

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
ESTIMATES COMMITTEE A

29 to 31 July, 1, 6 and 7 August 2002

TVSP SCHEME

In reply to **Mrs HALL**.

The Hon. M.D. RANN: A decision on whether TVSP offers will extend to statutory authorities has not yet been made. Once the details of the TVSP scheme are determined and it is ready for implementation, the extent of its application will be considered.

ARTS GRANTS

In reply to **Mr HAMILTON-SMITH**.

The Hon. M.D. RANN: Details of grant funding provided to lead agencies and small-to-medium sized arts companies in 2001-02 and 2002-03 are provided in the attached tables. As can be seen from those tables, most organisations received increased funding in 2002-03.

Six lead agencies recorded reductions in their grant funding. However, these were due to once-off adjustments/payments, including the payment of a final instalment of capital funding in 2001-02, additional funding provided in 2001-02 to support specific events, the allocation of Commonwealth Government funding in 2002-03 direct to an arts organisation (not through Arts SA, as in 2001-02) and grants paid in advance.

Once these once-off adjustments/payments are taken into account, all six of the lead agencies recorded an increase in grant funding in 2002-03.

Only two of the small-to-medium sized arts companies funded under the Arts Industry Development program received reduced grant funding in 2002-03. Both reductions were recommended by the Organisations Assessment Panel on the basis of performance.

ARTS SOUTH AUSTRALIA

TABLE 1—LEAD AGENCIES

| | 2001-02 | 2002-03 | Variance |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | Budget | Budget | |
| State Library | 9 668 000 | 10 279 000 | 611 000 |
| Plain | 14 210 000 | 14 551 000 | 341 000 |
| Art Gallery | 5 184 000 | 5 524 000 | 340 000 |
| Carrick Hill | 659 000 | 628 000 | (31 000) |
| Museum | 6 498 000 | 7 152 000 | 654 000 |
| History Trust | 3 399 000 | 3 520 000 | 121 000 |
| Artlab | 856 000 | 386 000 | (470 000) |
| AFCT | 12 572 000 | 7 738 500 | (4 833 500) |
| Adelaide Festival of Arts | 2 124 000 | 1 469 000 | (655 000) |
| Tandanya | 560 000 | 594 000 | 34 000 |
| Country Arts SA | 4 865 500 | 4 628 000 | (237 500) |
| State Opera of SA | 1 068 168 | 1 131 150 | 62 982 |
| State Theatre Company | 1 521 790 | 1 597 430 | 75 640 |
| SA Film Corporation | 4 570 100 | 4 589 900 | 19 800 |
| CISA | 161 000 | 161 000 | - |
| DIRC | 165 000 | 165 000 | - |
| Australian Dance Theatre | 899 817 | 925 153 | 25 336 |
| Adelaide Symphony Orchestra | 1 511 688 | 1 707 850 | 196 162 |
| SA Youth Arts Board | 1 675 000 | 1 710 000 | 35 000 |
| JamFactory | 789 545 | 794 545 | 5 000 |
| Fringe | 480 500 | 335 425 | (145 075) |
| Total Lead Agencies | 73 438 108 | 69 586 953 | (3 851 155) |

TABLE 2—ARTS INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

| | 2001-02 | 2002-03 | Variance |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| | Budget | Budget | |
| Adelaide Baroque | 48 900 | 66 150 | 17 250 |
| Adelaide Chamber Singers | 20 500 | 27 667 | 7 167 |
| Adelaide Philharmonia Chorus | 10 710 | 12 100 | 1 390 |
| ArtLink | 20 460 | 60 000 | 39 540 |
| Arts In Action | 62 300 | 72 600 | 10 300 |
| Arts Law Centre | 3 280 | 3 365 | 85 |
| Arts Monthly Australia | 2 100 | 2 155 | 55 |
| Ausdance | 75 430 | 85 000 | 9 570 |
| Australian Copyright Council | - | 3 365 | 3 365 |

TABLE 2—ARTS INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT

| | 2001-02 | 2002-03 | Variance |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Budget | Budget | |
| Australian Network of Art and Tech. | 15 370 | 25 000 | 9 630 |
| Australian String Quartet | 174 150 | 207 200 | 33 050 |
| Barossa Music Festival | 159 250 | 80 000 | (79 250) |
| Regional Festival | - | 50 000 | 50 000 |
| Brink | 315 190 | 200 000 | (115 190) |
| Bakehouse Theatre | - | 40 000 | 40 000 |
| Community Arts Network | 101 830 | 110 000 | 8 170 |
| Contemporary Art Centre of SA | 152 370 | 156 180 | 3 810 |
| Central Studios | - | 25 000 | 25 000 |
| Craft South | 92 100 | 110 000 | 17 900 |
| Experimental Art Foundation | 97 270 | 99 705 | 2 435 |
| Feast | 41 000 | 50 000 | 9 000 |
| Folk Federation | 31 260 | 46 800 | 15 540 |
| Friendly Street Poets | 10 000 | 10 000 | - |
| Jazz Co-ordinator | 33 770 | 36 100 | 2 330 |
| Leigh Warren & Dancers | 219 760 | 230 000 | 10 240 |
| Mainstreet Theatre | 127 770 | 140 000 | 12 230 |
| Music House | 40 000 | 50 000 | 10 000 |
| Musica Viva in Schools | 15 000 | 15 000 | - |
| Co opera | 73 030 | 74 900 | 1 870 |
| Nexus | 91 400 | 126 000 | 34 600 |
| Radio 5uv | 15 625 | 19 000 | 3 375 |
| May Gibbs | - | 20 000 | 20 000 |
| SA Council for Country Music | 26 010 | 26 660 | 650 |
| Object Magazine | - | 4 000 | 4 000 |
| Parallelo | 133 660 | 137 000 | 3 340 |
| SA Writer's Centre | 94 560 | 104 000 | 9 440 |
| The Firm | 15 625 | 20 073 | 4 448 |
| Vitalstatistix | 172 760 | 189 805 | 17 045 |
| Wakefield Press | 49 920 | 66 200 | 16 280 |
| Total Arts Industry Development | 2 542 360 | 2 801 025 | 258 665 |

PICHI RICHI RAILWAY

In reply to **Mrs REDMOND**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: In answer to questions from the Member for Heysen and the Member for Davenport regarding the Pichi Richi Railway:

1. I have nothing further to add to my answer to the House.
2. I refer the honourable member to answers provided by the Hon. Jane Lomax-Smith in the House of Assembly Estimates Committee A on 29 July 2002.
3. Again, I refer the honourable member to answers provided by the Hon. Jane Lomax-Smith in the House of Assembly Estimates Committee A on 29 July 2002.

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: In answer to questions from the Member for Heysen and the Member for Davenport regarding the Pichi Richi Railway:

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NATIONAL WINE CENTRE

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: In relation to amending the National Wine Centre Act and transferring the operation of the National Wine Centre facility to an entity owned and controlled by the Winemaker's Federation of Australia, guidelines for Evaluation of Public Sector Initiatives and Treasurer's Instructions were followed.

FUNDS SA INVESTMENT STRATEGY

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: Funds SA is a significant investor in Australian property. Funds SA's 'Defined Benefit' product has a target asset allocation to the Australian property sector of 8 per cent and its 'Balanced' product has a target asset allocation of 7 per cent.

Funds SA's property portfolio comprises a diversified exposure to Australian property through a blend of listed property trusts and direct properties. Direct property exposure is obtained through unit holdings in unlisted pooled vehicles rather than through direct holdings of individual buildings, a strategy of some 5 years standing aimed at achieving target levels of diversification unobtainable through directly held investments. Indeed, Funds SA's strategy with respect to direct property holdings is in contrast to that of its predecessor, the South Australian Superannuation Funds Investment Trust (SASFIT). Accordingly, a deliberate strategy has been pursued to divest Funds SA's direct holdings of buildings, the most recent example having been the sale of the Riverside Office building, North Terrace, Adelaide in December 2000. A split of 60 per cent listed and 40 per cent unlisted pooled holdings has been determined as representing a broad reflection of the size of the investible institutional markets for the two segments.

The unlisted pooled component is achieved by means of investment into two unlisted vehicles and selected, closed-end opportunistic funds. An interest of 4 per cent is held in the AMP Henderson Investors' pooled property vehicle, providing Funds SA with exposure to a high quality portfolio comprising 33 properties Australia-wide valued in excess of \$3.3 billion. An interest of 6.3 per cent is also held in a pooled vehicle managed by Commonwealth Property, providing exposure to 19 underlying properties with a total value of \$468 million. An investment commitment of \$6 million has been made to the Lend Lease sponsored Real Estate Partners Fund, a pooled fund targeted at opportunistic direct property investments. Funds SA holds a 9 per cent interest in the fund.

Funds SA owns one directly held property, the Australian Taxation Office building, 200 Collins Street, Hobart, Tasmania but this property is subject to a redirection of the rental stream arising from a 15 year lease to the Australian Taxation Office. The lease and redirection of rental expires in September 2007, after which time Funds SA will become entitled to receive the rental generated from the property. In line with Funds SA's strategy of not investing in directly owned property, subsequent to September 2007, it is intended that the property will be re-leased and sold. The residual value of the property is currently held in Funds SA's books at \$2.1 million.

In addition, Funds SA holds a portfolio of internally managed inflation linked securities, a number of which are underpinned by 'triple-net' long term leases over real property where Funds SA is the owner of the property. These investments are essentially inflation hedging financial instruments and do not involve exposure to property market forces, or the responsibility associated with physical property ownership. Accordingly, they are held within Funds SA's Inflation Linked Securities asset class, not the Property asset class. Properties owned by Funds SA under these circumstances are: the Sir Samuel Way building, Victoria Square, Adelaide; a portion of the Roma Mitchell building, North Terrace, Adelaide; 7 Shell Service Stations in various locations; and a number of SA Housing Trust dwellings.

SUPERANNUATION LIABILITIES

In reply to **Mrs HALL**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: The main factors, which have impacted on the level of superannuation liabilities, are outlined in Budget Paper 3, page 1.11. These factors are:

- an assumed earnings rate of minus 4 per cent by Funds SA in 2001-02 compared with the 7.5 per cent assumed in the 2001-02 budget. The estimated effect of this factor is \$410 million
- incorporation of current membership data into actuarial modelling, including latest salary growth, pension increases and membership mortality rates. The estimated effect of this factor is \$65 million
- partially offset by the application of \$90 million from proceeds from the sale/lease of SA Ports Corporation towards reducing superannuation liabilities (not included in the 2001-02 budget against superannuation).

Please note that the Government has increased scheduled cash payments for future years to ensure that all superannuation liabilities are fully funded by 2034 despite the setbacks encountered in 2001-02.

Table 1

| | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 | Total |
|---|---------|---------|---------|-------|
| | \$m | \$m | \$m | \$m |
| Cost | | | | |
| Salary increase (4.5% July 02, 4% July 03, 3.5% October 04) | 48.7 | 94.9 | 131.5 | 275.1 |
| Flexible Initiative Resourcing | 1.0 | 2.0 | 2.8 | 5.8 |
| 'No worse-off' guarantee continuation | 0.0 | 9.6 | 23.9 | 33.5 |
| Non-Salary Initiatives | 4.4 | 14.3 | 20.5 | 39.2 |
| Total | 54.1 | 120.8 | 178.7 | 353.6 |

The former government provisioned \$205 million over the period 2002-03 to 2004-05 to meet costs associated with an agreement.

In December 2001, Treasury and Finance advice to the previous Government was that a shortfall of \$130 million existed over the period 2002-03 and 2004-05 based on the proposed bargaining position and provisions set aside to meet the cost of any agreement. The current government in its 14 March 2002 budget update 2001-02 estimated \$133 million was required to meet that shortfall and consequent flow-on effects to non-government schools.

COST PRESSURES IN MID-YEAR REVIEW

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: I can confirm my earlier advice that the Department of Treasury and Finance prepared budget briefs for an incoming government. The briefs were not prepared at my request.

Included in these briefs was one dealing with the structural position of the budget and implications for the forward estimates.

This brief, which formed the initial basis of the 14 March 2002 Budget update, provided details of cost pressures within health and education.

As outlined in the 14 March 2002 Budget update, these cost pressures included:

Education

- Extra allowance for budget overruns,
- The estimated cost of increasing the school leaving age,
- Transport concessions, and
- Increased wage pressures.

Health

- Provision for a sustainable budget position within the hospital system, and
- Disability service programs.

SALE OF SURPLUS LAND AT HAPPY VALLEY

In reply to **Hon. R.B. SUCH**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: The Minister for Government Enterprises has provided the following:

The sale of land at Happy Valley in June 2002 realised gross proceeds of around \$10 million. After allowing for selling costs, commissions, fees and legal expenses, the net amount of \$9.5 million is to be returned to government by way of special dividend in 2002-03. This amount has been included in the dividend targets for 2002-03 as reported in the Budget Papers.

SA Water records show that the land was acquired in stages between 1893 and 1973, with the largest parcel in the mid-1960s. Records are not clear which of the properties, if any, were compulsorily acquired under the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act. However, in all cases the landowner was paid a fair market value for the property at that time.

It is not SA Water practice to directly link the sale of property to any particular capital works project. The corporation's capital works plan is developed on a priority needs basis, and decisions about whether any particular project should proceed are dependent on the priority of the project and the total availability of capital funds.

TEACHERS' ENTERPRISE BARGAINING

In reply to **Mrs HALL**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: Table 1 below summarises the elements of the \$354 million cost over the three-year period 2002-03 to 2004-05 of the teachers, lecturers and other education staff enterprise agreement. If the table were extended out to 2005-06 then the on-going cost of the salary increase component rises to \$138 million for 2005-06 with other components increasing marginally also in that year.

Over and above the provisions of the previous government and the allowance established in the 14 March 2002 budget update, an additional \$28 million was required between 2002-03 and 2004-05 to fund the cost of amendments associated with final negotiations to secure the three-year agreement with teachers.

COST OF MAGEE AND ALLEN REPORTS

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: I advise the member that the cost of the Magee Report (including GST) was \$7 920 plus \$2 016.80 expenses and the cost of the Allen Report was \$8 000 (including GST).

With respect to compliance with Treasurer's Instructions, the relevant Instruction is No. 8—*Expenditure for Supply Operations, and Other Goods and Services*.

The appointment of these consultants complied with those instructions.

The cost of the reports is within the limit of Treasurer's Instruction 8.25 and 8.26 that the Under Treasurer or other authorised officer can approve.

Provision 8.16 of the Treasurer's Instructions require tenders to be invited for contracts or for offers to be invited if the Chief Executive is of the opinion that due to special circumstances it is more economical or expedient. As this matter formed part of confidential Budget deliberations and was required in a short timeframe it was appropriate to invite offers on this occasion.

Provision 8.17 of the Treasurer's Instructions provides that a minimum of three representative offers shall be sought wherever possible. With regard to these reports, I advise that Mr Magee and Allen Consulting were identified as potential service providers for these tasks and given the requirement to retain a high degree of confidentiality and expeditious outcome it was not possible to invite three offers in these instances.

OUTSTANDING GOVERNMENT LOANS

In reply to **Hon. R.B. SUCH.**

| Category ⁽¹⁾ | Ave Rate % pa | <1 year maturity \$m | 1-5 year maturity \$m | >5 year maturity \$m | Total \$m |
|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Deposits and Short Term Borrowings | 5.06 | 1 583.3 | 97.8 | 199.2 | 1 880.3 ⁽²⁾ |
| Bonds, Notes and Debentures | 7.56 | 490.4 | 2 528.6 | 1 143.6 | 4 162.6 |
| Obligations to Cwlth Government | 4.84 | 41.8 | 62.3 | 740.3 | 844.4 |
| | | 2 115.5 | 2 688.7 | 2 083.1 | 6 887.3 |

(1) Breakdown included in Notes 10 11, and 12 of SAFA's 2000-01 financial statements.

(2) Includes \$1 452.2 million Deposits from Treasurer and Semi-Government Authorities.

Detailed information on SAFA's borrowings is included in its Annual Report, which is tabled in Parliament and is available on the Internet at www.safa.sa.gov.au. SAFA's 2001-02 Annual Report is currently being finalised and will be tabled in Parliament in early October 2002.

INCREASED ADMINISTRATION COSTS 2002-03

In reply to **Mr BROKENSHIRE.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The administration costs referred to appear on page 5.69 of the Budget Papers show an increase from \$726 000 in 2001-02 to \$1.5 million in 2002-03.

The increase in administration costs is merely a reclassification of expenditure between budget lines to better represent actual administrative expenditure.

Two items of expenditure 'Telecommunication Initiatives' and 'Management of Assets transferred from Local Government' which were classified under 'Emergency Services Levy—GRN and other' in 2001-02 are classified under 'Emergency Services Levy—administration' in 2002-03 (see page 5.69 of the Budget Papers).

FUNDING/STAFFING

In reply to **Mr BROKENSHIRE.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The additional FTEs in the 2002-03 budget did not attract additional funding from the State Government. The associated costs of these positions will be met and managed within the existing SAAS budget for 2002-03.

SA AMBULANCE SERVICE (SAAS) WORKFORCE

In reply to **Mr BROKENSHIRE.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The member for Mawson asked for clarification of the numbers for the estimated increase of FTEs for SAAS for the period 2002-03.

Further investigation has revealed that the figures supplied for this item in the budget papers were incorrect due to the timing of the

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: The Treasurer finances the non commercial sector by borrowing directly from the South Australian Government Financing Authority (SAFA). In a number of cases the Treasurer on lends to other government departments and agencies. The Treasurer also has deposits with SAFA. Under current arrangements government agencies do not borrow directly from the financial markets.

The Treasurer's borrowing from SAFA mainly consists of one facility at a variable rate for an undefined term. The Treasurer also deposits funds with SAFA largely at variable rates. Other public non-financial enterprises (mainly SA Water) also borrow from SAFA.

To fund these loans SAFA borrows from domestic and offshore markets. SAFA also enters into other market transactions aimed at mitigating interest rate risk, currency risk and liquidity risk associated with its market borrowing.

In short the state's debt is managed by SAFA which on-lends to other parts of government, including to the Treasurer on behalf of the non commercial sector. These borrowings have been undertaken to meet the state's need for new funding as well as to refinance existing debt.

The borrowings by SAFA have been undertaken over a range of terms to maturity to diversify the state's refinancing and interest risk profiles. This has resulted in a portfolio of debt comprising a large number of transactions at differing interest rates and maturities.

The following table provides relevant information on borrowings by SAFA extracted from SAFA's 2000-01 Annual Report.

submission of estimated results for inclusion in the budget papers, and the dynamic demands of workload upon FTE numbers.

The correct figures are as follows:

| | 2002-03 Budget Estimate | 2001-02 Estimated Result |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| SA Ambulance Service | 775 | 728 |

This represents an expected increase of 47 FTEs from the revised estimated 2001-02 result. These additional FTEs incorporate the following positions:

- 34 FTE Ambulance Operations for workload (13 Metro, 21 Country)
- 4 FTE Volunteer Training support
- 2.5 FTE for Human Resources support
- 1.5 FTE for Driver Training
- 3 FTE for Information Technology support
- 2 FTE for Ambulance Cover Claims Management

GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES—OTHER ITEMS, STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

In reply to **Hon. D.C. KOTZ.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The 2002-03 budgeted receipts figure represents an increase of \$3.274 million on the budgeted figure for 2000-01. This increase is the net result of:

- an increase of \$1.400 million required to underwrite a product fee to TABQ, committed by the former Government as a part of the contract for the sale of the SATAB (refer Budget Statement 2002-03, Budget Paper 3, Pg 7.13);
- an increase of \$1.400 million for the Land Management Corporation (LMC), necessary to fund the new Port Waterfront Development project;
- an increase of \$1.000 million for LMC, necessary to meet the Government's financial commitments under the Mawson Lakes Infrastructure project;
- an increase of \$0.800 million for LMC, necessary to fund the Inner Western Program;
- general reductions in funding (due to agency savings and other

- adjustments) of \$0.595 million to LMC, \$0.124 million to ForestrySA and \$0.072 million to Playford Centre;
- a reduction of \$0.410 million in funding LMC for the Technology Park Master Plan;
- a reduction of \$0.200 million in funding to LMC for land tax payments; and
- a amount of \$0.072 million being incorrectly added to the grants and subsidies line; this matter will be corrected by Treasury and Finance.

GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES POLICY AND ADVICE

In reply to **Hon. D.C. KOTZ.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: Prior to December 2001, the Department of Administrative and Information Services (DAIS) was the portfolio based agency for the Ministerial Portfolio of Information Economy and Government Enterprises. The 2001-02 Budget papers included output class 3.2 "Government enterprises policy and advice" under the DAIS Portfolio. For 2001-02 this class had a budget of \$2.75 million.

DAIS has advised that this \$2.75 million consisted of \$1.45 million for corporate overheads reallocation, and \$1.3 million for the Office for Government Enterprises.

Following changes in ministerial responsibilities in December 2001, the Office for Government Enterprises was transferred to the Department of Treasury and Finance, whilst a minor part (1 FTE) was transferred to the then Department for Water Resources. DAIS has advised that in respect to the \$2.75 million associated with output class 3.2—\$1.1 million was transferred to the Department of Treasury and Finance (in respect to the Office for Government Enterprises), \$100 000 was transferred to the then Department of Water Resources, whilst the remainder was reallocated across the balance of the DAIS outputs.

The \$1.1 million that was transferred to Treasury and Finance has been included in Treasury's output class 1.2 "Budget and Financial Management". With the inclusion of OGE and the \$1.1 million to this class, the class description has been amended to reflect "Government enterprise policy and advice".

CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION—CITY OF ADELAIDE

In reply to **Mr WILLIAMS.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: Since 1995 the South Australia Police (SAPOL) has, in partnership with the Corporation of the City of Adelaide, managed a close circuit television (CCTV) system in the Adelaide CBD. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Corporation and SAPOL describes the purpose, objectives and responsibility on the Corporation of the City of Adelaide and SAPOL.

The Corporation's CCTV system forms part of broader city safety strategies to enhance public safety and perceptions of public safety, focusing primarily on crimes against the person, and also assists to provide an effective policing service to the areas in which it is operating.

The system's aim is:

- to provide CCTV coverage to areas in the City recognised by SAPOL as having high rates of crimes against the person, and areas that demonstrate a high level of crime and criminal activity;
- to promote the perception of safety amongst all people who live, work and visit the City;
- to enhance cost effectiveness and public accountability of measures to enhance City Safety and crime prevention, including policing;
- to utilise the CCTV technology with other policing strategies as an additional tool for policing within the City of Adelaide; and
- to improve the quality of incident records and aid the successful prosecution of criminal behaviour.

The current operational arrangement is that the Police Security Service Branch (PSSB), under contract to SAPOL, monitor through the control centre in the State Administration Building, Victoria Square, thirty four cameras in the Adelaide CBD.

The system provides coverage in the following areas:

- Hindley Street between Morphett and King William Street
- Rundle Mall from King William Street to Pulteney Street
- War Memorial (North Terrace)

In 2000-2001 additional cameras were installed on the network to include:

- Topham Mall;
- Skate Park (North Terrace);

- Moonta Street (Central Market);
- Bank Street and North Terrace Junction; and
- Victoria Square.

In February 2002 a further four cameras were installed to improve coverage within the CBD in addition to the existing cameras and were utilised to manage the visits by Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh and former US President Bill Clinton.

In addition to the monitoring by PSSB, SAPOL is able to monitor the cameras from within the Police Communication Centre and the Hindley Street Police complex.

The number of offenders that were specifically identified from CCTV technology is unable to be collated. However, the CCTV system within the CBD has been successfully used by police for investigational and evidentiary purposes. For the calendar year 2002, up to and including 3 August 2002, sixty-three tapes have been provided to assist with the investigation of criminal matters including assaults, larcenies, robberies and property damage.

In reply to **Mr WILLIAMS.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: While there is recognition of the importance of the CCTV systems, it is the case within Australia and abroad that most CCTV systems are owned by local authorities, with very few owned by police agencies.

Broadening the coverage of CCTV to other areas within the CBD is seemingly not a strategy that will be adopted in the immediate future by Council. The opportunity to use a more portable system has technical and cost impediments.

UPGRADING OF NAIRNE CFS FIRE STATION

In reply to **Mr GOLDSWORTHY.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: Across CFS, more than 40 per cent of the stations that CFS has inherited from Local Government over the last two years need considerable work or, in some cases, replacing, according to the Chief Executive Officer. There are six regions and the Regional Commanders for each region have been asked to prioritise the stations most urgently needing work.

Nairne

This station is not on a priority list for work to be done over the next three to five years because I am told there are many stations in a worse condition. There are no identified occupational health and safety risks at that station and priority will be given to those stations where a risk exists. Nairne CFS Station is expected to be addressed in ten years provided funds are available.

Inman Valley

This station is included on the five year building plan and will proceed as capital funds are available.

Blackwood

The Country Fire Service is not aware that Blackwood needs to be replaced. It is a fairly modern station providing adequate facilities for firefighters in the Blackwood area.

Aldgate

This station has been a priority for the last two years. It is still a priority for rebuilding and has only been delayed at this stage because of the budget difficulties left by the previous government.

WATER CONSUMPTION IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA AND THE CORPORATIONS OF THE CITY OF ADELAIDE AND PORT ADELAIDE ENFIELD

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON:

1. The consumption of individual properties is directly related to weather and customer usage patterns. As such, total consumption will vary from year to year. For 2001-02, Metropolitan customers consumed 152 829 megalitres (1 megalitre = 1 000 kilolitres) compared with 162 292 megalitres for the previous year.

2. Under Section 27 of the Waterworks Act 1929, only the Corporations of the City of Adelaide and the City of Port Adelaide are supplied with water at no charge for watering the streets of the cities and for the use on all lands and buildings in the cities used exclusively for public purposes. Payment at full value for water used by both Councils is made by the Department of Treasury and Finance directly to SA Water.

The water consumption supplied free of charge in the 2001-02 financial year for the City of Adelaide was 1 056 megalitres and for the City of Port Adelaide it was 39 megalitres. The total water supplied free of charge was 1 095 megalitres.

Exempt customers such as charities and places of public worship receive a concession price for water usage equivalent to 75 percent of the normal price of the water. The corporation receives a CSO for the annual revenue forgone.

The total annual water consumption for charities and public worship properties is approximately 2 500 megalitres.

ORDERING OF RADIOS, COUNTRY FIRE SERVICE

In reply to **Mr BROKENSHIRE**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: In 1994 the SA Country Fire Service was asked to give an account of the number of mobile and portable radios within the Agency. It was understood that there was to be an exchange of one for one and exact numbers were provided. Subsequently, it was understood by the Country Fire Service that GRN implementation required more than a one for one exchange, and in many cases an appliance required two GRN radios in place of one VHF radio because of operational requirements.

At the same time, there was an increase in the number of appliances and officers which in turn required a greater number of mobile and portable radios than had been estimated in 1994.

The mistakes and confusion are directly attributable to previous Liberal governments' mishandling of the GRN issue.

SAMFS BUDGET

In reply to **Mr BROKENSHIRE**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON:

1. 2001-02 Budget Outcome

The South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (SAMFS) was allocated a budget of \$57.710 million from the Community Emergency Services Fund to meet its operating expense requirements apart from depreciation. No provision was made in the 2001-02 year for payment from the Fund for SAMFS capital requirements, although the Country Fire Service and the State Emergency Service received capital funding of \$10.784 million and \$2.507 million respectively. The then Minister for Emergency Services, Mr Robert Brokenshire, authorised new capital projects for the SAMFS totalling \$8.671 million were to be undertaken subject to capital funding being available within SAMFS cash reserves.

Early in the 2001-02 year, the proposal that the SAMFS Training Department occupy the ETSA site at Angle Park was developed to the stage where the SAMFS received approval to upgrade and move into the area under a rental agreement. The occupancy, security and other costs associated with Angle Park amounting to \$271 000 were additional to the allocated budget of \$57.710 million.

The outcome for expenditure in 2001-02 is for expenditure before depreciation to be \$1.3 million in excess of budget, made up by employee costs \$0.4 million over budget, asset management costs \$0.3 million over budget, other costs \$0.5 million over budget and income \$0.030 million under budget.

2. 2002-03 Budget

The SAMFS is expecting to receive \$62.087 million in recurrent funding over the 2002-03 year, an increase of \$4.377 million over the 2001-02 base expenditure of \$57.710 million.

Employee entitlements will grow by \$1.821 million as a result of the Enterprise Bargaining provisions.

The transfer of the new Angle Park Training Facility for no consideration has enhanced and assisted in the financial justification of the initiative. The provision of new courses and increased staffing at the training facility will add \$1.655 million to the SAMFS budget, and capital expenditure of \$500 000 on new facilities at Angle Park is planned in 2002-03.

General cost pressures will increase the budget by \$0.348 million.

Income is expected to be affected by a \$0.300 million fall in interest due to a drop in SAMFS reserves and revenue from Commonwealth in respect of properties protected by the SAMFS will fall by \$0.253 million.

Capital expenditure on new works and funded by the Community Emergency Services Fund will amount to \$4.353 million in 2002-03.

3. Relevant Issues

The SAMFS budget for 2002-03 will continue to be very tight given a general cost increase of \$0.348 million on a previous budget base expenditure of \$57.710 million. This is particularly important given the 2001-02 recurrent expenditure outcome.

The budget does acknowledge the issues included in the new round of Enterprise Bargaining (non-uniformed staff) and also the needs to be addressed in catching up in the SAMFS training program given the acquisition of the Angle Park facility.

SAASfit

In reply to **Mrs REDMOND**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: SAASfit was officially launched on 14 October 2000. Prior to this date costs for planning, set up and implementation were incurred. The total cost of the SAASfit program for the period covering 1 June 2000 to 30 June 2002 is \$415 057.

With regards to the direct impact SAASfit has had on the number of hours lost through injury in the workplace it is too early to determine a direct correlation or the significance of one, however the number of shift hours lost has fallen substantially since 1999-2000 as shown in the table below.

| Year | Notifications | Medical Treatment | Lost Time Injury | Shift Hours Lost | Av. hours lost per LTI |
|-----------|---------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| 1998-99 | 67 | 89 | 92 | 11 625 | 126 |
| 1999-2000 | 86 | 86 | 128 | 25 414 | 198 |
| 2000-01 | 95 | 89 | 142 | 21 889 | 154 |
| 2001-02 | 79 | 68 | 119 | 15 522 | 130 |

Table 1: Number of Incidences/Shift hours lost for SAAS Metro Teams

POLICE RELIEF POOL

In reply to **Mr BROKENSHIRE**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The South Australia Police (SAPOL) Relief Pool consists of twenty positions attached to the Northern Operations Service and twenty attached to the Southern Operations Service. All these positions have been filled at the rank of Senior Constable to enable a broader range of relieving functions.

These positions are utilised to backfill long term vacancies of three months or longer. They can be used for shorter term reliefs at the discretion of the relevant Assistant Commissioner.

Any position throughout the State including one and two person stations which require a relief on receipt of an application to the Service Coordinator will have arrangements made for a member to fill that vacancy. These relief positions are useful in maintaining staffing levels when a member takes parental or other extended leave.

SAPOL has drafted and implemented the Gender Action Plan to ensure woman have an equal chance for promotion.

The number of women police holding a rank above senior constable is 6 per cent.

The current ratio of male to female police is 4 to 1. It is inter-

esting to note that in the last 12 months of recruiting the female intake is 41 per cent of the total sworn members.

STREAKY BAY WATER QUALITY AND SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM EYRE PENINSULA WATER SUPPLY PROGRAM

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: While all of the groundwater supplies on Eyre Peninsula are showing some degree of stress related to reduced levels of recharge, the supply from the Robinson Lens at Streaky Bay is in the most parlous position. During 2001-02 SA Water was forced to cart water to supplement the local groundwater supply.

A permanent pipeline from the Tod-Ceduna pipeline to Streaky Bay is being constructed to augment the groundwater supply from the Robinson Lens. This pipeline will be completed at the end of 2002. In the first instance the pipeline will provide around 100ML of additional water to Streaky Bay, with provision for some growth over time.

This represents approximately a 1 per cent additional demand on the water resources currently feeding the trunk water systems, which

are the Uley South, Lincoln and Uley Wanilla Basins in the south of Eyre Peninsula, the Tod Reservoir, and the Poldia Basin.

A master plan is being prepared to provide a long term solution to the water supply problems on Eyre Peninsula. This will be completed by the end of August 2002. A brochure has recently been released outlining the state of water supplies, demands and future needs for on-going growth on Eyre Peninsula and a range of possible solutions to address these issues. Feedback from the local community has been sought prior to the master plan being finalised. The government will then investigate how a solution for the Eyre Peninsula will be funded. I emphasise, however, that the costs are substantial.

SA Water has been advised by the water resource experts from the Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation that an additional 5 per cent extraction could be taken from the largest of the groundwater resources, Uley South basin, for a period of two to five years without having any long term impact. This additional amount, plus some savings achieved through an educational program aimed at reducing demands, is sufficient to manage the water supply situation in the short term.

The Eyre Peninsula Catchment Water Management Board has indicated a preference to achieve greater savings from the educational program in order to avoid the 5 per cent additional extractions from the groundwater basins. SA Water, the Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation and the Eyre Peninsula Catchment Water Management Board are all working cooperatively to try to achieve this outcome.

SAAS AND CAMDEN PARK

In reply to **Mr BROKENSHIRE**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: Following prolonged planning and negotiations regarding the co-location of the SAAS Torrens Emergency Team and a MFS team, the SAAS team moved in to Camden Park Station on June 25, 2002.

PRODUCTION CUT OF SAWLOG

In reply to **Hon. D.C. KOTZ**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: I have not perused the document that examines the recommendations on the level of cut from the plantation forest. This is the responsibility of the South Australian Forestry Corporation Board (Board) who have reviewed the Corporations strategic directions including the options for the future management of the plantation asset.

I am informed that as part of this process the board considered marketing, customer and resource issues and information and I have been assured that the additional volume can be supplied without adversely impacting on the capacity of the forests to meet future commitments.

It is planned that a periodic update of the forest resource information will be completed in the first half of the 2003 calendar year and that the level of cut will again be reviewed in 2004 for 2005 and beyond.

SMOKE ALARMS IN HOMES

In reply to **The CHAIRMAN**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON:

1. Introduction

Since the introduction of the first smoke alarm legislation in 1995 the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (SAMFS) has undertaken a range of strategies to educate the public about smoke alarms and promote their use.

Strategies include using a variety of media and events to reach the broadest possible cross section of our community.

2. Strategies

2.1 Pamphlets

Two pamphlets are available providing accurate information about smoke alarms and where they should be located within the home. A third "How to make you home fire safe" pamphlet has been translated into Italian, Greek, Vietnamese, Cambodian and includes general smoke alarm information. These pamphlets are distributed whenever the SAMFS attends community fetes, festivals, public events (including the Royal Show), SAMFS promotions, schools, community groups and Service groups. Pamphlets have been made available to the SA Country Fire Service.

2.2 Website

Information about smoke alarms, location and legislation is all available on the SAMFS website, an information source being referenced by a growing percentage of the population.

2.3 Public speaking engagements

Each week Community Education Officers from the Community Safety Education Section (CSES) speak with a wide variety of community groups such as Neighbourhood Watch, Service Organisations, special interest clubs, Church groups, schools, the Active8 program, Scouts, Guides, and Safety House. Education about smoke alarms is a major component of the fire safety talks and demonstrations they give.

2.4 Media Incident Reports

The PR Officer utilises the media coverage of domestic fire incidents to promote the need for every home to be equipped with a working smoke alarm. Delivered at the scene of a home fire the smoke alarm message is very powerful one—validated by the fire scenes which are so graphically represented in the media coverage.

2.5 Radio and TV Segments

The Community Safety Education Section has actively sought to deliver fire safety information in general, and the smoke alarm message, in particular, on radio and television programs. In the last 12 months Community Safety Education Section officers have spoken about fire safety on: Radios 5EBI, 5RPH, 5UV, 5EFM, GULF FM, 5AA and the ABC. Segments have also been delivered on Win 8 Loxton Television, and "Building Ideas" on Channel 9.

2.6 "Change Your Clock. Change your Smoke Alarm Battery" campaign

At the end of daylight saving in March 2002 and in partnership with Duracell, the SAMFS ran a major media campaign entitled "Change Your Clock. Change your Smoke Alarm Battery".

The campaign aimed to raise public awareness of the need to change smoke alarm batteries every year and to encourage the public to replace the battery in their household smoke alarms with a long lasting alkaline battery. The replacement of the battery was linked to the annual practice of changing the clocks back for the end of daylight saving.

In the two weeks prior to the end of daylight saving the media was saturated with radio and press advertising, public relations (media releases) and point of sale promotional material (posters and shelf wobblers) was undertaken in stores and fire stations.

2.7 Partnerships with other agencies

The SAMFS has entered into partnerships with other government agencies and government funded agencies in order to broaden access to special client groups.

A relationship with Southern Domiciliary Care (now Metropolitan Domiciliary Care) resulted in the Community Safety Education Section officers providing special training for carers to enable them to audit the fire safety of their clients. The maintenance of smoke alarms is an important component of the audits which are ongoing within the organisation. The SAMFS also organised a donation of 3 000 9v batteries to Southern Domiciliary Care, to distribute to needy clients for their smoke alarms as part of the "Change Your Clock. Change your Smoke Alarm Battery" campaign.

A relationship with the SA Housing Trust also sees SAMFS officers working in close liaison with Housing Trust officers to run education campaigns for Housing Trust clients.

3. Results

Insurance company AAMI undertakes and publishes an annual survey of fire incidents in a publication called "AAMI Firescreen". Sweeney Research carries out independent research, then combines that research with an analysis of insurance claims lodged with AAMI. The figures published in their Winter 2002 publication of "Firescreen" indicate that 98% of South Australian homes were fitted with a smoke alarm.

The "Change Your Clock, Change your Smoke Alarm Battery" campaign resulted in a 30 per cent increase in 9v battery sales in South Australia over the period of the campaign (compared with 2001 sales figures), and an increase in Duracell battery sales of 93 per cent (compared with 2001 sales figures). As 9v batteries are used for very few appliances other than smoke alarms, it is valid to extrapolate these figures to indicate a high awareness and response to the message to change smoke alarm batteries.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT STATEMENT—HEATHFIELD WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT— ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: Completion of construction of the Heathfield Waste Water Treatment Plant Environmental Improvement Program project is scheduled for mid-2003 which is earlier than the original date of October 2003 as agreed with the Environment Protection Agency.

The project cost approved by Cabinet is \$8.9 million. Expenditure on the project to 30 June 2002 was \$1.889 million. Planned expenditure for the financial year 2002-03 is \$6.511 million and for 2003-04 \$0.5 million. Total planned expenditure is therefore \$8.9 million.

Expenditure in 2003-04 is for process commissioning, performance testing and project close-out.

DNA TESTING

In reply to **Mr WILLIAMS.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The question of DNA testing of people at the point of arrest is governed by the current *Criminal Law (Forensic Procedures) Act, 1998*. The key provision is as follows:

15. A police officer may only ask a person who is under suspicion to consent to a forensic procedure if—

(a) there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the forensic procedure may produce evidence of value to the investigation of the suspected offence; and

(b) the person whose consent is sought is not a protected person. A “protected person” is a person who is unable to give a valid consent because of age or mental or physical infirmity. The definition of “under suspicion” is:

Suspicion of criminal offence

4. For the purposes of this Act, a person is **under suspicion** if the police officer by or on whose instructions a forensic procedure is to be carried out on the person suspects the person, on reasonable grounds, of having committed a criminal offence. It follows that it is not necessary for a person to be under arrest for a police officer to make a request for a DNA sample. The request having been made, the suspect may consent or may refuse. There are provisions in the Act dealing with the consent procedure. If the person refuses, then the police officer is free to seek an order.

Put simply, the result of the provisions is that, in order to compel a DNA sample, a police officer must get an order from a Magistrates Court to do so. The order will only be given if the offence suspected is an indictable offence and the Court is satisfied that the following test is satisfied.

Making of final order for carrying out forensic procedure

26. (1) An appropriate authority may make a final order for carrying out a forensic procedure on a respondent if satisfied that—

(a) there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the respondent has committed a criminal offence; and

(b) there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the forensic procedure could produce material of value to the investigation of the suspected offence; and

(c) the public interest in obtaining evidence tending to prove or disprove the respondent’s guilt outweighs the public interest in ensuring that private individuals are protected from unwanted interference.

(2) In weighing the public interest in obtaining evidence tending to prove or disprove guilt against the public interest in ensuring that private individuals are protected from unwanted interference, the appropriate authority must have regard to—

(a) the seriousness of the suspected offence; and

(b) the extent to which the procedure is necessary for the proper investigation of the suspected offence; and

(c) any likely effects of the procedure on the welfare of the respondent (so far as they can be reasonably anticipated) given the respondent’s age, physical and mental health, and cultural and ethnic background; and

(d) whether there is a less intrusive but reasonably practicable way of obtaining evidence of the same or similar probative value to confirm or disprove that the respondent committed the suspected offence; and

(e) if the respondent gives any reasons for refusing consent—those reasons; and

(f) other relevant factors.

The other part of the question has to do with what happens if the suspect is acquitted. The answer is that the sample must be destroyed. The Act provides:

43. (1) The investigating police officer must ensure that forensic material obtained as a result of a forensic procedure is destroyed (as soon as practicable) if—

...
(d) the person from whom the material is obtained is acquitted of the offence to which the material relates (unless the person is declared to be liable to supervision).

The government has announced that it intends to change this scheme in one significant respect. It intends to legislate so that the authority for compelling a DNA sample to be taken from a non-consenting suspect by buccal swab should be a senior police officer rather than the Magistrates Court.

EMERGENCY SERVICES—CAPITAL PROGRAM 2002-03

In reply to **Mr BROKENSHIRE.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The 2002-03 Capital Program for the Emergency Services agencies has increased in terms of the contribution from the Community Emergency Services Fund (CESF) from \$14 million to approximately \$15.2 million.

In 2002-03 the budget for the fire appliance replacement program is \$5.5 million compared with \$3.5 million in 2001-02. In addition, funding for the replacement of IT and communications equipment has increased to \$5 million in 2002-03 from \$2.4 million in 2001-02.

In relation to the replacement of Fire Appliances, budgets are shown under works in progress in the Investing Summary Statement and not in new works, which is simply a matter of classification

Construction of new fire stations will continue with \$2 million being set aside in the 2002-03 budget for this purpose.

The actual capital carryover for 2002-03 is dependent upon the final outcome for the Emergency Services agencies for 2001-02 which is yet to be finalised.

DAM SAFETY PROGRAM

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The risk of failure of any dam owned by SA Water is very low. The dam safety program being pursued by SA Water will reduce this figure to as low as reasonably practicable in accordance with current design guidelines. Happy Valley is the last major earthen dam with significant downstream housing development to be rehabilitated and once this work is complete the risk of failure will be reduced to less than 1 in 100 000. Rehabilitation of the other major earthen dam at Hope Valley has already been completed. Rehabilitation of these dams means that dam failure by piping will be prevented from occurring and instruments placed in the dam will allow monitoring of their condition 24 hours a day.

In the interim, until work at Happy Valley is complete a warning system is being considered. Discussions are being held with Emergency Services organisations regarding the implementation of a warning and evacuation system that is a modification of that used in State Disaster exercises. Although the possibility of dam failure is less than 1 in 1000 the State Disaster organisation and SA Water have practiced a simulation of failure of the Happy Valley Dam twice in the last ten years. SA Water is continuing to monitor the dam embankment daily and is upgrading the current flood map below the dam to account for the construction of the Southern Expressway.

The current proposal for the dam shows the new foundation will be placed in excess of ten metres from the existing toe. This, together with the use of a dewatering system, will ensure that the risk of failure by slipping of the dam face does not increase during construction. The dewatering system will also reduce the possibility of a piping failure through the foundation to below the current level. Any excavated surface or water leak found during excavation will be closely monitored 24 hours per day to ensure there is no possibility of a piping failure. An emergency response plan will be agreed with Emergency Services and the successful contractor for the works to minimise risk and ensure the safety of the public during the modification of the dam. This process was used satisfactorily at the Hope Valley site.

The public were not widely consulted regarding the Happy Valley project before it was approved by government because of the unwarranted alarm that could be generated. Documents placed before Cabinet and the Public Works Committee detailed the consultation

that would occur after approval but before final design was completed and work on the project commenced. This consultation is currently underway and has been modified as a result of requests made by the committee. The possible use of a warning system is one aspect of the consultation process. Information leaflets, roadside information boards and exhibition boards for shopping centres are currently being prepared. Negotiations are also continuing with Council and other government agencies.

HEATHFIELD WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The earthworks for the Heathfield Wastewater Treatment Plant Environmental Improvement project have been completed. The civil works contract is now in progress. The mechanical and electrical works contract (the third of the three contracts making up the total project) will commence as soon as the civil works are sufficiently advanced. Completion of all construction work is scheduled for mid-2003, which is earlier than the original date of October 2003 as agreed with the Environment Protection Agency.

The upgrade of the Heathfield Wastewater Treatment Plant will reduce by 50 per cent the amount of nitrogen and by 85 per cent the amounts of both ammonia and phosphorous discharged into the Sturt River.

SA Water conducted a biological monitoring program to assess the impact of the Heathfield Wastewater Treatment Plant discharge on the Sturt River. The work was undertaken by the Australian Water Quality Centre (AWQC) and the resultant report was audited by an independent consultant. The Patawalonga Catchment Water Management Board also had a study of the Sturt River conducted by the Cooperative Research Centre for Freshwater Ecology. The evidence available suggests that the Heathfield Wastewater Treatment Plant discharge is not causing significant environmental damage to the Sturt River.

SAPOL FORWARD CAPITAL BUILDING PROGRAM

In reply to **Mr GOLDSWORTHY**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The highest priority in SAPOL's forward capital building program is the construction of a new police complex at Mt Barker. The development program for this complex will see a number of activities take place in the 2002-03 financial year, including final site selection, feasibility and preliminary design, leading to the completion of formal approval processes and construction commencement in 2003-04. The cash flow proposed for this project takes into account the requirement for preliminary activities during the balance of this financial year.

Current plans have projects listed in the five year period for Pt Lincoln, Victor Harbor and Gawler.

DNA STORAGE

In reply to **Mr WILLIAMS**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The investigative DNA database is held at Forensic Science under a Memorandum of Understanding between the Commissioner of Police and the Director, Forensic Science.

As at 30 July 2002 there are 2608 DNA profiles held electronically on the database. These comprise convicted offenders and crime scene profiles.

The investigative DNA database comprises:

- The Convicted Offender database currently holds the name and DNA profile of 319 convicted offenders.
- The Crime Scene Index currently holds 2 289 DNA profiles, derived from crime scene samples, with each profile being identified by a unique number. No names are recorded on this index.

The DNA database currently resides on an in-house server at Forensic Science. User name and password control access to this server. Further security is built into the database application software, restricting it to authorised members of the Forensic Science Biology section.

The Forensic Science server is connected via a router to Statenet Services. EDS maintain 'access lists' on this router to form a firewall between Forensic Science and the rest of Statenet. EDS manages the router to forensic specifications.

'Match' reports from the DNA database are sent to South Australia Police from Forensic Science using encryption software.

Management of the database is in accord with requirements under the Criminal Law Forensic Procedures Act 1998.

PENNESHAW WATER SUPPLY

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: Approximately fifty (50) days commencing 18 April 2002 to 1 July 2002. A total amount of 5.2 megalitres was carted. The exact number of days/part days is unknown. Carting was suspended for a period of heavy rain.

The cost incurred was \$67 936 comprising \$58 804 to the agency carting the water and \$9 132 for set-up and pump hire costs.

The plant installed by the Contractor O'Donnell Griffin (ODG), as a result of the contract signed in December 1998, has proved to be unreliable and has not been accepted by SA Water. ODG installed a desalination plant manufactured by Mineral Water Developments (MWD) of South Africa, which was based on a "chemical free" desalination process technology.

The original MWD (8-inch vessel and membrane) skid had significant problems with the pumping equipment and equipment arrangement, and had to be replaced by a new arrangement comprising fewer pumps but larger 15-inch diameter vessels.

The replacement 15-inch plant skid had further problems with the fibreglass vessels and the magnetic coils which resulted in progressive fouling of the membranes and continued deterioration in performance/output of the plant. MWD were informed of the problems by the Contractor (ODG) and after protracted negotiations, new vessels were provided by MWD under warranty in February 2002. The program to replace the vessels was scheduled in May/June 2002 concurrent with low consumption pattern during the season. During the shut-down the membranes were to be transported off-site for chemical cleaning and examination for any damage as these membranes had been exposed to pressure and deformation in the vessels that had elongated during service. In order to manage the risks associated with possible permanent damage to the membranes, a decision was taken to cart water from the Middle River system to build-up a sufficient reserve in the local tanks to allow the shut-down works to be carried out over three (3) weeks. This measure proved to be quite significant as without the reserve the water supply to the local community in the town of Penneshaw would have been disrupted.

Despite the replacement works, the new (15-inch) fibreglass vessels have also shown further defects which manifested itself in the failure of one membrane out of the three sets on site. This has reduced the overall production capacity of the plant further. The contractor (ODG) has implemented additional temporary containerised plant to restore the capacity.

In order to complete its contractual obligations, ODG has commenced the design of a totally new plant. The new plant will be engineered with sufficient fouling factor (25 per cent) and capacity slightly higher than the original design to ensure that the original design capacity is not compromised. SA Water has agreed to contribute to the cost of new membranes only.

GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES PORTFOLIO— OUTPUTS AND MEASURES

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON:

- I have been advised that there has been no change to the way in which the financial information for the Government Business Enterprises within the Government Enterprises Portfolio has been presented within the 2002-03 State Budget Papers compared to the previous year.
- I have been advised that there has been no change to the way in which the financial information for the GBEs has been presented within the 2002-03 State Budget Papers compared with the previous year.
- The only change has been that the Government Enterprises Portfolio is now presented under Treasury and Finance, whereas in 2001-02, the portfolio was presented under the Department for Administrative and Information Services.

GLENELG CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT PRECINCT

In reply to **Mr WILLIAMS**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The issue of CCTV technology being used in the Glenelg Central Business District Precinct has been raised on several occasions over the past few years.

Police from the Sturt Local Service Area in conjunction with the crime prevention officer for the Holdfast Bay Local Council have investigated the possible usefulness of CCTV technology in several locations in and around Glenelg.

An examination of the crime statistics in the Glenelg area indicates that the majority of the crime committed is larceny offences committed in and around Jetty Road and Motor Vehicle crime which is distributed throughout the Glenelg Central Business District and the Foreshore areas. The issue of serious behavioural offences and assaults is not a large problem.

CCTV technology has been used by police, using their own equipment to monitor the crowds at major events such as New Year's Eve at the Glenelg Foreshore. This has proved useful where the lighting has been effective. Outside the area of Moseley Square the lighting is not sufficient for clear views of crowds, cars etc.

In the short term it is considered that current policing techniques of utilising bicycles, foot patrols, motor cycles and extensive uniform mobile patrols during known times of high crime rates is proving effective. However, in the longer term, the installation of CCTV within the new entertainment precinct of Glenelg might well prove effective in deterring and investigating criminal activity in that area. Sturt police and the developers of the entertainment area are currently discussing the use of CCTV technology in planning for the future.

At this stage CCTV technology is not considered advantageous to law enforcement without considerable expense in upgrading the lighting in and around Glenelg. SAPOL may install its own CCTV technology to monitor major events where offences could be expected to be committed.

POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES, SWORN/UNSWORN OFFICERS

In reply to **Mr WILLIAMS**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: As at 31 July 2002 the number of sworn and unsworn officers in Police traffic are as follows:

Active Total staffing is 343, which equates to 7.4 per cent of the total SAPOL staffing.

Active total full time equivalent is 343, which equates to 7.48 per cent.

Traffic has 7.4 per cent of active total members.

OMNIBUS QUESTION

In reply to **Hon. W.A. MATTHEW**.

The Hon P.F. CONLON:

The microeconomic reform and infrastructure branch has a budget of \$1 636 000 for 2002-03.

Of that budget it is expected that \$1 131 000 would be expended on electricity related work.

WITNESS PROTECTION

In reply to **The CHAIRMAN**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: SAPOL has a dedicated witness protection section for facilitating the protection of persons who come within the ambit of the Witness Protection Act. There is complementary state and federal legislation which enables SAPOL to assist persons on a program from another jurisdiction and other jurisdictions to assist South Australian protected witnesses. Program participants in general are witnesses in connection with serious criminal offences, with a perceived need (as determined by the commissioner of police) for protection from harm prior to, during or after giving evidence or information.

There is also provision under the act for the commissioner to include other persons considered at risk into the program.

Separate from the protection program other persons such as visiting dignitaries, politicians or members of the judiciary, on a risk assessment basis may be offered close personal protection (often involving members of STAR group) in respect to perceived risks. Generally, this form of protection is of much shorter duration and not to the extent of the protection program.

Under the witness protection program, SAPOL generally meets costs associated with relocation and re-identification.

Experience has shown every matter to be unique and there is considerable variation between cases as to the resources required from SAPOL. Major variables relate to location and standard of accommodation to be provided; if and for what duration 24 hour

close personal protection may be required and the number of dependants.

It is not possible to specify a cost to SAPOL for affording protection to three persons for one week under the program due to wide ranging variables such as those canvassed above and other factors such as whether the three could be housed together or need to be physically separated.

Funding has never prevented SAPOL from providing appropriate protection as determined by the relevant risk assessment.

No person has contacted the commissioner of police expressing concerns for their safety should they give evidence in litigation instituted by Mr Stephens.

CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE 2001-02: WORK IN PROGRESS, PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon P.F. CONLON: The total capital expenditure in 2001-02 on the work in progress projects and programs was \$66.0 million, compared to expenditure proposed in the previous budget statement of \$92.9 million. After allowing for project cost savings of \$6.3 million, reassessment of project priorities during the capital planning process in March-June 2001 and refinement of cost estimates (refer below) the net carryover as at 30 June 2002 was \$16.8 million for the total SA Water capital program.

The carryover from 2001-02 is included in the proposed 2002-03 expenditure. The net carryover will be accommodated in the proposed capital program submitted by SA Water during the bilateral process.

Reasons for delays in projects listed in the 2001-02 capital investment statement are as follows:

- Bolivar Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Environment Improvement Program (EIP) is showing a one year delay due to scope changes and longer than expected commissioning time of the new plant.
- The Port Adelaide EIP was approved in principle by cabinet in April 2000. The project cost estimates (excluding GST) reported in the 2001-2002 budget papers of \$94 million, and in the 2002-2003 budget papers of \$96 million, were preliminary only, subject to design and scoping. The design and scoping phase is now complete. The government has recently announced the project with a cost of \$97 million (107.3 million including GST).
- Williamstown storage and Streaky Bay water quality improvement are now being reported with their specific completion dates. These projects were previously grouped under the general heading country water supply upgrade (shown as 'ongoing').
- The country water quality improvement program was previously listed as 'ongoing'. The 2002-03 report shows the completion date for the current stage of the project (2005-06). Subsequent stages will extend beyond this date and will be reported accordingly.

Reasons for reported project cost increases are as follows:

- Bolivar EIP is now reported at \$72 million as approved by cabinet on 17 February 1999. The 2001-02 budget papers reported this project at \$66.5 million and did not allow for construction of a degassing plant and a mechanical sludge dewatering plant. The project will not exceed the overall financial approval of \$72 million.
- Heathfield EIP was approved by cabinet at \$8.9 million on 30 September 2001. This is some \$0.5 million above the preliminary estimate provided in the 2001-02 budget papers, which was subject to finalisation of scope and design.
- The government has announced the Port Adelaide EIP at an indicative cost of \$107 million (including GST) as reported in the 2002-03 budget papers. The project cost estimate reported in the 2001-02 budget papers of \$94 million was preliminary only, subject to design and scoping. The design and scoping phase is now complete and cabinet approval will be sought.
- Dam safety program (phase 1) is now reported at \$31.8 million (versus \$26.5 million in 2001-02). The majority of variance is due to an increase in the Happy Valley safety project as preliminary estimates prepared for this project in early 2001 were revised during the design phase.
- The meter replacement program is now reported at \$25.5 million (versus \$24.8 million in 2001-02). The total

program cost has increased due to indexed price rises in accordance with the supply contract.

Telemetry SCADA is an ongoing program and is now reported at \$12.2 million (versus \$10 million in 2001-02). SCADA combines a number of minor projects averaging \$0.6 million across the state. Changes to the program estimate arose due to completion of previously reported projects, addition of new projects as the program is extended from its historical start and changes in the project mix to reflect system planning criteria.

With respect to the new Victor Harbor WWTP, expenditure for 2001-02 was \$20 000 above the allocation of \$3 million. The land for the new plant was acquired in February 2002 and compensation paid into court. While the previous owner has accepted this payment, he is pursuing a further claim for compensation. Since SA Water has construction access to the site, this claim will not impact on the delivery date for the project.

SA WATER CAPITAL WORKS EXPENDITURE

In reply to **Hon. D.C. KOTZ.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: With regard to the question of carryover expenditure, the project expenditure estimates were prepared as at February 2002. As at 30 June 2002, the final carryover figure as at the close of the 2001-02 financial year was \$16.8 million.

Each year during March to April, the corporation reviews its financial targets and underlying assumptions as part of preparation for the Bilateral process. A key element of the review is to determine the status of major projects. Following the latest bilateral round, the SA Water Capital budget for 2002-03 will be the subject of further discussion with the Department of Treasury and Finance during negotiations over the SA Water performance agreement.

Carryover in expenditure will be fitted within the 5 year capital plan provided during the bilateral process.

With regard to the question of recurrent funding applied to the outyears, SA Water has committed to achieving the outcomes of the capital works program advised in the budget. In determining the capital expenditure levels for current and future years SA Water applies accepted accounting standards in full. There is no scope to substitute capital and recurrent funding in the outyears.

The ongoing operating costs associated with each project in the SA Water financial plan (i.e., profit targets) allow for the full cost of recurrent expenditure following project commissioning. For example, the Port Adelaide wastewater treatment plant will cost \$107 million (including GST). Following commissioning, the SA Water forward estimates allow for the full recurrent expenditure incurred in operating the new assets.

WORKFORCE REFRESHMENT

In reply to **Hon. D.C. KOTZ.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: SA Water recently effected a reduction of 40 positions across the corporation in the 2001-02 financial year. These reductions were not a part of the 600 public service positions to be cut across government.

In a separate SA Water workforce refreshment program 90 employees will be replaced on a one for one basis over a three year period. The retirements in this program will be on a voluntary basis.

ENERGY SA

In reply to **Mrs HALL.**

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: Energy SA is currently a part of the Department of Primary Industries and Resources (PIRSA). No component of Energy SA is part of the Department of Treasury and Finance. Energy SA is not responsible for all areas of energy. The Department of Treasury and Finance is responsible for electricity policy through their micro-economic reform and infrastructure branch.

Energy SA is primarily responsible for energy policy advice and support, including gas, sustainable and renewable energy. The office is also responsible for demand side management, energy supply shortage management, energy regulatory services and planning for gas full retail competition.

There is no budget allocation for Energy SA in the Department of Treasury and Finance. Energy SA in 2001-02 had a total gross budget inclusive of administered funds of \$18.8 million.

Energy SA have no staff attached to the Department of Treasury and Finance. Energy SA had approximately 65 staff as at June 2002.

ELECTRICITY RETAIL COMPETITION—FUNDING

In reply to **Hon. W.A. MATTHEW.**

The Hon P.F. CONLON: As I stated in my initial response to the honourable member's question, the costs associated with the implementation of full retail contestability involve a number of sources.

\$380 000 has been allocated from the 2002-03 PIRSA budget for the purposes of customer education.

\$400 000 has been allocated from licence fees, which are collected by the independent regulator, and hence are off budget.

As for other resources, the Microeconomic Reform and Infrastructure (MERI) branch of the Department of Treasury and Finance has a number of officers working on electricity more broadly, a portion of which is in relation to the commencement of full retail competition. It is expected \$1 131 000 of a total MERI budget of \$1 636 000 for 2002-03 would be expended on electricity related work. Of this amount, a portion would be related to electricity retail competition.

CROWN SOLICITOR'S OFFICE

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN.**

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON: I have received this advice:

Firstly, the honourable member refers to financial information in a table on page 5.3 of the budget papers. There is no such table on page 5.3 and I am unable to find in the budget papers either the table or the financial data that the honourable member mentions. If the honourable member would provide further information, then I will be pleased to provide an answer to this part of her question.

Secondly, the honourable member refers to a table on page 5.11 of the budget papers. She refers specifically to the target for the number of hours of legal services provided in 2002-03, and a footnote mentioning the need to consult employees and the Public Service Association.

The honourable member has mistakenly linked the footnote to the wrong part of the table.

The target number of hours of legal service provided by the Crown Solicitor's Office is anticipated to be 170 000 hours in 2002-03. A footnote explains that this figure is consistent with the demand experienced in 2001-02, requiring a similar level of resources.

The target of 70 per cent relates to the percentage of staff hours allocated to client work by the Crown Solicitor's Office. This figure recognises that staff necessarily spend time on work that is not directly related to legal cases, such as professional development, legal research, client management, office supervision, quality control, recruiting and general administration duties. These activities constitute the remaining 30 per cent of time and are essential non-client activities.

As the footnote mentions, to expect a greater level of client work by staff would require changes to working conditions, which could only happen after consultation with staff and the Public Service Association. As the expectation is consistent with other government law offices, it is neither necessary nor appropriate to change the expectation.

LICENSING AND REGULATORY SERVICES

In reply to **Hon. D.C. KOTZ.**

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON: I have received this advice:

Revenue received for Licensing and Regulatory Services (Output class 55) is estimated to increase by \$30.67 million, from \$380.028 million in 2001-02 to \$410.937 million in 2002-03. The components of this category are shown in the following table:

| Attorney-General's Department (\$ million) | 2001-02 | 2002-03 |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| AGD Administered Items | | |
| - Taxation | 233.000 | 266.100 |
| - Other | 14.616 | 14.867 |
| AGD Department | 15.536 | 16.064 |
| SAPOL | 3.300 | 2.863 |
| Overheads | 0.433 | 1.119 |
| Administration | 113.143 | 109.924 |
| Output | 380.028 | 410.937 |

As shown in the table the increase in 2002-03 compared to 2001-02 is entirely explained by the increase in AGD Administered Items—Taxation Receipts. This category reflects gambling taxation receipts collected by the Office of the Liquor and Gambling Commissioner (OLGC). The significant increase is primarily owing to the increase in estimated taxation receipts of \$29.2 million from

gaming machine venues. This reflects the underlying increase in this category as well as the impact of the revised tax structure applying to gaming machines in South Australia announced as part of the state budget.

In addition, there is estimated to be an increase in taxation receipts of \$4.4 million in 2002-03 from the TAB, reflecting the first full-year tax collections that are collected by the Office of the Liquor and Gambling Commissioner from the privately owned TAB. Previous TAB distributions were paid to Treasury and Finance.

MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT

In reply to **Mr RAU**.

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON: I have received this advice:

Over the past three years, the Magistrates Court Division has considered how best to identify and treat defendants with a mental illness or intellectual disability who come before the courts. That has also included defendants of Aboriginal descent, who pose a special challenge when trying to assess and treat.

Central to the above stated aim has been the Magistrates Court Diversion Program (MCDP). The purpose of the MCDP is to provide for the special needs of persons with a mental impairment. Although some of the Aboriginal defendants with a mental impairment are referred to the Nunga Court, the MCDP continues to see a number of Aboriginal clients each year. This number is increasing with the expansion of the Program to the regional courts, at Whyalla and Port Augusta.

The staff of the MCDP matches the needs of mentally impaired individuals within the Magistrates Court system. The Program is comprised largely of mental health professionals, including three psychologists, a graduate officer in psychology, a mental health nurse and two social workers with extensive experience working with offenders and with people who are mentally disabled.

Such staff comprehensively assess and treat participants. Diversion program staff attend court appearances and can help the court. Program staff teach other court personnel about mental impairment.

The assessment and liaison staff of the diversion program are sensitive to the culturally specific needs of Aboriginal defendants. By being consultants to the Nunga Court and by the Nunga Court sitting outside the metropolitan area the Diversion Program staff and the Magistrates Court division help Aboriginal defendants.

NATIVE TITLE

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN**.

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON: This is the advice I have received:

(a) The full cost budgeted to be incurred by the Justice Portfolio on native title issues

The base native title budget is \$7.956 million and a carryover of unspent monies from 2001/02 of \$1.75 million has been allowed. An amount of \$100 000.00 has been budgeted for grants and \$20 000.00 for purchase of property, plant and equipment. This makes a total of \$9.706 million.

(b) The number of cases this year

There are 27 native title claims in South Australia that have not yet been tried. One case (De Rose Hill) has been heard and judgement is awaited. It is up to the Federal Court as to how many more cases make it to trial this year but at this stage there is only one that is likely to do so, namely the Dieri Mitha claim. It is possible that an overlapping claimant group will seek to strike out the Dieri Mitha claim later this year.

All of the other cases are in mediation or could be referred for mediation to the National Native Title Tribunal at any time. The Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement (ALRM), acting on behalf of the Congress of Native Title Management Committees, which represents almost all native title claimant groups in South Australia, has applied to the Federal Court to defer mediation in the remaining native title claims to allow the State-wide ILUA (Indigenous Land Use Agreement) initiative to be tried. The State will support this application, which is likely to be heard by the Court in September.

(c) The number of full-time equivalent employees or contractors engaged in native title matters.

There are 26.2 FTEs engaged in native title matters within the Crown Solicitor's Office and 7 FTEs within the ILUA Negotiating Team, making a total of 33.2 FTEs engaged in native title matters within the Attorney-General's Department.

SALE OF LAND

In reply to **Mr RAU**.

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON: I have received this advice:

Neither my office nor, I am advised, the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs has received any complaints about the practice referred to by Mr Rau in his question, nor have we investigated the practice. Advertising a property for sale for a price range rather than a fixed price does not breach any law. As Mr Rau has identified, the advertising of a price range in this way is an invitation to treat in the same sense as a price advertised on goods in a shop window; the price signals an intention to negotiate and there is no legal requirement for a retailer to sell the goods at that advertised price. Indeed, when a property is offered for a specific price, a vendor will often receive, and may accept, a lower offer. Advertising a price range rather than a price would appear to reflect the present state of the real estate market and that it may not be possible in every case to ascertain a precise market value.

The laws relating to the selling of real estate, including the cooling-off provisions and requirement to provide particulars of the property in a vendor statement, still apply to such transactions. If a land agent misled persons making offers on the property, there are protections against misleading and deceptive conduct in the *Fair Trading Act 1987*, including section 59 of that Act, which provides that it is an offence to make a false or misleading representation concerning the price payable for land.

As there have been no complaints about the practice of advertising property for sale for a price range, I do not intend to do anything about this practice now. Were any specific consumer protection issues brought to my attention, I would reconsider the matter.

DELIBERATIVE POLLING

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN**.

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON: The government has yet to make a decision and once a decision has been made the House will be informed.

NATIVE TITLE FUNDING

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN**.

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON: I have received this advice:

The state's native title duties include conducting litigation as first respondent to all native title claims, providing advice and assistance to agencies on native title issues, and negotiating Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) aimed at resolving native title claim issues by agreement between all affected parties rather than by contested litigation. The state receives no commonwealth funding for these activities.

Under the Commonwealth Native Title Act 1993 it is expected that native title representative bodies, such as the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement (ALRM), will be funded by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC), which in turn relies on funding from the commonwealth government. ATSIC funds the ALRM for many of its native title activities, including assisting native title claim groups in litigation and in resolving disputes between native title claim groups about overlapping native-title claims. It is not for the State Government to say whether these funds are sufficient.

In relation to participation in the ILUA negotiations, ATSIC has declined to fund ALRM except for a small sum provided in 2001-02. Apart from this sum, since the negotiations began ALRM's work in the ILUA negotiations has been wholly funded from the Native Title Budget administered through the Attorney-General's Department. For the current financial year (2002-2003) there is a provision of up to \$1.75 million for ALRM from the State's overall Native Title Budget of \$9.7 million.

Whether the current level of state reimbursement of ALRMs ILUA negotiation expenditure will increase depends on a number of factors, including progress made in the negotiations through the current financial year, the State's overall budgetary position, and whether ATSIC is able to provide more funding.

RESIDENT MAGISTRATES

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN**.

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON: I have received this advice:

The former government withdrew resident magistrates from country courts on the grounds that their workloads were becoming

heavier than their city-based colleagues and it was becoming difficult to retain Magistrates in the country as their young families grew up and needed to return to the city to further their education. The safety of the magistrate and his or her family became an issue because they were sometimes harassed.

The Rann government believes there is public concern about judges not being in touch with community needs and public values.

As a pilot program, the Courts Administration Authority has agreed to base a Magistrate at Port Augusta to test whether this increases community confidence in the judicial process. The pilot will run until the end of 2003. I have announced the appointment of Mr Fred Field SM as the Resident Magistrate at Port Augusta after call for internal expressions-of-interest call from the ranks of the Magistrates. Mr Field will start sitting at Port Augusta on 30 September 2002.

There has been no change to the number of magistrates who have an 'unfulfilled obligation to serve' in the country. Mr Field has no obligation but is keen to participate in the pilot program at Port Augusta, because of his regular circuit work in this region and his conduct of the Aboriginal court at Port Augusta.

Magistrates who have been appointed since resident magistrates were withdrawn in 1994 have not been asked to give an undertaking that they will serve as resident magistrates. The Chief Magistrate has no plans to require other magistrates to serve in the country.

The government believes that all appointments of magistrates to country courts should be made with the support of the Courts Administration Authority, the Chief Magistrate and the magistrate concerned.

CRIME PREVENTION BUDGET

In reply to **Mr BROKENSHIRE**.

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON: This is the advice I have received:

For the financial year 2002-03, total expenditure on Output 1.3, Crime Prevention Support Services, will be \$18.475 million. This comprises expenditure from the South Australia Police (\$16.151 million) and the Attorney-General's Department (\$2.324 million). Details of programs and items of expense are provided below.

South Australia Police

The programs associated with South Australia Police's crime prevention support services are:

- North/Southern Operations Service

The Northern and Southern Operations Services are responsible for the provision of policing services at the local level, which are directed at achieving SAPOL's mission and vision through the core functions. These functions embrace the requirement for police to reassure and protect the community from crime and disorder by taking a problem-solving approach and quickly and effectively responding to incidents and calls for assistance.

- Crime Service

Crime Support Service provides a specialist criminal investigation service. Amongst its responsibilities are:

- Supporting the investigation of criminal activity that is beyond the capability of Local Service Areas because of its complexity, seriousness, level of organisation or degree or specialisation
- Providing timely, accurate and useful intelligence
- Providing forensic investigation services
- Developing, implementing and co-ordinating crime specific training
- Developing, implementing and co-ordinating crime reduction strategies

Operations Support Service

Operations Support Service provides a quality policing service to the community through effective support to other police services and partnerships with other agencies and the community. The service comprises a range of specialised operational support units where responsibilities range from communications and prosecutions through to traffic and transit policing, operational intelligence, major event planning and special tasks and rescues.

- General—Primary Strategies

These Services play a part in working together with other agencies and the community to ensure effective crime reduction strategies. Primary strategies undertaken to contribute to the Crime Prevention Support output include:

- Continue to develop the role for the Community Programs Units in Local Service Areas (LSAs)

- Further develop joint programs with schools and local, state and federal government agencies through programs such as Neighbourhood Watch, Rural Watch, School Watch and police/School projects.
- Participate in multi agency and business committees and forums that address issues relating to crime reduction, eg environmental design, fraud reduction, electronic crime etc.
- Take a leadership role in further developing Drug Action Teams with other agencies and community groups in each LSA.
- Continue to develop and implement crime reduction and awareness programs that focus on social issues within the community, eg youth, multiculturalism, equity and diversity, the family, and socially disadvantaged groups
- Promote and enhance Crime Stoppers.

The total budgeted expenditure for these programs for 2002-03 is:

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| | \$000's |
| Employee Entitlements | 13 771 |
| Goods and Services | 2 380 |
| Total | \$16 151 |

Attorney-General's Department

The programs of the Attorney-General's Department's Crime Prevention Unit are:

- Local Crime Prevention Program

This program has funded 18 council areas (covering 21 councils) to develop crime prevention initiatives relative to local areas. Funding has been provided directly to each area. In addition, the Crime Prevention Unit has supported a number of other Council areas by providing advice, assistance, and project support. As a result of the 2002-03 budget reduction for this program, the LGA and the State Government will undertake a Review which will consider the future options for funding locally developed crime prevention initiatives.

- Early Intervention

Attorney-General's Department funding for the Early Intervention Program is supported by Commonwealth funding. The program is located in a cluster of suburbs in Noarlunga, and in Port Augusta. It incorporates a whole of government approach, with key partners including Department of Human Services, Department of Education and Children's Services, Police, as well as the non-government sector. Through an extensive consultation process, the program has identified key risk and protective factors in each location, and will fund a range of locally specific programs relevant for each location (such as intensive parenting programs for high risk groups, as well as support for high risk adolescents through both the education system and in the community).

- Break & Enter

This project has two components. The first component is a community workshop presentation which is being developed by the Crime Prevention Unit on a CD Rom format. The presentation identifies ways to reduce break and enter through various safety and security measures related to your home; ways to assist vulnerable victims; support available for victims. The community workshop will be available for local government, service groups, non-government groups (for example, retirement villages), as well as police and neighbourhood watch organisations. The second component is examining ways in which training can be provided to volunteers working through local government and other organizations, who provide break and enter prevention advice to members of the community. Such advice includes conducting security and safety audits on people's homes through referrals initiated by the victim. Most volunteer programs of this type focus on victims of break and enter, in order to reduce repeat victimization.

Coober Pedy Alcohol Strategy

The Coober Pedy Alcohol Strategy is a 3 year strategy which aims to reduce the harm associated with alcohol misuse in the community. The strategy has been developed following extensive consultation within the community, and in partnership with the Department of Human Services, ATSIC and the Liquor Licensing Commissioner. It includes the following elements:

1. Establishment of a sobering up service
2. Liquor Licensing restrictions
3. Establishment of a day center
4. Transient Camps and gathering places for safe drinking
5. Rehabilitation
6. Early intervention and detection.

- Indigenous Youth Mentoring Scheme

This program has been developed in partnership with the Metropolitan Aboriginal Youth Team (DHS), and State funding is

supported by Commonwealth funding. The program provides intensive mentoring for young indigenous people deemed at high risk because of their behaviour within the inner city area of Adelaide. The intensive mentoring support for young people referred to the program includes assistance with employment and training; schooling; family and other issues relevant to each young person. A community based Advisory Group provides advice and support to the program, and it works in partnership with police, youth services in the inner city area, and state government agencies.

The total budgeted expenditure for these programs for 2002-03 is:

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| | \$000's |
| Employee Entitlements | 833 |
| Goods and Services | 1 491 |
| Total | \$2 324 |

With regard to the Attorney-General's Department's Crime Prevention Unit, the following comparison between actual expenditure in 2001-02 and budgeted expenditure for 2002-03 is provided:

| | Actual Expenditure 2001-02 \$000's | Budgeted Expenditure 2002-03 \$000's |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| Employee Entitlements | 936 | 833 |
| Goods and Services | 2 171 | 1 491 |
| Total | 3 107 | 2 324 |

MISSED COURT HEARINGS

In reply to **Mr MEIER**.

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON: This is the advice I have received:

The question from the honourable member is in two parts and I will respond separately to each part.

The first matter relates to a person who alleges that a restraining order was lifted from a person who was charged with harassing her and another woman and their families. It is also alleged that there was no opportunity to appear before the court when this matter was being heard.

The state Courts Administrator has advised that the accused was charged with disorderly behaviour. One of the conditions of bail prevented him from contacting the two victims or their families. No restraining order has ever been made on the accused, nor has an application for a restraint order been lodged in any court in the State in relation to the parties.

In this case, the person making the allegations was given the choice of having a restraining order taken out or having the police proceed with a charge of disorderly behaviour. It was not an option to have both types of action. The person elected to proceed with the disorderly behaviour charge.

When the matter came to court, the person was required to leave the courtroom because she could have been a prosecution witness in the event of a trial. It is the accepted usual practice in all courts that any person who may be required to give evidence is asked to leave the hearing because the facts of the case are discussed, similar in nature to an opening address given by the prosecutor to the court to commence the trial against a defendant. It is inappropriate for witnesses to be in the courtroom during the proceedings because they will become privy to the facts being discussed and it is possible that their own evidence could be tarnished. I am advised that the police prosecutor discussed with the victims the choices available and informed them of the court process.

This is a case where the person making the complaint about the court process is mistaking a condition of bail with the conditions that might be contained in a formal restraining order issued by a court.

The other matter relates to a person who pleaded guilty to one count of assault occasioning actual bodily harm and entered no plea on a second count. On the first matter, the person was placed on a two year good behaviour bond. No conviction was recorded. On the second count, the defendant was required to enter into an apprehended domestic violence restraining order and court costs were imposed.

The victim of the assault then lodged an application to the District Court for Criminal Injuries Compensation. The court records show that the application was properly served on the defendant and acknowledged. The solicitors acting for the defendant filed an appearance to the claim, that is, they indicated their intention to defend the matter. The District Court posted all parties a notice of the hearing date.

However, when the matter came before the court, agreement had been reached between the parties and the judgement simply had to

be entered. It is interesting to note that, in this instance, the solicitors acting for the defendant wrote to the defendant some eight days before the appearance in the District Court advising of the outcome.

The judgement is a civil matter and failure to pay does not carry any threat of imprisonment as alleged by your constituent.

AUCTIONS

In reply to **The CHAIRMAN**.

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON: I have received this advice:

Unless independent valuations are obtained, it will always be difficult to ascertain whether an auction of goods has ensured that the best prices were achieved for their sale. There are risks both to the vendor and the purchaser in this method of sale, although there can be benefits if items are bought under-value (for the purchaser) or over value (for the vendor).

To help ensure that auctions are not performed corruptly, section 28 of the *Fair Trading Act 1987* prohibits mock auctions. An auction of goods is a mock auction:

if and only if, during the course of the auction—

- (a) goods are sold for less than the highest bid made by the purchaser, or part of the purchase price is repaid or credited to the purchaser; or
- (b) the right to bid for any goods is restricted to persons who have bought or agreed to buy other goods; or
- (c) any goods are given away or offered as gifts.

The Office of Consumer and Business Affairs (OCBA) offers a Fair Trading Advisory Service for consumers and traders and a Dispute Resolution Service for consumers only.

A review of complaints referred to OCBA for the period from December 2000 to the present has identified only four complaints on general goods being auctioned. One of those complaints was withdrawn. Although each complaint is considered to be important, such complaints should be considered within the wider context of the number of enquiries and complaints received by OCBA each year. OCBA receives approximately 110 000 inquiries and 3 300 consumer/trader disputes each year.

Of the three remaining complaints received by OCBA in relation to the auctioning of goods since December 2000:

- One related to the sale of 80th Birthday Queen Mother coins and a full refund was obtained for the consumer;
- One complaint involved delayed payment for the product auctioned. A full refund was obtained for the consumer; and
- One related to a dispute regarding the goods and in the conciliation process no refund was found necessary.

There are further protections against misleading and deceptive conduct in the *Fair Trading Act 1987*, particularly section 59 of that Act, which provides that it is an offence to make a false or misleading representation concerning the price or value of goods to be auctioned.

Vendors or purchasers with concerns or problems regarding goods sold at auction are encouraged to contact the Office of Consumer and Business Affairs, which will address their concerns or problems.

INTERPRETERS

In reply to **Hon. I.P. LEWIS**.

The Hon. M.J. ATKINSON: I have received this advice:

Most interpreters are provided to State courts by the Interpreting and Translating Centre (ITC) of the Office of Multicultural Affairs that is part of my portfolio.

ITC was established in 1975 and provides interpreting and translating services to public and private sector agencies and to individuals in over 80 languages and dialects 24 hours, 7 days a week.

These services are provided through full-time interpreters/translators in Greek, Italian and Vietnamese, and a pool of 284 casual interpreters/translators in the metropolitan area and 130 in regional centres.

The full-time interpreters/translators possess Professional level Interpreter and/or Translator (both directions) accreditation or above, issued by the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI).

The *Directory of Accredited and Recognised Practitioners of Interpreting and Translation* states that:

NAATI was established in 1977 by the Commonwealth Government. On 1 July 1983 NAATI was re-established as an independent body jointly subsidised by the

Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments, and is incorporated as a public company, limited by guarantee, under the Australian Capital Territory Companies Act 1981, now under Corporations Law 1991 (Commonwealth legislation). The primary function of NAATI is to establish and monitor the professional standards for interpreters and translators in Australia. NAATI also tests and accredits interpreters and translators. (NAATI, 2000, p ii).

In addition:

NAATI accreditation is the only qualification officially accepted for the profession of Interpreting and Translating in Australia . . . NAATI has established the following levels at which accreditation may be obtained:

- Paraprofessional Interpreter
- Paraprofessional Translator
- Interpreter (Professional level)
- Translator (Professional level)
- Conference Interpreter
- Advanced Translator
- Conference Interpreter (Senior)
- Advanced Translator (Senior) (*Directory*, p iii).

The casual interpreters/translators employed by ITC are accredited by NAATI at the highest level available in their language, preferably at the Professional level or above. ITC will consider employing interpreters/translators accredited at the Paraprofessional level only when no adequate numbers of interpreters/translators are available at the Professional level, or where NAATI offers Paraprofessional level tests only.

For languages not tested and not accredited by NAATI (NAATI tests and accredits interpreters/translators in 58 languages) the following, and in the order provided, are the required qualifications:

- Overseas qualifications in interpreting/translating
- Tertiary qualifications in fields related to interpreting/translating, e.g. linguistics
- Other tertiary qualifications
- Secondary school leaving certificate and
- Proof of fluency in the English and other language(s).

The procedure for registering new casual interpreters/translators, regardless of accreditation and other qualifications, is the following:

- Written application with Curriculum Vitae and documents supporting the application
- Interview with the Manager and the Deputy Manager of ITC
- Training and orientation carried out by the Manager or the Deputy Manager of ITC. The duration of this training is four half days and includes:

- Ethics of the Interpreting and Translating profession
- Interpreting techniques
- Orientation at the Adelaide Magistrates and the District and Supreme Courts.

Interpreters used in courts are the most highly qualified and most experienced available in Adelaide. In languages such as Croatian, Dutch, German, Greek, Italian, Polish, Rumanian, Serbian, Spanish, where adequate numbers of interpreters accredited at the Professional Interpreter level are available, only interpreters at this level are assigned work in court. 55 per cent of all interpreting assignments in the District and Supreme Courts, both civil and criminal jurisdictions, are in the Vietnamese language, and are carried out by the two ITC full-time interpreters/translators. Occasionally, in languages where interpreters accredited at the Professional level are not available in Adelaide, qualified and experienced interpreters are brought from interstate at great expense.

Judicial review of the work of interpreters is not practiced in Australia and to my knowledge anywhere else in the world. Such a practice, although perhaps desirable, would likely lead to lengthier and more expensive trials and could be very difficult to implement.

All interpreters employed by ITC are bound by a professional Code of Ethics and are required to:

- interpret accurately without adding to or omitting from anything being said
- maintain absolute confidentiality
- be impartial and objective and
- act in a professional manner at all times.

Interpreters working in court make an oath and say that they will interpret whatever is said accurately and to the best of their ability.

ITC is the only interpreting and translating services provider in South Australia to have achieved Quality Assurance Certification AS/NZS ISO 9002:1994 in the provision of interpreting and translating services.

AMBULANCE DIVERSION

In reply to **Hon. DEAN BROWN.**

The Hon. L. STEVENS: The following table indicates the percentage of time that ambulances in the metropolitan area were on bypass from April 2002 to July 2002 inclusive, by both public and private hospitals.

From March to May 2002, industrial action at SA Ambulance Service resulted in diversion information not being properly recorded. It appears that this has affected private hospital data significantly. Public hospital data has been minimally affected, if at all. Figures provided for June and July are accurate.

| Public hospitals | April 2002 | May 2002 | June 2002 | July 2002 |
|---------------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|
| Flinders Medical Centre | 2.2% | 0.6% | 0.0% | 1.7% |
| Lyell McEwin Health Service | 0.0% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Modbury Public Hospital | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Noarlunga Health Services | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Repatriation General Hospital | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Royal Adelaide Hospital | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| The Queen Elizabeth Hospital | 1.5% | 0.5% | 1.3% | 0.3% |
| Women's and Children's Hospital | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.0% |
| Total | 0.5% | 0.2% | 0.2% | 0.3% |
| Private hospitals | April 2002 | May 2002 | June 2002 | July 2002 |
| Ashford Hospital | 20.3% | 40.8% | 75.0% | 73.1% |
| St Andrews Hospital Inc | 16.8% | 41.9% | 79.3% | 70.6% |
| Wakefield Hospital | 11.6% | 28.1% | 52.7% | 47.9% |
| Total | 16.2% | 36.9% | 69% | 63.9% |

The table below shows ambulance diversions for May and June 2001 compared with May and June 2002.

| | May 2001 | May 2002 | June 2001 | June 2002 |
|-----------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Public hospitals—minutes diverted | 3 124 | 607 | 2 312 | 577 |

Private hospitals—minutes diverted

| | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 42 339 | 49 473 | 49 072 | 89 448 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|

BALAKLAVA HELIPAD

In reply to **Mr MEIER.**

The Hon. L. STEVENS: The Hon J.D. Hill has provided the following information:

Crown Lands SA has provided the Minister for Environment and Conservation with a preliminary report regarding the Balaklava helipad. A biodiversity assessment is being undertaken as a matter of priority in order to provide more comprehensive information on the matter. When the report has been finalised the minister will ensure the relevant authorities are advised of the outcome.

EXELCARE

In reply to **Mrs REDMOND.**

The Hon. L. STEVENS: The Nursing Clinical Information System (Excelcare) provides nurses and health care teams with information for clinical decision-making and aggregates data for service improvement and clinical review. Excelcare also measures the level of care required by the patient and provides costing data as a by-product of the clinical data. However, the system does not produce patient discharge letters.

Each public hospital has a variety of manual and electronic mechanisms for issuing discharge letters to general practitioners (GPs), the preparation of which is usually the responsibility of medical staff. With the implementation of the open architecture clinical information system, the timely preparation of discharge letters for GPs is being addressed.

The incident referred to by Mrs Isobel Redmond MP in the Estimates Committee will be investigated by the Department of Human Services in response to her correspondence to the Minister for Health.

COUNTRY HOSPITAL OBSTETRICS

In reply to **Hon. DEAN BROWN.**

The Hon. L. STEVENS: The following information relates to which country hospitals are no longer providing either private births or public births compared to 1 January 2002, and how many general practitioners (GPs) in country towns have decided not to continue doing obstetrics in country public hospitals.

Mid North Region

The newly recruited overseas-trained doctor at Orroroo does not handle procedural work. Obstetrics, therefore, will not be done from Orroroo in the future. In Crystal Brook, the two local GPs have written to the board of the Crystal Brook District Hospital advising they will not do any private obstetric work as they have concerns regarding tail cover in relation to medical indemnity. Both GPs will, however, continue to provide obstetric services to public hospital patients.

Northern and Far Western Region

The doctor in Quorn has provided a verbal statement that he will not be doing private obstetrics in the future. There has been a decrease in private births observed in Port Augusta, however, they are unable to provide any statistical data at this time. In Whyalla, there has been a drop in private births during July, but a factor in this drop is that the usual obstetrician was on leave during this period. Whyalla has also advised that one doctor has indicated that delivery services will no longer be provided by that doctor.

Wakefield Region

Burra had seven births in the last calendar year and it was a mutual decision on the part of the doctor and the hospital to cease obstetrics services for patient safety reasons due to it being a sole doctor practice. The service ceased on 1 May 2002.

Maitland had twelve births last financial year. The sole doctor initiated the request to cease obstetrics due to the medical indemnity costs, in particular for the tail exposure. The service was also ceased due to the inability to provide a whole service, including caesarean sections, and because of the imposition on her lifestyle given that she was the only doctor providing an obstetrics service in the town. The service ceased on 30 June 2002.

Balaklava GPs resolved to discontinue obstetrics services due to their low birth numbers, the costs involved in providing the service and imposition on their lifestyle. The two doctors provided the obstetrics service up to 1 May 2002.

Remaining Regions

The remaining regions consisting of Eyre, Hills Mallee Southern, Riverland Health Authority, South-East and Gawler Health Service continue to provide the same level of obstetric service that was provided at 1 January 2002.

COUNTRY GPs—ANTENATAL

In reply to **Mrs REDMOND.**

The Hon. L. STEVENS: The Social Justice & Country Division of the Department of Human Services is not aware of any shift in GP antenatal practices between medical benefits scheme clinics and country hospitals. Clients with complex or high-risk pregnancies are often treated in hospital for antenatal care as more complex diagnostic equipment and support is required.

Normal antenatal work should still be performed within the GP clinics.

ELECTIVE SURGERY BULLETINS

In reply to **Hon. DEAN BROWN.**

The Hon. L. STEVENS: The Elective Surgery Bulletin (ESB) is produced on a quarterly basis.

It is envisaged that the 4th quarter (April to June 2001-02) ESB will be released in early October, as the data required for its publication will not be available until the end of September.

ESBs since 1998, including that for January to March 2001-02, are released on the internet for public access at <http://www.dhs.sa.gov.au/esb/>. They are also distributed to the CEOs of the major metropolitan hospitals and to other relevant DHS staff.

The most recent edition, the 3rd Quarter, is available to members.

FREEHOLDING SHACKS

In reply to **Hon. G.M. GUNN.**

The Hon. J.D. HILL: I understand the Port Clinton shack owners were keen to freehold and first produced a 'concept plan' in 1998. However, they had difficulties in finding an acceptable effluent solution. There is limited land available for effluent disposal. Unfortunately, the shack owners didn't pursue a solution that would satisfy the freeholding criteria vigorously enough during the period of freehold offer. In the last 12 months the shack owners have developed a common holding tank solution that may or may not satisfy council. A crown development application to gauge council's position on the proposal has been delayed pending a re-valuation figure on the purchase price of the sites as required by the former government for shack owners not in contract to freehold by 31 December 2001. This valuation was recently completed, and is \$70 000 per site compared with the 1996 valuation of \$15 000.

I am at present waiting on advice from Crown Lands SA on the current status of the shack freehold program. When I have received and considered that information a decision will be made on how best to proceed with the freehold process. The shack owners will be advised of the outcome at that time.

FREEHOLDING IN NORTH SA

In reply to **Hon. G.M. GUNN.**

The Hon. J.D. HILL: In respect to your question concerning the freeholding of crown land within rangeland country, I confirm I have requested a review of the current policy.

Specifically, in regard to the take-away food/tourist operator I advise the take-away food establishment is situated on allotment 4 in deposited plan 32887 (area 0.18 of a hectare), which is held under freehold title. The adjacent campground area is located on a large parcel of crown land being allotment 17 in deposited plan 32887 (area 98.47 hectares) and held under Crown Miscellaneous Lease 18271.

The issue of a freehold title to either the residential lessee or the campground operator depends on the above-mentioned policy review. Additionally, the existence of native title will have to be assessed.

WOOD BURNING HEATERS

In reply to **Hon. R.B. SUCH.**

The Hon. J.D. HILL: The New South Wales government has committed \$1 million to a scheme to replace polluting wood heaters. Wood heaters produce about one third of the particle pollution in Sydney and most of the winter air pollution in colder regional centres like Armidale and Cooma.

Many New South Wales tablelands cities are particularly vulnerable to wood heater pollution as they are located in valleys where air sits overnight and temperature inversions act like a lid on the valley to contain the pollution.

Up to \$700 will be made available to owners to replace wood heaters if they change to low pollution heating.

The South Australian government is not committed to a replacement wood heater program at this time. However, we have identified the following factors which contribute to wood heater emissions: wood heater design, installation, fuel quality and operator practices. The government is seeking to minimise domestic wood heater emissions through a number of initiatives including regulation, education, and liaison with industry and community groups.

The South Australian government was involved in the development of the Australian standard that requires new wood heaters to comply with stringent emission criteria. The standard details a particle emission testing method and sets an emission limit, which must be met to claim compliance with the standard. Compliant wood heaters, when operated correctly, produce only 5 per cent of the emissions that are produced by some of the older, non-compliant wood heaters.

Wood heaters must be installed in homes in accordance with AS/NZ 2918 and the Building Code of Australia (BCA) and the work must be inspected by the local council. This requirement has been in place since 1992. Minimum flue heights and position within dwellings are also covered under the same legislation.

The EPA released an information sheet on solid fuel fires in May 1999 when it was evident that the minimum chimney heights specified in both the Australian standard and the BCA were not preventing wood heater emissions from impacting on neighbouring properties. The EPA recommends that the minimum height for a chimney should be at least one metre higher than any other structure within fifteen metres and even higher if there are taller buildings nearby. In some areas it may not be practical to use a wood fire, such as where the chimney needs to be very high to achieve this minimum clearance.

The issue of fuel quality is addressed in the draft 'South Australian Action Plan for Firewood Collection and Use', retail wood merchants will be asked to adopt a voluntary code of practice to promote the wise production, collection and use of firewood. The code encourages an ecologically sustainable firewood industry that does not threaten the conservation of native plants and animals, and aims to minimise the impacts of firewood use on air quality and greenhouse gas emissions. Given the support the code has received from both the public and industry, it is expected that the code will be made mandatory after a preliminary introductory period.

Merchants that adopt the code will provide information on correct storage and burning practices to consumers. In addition, only seasoned firewood with an internal moisture content of less than twenty percent (typically wood that has been allowed to dry for more than eighteen months) will be sold. Where unseasoned wood is sold, it will be accompanied by written advice on the time at which the wood will be sufficiently dry to burn.

The removal of firewood from public and government land is very restricted. The collection of firewood from national parks in South Australia is illegal. Permission from the relevant council is required to take firewood from roadsides. Permission must be obtained from the land holder to take firewood from private land and a permit must be obtained from Forestry SA to take firewood from Forestry SA plantations.

The EPA is placing copies of an educational video called 'Clear Skies' in every council library in the state. The video shows how to choose and store the appropriate fuel, and use the wood heater to minimise emissions. It is expected that councils will loan the video to householders who are the cause of wood heater complaints.

NGARKAT

In reply to **Mr WILLIAMS**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: It is intended that the bee sites will be maintained in Ngarkat Conservation Park, and the number of sites will be dependent on the outcome of current discussions between the Apiary Industry and National Parks and Wildlife SA.

NATIVE VEGETATION CLEARANCE

In reply to **Mr WILLIAMS**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: Mr M Williams, the member for MacKillop, asked whether a 'ready reckoner' was being prepared to help a landholder determine the environmental value of native vegetation being considered for clearance.

I have been advised by the department that a draft 'Scattered Tree Habitat Value: Ready Reckoner' has recently been prepared, and its

effectiveness is currently being tested. The pocket-sized booklet has been designed to give a landholder a guide as to the likelihood that consent to clear a particular tree will be granted by the Native Vegetation Council (NVC), subject to requirements of the Native Vegetation Act 1991. This information is useful to a landholder in the early stages of planning a new development.

The 'Ready Reckoner' focuses only on the wildlife habitat value of remnant trees in otherwise cleared farm paddocks—one of the principles of clearance (schedule 1 of the Native Vegetation Act 1991) upon which a tree is assessed. The habitat value of the tree is derived from a number of the tree's attributes—health, tree density, presence of hollows, and size of tree. The 'Ready Reckoner' provides a step-by-step guide to deriving this value. Trees assessed as having high habitat value are unlikely to be approved for clearance. Trees assessed as having low habitat value are more likely to be approved for clearance—unless another principle of clearance applies. These may include:

- the rarity of the tree species and/or the vegetation association that the tree is a part of
- use of the tree by highly threatened species, for example, the red-tailed black-cockatoo
- the amount of vegetation remaining in the district
- trees that form part of a wetland environment
- the amenity value of the tree.

I will provide the member a copy of the draft 'Ready Reckoner' for his interest. The member's comments on the draft booklet would be welcomed by the department.

CRAIGBURN FARM

In reply to **Hon. R.B. SUCH**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: Craighburn land, previously purchased for open space, is under the care and control of the Minister for Urban Development and Planning. The land is leased to Minda Inc. until 14 July 2003, with a holding over clause option.

Planning SA and National Parks and Wildlife SA have agreed to combine resources and will be commencing an integrated management plan for Sturt Gorge and Craighburn open space land in November 2002. That management planning process will involve Mitcham Council and the local community.

The future use of the land will be determined through the management planning and consultative process.

BUDGET PAPER RECONCILIATION

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: Primary Industries reported an amount of \$37.05 million for natural resource based infrastructure projects for the 2001-02 financial year. For 2002-03 water, land and biodiversity conservation reported an amount of \$29.05 million for natural resource based infrastructure projects. The variance can be reconciled by the following:

- The \$37 million included an overstatement due to a change in accounting treatment applied by Primary Industries and Resources for overheads and accruals between the 2001-02 and 2002-03 budget processes. Had the same accounting treatment for 2002-03 been applied in 2001-02, the amount would have been reduced by \$6.2 million.
- For the transfer of activities between Primary Industries and Resources and Water, Land and Biodiversity Conservation, a total of \$1.92 million of projects remained with Primary Industries.
- Single year funding carryovers from 2000-01 to 2001-02 totalling \$0.93 million
- Variations in the budgeted expenditure between 2001-02 and 2002-03 in a number of projects as detailed below:
 - National action plan for water quality and salinity—increase \$2.4 million.
 - Lower Murray Reclaimed Irrigation Areas—decrease \$1 million.
 - Loxton Irrigation District rehabilitation scheme—decrease \$0.495 million.
 - Various other minor projects—increase 0.13 million.

GOVERNMENT REVENUE

In reply to **Hon I.F. EVANS**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: As I advised the house on 13 August 2002, there are 15 062 perpetual leases in South Australia and in the last financial year crown lands collected rents totaling \$462 000.

Officers within the crown lands also advised that the \$1 million in collection costs included approximately \$700 000 to administer the leases and a further \$300 000 for investigation and remediation works on a heavily contaminated perpetual lease site at Jamestown. The total cost of administering the full range of the activities of Crown Lands, including leases, is approximately \$2.8 million a year.

The total income for crown lands is around \$2.3 million per year, a shortfall of \$500 000. Beyond the \$462 000 collected for perpetual leases, Crown Lands receives \$555 000 for miscellaneous leases and \$569 000 for annual licenses.

MUNDULLA YELLOWS

In reply to **Mr WILLIAMS**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: I have been advised that the proceedings of the workshop drafted by Environment Australia and National Parks and Wildlife SA have been sent to workshop participants for input. When all comments have been received from the participants, the proceedings will be finalised and circulated.

NGARKAT CONSERVATION PARK

In reply to **Mr WILLIAMS**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: As part of visitor facility upgrade, the entrance to Ngarkat Conservation Park on Snoswell Road is being widened to provide greater accessibility to the park for both visitors and fire fighting equipment.

The old gates were removed as part of the development and, as a gesture of good will, were offered to a landholder with historical links to the gates. The gates will not be replaced given the road leading up to the entrance is fenced on either side.

Removal of the gates is not expected to lead to increased movement of kangaroos along local roads given visitors frequently left this gate open. In addition, movement of kangaroos in and out of the park occurs freely across the park's perimeter fence.

To reduce damage to crops or property, assistance to landholders adjoining the park is available in the form of non-commercial destruction permits upon request.

FOOD AND FIBRE

In reply to **Hon I.F. EVANS**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: The food and fibre section is not under the control of the Minister for Environment and Conservation. However, the work undertaken by the Department of Water, Land and Biodiversity does contribute to the food and fibre plans of SA as some of the growth and development is attributed to the management of the resources upon which food and fibre production depends. For example bringing in market based mechanisms that direct the use of water and allows water trading to occur assists the potential for food and fibre development by allowing water to be reallocated to the highest economic use. Consequently these gains are included in the food and fibre plans for South Australia.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF ROAD PROJECTS

In reply to **Hon R.B. SUCH**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: Transport SA's environment strategic plan has been developed with the aim of reducing environmental impacts, and has a particular emphasis on infrastructure projects.

For all road projects that are not subject to an EIS, Transport SA undertakes an internal Environmental Impact Assessment, in line with the approach originally agreed with the Department of Environment and Heritage.

Transport SA has also developed an environmental management system for the construction and maintenance of infrastructure works, which ensures that good environmental decision-making and practices are undertaken throughout the entire project management cycle; from project initiation through to project handover.

SALINITY AND WATER ACTION PLAN

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: The amount of \$62 million quoted by the honourable member is for expenditure for the years 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05.

The allocation of these funds will be determined through the planning process set out in the bilateral agreement for the implementation of the national action plan for salinity and water quality.

These processes also involve regional NRM groups and the commonwealth government.

For 2002-03, South Australia has allocated \$16.8 million plus for matching by the commonwealth. This allocation will cover the following:

- Investment in programs and projects in all NAP regions as stipulated in the bilateral agreement between South Australia and the commonwealth. Regions are: Lower Murray, Mount Lofty ranges (covering mount Lofty ranges/metropolitan, kangaroo island and Northern and Yorke agricultural districts and the South-East.
- Capital component investment in various programs and projects as part of overall programs and projects.
- Operating component of the various programs and projects.

The NAP steering committee is finalising recommendations for second round priority projects. I have not yet received this recommendation for consideration.

SAND CARTING

In reply to **Mr RAU**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: Since 1991, sand replenishment from off-shore dredging had an average annual cost of \$1.3 million. The current expenditure of the Coast Protection Board on sand management is \$1.6 million per annum. Transport SA expends \$1.76 million per annum. I am advised that future combined costs are likely to exceed \$4.0 million.

In response to the second question regarding whether the constructions at Glenelg and West Beach had added to the cost of sand-carting. As a direct result of these constructions, Transport SA expends \$1.76 million per annum on sand bypassing and seagrass.

BOTANIC GARDENS

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: The Botanic Gardens of Adelaide is currently reviewing its organisational and senior management structure, in the context of the changing emphases articulated in the Botanic Gardens of Adelaide Strategic Plan 2002-05. A draft structure has been collaboratively developed, and continues to be the subject of extensive consultation, including consultation with the Public Service Association, through channels such as the Consultative Committee.

The current proposal does identify a number of professional positions desirable for the entire management of the gardens and to revitalise the gardens' focus on education, recreation and conservation. It is anticipated that some positions will remain 'in principle' only, within a preferred model and that such positions may be filled in line with strategic priorities, or in some cases, opportunistically.

While accountable management at the worksite level and staff empowerment to achieve strategic goals is a high priority for the Gardens, so too is the requirement for appropriate succession planning and career path development. The proposed model addresses the significant gaps between current levels of management, and supports staff in a clear and achievable career path. At the same time, the structure responds to the changing needs of the organisation, as it seeks to develop its potential as a cultural and scientific institution with a professional as well as operational focus.

The concerns of the Public Service Association reflect a commitment to adequate staff resourcing for operational requirements. Discussions with the PSA have clarified that the proposed management positions do not impact negatively on staff operations. Indeed the structure is designed to better support staff through improved coordination and strategic alignment of the workforce with the desired outcomes of the gardens.

As the proposed structure is more clearly described through job and person specifications, it is anticipated that continuing consultation with staff and Unions will address any remaining concerns.

CROWN LAND

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS**:

The Hon. J.D. HILL: In respect to your question concerning examples of where land under Crown lease has been contaminated and the government left to clean up the contamination and cost of each clean-up, I advise that in the short time available to respond, the Department for Environment and Heritage is not able to provide me with a complete list.

As you are aware, crown leases not only include perpetual leases but also miscellaneous leases. I have requested the department to undertake work on a broader assessment of the risks of contamination on all crown land. In each case, the contamination has been caused by the occupier, but the land is now the responsibility of the government.

To give an indication of sites which I am aware of—these include a sawmill site at Jamestown previously held under perpetual lease was handed back to the Crown in a contaminated state. This particular site was used for the treatment of permaline and the chemicals used have leached into the groundwater. To date approximately \$323 000 has been incurred on investigations and remediation of the contamination. It is anticipated that substantial further sums will be required over the next 2 years.

Blackwood Forest was an experimental orchard site where chemical were used and stored. In excess of \$300 000 has been incurred on investigations, remediation and general maintenance.

Albert Park milk depot (formerly a Tannery) was privately owned and as a result of community concerns with contamination, the site was purchased by the government. To date in excess of \$50 000 has been incurred on investigations and remediation of the contamination. There is a possibility that there may be groundwater contamination and further investigations may be warranted. Costs are unknown.

Disused railway corridors handed back to the state are contaminated with Arsenic. A current program is under way in association with the CSIRO to investigate the level of contamination and remediation required in order to either provide the land to adjoining owners or make available for walking trails etc. To date approximately \$60 000 has been incurred on preliminary works. Further sums will be required in future.

The following examples are not in the strictest sense contamination, but nevertheless, are an ongoing management obligation on the crown, as each site requires remediation and/or restoration. A site at Coffin Bay held under miscellaneous lease will require the removal of the improvements and clean up. The costs have been estimated at \$40 000.

Shacks held under crown lease and abandoned incur costs between \$10 000-\$20 000 for each site. The continual removal of burnt out abandoned vehicles and rubbish, placement of signs and security patrols on land at Outer Harbor has necessitated the expenditure of approximately \$72 000 since January 1997.

WATER OVERUSE

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: Financial penalties for use in excess of licensed water allocation have formed an integral component of water resource management controls in the Northern Adelaide Plains and River Murray since the late 1970s. The use of financial penalties as a deterrent to overuse has progressively been extended to include almost all prescribed water resources.

In the past, penalty rates have been determined after consultation with relevant catchment water management boards and water resources planning committees, taking into account community and resource management requirements and the value of the water resource. This practice will continue.

Penalty rates for use in excess of licensed water allocation are declared annually by notice published in the *Government Gazette*, pursuant to section 132 of the *Water Resources Act 1997*, and must be published during the first half of the financial year to which they apply. Penalty rates will continue to be determined and advised to licence holders at the commencement of the financial year to which the penalties relate. Early notification of penalty rates can have a

significant impact on water use behaviour and can stimulate the transfer market.

The current tiered penalty rate structure aims to deter high levels of overuse by the imposition of high penalty rates for that use. It also recognises, by the imposition of lower penalty rates for use to a declared percentage of allocation, that low levels of overuse and occasional overuse due to adverse seasonal conditions do occur and should not be penalised too harshly. In setting the penalty rates consideration is given to the price paid for water on the temporary transfer market. Rates for low water use are generally set at or above the temporary transfer price to encourage the transfer and subsequent use of water within the allocated sustainable capacity of the resource rather than overuse.

It is acknowledged that financial penalties alone may not deter continued overuse. The other enforcement provisions in the *Water Resources Act 1997* such as the variation, suspension and cancellation of water licence, will also be applied if water use behaviour does not change.

HORSE WHIPPING

In reply to **Hon. R.B. SUCH**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: Horse racing is a sport with a long tradition underpinned by a complex array of animal husbandry, training and racing practices. The *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1985* specifies that a person who ill treats an animal is guilty of an offence and, in part, defines ill treatment as that which 'deliberately or unreasonably causes the animal unnecessary pain'. But rather than to cause pain or to intimidate, whips are used as a training aid and signal to the horse.

I have been advised that the racing industry is committed to ensuring practices are acceptable in terms of the welfare of the horses and that horses are examined by veterinary surgeons both pre-race and post-race. The Rules of Racing prohibit excessive use of the whip or its use at all when it is not likely to improve position during a race. The rules also provide whip specifications.

The new English whip, which you referred to as a Clayton's whip, is being introduced to further demonstrate and reinforce the move away from the old style aggressive forehead method of whipping the horse's rump. In fact, I am informed that the modern style of riding forward in the saddle is not conducive to the rider being able to reach the horse's rump with a whip.

QUORN

In reply to **Hon. G.M. GUNN**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: During my response to the honourable member I said I would follow up any particular issues relating to his assertion that the EPA has not returned telephone calls to the Mayor of Quorn (Flinders Ranges Council) in relation to the rubbish dump (landfill) at Quorn.

I have made enquiries of the EPA and have been advised there is no record of any contact from the Mayor in the past year or so. I am advised that the EPA has been communicating with the Chief Executive of the Flinders Ranges Council in relation to a development application for a new landfill proposed by that council.

The EPA has a policy to always return calls made to its officers. Officers are aware that this is a priority for the EPA.

OMNIBUS QUESTION (REVIEWS)

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. J.D. HILL: The Minister for Environment and Conservation has provided information up to 29 July, 2002:

Reviews undertaken

| Title of Review | Details of Review | Consultant | Total Cost of Contract |
|--|---|------------|------------------------|
| Catchment Management Subsidy Scheme (CMSS) | The CMSS Committee comprised of the relevant stakeholders conducted the review which was completed in June 2002 | N/A | N/A |
| Water Resources Act | Completed in June 2002. The Act requires a review of the legislation to be undertaken every five years | N/A | N/A |

Reviews scheduled

| Title of Review | Details of Review | Consultant | Total Cost of Contract |
|---------------------------|--|--|------------------------|
| Shared Portfolio Services | A review of the current corporate services with the view to establish Shared Portfolio Services, which will service all three agencies. This review has begun. | No consultants have been used and the process relies on the expertise that is available within the public service. | N/A |

The following information has been requested in addition to Omnibus question 4:
During 2000-2001 the Department for Water Resources expended \$25 259.08 on 2 consultancies as part of reviews.

| Title of Review | Details of Review | Consultant | Total Cost of Contract |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Water Licensing Review | Process review of Water Resources Act Administration | Collins Anderson Management | 21 259.08 |
| Peer review of Aridflo project | As part of environmental flows in Australian Arid Zone Rivers (Aridflo) Project | Luminis Pty Ltd | 4 000.00 |

AUSTRALIAN MAJOR EVENTS

In reply to **Mr HAMILTON-SMITH.**

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: In reply to the question in relation to Output Class 3.2, Australian Major Events continues to be an important part of the South Australian Tourism Commission's vision and this commitment is reflected within the next three-year budget allocation.

Base funding and additional funding provided to Australian Major Events is as follows:

| | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Base Funding | 4 000 | 4 000 | 4 000 |
| Additional Funding | 3 675 | 3 900 | 2 705 |
| World Police & Fire Games 2007 | 450 | 450 | 650 |
| Wagner's Ring Cycle Opera | 300 | 275 | 125 |
| Total | 8 425 | 8 625 | 7 480 |

The following table is in response to the question regarding the government's commitment to Australian major events future funding:

| | 2002-03 | 2003-04 | 2004-05 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Event Activity Expenditure | | | |
| Group Support and Event Marketing | 1 945 | 2 000 | 2 000 |
| Bid Activity/Event Development | 80 | 80 | 80 |
| World Police and Fire Games 2007 | 450 | 450 | 650 |
| Wagner's Ring Cycle | 300 | 275 | 125 |
| Credit Union Christmas Pageant | 370 | 375 | 375 |
| Adelaide Rose Festival | 500 | - | - |
| Classic Adelaide | 175 | 150 | - |
| Mitsubishi Adelaide International Horse Trials | 625 | 625 | 625 |
| Tasting Australia | 450 | 1 025 | 450 |
| Jacob's Creek Tour Down Under | 1 700 | 1 700 | 1 700 |
| World Solar Challenge | 120 | 250 | - |
| AAPT Tennis Championships | 235 | 235 | 235 |
| Jacob's Creek Open Golf Championship | 500 | 475 | 450 |
| 2002-03-06 University Games | 25 | - | 125 |
| Australian Duathlon Championships | 60 | - | - |
| Glenelg Jazz Festival | 100 | 100 | - |
| Australian & New Zealand Police Games | - | 50 | 70 |
| 2003-04-05 BMX Championships | 35 | 35 | 35 |
| Fleurieu Biennale | 50 | - | - |
| Australian Masters Games | 100 | 200 | 400 |
| Bay to Birdwood Classic | - | - | - |
| Barossa Under the Stars | - | - | - |
| Golden Oldies Cricket | - | 50 | 60 |
| World Aerobics Championships | 105 | 150 | - |
| World Cup Rugby | 400 | 400 | - |
| WomAdelaide | 100 | - | 100 |
| Total | 8 425 | 8 625 | 7 480 |

(Output class 3.2 for event development totals \$9.481 million,

which includes event expenditure of \$8.425 million and overhead costs of \$1.056 million for the period 2002-03).

Please note that the Bay to Birdwood and Barossa Under the Stars will continue to receive funding through the South Australian Tourism Commission's regional events and festivals program.

With regard to the question of 'what significant reorganisational staff cuts and other changes will take place within Australian Major Events during that period', there are no plans to restructure or cut staff numbers.

In 2002-03, Australian Major Events (AME) will be undertaking an event evaluation process for all AME-managed events, which will involve a full economic and visitor impact study. All major events will need to generate economic impact revenue and also attract greater international and national visitation to the State.

SMALL BUSINESS

In reply to **Mr HAMILTON-SMITH.**

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: The number of proposals considered by cabinet (since the current government was formed) that have included regulatory impact statements is estimated to be 131.

However, it should be noted that regulatory impact statements provide information on the anticipated impact of a proposal that deals with legislation matters on a range of particular interest groups, one of which would be small business.

I am further advised that new guidelines are currently being developed that will ultimately set out an approach to ensure cabinet has better information regarding all matters before it concerning their likely impacts on a range of stakeholders, including small business. My agencies are providing advice in relation to this initiative, which is being coordinated by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE

In reply to **Mr HAMILTON-SMITH.**

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: In response to your questions regarding applications to the tourism development fund up to 30 June 2002, a total of 56 applications were received for round 1 of tourism development fund for 2002-03, of which 22 projects received \$398 288 of support. I recently approved 19 projects totalling \$275 770, with the other three projects approved prior to the bulk of the round 1 applications due to the urgent nature of these requests. Therefore 34 applications were unsuccessful as they failed to meet the guidelines of the tourism development fund.

The tourism development fund is an application-based fund with two intakes per year with an annual budget of \$1 million. The approval of \$398 288 represented the first stage of this expenditure and was within budget.

With reference to net expenditure estimates for output class 2 tourism development for 2002-03 compared with the estimated result for 2001-02, I can advise that government funding for infrastructure projects will decrease by \$4.845 million. This is due to:

1. \$3.0 million funding for the Kangaroo Island Infrastructure fund finishing in 2001-02.

2. A once off payment of \$800 000 for infrastructure upgrades at the Head of Bight in 2001-02.

3. A \$700 000 reduction in the general infrastructure fund that was a project funded over two years (\$2.3 million in 2001-02 and \$1.6 million in 2002-03).

4. A \$545 000 reduction in the tourist road grant program, which is a part of the government's saving strategy.

5. Offset by \$200 000 in 2002-03 for an upgrading to infrastructure at Hack's Point (Coorong).

In 2002-03, net expenditure for the tourism development output is expected to increase from the 2001-02 estimated result of \$6.497 million to \$10.380 million in 2002-03, including \$4.476 million of carried forward infrastructure funds.

m.NET

In reply to **Mr HAMILTON-SMITH.**

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: The Minister for Industry, Industry and Trade was provided the following information:

The member for Waite is correct in recognising the significance of the m.Net Australia project to the state. By way of background, for those members of the house who may not be fully aware, the m.Net project is a test bed for advanced wireless telecommunications services, including, third generation—or so-called 3G services.

In 2001, the m.Net Australia project was one of only three initiatives that succeeded in attracting funding from the Commonwealth's Advanced Networks Program. This resulted in federal funding for the project to the tune of \$9.23 million over three years. This has been matched by a commitment from the state of \$1.8 million, of which \$800 000 will be provided as a cash contribution. The m.Net Australia project has also attracted major telecommunications and IT companies to form the m.Net consortium. To date, 12 organisations have signed the consortium agreement and the partners are committed to providing \$24 million of in-kind support to the project. m.Net has carefully selected its partners—organisations that range from small local companies, national and multinational corporations and the three South Australian universities—to achieve its vision. In fact, the m.Net collaboration model is often cited as one of its greatest strengths.

The m.Net Australia project is a truly national project, and the commercial vehicle established to run it, m.Net Corporation Limited, has committed to maintaining its headquarters here in Adelaide.

m.Net has already achieved significant progress—bearing in mind it has been in operation for less than 12 months. The 3G infrastructure is now in place providing coverage to most of the Adelaide CBD and to a substantial part of the city of Whyalla. Indeed, the network was launched at a function in Whyalla on August 12. The presence of the 3G network in Whyalla means that a major regional community in South Australia is able to participate in the innovation of new services and benefit from the m.Net initiative—particularly in the areas of health and education.

As part of the world congress on IT 2002 held last March, m.Net provided the wireless network for delegates at the congress achieving international recognition for this work including positive coverage by the *Financial Times* in London. The company has been established with a core team consisting of seven staff and a strong board of directors. The company is fortunate to have secured such high quality directors, including the chairman, Emeritus Professor Michael Miller recognised internationally for his expertise in telecommunications research and development.

While much of the effort to date has necessarily focussed on establishing the wireless infrastructure base, the future activities of m.Net are focussed on creating new opportunities that will benefit the South Australian economy. Most industry experts agree that the future viability of, and demand for, 3G telecommunications services will depend on the range of applications available to end-users. Therefore, m.Net is facilitating a new breed of wireless applications, encouraging South Australian and Australian developers to create new mobile services and hopefully bring them to commercial fruition. The benefits to the State and the country are enormous.

The recent launch of the m.Net network in Whyalla demonstrated the first of these new mobile applications. Developed by Medical Communications Associates, a small South Australian based-company, it provides access to patient information and test results for health professionals wherever they may consult—in the hospital, in the surgery, in the home or even at a roadside emergency. But there are also other industry streams that are being facilitated by m.Net with support from the state's financial contribution. These

areas include city business, education, entertainment, tourism and transport.

Over the next few months, m.Net will be conducting a national program of seminars to prospective application developers and content creators in all capital cities and it has invited national research and development organisations to further m.Net's R&D charter. The m.Net network will attract national and perhaps international application developers and telecommunications companies and their customers to Adelaide for testing and demonstration purposes. In fact, this unique initiative provides a real differentiator in our attempts to attract innovative companies to invest in the state.

To maximise the benefit of this project to the state and ensure that our economic objectives are realised, the Office of Economic Development has seconded a senior staff member to work with m.Net identifying investment attraction opportunities and maintaining the linkages with the government and with the state's economic development priorities.

This government is very keen to work closely with the universities to ensure high level, post-graduate education and research activity into wireless technologies and applications occurs in South Australia and that we attract the best researchers and teaching staff to support this.

I am keen to work with other ministers' and their portfolios to identify ways in which the South Australian government can utilise this technology to be more effective and more efficient in delivering services to the community. We aim to leverage the financial support that we have attracted into South Australia from the commonwealth and from national and international companies, into real benefits for the community and a new and exciting industry for South Australia.

ABORIGINAL LEARNING CENTRE

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL.**

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: The Minister for Health has provided the following information:

The Pika Wiya Unique Centre of Learning was created to provide a culturally appropriate learning facility for Aboriginal people training as human service professionals. The Pika Wiya Unique Centre of Learning is not a training provider, and as such students do not 'graduate' from the centre but rather access the centre's support services and resources to enhance their capacity to successfully complete tertiary studies.

The centre is being built over 2 stages. Stage 1 was opened in June 2002. The budget for stage 1, which included building and recurrent funding costs was \$404 000. Funding was provided by a range of stakeholders, including the South Australian and commonwealth governments, and South Australian universities. The Department of Human Services contributed around \$150 000.

The Department of Employment, Further Education, Science and Small Business has not been directly involved in the development of the centre, but contributed \$10 000 towards stage 1.

The Department of Human Services has recently been informed that a joint submission to the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA) for funds from its Indigenous Infrastructure Program to support stage 2 of the development of the Pika Wiya Unique Centre of Learning was successful. It is envisaged that this favourable decision to contribute a \$200 000 grant will enable the completion of stage 2 and the expansion of the current capacity of the centre to 100 students annually, by the end of the current financial year.

The operating budget for the next twelve months, which includes the planned development of stage 2, is estimated to be \$369 000 for building and recurrent funding costs. It is expected that the level of cooperation between stakeholders on this project will continue to thrive, for the benefit of South Australia's Aboriginal communities.

SOLAR ECLIPSE

In reply to **Mr HAMILTON-SMITH.**

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: It is estimated that between 20 000 to 50 000 people will travel to points along the total solar eclipse path in the South Australia outback. Monitoring of accommodation and tour group bookings is constantly being assessed. However, it is impossible to estimate exactly how many people will visit the area, as many people will make their own way there to experience the natural phenomena. Also, many locals may do so at the last minute dependent on weather conditions.

A state government committee known as the year of the outback steering committee under the chairmanship of the chief executive of

the South Australian Tourism Commission has been planning for the management of the total solar eclipse event since October 2001. The steering committee comprises representatives from Transport SA, Department of Human Services, Outback Areas Community Development Trust, SA Police, National Parks & Wildlife SA, Primary Industries and Resources SA, Bureau of Meteorology and the Royal Flying Doctor Service. The Environmental Protection Authority, SA Water and KESAB have also provided advice.

In planning to manage this event, the steering committee is focussing on public safety, risk management, infrastructure needs and environmental management.

The steering committee has been working collaboratively and extensively with communities in Ceduna, Leigh Creek, Lyndhurst, Marree, Andamooka, Woomera, Roxby Downs and Port Augusta as well as local governments across the South Australian outback in developing plans to ensure the state is able to cope with the expected influx of visitors. The steering committee has been seeking input from communities to determine their likely infrastructure and essential services requirements.

The Year of the Outback steering committee has undertaken significant work on the development of emergency response and risk management strategy plans for Ceduna and Flinders Ranges and outback areas of South Australia.

The infrastructure and emergency services committee for Ceduna, chaired by senior sergeant Kym Thomas, has completed its risk management plan and individual agencies, including the SA Police, CFS, SES and ambulance have developed contingency plans to cope with the influx of visitors expected in Ceduna.

An infrastructure and emergency services committee has been established for the Flinders Ranges and outback areas of South Australia. Superintendent Wayne Bristow of Port Augusta police chairs this committee. The committee is currently working through a complete risk assessment plan and representatives on the committee from Transport SA, SA Police, CFS, SES, SA Ambulance, Department of Human Services, Primary Industries and Resources SA, National Parks and Wildlife SA, Bureau of Meteorology and the Royal Flying Doctors Service are formulating their agency emergency response plans and actions required to ensure safety of people travelling through the South Australian outback to view the total solar eclipse. Mr Alec Stevens, formerly of the SA Police and a risk assessment expert, has been commissioned by the year of the outback steering committee to work with the Flinders Ranges and outback infrastructure and emergency services committee in developing the risk management plan. The risk management plan is due for completion by 30 October.

A number of government departments and agencies have spent considerable time, effort and resources in planning for the eclipse through the year of the outback steering committee and at the local level, through the Ceduna and the Flinders Ranges and outback areas infrastructure and emergency services committee.

In particular, the Department of Human Services is responsible for the provision and distribution of information on public health and

safety, including eye safety and viewing an eclipse. The department is currently preparing articles for environmental health officers and doctors in regard to the eclipse and is working on a campaign to educate the public on eye safety. The Department has also worked closely with the district council of Ceduna on evaluating the upgrading of its effluent system. In addition, it is monitoring medical, health and food related issues for events that are occurring throughout the Eyre Peninsula, Flinders Ranges and outback areas.

The SA Police has invested considerable time and human resources in the development of the infrastructure and emergency services committees and the corresponding risk assessment and contingency plans. SA Police is also working closely with the year of the outback steering committee on policing and safety issues.

Transport SA is planning road upgrading and signage to cope with the expected increase in traffic during the period of the total solar eclipse and is working closely with the South Australian Tourism Commission's eclipse event coordinators on other transport and road related issues.

The South Australian Tourism Commission has allocated \$100 000 in its 2002-03 budget to focus on the total solar eclipse. These funds have gone towards the appointment of an event coordinator, Mr Rob Curkpatrick, who has been contracted by Ceduna Council since January 2002. Mr Curkpatrick has subsequently been appointed to coordinate planning for the Flinders Ranges and Outback SA and is working closely with key stakeholders, including the South Australian Tourism Commission's year of the outback group, SA Police and emergency services agencies.

These funds are also being used to produce an event, safety and town information brochure, a dedicated website (www.eclipse2002.com.au), due to be launched by the end of September, develop a media and PR strategy and for extensive community consultation.

Other agencies such as National Parks & Wildlife SA, Primary Industries & Resources SA and SA Water will provide valuable assistance during the eclipse period.

In addition to the internal resources committed by these state government agencies, the South Australian government is providing a special allocation of \$600 000 in preparation for the total solar eclipse.

\$210 000 will support medical services and the delivery of public safety information as well as provide basic infrastructure, such as toilets, lighting and parking at four designated public safety sites close to sealed highways.

\$170 000 has been set aside for rehabilitation works, as well as additional assistance for state and local government agencies coping with added demands.

The state government will also provide financial assistance of \$220 000 towards the overall cost of upgrading Ceduna's effluent system to ensure that the town can cope with the expected increase number of visitors as well as provide long-term benefits for the town.

I assure the member that the planning process is well underway to ensure the state is able to cope with the expected influx of visitors wanting an eclipse experience.