Keneally: That is not included in this line. The Premier established the committee and it is funded by him. It has recently been established and has not met. Mr

Williams from the Department is a member of it. It is an important matter, and it is being dealt with by the Premier.

The CHAIRMAN: There being no further questions, I declare the examination of the vote completed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7 p.m. the Committee adjourned until Tuesday 2 October at 11 a.m.