

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday 24 September 1987

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

Chairperson:

Ms D.L. Gayler

Members:

Mr H. Becker
 Mr M.R. De Laine
 Mr G.M. Gunn
 Ms S.M. Lenehan
 The Hon. J.W. Slater
 The Hon. D.C. Wotton

The Committee met at 11 a.m.

The CHAIRPERSON: The procedure to be adopted will be relatively informal. There is no need to stand to ask or answer questions. The Committee will determine the approximate timetable for consideration of proposed payments to facilitate the changeover of departmental advisers. Changes to the composition of the Committee will be notified to the Clerk as they occur. If the Minister undertakes to supply information at a later date, it must be in a form that is suitable for insertion in *Hansard* and submitted at the latest by 9 October. I propose to allow the lead speaker for the Opposition and the Minister to make an opening statement of about 10 minutes if they so wish.

The Committee will take a flexible approach to the call for the asking of questions based on three questions per member and alternating sides. Members will also be allowed to ask a brief supplementary question to conclude a line of questioning. Subject to the convenience of the Committee a member outside the Committee who wishes to ask a question will be permitted to do so once Committee members have exhausted a line of questioning. An indication in advance by members outside the Committee would be appreciated.

Questions should be based on lines of expenditure as revealed in the Estimates of Payments. However, reference may also be made to other documents, such as the Program Estimates and the Auditor-General's Report. The Minister will be asked to introduce his advisers prior to the commencement and at any changeover. Questions are to be directed through the Chair to the Minister and not to advisers but, of course, the Minister may refer questions to his advisers for a response.

Housing and Construction, \$218 264 000.
 Works and Services—Department of Housing and Construction, \$276 035 000

Witness:

The Hon T.H. Hemmings, Minister of Housing and Construction.

Departmental Advisers:

Mr P. Edwards, General Manager, South Australian Housing Trust.
 Mr G.J. Black, Director, Housing, Department of Housing and Construction.

Ms C. Dayman, Research Officer, Office of Housing.

The CHAIRPERSON: I declare the proposed payments open for examination and I invite the lead speaker for the Opposition and the Minister to make an opening statement.

Mr BECKER: I will not make an opening statement because I take this as an opportunity to seek information from the Minister. The questions and the Minister's answers will suffice.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: There has been discussion between myself and the member for Hanson resulting in the fact that from now until 4.30 p.m. we will deal with aspects in relation to housing and from 4.30 p.m. to close of proceedings we will be discussing the Department of Housing and Construction.

I would like to make a few brief comments to open this Estimates Committee hearing today. Public housing in South Australia and housing for people in need has gone through substantial change over the last financial year and for the financial year we are now entering. Members will be aware that funding through the Federal budget has been curtailed to the extent that in the current financial year this Government will receive only \$51 million in Loan Council Funds against the \$131 million two budgets ago.

Notwithstanding this financial constraint, members of this Parliament and the community at large can feel proud of the achievements in housing our needy over the past year. I would like to commend the effort and dedication of all people, in both the public and private sector, who have worked so hard to achieve the Government's program over the past year. I commend the trust for its quality management and quote the Auditor-General in his remarks on the trust. He said:

The trust has been confronted with:

- an ever increasing demand for low rental accommodation;
- a growing number of pensioner and other tenants in necessitous circumstances entitled to rental rebates;
- providing increased assistance to low income earners housed by the private sector to meet their rent and mortgage obligations.

It is an extremely difficult task to balance and meet those demands within the limited and increasingly costly resources available.

The positive attitude by the trust in meeting these demands is commended. Ongoing reviews, both internal and external, have produced worthwhile results and need to continue. Current initiatives under way deserve support and encouragement by all concerned.

The Auditor-General highlighted need and responsive management. I would like to put on record some of the achievements in housing over the past 12 months. This year is International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. This Government has been concerned to explain to the community that this 'Year' is intended to highlight concerns within the community. We are dealing with a community problem including economic, social and political issues. It is simply not possible to resolve homelessness at the stroke of a pen. Many groups in our community suffer homelessness including young people, broken families, Aborigines, and people in poverty. The effort is in recognising within our relatively affluent community our own homelessness problems.

A great deal of work has been put into developing ongoing programs through this year which will benefit people in the future and there will be capital grants announced soon which give the bricks and mortar to a successful contribution to this International Year. I will also soon be releasing a report by professionals in the field of youth homelessness. This report highlights the difficult and often unresolvable nature of young homelessness. It is a difficult area, a contentious area, but I believe we will see worthwhile outcomes to meet our community needs.

I now want to turn to some of the nitty gritty results of the past year, as follows:

- a HOME Program of low interest loans for home buyers of 2 700 homes and a value of \$115 million;
- the trust received 17 371 applications for housing and now has a waiting list of some 45 000 people;
- 8 376 households allocated public housing—a record year;
- 702 houses and 30 co-ops on the ground at 30 June 1987;
- six tenant management committees established in 1986-87, making a total of 24 to date;
- 8 720 rent relief recipients at 30 June, 1987;
- 515 mortgage relief recipients at 30 June 1987;
- 2 680 new houses completed;
- 1 812 building commencements;
- the creation of 10 520 new jobs in the building industry and related areas and the completion of the 100 000th house in the 50th Anniversary year of the trust; and
- six Civic Trust Awards and commendations.

These programs have brought considerable benefit to thousands of South Australian families and have generated immense economic gain to the South Australian community. As a matter of interest members will be impressed that the total number of houses built by this Government through the Housing Trust now totals almost 12 000 homes, which is more homes than the cities of Port Pirie and Port Augusta combined. Members will be aware that all the construction and maintenance work is done by the private sector and that the State has a good balance of public and private enterprise in delivering housing services, whether they are through home ownership or public housing.

The future of the funding arrangements for public housing are a cause for concern. It appears likely that Federal funding will be limited and the anticipated program of 12 000 homes over four years for the second Bannon Government will be difficult to realise. However, the Federal Government, through the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, will continue to support public housing and this State will continue to receive more than \$70 million per year in direct grants. I am sad to inform members that, should there have been a change at the last Federal election, this program would have been abolished.

The Federal budget's downward pressure on interest rates is cause for some optimism in the construction industry and this Government believes that opportunities now exist for development within a fairer and more equitable industry. Madam Chair, I have used this opportunity to outline some of the issues confronting the Government, and I would look forward to members to ask further questions on matters they see fit.

Mr BECKER: Before I commence, I get tired having to refute 'If the Liberal Party had won Government, this housing policy would have gone out the window', etc. That is absolute nonsense, and the Minister knows that as well as I do. It is totally hypothetical. Why did the Minister request the Acting Chairman of the South Australian Housing Trust to write the introduction to the annual report for the financial year ended 30 June 1986 obviously attacking Liberal Party housing policy suggestions? On page 3 of the Housing Trust report for the year ended 30 June 1986, the introduction states, in part:

It has been suggested that the promotion of home ownership among existing trust tenants should be encouraged by offering properties for sale at a substantial discount. At a time when economic policies appear to dictate severe constraints on growth in public expenditure and maximum efficiency in the utilisation of existing public assets it would be wholly inconsistent to dispose of scarce public assets in great demand, such as public housing, at prices as low as half market price.

The report continued:

Selling public housing at a discount would also have some perverse effects.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The short answer to that is that this Government does not instruct anyone in the South Australian Housing Trust to write anything in its reports. I think that the honourable member's suggestion is totally outrageous. One of the strengths of the South Australian Housing Trust is that it is an autonomous body and that has been to the benefit of Labor Administrations as well as Liberal Administrations, so that has put that accusation to rest. I would ask the General Manager to add anything further if he wishes.

Mr Edwards: I can state categorically that no advice or instruction whatsoever of any kind was received. The statement was one approved by the whole board of the trust and it was made because the board of the trust felt, as an organisation which had 50 years history and expertise in housing, that it was appropriate for it to make its contribution to this debate which had been going on for quite some time. The issue arises not only in this State but, generally speaking, around Australia and around the world. The trust felt that it was inappropriate that it should keep its mouth shut on an issue of significant importance to it and the tenants on its waiting list. Clearly, this was not written in any politically contentious way. It was written—and I believe it reads—as an objective statement.

Mr BECKER: That is the first time in 18 years that I have seen a report emanating from a statutory authority that attacks the policies of an Opposition. As far as I know, we were not consulted as to the depth of our policy.

Mr GUNN: It was inaccurate.

Mr BECKER: That is right. I was very disappointed, because I would have thought that the 50th anniversary of the Housing Trust would give it the opportunity to really blow its trumpet as to some of the marvellous things that have been achieved over the past 50 years. As I said, I have my suspicions, but I was disappointed that those comments were made in that annual report.

What positive action has the Housing Trust taken following the release of the Parliamentary Public Accounts Committee report into replacement of ageing assets? As the Minister would know, quite a detailed Public Accounts Committee report has been made as to the assets owned by the State, the ageing of the assets and the possible replacement of them. If we look at the Public Accounts Committee report, we find that the suggested replacement costs for the Housing Trust by the year 1990 could be up to \$145 million, by 1995, another \$190 million, by 2000, \$214 million; and, by 2005, \$240 million, which totals about \$789 million. Following a review of the Public Accounts Committee report in the *National Times* of 26 October 1986, Christopher Jay states:

About 60 per cent of housing components, particularly the outer structure, have a long life. The remaining 40 per cent give rise to replacement costs which every 53½ years, equal the entire replacement value. The big replacement costs usually occur when houses are 30 to 40 years old.

The article further states:

The types of repairs required would include replacing ceilings (especially those built in the late 1950s, when hemp was used instead of sisal fibre); replacing roofs of corrugated iron or asbestos sheeting; replacing brick courses, windows, gutters, drains, waste pipes, water services, bathroom and kitchen fittings.

The estimated projected cost of \$789 million by the year 2005 must be of great concern to the Government.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Public Accounts Committee for its in-depth exercise as to asset replacement not only in relation to the South Australian Housing Trust but also in relation to all aspects of assets and services that are owned

by the Government for the use of the community. In fact, at the last ministerial Housing Ministers meeting, the subject of asset replacement was discussed. At that meeting I made the report of the Public Accounts Committee available to other Ministers, and it was well received. I circulated that same report also only a couple of weeks ago at the Construction Ministers conference in Canberra.

Bearing in mind that the Northern Territory Government is a relatively young Government, it was quite keen, and there have been discussions between the Northern Territory equivalent to the Department of Housing and Construction and Penny Burns, whom the member for Hanson knows very well—

Mr BECKER: She is a member of your staff.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Yes, she has made information available. I will refer to the General Manager the question of the trust's response to that report dealing with the ageing assets of the South Australian Housing Trust.

Mr Edwards: The trust took this report very seriously. It studied and considered it at board and senior management level. As a consequence we decided that we would seek some external assistance from a professional consultancy firm which has had extensive experience in advising a whole range of organisations, including various major private sector organisations and public housing authorities in Australia and overseas, on maintenance policies. We contracted with this firm to carry out a review of the implications for the trust of the Public Accounts Committee report and matters relating to maintenance generally.

In the course of carrying out that review they consulted with and got advice from Dr Burns, formally of the Public Accounts Committee Secretariat, and it was agreed that the approach taken was compatible and consistent with the views of the report. The report identified a number of areas for further work, including, for example, the establishment and clear according of appropriate standards of maintenance which should be adopted and which if maintained on a yearly basis would ensure that the trust's rental housing stock was always in a good and adequate condition for tenants to occupy, thus minimising the kind of problems that were identified in the report—and the work on that has started.

Indeed, as a matter of interest, at its last meeting early this year the Housing Trust board formally approved the statement of standards, which was derived following the exercise to which I have referred. A number of other exercises are in train. I believe that the trust has responded to the ideas that have been put forward. The trust is developing and implementing maintenance policies and practices which will ensure that we maintain our properties to the highest standard without building up a future dam of maintenance problems.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: If I can further add to that: I am sure that the member for Hanson will appreciate that, whilst my contribution here is in relation to urban consolidation, in effect I am trying to pre-empt some of the further problems that we might have down the track. I am pleased to announce to the Committee that in relation to this area I have instructed the trust to go down a certain path in relation to urban consolidation and redevelopment, especially in the metropolitan area. I think it is fair to say that in the area of urban consolidation and redevelopment of the inner metropolitan area, the trust is a leader in its field.

There have been some pleasing examples of the private sector coming into that area in conjunction with the South Australian Housing Trust, through joint ventures, etc. Some 40 per cent of the 1987-88 program is planned for the central metropolitan area, and some of the consolidation initiatives

include: area developments in older established trust localities, such as Mitchell Park and Hillcrest—and this picks up some of the points that the Public Accounts Committee highlighted: spot redevelopments of existing trust housing, such as replacing two double unit pairs with aged cottage flats; infill housing on vacant land or in conjunction with purchased housing; and conversions, such as turning a pair of three bedroom double units into three one bedroom units.

The projects aim—and this relates to what the PAC picked up—to renew or repair rundown buildings which are structurally cracked, etc., provide a more appropriate range of dwelling types, particularly involving the addition of one or two bedroom types, environmentally improve the areas involved, provide traffic management landscaping, etc., and possibly create some opportunity for tenure mix.

There are some areas in particular that I think the Committee should know about. A long-term plan for the Mitchell Park area, containing nearly 400 double units, has been prepared and endorsed by council. The first building project, involving the demolition of five pairs of double units and a relocation of reserved space to allow for 17 new dwellings is shortly to begin. At Hillcrest (and I am sure the member for Gilles will be pleased to hear this), the redevelopment in the first area involved contains some 80 pairs of Prolita double units. The member for Gilles would be aware of what they are. Concept plans have been discussed with the residents and design work has begun on the first two sites.

Further, Port Adelaide is another area where we should not only redevelop or work on our existing stock but also new stock, as that, in fact, lessens the cost of infrastructure, which again is a point that the Public Accounts Committee picked up. In this area, the first of the trust's recent area redevelopments, planning authorisation has just been received for the latest stage involving the provision of 12 houses. This project will bring the total number of dwellings to 168, with nine rehabilitative, 65 newly constructed, and 82 design and construct dwellings.

At Thebarton and Mile End the trust owns over 100 properties in the council area, many providing land behind purchased houses for new developments in the laneway areas of Mile End. Discussions are under way with the council on ways to integrate trust project work with council programs, initiatives and statutory incentives and controls. If we look at the examples I have given, we see that it is in the western suburbs and the inner metropolitan area that we are having the greatest success and cooperation with local government.

Whilst urban consolidation has never been discussed fully in the Parliament, the release by the Minister of Environment and Planning on our urban consolidation program has caused initial debate. The key factor for urban consolidation (and picking up the points that the member for Hanson has raised in his question) is cooperation from local government to enable us to utilise to the best extent that land which is available to us where there are existing trust homes or other land where we can do some innovative infill development.

Mr GUNN: I take it from what the Minister has said in reply to the member for Hanson that the trust will then devote a considerable proportion of its resources towards this urban consolidation policy with townhouses, cluster houses, and so on. Will the Minister give an assurance that with the policy (with which I have no argument and which I support) there will be no extensive high rise developments which, in other parts of the world, have created real problems?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The member for Eyre can be assured that, whilst this Government is in office, that will not happen, and I am sure that I speak also for his own Party. I do not think that it would be a goer even if the Liberal Party was in office. I think I can speak for my Party as well as the honourable member's Party.

Mr BECKER: I totally agree. The work has been undertaken in cooperation with the Port Adelaide council. It is worth noting that the latest development down there is the best I have seen anywhere in Australia. It is great to see it. How can the Housing Trust fund such a program until the year 2005?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I will ask Mr Edwards to give his viewpoint. The Public Accounts Committee highlighted in all areas of its report the problem that the total cost to Government was horrific. An attitude exists out in the community (and we are talking about services rather than houses) that, if you cannot see electrical and sewerage services breaking down, there is nothing to fear. That is a problem that the Government must resolve.

In the areas of assets that one can see, such as Government buildings or public sector housing, it is possible to sell it to the community. However, the problem is that we have seen significant cutbacks by the Federal Government in relation to public housing. Regardless of which Government is in office, this State has always placed a high priority on housing. However, the more we have the more the cost of day-to-day cyclical maintenance increases I ask the General Manager to give some response on how the trust is addressing this problem. I assure the Committee that Governments will be facing this problem for the next 10 to 15 years. The problem will not be resolved easily.

The problem will not be resolved easily.

Mr Edwards: A substantial part of the cost of maintenance is borne by the tenants themselves, not charged directly on Government funds. The report that the trust received from these external consultants suggested that it could establish and achieve an appropriate standard of maintenance that would ensure the protection of the assets into the future without creating an unacceptable burden on tenants for that maintenance cost, particularly through various suggestions for improving efficiency and getting more use from the maintenance dollar. Those matters are being pursued, but it is a necessarily long-term program. Another important point is to step up the trust's communications with tenants so that they can participate and understand that the degree to which they look after the property that they occupy helps to reduce future increases in their own rents because of increased maintenance costs. The trust will encourage that attitude through tenant involvement programs of one kind or another. It will be possible to maintain the public housing stock in this State in a manner acceptable to tenants and the community without creating major drains on public resources.

Mr BECKER: What immediate action has been taken to improve management, accountability and efficiency in the Emergency Housing Office in view of the Auditor-General's remarks on page 372 of his Annual Report for the financial year ending 30 June 1987, as follows:

A recent review of the operations of the office by internal audit points to an unsettled and poorly structured staffing situation, incomplete financial control procedures, delays in attending to client requests and no effective monitoring of staff attendance.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I am not sure whether the member for Hanson was talking about the Government's response to the management side of emergency or crisis housing or the areas mentioned by the Auditor-General in his report. Perhaps he can clarify that.

Mr BECKER: I asked what immediate action has been taken to improve management, accountability and efficiency at the Emergency Housing Office. By way of explanation I quoted the Auditor-General's comments. Having visited the Emergency Housing Office, I am aware of the pressures and stress that its employees are under from time to time and of the difficulties that they experience. For example, they would like a word processor or computer to help with the storage of records. I thought that the Auditor-General's comments were pretty severe. Because they have been made, it is logical to ask the Minister what he is doing about it.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The member for Hanson has visited the Emergency Housing Office and he made some rather complimentary comments in a speech about the delivery of service provided by the officers under stress, of which everyone is aware. I know that the member for Mawson has also shown an interest in that kind of service, as well as building homes and putting people into them.

Since its inception, the Emergency Housing Office has grown from a staff of eight to the levels shown in the Auditor-General's Report. Indeed, my present Director worked in that office at that time. The current approved staff is 60 plus two temporaries who are engaged in the recovery of outstanding rental bonds. The number of 70 reported by the Auditor-General includes relief staff who are responding to the crisis situation. As I said in my opening remarks, that growth reflects the demand that is being placed on the Emergency Housing Office. Expectation is growing that the office exists not only to provide bond relief and assistance to get people into private sector housing while they are waiting for trust accommodation but to provide research and documentation on housing needs, which is very important in liaising with other agencies, such as the Department for Community Welfare, in meeting a crisis problem that may come from that department. As members of the Committee are well aware, the Emergency Housing Office has also been extended with my concurrence with the introduction of Whereabouts, a free referral service for anyone to ring and get information. It must provide a back-up.

The services of the Emergency Housing Office have been introduced into country areas with a toll free telephone service and in conjunction with some regional offices of the South Australian Housing Trust. This has been building up into an area that is causing concern to the Auditor-General with regard to the cost of providing that service, and on the human side, because of the stress factor, which the member for Hanson picked up.

Before the Auditor-General came to see me, I initiated a report, following the Touche Ross review of the South Australian Housing Trust, which indicated that the staff levels and funding reported by the Auditor-General this year were appropriate. A number of actions have been taken to address the issue raised in the course of the reviews and audits and through discussions with the Public Service Association with regard to the working conditions of its members. Eleven Emergency Housing Office staff have been relocated from the overcrowded Currie Street premises pending determination of new office requirements. The member for Hanson will be well aware of those conditions. A new office has been leased to replace the unsatisfactory accommodation at Noarlunga, and I am sure that the member for Mawson is aware of that. Steps have been taken to make permanent a number of acting positions within the Emergency Housing Office and permanently fill positions long occupied on a temporary basis. Nevertheless, I admit

that the number of temporary arrangements remains unacceptably high.

A recent internal audit, which was set in train long before the Auditor-General came to see me, has identified a number of issues of internal management and service delivery on which the Manager has been directed to take appropriate action. In August 1986, I directed that there would be no further increases in EHO staff or its budget in real terms. It was a difficult decision but was necessary because last year we felt the first bite of the cut in Federal Loan Council nominated funds. That reflects the direction in which the Ministry is going to overcome some of the management problems.

A South Australian residency requirement for assistance has been introduced. Furniture assistance to houses administered by the Emergency Housing Office has been restricted. I was interested to hear a speech by the member for Hanson on the movement of furniture; it was very apt. It is a problem for the department but, with funding cuts, one must cut the cloth to suit the greatest need faced by the Emergency Housing Office.

There is a long way to go in improving the management skills and the ability to respond to those people seeking assistance. I think it is fair to say, when looking at the work that is being carried out by the Emergency Housing Office, that people who go there expect an instant response because they are in crisis. This is not your normal young married couple or engaged couple seeking their first form of accommodation, which will hopefully end in home ownership. Rather, it is the people at the bottom end of the market who need assistance and who need it quickly. I think all members of the Committee would agree that, despite some of the problems that the department is having with the Emergency Housing Office, it is meeting a need and deserves to be congratulated.

I am pleased that the member included in his explanation the problem of stress. There is stress on those people seeking assistance, but there is also stress on the people delivering the service. As long as people are aware of that fact in their criticisms—and I do not take the member for Hanson's question as a criticism—then we will be on the right track towards solving some of the problems that the department has with the Emergency Housing Office.

Ms LENEHAN: I concur with the Minister and the member for Hanson in their comments about the stress that staff at the Emergency Housing Office are placed under. I am only too well aware of their problems as I have an office in the southern area. My first question relates to the Department of Housing and Construction program 1 concessions. However, before I can ask the question I need more information. Reference is made to concessions for rent rebate and mortgage and rent relief which total \$51 350 000, but I cannot find anywhere in the Program Estimates the total actual payment for the last financial year. My question relates to the Auditor-General's Report and the last financial year's payment. As a point of clarification, can the Minister provide that figure?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I think the problem that the member for Mawson has—and I am sure it is a problem that members have had right through these Estimates Committees—results from the new Audit Act. Whereas the figures for 1986-87 are stated, the figures for 1987-88 may not be and *vice versa*. Following the introduction of the Public Finance and Audit Acts, which came into being on 1 July this year, SACON, which is the Department of Housing and Construction, resumed responsibility for all Commonwealth funding arrangements, including receipt of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement funds. As a result

SACON introduced two new programs into its budget structure for the 1987-88 program: program 1, concessions, and program 3, public housing, to cater for the additional funds which were previously credited to the Treasury account.

That is why those figures are not apparent. The figure for rent rebates for 1986-87 is \$34.5 million and for 1987-88 the projected figure is \$43.7 million; for rent relief for 1986-87 the figure is \$7.1 million, and for 1987-88 it is \$6.9 million; and for mortgage relief for 1986-87 it is \$8 million, and for 1987-88 it is \$7.5 million. I have included rental rebates and mortgage relief in that reply for the member for Mawson in case a supplementary question is asked on that aspect of the new Public Finance and Audit Acts.

Ms LENEHAN: Page 371 of the Auditor-General's Report states that 'the representative sample indicates that possibly in excess of \$400 000 was being paid to persons who did not qualify for benefits. The matter, reported to the trust in July 1987, contains recommendations for follow-up action and the tightening of procedures and controls'. I am aware that we are talking about an enormous sum of something like \$34.5 million and that inevitably some people, whose circumstances have changed and who are no longer eligible for the receipt of benefits, will slip through the net. I think it is important that how the Minister intends to address this point is placed on record. The Auditor-General has raised this point that it is possible that \$400 000 is being wrongly paid. Can the Minister say how he intends to address this particular point?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I would like to correct a statement made by the member for Mawson when she quoted \$34 million. That figure relates to rent rebates, it is a subsidy that has been allowed for trust tenants who are in necessitous circumstances. The figure that the Auditor-General was referring to of \$400 000 relates to the figure of \$7.1 million. It should be made clear that the survey in effect recognised a potential—and I underline that word 'potential'—abuse of the rent relief system. The trust, on its own initiative, did not respond to the Auditor-General's Report, but undertook a survey. If the Committee is aware of the way in which this survey was done it would perhaps come to the conclusion that the Housing Trust and my Ministry have come to, that the figure of \$400 000 is a potential, not a loss, to the South Australian Housing Trust.

The trust arranged for hand delivery of 93 rent relief cheques. The survey found that five recipients were not entitled to rent relief, and that 20 may not have fully disclosed their income. This is a very small sample, about 1 per cent of the recipients. I think it is questionable to extend that conclusion to mean a net sum of \$400 000 was inappropriately paid. Nevertheless, the Housing Trust, following receipt of that information, had taken action long before the Auditor-General's Report was published. The Auditor-General in effect picked it up as a result of the trust's actions. The application form for rent relief has now been amended to include the following declaration and warning:

I declare that the above information is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and I will notify the South Australian Housing Trust immediately of any changes in my rent, income, address or household.

In the event of a false declaration, assistance will be terminated without further notice and you will be liable to repay any moneys to which you were not entitled.

That in effect is almost a statutory declaration. Documentation provided as a proof of income and rent is also being more stringently assessed, especially in respect to the currency of rent receipts and a proof of income. Action has been taken, initially through correspondence and subsequently, if necessary, through recovery officers, to recover

payments to which recipients were not entitled. It is arguable that this \$400 000 is a scam or a scandal, as the newspapers put it (I do not think it is), and as a result of the initial survey the trust is taking action against those who have falsely claimed rent relief.

At the same time (and this is the vexed question that the trust is faced with) as a result of the Touche Ross report which resulted in this Government's notifying the tenants that there will be significant rent increases, I notified the Housing Trust that it had to have a 2 per cent productivity gain per year. If the community feels that we should police every person who receives rent relief by physically going around and handing them their cheque and asking them to complete the survey, the cost of that service rises astronomically, so the trust has to draw the middle line. We will continually monitor it to see that there are no people abusing the system, because we are not in the business of giving money to those people who abuse the system, and we will take every effort to ensure that they do not.

The other point that I think needs to be made is in relation to the 20 who may not have fully disclosed their income. At the same time that the *Adelaide News* gave us the \$400 000 scam and rent relief scandal, two pages further on was a report of a positive survey that had been carried out by the education authorities, both State and Federal, that stated that in South Australia there were something like 50 000 adults who were illiterate. The point I am making is that in relation to those 20 who had not fully disclosed their income, it was not a case that they were deliberately trying to cheat the system: they just did not understand the way the forms were presented to them. It was correct for the Auditor-General to highlight possible problems, but it is fair to place on record that these were the result of initiatives taken by the Housing Trust to overcome a potential abuse.

Ms LENEHAN: I just want to put on the public record that I was in no way trying to be seen as somebody hounding the poorest in our community but trying to ensure the very critical resources are being channelled to those most in need, and that was something that the Auditor-General had highlighted. My next question relates to the introductory statement made by the Minister and also to the line in program 3 of Public Housing under International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. I noted in the Minister's introduction that he stressed that the Government was concerned to explain to the community that this year is intended to highlight the concerns within the community and, in fact, if you like, pick up on that whole social justice area where we are dealing with community problems which are both economic and social, as well as political.

A great deal of work is being put into the development of ongoing programs throughout this year that will benefit people in future, and some capital grants to be announced in future will actually provide bricks and mortar as a successful contribution to this international year. My question relates to the fact that there has been some discussion in the media, and I am sure that the Minister will be quite well aware of it as he was part of it, where there seems to be a misunderstanding, particularly by some of the media personnel in South Australia, that the International Year of Shelter is not necessarily about building huge monuments but, indeed, is about a whole community awareness issue.

It is not something that is just done for one year and then it all goes away and everyone forgets about it. I have referred to the Minister's introductory comments because it seems to me that it is important to have on the public record just what is the intention of the International Year of Shelter. I would like the Minister, therefore, perhaps once

again, for the public record, to outline what are the aims of the International Year of Shelter, and perhaps briefly discuss the way in which that \$238 000 will be dispersed in terms of meeting those aims and goals for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I am sure that in my reply I will quote a telephone conversation that I had with the member for Hanson, and I am sure he will not mind, because we were talking about things which pick up what the member for Mawson has highlighted. Consistent with the United Nations declared objectives and those endorsed by the Australian Government, there are three main objectives: first, to increase funding for housing. The reasons are fairly obvious—a growing number of low income households needing affordable housing; a reduction in Commonwealth funding; and the need to identify alternative sources of and mechanisms for funding, for example, through private finance, joint ventures, superannuation funds, etc.

The second objective was to better target existing housing funds to areas of greatest need where we must identify ways that funds can be used more effectively and efficiently to assist those in the greatest need. The third objective was to raise community awareness of housing issues. The reason is again fairly obvious: there is much ignorance and misunderstanding in the community about the plight of the homeless and the inadequately housed. Further, there is a need to provide better information and awareness that is totally necessary if we are to come up with the proper solutions.

Of those three objectives, the third is the one that the member for Mawson's question related to, and that is the one that is so necessary. As I said in my opening remarks, homelessness cannot be eliminated by the stroke of a pen. There are people whose perceptions of homelessness are totally different. To some, homelessness is someone who is perhaps sleeping rough on Whitmore Square or at the Adelaide Railway Station. To others, homelessness is those people who live in unsafe and totally inadequate housing, but you can argue in comparison with Third World countries that they are housed. There are others who spend most of their young life—and that is the unfortunate thing, a lot of the homelessness involves young people—moving from house to house, sleeping in someone's front room, kitchen or caravan. There are cases of people who sleep in cars. Our biggest problem is to overcome that problem.

What the member for Mawson is saying was really brought to the fore when we erected the IYSH tower at the intersection of West Terrace and Anzac Highway. Criticism was made by members of the media—not by anyone in the political arena—that the Government was patting itself on the back and saying, 'This is the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless: look what we have done.' Yet the tower was for the exact opposite reason—this is the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless: start to think exactly what you can do regarding homelessness. That is why I referred to the telephone conversation I had with the member for Hanson because I inadvertently omitted to invite him to the opening of that tower.

Also, I omitted to invite the member for Adelaide. The member for Hanson seemed to think that I would receive more flak from the member for Adelaide than I would from him. I am sure that the member for Hanson will not mind my repeating the conversation because, contrary to what people may think, we have a very good relationship. The member for Hanson said, 'We have to overcome the "I'm all right, Jack" attitude' and, basically, that is what it was about. At the same time, as a result of \$100 000 which I made available through the Commonwealth-State Housing

Agreement and \$80 000 from State sources for IYSH, there were funds for non-capital developmental grants.

The first round of that funding which was announced at the function was a grant to the Australian Institute of Building Surveyors Conference of \$1 000 which would provide funding for students to attend that organisation's forum which dealt with the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. I addressed that conference, and it was gratifying to see that the students present were interested in the subject of homelessness because, when we are dealing with the topic of homelessness, the attitude has to be changed from one of 'I want something for myself' to 'We want something for others who have not got it.' Really, that is my non-tertiary educated way of saying that, rather than worrying about ourselves, we are worrying about our fellow man.

A grant of \$5 000 was made to the West End Baptist Mission to study the health problems and needs of the Whitmore Square homeless. Some people in our society seem to think that those people are the only homeless that we have. Further, a grant of \$3 500 was made to the Community Aid Abroad Conference to look at the work that that organisation is doing for the homeless in the Third World and to begin looking at a way in which it can address the problem of homelessness within the State of South Australia. A grant of \$26 000 was made to Shelter, South Australia, in order to assist non-government organisations to develop IYSH projects. The CITY project group received \$1 200 in order to raise community awareness as to aspects of housing for unemployed young people.

We have a further group of applications which are being assessed and, where necessary, further information is being sought. I will announce those grants very shortly. In conjunction with the Department of Education we undertook a schools' essay competition, again to promote awareness amongst young students so that they might begin to worry about the topic of homelessness. That competition has been very successful and the prize will be announced, I think, some time at the end of October.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: Is the prize a house?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: No, the prize is not a house. The International Year of Shelter for the Homeless information kit has been well received. We anticipated that during the Estimates Committee hearings a question would be raised about IYSH. We have a very good secretariat which comprises seconded officers from the Department for Community Welfare and the Health Commission. The secretariat has estimated that, during the time since it has been established, it has spoken to groups or individuals representing 10 000 people. In relation to promoting awareness, that is an amazing record. I have letters that testify to the fact that our people have talked to individual groups that have collected money.

The money really has not involved large amounts. In one particular case one of my officers went to the Barossa Valley to talk to the Barossa Light brownie group, and after that meeting those kids organised a collection amongst themselves and their parents, as a result of which they collected a sum of \$78. Although that is not big bickies, it demonstrates how a group of young seven, eight and nine year-olds, as a result of my people talking to them about the problem of homelessness and what it is all about, collected \$78. That money went to the Salvation Army to provide some form of Christmas parcels for those people who live in Salvation Army hostels.

The Modbury-Marion Church of Latter Day Saints collected \$1 158, which was then channelled into an emergency accommodation program at Murray Bridge. I have received endless letters of thanks not in relation to what this Government is doing, but, rather, in relation to the aims of

IYSH and the contributions from the community. I think that in all the discussions that have taken place between the shadow spokesperson on housing and me, there has been no dispute about the aims of the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless. There may be some criticism as to the delays, but there is no dispute as to its aims and objectives. I have always made the point that credit for what is done in the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless goes not to this Government but, rather, to the community. In that regard, I think that I speak for both sides of the political spectrum.

The objectives are being met. As I said the last time that Parliament sat, some of the bricks and mortar programs are still going through the process of the Residential Tenancies Tribunal. People who have some legal training will understand that this is a long and slow process, but we are quite convinced that the programs that are being put forward to the Residential Tenancies Tribunal have merit, that they meet all the requirements of the legislation and that in the very near future they will go ahead.

Membership:

Mr Oswald substituted for the Hon. D.C. Wotton.

Ms LENEHAN: In relation to the whole question of youth housing, and particularly youth homelessness, I note on page 465 of the Program Estimates, under the heading 'Public Housing', that one of the specific targets for 1987-88 is discussion about the youth housing inquiry and strategies being identified, together with the completion of a report. Can the Minister advise when that report will be publicly released so that the community may have a look at some of the strategies and proposals contained in the report?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Again, this is something about which the member for Hanson and I share the same concerns. I think it is just the time scale that concerns the honourable member. As a result of our policy during the 1985 election campaign, we announced that there would be a youth housing inquiry. In mid 1986 it was launched by me, with the following terms of reference: to determine the needs of young people; to review current housing programs and means of employment; to make recommendations for new initiatives to ensure that young people in need can secure affordable housing; and to formulate plans for implementing the inquiry recommendations.

The steering committee for the inquiry was appointed and it consisted of representatives from various Government agencies and community organisations. I was of the view (and obviously my Cabinet colleagues agreed) that, if we are to look at a problem that we all know exists, we have to obtain views from all sections of the community rather than set it up by individual ministries. Unfortunately, in the Eastern States any reviews concerning this problem have always been done in-house, and I feel that that does not really provide the correct picture.

A project officer was appointed to undertake research and consultation on behalf of the committee. As part of that consultation process, in August 1986 a public call for submissions was made and public meetings were held in regional and metropolitan centres. The finance and administrative support for the inquiry was provided by the Department of Housing, and additional funding has been provided from moneys approved of by me for projects undertaken through the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless and from funds allocated from the Commonwealth funded Crisis Accommodation Program.

As to the state of the inquiry at this time, I point out that the committee has finished meeting, and has finalised

consultation, information gathering and recommendations. A report has now been written up and typed and final editing details are now being undertaken. It will be signed and presented to me within the next week or so. I will not be any more specific than that, otherwise the member for Hanson might, after a certain date, stand up and say that it has not happened. It is a comprehensive document which attempts to deal realistically with the current housing problems facing young people and to make recommendations on how to address those problems. As people familiar with the problems involved in the youth housing area would know, the difficulties facing the committee were the broad scope of the terms of reference of the inquiry and the problems involved in making significant changes in the light of funding cut backs. I deliberately asked the committee to make recommendations for new initiatives. However, with what are, in effect, dramatic cut backs, it is all very well to strive for Utopia but that is difficult to achieve when the bucket of dollars and cents is fast diminishing.

The different approaches taken to alleviating the situation actually highlighted the real problem. As I say, there is no quick fix. What one group might consider to be an appropriate way of resolving the problem of youth homelessness might be totally different from the views held by another group. Sometimes non-government agencies consider that methods adopted by Government agencies are not the appropriate way to go. As I have said in the House, I think in response to a question asked by the member for Hanson, the compilation of a complete set of recommendations, in effect, highlighted the problems of youth housing. The people who say, for example, that we can provide something at Mile End or at Thebarton and then sit back and say that that is satisfactory and that the problem has been resolved are kidding themselves. I think the inquiry will show that there are diverse opinions as to the cause of youth homelessness, and there are diverse views on how to resolve the problem.

I do not suggest for a minute that the member for Mawson is in the same age group as myself, but going back to the time when I was about 18—I was living in the United Kingdom but I should imagine that this would apply to 18 year olds living in South Australia at that time—if a person secured a job in the city and came down from the country, adequate and decent accommodation was readily available at a reasonable price. There were plenty of jobs around. If, for example, a person went into nursing and accommodation was not available in the nursing home attached to the hospital then accommodation could be readily found elsewhere. It was a totally different ball game in those days. That is a straightforward reason for seeking accommodation and it still applies today in relation to people leaving the country to come to the city to work.

Forgetting about broken families and kids who are forced to leave home, for many, many reasons, let us consider the person who is leaving home for his or her own reasons, which are totally acceptable to the family: the conditions that existed 30 years ago are certainly no longer relevant now. This is something that the Youth Housing Inquiry has had to grapple with. From the draft report that I have seen, I think that the Government will be able to pick up some of the recommendations. We will work towards the things that we think will take us in the right direction. I think that these will lock in very well with programs that the Minister of Community Welfare is looking at, as part of our social justice strategy.

Mr BECKER: In relation to the Emergency Housing Office, will the budget allocation of \$4 791 000 be sufficient funding for that office this financial year, and how is the

budget made up? I refer to the budget allocation referred to at page 143 of the Estimates of Payments. Also, does the budget include the funding of a word processor or similar system to record sufficient data to assist with accounting and application recording and, if not, why not?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: That question whether the budget announced by the Treasurer is sufficient is from a member who has had not only Public Accounts Committee experience but also quite extensive banking experience, and there are many ways to answer it. In relation to whether or not the budget is sufficient, if one accepts the views that I have put forward already this morning to the Committee—and I know that most of my views are shared by the Committee—then in relation to the need that exists one could argue that the budget is not sufficient. One of the problems that we have had with the Emergency Housing Office concerns the cost of the service in relation to its delivery. That has caused the Auditor-General concern. It is also causing the Government concern and steps have been taken, as I outlined earlier, to solve these problems.

It is our view that the overall budget that has been brought down will be sufficient to meet needs, and it should be borne in mind that I have put in the residential requirement that prospective tenants must have been in South Australia for a certain time. Further, in line with the Commonwealth Government's stipulations on this matter, overseas students must be self-sufficient and demonstrate that they are no drain on the resources of the State, and there are also stipulations regarding furniture removals. We are sure that the allocation will be sufficient for the Emergency Housing Office. The interesting aspect of this question is that in the four years that the Auditor-General has referred to, relating to EHO bond money, from 1983 to 1987, some 83 000 people have sought Emergency Housing Office assistance. Some 42 960 have actually received financial assistance, i.e., bond money, in that time. So there is an ever-increasing demand and need for services provided by the Emergency Housing Office and indeed in all areas where the Government provides services for the needy. I now ask Mr Edwards to comment.

Mr Edwards: In respect of the specific question concerning office equipment, there is certainly provision in the allocation of funds to the Emergency Housing Office for expenditure on office equipment. I believe that allocation will be sufficient to cover the item that the honourable member referred to. I am not actually sure whether that is a priority item, but this matter can be checked.

Mr BECKER: How is the budget made up? What is the amount for salaries, contingencies and rentals?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I have a four or five page document. The member for Hanson is asking whether the budget for the EHO this year is sufficient, compared with the money expended last year. He wanted to know about the data processing part and whether it will be supplied and, if not, why not.

The CHAIRPERSON: There was the other element of money allocated in this year's budget; how it is made up as salaries, running expenses and so on? Does the Minister have a breakdown?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: For reimbursement of bonds we expect to receive \$1.2 million, for reimbursement of furniture, just under \$12 000, and for reimbursement of rent, \$39 000. Sundry income is nil and the grant from the Commonwealth/State Housing Agreement is \$4.5 million, giving a figure of \$5.7 million. Salaries are around \$1.4 million.

Mr BECKER: How many security bonds were issued by the EHO last financial year and what was the total amount involved?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The honourable member is looking at the Auditor-General's Report. The Auditor-General referred to a four-year period, so I will give my answer as such. As at 30 June 1987, \$560 000 bond money had been lodged with country landlords not within the jurisdiction of the Residential Tenancies Tribunal. Of this amount, \$130 000 has been reimbursed to the trust and \$30 000 paid to landlords, leaving \$400 000 within that system held for current tenancies. Country services have been operating for only 18 months and that does not give us any idea of the outgoing figure or the incoming figure.

Over those four years, \$5.948 million has been lodged with the Residential Tenancies Tribunal, \$2.123 million has been reimbursed to the trust and \$1.952 million has been paid to landlords. An amount of \$1.915 million is still currently being held by the Residential Tenancies Tribunal, representing 6 421 tenancies. We are referring to how much bond money has been 'lost', and this is impossible to predict. Based on reimbursement rates over the last two financial years and a proportion of bonds paid to landlords, it has risen from 47.8 per cent for 1985-86 to 50.3 per cent of total reimbursements in 1986-87. Our total reimbursements have increased, although minimally.

As to the amount of financial assistance in the form of security bonds in the last financial year, it was provided to 9 034 households at a cost of \$2.5 million. Financial assistance in the area of transport, furniture and so on was provided to 6 917 households at a cost of \$881 000. That represents roughly \$277 per household. When one refers to \$6 million being paid out in bond money, about \$2 million goes back to the EHO and the cry immediately is that \$4 million is lost. Everyone has conveniently forgotten the \$2 million sitting in the Residential Tenancies Tribunal fund.

If we look at the 43 000 people who received assistance over the four-year period, we must realise that we are talking about the poor and needy and not a young couple just getting married who have nice clean fingernails, use the latest deodorant and clean their teeth three times a day. We are dealing with the people at the bottom end of the market who are at their depths of despair when they front up at the EHO seeking assistance. They will not go into the type of housing that will encourage them to mow the lawn every Sunday and plant geraniums. These people in all probability will abuse the house, not pay the rent and shoot through, so the landlord will get the bond money back towards rental arrears. If we use the word 'lost', it is just another form of rent relief. As long as we can increase the rate of return, as we are doing through the Residential Tenancies Tribunal, this Government is spending its money wisely.

Mr BECKER: The Minister has answered my next question. Does the Government propose to integrate the EHO with the Housing Trust operations as suggested in the Auditor-General's Report, and would such a merger reduce administration costs and strengthen financial control? I refer to page 372 of the Auditor-General's Report this financial year.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Integration can mean many things. One can talk about integration already existing in that the manager of the Emergency Housing Office reports to the trust but has access to me as Minister. Integration can mean one shop application which was considered. Without doing my rerun of the type of people dealing with the EHO, it was considered that there should be a separate form of access. It is like, 'Yes, Mr Bloggs, what do you want?' He replies, 'I have no housing; I am desperate; I want a

house'. He is told, 'This is the Housing Trust section. Go down to the next counter, the EHO.' The member for Hanson would know what I mean.

There must be some separation. The budget is controlled through the trust and the Minister, so it can be said that the integration is there. In his report, the Auditor-General suggested integration. The inference was that if there is integration with the known expertise of the trust, a better service in relation to staffing will be achieved. The Government is well aware that it needs to carry out changes in the management structure, and it will look at the points made by the Auditor-General. Also, the responses from the internal audit of the Emergency Housing Office will be considered and the end result will be a service that is delivered effectively in the best possible way to the public at a minimum cost to the Government, which is what we all want.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: What is the current Housing Trust rental stock? What percentage of tenants receive some form of concessional rent? The figures are probably in the annual report.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: As at the end of June, the rental stock was 58 884. Something like 63 per cent of tenants receive some form of rent reduction.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: In his opening remarks, the Minister commented on the completion of the one hundred thousandth house during the 50th anniversary year of the trust. If approximately 58 000 rental properties are available, that means that over 40 000 properties have been sold or disposed of in some way. No sales program is current now, so those houses must have been disposed of before and so depleted the rental stock. I do not want to get into a debate with the member for Hanson about policy, but although the Housing Trust is not infallible, I say again, as I have said publicly before, that it is the best housing authority of any State in the Commonwealth and its record shows that. Nevertheless, over that time it has disposed of almost 42 000 properties and now 45 000 people are waiting for trust accommodation. What does the future hold? Last year only 2 000-odd houses were completed by the trust, which means that it is getting further behind. What, if anything, is proposed to try to close that gap?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: In its 50-year history, the trust has built not only rental homes but homes similar to the ones in which the member for Gilles and I live. Those homes were built for sale, and that was the strength of the South Australian Housing Trust. The member for Elizabeth, who is in the Chamber, has lived in four homes of different types built by the Housing Trust. The whole of Elizabeth is made up of rental-type accommodation and purchase trust homes. In the early 1970s the trust built rental/purchase homes on a variation of the old £50 deposit scheme. That is why, in its 50 years, the trust has built 100 000 homes and only 58 000 rental properties are available.

The honourable member said that he did not want to cross swords with the member for Hanson. Under the previous Liberal Administration as under this Administration, the sale of rental homes was encouraged. This Government sells them at full market price, as the former Liberal Government did.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: The trust does not get many takers, though.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Perhaps they realise that it is good to be a tenant, although the trust's figures are increasing. I hope that the member for Hanson can persuade his colleagues to change their policy of selling trust properties at a discount. As to how the trust will provide accommodation for the ever growing list in the light of the Federal cutbacks, the answer can be found in a number of alterna-

tives. The use of private sector finance for housing cooperatives is encouraged. People get finance from the private sector and the Government, through the South Australian Housing Trust, subsidises their repayments to the level of rent paid by ordinary tenants. That is one of the most successful programs to date but it has never received credit in the community for what it achieves. It is tenant participation and removes the landlord. It is a highly commendable scheme. Despite the reduction in funding, the Government is maintaining its cooperative program of 300 homes.

Another alternative can be found in improved general community support for housing programs, and that is very important. It can be argued that, while a subsidy is paid to 63 per cent of the trust's tenants, public sector housing is under attack because it is a drain on the taxpayer. It is not; it provides a valuable service for those in real need. One would like to think that a lowering of interest rates will encourage people to get into home purchase. Another alternative that has been touched on briefly is urban consolidation, where the cost of the infrastructure is so greatly reduced that the trust can get more for its dollar. Joint ventures for housing elderly people have been very successful and were supported by the Liberal Party when in Government, as they are by this Government. The housing dollar is maximised by using local government owned land or other resources. In those ways the trust is seeking to increase the number of homes available to people in real need.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: There is no doubt that the Housing Trust has been the victim of changing social circumstances, particularly over the past five to 10 years. As a consequence it finds itself being seen at times as some sort of welfare or charitable organisation. That is not the purpose of the Housing Trust, which is an authority to provide housing for those persons who may need it. How many applications has the Housing Trust received from current tenants for a transfer of their accommodation?

As a member of Parliament I have been approached—and I am sure other members have been approached—by people who have been tenants of trust homes for varying periods of time. For different reasons, some of which are valid reasons, and others that are perhaps not so valid, these people request transfers to other areas. Such requests create problems for the Housing Trust because of the cost involved. When a tenant vacates a trust home the Housing Trust is responsible for ensuring that the premises are in a reasonably clean condition. Can the Minister provide current figures as to the number of tenants that have requested a transfer of their accommodation?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Before I ask the General Manager for that information, I want to endorse some of the comments made by the member for Gilles in relation to requests for transfer. As members of Parliament we have all been faced at one time or another with this vexed problem of someone coming in and saying, 'I have been a trust tenant for years, always paid my rent, never given any problem and I have always voted for you'. Invariably we have to tell them that the requests for transfer are increasing and the cost associated with a transfer is high as the trust has to restore the house to a reasonable standard. That cost is usually in excess of \$1 000 per home. A scheme does exist of mutual exchange where the tenant takes it as is. Another problem that I have found in my electorate is that those people who have been there 10 years say 'Why is it, when we have done all the necessary things, that someone else comes in and is housed for social reasons and is able to get something better or is able to be shifted?'

My response as an individual member of Parliament is that it is not my job to be the judge and jury; this Government and the trust has decided that it will house people on the basis of social need and that is why those people are given priority. I am sure the Committee would agree that we would not like to be in the business of allocation, but simply would prefer to pass our troubles to the Housing Trust and let it sort them out. Trust policy is to provide alternative housing according to people's choice. That is a cornerstone of the trust. As to the actual numbers, perhaps the General Manager can give some indication.

Mr Edwards: I cannot give a precise number but I will investigate the matter to see if that can be done. I think the number would be in the thousands because it is an open system and the trust is happy for people to enjoy the property that they wish to occupy. However, this attitude creates problems which are partly administrative and partly the cost of upgrading a property when a request for transfer has been acceded to. The situation can also arise when someone moves into a property which is on a relatively short waiting list and then moves to another property which is on a relatively long waiting list, and those people who have been waiting for a longer period become concerned. There is a large number of transfers each year, but I will endeavour to ascertain the exact number of outstanding requests.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: When a tenant signs a tenancy agreement is there a clause in that agreement which requires the tenant to take care with the upkeep of those premises? There are good, bad and indifferent Housing Trust tenants and it has struck me on a number of occasions that some tenants believe they do not have any responsibility. I believe they have a responsibility and that the tenancy agreement, if it is not already, should be very specific in relation to this matter. It costs the trust and the community a lot of money for maintenance, which increases every year. What is the position in relation to tenancy agreements? Is the tenant specifically advised, either in writing or verbally, of his responsibilities for ensuring that the premises are kept in good condition?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The tenancy agreement does contain a section which requires the tenant to look after that particular property. There has always been a small minority of tenants (in the public or private sectors) who abuse the properties in which they live. There are many social reasons why they do that and earlier I made the point in response to a question from the member for Hanson about neighbourhood disputes, that when one looks at the number of restraining orders that are issued, the number for the public sector is way below that for the private sector.

The community attitude, and in some cases that of the media, is to say that all the baddies live in trust houses and the goodies are the ones who mow their lawns. I was advised early in 1987 that the trust was continually frustrated by being expected to deal with increasingly difficult situations resulting from the behaviour of this small minority, some of whom are anti-social, or intellectually disadvantaged or disabled because of the tendency to de-institutionalise. That situation needs to be addressed. I wrote to Ministers of the various agencies following recommendations from the trust to establish a working party of senior officers from the Department of Community Welfare, the South Australian Police Force, the Health Commission and the trust to deal with this problem.

That working party has been working towards that, and I will perhaps leave that part of the answer to the General Manager. One way to overcome the trauma of problem tenants relates to their reaction to peer pressure from those who live around them. I can speak as the local member

when I recall some aggravation in my electorate about the continual number of car bodies in front gardens. That is a great one—I am sure all members have had that problem. The trust and the council carried out an exercise for which they had my full support and the support of the local council. They said to each tenant, 'Here is your tenancy agreement; now work within it.' The overall effect has been that we have had a ripple. We started off with two problem streets but everything is starting to clean up because one sees what the next door neighbour can do and you tend to do it yourself. That is a slow process.

As to the end result, that is, the cost to the South Australian Housing Trust and, ultimately, to the Government, we will always consider some form of incentive. I can give the Committee an undertaking that we will look at some form of incentive. Over the years an incentive has been canvassed for those people who maintain their own properties. We would be only too happy to look at those areas, but the real crux of the question by the member for Gilles is the problem of neighbourhood disputes. Perhaps Mr Edwards can let us know what is happening with the working party.

Mr Edwards: I can confirm that there is a provision in the tenancy agreement which requires a tenant to look after the property, both internally and the external yardspace, and they are also encouraged to behave in a neighbourly manner in respect of all people in that community. In recent years, by and large we have allowed a form of self-policing to apply. I believe there was a time when trust tenancy officers would go around wearing a pair of white gloves looking for the dust. However, that is years back, and I do not think there would be community acceptance for that kind of approach these days. For a number of reasons we have in the past 12 months made some changes. There is an increasing community reaction.

The majority of well behaved and caring tenants have expressed to the trust and, I suspect, to members of Parliament as well, their concern that there are one or two who do not look after their property and that the tenant body as a whole is required to carry the costs for that. That was a matter of concern for the majority. We have also been aware of the need to reduce the pressure on our maintenance bill because it puts pressure on the level of rents. We also have the PAC report on asset replacement.

As a consequence of all those matters, we are now taking a firmer approach to the issue of not looking after one's property and we are raising tenant charges where any property has been damaged by the tenant in a way which, if you like, has been irresponsible. We are requiring the tenant to pay for that in an increased way, and this not only covers the cost but also acts as a deterrent to that activity. I emphasise the point that the Minister made, namely, that we do have some bad tenants. However, the vast majority are good tenants, and the proportion of those who do not look after their property would be greater among private landlords.

As to the issue of incentives, we have run incentives through gardening competitions to encourage people to look after the external area of their property, and we have awarded prizes. That concept has been a great success. We have looked at doing something similar for internal maintenance, but I am not sure that it would not be a little patronising to pass judgments on people's internal housekeeping standards. It is not a judgment which we would care to make or for which we would gain universal support if we made it.

Finally, dealing with the issue of badly behaved tenants, vandalism and unneighbourly behaviour, in the community as a whole, I think there is increasing evidence of that, and

we have our share. It has been drawn to our attention by other tenants and, in many cases because the trust is the landlord, the attitude of other authorities is that the trust will sort that out. However, we find that somewhat difficult because it requires particular skills.

The working party has therefore been established with officers from Community Welfare, police authorities, the Health Commission as well as the trust, and that working party is still proceeding. It has acquired a lot of information and has visited areas where these difficulties have been experienced. The working party has talked with people, and I am given to understand that it is making considerable progress in identifying the problems and in considering recommendations on the mechanisms to deal with this situation. I am hopeful that there will be a report from that committee by the end of this year or early next year.

I will make one final comment, because I am concerned when these comments are made that there is misunderstanding. We are always very conscious of the difficulties that we encounter and we seek to address them. However, I think it is fair to say, both from my own observation of public housing estates elsewhere in Australia and overseas and also from the comments made by interstate and overseas visitors, that although we do have some issues that we need to address, they are significantly less in volume and scale than those with which other authorities elsewhere have to deal.

Mr BECKER: Where does the Minister and the Government now stand on the issue of negative gearing? Do you support this important incentive or do you consider that negative gearing is a rort, as the Minister explained in the House recently and, if so, why?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: It is a pity that the member for Hanson asked this question at three minutes to one. I am sure he is trying to cramp my style. I appreciate this question, because my views of certain aspects of negative gearing have been received with moral outrage by members of the Opposition and by certain sections of the industry. I make no apology for what I have said. The member for Hanson, who is an intelligent man, knows that I said negative gearing has been used as a rort.

It is rather interesting to see, after the decision by the Treasurer and the Federal Government in relation to the new aspect of negative gearing, that the Executive Director of the Real Estate Institute of Australia said that, while the cancellation of negative gearing had closed off the misuse of tax concessions, it also made property investment much less attractive, especially to small investments. So, there is an acceptance out there in industry that the pre-1985 attitude by some sections—and again I have made that perfectly clear—was that tax minimisation had been undertaken. I was concerned that the use of that form of tax minimisation through negative gearing which existed prior to July 1985 was not benefiting low income earners or people who wanted low cost accommodation.

My role in this Government is not that of an investment adviser but that of Housing Minister, and the people for whom I am concerned are those who need low cost accommodation, because they are on a low income, or people on low to middle incomes who need to get into home ownership. That is my concern. I do not hold an investment portfolio, and when one looks at the vacancy rates that existed in Adelaide prior to July 1985 and since the decision to quarantine at 4 per cent at that time, one sees that the vacancy rate in Adelaide has been very healthy. This is because investment in property, new construction, has always been at the upper end of the market, not with respect to the kinds of homes that even you, Madam Chairperson, or

I can afford to live in. If one recognises as a part of the July 1985 package that we had a capital gains tax as well, one sees that over the past two years there has been a new regime on investments which has made the industry fairer and less open to tax minimisation.

The change now is the reduction from 4 per cent to 2 per cent in the depreciation allowance. These changes reflect industry pressure and decisions put by some States on how best to structure rental investment. I have been concerned that the position that obtained between the July 1985 decision and the 1987 Federal budget did not cause a wind back of rental investment in South Australia. Despite comments and statements by individuals, there has been no wind back in investment in that area.

I also note that those areas of the industry are saying that it will be two years before the budget decision has any effect on rental properties. In fact, with the exception of one person who has talked about new development, most of the advice from financial writers is that investment will be into the existing property market, and that is not what this industry wants; nor is it what I want. Having heard the views of people who said that it was a good move, I look forward to seeing some positive building activity for low income people.

[Sitting suspended from 1.2 to 2 p.m.]

Mr BECKER: At page 465 of the yellow book, under the heading 'Issues/Trends', the following appears:

Factors adversely affecting the level of activity include high housing interest rates, a weak established dwelling market, and general economic uncertainty. It is important to seek to stabilise total residential construction activity at a sustainable level.

What negative aspects does capital gains tax have in respect of the incentive to investors to provide affordable rental accommodation, and what action will the Government take to have this tax reduced to provide incentives to investors?

The CHAIRPERSON: Before the Minister replies, I did not catch the reference to the yellow book. As I am a little concerned that these questions may not relate to the budget estimates, will the honourable member please repeat that part of this reference?

Mr BECKER: Yes. At page 465 of the yellow book, under 'Issues/trends', the following appears:

Private residential construction activity was at a depressed level in 1986-87, and this trend is expected to continue in 1987-88.

I did not read that part earlier, but I reread the following:

Factors adversely affecting the level of activity include high housing interest rates, a weak established dwelling market, and general economic uncertainty. It is important to seek to stabilise total residential construction activity at a sustainable level.

What I get from that passage is the concern of the program sector housing to ensure that we have a stable building industry and affordable housing. The next paragraph states:

Increasing the availability of affordable housing finance is a critical issue in the present high interest rate environment. Such finance is required not only to facilitate the achievement of home ownership by a greater number of households, but also to assist in expanding the public and community rental sectors.

So, I see a joint Government-private sector concern as the Government picks up a certain amount of rental accommodation. However, at the same time we should encourage the public sector to do it either on its own or in conjunction with joint ventures, as local government does it. So, really the whole aspect of finance includes the issue of incentives, about which we talked before the luncheon adjournment. Negative gearing must be of some concern to the Minister's Policy Department in its efforts to build up the housing sector.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I thank the honourable member for clarifying his question. First, I point out that capital

gains tax is a Federal matter and a Federal responsibility. I believe that capital gains tax has had no impact on residential construction activity. The paragraph with which we are dealing and which has been quoted by the member for Hanson concerns our activity in the public sector to stabilise total residential construction activity at a sustainable level. That is why we place great importance on the continued action by the Federal Government in placing reliance on the recommendations of the Indicative Planning Council. Mr Edwards represents us on the South Australian branch of that council.

To ask whether this Government will in effect make representations to the Federal Government for either a reduction in or the abolition of the capital gains tax is irrelevant to the whole point of his question. I make the point, which I made basically in my opening remarks and in my response to an earlier question on negative gearing, that I believe that the industry, with the capital gains tax, depreciation allowance, and negative gearing, as brought down in the Federal budget, will be fair and equitable. Of course, I should like to see and would applaud (as I am sure the General Manager of the Housing Trust would applaud, mainly because it would get numbers off his waiting list) investment in medium income rental accommodation, given the climate of reduced interest rates.

Mr BECKER: As a further point of reference, at page 465 of the yellow book, under '1987-88 Specific Targets/Objectives', the following appears:

Encouragement of additional local government, community, and private participation in the provision of affordable rental housing...

So, I still take it that within his portfolio the Minister would encourage investment. What action has been taken to encourage cost savings in building and land development, apart from the low-cost building program on smaller blocks of land as at Golden Grove? At page 465 of the yellow book, under '1986-87 Specific Targets the Objectives', there is a reference to the implementation of new home purchase assistance arrangements and assessment of alternative sources of private and public housing finance, participation in setting up the Housing Trust's program, and additions to the public rental housing stock at high level. Then appears the following quote:

Implementation of programs to promote greater diversity in the housing stock and to encourage the adoption of cost saving approaches in building and land development.

Concerning the Golden Grove project, of which the Minister would be well aware, the latest scheme is to build houses on slightly smaller blocks, the quarter acre block having been reduced to a more manageable size, which makes sense to me. However, the concept of a large and attractive residential property is retained. What further action is being taken to encourage savings in building and land development?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The first part of the honourable member's question has been answered previously in this Government's attitude and encouragement to the trust in our urban consolidation program, and I do not need to repeat that. The honourable member is correct when he talks about the Golden Grove joint venture: it has been a remarkable exercise of private-public cooperation. It gives me great encouragement to believe that, if all joint ventures were carried out to the same degree as has occurred at Golden Grove where the trust is a partner in the selection of blocks, etc., and in the integration of that development, our social mix policy would be met.

Government members on this Estimates Committee have been kept fully informed about the joint venture for more affordable housing. A former Federal Minister for Housing

(Hon. Stuart West) opened this venture, which is a joint Government and industry awareness campaign. Unfortunately, however, it has reached an impasse at present and needs a move forward. However, that offers the opportunity for Government and industry to bring together the representatives of the principal practitioners, the builders, and the decision makers (that is, local government) in residential development and to integrate the various residential development requirements.

That should be a better market in here, as the honourable member is well aware. It will concentrate on the means to reduce costs but not at the expense of standards, health, safety, etc. I suggest that the honourable member visit Aberfoyle Park, if he has not already done so, and see what is going on. The program will explore ways to allow greater flexibility in residential development and a wider choice for consumers. The Federal Government, this Government and the major developers in the private sector place a lot of importance on this program.

Mr De LAINE: The finger of blame for the recent unfortunate flooding of homes in the Mount Barker-Bernhardt Court Estate has at different times been pointed to the Government, the Mount Barker council and the Housing Trust. What are the facts of the situation and where does the blame actually lie?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I thank the member for Price for that question because it can be revealed that an innocent party—in this case, the South Australian Housing Trust—in all good faith, bought a group of homes under our 'Design and Construct' program that met all the criteria. Unfortunately, that night when a normally tranquil creek burst its banks I felt that someone must have had it in for the trust because six of the eight homes we had there suffered extensive flooding: hence the initial reaction by the media—which was normal, but turned out incorrect—that the trust had built in flood-prone areas.

As I said at the time, because of the planning legislation that was adopted by the Parliament of this State, the responsibility was on the council, which, whilst originally refusing the first application and despite advice from the Planning Commission in August 1983 that the land could be subject to flooding, went on to accept a development in that area.

This has caused problems inasmuch as tenants have had to be moved and we cannot put people in that area because of the risk of further flooding. I am pleased to be able to report that the Mount Barker council ultimately adopted a flood mitigation program there, but until that is in train we refuse to put our tenants in. At that time I commented that I hoped that the Mount Barker council and the South Australian Housing Trust would come to some amicable agreement as to compensation to be paid to the South Australian Housing Trust for lost rent and the cost of relocation and, more importantly, to the people concerned—our tenants. Unfortunately, that amicable agreement fell through, and we have served a claim to formally notify the council of our intention to proceed to recover the damages.

A sideline is that when that happened the way in which the trust responded to that disaster indicated its human face and that comes through time and time again. One of our trust officers was there in the hours of darkness trying to help people cope with the flooding and physically assisting with everything. In one house a young boy was sobbing uncontrollably. The trust officer asked the parents why the lad was so upset: one would think that when the water was lapping through the lounge room little kids would find that a bit of a joke and put their wellies on and wade around. This kid was heartbroken: he had a pet rabbit in a hutch

on the lawn: the hutch was upside down and the rabbit was drowned in the episode. First thing the following morning the trust officer went to go to a pet shop close to his home, purchased another rabbit and took it to that little boy. Whilst people might say, 'What has that got to do with the Housing Trust or Mount Barker', it indicates that there is a human face behind the trust, despite all the productivity demands on which I insist and the cost of resources that we are trying to keep in check. As a footnote, this little rabbit was named Neville after the trust officer. The story made the *Womans Day*, and it made me feel good to read it.

Mr De LAINE: Referring to page 465 of the yellow book in relation to the Port Adelaide Centre Project, over the past several years some excellent and exciting housing developments have been undertaken in the area by the Housing Trust, private developers and joint venture projects. Does the Minister intend to continue to direct, manage and actively seek to encourage further Housing Trust developments in the Port Centre project area?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Yes, we certainly intend to maximise the trust involvement in the Port Adelaide redevelopment, which picks up many aspects of this Committee hearing so far: the urban consolidation, better utilisation of our existing assets—that is, land in the inner metropolitan area—a greater awareness of the costs of our asset replacement program, and putting people in a nice area to live. Again, it is a good example of joint ventures with the private sector. As the member for Price is well aware, the attitude of the Port Adelaide council is to get involved in joint ventures of its own to promote that area. I know that the honourable member was at the opening, where Devon Homes unveiled its complete program. At that time, only 18 months ago, the land was pretty barren: a cement works was over the back towards the creek as it goes into the Port River. We have provided for people a better lifestyle in a good area, serviced, I dare say, by a good member. I ask Mr Edwards to provide further information.

Mr Edwards: I do not have with me details of specific plans, but we are certainly committed in principle to further development in housing in the inner city area, to be done on a mixed basis with private developers and in conjunction with local councils. We have had some success: Port Adelaide is the most outstanding example, and we seek to repeat it.

Ms LENEHAN: In relation to public housing, a 1987-88 target concerns the development and management of the public housing budget, including consideration of the trust's program of additions to the public housing stock. Will the Minister please give details of what additions are planned to public housing stock within the Noarlunga council area in the coming 12-month period?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I am aware of the member for Mawson's concern in relation to areas south of Adelaide. As a result of Federal cutbacks, the Government has instructed the trust to utilise available funds in the best possible way and, accordingly, as I said earlier, 40 per cent of the 1987-88 program will concentrate on the inner metropolitan area, to utilise as much Government land as possible and to avoid high infrastructure and development costs. But the people of the Noarlunga council area have not been forgotten, as there is social need and a demand from people who wish to live in that area. So, in 1987-88, 147 units will be built in the Noarlunga council area. Of those, 21 single units are now out to contract through the design and tender scheme. The proposal to construct the other 126 units, which include single unattached units, will be put out to tender later this year.

Ms LENEHAN: On the matter of additions to housing stock, is it proposed to actually purchase any existing houses within the Noarlunga area as well as build new stock?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: As the member for Mawson would be aware, as a result of cutbacks, in order to maximise the amount of work in the building industry we have had to drastically reduce our acquisition program, and this year our acquisition program will be undertaken entirely in the inner metropolitan area. There will be only 125 acquisitions this year.

Ms LENEHAN: Totally throughout the State?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Totally in the whole of South Australia.

Mr GUNN: Will the Minister say what progress has been made in transferring the Teacher Housing Authority and the stock and agency to the new Office of Government Employee Housing? To put it mildly, over the past six or eight months there has been considerable controversy about the increased rents that a number of teachers have had to pay, and there have been some problems. Yesterday I was at the Murraytown School, where a teacher's house is incorporated on the property, and it was drawn to my attention that the rent had been increased from \$41 to \$61 a week and that therefore the tenants had vacated the house, which has now been vacant for some time, because better accommodation was available, not too far away from the school and in perhaps more pleasant surroundings. When setting rents, will the new housing authority take into account the need to ensure that houses are occupied? When another teacher comes to a school there may not be any accommodation available in the area, and it is absolutely essential that accommodation be available when teachers arrive. It would appear that there is considerable justification for keeping rents at a manageable level, to avoid the sort of problem that has arisen.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I have discussed this many times; actually I pay a tribute to the member for Eyre, because during the last Question Time when this was discussed he was very understanding of the problem faced by the Government and the agencies which have to employ people out in the country and provide housing. The present Government has struggled for many years with the problem of Government employee housing generally, and so did the previous Government. Two major reviews have been undertaken—one was set up by the previous Administration and one by the present Administration. Cabinet decided to consolidate and rationalise employee housing administration as part of the Department of Housing and Construction.

There are many benefits in this. We attempt to bring standards to a basic level. There has been stock rationalisation, of which the member for Eyre would be well aware. In some areas there is a prior need for housing, while in others there is a surplus of housing—for reasons other than those referred to by the member for Eyre. Also, there were agency bids, because it was not all consolidated, and there are differing views of what should be regarded as a basic style of house, etc. These are all factors of which the member for Eyre, who represents the biggest electorate in the State, would be well aware. In fact he could probably tell me a few things about the differing standards that exist throughout country areas.

So, Cabinet approved the establishment of the Government Employee Housing Branch to manage the total assets in this area. As I have said, the two commissioned reports raised concern over difficulties with the management of housing stock, including the matters of variable standards, poor control of vacancies, inconsistent rent policy, and a lack of coordinated financial information and control. So,

ultimately, the Government decided to create this branch. It is based on the resources of the former Teacher Housing Authority, and during this session of Parliament legislation will be introduced to repeal the Teacher Housing Authority legislation.

In relation to the matter of rent increases referred to by the honourable member, I can assure him that I have received many hundreds of letters regarding increases in rents. As I have made perfectly clear to those many people to whom I have replied, as well as to those that I have seen face to face, including the member for Eyre, who has approached me on various matters, the present Government's policy is no different from that of the previous Liberal Administration or the Labor Administration before that, namely, that rents for Government employees who live in country areas will be set at a rate of 80 per cent of trust vacancy rents. As the member for Eyre is well aware, the increase is primarily due to the decision that the Government made in November 1986 to effectively increase the rent to be paid by trust tenants by 20 per cent, in real terms, over two years.

I am well aware that in some cases teachers, more so than other Government employees, are faced with that increase and have decided to vacate and go out into the private sector. Again, I am not in any way attempting to teach the member for Eyre the economic situation in his own electorate. He is well versed in the problems and he argues their case quite forcibly. We have a situation in the member's own area where, in the private sector, because of the downturn in the industry and because many farmers are almost living on subsistence, houses are coming on to the private rental market as farmers wish to have someone on the property to look after the place. That does not give me any encouragement, nor I am sure does it give any member of the Committee encouragement. Some teachers are moving into these places.

As I pointed out to the member for Flinders, if that does happen it is a short term answer to an individual teacher's problem, but the Office of Government Employee Housing is then faced with a vacancy. If there is no chance of that house being filled, we dispose of the property. It would not be fair not only to fellow professionals in the teaching field but also to the taxpayer that, in making that decision to move out, the taxpayer should pick up the tab for that vacancy, so we may be forced to sell. If people wish to go down that track they have the right to make that decision, but in the long term it could prove to be not very good for incoming teachers.

As a result of the increase I have agreed to set up a rent review. I have had discussions with the Institute of Teachers, the Public Service Association and the ULTC on the setting up of a consultative committee to look at the many problems that have been outlined to me and other members of Parliament. That is the problem. They are concerned that they should be tied in to 80 per cent of Housing Trust vacancy rents. Concerns over relativity between employee and tenant, rent in remote areas, and rent versus wage increases, are some of the things that the member for Eyre is well aware of. The consultative committee has already met and agreed to the terms of reference for a consultancy, which will now go out and talk to the client, which is the important part. What is relative to Port Lincoln is not necessarily relative to Coober Pedy. They have to get out there and look at all these issues.

I have also agreed to not implement the next rent increase scheduled for February 1988 for trust tenants until the consultancy has reported to me and I can go back with a recommendation to Cabinet. The consultancy has been asked

to come up with a report, and suggested avenues that the Government can take, by January 1988. In the meantime those Government employees who wish to vacate their existing accommodation and go into the private sector can do so—far be it from me to say that they cannot, but it does present me with the problem of whether to dispose of that stock.

To encourage home ownership in the area, we have set up a home purchase scheme which as a Government we believe is attractive to those tenants. As well as giving them all the concessions they would get under the first home ownership scheme they can have certain savings such as exemption from stamp duty, Lands Titles Office charges on transfer, conveyancing costs, loan establishment fees and so on. We are saying that it is a good way to go. The members representing country electorates may find that teachers purchasing their own homes (and I am sure the member for Eyre will back me up), become more a part of the community than do those who look upon their term in the country as a penance rather than being an active part of the country life.

Mr GUNN: Will the Minister indicate the trust's policy on the provision of Housing Trust homes in country areas? Will the trust be involved in major extensions of the stock it already has in country areas of the State?

Mr Edwards: Because of the overall cut backs in funding for the trust and the need to concentrate on areas of greatest demand, which exist in the central metropolitan area, programs have to be reduced and the country program will reflect that. My recollection is that we will be starting about 200 new homes in country areas this financial year which is a lower figure than last year but reflects the cut back. The waiting time in the country areas is generally shorter than in the central metropolitan area. Equity to applicants will be preserved.

Mr GUNN: Is that rented or purchased homes?

Mr Edwards: They would be rental homes.

Mr GUNN: Is it the policy of the Government or the Housing Trust to build factories and other commercial properties on a lease-back arrangement and, if so, has it been successful in disposing of existing properties to the people who lease them and is that the intention of the trust presently?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: This Government would take the credit for being involved in the lease back of factory premises as we certainly endorse it and we are continuing it. It is a part of the trust's operation that very few people know of, so I will hand over to the General Manager who will advise the Committee of what we are doing.

Mr Edwards: The trust has for many years been involved in arrangements whereby, in response to demand, and where the proposal has been endorsed by the Industries Development Committee, it will construct factories. It requires either the preservation of an existing number of jobs in South Australia and avoiding the loss of such to other States or the creation of new employment in this State. The trust has continued that program. Amongst the arrangements for lease is the provision for the ultimate buy-out of the property by the industrial tenant at a time which suits his own concerns. The advantage of the scheme as provided is that, if a new firm is setting up a new enterprise, it does not have to dig its hands into its pockets for the total capital cost: it can concentrate its limited resources on the equipping of the factory premises with the production equipment, and when it has grown to a level where it has resources to acquire the total premises, it will purchase from the trust. We will gladly sell off and recover the amount due to us whenever the industrial tenant desires.

Ms LENEHAN: I refer to public housing on page 465 where it refers to the completion of a study on the employment multiplier effects of expenditure on housing. While I do not expect the Minister to pre-empt any of the findings of that study, can he give some idea of the directions that the study is taking? My question has become even more relevant and pertinent as I note an article in today's *News* with the heading 'Public housing top: South Australia still leads other States'. The article reports the comments of Dr Andrew Parkin, not the Minister or his staff, as follows:

South Australia largely still leads Australia in public housing development despite Federal funding cuts, according to a leading South Australian academic. And poor South Australians also have a better chance of securing public housing than their interstate counterparts, Flinders University senior lecturer, Dr Andrew Parkin, said today.

In 1985-86, State public housing received the equivalent of \$176.50 per head of population. This compares with the other States' figures ranging from just \$43.90 in New South Wales to \$111.30 in Tasmania. And on an index of public housing units per million people, South Australia has a total of 40 800 units of public rental stock. This is far above the next highest State, Tasmania, with 28 400 units of public rental stock. Dr Parkin said the success of these programs was the result of a long-standing consensus that public investment in housing was central to South Australia's overall economic performance.

I am sure that the Committee will see the relevance of my quoting from that hot-off-the-press article.

Mr BECKER: Read all of it.

Ms LENEHAN: I am happy to do that, if it is in order. Dr Parkin went on to say:

It has been embedded as an economic development strategy since Playford's post-war industrialisation blueprint.

Over the years there has been great bipartisan support for public housing development in South Australia.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: It is not often that on the day of a Minister's estimates a completely unbiased person has something good to say, and I assure the Committee that my press secretary's name is Ray Rains. As the honourable member said, the development of public housing in the past has received bipartisan support. The study to which the honourable member referred has been completed and a report will come before me shortly. The Director (Mr Black), who has been involved with the study, will outline some of the points of interest.

Mr Black: A study was done on this matter in 1984 by the CSIRO for State and Federal Housing Ministers. It was generated because of a view held by some economists that housing was an unproductive commodity. This, among other things, was seen as being a way of counteracting that argument. That study showed that housing was the greatest generator of jobs, both directly and indirectly, in relation to other construction and goods-producing industries. The problems encountered by the study were that it was difficult to adjust the statistics on a year-by-year basis and they related only to Victoria.

The State Government decided to update the methodology to produce relevant figures on a South Australian basis. The same people from the CSIRO have been involved in this undertaking and the report is about to be released. The preliminary findings are that, as with the original study, housing generates an enormous amount of economic activity. A measure would be that on a \$1 million investment in the housing industry, 57 jobs would be generated throughout the economy. The effect on the South Australian economy would be slightly less, because although most of the building materials would be South Australian products, the people who obtain wages from the industry consume products that are imported from overseas or interstate. Generally speaking, the study confirms that expenditure on housing

is of great benefit to the economy, and the local economy in particular.

Ms LENEHAN: My second question relates to the impact of the budget on women and I refer to page 68. Under the specific heading 'Women's housing consultation project' I note that a sum of \$15 000 was made available in the IYSH budget in early 1987 to enable the employment of a full-time women's housing project officer for four months. I understand that the appointment was to conclude in August of this year. I am also aware that part of the function of the project officer was to maximise the attendance of South Australian women at the second national women's housing conference which was held in Sydney in May 1987. An allocation of an additional \$10 000 was made to ensure that the travel of low income women was subsidised so that they could attend that very important and significant second conference.

As a South Australian participant who attended every session of the first national women's housing conference, I was disappointed that, because of other commitments, I was unable to attend the second conference. I note that the project officer also had the responsibility following the conference to undertake policy development based, I guess, on some of the policies that came out of the conference, and the development of the women's housing consultative process. Can the Minister say whether those two functions have been completed? Is it possible to make available, today or in future, the results of those two functions of the women's housing project officer?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The member for Mawson has every right to say how proud she is as a person who participated in the first conference. The Government can equally say how proud it is to be the leader in this field. In the past, women have had very little say in the design of housing, especially those on low incomes. That is not to say that, in its building of public housing, the trust has not been aware of those problems. Women now have a say in housing forums and in the decisions that are made. The South Australian Government initiated the first national conference, which was attended by 800 participants. It was very successful and raised the consciousness of the people who attended. All States, with the exception of Queensland and Tasmania, supported the second national conference.

At the same time it used the expertise of the Women's Housing Issues Working Party (WHIP) to coordinate that organisation. Each State Government was represented on that organisation and was pleased with the outcome. The South Australian representative was Margaret Hill, who at the time was my senior research officer.

The department sponsored over 100 low income women to attend the second conference and also funded a consultation project prior to the conference to seek views from non-professional people, in particular. In this area advice from professionals is readily available; it is the non-professionals with whom we need to get involved. As a result of that second national conference there have been follow-up meetings. I understand that a women's housing policy group in South Australia may be set up as a result of that conference; it will not work merely from one conference to the next, but will be an ongoing concern.

In relation to the two areas that the member for Mawson has dealt with, information is being collated; it will be consolidated and made available to all State Housing Ministers and the Federal Minister. The most significant change since the first women's conference in 1985 is in the area of refinancing mortgages following a marriage breakdown. Apart from the heartbreak of a marriage breakdown, there is the practical problem of women being able to refinance the

marital home or a second home. One of the benefits that emerged from the first women's housing meeting is that there will be an ongoing input from South Australian women. Also, at long last the problem of refinancing is being addressed, and this benefits not only individuals but the community as a whole.

Ms LENEHAN: On page 70 under the heading 'Concessions and Public Housing' it is stated that for the first 10 months to April 1987 home concessional loans under the HOME program were provided to households, and a statistical breakdown is given. I note with some degree of pleasure that single females with children received 19.8 per cent of these concessional loans and that single females without children received 3.3 per cent, making a total of 23.1 per cent. It was probably only about 12 years ago that a woman on her own, with or without children, was not eligible to receive loans without having a male guarantor. In some States that situation took a lot longer to change than it did in South Australia. I think that figure is significant and noteworthy and should be acknowledged.

Today I received an invitation to an older women's speak-out, which is the second in a series. I am also aware that there has been some activity in terms of seeking funding and support for housing for older women. What priority do the Office of Housing and the Minister place on the provision of housing and accommodation for older women in South Australia?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: We certainly place great importance on housing of older women. I will not dare to incur the wrath of the member for Mawson by saying what is 'old', but I understand the drift of the member's question. I do not have to tell the Committee of the great strides that have been made in the provision of accommodation for the aged. In relation to page 70, the member for Mawson quoted two examples, namely, the single female with children, comprising 19.8 per cent, and the single female without children, comprising 3.3 per cent. Those figures are arrived at under the department's concessional loan program because the cut-off age for a single person with no dependents is 30 years. The figure for a single man without children is 1.7 per cent. I think that answers the honourable member's question, but I will check it out.

In the area of cooperatives the department has made great strides for groups of elderly women. I have received a lot of correspondence from members of Parliament in relation to a particular organisation that wishes to become part of a cooperative movement, and my Ministry is looking sympathetically at that particular organisation. That is yet another example of where the department provides support, thus releasing the pressure on the South Australian Housing Trust to find accommodation for those people. As I said earlier, the department is very proud of the cooperative movement. It is a success story that has not received the coverage in the press that it ought to have received. The South Australian Housing Trust is continually alerting us to this situation, and the drain on the trust's recurrent sources is causing the trust and the Government some concern. I think that all our current programs adequately cater for older women.

Mr BECKER: What is the Housing Trust's policy in relation to providing rainwater tanks on all rental properties?

Mr Edwards: That policy is in the process of review. Rainwater tanks have been provided to properties in country areas, and where they have already been provided in metropolitan properties, they have been retained but have not been provided to new accommodation. The present situation is that the trust will not renew rainwater tanks in

the central metropolitan area and will no longer provide them in those country areas which have a good quality water supply.

Mr BECKER: In that case, why are rainwater tanks, many of which are in excellent condition, and tank stands being demolished on Housing Trust properties when current tenants leave?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: There are probably many answers to that question, and I do not suggest for one minute that the member for Hanson is anecdotally quoting. I am sure he knows of specific instances where this has taken place. However, I would appreciate some examples. I think he said that perfectly good rainwater tanks were demolished by the South Australian Housing Trust. If the honourable member could provide specific examples they will be checked and, if there is any validity in them, the reasons for their demolition will be furnished.

Mr BECKER: I asked that question because the General Manager said that they were not being renewed. I therefore wondered whether or not the allegations that had been made to me were correct. Is the Housing Trust excess water bill of \$3.6 million, compared with about \$2.6 million last year and \$2.7 million in 1985, in accordance with budget estimates and, if not, why not, and what action can be taken to reduce or contain this cost? What concerns me is that \$3.6 million in excess water charges could represent about 55 new houses.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: This is a vexed question. If one looks at the board's statements in the Auditor-General's Report (the facts of which I have no argument with) in conjunction with the reasons for our cost recovery and considers at the same time the instant expert's resolution to the problem of excess water, one realises all the more, because the trust is a good operator and a good manager of the resources that are given to it each financial year, that the trust's excess water is not just a simple matter as it appears in the Auditor-General's Report.

Since December 1984, the trust has borne the cost of additional and excess water, and the reasons are as follows. The E&WS Department's pricing structure has been moving steadily closer to a position of user pays for all consumers, so the increase in the cost of water reflects the general increase in E&WS charges as opposed to an increase in consumption. That is a very important point that the Committee must be made aware of. Also, with a large and ever growing proportion of tenants on rent reduction, it was anomalous to be charging them for excess water—this is prior to the December 1984 decision.

Also, the Auditor-General's Report did not highlight the fact—which needs to be taken into account—that about one-third of the trust's rental properties are not separately metered, and the tenants of those properties could not effectively be charged for excess water, anyway. The previous system of recovering concessions caused difficulties with tenants and was costly in terms of both field and clerical resources. In other words, someone who is on rent reduction gets employment, so goes off the concession, and vice versa; it is an awful problem to resolve.

The trust's present policy is that excess water rates are recovered from the total rent charged rather than from individual tenants. This was done as a matter of administrative convenience because more than 63 per cent of trust tenants pay reduced rents. In fact, most of those who are paying full rents are on very modest incomes. Approximately one-third of the trust's stock is located in medium density estates, and these dwellings are not separately metered, as I said earlier.

I have asked the trust to give me an estimate as to the cost of providing separate water meters. A crude estimate (and we can only base it on our experience of separating or upgrading existing services to medium density units) is \$19.4 million, or about \$1 000 per unit, including the cost of \$350 for a standard meter. So, in relation to the problem of excess water as recorded in the one simple statement in the Auditor-General's Report, it is better for us to continue to include the cost of it in the total rent charged rather than installing individual meters.

On the other hand (and I think the General Manager mentioned this in relation to encouraging people to get into dry gardens when upgrading their own areas), we produce brochures and have trust tenancy officers talking to tenants. We also encourage water conservation. It is an ongoing process, but it is not a simple thing of saying, 'You are paying \$3 million-odd in excess water. Go back to separately charging each one for excess water'. All those other things need to be taken into account.

Mr BECKER: But you lose the equivalent of another 300 houses.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Yes. That is the position we are in. I am glad that the member for Hanson appreciates that.

Membership:

The Hon. D.C. Wotton substituted for Mr Oswald.

Mr BECKER: How are evaluations for the sale of Housing Trust rental properties arrived at? The Auditor-General made some comments in relation to a shared equity mortgage scheme, and the trust has other programs that enable tenants to purchase their own properties. I received a letter from a person at Pooraka, and I believe that the Minister received a copy of it as well. It states:

At the instigation of a representative from Myles and Pearce Real Estate, we arranged, by signing an advice, to have an independent valuer value [their] premises at the trust's cost, which in the event of our purchasing the property same cost would be borne by us.

The valuer duly arrived and, after a detailed inspection of the premises, my husband asked what sort of figure the house would be valued at, bearing in mind that we have spent a considerable amount of money on the house. He told my husband that the price would be worked out on the standard house and the improvements would not be included, since we had spent the money and not the trust. The figure would be approximately \$60 000, he said, which was rather more than a personal friend of ours, who is a valuer, quoted: he said he felt \$50 000 to \$55 000 was a fair price.

However we were still interested in the price given by the independent valuer, as we would like to pay the house off in 10 years, but when the letter arrived from the trust advising us that the purchase price would be \$71 153 we were surprised and dismayed. Even if we could afford the price, we naturally feel that the house has been over-valued. It would seem that the trust does not want to sell the houses after all, or why would they have such an inflated value on them? We have looked at a number of homes for sale in the general area, and would be ill advised to buy the one we are renting at present at the price quoted.

That house is in Rains Drive, Pooraka, if that helps the Minister. That is why I wanted to know how the valuations were arrived at and how there could be such a difference in valuations. Is this a problem that the trust is experiencing in selling its properties?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: My officers recall that case. We have dealt with it, although I do not think to the satisfaction of the person to whom the member has referred. I recall that the member for Mawson in the last week of Parliament in effect raised a very similar matter. The Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement is very strict in relation to the resale of trust properties, and it is either at market value or replacement value. I suggested in this case

to which the member for Hanson has referred that the replacement aspect caused the person some concern. I notice that the member for Hanson quoted Myles Pearce who, as I informed the House recently, have been engaged by the South Australian Housing Trust on a commission basis. Perhaps Mr Edwards would like to comment on this matter.

Mr Edwards: I would emphasise that, as was stated in the introduction to last year's annual report, the trust is very keen to encourage home ownership amongst its tenants, and the practice that is followed is that properties are sold in accordance with the terms of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, about which we have no option. As the Minister has said, there is a requirement to charge market value or replacement cost, and there are circumstances, particularly when the market has had a downturn, in which the replacement cost could be higher than the current sale value.

We use mainly the Valuer-General's valuations, although occasionally we may use a private valuer's valuation. We do not charge tenants for their own improvements, so the price is related to the property as constructed by the trust. I do not recall details of this case, but I realise that similar cases have occurred. I do not know of any way in which the problem could be solved given the terms of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement. However, we do everything possible to enable our tenants to purchase the houses that they occupy.

Mr BECKER: So I assume that the Valuer-General's valuation would be used as a guide with the concurrence of the appointed land agent, in this case Myles Pearce?

Mr Edwards: It may have been a valuation from the Valuer-General or from a nominated private valuer. Where a valuation has been disputed, we have referred it to an independent valuer. I suspect that in this case the cost of construction of the house was \$71 000. So, irrespective of the valuation placed on it, that is the replacement figure.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I suggest that, after the Committee has finished dealing with this matter, the member for Hanson passes his information to my officers who can check it out.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: The Auditor-General has made certain comments on council and water rates, and I point out that the correct term is 'additional water charge' rather than 'excess water charge'. The additional water charge is made for the volume of water over and above that included in the quota. Until the Auditor-General referred to the matter, I did not realise that the Housing Trust has not charged tenants for additional water since 1984. If nothing is done about this, I suggest that the volume of water used by tenants will increase each year.

The Minister said that certain properties referred to by him were not individually metered, but I take it that they are collectively metered, so the Engineering and Water Supply Department must determine the volume of water used collectively. In the case of private rental accommodation, that fee could be shared by the tenants. I once had a constituent come to me agitated because he had received a water rates bill for \$1.39. He asked me what to do with it and I advised him to pay it because he was getting a fair deal. Likewise, the tenants in this case are getting a fair deal, besides paying a concessional rent. Under this method of water rating there must be a tremendous opportunity for wastage. Indeed, someone may be having three or four showers a day and that is an obvious waste of water. Can the Minister say what the Trust will do about this matter in future?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The continuing expertise of the former Minister of Water Resources is obviously coming

through hot and strong. I thought that the honourable member was about to give us inspired support through his successor so that the Engineering and Water Supply Department would separate the cost for us and then we would gladly charge the tenant for the additional water used. This is an ongoing problem. No strategy or policy of the trust remains entrenched forever and a day and it may well be that at some future time the trust must review this matter. The honourable member said that, if six properties are on a common meter, one could divide the collective fee by six, but we must also consider such factors as ability to pay. We will take on board the honourable member's comments and see whether we can refine our procedures.

Mr De LAINE: At page 465 of the yellow book, under the heading '1987-88 Specific Targets/Objectives' there appears the following:

Implementation of programs to promote greater diversity in the housing stock and to encourage the adoption of cost saving approaches in building and land development.

Certain inner western suburban areas, especially Hindmarsh, Bowden and Brompton, are ripe for redevelopment, particularly in respect of urban consolidation. Can the Minister outline any long-term plans that the Government may have for housing development in this area, especially in terms of housing mix?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: In cooperation with the private sector, the trust is showing in the Bowden-Brompton area that urban consolidation is the way to go. When I was a backbencher in Opposition, I recall getting involved with the problems of residents in that area who did not wish to see the remand centre built there, and eventually common-sense prevailed. Gentrification has not taken place in Bowden-Brompton as it has in certain inner suburbs of Sydney and Melbourne. Ongoing discussions have taken place and the trust has membership on the steering committee and also on the committee that has been set up by the Minister for Environment and Planning and me.

There is also a special projects unit which ensures that land use in the area will be maximised, that innovative designs are used, and that an effort is made to get the people back into this inner suburban area and to fill up the schools there. I am sure that the honourable member will be happy with what we come up with in this regard.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: At page 463 of the yellow book there is a reference to the HOME Guarantee Programs. What are the findings of the review of those programs and what benefits have come out of the review? What proposals have been developed for new assistance schemes under those programs?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The HOME Guarantee Programs deal with methods whereby we can encourage people to own homes and, once they own homes, guarantee their continuation of ownership during periods of temporary unemployment or sickness. I am pleased to say that because of our insistence on the lending institutions picking up their responsibilities and roles regarding this aspect, in many cases where they have been prepared to renegotiate with people, they have managed to stave off people having to go out of their homes and seek accommodation elsewhere.

The review of the HOME Guarantee Program is in progress, and should be completed within a few weeks. The decision was made in March this year to continue the interest rate protection plan indefinitely, but the major concern with the whole of the HOME Program is the practice by a number of private financiers of providing very high interest loans on the basis of high equity rather than reasonable capacity to pay. Whilst we are all hopeful of the downward move of interest rates, the problem facing most home buyers, or those people expecting to get into the home

purchase area, was that they had no capacity to repay. That is not only South Australia's problem: it was all over Australia. Most commentators, as a result of the budget decision, which has in effect resulted in interest rates falling, consider that demand under HOME Guarantee will fall in line with interest rates.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: The Minister mentioned that the review would be finished within a couple of months: is that right?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Within several weeks, but do not hold me to that: it is in process.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Will the findings of that review be made public?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: There have been ongoing reviews of our HOME concessional loan program since we introduced it in 1983. The last review was in 1985 and the results of that—the adjustments in the amount of loan and the price of the home that that person could buy—were announced. I do not know whether I am picking up the wrong vibes from the honourable member: the results of that review and the recommendations that I put to Cabinet will be announced as part of the normal package of protection that we give people under that scheme. A normal question on notice would meet that situation.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: What is the reason for the delay in obtaining funds from the Residential Tenancies Tribunal for the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless, and why is the sum of only \$50 000 mentioned on page 464 of the book under the heading 'Major resource variations—1986-87—1987-88', when the Government planned to take something like \$1.5 million?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I thought that we went through that exercise a couple of weeks ago in the House, but I will cheerfully go through the whole procedure again. The problems that we encountered in the process of obtaining money through the Residential Tenancies Tribunal trust fund for projects under the International Year of Shelter for the Homeless were that: (a) it has never been done before; (b) the criteria under the legislation are clearly identified: it must be of benefit to landlords or tenants. Therefore, the process is long and slow: everything has to be done correctly. As a simple example, there should be no recurrent demand on the Government, the South Australian Housing Trust or local government on these projects.

As I outlined to the House, the Chairperson of the Residential Tenancies Tribunal is currently looking at them. I understand that one has reached the Minister and that the others could be at the Minister's desk today or tomorrow. Then the Minister will cast his very able legal mind over the judgments that have been written by the Chairperson.

The IYSH secretariat, all those other bodies that have requested funding, the Housing Advisory Council Industry Committee, which is sponsoring most of the capital oriented projects, and I will be very pleased with the end result when the Minister brings it down. Also (and I gave this answer to the member for Mawson when the member for Heysen was not in the Chamber), IYSH is to make people aware, which is not a Government but a community responsibility. One part of HACIC—the Housing Advisory Council Industry Committee—is that we will endeavour to get and are confident of getting support from the building industry itself. So, in regard to those projects, support will come from the Government (that is, the trust), and from the building industry, either in materials or money, and we are hopeful of support from one media outlet. We will have support from local government and all areas, which is really what IYSH is all about.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Why was \$30 259 paid to the IYSH 1987 last financial year when the budget allocation was \$80 000, and what is the reason for the proposed sum of \$238 000? I refer to Program 2 in the Estimates of Payments, pages 142-3.

Mr Black: In answer to the first part of the question, the expenditure allocated for 1986-87 was \$80 000. The great majority of those funds was to be used for publicity and community awareness, and as part of the IYSH development grants program. It became clear early that a lot more work needed to be done in order to get to the stage of making the grants available. As a consequence, the great majority of funds—the difference between the \$30 000 and \$80 000—was held over to 1987-88. As a consequence of that, and with an additional sum allocated by the State Government, the total amount available from State sources is made up to \$138 000. The Minister has decided also to put in an additional \$100 000 towards the development grants—the non-capital part of IYSH.

Ms LENEHAN: My first question relates to the Mitchell Park redevelopment. I will preface my question by congratulating the Minister and the department on undertaking this redevelopment which could be seen as part of an urban consolidation process. It is my understanding that the area has been very old and rundown and suffered from a number of problems in terms of the way in which residents and others viewed the accommodation. In fact, this redevelopment will engender a pride in the local area. A neighbourhood house has already been opened and outreach services provided from the Clovelly Park Community Health Centre and other service agencies. Given that this would seem to be a most successful model for redevelopment of outmoded accommodation or trust accommodation, can the Minister inform the Committee whether this proposal will be repeated in other areas of South Australia and, if so, where? I am specifically thinking of areas where it needs to have a new injection of vitality into the whole housing structure of the community.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Mitchell Park is something on which everyone should congratulate the Housing Trust. The trust tenants were part of the Mitchell Park exercise. The local member, the Minister of Mines and Energy, was an active participant in bringing the tenants and trust together, as were some very good trust officers. Not only is the Mitchell Park experiment an urban consolidation upgrading of existing stock but also it reinforced my view of what tenant participation is all about as opposed to what one sometimes reads about tenant participation.

The honourable member asked about other areas. We have learnt a lot from Mitchell Park. The member for Gilles referred in his Address in Reply speech to the Hillcrest exercise, which is a long-term redevelopment. The first phase will take place shortly. It is picking up the expertise and experience we have developed at Mitchell Park and extending it. It goes into what the member for Hanson was saying. It also reduces the long-term cost of asset replacement. We are already dealing with that situation.

Ms LENEHAN: My second question relates to tenant participation. The Tenant Participation Management Committee, of which we heard something today, was referred to also by the Minister. Is there ongoing assessment about the way in which the committees are operating, and how successfully are they operating? If that is happening, is it envisaged that the role and function of these committees will be expanded so that this one vehicle the tenants have of being part of the decision making process in their daily lives regarding housing can be extended? If so, will the Minister outline to the Committee any of these proposals or plans?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The member for Mawson picked up in the last part of her question what the tenant participation is all about. It is not whether we are going to continue it, but whether we will continue it if the tenants want it to be continued. It is not how we perceive what it should be all about. The General Manager referred to it in talking about incentives for maintenance. Who will judge how a person should decorate or maintain the home internally? As a result of Government policy, in the first six months in 1987 we appointed five tenancy liaison officers on a three-year contract basis.

That was a decision I made on recommendation of the trust because we were approaching severe financial constraints on the South Australian Housing Trust because of the 2 per cent productivity matter. The long-term gains of tenant participation, although they cannot be quantified in dollar terms, is such that there are times when we have to forget dollars and look at the long-term gain. It falls well and truly into our recently established social justice strategy as a part of people getting involved in what they want. The member for Mawson is well aware that our first tenant participation exercise was in the metropolitan south area. She has the knack of getting all the good programs in the southern region. In the north we have to have the cast-me-downs. Tenant participation encourages a greater understanding of other people's needs. It may sound pompous, but it is very true. The long-term benefits affect the trust, the Government, and, most importantly, the tenants.

Mr BECKER: What criteria are adopted to assist and encourage 16-year-olds to apply for emergency housing assistance up to the value of about \$1 000? I received a letter from Alexander Downer, the Federal member for Barker, in which he states:

I am writing to you because a constituent of mine, Mr X came to see me last week to complain that the Housing Trust is actively encouraging under-age youths to leave home at the expense of South Australian taxpayers. I have a very real concern about this policy.

Mr X's son decided he wanted to leave home and go into accommodation with a friend. Consequently he went to the Department of Community Welfare and asked whether he would be eligible for Housing Trust accommodation. I should point out that (the boy) is 16 years of age. The Department of Community Welfare sent them to the Emergency Housing Office which said that emergency housing could be made available and that the department would give them the best part of \$1 000 towards initial rental payments, their bond etc.

The son decided not to take up the offer—it is scandalous that such an offer was made with taxpayers' money. However, some time later the son and his friend received the attached letter from the Emergency Housing Office encouraging them to claim for emergency housing.

We are constantly told of the waiting list for Housing Trust accommodation and people stream through my door asking for emergency housing relief and we are always told that housing is a terrible problem etc, etc. Yet, on the other hand, the Housing Trust is behaving in this extravagant and despicable way.

He also attached a letter from the Emergency Housing Office addressed to the person's son and friend as follows:

Just thought I'd drop you a line to remind you to apply for rent relief, as soon as possible, at your local Housing Trust. You need a U53 form from Social Security to prove your income and a rent receipt from your parents.

Apparently they were going to rent the property from the boy's parents. The letter continues:

Please get this organised as soon as you can. I will follow this up with the Housing Trust. Hope you can sort out your other problems.

It is signed best wishes, so and so, Housing Officer. I am concerned about what criteria are adopted to assist 16-year-olds applying for emergency housing assistance.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I heard DCW referred to. I am not sure whether the member for Hanson is saying that

the EHO is encouraging 16-year-olds or the Department of Community Welfare is encouraging 16-year-olds.

Mr BECKER: Apparently the boy went to the Department of Community Welfare and asked whether he would be eligible for Housing Trust accommodation and I take it that the Department of Community Welfare sent him to the Emergency Housing Office.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The member for Eyre commented that Alexander Downer is a great, hardworking person, but there are degrees of hard work. I make this statement categorically: people under 18 must have a letter of consent from their parents or social worker before they are considered for housing. I am glad that my father was a truck driver and not the owner of great tracts of land, a diplomat and a Minister of the Crown, because I would never have written a letter or talked about the trust's action being despicable. One would have thought that if an aspirant for the Prime Ministership wanted to enter a discussion or seek information he would write to the General Manager of the Housing Trust rather than to the member for Hanson, although I have no objection to the covering letter going to the honourable member. I do think that Mr Downer would have written to the General Manager to establish what the policy is.

I imagine that Alexander Downer, with the trimmings that go with the 'born to rule' attitude, would not know what it is like to have sexual or physical abuse from people within the family, or other problems that drive young people out of their own homes to seek some form of shelter. A social worker will give that form of consent to the Emergency Housing Office, which has a social responsibility, of which the member for Hanson is well aware, to respond to crisis situations. Life will never be clear-cut or rosy. Those of us who grew up in a family in which our parents did not abuse us but treated us as adults and with respect and dignity were lucky. Some people go through a real form of crisis.

About six months ago I spoke with a social worker from the Department for Community Welfare about child abuse. She made the comment that 10 or 15 years ago she encouraged kids to go back to their parents. What she knows now about those kids who left home frightens her. I am not saying that life is a disaster but I imagine that people like Alexander Downer and other critics of the Department for Community Welfare and the Emergency Housing Office should realise that the member for Hanson and the Minister of Housing and Construction are very lucky because we had a normal upbringing as children. We went wrong in only one way: in the honourable member's eyes, I turned Labor and, in my eyes, he turned Liberal.

Mr BECKER: What is envisaged will come from monitoring the State's housing assistance programs across all tenures and how will such programs be adjusted to ensure value for money and that the assistance is given equitably? The reference is page 463 of the yellow book.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: When the member for Heysen spoke about the home guarantee scheme I responded that there is always monitoring of the State Government's housing assistance programs to ensure that those in most need are delivered of services effectively and that as a result of agreements between the States and the Federal Government under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement the interest rates of the recipients of the concessional loan program are increased where applicable and that those who sell their home within seven or eight years repay the subsidy. The subsidy is provided for everyone; it does not involve one particular person. If, for example, the member for Hanson benefits from a concessional loan program and his

income increases and he sells his house, there must be some mechanism by which the subsidy is repaid to the State. That would be fair.

There are areas in which the State Bank, the South Australian Housing Trust and the State Government deliver that service efficiently. In effect, there is no hidden agenda in that statement: it is purely to ensure that home purchase assistance and all other forms of assistance are delivered in an equitable manner across all tenures. One of the ideas of this Government and of other State Governments of different political persuasions, is to spread assistance in various ways, and that is a good move.

Some States are actually providing home purchase assistance to unemployed people. The department is undecided whether it needs to target more funds into that area or to hold back in others. Straight out concessional loan programs are no longer available to the public. One advantage is that a lot of private institutions have developed other means of providing home purchase assistance, such as low start loans, three step loans and high start loans. Home purchase assistance is available in various forms, and that is a good move.

Mr BECKER: Would this allow more flexibility and enable the various programs to be varied, depending on the climate at that time?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The ability, yes, but at the same time the service must be delivered at the best cost to the taxpayer.

Mr BECKER: Why is the State obliged to provide a grant of \$16 million to the South Australian Housing Trust as a contribution to rent rebates? Does this mean that the Federal Government cut back funds or reneged on providing sufficient funds? In this respect, I refer to page 463 of the Program Estimates, specifically to major resource variations.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I again touch on the question that this State has always actively promoted at Ministers meetings and when changes to the Commonwealth-State housing agreement have been dealt with: rent rebates are a Federal responsibility because it is an income situation, but clause 43 of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement 1984 provides:

The State shall forgo the collection of so much of rents fixed in accordance with clause 32 (the rent formula) as it considers that tenants having regard primarily to their income are not able to afford to pay.

If one looks at the rent rebates, which have risen from \$33.755 million in 1985-86 to \$47.438 million in 1986-87 and an estimated \$68.7 million in 1987-88, one can see that there is an ongoing problem. The member for Hanson may well remember that prior to my taking a submission to Cabinet in mid 1986 I was continually saying in the public forum as well as in Parliament that, unless some drastic action was taken in the area of rents, the trust could be faced with a deficit of such proportions that would put it in a situation where it was no longer viable.

This applies not only to the South Australian Housing Trust but also to every housing authority in Australia, because there is the same degree of homelessness and lack of ability to pay even trust rents or Housing Commission rents. The 1984 Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement allowed the States to allocate CSHA grant funds to cover rebates to an amount determined under clause 3(n). That provided a degree of flexibility and was a step in the right direction. However, the Commonwealth Government did not pick up the tab as it had been doing with the supplementary rent allowance for those in the private sector.

In 1985-86 the Commonwealth Government allowed \$21.5 million to the South Australian Government to be used for rent rebates; in 1986-87 the figure was \$25.578 million, and

it is expected to be \$27.705 million in 1987-88. In the previous financial year \$9 million was allocated to offset that deficit, because the trust was running out of ways and means, without dramatically increasing rents, to accumulate such funds. The department feels that it has gone as far as it can with the announcement in November 1986 in relation to a figure of 20 per cent in real terms over two years on commercial properties; that is an ongoing trust program, which has been supported by both sides of Parliament, including when the Liberal Party was in office. Nowadays the trust is not in the business of providing facilities other than housing. That was the reason why that type of finance was dwindling.

In 1987-88 the State will grant \$16 million for this purpose, but at the same time the trust will be expected to produce as near as possible a balanced budget; hence the need for my somewhat hardhearted decisions in regard to residential offices, rent collection and the closure of some rent offices, particularly in the Acting Chairman's end of town, Salisbury and Elizabeth, where there is one central area in which people can pay their rents. A lot of people on fixed incomes have their rents deducted from their pension cheques; the cheque is paid to the trust, the rent is deducted and the remainder of the cheque is forwarded to that person or to the bank of their choice. I think that is a correct move by the Government to offset a situation that I have always likened to the STA—much to the dismay of my colleague the Minister of Transport. It is purely and simply an exercise by the Government to allocate money for a deficit, but at the same time to serve notice on the South Australian Housing Trust and its Ministry to ensure that the budget is balanced in the coming financial year.

Mr M.J. EVANS: I appreciate the opportunity to ask two brief questions of the Minister. First, in relation to that group of people who had rental purchase mortgages with the trust many years ago, we have individuals who are now of pensionable age on fixed incomes—perhaps widows—where the amount of the outstanding mortgage is relatively small, say, well under \$10 000 or thereabouts. In many cases those people are living in their own home and, therefore, are not being a burden on the system through the Housing Trust.

However, these people are faced with substantial maintenance costs now because the houses are getting a bit older. They need to update, improve and perhaps repaint, and so on, and by so doing they are incurring the cost themselves, thereby sparing the Government system. It would be of considerable assistance to them if advances could be made against that mortgage—perhaps increasing it by a few thousand dollars, and thereby allowing them to undertake that capital intensive maintenance work. I believe that the trust is looking at that question, but could the Minister give an indication of his attitude to it and how much further down the track a decision might be?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The example that the member for Elizabeth used, the rental purchase scheme, which was more prevalent at my end of the Elizabeth area than in the member's own electorate, was a very successful scheme. Unfortunately, it ceased before I came into this Parliament, so I cannot bear any responsibility for its cessation.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER interjecting:

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: It gradually disappeared, as the member for Gilles said. It gave people a chance with a very low deposit to become home owners. It enabled the trust to continue to develop those northern parts of Munno Para and parts of your own electorate, Madam Acting Chairperson, where the rental purchase scheme was very successful in the early days. As the member for Elizabeth says

quite correctly, they now have the benefits of home ownership but the problem of age. The fact is that these people are now on fixed incomes, usually through an age pension or some form of early retirement that they have taken advantage of, and they wish not to become a burden on the State, but to stay there. However, they have a cash flow problem, purely and simply.

In the first instance we are reviewing the rental purchase scheme. That again was in relation to a question I received from the member for Heysen. We are looking at a home improvement loans proposal, which comes under the umbrella of the HOME scheme. This is not just for people who have purchased from the trust but for all areas, to enable aged owner occupiers to raise finance for home repairs and alterations, which I think is the thrust of the member's question.

It is intended that lending arrangements will allow some form of flexible loan repayments that suit the individual borrowers. That is the crux of the whole thing. What is right for one person could be totally different for another. It will allow these people to stay in their homes longer, and, should it suit the owner, to have alterations effected to enable other people to share their home in privacy. Let me make that perfectly clear. That is not a backdoor way into housing diversity.

I have to pay a tribute to the member for Heysen for the moves that he introduced as Minister for Environment and Planning when the Liberal Party was in Government, as these were a step in the right direction. Through no fault of his own, that scheme floundered, mainly because local government did not really understand what housing diversity was all about. Let us hope that we will be more successful with our second attempt.

We are also developing proposals under our low start loan program, which is an extension of the Victorian scheme. We still need to look more closely at that model, perhaps with an adjustment being made to our rental purchase program, in order to assist purchasers with low deposits. We are picking up that point. Again, with the interest rates falling, they become more attractive if one is asking for an extension of a small loan which is a bit different from a personal loan. Therefore, as interest rates fall, this becomes more acceptable, not only for us to market but also for those people to pick it up.

Mr M.J. EVANS: With respect to the shared home ownership scheme and the home purchase scheme which have been operating for about the past 12 months or so, and which, without wishing to be unkind, has not been spectacularly successful in its first year (but I fully support the concept behind it and would like to see it press ahead successfully), I seek some statistical information in relation to it. If the Minister does not have it all immediately available, I will be happy to have it incorporated in *Hansard* later to save time. Obviously, as the Minister has pointed out many times in the House, the cost must, under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, be market value. I understand that that is derived from the Valuer-General's valuation.

Looking at the question of market value, could the Minister give some indication of the other costs that are inevitably placed on top of that market valuation, either V-Gs or replacement cost? I refer, for example, to trust administration, stamp duty, cost of separating water and sewerage services, electricity metering, changes to the Lands Titles Office title, resurveying costs where necessary—a whole range of extras which can be added onto the price. Could the Minister give that statistical information in the form of sales that have taken place, showing the Valuer-General's

valuation, the replacement cost and the other extras like the administration and services, the title and the surveying that have added to the final charge which is actually levied?

As a policy question, has the Minister considered any special legal arrangements in respect of double units, because most of the additional costs—the separating services, the surveying and the like—occur with double units, because of the way in which they were built, as most members would be familiar. They are in effect on one title with one common service provision. Has any consideration been given to seeking, say, amendments to the real property system to provide a strata titled type of legal title for a double unit, of which there are many thousands in this State, which would avoid some of these additional costs having to be passed on to prospective purchasers, thereby increasing the attractiveness and efficiency economically of the scheme?

The CHAIRPERSON: I remind the Minister of the time frame. Perhaps he could answer the question in principle and provide the Committee with the statistical information by 9 October.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The depth of the question means that we will have to take that on notice and provide that information later. I am pleased to see that the member agrees that the trust shared ownership scheme is another vehicle to enable people to get into home ownership. I noticed that there was a headline, 'Hemmings housing plan fails'. Since that came out, the sales have doubled, so I hope that the Opposition will mount another attack on me when Parliament resumes on Tuesday week, because that could be the form of advertising that we have missed out on. It is a good scheme. Some of the other information that the member is seeking we will incorporate in *Hansard* well before 9 October.

Mr GUNN: Could the Minister briefly advise us whether the Government has any special housing arrangements for Aborigines and particularly whether any consideration was given to a design to suit the needs of that community? Has the department had any input into the Aboriginal housing programs in the northern parts of the State?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I appreciate that question because in many areas there have been criticisms concerning the agencies and the delivery of services to the Aboriginal community. A strength of the Aboriginal funded unit which administers Federal funding in this State is that all decisions are made by the Aboriginal Housing Board. The board determines how grant funds are spent and advises the trust, which builds the homes in urban areas.

Aboriginal apprentices have played a major role in building homes for the Aboriginal funded unit. In the north-west, an area about which the member for Eyre is concerned, we have a successful fringe dweller program. The Aboriginal community determines the type and location of homes. In 1986-87, \$1 006 000 was spent on the fringe dweller program. As to whether that sum is sufficient, I suggest that the reply in respect of some areas would be 'No'. One problem concerns the availability of the necessary infrastructure that must be provided by other agencies, and to some extent this problem slows down the fringe dweller program. The general funding of \$5 million covers Aboriginal housing throughout the State.

Mr BECKER: How many houses has the Housing Trust built or purchased at Golden Grove since the commencement of the Golden Grove project? Is the trust maintaining an estimated 30 per cent ratio of all properties at Golden Grove? If it is not doing so, why not?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I will take that question on notice. It is not 30 per cent: it is up to 30 per cent. As to

the number of homes purchased, for the benefit of the Committee I shall make available details of the number of blocks that are being purchased and the number in respect of which negotiations are proceeding with the Golden Grove Development Corporation.

I thank members of the Committee, especially the member for Hanson, for giving me this opportunity of saying that today is a sad day for my Ministry and also for the Housing Trust, because this is the last appearance before the Estimates Committee of my Director. Indeed, it is his last day of work for this Government, as he is going to greener pastures as the Executive Director of Homes West, which is the equivalent of the South Australian Housing Trust. I wish to place on record that Greg Black has been a diligent officer, first as Manager of the Emergency Housing Office; later, after going through all the ranks, as an officer in the Housing Section of my department, and then, with the creation of the Office of Housing, as Manager and ultimately Director of Housing in the Department of Housing and Construction. He now moves into a position that is even more important than his present one and I wish him well. All the good advice that he has given this Government will no doubt be passed on to the Western Australian Government and hopefully we will get from that Government a more realistic, humane and compassionate approach to housing than perhaps is the case at present.

Change of Departmental Advisers:

Mr R. Nichols, Chief Executive Officer, Department of Housing and Construction.

Mr G. Little, Director, Support Services.

Mr R. Power, Director, Professional Services.

Mr C. Bowden, Clerk, Office of the Minister of Housing and Construction.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Over the past 2½ years my department has gone through a major change for the better. I am pleased to say it has lifted itself from a moribund and much criticised Public Buildings Department to a well regarded and effective Department of Housing and Construction. I express my appreciation to all departmental employees, at all levels. This change could not have occurred without the total effort and commitment of so many people, as we have gone through very difficult times. I believe that their dedication is a tribute to the South Australian public sector and the community in general. I put on record the observation of the Auditor-General, who wrote to the department in these words:

The continued improvement in the efficiency of departmental operations through the implementation of recommendations from reviews undertaken over the past years, especially in the construction area, is pleasing to note.

In summary, the following should be highlighted:

- The department now manages assets of \$3.949 billion (1987-88), a capital budget of \$276 million and a work force of 1 977 employees. Reductions in that work force and other savings are indicative of an approach to productivity and effectiveness which is quite exceptional. Savings in the vicinity of \$2 million were achieved last year, following the \$2 million reported by the Auditor-General in the previous year.
- Construction costs have been cut substantially.
- Our multi-disciplined, 24-hour maintenance operations are efficient and effective, and highly regarded, particularly by those who need them during emergencies.
- I have refined the management structure to develop a major property audit management team, including

a detailed review to enhance office accommodation work.

- The department has won a number of awards.
- Emphasis has changed to recognise the need for long term commitment to asset maintenance.

The department's major works projects and its overall budgets are now tightly managed. This is no mean achievement given the size of the resource base which the department must control. Very few organisations in the private or public sectors could claim to have met their objectives so effectively.

Cost reduction targets set in the Workforce Planning Review, which led to the reorganisation of the department, have been more than met. This type of performance has also been reflected in the professional areas of the department, which are now able to confidently enter into arrangements with clients on the understanding that firm fee offers will be complied with. I can recall being asked two years ago before this Committee in connection with the aquatic centre project, what projects on our books were likely to be in similar trouble in the next year or two. I am pleased to report that all major projects are close to, or on, budget. Such a record would be jealously looked upon by any organisation in this industry, anywhere throughout the country.

We are continuing to look for ways to reduce the costs of our operations and to what ends we are rationalising our property such that we can gain maximum advantage from existing assets, while taking the opportunity to liquidate those which we can free up. Concurrent with this activity, we are proceeding with action to reduce the costs associated with the supply of materials to building sites and workshops. I am sure that there will be questions seeking more details on these activities during the course of these Hearings, and I will be pleased to elaborate further.

This Government is keen that the department's resources should be available to assist the general building industry in South Australia. To this end we have continued to convene the Construction Industry Advisory Council and the Construction Industry Conference. These forums are most useful to enable the private and public sector to work together for the State's mutual benefit. We have gone even further and been able to assist a private firm to obtain overseas work in conjunction with the department. Other firms are now taking advantage of what we can offer in this area by seeking to joint venture with us in markets where the institutional status of my department and the link with the Ministry provides marketing advantages and access to the skills of our workforce.

I feel that I should mention the Aboriginal Works Unit which has been particularly hard hit by difficulties associated with Federal funding cutbacks. The unit has therefore had to struggle, but has nevertheless had its successes. Among other things, it has coordinated a most successful workshop for inland local communities regarding their general services of power, water and sewage, and it has been involved in innovative designs which can be constructed by local community labour. I believe it is essential to assist these communities and that the Aboriginal Works Unit has played a key part in doing so. I am pleased to make myself and my officers available for questions.

Mr BECKER: Last year I very briefly mentioned that I understood that the department was undergoing considerable change in relation to regionalisation. For that reason I decided to let the department work its way through this very different process. During the last 12 months I have had many representations from staff who are concerned at the impact of regionalisation. I have listened to much com-

ment and have left it until now to ascertain exactly what has happened in the past 12 months.

On 1 July, I received an anonymous four-page letter—and I know that the Minister and a few other people did also—written in cynical fashion. From my research and interviewing some people, I am told that the comments vary from spot on to absolute rubbish. What worries me is that proposing and setting up regionalisation causes internal problems: sometimes it is best to let those who are given the responsibility sort them out, so I have adopted that attitude, rightly or wrongly. Many of my colleagues do not agree with me.

I understand that the discussions have been going on since about 1977, starting from about 17 regions down to four. I am advised that at one stage about 17 committees looked at various proposals. What progress has been made with regionalisation within the department? How many regions will be established, and what is the timetable for the full establishment of these regions? What is now expected to be the capital cost and the savings?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I congratulate the member for Hanson on that attitude to regionalisation, especially in regard to anonymous letters. We all know what usually happens to anonymous letters: they are usually written by a group or by one person who is rather bitter that the spoils of any change have not gone his way. The member for Hanson said that it ranged from spot on to the ridiculous: I will not enter into any debate about that, but he is correct inasmuch as we are well aware of the problems of working through changes that have been forced on a department because of a decision by Government to maximise efficiency and effectiveness for an ever dwindling dollar, and an ever increasing demand by clients and the community who want the best of everything, but who say at the same time 'Don't ask us to pay any more'.

At the risk of maligning previous Ministers of both sides, I point out that the problems of the old Public Buildings Department were never grappled with, despite the numerous reports that came out of the department. One can take the base as December 1981. That is not in any way intended to put it fairly and squarely in the middle of the Liberal Administration because the Minister at that time seriously attempted to grapple with the problem and in effect laid the groundwork for a lot of other reports which, when I became Minister, were used to set up the review which involved consultation with everyone. The only problems that the previous Minister, Dean Brown, had in his attempts to rationalise the department were stifled by that Government's policy of putting work out to the private sector whilst at the same time not really looking at the public sector such as the old Public Buildings Department. I think Dean Brown would agree with me on that. He had no room to move to rationalise within the department. That is history, and most people agree.

In April 1985, after the Department of Housing and Construction was formed, the process was revised and a four region structure implemented. This is where the efficiencies and savings will eventually materialise. The savings are already there. The management structure of the previous regional services division, which had four branches—the district offices branch, works branch, central workshops branch and the administration branch—was the way it was at the time. There were 14 managerial positions in that structure.

For comparison, the managerial structure of the four regions when regionalisation is fully implemented will mean that we have only 10 managerial positions—a saving of four positions. As part of that regionalisation and the work force

planning review (which was the first thing I did under the old PBD) there has been a gradual reduction under the GME Act employees and weekly paid. In 1982 there were 937.5 GME Act employees. In 1987 there will be 747.4—a marked reduction. At June 1982 there were 1 482 weekly paid which has now been reduced in 1987 to 1 157. That means that GME Act employees have decreased by 190 positions (a 20.3 per cent reduction) and weekly paid employees by 325 (a 21.9 per cent reduction) compared to the 1982 figure. Positive moves have been made by the department under this Ministry to ensure that where there are reductions they are almost identical within the GME Act and the weekly paid. Our greatest reduction obviously was in the early years, but we have been moving towards an effective reduction.

Those reductions have not been favourably accepted by the trade union movement and the Public Service Association—hence the many visits that the honourable member for Hanson has had. Perhaps they went away completely disgruntled that the member has not gone out and fought under that banner. That is why we have anonymous letters such as the one that the member for Hanson has quoted. At the same time our managerial positions have been reduced, apart from the reduction to the four positions we will lose when we come down to the four regions. Over a two year period we have had a reduction of senior level positions by 19.3 FTEs, which is an 8.8 per cent reduction with the greatest reduction of 16.2 occurring in the year ended 30 June 1987. Regionalisation is not, as some of the critics suggest, changing the name and changing a few structures to create new titles. That is the basis of some of the complaints. A positive move is under way to reduce the cost of Government so that the money allocated to this department is then used for what it should be, namely, maintaining and replacing this State's assets.

The current rationalisation process in the department will sell properties to the value of \$3 million, of which about half will be used to establish and consolidate regional offices with the other half being returned to the Treasury. As part of the budget process that money will then be made available to the department to improve the asset base of those existing assets. The sale of Carrington Street, Ethelton, which I reported on during the last Estimates Committee is such that the two districts can be combined and based at Netley, thereby giving a greater utilisation of the Netley complex. This provides funds for the Government to use fully the assets at Netley and reduces district management overheads. The relocation of the Greenacres depot to Elizabeth is because Greenacres is inadequate and badly located. Elizabeth will be closer to the client and therefore better able to respond to the needs of our clients and the department.

The shift of regional management out of Wakefield House and into the Elizabeth, Marion and Netley depots will bring managers closer to the clients, so they will have a better understanding of what the department is all about with its delivery of services. For these people who have had problems within assets and within their electorates, our response and attitude to clients is far better now than four or five years ago.

Employees taking vehicles home was seen by some critics as a means of providing some employees with second vehicles. I say that flippantly. It has been used well and was a major step in reducing on-costs of our operation, especially in the maintenance and minor works programs. I am pleased to report to the Committee that there has only been one case of abuse of that system since it was implemented and savings have more than justified that decision. The greatest thing to keep it under control is peer pressure, as members

of the committee would be aware. That briefly is an update on the regionalisation so far. My directors and I accept that there is more to do and a need still exists further to rationalise not only our work force numbers but also the way in which we deliver our services. The moves that took place in 1984 with the workforce planning review are now bearing fruit. I would ask the Director to enlarge on that.

Mr Nichols: We used to have five regions and we now have four. That seems to be missed by some people who think we are embarking on some sort of process of spreading regions all over the countryside. Two and a half years ago we inherited five. We have achieved many of these savings by amalgamating two into one and selling associated properties. With regard to the sales of those properties, the credit to Treasury is \$1.31 million, so that is immediate capital benefit to Government followed by considerable recurrent savings every year because of this reduced spread of our regional operations.

What is causing the problems with some people is typical of what causes problems in organisations when changes are made. The Minister referred to the fact that some people thought they should have got a guernsey, that they might have missed out on something or that they might be frightened of change. The principle is the same as was used in the construction areas of the department and anywhere else where we have tried to improve our performance. That principle is: in a region, a regional manager will be responsible for everything that happens in minor works and maintenance in that region. We will have control of the resources in that region, whether they are the direct resources that are based there, the support resources in terms of supply and transport or central workshop resources. In other words, instead of responding to his local client that he has to check with the Netley hierarchy, for example, to determine whether a job can be done, the regional manager will be able to say that he has the resources and will do the job on a particular date. That is essential for me to control this department properly and be sure that I can give a good performance to the clients in each region.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Is the Minister prepared to state categorically that his department has not been made aware of the extreme concerns and confusion of school councils and principals regarding school playground equipment? The Minister denied claims that I made regarding this subject and also rejected claims that equipment was being built and removed as a result of confusing advice from the department. I am happy to provide information relating to specific cases where schools have put in playgrounds with the blessing of the department, as they understood it, only to be told at a later stage that the equipment was not regarded as safe.

Even the statement that the Minister was reported as making in the *News* yesterday demands some clarification. He stated in that article that a playground equipment manual published by the then Public Buildings Department in 1981 had been sent out to 700 State schools. As I understand it, the Australian standards were brought down in 1982, which means that the 1981 manual is out of line with Australian standards. That is where some of the confusion has come about. The Minister went on to say that schools have asked the department to check equipment installed before the Australian standards of 1986. I am not aware of a change in the standards in 1986 and the schools that I contacted today are also not aware of any change. I am aware of the latest manual that has been sent out, and it came out only this year, I think. That does not refer specifically, in providing information for schools, to the Australian standards.

I am concerned that school councils have become fearful of legal redress because of advice given by departmental officers. I was also concerned to read an article in the *Advertiser* of 18 September in which Dr Somers of the Health Commission stated that injury victims should be encouraged to seek legal redress. That is of concern because the question of liability for schools, local government and the community generally is a very real problem. It was most inappropriate for that officer to suggest that injury victims be encouraged to seek legal redress.

The Minister has accused me of jeopardising the playground equipment safety program. I point out that in my original press release I indicated that I recognised that it was essential that some equipment be removed from playgrounds for safety reasons. Plenty of examples have been given to ensure that that happened. I am also concerned, as are many principals and school councils, that the challenge is being removed from some equipment now regarded as safe, particularly at a time of increased vandalism. Even psychiatrists who have become involved in this subject in the last couple of days have recognised that as a major factor. I have received a considerable amount of representation from within and outside my electorate on this subject and it is in an attempt to clarify some of the matters that have been brought to my notice that I raised the subject.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The item that appeared on page 32 of yesterday's *News* was a misprint. I was talking about the Australian standards that were first published in 1981-82. I referred also to a provision relating to surfaces, which was contained within a paper put out by the Department of Recreation and Sport in 1986. The wrong date was published, and the honourable member conceded that it could be a mistake. I accept that an article on page 29 of the *Advertiser* of 17 September under the honourable member's name claimed that playground equipment worth more than \$1 million had been removed because of failings by my officers. Equipment that had been approved by the department and later condemned and removed amounted to \$1 million. Perhaps the member for Heysen will identify clearly that \$1 million and explain how I can compensate for that figure.

I am sure that the Committee is well aware that the safety and design of playgrounds and playground equipment is covered by Australian standards AS1924, AS2115 and AS2555, which cover playground equipment for parks, schools and domestic use and were first published in 1981-82. Since 1982, the department has adopted a policy of working to those standards where possible. As a thorough knowledge of the Australian standards and the underlying philosophy is required to produce safe playgrounds of worthwhile play value, it is difficult for schools to design their own playgrounds. That is the crux of the problem. I recall that in 1972, along with other school council members, we erected some permapine faults and climbing equipment under a one sheet plan. I am sure that I am not alone in doing that and that other members have done so during their time on school councils. Schools are not encouraged to do so, especially these days. Under clause P7 of the Schools Information Unit, schools are required to forward all requests for playgrounds through the facility manager of the Education Department.

When schools consult the department they are usually encouraged to consult experienced playground manufacturers with guidance from the officers of the Site Development Office of the Department of Housing and Construction to select the appropriate equipment. We have on file countless letters of commendation and congratulations on the way in

which the officers of this small unit, which is there to advise and not to allocate funds, handle these requests for advice.

However, the department does have a problem in that not all playground manufacturers produce catalogues. Also, in some cases the equipment illustrated does not on the whole comply with Australian standards. There is only one supplier whose catalogue approaches full compliance with those standards. This is a problem that is causing real concern to officers of my department and the Education Department. The document that the department published was an effort to assist in this type of situation. However, it did not go out in 1981, as stated; that is another misprint.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: When did it go out?

Mr Nicholls: The beginning of this year.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: That document is there to assist. The honourable member said that we are attempting to put the fear of the Lord in them and that is totally incorrect. We are endeavouring to inform school councils of their legal liability, and to that end the matter was referred to the Crown Solicitor. If, after all that, the member for Heysen says that my officers are responsible for a \$1 million bungle, then I would request the member for Heysen to identify all the instances and costings that total the \$1 million. The department will then investigate to see whether there is any evidence that it approved a particular piece of equipment and subsequently condemned it and demanded the school council to remove it. The department will follow up those allegations, and I hope that when we come back with a report, which I am sure will satisfy the member for Heysen, he will approach the *Advertiser* and ask for equal space in which he can retract the allegations that he made.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: As I said earlier, I am happy to provide that information to substantiate the claims that I made, and I assure the Minister that the advice that I have been given has come from numerous sources, not just one or two.

I want to clarify one point that the Minister made. He said that the Australian standards were brought down in 1981-82. Were they forwarded to the 700 State schools at that stage or did the standards not go out until this year?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: It is not the responsibility of my department to dispense standards.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: There is some confusion here because, as I understand it, the school councils have been working in accordance with the publication that went out in 1981-82, accepting those as being part of the Australian standards. However, that is something that I can follow up in correspondence with the Minister.

The other matter to which I refer is in relation to the \$1 million. The Minister implied that only the equipment that had been installed and removed in the last 12 months amounted to the \$1 million. I actually said that playground equipment worth in excess of \$1 million had been removed from schools as a result of confusing advice over the period of time. I was not referring to just the 12 months, although I did refer to some of the equipment that had been installed with the blessing of the department and subsequently removed within a 12 month period.

In regard to compensation, I refer the Minister briefly to situations of which I have been made aware where school councils had removed equipment on the department's advice and, because they did not have the money to install equipment that was regarded as safe by the department, had therefore missed out badly in relation to playground equipment. It is the children who consequently suffer.

Can the Minister indicate who is now responsible for advising schools on this topic? I have been informed that a new unit is to be formed, and I understand that it will be

attached to the Department of Recreation and Sport. A suggestion has been made that some officers currently in the Department of Housing and Construction should be part of that unit. If that is the situation, I would like to know who those officers will be and when it is intended that that new unit will take over in an advisory manner. Also, is it intended that the unit will replace the advice that is now coming from the playground association, which has been providing valuable advice over a long period of time, but which I understand has been told that funding for it is very limited?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: My department continues to give advice on request on the selection of the types of playground equipment that school councils wish to purchase. If the Government moves towards setting up a playground unit within, say, the Department of Recreation and Sport (and I understand that discussions at officer level are taking place in this respect, involving the expertise of my department), I find it rather ironic that the member for Heysen should now say that there is expertise within my department to advise on playground equipment, when a little while ago he asserted that it was responsible for a \$1 million bungle. That unit will be used fully by the Government if it moves down that track.

Ms LENEHAN: I refer to page 456 of the Program Estimates, in particular to the full-time employment figure of 1 977 for 1986-87. There does not appear to be a reference to the number of apprentices, trained tradespeople, etc. I am concerned, as I believe that the whole question of the training of apprentices is vital to the community. My question is in two parts: first, how significant a contribution does the department make in the training of apprentices in the building and allied industries, and does the Minister consider that the department is producing tradespeople of a satisfactory standard? Secondly, does the department have any specific policies in relation to the recruitment of apprentices with respect to the recruitment of female apprentices? The Minister may recall that recently in an Address in Reply speech in Parliament I discussed the recently released report on women in apprenticeships, and I noted that in 1985-86 only 4.1 per cent of apprentices in the non-traditional female areas, that is excluding hairdressing, were female.

This has given me reason to feel very concerned, given that we have had a lot of promotion of women going into non-traditional areas. However, we still do not seem to have made any progress, if you like, with regard to apprenticeships. I am interested to know whether the department is addressing the whole question of apprenticeships on a general level and, specifically, whether the department gives any priority to the recruitment of females into the building and allied apprenticeship area?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: That is a very good question because one of the problems that the industry faces—and I am talking more about the building industry now—is that during the downturn of the late 1970s many apprentices were not taken on, and when the boom came, the industry and the Government felt that impact. The Department of Housing and Construction and this Government places a very high priority on apprentice training. In fact, Committee members would be well aware that there is now one overall agency that looks at the total number of apprentices. There has been a significant change in this department's policy from training apprentices for its own requirements only to one of training apprentices for the needs of the industry as a whole. I think that is a very important change in our whole attitude to apprentices.

In 1984-85, the total number of apprentices in my department dropped to 70, and that caused us considerable con-

cern. However, that has been increased to 90 over the past two years, despite restrictions being placed on the department. At present there are 87 apprentices. As I say, this reflects the shift from meeting not only our needs but also those of industry. I am also pleased to say that we have built up quite a reputation in our department for training apprentices to a very high standard.

Two of our apprentices have been recognised for their outstanding achievements, and that picks up the second part of the member's question. The first person whom I would like to mention—because I believe that anyone who gets a guernsey should get a mention—is a fellow by the name of Kirk Winters, a third-year apprentice carpenter and joiner, who won a silver medal having achieved second place in the national Works Skil Australia competition in June. Kirk, a young lad, was competing against people who were sometimes four or five years older than himself.

The second case, which is dear to the heart of the member for Mawson, is that of Mary Yeates. Mary, who is a final year apprentice carpenter and joiner, is one of four semi-finalists in the Jaycees Apprentice of the Year competition which will be announced tomorrow night, and I wish her well. I extend an invitation to all Committee members to visit our Netley workshops, where they will see more than their fair share of female apprentices in the complex. This year there are two out of 22, approximately 10 per cent; that was the best we could do, given the small number of applications by women for apprenticeships. I am sure that the member is well aware that this matter is under further consideration by the Government across all departments, and it is only fair to say—with all due respect, as I am not trying to seek favours from the member for Mawson—that as a department we find that women who get into apprenticeships usually learn more quickly, they are sharper, and have a commitment to the trade that they are in.

Ms LENEHAN: That certainly would be the findings of any research that I have looked at in terms of apprenticeship training for young women. They do seem to be very highly motivated. Perhaps that is a feature of having to enter into a whole new area that has traditionally not been open to them. As a supplementary question, could the Minister provide the Committee at a later date with a breakdown of those 87 apprentices? I appreciate that the Minister has give us the figures of the current intake, but could we have a breakdown of the 87 current apprentices according to male and female? Secondly, to what extent does the department offer employment to those apprentices after they have qualified?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: With regard to the first part of the question, I will provide that information to the Committee. With regard to the second part, perhaps Mr Nicholls could explain that.

Mr Nichols: We are trying to train apprentices for the needs of general industry in South Australia. By that, I mean that we are not just taking on apprentices to meet our future needs. If we did that, we might decide, for example, that we would not train an electrical apprentice for the next four years because we had enough electricians. So, we quite deliberately try to train the sort of mix of tradespeople that the industry generally needs. Therefore, we take on all of our apprentices on the basis that that is why we are taking them on. We expect them to leave the department at the end of that time. I must add that at times the department's needs are very great and that those people may be offered continuing employment with us on a competitive type basis. Generally speaking, the women apprentices seem to be very successful in getting work outside the department when they complete their time.

The CHAIRPERSON: The material to be provided for insertion in *Hansard* needs to be in a form that is suitable for inclusion and must be provided by 9 October.

Ms LENEHAN: My second question relates to the department's role in the conservation and preservation, and I guess upgrading, of the many heritage buildings around Adelaide. I will not allude to a difference in taste in terms of colour of some of these buildings, but I think that every member of the Committee would agree that the department plays an enormously important role in preserving and upgrading many of the beautiful heritage buildings in South Australia. There does not seem to be any specific reference in my reading of the budget papers with which we have been presented—

Mr BECKER interjecting:

Ms LENEHAN: Yes, but there does not seem to be any reference to it in the yellow book, unless I have missed it, and I do not think I have done so. Could the Minister advise the Committee what the department is actually doing in the current year and how this program of heritage preservation and upgrading is being funded and managed?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: That question is dear to my heart. I am glad to see that the member for Hanson is consistent. He has been consistent from the day that the Treasury Building was painted. I hurled abuse at him, but he has still come back for more. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder and, if the number of complaints is anything to go by, there was only one old lady of 82 and the member for Hanson who complained, so I should imagine that the 'eyes' have it by a clear majority.

The Department of Housing and Construction has a lot to be congratulated for in the work that it has done. We have set up an expert unit to maintain and set standards and to advise on projects, and it must work closely with the State Heritage Branch. Our unit has drafted Australia's first guideline booklet to designers who have to work on heritage buildings. It is out for experts comments now. Our efforts in doing this have been praised not only by this Minister but also in writing by the State Heritage Committee.

The Heritage Unit is involved in a number of restoration projects, including Treasury Building, Torrens Building, and the Supreme Court, which has the scaffolding around it at present. Other buildings that have been restored include the Art Gallery and the Museum and I suggest that people should look at the rear of the Art Gallery to see what has been done in conjunction with the private sector. The northern facade of Parliament House has been restored and is clearly visible to those people who approach the building from that direction. Other buildings to be restored are the Gawler Police Station, the Clarendon Police Station, the Flinders Street School of Music, the West Terrace cemetery chapel, and the southern wall of Government House, which has met with the approval of everyone except the Hon. Ian Gilfillan. The member for Morphett has played an important role in helping work proceed on Cummins House. Restoration work on the Mortlock Library has earned a commendation.

The work done on the Torrens Building indicates the standard achieved and the expertise acquired. The cleaning process has been speeded up as the work has proceeded. Indeed, we have increased efficiency and the final cost of the work is estimated at about \$300 000 less than was expected. Further, the completion date has been advanced from the originally estimated first quarter in 1990 to the final quarter of 1988. That shows the expertise that we have built up.

As the member for Hanson did not like the work done on the Treasury Building, I insisted that his plea to leave intact the footscrapers in Torrens House should be observed. Because the stone required to fit in with the original stonework was to be procured from New South Wales and the Government there was charging us an astronomical sum for it, we devised a process of doing it ourselves which met with the approval of the Heritage Branch. The restoration of the urns and the rampant lion on the top of Torrens Building was carried out by a storeman who had no previous training in sculpture work. We used his skills in that process. Our original design drawings showed a coat of arms on the Torrens Building, but it was not there and I suggested facetiously that a previous Liberal Government had stolen it. That coat of arms is to be replaced and I invite members of this Committee to be present when it is installed because it is an example of the magnificent work done by our talented storeman.

Mr BECKER: At page 469 of the yellow book, under the heading '1986-87 Specific Targets/Objectives', it is stated that the department has commenced the comprehensive examination of real estate assets of the Minister to identify those that could be under-utilised or surplus. What were the findings of that examination and which assets were identified as under-utilised or surplus? Can the Minister say whether further action is proposed?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I have already answered a question concerning this matter when I referred to the better rationalisation of our assets such as those at Carrington Street and Ethelton by selling them off.

Mr BECKER: What assets have been identified as under-utilised or surplus? Only those two properties? Surely there would be more than that?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: If the member for Hanson had listened to my opening comments, he would have heard me refer to Carrington Street and Ethelton. There is an ongoing process to rationalise, through our regional policy, those assets that are being under-utilised and surplus to requirements, but we still have a long way to go. I am not sure whether the honourable member is talking about office accommodation. This part relates to property acquisition services, Government-wide support services, construction, public transport and related services. They are the programs under the heading 'Policy Area and Program Sector'.

Mr BECKER: All properties under the control of the Minister?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: In my opening comments, I talked about a departmental property audit section. We are carrying out a three-month audit of property held in the name of the Minister of Works and the Minister of Public Works, which titles I hold as Minister of Housing and Construction. There are about 300 properties in the metropolitan area and the main aims of the audit were to identify correct use of the asset, to identify and confirm client user, and to determine whether the current use is appropriate. The primary purpose of the review was to identify assets and to make recommendations for alternative future use, development, or disposal of such assets as would require further investigation, analysis and consultation.

The audit has initially identified some properties for further priority investigation. That investigation has commenced and we are using the services of an officer from the Premier's Department to enable us to determine the better use of those properties by the Government. Mr Nichols may care to add something at this stage.

Mr Nichols: A process such as this takes some time because technical officers from my department to examine

an asset and say whether or not it is under-utilised is not enough. We can do that only with our own assets and get a quick return from such actions. However, when we seek to do the same thing with the assets of another agency, such as the Arts Department, we must discuss with that agency its future needs. So, it takes longer to ascertain what are the benefits of this process for such properties if they are held by other agencies than it does in respect of our own assets.

Mr BECKER: What properties were purchased by or for the Minister's department and at which locations, for what price, and for what reason?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The only one that is a part of the regionalisation breakdown that I gave concerns the Elizabeth site. I take it that the honourable member is not talking about the money that we would have to spend in other regional areas such as Netley. The purchase of the Elizabeth property cost \$410 000 and the upgrading and commissioning cost \$380 000, a total of \$790 000.

Mr BECKER: Has the department purchased any properties for any of its clients?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I am sure that we have, but we will take that on notice. Does the member for Hanson want to know about purchases only in the Adelaide metropolitan area or for the whole of the State?

Mr BECKER: The whole of the State, because we are looking at the whole of the work of the department.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Does the member for Hanson include houses that we purchased for client departments as part of the office of Government Employee Housing?

Mr BECKER: No, that is a separate issue.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The honourable member is talking only about offices and workshops?

Mr BECKER: Yes.

Mr GUNN: This is the section where we talk about electorate offices and facilities. In the last Committee I asked the Minister whether the Government intended to bring members of Parliament into line with most modern businesses and provide them with suitable computers and word processors.

Ms LENEHAN: Hear, hear!

Mr GUNN: I am pleased to see that the member for Mawson supports what I say because the public expects members of Parliament to be informed and to provide answers and decisions very quickly. Unfortunately, it would be fair to say that the conditions under which members operate in this building are worse than one would get in most private sector accommodation. They would not even meet the Department of Labour and Industry guidelines. Will the department do anything about providing members with computers? Particularly in relation to communications, will the Opposition be given access to fax machines in this building? The Premier has one in his office. At this stage, the Opposition has not received—

Ms LENEHAN interjecting:

Mr GUNN: The Leader of the Opposition in a democracy should have reasonable access to proper facilities. Will the Leader's office be provided with a fax machine, which is the most modern, effective and efficient form of communication? I understand that ministerial offices have them, which is normal in most private sector offices.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: If ever there is an item on which I come fully briefed before this Estimates Committee it is the one dealing with electorate offices and accommodation, equipment, telephones: you name it, I am well supplied with it. It is rather interesting: the cynics say that the only time political Parties join forces is when they are

looking for a salary increase and when they are looking for better facilities. I accept that.

It is interesting that the member for Eyre talked about this building, with its size, structure and heritage importance. Putting ourselves to one side for a minute, being democratic and talking about those people who work for us, the member for Eyre is correct: we ask some of our people working in this building to work in areas that the Department of Labour and Industry would condemn. Yet, the minute that I first attempt to create reasonable working conditions for two secretaries—who happen to be ALP secretaries, but members will recall that the secretaries who work for the Liberal Party have better conditions—because I am forced to follow the standards set by Heritage Branch, I am criticised: the member for Hanson criticised me.

The member for Eyre is well aware that in electorate offices we are currently carrying out a word processing pilot program. If those facilities are effective and suitable, the Government will look at its budget to increase the allocation of those word processors. It was done on a very fair basis, with both the Labor and Liberal Parties and covering both the metropolitan area and the country. I congratulate the Leader of the Opposition for his cooperation with me, because we basically hold all the city seats and most of the country seats are held by the Opposition. The member for Hanson is on that pilot program.

As for word processors, etc., this Government is faced with an economic situation in which we are being criticised, justifiably, by the community for not maintaining schools and other assets. At the same time, I for one would not be in a position to recommend to Cabinet that we embark on a large scale program to improve facilities.

I have yet to recall a request for fax facilities for the Leader of the Opposition coming into my office as the Minister responsible for advising the Government as to what money should be spent in these offices in Parliament House. I understand that the Leader of the Opposition says some rather nasty things about my department and his word processor that are totally untrue: there has been nothing but co-operation with the Leader from my department. When I asked, 'What has the Leader got?', one of my officers said, 'Minister, he has three times as much as you have,' but I have not upped my ante for what I need in my ministerial office. If the Leader feels that a fax machine should be provided in his office, perhaps at the expense of some other equipment that he has, I am sure that we could enter into some form of negotiation such as, 'Give up something and we will give you something else.' It is mainly a case of cost constraints in this area.

In relation to the PABX for Parliament House, at long last there has been some rapid improvement in the facilities that we have made available to members of Parliament, but the bottom line is that we have not got enough money to provide all the facilities that one would wish to have for Parliament House and in the electorate offices. The Committee members here now are all of the type who follow my example and get out there and meet the people: that is the way to win the seats.

Mr GUNN: I have had some experience in meeting the people: I am fully aware of that exercise, but I raise this matter because there is such a thing as reasonableness and fairness. In our parliamentary system, if the Opposition is to compete on a fair and reasonable basis with the Government, it has to have access to some facilities. Oppositions are at a distinct disadvantage: the Government has 13 Ministers and 13 or 14 press secretaries for a start. If the Premier's office is supplied with a fax machine the Leader

of the Opposition's office should also be supplied automatically.

As the Minister knows, there is one in the Premier's office at Parliament House only used on a part-time basis because the Premier is not here (and no-one could expect him to be) on a full-time basis—he is in his department. That is not an expensive request, but in fairness and equity it ought to be provided. In relation to the two offices the Minister has upgraded, I have no objection to such. I had a secretary who had to work in one of those dreadful glass boxes which ought to have had a sledgehammer put through it. The member for Murray-Mallee and I have staff in this building who are working in the most cramped conditions. If some of these slight improvements could be made it would be better. One goes often into Government departments and can see the way the offices have been upgraded and the sort of facilities provided, yet members of Parliament have to make representations to these people and it appears that we are the poor cousins of the exercise.

Will the Minister bear in mind what I have said because it is never the right time to provide facilities for members of Parliament. Certain facilities would make things considerably better for members to represent their constituents. The provision of a fax machine in that office would be of great benefit.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I am at a loss to answer the question. I appreciate the concern of the member for Eyre as he has been very vocal and consistent about facilities being supplied to members. The office of the Leader of the Opposition already has a considerable amount of equipment. There are two high speed Epson printers and additional glass screen to replace that unit reallocated to the Public Works Standing Committee, which I understand the Leader of the Opposition did not want. Within budget limitations the Leader of the Opposition has always been catered for. In fact, I have a letter from him as follows:

Dear Minister,

My staff have had further discussions about the installation of word processing equipment in the Leader's office since we last corresponded on this matter. Your officers offered a range of options for consideration. I now advise that the Epson High Speed SQ2500 model would most adequately cover the needs of this office.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) John Olsen

Leader of the Opposition

I am not aware of a pressing demand by the Leader for a fax machine. With all due respect, I find it hard to know what the Leader of the Opposition wants anyway. If there is a pressing desire to have a fax machine I would have thought the Leader of the Opposition would have notified me in the first instance or perhaps brought it up with the Treasurer during the Estimates Committee. I understand that the Premier's fax machine is not provided through Joint Services but rather through the Department of the Premier. I have no fax available within my Ministry and I think I speak for most of my colleagues. The department has a facility.

As to other areas of equipment, I forcibly argued the point to my colleagues on my side and sometimes incurred their wrath because, as we have electoral allowances, I believe if we want to go down that track we should use that allowance. With the new taxation system under which we all work (the fringe benefits tax) it is one way of overcoming the problem. I do not know whether the Leader has asked the member for Eyre to bring up this matter—

Mr GUNN: I did it of my own volition.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: If the Leader requires a fax, I suggest he writes to me in the first instance and I will consider what he is requesting within his budget allocation

for 1987-88. If it is possible to include a fax at the expense of all the other items he has requested, we will look at it; if not, we can put it in the 1988-89 financial year.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: My question follows on from comments made in relation to facilities for members of Parliament. Will the Minister provide the total cost of running and maintaining the system of support to members of Parliament? I am talking specifically about electorate offices. What is the cost for 1986-87 of maintaining these offices? Will the Minister provide a table showing the individual cost of each of the electorate offices within South Australia including rent, cleaning and running costs as well as all costs associated with each electorate office?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I can provide the member for Gilles with the figure for the total recurrent costs for all electorate offices going back to 1974-75. However, I cannot give the honourable member a breakdown of each electorate office. I will undertake to get it, but I question whether it is necessary. I do not suggest in any way that the member for Gilles has any devious motives, but when one looks at the cost of rental of individual offices and rates and taxes, one moves on to dangerous ground because costs vary depending on location. My own electorate office and that of the member for Elizabeth and the Federal member for Bonython must be located in regional shopping centres where the rent is very high.

The member for Eyre, for want of alternative accommodation, was accommodated in lousy conditions. It was only as a result of the construction of new office accommodation that his office could be relocated. The member for Hanson was accommodated in an area of excessive traffic noise. He could still argue quite justifiably that another move is necessary to improve conditions but he is well aware that the cost of decommissioning and recommissioning is far too high. The member for Mawson could argue for better conditions, too.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: You haven't answered the question.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I am trying to get the member to withdraw his request for information about individual offices. The total recurrent cost for 1986-87, which was \$2 504 486, includes salaries and wages, goods and services, rents, telephone rental and calls, cleaning, electricity, rates and taxes and maintenance of office machines.

Ms LENEHAN: I support the first part of the question of the member for Eyre. In doing so I ask the Minister whether it would be possible to implement a pilot program for the introduction of computers in the same way as a pilot program has been implemented for the introduction of word processors. Along with the member for Hanson and other members, I have a word processor and I am involved in the pilot program. I publicly thank the Minister and say that it was a step forward. It would also be fair to say, from the feedback one gets informally around the Parliament, that word processors are only one small step towards providing the kind of facilities that are needed. I very rarely disagree with the Minister of Housing and Construction, but on this small issue I do. I do not believe that the community will rise up in arms if members of Parliament are given adequate facilities with which to communicate with their electorates. As the member for Eyre pointed out, the community is more and more demanding of their local member to provide them with information. I am not talking about propaganda but about new policies, concessions and benefits that members of the community are entitled to.

A member can go through the street order roll and address envelopes by hand and send out information to the community in that way. Alternatively, if a member is wealthy

enough, he or she can take out a full page advertisement in the local paper. I do not think that either of those are practical alternatives when what is needed is the modern technology that exists, in many cases, in the offices of local small business people next door to our electorate offices. I am sure that it is the same in the country areas. Will the Minister consider implementing a pilot program whereby computers and their value in electorate offices can be assessed?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Members of Parliament do not have to convince me; they must convince the Cabinet. This Cabinet, along with all others, including that of the Liberal Party, faced this problem. Between 1979 and 1982, apart from the very brave decision by Dean Brown to provide electric typewriters and photocopiers, nothing happened. When the pilot program on word processors has been finalised, the Government will decide what it will do. In all seriousness, the member for Mawson cannot ask me to recommend that Cabinet consider a pilot program for computers. Perhaps it could follow on, but I point out that 800 homes have been dropped from my program. That is the kind of economic climate that we are in; we must cut the coat according to the cloth.

[Sitting suspended from 6 to 7.30 p.m.]

Mr BECKER: What opportunities have been taken up by the department to participate in overseas projects, and where and to what extent has this happened?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: As honourable members will recall, I referred in my opening remarks to the department's involvement in an attempt, in effect, to export our expertise and give encouragement to the industry. We are quite proud of certain advances that we have achieved in this area.

The Department of Housing and Construction sometime last year under its registered business name of Sacon has pursued opportunities in the building and construction industry in an effort to expand the State's economic base in selected overseas countries. This has been done in close cooperation with other State agencies such as Sagric, the Department of State Development and the Department of TAFE, as well as Austrade. Most of the department's activities have focused on the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific Basin. Primarily, Sacon has endeavoured to find an opportunity for the State's private sector building and construction industry to participate in overseas markets or to establish new markets.

I am sure the Committee is well aware that one of the problems of Australian industry is that it tends to operate on a parochial level. The department has played an active role in highlighting the opportunities that can exist overseas through a series of seminars which we have organised through the construction industry conference and which have been used in trade missions; we explain to the private sector joint ventures could produce more work. In particular, three projects have been successful. Three building supervisors from the Ministry of Works, Power and Water in the State of Bahrain received both practical and theoretical training in South Australia from November 1985 to April 1986. The theoretical training was provided by TAFE (that is why it is so important), and the practical work was experienced through our own agency and the private sector, involving the Master Builders Association.

The importance of this is that, prior to South Australia actually going out and getting that work, those people from Bahrain used to get their training through the United Kingdom. Whilst this matter is small in its beginnings it has developed into something better and, as a result of that,

one of my officers has been to Bahrain to explain other ways in which we can assist. As the member for Hanson would be well aware, the benefit is that someone who has received training in this State will not only take away the expertise of this State but will also spread the word that the best way to do it is the South Australian way.

A joint management consultancy with Pak-Poy Kneebone Pty Ltd conducted a review with the Ministry of Works in Tonga in February and March 1987. This review was carried out for the Australian Development Assistance Bureau, which is the overseas aid arm for the Department of Foreign Affairs. I would say to those critics of the public sector and, in particular, the Department of Housing and Construction although it has not been very apparent here today that South Australian expertise is considered to be acceptable in Tonga. An officer of TAFE, as a result of the work that we have done in Bahrain, is due to travel to Bahrain to provide training and work supervision in the Ministry of Works, Power and Water.

They are three areas in which we have managed to make inroads, and we will continually be looking for other potential projects and not just waiting for them to come to us. We will be supporting the private sector—getting out there and getting work for their work force offshore rather than in South Australia or interstate.

Mr BECKER: What preoccupation rent and expenses have been paid on premises during the last financial year, and what positive action has been taken by the department and its clients to reduce its costs? This is an old parochial issue.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: It certainly is a very parochial issue, but I shall try to bring a fresh approach in my answer. The member for Hanson will be well aware that recently in the House I quoted comparisons between the public sector occupation rates and the private sector using the BOMA figures for the Adelaide business district area. I was perhaps a little facetious in quoting Dallas, Texas, which has a very high rate.

The total area leased as at 30 June 1987 was 163 434.17 square metres; the total vacant leased area is 2 137 square metres; and the percentage of current vacant leased area to total leased area is 1.3 per cent, which is very low indeed. I think 3 per cent is the current rate which is accepted by BOMA in Adelaide as the vacancy factor for office accommodation that is accepted as giving a viable return for investment. The total rental cost was \$18 361 782 per annum, and the total preoccupation rental was \$199 374 per annum. The total preoccupation rental for the 1986-87 financial year was \$402 994, which gives a percentage of the preoccupation rental to total rental of 1.09 per cent. I am sure the Committee would agree that that is not a wasteful use of the State's finances. The Adelaide vacancy factor is at 3.5 per cent.

Mr BECKER: On past experience those figures are starting to come down; would that be right?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Yes. There is a move within the Government Office Accommodation Committee, which is under my ministerial control, to utilise and rationalise Government office accommodation, looking at whether it is better to lease or buy.

Mr BECKER: How many break-ins or attempted break-ins were there in South Australian Government schools in the past 12 months, and how do these figures compare with the previous 12 months? I understand that there were 1 792 break-ins or attempted break-ins in 1986.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The whole problem of break-ins and vandalism generally is of obvious concern to this Government and to the community. It is something that

no Government wishes to see increase over the years. I will undertake to get the actual figures and have them included in *Hansard*. As Minister of Housing and Construction, in conjunction with the Minister of Education, in regard to vandalism—because vandalism as the Committee is well aware occurs either in-house during school hours or outside school hours—I have been strongly indicating to the community and schools in particular that the cost of vandalism can be drastically reduced if enough peer pressure is placed on those individuals who vandalise. One finds it rather disappointing to have departments or Governments criticised for not providing maintenance in schools when a lot of the vandalism and damage is caused within the school itself. It is an ongoing problem, and I do not think it can ever be completely solved. However, I will be glad to provide the information to the member.

Mr BECKER: When was the computer security system first installed in Government schools, and what success has the system had in reducing response time to break-ins, attempted break-ins or other disturbances to school properties, including fires? I understand from an article in the *Advertiser* on 11 July 1987 that Andrasoft Pty Ltd was awarded the contract.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: For obvious reasons, that kind of information should not really be given to the Committee, because, in effect, it would advertise to the general public the kind of controls and measures that the Government has in train. I am not saying that *Hansard* is not a best seller, with all due respect to those very good people who work so hard to provide that service. However, if the member would like to approach me, I will be only too pleased to give him—or any other member of the Committee—a confidential briefing on all those matters. With due respect, Madam Chair, it is the 'need to know' principle that makes this system so successful.

Mr BECKER: I should have thought that just an overall statement that the Andrasoft system had been installed and had or had not been successful would have sufficed. I cannot see anything wrong with that. I think the public wants to know what the Government is doing. Everyone is alarmed at the high incidence of fires at the moment and, of course, with less publicity, they may reduce. However, I think we want to know what is being done to tackle the problem?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Something is being done to control the systems which will enable the police to respond in the shortest possible time to problems of vandalism or other damage, not only to schools but also to other public buildings. Again, I repeat my offer to the member for Hanson in his capacity as the Opposition spokesperson on housing and construction and, perhaps more pertinent as well, on correctional services; I understand that the Minister for Correctional Services offered a confidential briefing to other areas of security. The offer is made freely to the member, who can take it up at any time that he wishes to do so.

Mr BECKER: Can the Minister advise how much the computer security system cost overall per school and what is the annual or ongoing cost estimate?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Again, at the risk of being pedantic—and that is the last thing I wish to be in the closing stages of this rather enjoyable Estimates Committee meeting—any person with any degree of knowledge of security systems would get a rough idea of how much we are doing each year. If I gave the overall amount of money that was spent in 1986-87—(bearing in mind the kind of ongoing discussion that has taken place with the *Adelaide News*, the Minister of Education and the Opposition spokesman on education as to the cost of putting a monitoring system in

each individual school), you would not have to be a Rhodes Scholar to work out the details. I reassure the Committee that we are doing as much as we can to solve this problem. Again, my offer for a briefing is given. In fact, the member for Hanson has only to come to see me at some time and I will give him all the detail in the privacy of my office. I am sure that would satisfy him.

Mr BECKER: Where, when, and at what capital cost will the 15 individual child-care centres be built in 1987-88? I am referring to page 469 of the yellow book, and I understand that some difficulty has been experienced in obtaining suitable sites for these child-care centres. What progress has been made at last?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The 1986-87 budget provided \$2 601 000, and actual expenditure was \$1 651 796. The variation was due to delays in finalising briefs and negotiating appropriate sites for a number of child-care centres at Campbelltown, Elizabeth West, Marion, Modbury, Munno Para and Woodville. Most of the problems that we had in the last financial year have been solved. There is a better relationship between the Children's Services Office and the Department of Housing and Construction. They are leaning more towards the expert advice that we can give them. We were hopeful that this year's program would be well and truly met within the financial year, hopefully to the joy and delirium of the member for Henley Beach.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Could the Minister tell us what now is the annual cost of cleaning Government properties, and say whether this cost can be contained or reduced in any way? For example, I understand that the cleaning of the Court Services Department premises in 1986 cost \$589 000, while it was \$635 000 in 1987. It is interesting to note that the window on the northern side of the Sir Samuel Way Building cannot even be cleaned. In 1985 it was estimated that cleaning costs were about \$27 million per year.

This year, I understand that the Education Department cleaning bill alone is almost \$20 million. The *Advertiser* of 26 August reported that the new courts cleaning costs jumped from \$64 902 in 1981-82 to \$246 200 in 1984-85. As well as asking what are the annual costs of cleaning Government properties and whether this can be contained or reduced, I also ask whether the Committee could obtain a total list of departments' clients for which cleaning is arranged?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I take it that the honourable member wishes to know the overall cost to Government on all Government properties. I will take that question on notice. Obviously, the Education Department is beyond our control. Indeed, only certain Government assets are cleaned through the Department of Housing and Construction and in that regard a cross charge is made. As an avid reader of *Hansard*, I see that under the Education line there was a rather extensive debate, involving the Minister of Education, on cleaning costs, specifically whether contract cleaners or day labour should be used. However, that will always be an ongoing debate because to a certain extent philosophical reasons exist for using various types of labour on cleaning.

When one sees the standard of cleanliness of certain Government buildings and offices and the prices that have been tendered for those contracts, one realises that in some cases it must be obvious from the start that we will not get the kind of cleaning that one would expect. Within our own department we try to get some idea of the true cost of cleaning the areas under our control. I do not know whether the honourable member's office is cleaned.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Not very well.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I have gone into my office and, apart from the ash tray being empty, one would swear

that nothing had taken place. I will get the details required by the honourable member.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: How are school maintenance funds allocated and how much is provided in each Education Department region? How does this sum compare with the previous year's provision?

Mr Nichols: We do not have the details with us, but we can get them for the honourable member. Funding for the maintenance of all Government buildings is allocated through the general line that we control. Obviously, that is a cost efficient method because one tends to maintain one's properties on an area or regional basis rather than purely on a client basis within each area or region. We will get that information.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: What is the accepted time between internal and external paintings of schools?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: It varies. Basically, painting is on an 'as needed' basis. I realise that that is not acceptable to some school councils that complain to members of Parliament about the state of their schools but, again, it boils down to the funds available. People are often reluctant to pay more for services, yet still demand those services that directly affect them. This will be a problem for many years to come.

Again, it picks up the point referred to by the member for Hanson on the Housing Estimates—the replacement and maintenance of assets. Much valuable community money is spent in overcoming vandalism. If we lived in a perfect world where all we had to look after was fair wear and tear, the money would go around better. But, unfortunately, we do not live in a perfect world.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Did the Department of Housing and Construction build the tourist information bay on Mount Barker Road?

Mr Nichols: Not to my knowledge. It was built some years ago.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: No, I am referring to the new one that was built last year.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: After consulting my advisers, the answer is 'No'.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: The construction costs to the Department of Tourism for that facility totalled about \$136 000. I had some criticism about the cost of the facility when it was first built and this morning, on my way into the city, I noticed that it existed no longer, having been demolished yesterday by a semitrailer. Can the Minister say what insurance the department had on that facility?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I could make a long statement in reply, but I shall content myself by saying, 'Don't always blame the public sector, because the private sector makes as many stuff ups as we do.'

Mr BECKER: Why was a Victorian firm selected to undertake a commission regarding the feasibility of establishing an irrigation equipment testing station when that company was commonly regarded as a specialist acoustic and vibration practice?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Can the honourable member give the Committee more detail?

Mr BECKER: I have received the following letter from the Association of Consulting Engineers of Australia:

Recently the State Government appointed a Victorian practice to undertake a commission regarding the feasibility of establishing an irrigation equipment testing station. We are concerned that the procedure adopted to select this consultant may not be in the best interest of the State. Initially four South Australian practices (two being Association of Consulting Engineers/Australia members) were invited to respond to the brief prepared by the department (after initial informal advice produced by a member practice). Subsequently submissions were sought nationally with a total of six being received.

The letter continues by describing the Victorian company and makes the point that the four South Australian companies with wide experience in this field were overlooked. Did the Minister's department handle the tenders for this work? Why was the Victorian company selected in preference to the South Australian company?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Even with that additional information, my advisers and I believe that this was probably a Department of Agriculture project. At any rate, we have no knowledge of it. If the honourable member feels that there is sufficient information in what he has read out from the letter, we will undertake to refer it to the appropriate department for a response.

Mr BECKER: So, when it comes to tendering, the Department of Agriculture itself would do it rather than go through you on any construction matter?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: It would depend on the degree of specialisation. However, this does not ring a bell with any of my advisers.

Mr BECKER: Why was the Department of Housing and Construction selected to provide the structural civil engineering and the quantity surveying services for the proposed new hospital at Gawler, and when was the department tender submitted? I have been advised, on inquiring after submissions were received for the project, that the South Australian Department of Housing and Construction involvement was not acknowledged by the project manager. In other words, I take it that the allegations being made to me (and generally when tenders are called everybody in the building industry seems to know who has tendered and at what price) are that when inquiries were made the department was not known as having made a tender.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: There are often complaints against the public sector and, in particular, against my department, especially now that it has developed an expertise and degree of efficiency that perhaps did not exist in the past. We are now able to tender, as we did with the Hutchinson Hospital project and won it in our own right. I find it rather hard that the critics of the public sector within the Parliament say, 'You should be able to perform as well as the private sector does', and when we do they complain.

I know that the member for Hanson is only repeating the problems that the consulting engineers (ACEA) have in this area, but one cannot have it both ways. When we do win these contracts they say that we are hiding our on-costs. We cannot do that; we have to compete in the same way as the private sector does. One cannot have it both ways. If one wants an efficient public sector, the public sector will go out there and win contracts in its own right.

Mr Power: The funding for the Gawler hospital is through the Health Commission lines: State funds are being used for the hospital redevelopment. Over the years the Department of Housing and Construction has done a lot of work for the Health Commission. Its advice was that we should be considered and invited to tender for that work. The department did that and competed favourably, and as a result has part of that project.

Mr BECKER: How many tenders were received prior to the closing date for this contract?

Mr Power: The management of that project was not from the Department of Housing and Construction. We are not party to the number of people who were invited to tender.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: It was a Government funded job. The tender for the overall project management was won by one company; the Department of Housing and Construction, along with others, lost. The successful tenderer then sought specialist offers from engineers and quan-

tity surveyors, and we won some of those specialist consultancies. All is fair in the free enterprise world in which we live.

Mr BECKER: What criteria are used in your department in selecting by tender those engaged in the design professions? Are applicants selected on merit, that is, skill, experience, availability and any other such pertinent factors?

Mr Nichols: Is the honourable member referring to general tenders?

Mr BECKER: Yes.

Mr Nichols: For any project?

Mr BECKER: Yes.

Mr Nichols: It is obviously a combination of factors. As the honourable member knows, when we call tenders we do not undertake to contract to the lowest or necessarily any other tenderer. It is a combination of price, expertise and proven experience in that field.

Mr BECKER: We were talking about maintenance for schools earlier this evening. I received a letter, as the Minister and the Leader of the Opposition did, from the Chairperson of the Risdon Park High School Council at Port Pirie. He says:

I have, on behalf of the Risdon High School Council, sent letters to the Premier and his Ministers for Housing and Construction and Education, protesting at the cuts in Government expenditure for State school repair and maintenance work. A copy of this letter and documentation of our schools repair and maintenance work is enclosed for your perusal.

We know your concern about this situation, and hope you will continue to pressure the Government by using all letters of protest and evidence available on this very serious matter.

I understand that in the Port Pirie area there have been difficulties and concerns with school maintenance. I take it that the department's budget is governed by the amount of money that the Education Department allows it, or does the department go to the Education Department and say, 'We need X dollars'?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Talking generally about the whole question of maintenance, I imagine that every member of the Committee here can give me at least another half a dozen cases almost identical to the letter that the honourable member read that they have received from school councils or principals on the state of schools. It is not a question of the amount of money so much as the continuing, ever growing number of requests that we get for maintenance. There has been no real reduction in maintenance funds for education, nor for any other Government asset.

Many people seem to think when we build a new school and there is no need for maintenance to be spent on that school for many years. I am not telling the member for Hanson anything that he does not know, but that school has maintenance costs from the day we commission it. Again, that goes back to the reluctance by the community to accept the fact that there were the ever growing number of assets we have and the reluctance to drop off any of those assets. The cost for maintenance for schools and the backlog is frightening. It is not just the fault of one Government, but has been an ongoing problem for many years.

Our Jubilee 150 maintenance program was an attempt to inject more money into maintenance. The fact that we are selling off some of our own assets to channel money back into our own department for maintenance work is an effort to arrest that backlog. The community has to accept that much of the cost of maintenance of schools is self-inflicted, that is, by the pupils. There has to be some degree of policing of those problems within the schools themselves.

Mr Nichols: I have just aired the fact, with regard to the member's question about who holds the funds, that the recurrent fund for the general day-to-day maintenance—

breakdown and program—are allocated to our department and are controlled on a regional basis, as we discussed earlier, and there is some confusion about this. The funds required for major upgrading and replacement are normally loan funds, and they are controlled by the Education Department on an area basis.

To summarise, we control recurrent funds in consultation with each area director. The funds required for total replacement of, for example, a total airconditioning system in a school are decided upon, in terms of priority, almost totally by the Education Department. We work closely with it in both these areas and the Education Department is doing a magnificent job in trying to reduce the amount of maintenance with which we have to cope, but it is an almost insurmountable task.

Mr BECKER: I note a budget allocation of \$29 million for maintenance. I am trying to find out the breakdown of that allocation. The yellow book makes some reference to it and I was trying to link it with the statement of some years ago that \$90 million would be spent on maintenance over the next three years. I refer to page 459 of the yellow book which gives an amount for primary and secondary school buildings of \$15.3 million, pre-school buildings \$65 000, special and area schools \$1.8 million, technical and further education, \$1.8 million, hospitals \$2.5 million and other Government buildings \$12.5 million, giving a total program of \$34.1 million. It involves 715 staff this year—a reduction of 32, although the level of funds is about the same. Certainly it will be reduced with the impact of inflation of about 7 per cent. It concerns me as it is still not enough—that is the tragedy. Are the wages of the staff included in that figure?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I could not follow the question. The honourable member was talking about \$90 million over three years.

Mr BECKER: A statement was made a few years ago, before the 1985 election.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Much of the work now being done is to replace assets which can no longer be maintained by repair, so we are replacing something old with something brand new. That comes out of loan, which would not be affected by these figures. One can see a reduction of personnel numbers in those areas, which again is an indication of the efficient methods being introduced within the department through the system we operate. We are getting more value for our dollar. It is hard to take the yellow book and say that so much was spent last year and so much is proposed for this year, so that means there is a reduction. The member for Hanson said (and I fully agree) that it is an ever-growing problem. We are well aware of that. The Public Accounts Committee has made the Government aware of that and we will respond to it. Those individual figures that the honourable member is quoting cannot be taken as a broad statement that we are not addressing the problem.

Mr GUNN: I looked at the Quorn school a few weeks ago, including the section burnt down, and brought to my attention was that with the Samon-type buildings they appear to have a fault in relation to the material used in the floors. It was a compressed chip construction about 30 cm deep. It was perforated and prone to burning. It was suggested that once the floors became on fire it would be virtually impossible to control the fire to save the building. It appears to be a fault of the building. Has the department looked at this matter? Also, has the department looked at security arrangements for Government buildings, especially schools? I do not expect the Minister to give details, thereby alerting people with ill-intent, but has there been any upgrading?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: When the member for Eyre was out of the Chamber a similar question was asked by the member for Hanson and I answered it. In relation to the first part of the question, Mr Power visited Quorn school last week and he may like to comment on that aspect or the general condition of the Quorn school.

Mr Power: I visited the school about two weeks ago. The fire was extensive in the Samcon unit. It was mainly in the administrative section in the middle of the classroom block. At this stage it is not known whether the Education Department wants the building upgraded or replaced. My view is that it is extensively damaged and will probably need replacing. I took a lot of interest in the compressed material used for the floor. That material is no longer on the market and is not being used. A problem existed with the spread of the fire in the flooring, although it is not as bad as the member suggested. It was an intense fire and the extent of the flooring being burnt either side was not as bad as it might appear.

Mr BECKER: I refer again to the maintenance program. Will the Minister tell us how the \$90 million three year maintenance program is made up in financial and maintenance terms? A statement was made in an article in the *Advertiser* on 31 October 1985 along those lines.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: It is the first time I have had to go back to 1985—it was a good year for us. The \$90 million over three years was adhered to and has been incorporated in the whole maintenance of this Government's many programs to protect its assets. If the member for Hanson is looking for \$90 million in this line, one can conceivably argue that \$90 million over three years is made up within the figure for 1987-88 of \$34.1 million, which is a part of that program.

I am not sure whether it was the member for Hanson or Mr Dean Brown who was suspicious of our motives when we announced that \$90 million over three years. The suggestion was that it was an election gimmick, which was most disconcerting. I was more or less accused of trying to drum up votes so that the Government would be returned to office. However, it was a genuine assessment of what we saw as a problem, and was designed to inject additional finance. The maintenance program at that time was quite extensive, anyway.

Mr BECKER: Did the Government announce in advance what would be spent in the next three years, which was just a matter of record anyway?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: We announced a two-fold program. Part of it was to inject additional funding into the maintenance program. The other part was to get out into the community and raise people's awareness of the part their school plays in community life. With the approaching Jubilee 150 year, it was very successful.

Mr BECKER: I understand that the department responded quickly to the letter I have read and sent to the Minister from Risdon Park High School. The school council felt that the department had been blamed for the problem. In actual fact, the council was not making any complaints about the local region of the Department of Housing and Construction. This morning I was informed that the school council has nothing but high praise for and appreciation of what the department is doing, given insufficient funds. Council members felt that they might have dobbed their mates in by making the point that they were more concerned about the lack of funds in that region. School councils are concerned and want the Government to rearrange its priorities. What input does the Minister have at Cabinet level or with Treasury to get more funds so that cyclic maintenance work can be carried out? I understand that virtually no cyclic

work is done any more and that most of the work entails protecting worn-out and damaged bits and pieces of property and doing the best it can with the remainder. Is that the situation?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I appreciate the honourable member's comment because it shows an appreciation in the school community that the department does try. As the Director pointed out, the priorities are set, in this case, by the Education Department in cooperation with my department. Going back to the PAC report on asset replacement, I point out that the dept deals with more and more break-downs and in some cases cyclic maintenance must go by the board. There are two ways to do it: one is to inject more money, which increases the cost to the taxpayer, and the other is to aim for better utilisation of the workforce and subcontractors, and improvements to the system and the department's relationship with its clients. The classic example is the sale of assets, which can be regenerated into additional work for my departmental workforce, which will increase maintenance funds. It is as simple as that.

Mr BECKER: What studies have been made of the use for the old West End brewery site in Hindley Street?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: That is with the Premier's Department at this stage.

Mr BECKER: The Department of Housing and Construction is just the guardian of the site?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Yes.

Mr BECKER: Have tender arrangements for major construction projects been changed? I am advised by one of my colleagues by letter that he is most concerned about changes in tendering procedures by the Department of Housing and Construction. He bases that concern on allegations that have been made to him that major projects were previously broken down into components and tenders issued separately. It now seems that the department has got lazy and issues tenders for the total project. The reason for concern is that this tendering procedure does not necessarily guarantee the integrity of the various building components.

My colleague informs me that a particular person had been asked to supply a quote to nine builders who were tendering for a development. The person concerned ascertained that his was the lowest quote but that the successful tenderer used another firm and pushed them for a lower price because the tender price offered was unrealistic. In the process, the quality will suffer. I am advised that the same person is submitting quotes on other Government jobs and he fears that much of the same thing will happen because of the slack attitude of the Department of Housing and Construction. My colleague advises that with larger building projects it is important that quality standards be maintained for all the components but this new procedure does not guarantee it. That is the allegation that has been made to me and my colleague. Has the procedure been changed?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I am sure that I speak for the officers who are sitting at this table and other officers of my department when I say that I object to people who suggest that the department has a slack attitude. If people have concerns about the tender procedures operated by the department, they should contact the appropriate officer or me. I accept that the member for Hanson was only relaying to the Committee allegations that he had received, but people in the private sector object because the department beats them at their own game. As Minister in charge of one of the most efficient Government departments in the State, I get fed up with being accused of slackness and incompetence. I am sure that Mr Power will be able to answer the honourable member's question.

Mr Power: The real issue is the question of non-rated subcontracts. On the bigger, more complex projects for which the Department of Housing and Construction calls tenders, there has been a practice to have nominated subcontracts. These are contracts that are called by the department and nominated to the main contractor, particularly for electrical, mechanical and lifts work.

The department has recently found that the almost universal practice, of having nominated subcontracts has not been in the best interests of Government. At times there have been nominated subcontracts of quite small amounts. There has been difficulty in contractual relationships between the nominated subcontractor and the main contractor. As a result there has been a change of thinking so that nominated subcontracts are used on the bigger, more complex projects and not on the smaller, more routine projects. That is the policy that the department now adopts. Recently two fairly significant contracts were called for the conservatory in the Botanic Gardens and the police courts project at Holden Hill. Both those projects had nominated subcontracts. The policy is not to do away with nominated subcontracts but to be more selective and prudent in their use.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Obviously that policy saves money for the taxpayer.

Mr BECKER: If it saves money, fair enough. What communication is there between the department and building and construction associations to ensure that these misunderstandings and misquotes do not occur?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: That is a valid question. The Construction Advisory Council and the construction industry conference are designed primarily to look at these particular aspects to enable closer cooperation between Government agencies and the private sector. I think it would be fair to say that this Ministry has a very good relationship with all the major associations, such as MBA, AFCC, ACEA and BISCOA. The Chairman of the Construction Advisory Council is the Executive Director of the AFCC.

I have always believed that a good relationship between the Government and the private sector is important, so I find it rather strange that an accepted practice of moving into nominated subcontractors in effect tightens the procedure to ensure that prolongation costs and variations in the contract are kept to a minimum. We can get them one individual contractor and then start writing, in this particular case to the member for Hanson, whereas I am sure through his own association those procedures would have been well known.

Mr BECKER: What is the reason for the almost 50 per cent increase in accommodation and service costs for this financial year of \$3 855 000 compared to an actual payment last financial year of \$2 690 602. That is an almost \$1.2 million increase.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I would imagine the reason for that is a change in accounting procedures, but I am sure one of my advisers will be able to provide the information to the honourable member.

Mr Nichols: The proposed expenditure for 1987-88 provides for increases in rents and security costs. I do not have the reasons for those increases in front of me, but I will undertake to get them.

Mr BECKER: Whilst we are on that line, on page 146 of the Estimates of Payment we see 'Intra-agency support service items not allocated to programs'. What does that mean? This applies not only to your department but also to other departments as well.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I am sure that the item dealing with the overseas visit by the Minister and the Minister's

wife is self-explanatory, and I am equally sure that the Committee has noted that no money was spent on that line last year.

Mr Little: It is an accounting line which relates to costs for the department which are not allocated to specific programs. It can cover a fairly wide range of support services within the department. As you say, they are in fact included in all departmental estimates.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Perhaps I can elaborate a little further. The item of salaries, wages and related payments deals with expenditure to train employees under the Commonwealth Training of Aboriginal Scheme, crafts; additional pay offset by redirection of resources to deposit accounts for cost recovery purposes, etc. Also involved are the fringe benefits tax, additional costs of postage, overseas subscriptions, publications and the settlement of a common law claim. It is a vote under the housing line which picks up a lot of those areas which do not fit into a particular program. I am sure the member for Hanson knows what we are talking about.

Mr BECKER: It is almost like having a sundries line.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: That is right.

Mr BECKER: What progress has been made in establishing a cost effective and beneficial furniture store at Netley?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: That is a part of the independent review of the furniture supply operation of December 1986. I am reading from the yellow book under 'Issues and Trends'. It talks about the role of the furniture store subject to improved efficiency of operations. It is a part of the rationalisation and efficiency measures that the department is undertaking within the Netley complex.

Mr BECKER: You have quite a good furniture store at Netley. I just wonder what cost savings have been achieved by the improved management and stock control of that furniture store, and whether cost savings will be achieved in the future?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Perhaps Mr Nicholls can respond to that.

Mr Nicholls: We have reached the stage now where the decisions have been made about crucial inventory levels and staffing for that store, as well as for the transport arrangements that apply to it. The savings will come in the future. They will not be substantial in the furniture store itself. The furniture store is one of those operations that we believe we must continue, so we will really be polishing it up, refining inventory levels and improving at the margin our area of performance there. As I say, we have made the decisions and we are about to start implementing them.

Mr BECKER: Dealing with Government furniture and the problems with injuries in the workplace, particularly to those who must use certain types of seating, is ergonomic furniture now used exclusively in all Government departments, and what was the department's findings concerning that type of furniture?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: As the Committee is well aware, we undertook to provide ergonomic furniture within the electoral offices for fairly obvious reasons—not only for good working conditions for our staff, which is paramount, but also to offset possible health problems in the future. I am not quite sure if any of my advisers can elaborate more, but I understand that under the occupational health and safety regulations (I may have to stand corrected on this) if an office worker has a justifiable complaint as to the actual chair he or she is using, it is incumbent on the senior staff member of that office location to replace that with ergonomic furniture.

Obviously, this must be done in a rational way because of the cost, but I can only talk about areas in electoral

offices where we can reduce stress. I do not have to tell members of this Committee of the stressful situation in some electoral offices, and we take all the necessary steps to solve that problem. That situation will be slowly coming in through all Government offices, as well as in the private sector.

Mr BECKER: It is in the private sector, and I wonder whether it is going through the Public Service as well. Also, why is the grave restoration program being deferred this financial year, and when will the program be restarted at West Terrace Cemetery? I refer to page 467 of the yellow book.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I will not say it is a very grave situation, but it is a very serious situation. I ask Mr Nicholls to respond.

Mr Nichols: The program has been delayed for a number of reasons, one of which is that the West Terrace Cemetery is an important heritage asset, believe it or not, for this State, and we are in the process of investigating further with the Heritage Branch of the Department of Environment and Planning how any restoration work should proceed. They have advised us that, before proceeding any further, a proper historical study should be conducted in order to give us some guidelines on how to proceed further. That is one technical reason. Given that, there were areas of great need in the State with regard to maintenance, and we redirected the funds to those purposes.

Mr BECKER: I agree that it is an important heritage, as my grandparents are buried there. Were funds sought from the Commonwealth bicentennial project to enable restoration to continue and, if not, why not?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: We did not apply for funds under the bicentennial project. We could have done that under the normal type CEP funding that would have been available. However, until we were aware of the guidelines that we had to work to, under advice from the heritage people, it was felt that it was best not to apply for those funds. The Government accepts that it is a heritage item. In fact, our people who work down there have made some quite significant improvements to the grave sites.

The CHAIRPERSON: With only a skeleton staff?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: One always laughs at the Chairperson. One will get on then.

Mr BECKER: In view of the heritage involvement, has a public appeal for finance and involvement been considered to keep the restoration program going and, if not, will such a proposal be considered?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The whole matter of the West Terrace Cemetery is under review, but I think I made the point very clearly to members of the public that those people who have kin buried at West Terrace Cemetery—famous South Australians—have a responsibility themselves, and not just to put it onto the State. I doubt very much if I shall ever warrant a plot there, even though I suppose my most ardent admirers consider me a great South Australian. However, if I did, I am sure that the future generations of the Hemmings clan would be only too cheerful to do in a few dollars.

Mr BECKER: How many incidents of industrial action have occurred at departmental depots and work sites during the past 12 months, and how do those figures compare with the previous 12 months? What were the reasons for the disputes?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Our industrial record is quite good at the Netley complex. One of the problems that we had as part of our regionalisation process, despite the consultation that took place at all levels, with all sections of the trade union movement being involved in the steering

committees to look at every review that was carried on, was that there was sometimes a breakdown in communication. I think my Director mentioned this in relation to an anonymous letter: some people object because of the fear of change.

We had the occasional stop work meeting. There were times when, in an effort to explain the situation, I would arrange time off so that people could discuss it. As to the number of days and hours lost compared to the figure for the previous 12 months, we will make that information available. I am happy to say that all industrial problems in relation to regionalisation have now been resolved.

Mr BECKER: What arrangements have been made with trade unions about the use of private contractors? The *Advertiser* of 23 April this year featured a report headed 'Strike threat over use of private contractors'. There were problems at Parliament House and, I believe, at two schools at that time.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Again, as a result of our attempt to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department of Housing and Construction, we have, with the goodwill of the trade union movement, increased our efficiency and reduced our on-costs. One has only to read the Auditor-General's Reports of this year and last year to realise this. A view will always be expressed by the trade union movement that within the private sector work is only done more cheaply because in some cases there are cash in hand procedures and because of the ability of the private sector to hire and fire.

A classic case concerns a painter working in the private sector who, having reached the age of 50 years, cannot nip up and down a ladder as quickly as he used to and he is soon shown the gate, whereas in the public sector, quite correctly, he would not be treated so harshly. Therefore, there is an attitude in the public sector that, because of those reasons, the Government should not give contracts to the private sector. However, the Government does not work that way: it works to a certain base level and anything else goes out to the private sector in certain areas. For two days at Parliament House certain employees refused to replace light globes. There was a little trouble, I think at the Moana school, but it was resolved fairly amicably.

In the day to day operations of any Government department with a large work force and a diverse trade union membership, these things may happen in a period of change. However, since 1984 when we effected those changes, there has been nothing but goodwill and cooperation from the trade union movement because of what we are achieving and because the trade unions know that it is a question of survival through efficiency or extinction.

Mr BECKER: How and in what main areas will attrition of staff and weekly paid employees occur, and is such staff attrition meeting with the approval of the unions? On page 461 of the yellow book we see that the number of employees in the dept in 1986-87 was 2 018.6, whereas the number proposed for this year is 1 955—a reduction of 63.6. This means that there is a considerable amount of attrition. In what main areas will this occur? It is all very well to reduce the number of staff at the top, but younger staff will be needed to maintain a balance.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The reduction may be taking place in the area of supply as a result of the improvement in the efficiency of the Supply Section because of our review. The honourable member is correct: if we lose staff from attrition or if they leave for other jobs, young people must be coming in to maintain the efficiency and effectiveness of the department. One disturbing thing about the Department of Housing and Construction is the large percentage

of people in the upper age bracket, and that is something that this Government is trying to address.

Again, it goes back to the answer which I gave rather flippantly but which put the situation in a nutshell. In the private sector, if one is as old as Heini Becker one is gone, whereas in the public sector we have a responsibility. The Government is seriously addressing this problem. Without wishing to criticise the Hon. Dean Brown, a colleague of some members of this Committee, I may say that the early retirement policy that he announced resulted in many able people, the very cream of the department, leaving, and we are experiencing a problem in trying to arrive at an acceptable solution that will still give us a good work force. Indeed, we still have a good work force, but the senior age group is causing concern to us as a department.

Mr BECKER: That is tragic because experience is also lost. To what extent has the Government improved the organisational effectiveness of the department in respect of the functioning, developing and maintaining of services to Aboriginal communities? In this regard, I refer to page 466 of the yellow book and to the paragraphs under the heading '1987/88 Specific Targets/Objectives'.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: This Government places great store in the Aboriginal Works Unit, which has operated for two years as a separate entity attached to the Department of Housing and Construction. As I said in my opening remarks, the Aboriginal Works Unit has suffered significantly from Federal funding cuts and it will therefore have to improve its delivery of services and its efficiency even more than it has done since it was set up. During that two-year period positive steps have been taken to foster the trade training and employment of Aborigines in the provision and maintenance of essential engineering services and building works in the Aboriginal communities of South Australia.

The unit has also provided and maintained State Government assets and associated housing for Government employees in remote areas, as well as providing a consultancy service to Aboriginal communities and organisations relating to the construction and maintenance of essential engineering services such as water supply, electricity, and common effluent disposal. In 1986-87, for example, the unit itself has initiated the following activities. At the Ernabella conference in 1986-87 it presented a three-day workshop, on the maintenance of essential services which was attended by representatives from each of the Far North West communities of the Pitjantjatjara land.

It has also initiated, organised and conducted training sessions on the practical requirements of basic maintenance, mechanical, electrical and common effluent services within the communities, together with information on the building components associated with the central services. I am sure that those members of the Committee who have travelled to the north-west will appreciate the problems when one has a simple breakdown of essential equipment. If it cannot be dealt with within the communities they have to get in subcontractors to cater for those problems. The idea of the Aboriginal Works Unit in that conference was to look at ways of teaching the Aboriginal communities themselves to undertake simple repair work.

At the Point Pearce Aboriginal school, which was recently burnt down, the unit won a contract for the Point Pearce Aboriginal community itself to build its new school. That will use local Aboriginal labour in accordance with the documentation provided by the Aboriginal Works Unit. So, all the skill and documentation will be provided by the Aboriginal Works Unit, but the community itself will undertake the building. Technical officers of the unit will provide

on-site guidance in building and engineering techniques, and there will be an on site trainer educator to provide training over that 16 week construction period. So it is in effect doing exactly what we are doing in the Aboriginal funded unit of the South Australian Housing Trust: the trust in some ways provides the technical skills, but the Aboriginal communities themselves say what is going where, and why.

The same thing is happening with the Public Works Unit. The unit aims to increase the number of Aboriginal apprentices employed within the department. As a consequence of that, in 1986-87 two positions have been offered to Aboriginal apprentices, whilst an additional two placements in the Department of Labour pre-vocational course have been reserved for Aboriginal students with a view to commencing apprenticeships with the department in 1988.

In 1986-87 its major capital works were a common effluent system at Ernabella and Yalata, the upgrading of the electrical reticulation at Yalata, new rural school at Mintabie, art and craft facility at Indulkana, new toilet/shower block at Fregon, and the new school at Point Pearce. Generally, we are proud of what we are doing with the Aboriginal Works Unit for the Aboriginal communities of this State.

Mr BECKER: Will the Aboriginal unit continue with its high level of involvement, and have funds been maintained for that unit in this financial year?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I know that the member for Hanson visited the Aboriginal Works Unit. Whilst I was not in the Chamber, I sat in my office downstairs and listened to the glowing report that he made of that visit and commitment. This Government is committed to the Aboriginal Works Unit, but the Aboriginal Works Unit runs on a commission: the 10 per cent that it gets for Commonwealth and other work that is available. It is very entrepreneurial. Despite the cut-backs, I hope that the Aboriginal Works Unit will continue to be a viable part of the Department of Housing and Construction.

Mr BECKER: How many Aborigines are employed in your department, and at what classification levels?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I will take that on notice.

Mr BECKER: What opportunities are there for promotion for Aboriginal people within the department?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The executive officer of the Aboriginal Works Unit is an Aborigine. His key offsider is an Aborigine. I am sure that in any area where there is an Aboriginal applicant for a position that that Aborigine is capable of performing, bearing in mind the policy within which this Government works, the chances of promotion within the department are good. With all due respect, the question can be taken either way. We have a commitment, which has been shown by the creation of the Aboriginal Works Unit. That would be indicative of the adherence by my department and by this Minister to Government policy.

If the member for Hanson is asking, 'What chances of success has an Aborigine in applying for a job in the department?', it would depend on the criteria, necessary qualifications, etc. One of our Aboriginal apprentices is in the Aboriginal Works Unit for a 12-month training period. Again, that is indicative of our commitment to promote Aborigines within our department.

Mr BECKER: Is Mr Lionel Bates an executive officer of the Department of Housing and Construction and a Director of the Adelaide Entertainment Centre? Has he been involved in that project within the past 12 months?

Mr Nichols: He works for the Department of Personnel and Industrial Relations. We would have to redirect that question to the Commissioner for Public Employment.

Mr BECKER: Was he ever employed by your department?

Mr Nichols: He was prior to the formation of this present department.

Mr BECKER: Has the review of the provision of office accommodation and property management services been completed and, if not, why? I refer again to page 474 of the yellow book.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The report has been prepared and is being considered now.

Mr BECKER: What is the total amount spent by the ASER Building Regulation Advisory Committee to date, since formation, and who are the members of that committee?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The Government considers that that committee has been a great success. It was set up to consider the regulations, because a lot of the aspects of the ASER complex were outside the normal building regulations. A group of people were asked to form a committee, under the chairmanship of a senior departmental officer. The committee has worked very well and it has worked well with industry. At one time there was a question of possible delays, and I think the matter was resolved within 24 hours—as that is the way it works. Since its inception, 35 submissions for building approvals have been considered; some 34 have been approved and one was not classed as building work. Fifty-seven submissions for approval to modify regulations have been submitted; 48 were approved, one was rejected; for four no modification was required; one is awaiting resubmission; and for three modification was recommended. I think those figures are indicative of the success of that advisory committee. I shall take the question concerning total cost involved on notice. Mr Power will provide details of membership.

Mr Power: The membership comprises quite a balanced group. The committee is chaired by Mr Chris Wevill, who is a senior architect in the Department of Housing and Construction, and members are Mr Graham Brown, from local government, Mr Van de Penan, the Adelaide City Council's building surveyor, and there is a representative from the Metropolitan Fire Service, whose name escapes me at the moment.

Mr BECKER: What fees, if any, are paid to the chairman and the individual members of the committee?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: There is no fee for the chairman, as he is a public servant. The cost for 1986-87 was \$31 494, and proposed cost for 1987-88 is \$25 000. This is under Program 7—Property Development Services (page 144 of the Estimates of Payments). Mr Van de Penan is not paid a fee for his role in the ASER committee. He has a role on the Entertainment Centre committee, for which he does get paid a fee.

Mr BECKER: In relation to the costs involved, what is the money spent on?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: It is for fees paid to the Adelaide City Council.

Mr Power: The members of the committee are paid by the Government either directly or indirectly, except for Mr Van de Penan who is an employee of the Adelaide City Council. He has an outstanding knowledge in this area, and it was important for the development of ASER that his advice be sought, and that is the reason.

Mr BECKER: How many meetings of that committee were held in the past financial year?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I will take that question on notice.

Mr BECKER: I would still like to know on what the \$25 000 will be spent this year.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Mainly in fees to the Adelaide City Council because, if one looks at the way the ASER

Regulation Advisory Committee was working, it was taking over the role of the Adelaide City Council with building applications. For every item that was submitted, which in normal the circumstances would be considered by the Adelaide City Council, it was being considered by the committee. Therefore, to offset any loss of fee by the Adelaide City Council a fee was paid and the Government undertook to pay that amount of money. It was the fast track method. If someone makes an application under the normal Building Act he has to pay a fee. If there is some problem within the Act and the council objects or refuses, it will then go to arbitration, which is a time wasting and costly exercise.

The whole idea of the ASER Regulation Advisory Committee was to circumvent that and create the fast track, which has been very successful. Many aspects of the ASER development were outside the building regulations. I believe that one paper has been published already and it will be a guide to local government generally in picking up those aspects of engineering not in the current building regulations.

Mr BECKER: With a reduction of 63.6 employees in the next financial year, what is the proposed financial saving for 1987-88 and future years with salaries and related payments?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: One could multiply it by the average wage. We will take that question on notice.

Mr BECKER: Why does the proposed budget expenditure provide for an increase in the workers compensation premium, how many departmental employees are currently on workers compensation, for what reasons and for how long? I refer to page 477 of the yellow book.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: We will take that question on notice.

Mr BECKER: I note an increase of 4.3 persons for members of Parliament last year. Page 458 of the yellow book gives such details. To whom were the additional staff attached and why?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The member for Hanson is obviously referring to electorate offices.

Mr BECKER: It is overall. The number proposed for 1986-87 was 64, with actual being 69. Electorate office and contract secretaries for MLCs went up by 4.4.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: There was an increase in the last financial year in the electorate offices of Unley and Napier due to ministerial commitments in line with the previous Government decision in relation to other Ministers. There were two .6s. As for the others, we will take them on notice.

Mr BECKER: What was the total amount of workers compensation paid to departmental employees in the two past financial years?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: We will take the question on notice.

Mr BECKER: Following the first and only escape from Adelaide Remand Centre, were about 3 000, 6 inch special screws placed at 3 foot intervals over the roof to bolt it down? Did the job take about 1½ days, and did this escape prove that there may have been a design fault in the roof?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I feel a trifle wary and wonder whether the member for Hanson, knowing how many screws were needed, is wasting his time as a member of Parliament and should become a super crim. I am well aware that the member for Hanson has been most critical of the Remand Centre, the design expertise and the fact that the project came in on time and under budget. It seems that anything we do well is immediately suspect. I understand that questions were asked of the Minister of Correctional Services. Our response time is quite good, but we still have not been

able to get the information that the member was seeking from the Minister of Correctional Services. We undertake to ascertain exactly how many thousands of screws needed to be replaced and whether there was a design fault in the Adelaide Remand Centre. I am tempted to stick my neck out and say that much of the information that the member has received in this area may be incorrect. We will obtain a complete and thorough report on the whole matter and get it back by 9 October.

Mr BECKER: While you are doing that, can you ascertain the cost of the repairs?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Yes. We will also provide to the member for Hanson the exact departmental cost of establishing exactly whether the allegations were true and how much it cost.

Mr BECKER: How many and at what total cost and where and for which members of Parliament were new electorate offices commissioned last financial year? I understand that several new electorate offices had to be commissioned because of electoral boundary changes. I understand that difficulty was encountered in obtaining suitable locations because of the difficult shapes and sizes of electorates and trying to find a central location.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I will obtain that information for the member before 9 October.

Mr BECKER: Are all the projects for correctional services under the capital works program on schedule?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Can the member for Hanson specify the projects to which he is referring?

Mr BECKER: I understand that the Mobilong prison has been completed and is due to be opened shortly. Is that correct?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Yes, and it is under budget.

Mr BECKER: The estimated total cost of upgrading B Division at Yatala Labour Prison is \$8.4 million, and proposed expenditure this year is \$2 million. A considerable amount of work is involved on improving the security and welfare of the prisoners, with significant attention being given to fire safety provisions. The three-storey building is to be divided into six management units, and the completion date is August 1988. With the overcrowding and the expected early closure of Adelaide Gaol, it is important to know whether these projects are on target.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Yes.

Mr BECKER: Work is also involved on E Division, F Division and the segregation unit at Yatala. The E Division project had a commencement date of August 1987, with completion being expected in December 1987 at a cost of \$2.9 million.

Mr Power: E Division is currently being upgraded, and work is progressing well. It was the former security hospital at Northfield. It is a very tight program, but it is on schedule at this time. I am reasonably confident that it will be finished in December 1987. Work on F Division has not yet commenced. That project has yet to be referred to the Public Works Committee. S Division, construction on which has just commenced, is located in the field at the front entrance of Yatala. It is on program at this time.

Mr BECKER: E Division will provide accommodation for 90 inmates as an interim measure to facilitate the closure of Adelaide Gaol. Because of the atrocious conditions there, it is important that it is closed as soon as possible. It is also pleasing that at long last a deadline has been set for the closure of Adelaide Gaol, early next year. With the opening of Mobilong and the provision of accommodation for 90 at Yatala, the deadline can be met.

My next question refers to the capital works program for housing. Where will the 14 new dwellings for Government

employees be built at a cost of \$1.3 million, and what individual price will be involved?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: Government employee housing is on the housing line, and all the information that I had on that is now safely tucked away in the office safe. I cannot give that information at this point but I will take it on notice.

The ACTING CHAIRPERSON (Ms Lenehan): Is it possible for the member for Hanson to keep to questions relating to the issues that are presently before the Committee? We did have an agreement that we would change to this particular aspect at 4.30, and it makes it a little difficult when the Minister does not have the appropriate advisers and information available. If there is something really important, the Minister could undertake to get that information before 9 October.

Mr BECKER: Which school properties surplus to requirement were sold last financial year? Where were the properties located? What price was obtained for each, and what was the estimated value of each property?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: That comes under the responsibility of the Minister of Education and should have been directed to him. As a sign of cooperation, friendship and all those other things one exhibits at this late hour, I will undertake to direct that question to my colleague, the Minister of Education, and get that information for the honourable member.

Mr BECKER: What cost impact did Austpay have on the budget of the department, what savings are envisaged since the changeover, and what went wrong with this particular program? At page 114 of the Auditor-General's report, it is stated:

In my previous report I commented that a consultant had been engaged to examine and report on the cost effectiveness of the Austpay payroll software package and its suitability to process promptly cost allocation information for weekly paid employees. The consultant recommended that the department revert to the external bureau payroll system which was previously in use.

Conversion to this system was achieved in October 1986 and the system is operating satisfactorily.

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: I will pass that over to Mr Little.

Mr Little: The trial we had of Austpay had difficulties in our type of operation in the costing area, as we reported at the Estimates Committee hearing last year. We had a consultant in who, as the honourable member mentioned, recommended that we revert to the system we were using before, which was a TNT payroll system. We did convert, as he said, in October. We are processing our weekly paid payroll at both a lower cost and in a more efficient manner than Austpay was able to do in our case.

In most Government departments Austpay is paying quite satisfactorily the Government Management and Employee Act employees. It does have problems when it gets to the costing area in a department like ours. We have been having discussions through the Austpay Steering Committee with

the E and W S Department and the Highways Department, both of whom also operate systems other than Austpay, and it has become quite obvious that there are problems which would require significant modifications to Austpay to make it suitable for our type of department.

In fact, with the TNT system, we now, have the ability to do a number of things such as comprehensive leave recording, which currently is not available in the Austpay system. So, we are processing our payroll at a cheaper rate and a more efficient rate than Austpay is able to do for our weekly paid employees.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Can the Minister tell me as a member of the Public Works Standing Committee, how we are going in relation to getting a technical officer to assist that committee? I understand that official approaches have been made and I recognise the need for such an officer to assist the Committee. What stage has been reached?

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings: The member for Heysen is correct. There was agreement by the Government to provide that technical support which is so very necessary, not that I am suggesting the members of the committee would not be able to assimilate the information. The honourable member is aware that the department sent someone down to give back-up support initially. There were a few problems which I will not go into at this point in time. The department can provide assistance as requested, but I feel that is not a satisfactory resolution to the problem and a recognition of the importance of the Public Works Standing Committee to the Parliament. In many cases the glamour committee is the Public Accounts Committee, but in my opinion the Public Works Standing Committee does a very worthwhile job and the department is attempting to resolve that problem.

The ACTING CHAIRPERSON: There being no further questions I declare the examination of the two lines completed. I now lay before the Committee a draft report for Estimates Committee B.

Mr De LAINE: I move:

That the draft report of the Committee be adopted.

Motion carried.

The ACTING CHAIRPERSON: I would like to place on the public record the Committee's thanks to the Chairperson of Committee B, the honourable member for Newland Ms Diane Gayler because I believe she has done an excellent job over the two week period. Our thanks and appreciation go to her. I would like to thank the Minister and his advisers for the way in which they have conducted today's proceedings and to all members of the Committee, notwithstanding that the member for Hanson has certainly had his share of the questions. I am sure he is grateful to other members for allowing him to do that. I now have pleasure in declaring the Committee closed.

At 9.39 p.m. the Committee concluded.

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS
ESTIMATES COMMITTEE A
Premier, Treasurer and Minister for the Arts
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT
PROGRAMS

In reply to Ms LENEHAN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: The attached schedule lists the information requested by the member:

Equal Opportunities Initiatives in
Government Departments

Agriculture	E.O. Coordinator E.E.O. Committee E.E.O. Statement Harassment Policy (draft)
Attorney-General's Community Welfare	E.E.O. Policy E.O. Coordinator E.E.O. Management Plan
Correctional Services	E.O. Coordinator Sexual Harassment Policy
Court Services Education	E.O. Policy Statement E.O. Officer E.E.O.M.P. Coordinator and Committee Sexual Harassment Policy E.O. Policy for the Education of Girls
E & WS	E.O. Coordinator E.O. Committee E.E.O. Policy Statement (draft)
Environment and Planning	E.O. Coordinator E.E.O. Committee E.E.O. Policy E.E.O. Management Plan Sexual Harassment Policy
Fisheries	E.O. Committee Sexual Harassment Policy E.E.O. Policy (developmental stage)
Highways	E.O. Coordinator E.E.O. Policy (developmental stage)
Housing and Construction	E.O. Coordinator E.O. Policy Statement Sexual Harassment Policy
Labour	E.E.O. Policy Sexual Harassment Policy
Local Government	E.O. Coordinator E.O. Policy Statement Policy Statement on Freedom from Harassment
Marine and Harbors Mines and Energy Personnel and Industrial Relations	Aboriginal Employment Policy Sexual Harassment Policy E.O. Officer and E.O. Branch E.O. Committee E.O. Policy Statement (draft) Aboriginal Employment Policy Sexual Harassment Policy
Police Premier and Cabinet	E.O. Coordinator E.O. Coordinator E.E.O. Action Plan Sexual Harassment Policy
Services and Supply	E.E.O. Management Planning Consultancy Personnel Policy and Procedures (incorporating E.E.O.)
TAFE	E.O. Coordinator (Access to Programs) E.E.O.M.P. Coordinator E.E.O. Policy for Women E.O. Policy in Educational Provision for Women
Tourism	E.O. Coordinator E.O. Committee E.O. Policy (developmental stage)
Transport	E.O. Coordinator (Motor Registration Division) E.O. Policy (draft)
Treasury	Aboriginal Employment Policy Statement Sexual Harassment Policy
Woods and Forests	E.O. Coordinator E.E.O. Policy (draft, for comment) Sexual Harassment Policy (draft, for comment)

OTHER AGENCIES

Children's Services Office	E.O. Coordinator E.O. and E.E.O. Policy (draft)
Ethnic Affairs Commission	Sexual Harassment Policy and Grievance Procedures
Office of the Government Management Board	E.O. Policy Statement
S.A. Health Commission	E.O. Guidelines for Consultants Interim Policy Statement on E.E.O. for Women

UNBUDGETED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: Unbudgeted capital expenditure items on 1986-87 were:

	\$
1. Loan to SA Challenge for defence of America's Cup	40 000
2. Bridging Finance for <i>One and All</i> Sailing Ship (to take an active part in First Fleet Re-enactment)	145 000
	\$185 000

COMMONWEALTH/STATE DUPLICATION

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: I indicated in my brief response to the Leader of the Opposition's question that some progress had been made but it was not significant change thus far.

The restructuring of Federal portfolios and departmental groupings represents a significant integration of related activities, which follows those already in place in South Australia (for example, Health/Welfare and Employment, Training and Further Education) and provides an opportunity for closer cooperation between the State Government and the Commonwealth.

Rationalisation of services and administration of programs seek to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of programs and services across all areas of Government activity.

Duplication has been eliminated in the following areas:

- In South Australia the Meat Inspection (Referral of Powers) Act of February 1987, referred to the Commonwealth clear responsibility for the provision of meat inspection services. This was a significant step, not only for rural producers but our export industry.
- Rationalisation of rehabilitation services and pathology laboratories.
- The ongoing integration of the Daw Park facilities into the mainstream of the State hospitals system.
- In agriculture, some animal quarantine and export inspection services are now managed by the State, while being funded by the Commonwealth on a cooperative joint partnership basis, thus reducing administrative overheads to both levels of Government.
- Continued and extended integration of statistical collections that exist between the Commonwealth and the States.

At this time the Council of Social Welfare Ministers has considered interim proposals for more cost-effective ways of administering joint programs. A working party involving Chief Administrators is developing broad principles and procedures to guide the cooperation between Commonwealth and State/Territory Governments in community service programs.

In addition, I have recently responded to an invitation from the Prime Minister to nominate further areas for review and major portfolios of Education, Training, Health and Community Services have been nominated as areas for further examination.

All nominations for awards are submitted to the Council of the Order of Australia. My Government sometimes makes an official supplementary submission in relation to nominations lodged via my department. It should be recorded, however, that Commonwealth or State Government endorsement does not always secure success as a council of 14 makes the recommendations. No information is recorded as to the proportion of unsuccessful nominations.

CITIZEN AWARDS

In reply to Mr KLUNDER.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: The funds allocated to the line concerning Government Awards to Citizens is the proportion of working hours devoted to this work. It covers advice to members of Parliament, organisations and the public, the obtaining of extra information and the preparation of correspondence. The work covered relates not only to the Order of Australia but also to obtaining relevant statements in relation to bravery cases submitted to the Australian Decorations Advisory Council.

ADELAIDE REVIEW FIRE

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: A fire occurred in a store room in the premises of Adelaide Review Pty Ltd, Chapman Building, Bank Street, Adelaide, on 20 July 1987, whilst staff were at lunch. It was apparently lit deliberately but a culprit has not been discovered. Books were burned or damaged as follows:

Books (Hard and Paper)	No. Damaged	R.R.P.	Value at R.R.P.	Government Value (45 % of R.R.P.)
		\$	\$	\$
<i>With Conscious Purpose—P</i>	7	24.95	174.65	78.59
<i>Franz Kempf Graphic Works—P</i>	36	19.95	718.20	323.19
<i>Adelaide Oval Test Cricket—H</i>	7	19.95	139.65	62.84
<i>150 Years of Stained and Painted Glass—P</i>	21	19.95	418.95	188.53
<i>People, Places and Buildings—H</i>	1	25.00	25.00	11.25
<i>Ling Division—H</i>	5	45.00	225.00	101.25
<i>Mapped But Not Known—P</i>	30	25.50	765.00	344.25
<i>Diet Dynamic—P</i>	146	6.95	1 014.70	456.61
<i>In Her Own Name—P</i>	3	25.00	75.00	33.75
<i>Clara Morrison—H</i>	3	19.95	59.85	26.93
<i>Clara Morrison—P</i>	22	12.95	284.90	128.20
<i>Not Only in Stone—H</i>	10	17.95	179.50	80.77
<i>Flinders Social History—H</i>	3	50.00	150.00	67.50
<i>Flinders Social History—P</i>	2	40.00	80.00	36.00
<i>Rations, Residence, Resources—P</i>	11	25.00	275.00	123.75
<i>Rations, Residence, Resources—H</i>	5	35.00	175.00	78.75
<i>Southern Passages—P</i>	2	27.50	55.00	24.75
<i>Sound of Trumpets—H</i>	4	35.00	140.00	63.00
<i>The New Women—P</i>	10	17.95	179.50	80.77
<i>Welcome to Water—P</i>	14	15.95	223.30	100.48
<i>A Lost Glitter—P</i>	2	20.00	40.00	18.00
<i>I'm Speaking to You—P</i>	15	5.95	89.25	40.16
<i>Business Charity and Sentiment—H</i>	9	37.50	337.50	151.87
Books (Limited)	Damaged	R.R.P.	Value at R.R.P.	Value (56.25% of R.R.P.)
		\$	\$	\$
<i>Ceramics in S.A.—Limited</i>	10	75.00	750.00	\$421.87
Total Value of Damage Claimed				\$3 043.06

An insurance claim has been lodged.

SUNDAY MAIL INSERT

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: Costs of the *Sunday Mail* Budget Supplements were:
1986—\$11 973
1987—\$14 176

GRAND PRIX

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: The contract between the Australian Formula One Grand Prix Board and the Formula One Contractors Association (FOCA) covers a seven year period to 1991 and is written in US dollars. When the

contract was signed in 1985 the value of the Australian dollar was 0.71 against the US dollar. The board continually monitors the exchange rate and the contract fee in 1985, 1986 and 1987 has been placed at rates around this level.

Consequently, to date, the board's liability has not been greatly affected by currency fluctuations.

The contract fee payable to FOCA is a matter which has always been regarded as confidential between contracting parties and consequently the board's policy has always been to not disclose the actual amounts payable.

AYERS HOUSE

In reply to Ms LENEHAN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: The Ayers House Management Committee has as one of its roles the ongoing promotion of the Ayers House complex. The Department of Tourism is represented on the committee which has recently decided to nominate the complex for a regional tourism award when nominations are invited early in 1988. Winners of these awards receive a good deal of publicity which would boost its tourist appeal.

Ayers House is specifically mentioned in a range of publications either published by the Department of Tourism or handled through the South Australian Government Travel Centre.

Ayers House will also feature in a publication involving a range of properties located on North Terrace which will be released shortly. The Department of Tourism developed the concept of promoting the many varied historical and cultural features of North Terrace.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE

In reply to **Hon. B.C. EASTICK.**

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: Parliamentary Buildings—Fuel and Light, Rates, Cleaning, etc., 1986-87.

	Legislature Miscella- neous (1.7.86- 15.3.87)	Joint Services Division (16.3.87- 30.6.87)	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Air-Conditioning			
Maintenance	36 078	11 810	47 888
Electricity	50 289	30 057	80 346
Water and Sewerage Rates	23 820	7 671	31 491
Gas	16 140	5 703	21 843
Cleaning	46 802	18 101	64 903
	173 129	73 342	246 471

SAFA OVERSEAS BORROWINGS

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: The following tables provide elaboration on the domestic currency equivalents of long-term foreign currency borrowings and investments for the last three years:

Year Ended 30 June 1987

	\$A million	Maturity	Effective Interest Rate
Pounds Sterling			
Borrowings	103.3	30.4.91	50% is at sub-LIBOR, 50% at sub-Bank Bill
Investments	1.2	not applicable	3%
Loans to Semi-Government Authority	171.2	not applicable	LIBOR + 1%
United States Dollars			
Borrowings	136.42	21.11.94	} All at Sub-LIBOR
	41.22	29.7.90	
	130.54	26.3.93	
Investments	54.96	30.3.2002	Floating Rate Note, LIBOR + 1%
Loans to Semi-Government Authority	215.9	various	LIBOR + 0.125%
Japanese Yen			
Borrowing	27.4	9.5.9	Sub-LIBOR
European Currency Unit			
Borrowing	110.7	15.1.97	Sub-LIBOR
Investment	15.8	15.1.97	LIBOR + 0.3%

Year Ended 30 June 1986

	\$A million	Maturity	Effective Interest Rate
Pounds Sterling			
Borrowings	105.8	30.4.91	50% is at sub-LIBOR, 50% at sub Bank Bill
Investments	57.2	not applicable	LIBOR + 0.125%
United States Dollars			
Borrowings	141.8	21.11.94	} All at sub-LIBOR
	44.8	29.7.90	
	142.3	26.3.93	
Investments	17.5	not applicable	} Portfolio Investments achieving various rates greater than LIBOR
	45.6	not applicable	
	30.2	not applicable	
Loans to Semi-Government Authority	223.9	various	LIBOR 0+ 0.125%
Japanese Yen			
Borrowings	30.0	9.5.91	Sub-LIBOR

Year Ended 30 June 1987

Pounds Sterling	\$A million	Maturity	Effective Interest Rate
Year Ended 30 June 1985			
<i>United States Dollars</i>			
Borrowings	142.71	21.11.94	} All at sub-LIBOR
	79.6	27.12.85	
	82.6	31.1.86	
Investments	225.4	not applicable	} Portfolio, Investments achieving various rates greater than LIBOR
	79.6	not applicable	

Any fluctuations in exchange rates which have occurred over the three year period do not affect SAFA's position because of the policy of avoiding foreign exchange exposure on liabilities. Consistent with this policy, SAFA's overseas borrowings generate either fully hedged \$A borrowings at a lower cost than comparable domestic borrowings, or foreign currency liabilities matched against assets of the same currency.

SAFA LOANS

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: The following principal repayments were received by SAFA during 1986/87:

	\$
Lotteries Commission of South Australia	1 158 034
Racecourses Development Board	135 000
South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service	300 000
Libraries Board of South Australia	111 625
State Planning Authority	312 000
Technology Park Adelaide	28 604
Outback Areas Community Development Trust ..	133 000
Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science	200 000
Council of the Adelaide College of TAFE	11 000
South Australian Waste Management Commission	21 432
State Bank of South Australia	3 871 926
Pipelines Authority of South Australia	614 797
South Australian Urban Land Trust	3 000 000
Country Fire Services Board	105 785
The Northern Cultural Centre Trust	70 000
Department of Agriculture:	
Marginal Dairy Reconstruction Scheme	13 569
Rural Adjustment Scheme	657 192
Rural Reconstruction Scheme	1 014 185
South Australian Housing Trust	7 047 479
Local Government Finance Authority	4 405 000

SAFA DEBT

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: At 30 June 1987, the proportion of SAFA's total borrowings on which the effective interest payment is floating rate, is 17.6%.

The maturity details of SAFA's debt presented on the same basis as the table on page 13 in the Auditor-General's Report is as follows:

	\$ million
1988	729
1989	431
1990	467
1991-1995	1 944
1996-2000	1 259
2000 and beyond	1 456

The reading of the above table requires some qualifications to avoid misinterpretation. In particular, the table includes borrowings made under the global limits system imposed by Loan Council and that system provides for the refinancing of maturing debt. It is also important to note that opportunities often arise which allow the restructuring of debt in a manner which affects maturity dates.

SAFA BORROWINGS

In the reply to Hon. B.C. EASTICK.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: The maximum rate payable on any outstanding borrowings by SAFA at 30 June 1987 is 17.5% p.a.

On the question of the average rate payable by SAFA it is necessary to analyse the combination of borrowings in SAFA's Balance Sheet. The borrowings include certain loans from the Commonwealth Government which are at concessional rates, borrowings under Commonwealth specific purpose agreements where special rates may apply (including some loans for natural disaster relief at nil per cent), and overseas borrowings where the interest rates are not comparable with domestic interest rates for the purposes of calculating a simple average. For these reasons it is believed that a weighted average taking account of all of SAFA's borrowings would be misleading.

It is suggested that an appropriate guide to SAFA's borrowing costs is provided by the common public sector interest rate. That rate is currently 13.6% p.a. A detailed explanation and discussion on the common public sector interest rate arrangements is provided in Chapter 3 of SAFA's 1985-86 Annual Report.

SAFA LOANS

In reply to Mr LEWIS.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: For a period of seven years.

WORD PROCESSORS

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: I am informed by the Minister of Housing and Construction that over the past 12 months there has been close liaison between officers of the Department of Housing and Construction and staff of the Leader's Office to ensure a satisfactory resolution of the Leader's requirements for word processing equipment.

Quite the contrary to his statement to Parliament that the Department of Housing and Construction 'has not yet provided the word processors budgeted for two years ago', I am informed that during 1987 two word processors of the glass typewriter screen type were delivered to the Leader's Office as agreed in December 1986. The Leader's Office advised the department on 19 March that one of these machines would not be required and it was subsequently reallocated to the Public Works Standing Committee.

In July of this year, however, following a request from the Leader, it was agreed to supply his Office with an additional word processor to replace the unit that was earlier reallocated to the Public Works Standing Committee and to purchase two high speed printers. With these latest acquisitions the cost of the equipment purchased for the Leader's Office is approaching \$10 000.

GOVERNMENT FILMS

In reply to Mr KLUNDER.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: Attached is a schedule of the 30 films produced through funding from the Government Film Committee. The schedule indicates the name of the film, the authority and the amount of the grant. How they have each been used is detailed on a second attachment.

Government Film Committee Expenditure Summary

The list below details how the allocation of \$750 000 was spent in 1986-87 on the production of Government films.

	\$
National Parks—Department of Environment and Planning	25 000
From Bulldust to Bitumen—Highways Department	25 000
Under Pressure—Metropolitan Fire Service	20 000
Heritage—Department of Environment and Planning	70 000
Real Dirt (OSTP—I)—Education Dept.	5 000
Gardens of Discovery—Botanic Gardens, Adelaide	6 500
Heysen Trail—Department of Sport and Recreation	9 000
J150 Archival—J150 Board	2 000
Development and Conservation—AMDEL	3 000
Push Start—Disability Adviser—Department of the Premier and Cabinet	45 608
SA Collection—Promotion Unit—Department of the Premier and Cabinet	25 000
Grand Prix—Premier's Department	6 000
OSTP—II—Education Department	40 000
Proclamation Day—Education Department/History Trust	10 000
Ngurunderi Legend—S.A. Museum	20 000
Canoeing the Murray—Department of Sport and Recreation	55 000
Management Series—SACOSS	4 000
Blogg's Boots + Overages 1985-86—Department of State Development	77 560
Women's Workers—Women's Advisory Unit, Premier and Cabinet	5 000
Adelaide Welcomes the World (update)—Convention and Visitors Bureau	15 023
Child Abuse—Department of Community Welfare	5 000
Pitjantjatjara Welfare—Department of Community Welfare	10 000
Rubella—S.A. Health Commission	40 000
Sharing the Benefits—Department of Lands	22 529
More than Meets the Eye—Department of Mines and Energy	40 000
Community Policing—S.A. Police Department	5 000
Residential Tenancy—Department of Public and Consumer Affairs	3 000
Putting SA First (update) + SA Surprise—Department of State Development	80 000
The Leading Edge—Technology Park Adelaide Corporation	25 780
Adelaide: Capital of SA—Department of Tourism	50 000
	\$750 000

1. National Parks

This project looks at the widely diverse habitats of South Australia's national parks and their contrasting and delicate ecologies from the Simpson Desert to the Coorong and Kangaroo Island. The project is now in the editing stage. When complete it will be distributed through schools, tertiary institutions, conservation and nature groups, bush walking and outdoor activity clubs, as well as community service groups.

2. From Bulldust to Bitumen

Sponsored by the Highways Department this record of the resiting and sealing of the Stuart Highway is directed towards both tourism and general State promotion. It provides a valuable archival record of an important milestone in the State's devel-

opment as well as detailing the commercial benefits that will flow from the improved highway.

It is designed to be shown both in Australia and overseas through tourist commission offices and has wide general appeal as a fascinating overview of the main route to Ayers Rock and Australia's heartland.

3. Under Pressure

This video sponsored by the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service investigates the problems of work related stress particularly as it applies to emergency service officers and their families. However, it is designed to be a thought provoking discussion starter for any group interested in studying the subject from housewives to bank officers.

It has met with considerable critical acclaim and received the following awards:

- Gold Medal (Public Services)
- New York Film & Television Festival, 1986
- Gold Medal (Adelaide Section)
- Australian Cinematographers Award, 1986
- Gold Camera Award (Medical, Health/Non Technical Audience)
- U.S. Industrial Film Festival, Chicago, 1987
- AWGIE Award, Australian Writer's Guild, 1987

4. Heritage

This project is being researched and scripted as a possible bicentennial television special, with an emphasis on South Australia's role in the Australian nation's growth and development.

As currently planned it will look at heritage through the eyes of well known Australians such as Sir Mark Oliphant, Clem and Bob Hawke, Keith Michell, Don Glen Shorrocks, Julie Anthony, Jim Hardy and other significant but lesser known South Australians.

5. Real Dirt (OSTP)

The first of a series sponsored by the Education Department's OSTP program . . . which analyses 'Our Schools and their Purpose', it looks at the learning process within the classroom. It is structured to assist in-service training for teachers and encourages them towards improving their teaching skills. It also provides an important education policy document which can be shown to and discussed by parents.

6. Gardens of Discovery

This film has three main aims:

1. To provide a major tourist incentive for people from Europe, USA and all Australian States to visit South Australia.
2. To encourage viewers to visit their botanic gardens.
3. To educate students in particular and the community in general on how best to use their botanic gardens.

The Botanic Gardens and State Herbarium report that the film is used extensively. In addition to Australia-wide screenings it has been shown throughout the United States of America and Canada and is scheduled at further botanical conferences in Europe and Great Britain. As a result several requests have already been received from overseas to purchase copies.

7. Along the Heysen Trail

The Department of Sport and Recreation reports that this film is proving to be a very successful tool in promoting the department and South Australia generally. It is used by Tourist Associations, Colleges of Advanced Education, by schools, bushwalking and nature clubs and environmentalist organisations. It has been shown in Indonesia and provided a major focus at a National Walking Trail Conference in Canberra.

8. J150 Archival

During South Australia's J150 celebrations ADS7, NWS9, and SAS10 all contributed archival footage of the sesquicentennial activities which is now held in safekeeping for possible future use by the SAFC.

8. Development and Conservation

So far this project has received project development funds only. Currently it is planned as an entertaining and informative view of the Murray River System as an important ecological environment which transcends State borders or other man-made geographical boundaries.

9. Push Start

'Push Start' is designed as a thought provoking dramatised documentary to encourage the general public's understanding of the problems of disability and to assist handicapped people to cope with the trauma of an enforced new way of life.

10. SA Collection

This project has been compiled from some of the best footage shot on behalf of the SAFC since its formation. It is aimed to assist State Promotion and Tourism and provides a spectacular view of the State, encompassing education, manufacturing, enterprise, natural resources, primary industries and tourist attractions from the Flinders Ranges to Kangaroo Island and the South East.

The program has already been translated into Chinese and Japanese as well as achieving wide distribution throughout Europe and the English speaking world.

11. Grand Prix

This record of Adelaide's first Grand Prix and the careful planning and preparation that preceded it has provided valuable State promotion world wide. It has been shown throughout the world, in London, Singapore, Frankfurt and on the New Zealand television network, as well as all Australian capital cities. It is shown on international aircraft as well as interstate coach lines and is popular with sporting car clubs and other motoring organisations.

12. OSTP—II—I'm a B-Minus Person

The second video in the Education Department's 'Our Schools and Their Purpose' project. It is an in-service training video for teachers and provides a discussion starter on improved methods of student assessment.

13. Proclamation Day

This project, sponsored by the History Trust and the Education Department was originally planned as an entertaining and informative look at the Wakefield Plan and the Establishment of the Colony of South Australia.

It is now intended to explore the possibility of expanding the concept in conjunction with Old Parliament House to assist in the creation of a new audio-visual presentation 'The South Australian Story' which will replace their long established and very successful 'Bound for South Australia'.

14. Ngurunderi Legend

Made with the close co-operation of the Ngarrindjeri people, this video tells the story of Ngurunderi, the Aboriginal Dreamtime creator of the Lower River Murray and the Coorong. It will provide the centre piece for a new Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal display area in the South Australian Museum.

It is also intended for wide distribution throughout schools and for use as a marketing tool to encourage tourism to the Coorong and Encounter Bay area.

15. Canoeing the Murray

Sponsored by the Department of Recreation and Sport this production is scheduled to commence shooting during November 1987. It is planned for distribution through camping and outdoor retailers, Tourism Departments, Education Department, Department of Recreation and Sport, Board of Canoe Education and State Associations.

Its audience will include recreational canoeists, tour leaders and operators, sporting clubs, schools, scouts, guides and other outdoor activity groups as well as tourists.

16. Sacoss Management Series

This comprises four two-hour video tapes which are targeted to be sold to Government Departments which fund community organisations (Health, Welfare, Children's Services, Sport and Recreation etc.) and to tertiary training institutions with courses in social work or community development. They are designed to be used in conjunction with SACOSS training handbooks and are titled:

1. Yes we can manage Finances
2. Yes we can manage Committees
3. Yes we can manage Planning
4. Yes we can manage Marketing

They are being used by community organisations in every state of Australia and are particularly valuable in isolated country districts. Over 120 videos had already been sold as at December 1986.

17. Blogg's Boots/State Development

Blogg's Boots is a motivational training film produced as a result of research undertaken by the Department of State Development into problems faced by small business companies. It was used to launch Manufacturing Week 1987 and is now providing a discussion starter at management and business training courses.

It is one component in an overall business promotion video series sponsored by the department. Other recent State Development productions funded by the Government Film Committee include:

Living in South Australia

A major marketing tool in the business migration program. It has been distributed through State Development Offices in London, Los Angeles, Singapore, Hong Kong and Tokyo. It has also been used in conjunction with investment attraction programs in New Zealand, Germany, Malaysia and Brunei.

Vintage Australia

This video has provided the basis for major wine promotions in USA, Canada, Europe, New Zealand and Asia.

18. Women Workers

The Working Women's Centre advisory committee is currently considering a treatment for this project which to date has funds for script research and development only. The aim of the proposed video is to give basic information on rights, appropriate working conditions and community resources available to women of different ethnic backgrounds and whose English language skills are limited.

19. Adelaide Welcomes the World

Sponsored by the Adelaide Convention and Visitors Bureau this video is directed at convention/meeting planners, decision makers in the association, corporate and special events markets to promote Adelaide intra/interstate and overseas as a convention centre.

As at May 1986, David Hall, Executive Director of the AC & VB, reported that the production had already been instrumental in attracting in excess of \$20 million of convention business for South Australia.

It has received the following awards.

Gold Award (Best Promotional Video)

Pacific Area Travel Assoc, Kuala Lumpur, 1986

Silver Screen Award (Public Relations/Non-Profit Organisation)

US Industrial Film & Video Festival, Chicago, 1987.

20. Child Abuse

This project has been scripted and is schedule for briefing at a tender meeting on Tuesday, 29 September. Sponsored by the Department for Community Welfare it is planned as a thought provoking docu-drama to increase public awareness of the problem of child sexual abuse. It will be distributed through DCW avenues to parents and school teachers as well as being available through the State Film & Video Library.

21. Pitjantjatjara Welfare

A committee of Nganampa Health tribal elders is working closely with a local production company Macumba Media Enterprise in the development of this Aboriginal Health and Welfare project. When a script is approved and ready it is intended that the actual production be undertaken by the Aboriginal Ernabella Video Unit.

22. Rubella

Sponsored by the South Australian Health Commission this video urges all women, and school girls in particular, to be immunised against Rubella or German Measles as it is commonly known. It will be shown extensively in schools and to community groups by the commission's Health Promotion Unit.

23. Sharing the Benefits

The aim of this video is to demonstrate the economic and social benefits of the State's effective and integrated system of land records and illustrate the nature of its component parts.

Sponsored by the Department of Lands, the audience includes:

- (a) The community as users of the Land Information System throughout South Australia.
- (b) National and foreign governments and specialists who could be persuaded that South Australia has a resource which could be advantageous for them to tap.
- (c) Managers and specialists working in components of the South Australian Land Information System so as to provide them with a more comprehensive understanding of the entire system and its benefits.
- (d) Trainees, and those joining agencies involved in operating components of the Land Information System.
- (e) Students seeking career orientation information.

24. Working with Energy

Sponsored by the Department of Mines and Energy this video provides an up-to-date overview of South Australia's energy resources and investigates the State's present and future options. It is used widely in schools and is shown through the Adelaide Energy Information Centre.

25. Community Policing

Funded for research and development only at this stage the project is currently with the sponsor for re-evaluation and comment.

26. Residential Tenancy

Sponsored by the Department of Public and Consumer Affairs a script for this proposed video is still at the research and development stage. Its aim is to inform existing and prospective tenants/landlords of their rights and obligations.

When complete the video will be distributed through schools, TAFE colleges, community groups, service clubs and departmental public education seminars. The Department of Public and Consumer Affairs maintains both an education division and a Residential Tenancies Branch providing the department with a wide network of interested and active contacts.

27. Putting SA First

Sponsored by the Department of State Development this video has been updated and retitled 'Adelaide: Invest in a Winner'. It is designed to build awareness amongst senior national and international executives and targeted organisations, showing them there are significant facilities, resources, incentives and infra-structure in place to make South Australia an ideal location for investment. The video is also available in Japanese, Cantonese and Mandarin, in both PAL and NTSC formats.

This State Development budget allocation also includes research and script development for a new video promoting South Australia's export activities and opportunities.

28. The Leading Edge

This video illustrates the diverse and high-tech talents of the many tenants of South Australia's Technology Park. It has been used extensively throughout Australia and overseas by officers of the Technology Park Corporation as State promotion and in their tenancy attraction program.

29. Adelaide: Capital of South Australia

This tourism promotional video is still at the pre-production planning stage. It is anticipated that Pepper Studios, the successful tenderer, will commence shooting during October. It is designed to show the highlights of Adelaide and the nearby tourist regions of the Barossa Valley, Victor Harbor and districts, and the Adelaide Hills.

It will be screened to tourism industry representatives, convention organisers, on international airlines, through the Australian Tourist Commission offices and many other national and international venues.

**Deputy Premier, Minister for Environment and Planning,
Chief Secretary, Minister of Emergency Services and
Minister of Water Resources**

NATIONAL PARKS

In reply to Mr D.S. BAKER.

The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD: Ninety-four offences were expiated for breach of regulation under the National Parks and Wildlife Act for the following offences:

National Park Regulations:	
Reg. 18—dog in a reserve	28
Reg. 8 (1)—drive off tracks	8
Reg. 23—deposit litter	1
Reg. 11 (5)—fire in a reserve	9
Reg. 40—deface rocks	1
Reg. 19—take plants	2
Reg. 17—bring animal into reserve	1
Reg. 26—stock in a reserve	1
Reg. 6 (2)—in a reserve after hours	1
	<hr/> 52
Wildlife Regulations.	
Reg. 10 (7)—fail to submit returns	40
Reg. 10 (4)—not accurate and up to date record book	2
	<hr/> 42

Fifty-four offences which may have been expiated have been prosecuted through the courts since 1 October 1986.

Of these 49 were for breach of National Park Regulations and 5 were for breach of Wildlife Regulations.

Officers of the National Parks and Wildlife Service have personally prosecuted 54 offences since 1 October 1986, as detailed below.

Court	Offence	No.
Millicent	Reg. 8 (1) Nat. Park Regs	2
Port Lincoln ..	Reg. 8 (1) Nat. Park Regs	5
Murray Bridge	Reg. 8 (1) Nat. Park Regs	18
	Reg. 18 Nat. Park Regs	1
	Reg. 12 Nat. Park Regs	1
Maitland	Reg. 11 (5) Nat. Park Regs	1
	Reg. 11 Nat. Park Regs	1
	Reg. 18 Nat. Park Regs	3
	Reg. 19 Nat. Park Regs	1
Mount Barker ..	Reg. 11 (1) Nat. Park Regs	6
	Reg. 18 Nat. Park Regs	3
	Reg. 7 (2) Nat. Park Regs	1
	Reg. 8 (2) Nat. Park Regs	1
	Reg. 11 (5) Nat. Park Regs	1
Adelaide	Reg. 10 (4) Wildlife Regs	2
	Reg. 11 (1) Nat. Park Regs	1
Elizabeth	Reg. 8 (2) Nat. Park Regs	2
Port Augusta ..	Reg. 8 (1) Nat. Park Regs	1
Whyalla	Reg. 10 (4) Wildlife Regs	1
Port Adelaide ..	Reg. 10 (4) Wildlife Regs	1
Christies Beach	Reg. 10 (4) Wildlife Regs	1

Total travelling costs incurred by officers of the Law Enforcement Branch whilst undertaking prosecution of offences under the National Parks and Wildlife Act and regulations are as follows:

Meals and accommodation	\$295.45
Air fares	\$735.00
Vehicle operating	\$1 500.00

STORMWATER NUTRIENTS

In reply to Mr De LAINE.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: In the world-wide context a considerable amount of research is being undertaken into the removal of nutrients from stormwater, particularly the exploration of biological means of achieving this. In South Australia no significant work is being undertaken by Government scientists but overseas information is closely monitored.

TOXIC WASTE DISPOSAL

In reply to Mr ROBERTSON.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The Engineering and Water Supply Department Trade Waste facility at Bolivar does not handle oil sludge wastes.

At present all oil sludges are handled by either Hopkins Waste Liquid Disposals Pty Ltd at Wingfield, or Bosisto Consolidated Contractors at Waterloo Corner. At the Wingfield facility, oils and inorganic pollutants are separated by gravity, and the oil made available for re-use as fuel oil or as dust suppressant. Although this material does contain lead, for fuel use it is blended with lead-free oil such that emissions are within acceptable limits. Lead concentrations will decrease over time with the introduction of lead-free petrol. Other heavy metals are not present in significant quantities. The Waterloo Corner facility is used for storage only.

It should be noted that a large proportion of waste oils is re-sold without passing through any waste treatment process. Any move towards establishing a comprehensive waste treatment facility would include consideration of more sophisticated treatments for oil sludge wastes such as the use of triethylamine for removal of heavy metals. At this time, only gravity separation, sometimes aided by acidification is practised in Australia.

MARLA WATER RATES

In reply to **Hon. P.B. ARNOLD**.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: All properties in Marla are charged the same rate irrespective of whether they are Government or privately owned. That is double the Statewide minimum charge and double the price of water.

PORT LINCOLN SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS

In reply to **Mr BLACKER**.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: No provision has currently been made on the Engineering and Water Supply Department's 5 year Capital Works Plan for the construction of sewage treatment works at Port Lincoln.

However, the Engineering and Water Supply Department has been involved in a program of investigations dating back to 1970, to determine the impacts of raw sewage discharge on the marine environment. Construction of a new 500 m long outfall to replace the old 180 m long outfall commenced in 1979 and was commissioned in April, 1980. The new outfall discharges the raw sewage into deeper water off Billy Lights Point to take advantage of the more rapid mixing and dispersion which is possible at that location. In addition, the outfall discharges into an area which is almost totally devoid of sea-grass. Between 1978 and 1985 the Engineering and Water Supply Department has undertaken seven separate benthic biota surveys near the sewage outfall and in other locations of Porter Bay and some further work was carried out by the Department of Fisheries in 1986.

Water quality surveys have also been undertaken with 3 or 4 surveys being conducted per year up to December, 1986. The parameters measured were total coliforms, E.Coli, salinity, phosphorous, nitrogen, colour and turbidity. These surveys have not shown any indication of contamination from the sewage outfall in the area at the marina at Porter Bay. The Engineering and Water Supply Department is currently assessing the accumulated body of data which has been collected over the last decade to determine what level of treatment, if any, would be appropriate for the Port Lincoln outfall.

METHANE GAS

In reply to **Mr ROBERTSON**.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: There are three metropolitan treatment works (Bolivar, Port Adelaide and Glenelg) which generate power using methane gas, but none have the facility to export power to the ETSA grid. Power is generated by dual-fuel engines which normally run on a mixture of 10 per cent distillate and 90 per cent methane. The Christies Beach treatment works has not yet reached a sufficient loading for power generation to be economically viable.

Bolivar produce enough methane gas to meet all its power requirements. Glenelg and Port Adelaide generate 50 per cent to 90 per cent of their power needs from methane gas. In 1986-87, 19190 MWH of energy was generated at three

metropolitan sewage treatment works which, when allowing for operational, maintenance and capital costs, represented a saving of \$500 000 compared to ETSA power.

PORT ADELAIDE SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS

In reply to **Mr De LAINE**.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: A total of 7 verbal complaints has been received at the works during the 12 months ending 24 September 1987. Of the 7 complaints, 5 came from the one person living at Grange. Because of the persistence of this complaint, considerable effort was made to investigate the problem. However, it is extremely unlikely that the odours reported originated from Port Adelaide Sewage Treatment Works. The other 2 complaints were from residents in Lake View Avenue and West Lakes Shore.

Odours have generally been caused at Port Adelaide Sewage Treatment Works because of sulphides in the sewage. Because all sewage is pumped to the works through rising mains, it becomes septic causing sulphides to be generated. Hydrogen sulphide can be released under certain conditions once the sewage comes in contact with air, causing odours which can also be produced by leaks in the digester gas system or uncontrolled releases of waste gas.

Since 1978 a number of projects have been successful in reducing odours to the extent that complaints have virtually been eliminated. Specific projects include:

- The abandonment of the old sludge lagoon used to store digested sludge from the works.
- The covering of all primary and settled sewage channels and distribution boxes, extraction of foul air and stripping of hydrogen sulphide through an odour control tower.
- Erection of a new waste gas burner.
- Repair of gas leaks from the digester and floating gas holder.
- Installation of a prechlorination system on all rising mains to oxidise sulphides before the sewage comes into contact with air, eliminating release of hydrogen sulphide.
- Installation of new gas compressors and upgrading of the digester gas recirculation and mixing system.
- Installation of trial oxygen injection systems on the Ethelton and Port Adelaide rising mains. Oxygen injection does the same thing as prechlorination, but is considerably more efficient.

With regard to future upgrading, apart from the oxygen injection system, no additional proposals are planned at this stage for further odour reduction measures.

WATER AND SEWER RATE APPEALS

In reply to **Hon. P.B. ARNOLD**.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The Valuer-General maintains approximately 620 000 valuations throughout the State for use by the various rating and taxing authorities. The Engineering and Water Supply Department utilises some 512 000 of those valuations for water/sewer rating purposes. Variations (normally reductions) to these valuations can arise from a preliminary inquiry from the ratepayer at which point the issue is resolved, or the formal appeal process. Information obtained from the Valuer-General's office on the 1986-87 situation related to the Statewide valuations (not only EWS) of which 3 020 were amended by initial negotiation and a further 912 were amended subsequent to the formal appeal process.

The position would have been slightly less for the exclusively EWS valuations but (at worst) the effect would have involved adjustments to 0.7 per cent of rate accounts. The precise figure for EWS cannot be readily deduced. Since all ratepayers are advised of their property valuations by way of the rate accounts, and given the low volume of inquiry and appeal, it can only be concluded that there is little dissatisfaction with the valuations and consequently no windfall to the Government.

NATIVE VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

In reply to the **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: For 1986-87 of the 158 applications for clearance that were refused, 67 requested estimates of valuation for compensation.

BOTANIC GARDENS

In reply to **Mr RANN.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: For 1986-87 the visitation rates are as follows:

Adelaide Botanic Garden	635 270
Wittunga Botanic Garden	95 000
Mount Lofty Botanic Garden	18 300 vehicles

In addition 30 000 people visited Beachwood, the Heritage Garden at Stirling.

DEFERRED WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES

In reply to **Mr BLACKER.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: In recent years funds have not been made available for uneconomic water supply schemes previously referred to as deferred water supply schemes. No provision has been made in the Engineering and Water Supply Department's capital works program to extend water mains to rural areas. This assumes 'rural mains' to include only those in country lands areas.

Funding from the Federal Government of schemes under the Country Towns Water Supply Improvement Program (COWSIP) only applies to small towns having a population of 5 000 or less. The Government does not discourage the creation of private water supply schemes provided that such schemes are properly managed (e.g. by local government authorities, progress association or water trusts), thereby ensuring the continued operation and maintenance of the systems.

COUNTRY FIRE SERVICES

In reply to the **Hon. B.C. EASTICK.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The capital works program publication has been produced to provide more comprehensive information on the extent of capital works undertaken by State supported agencies. As such, it is not an accounting document and is therefore not necessarily directly related to the formal budget papers dealing with the Consolidated Account.

In reference to page 185 of the Estimates of Payments document the \$1.1 million figure is the net draw from the Consolidated Account. It would have been more consistent if the program of the Country Fire Services had been shown thus:

	\$
Appliance Replacement Program	3 365 000
Equipment and Capital Subsidies to Councils	850 000
Plant and equipment and replacement of headquarters vehicles	575 000
	4 790 000
Less: Finances from other sources	3 690 000
	1 100 000

ONE-TRIP CONTAINERS

In reply to the **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: Although there are no specific figures available it is evident that there has been a marked change in the number of these containers entering the litter stream. Prior to the amendments to the Beverage Container Act all wine coolers with the exception of St Tropez were marketed in non-refillable containers. Following the amendments a new refillable bottle used by several manufacturers was marketed. At the present time there are only two manufacturers using a non-refillable cooler bottle and their sales are cellar door sales only.

Also, before the amendments it was difficult to obtain refunds for containers. Consumers can now return these to their local marine dealer with their beer bottles. This, of course, has had the effect of creating additional business for these dealers.

FIRE CAUSE

In reply to **Mr De LAINE.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: A formal procedure which sets out the criteria under which fire prevention officers are involved in cause investigation has been implemented and this has contributed to a reduction in investigation by fire prevention officers. Operational crews have an increased level of expertise to perform the function without recourse to fire prevention officers. This aspect is not readily isolated in the operational area but is an activity included in the subprogram 'Provision of Fire Fighting Services' in the fire suppression programs.

The 1987-88 budget has been based on the employment costs of one FTE officer. Should the requirement for cause investigation exceed the predicted resource, re-allocation of work within the division will be made to ensure the appropriate level of fire cause investigation is maintained.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME

In reply to **Mr RANN.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: Currently there are 50 metropolitan areas operating under the Neighbourhood Watch scheme; the most recent, Upper Sturt, was introduced on 16 September 1987. While a further 40 areas will be introduced by 30 June 1988, it is intended to extend the scheme beyond this date. All of these areas with the Police Department's support will be introduced by local community initiatives.

Following the recent school fires, arrangements have been made for the Neighbourhood Watch scheme to contain a component covering schools. This will not be in the form of a separate system, but rather by local negotiation, with a view to having residents in close proximity to schools taking special interest in their security.

FIREARMS AMNESTY

In reply to Mr RANN.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: At the Conference of Commissioners of Police of Australasia and the South West Pacific Region held in Darwin during July 1987, it was resolved that:

An Australia-wide firearm amnesty be held from 1 October 1988 to 31 December 1988.

Individual forces may conduct additional amnesties as required to satisfy local needs.

If necessary, the definition and categorisation of firearms to be included in the amnesty will be resolved by correspondence.

In between the national three yearly firearm amnesties, there is an informal amnesty by the South Australian police, whereby members of the public can voluntarily bring themselves within the law. This can be done either by surrendering any firearm which is possessed in breach of the Firearms Act, or by applying for the appropriate licence or registration. As long as the firearm is not the subject of any other inquiry, such as stolen, a person coming forward of his own free will would not be prosecuted.

If as a result of inquiries by police, a person who has not tried of his own free will to bring himself within the law is found in possession of a firearm in breach of any Act, that person could face prosecution. In view of this on-going informal amnesty it is not proposed to hold another formal amnesty until the national amnesty commencing 1 October 1988.

UNDERGROUND WATER SUPPLIES

In reply to Mr ROBERTSON.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: Groundwater usage in both the Northern Adelaide Plains and Angas-Bremer basins significantly exceeds natural recharge. As a consequence the aquifer systems in each basin are under stress, resulting in a lowering of water levels and associated salinity increases.

In the Northern Adelaide Plains, for example, water levels during the irrigation season are depressed to 40 metres below sea level in the Virginia area, with consequent adverse effects for irrigation in terms of substantial reductions in well yields and increase in pumping costs. There is also the long term effect of increasing groundwater salinity. Some salinity increases are already becoming apparent in the Angle Vale area.

In the Angas-Bremer basin, water levels are lowered to 4 metres below sea level during the irrigation season. At the current rates of extraction, water levels appear to have stabilised, indicating that the basin may be able to sustain the current rates of usage for some years without significant increases in drawdowns. In this respect the situation is less critical than for the Northern Adelaide Plains basin. However, the situation in the Angas-Bremer basin is far more critical in terms of salinity. Groundwater salinities have already increased considerably in some areas by up to 2 000 mg/L and a number of licensees in marginal areas have had to severely restrict or curtail irrigation activities.

At this stage, the capacity of the basins to sustain the current levels of withdrawal is currently under review and monitoring networks are being upgraded to provide data for use in predicting sustainability of the groundwater resource. A review of the Northern Adelaide Plains basin has commenced and is expected to be completed in 1988. A new management plan is currently being prepared for the Angas-Bremer basin and is expected to be released for comment in October 1987 this year.

REGENCY PARK POLICE STATION

In reply to Mr De LAINE.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The new Regency Park sub-divisional base as a replacement for the existing Hindmarsh facility has been included in the Police Department's five year capital works program (housing and construction budget). At present it is listed for commencement in 1990-91 and completion in the following financial year, subject to a suitable location and the availability of funds.

Minister of Tourism, Minister of Local Government, Minister of Youth Affairs and Minister assisting the Minister for the Arts

CONVENTION CENTRE

In reply to the Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE: Based on the estimated completion construction costs, the projection of deficit funding for the next three years is as follows:

1988-89	\$3.66 million
1989-90	\$3.95 million
1990-91	\$4.26 million

In reply to the Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE: The program 'Marketing of the State as a Tourist Destination' contains \$2.7 million Adelaide Convention Centre receipts in the actual 1986-87 figure total of \$3.2 million. The overall total actual receipts figure for 1986-87 as it relates to tourism is therefore \$14.2 million less \$2.7 million, that is, \$11.5 million. When compared with proposed 1987-88 figure of \$12.3 million shows a proposed increase of \$800 000 for 1987-88.

REGIONAL TOURISM

In reply to the Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE: The regional tourism areas of the State do not get an equal amount of money per region for salaries. In some areas a Regional Manager is responsible for more than one region, e.g. Regional Manager for the 'Big River' area also manages the Riverland and Lower Murray regional tourist areas.

An amount of \$172 000 has been allocated from salaries to the funding of one Regional Promotions Officer for each designated regional area. These funds have not been allocated on an equal basis, but conscious decisions were made after consultation with Regional Tourist Associations and Government.

The allocations for each region are decided by: the size of the association, both geographically and operator content; the location of the officer and the necessary ongoing costs; and the wages paid to the associations' Executive Officers.

CONVENTION CENTRE

In reply to the Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE: The following table represents actual bookings made together with the forecasted total number of bookings over the next three years:

	Actual	Forecasted
1988-89	52 bookings—180 days	189 bookings—300 days
1989-90	22 bookings—96 days	195 bookings—310 days
1990-91	12 bookings—69 days	205 bookings—315 days

ACCOMMODATION

In reply to the **Hon. D.C. WOTTON**.

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE: The bed and breakfast style accommodation will be considered by the Building Advisory Committee at its next meeting. The committee will examine the proposal to amend the building regulations so that premises providing accommodation for no more than five unrelated persons will have the same requirements under the building regulations as those imposed on normal domestic residences.

Discussions have taken place between officers of the State Heritage Branch, Department of Environment and Planning and officers of the Department of Local Government regarding conflicts between the Heritage Act and Building Act. Amendments to the Building Act are being drafted to enable these conflicts to be resolved.

CO-OPERATIVE ADVERTISING

In reply to the **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE**.

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE: As an organisation undertaking a major marketing role for South Australia, Tourism South Australia seeks co-operative support in various ways for most aspects of its work. This can either be in the form of physical or monetary support in areas of marketing from consumer promotions at holiday and travel fairs, to familiarisations for visiting journalists, television media and travel agents, to advertising in the print and electronic media.

Due to this extensive commitment for working with the industry not all types of co-operative work are recorded separately and only those having the highest degree of involvement are offered. In particular I refer to the Name Dropper's Campaign of 1986-87 which constituted the bulk of our media activity in that year. During that period \$340 000 was spent nationally—predominantly in Melbourne and Sydney—and consisted of television, radio and some limited print activity.

In 1987-88 the Name Dropper's Campaign will continue at a lower level of activity in keeping with the marketing plan. It is expected that approximately \$200 000 worth of co-operative advertising will be undertaken.

Excluding the Name Dropper's Campaign the Department in 1986-87 spent \$153 000 domestically on consumer and trade promotions, familiarisations and trade brochures and this will increase to \$187 000 in 1987-88. All of these activities had considerable industry support and this co-operative approach made a significant contribution to our tourism's success.

Minister of Mines and Energy

ENERGY

The Hon. R.G. PAYNE: During the Estimates Committee hearing for my department I agreed to obtain further information on the following matters:

Tropical Conservatory (Page 262)

Q: Has the Energy Division been invited to do any sort of audit. If the division has not would it be prepared to undertake an audit?

A: No. Yes, if requested by the consultants.

Q: Will the Minister look at the cost of heating the conservatory?

A: Electricity will only be used for air movement fans and water pumps. Heat will be generated by gas furnaces with an oil-fired emergency back-up. The honourable member's suggestion that heating costs will be \$130 000 to \$140 000 are incorrect. The estimate for energy use, including electricity, gas and oil is \$76 000 per annum.

Q: Why has soil heating been discarded?

A: (a) Because soil temperatures in the Adelaide Botanic Garden do not become as cold as those in north temperate or hills localities which may be referred to by Mr Goldsworthy's information source.

(b) Because some aspects of soil heating technology do not have a sufficiently long record of trouble-free operation as required by the conservatory.

Pipelines Authority of South Australia (Page 271)

Q: Could the Minister obtain a list of transfers, say in the last five years, from the Pipelines Authority to the State?

A: The \$1 million transfer in 1987-88 is the only transaction.

Reynella Quarry (Page 271)

Q: What is the projected reserves?

A: Quarry Industries estimate that Private Mine 222, gazetted 31.1.74, has a total stone resource of 70 million tonnes.

Q: What is the expected life span of the quarry?

A: One hundred to one hundred and fifty years.

Q: What proportion of the reserves actually lies on the northern side of the Field River?

A: It is 57 per cent or 40 million tonnes.

Q: Is it correct that the present mining plan allows for development in the southwards direction and exploitation of reserves on the east side of the Field River at a later date?

A: No, it is intended to mine N-NE to extract stone from the south side of the Field River first and the north or west at a later date.

Q: Is it a fair expectation that the lode of ore on the southern side and eastern side of the Field River will be exploited to the fullest before they begin quarrying on the other side of the River?

A: Yes.

Commonwealth Specific Purpose Funds (Page 287)

Q: Will the Minister provide details of the new accounting procedure including details of what these funds are?

A: With the introduction of the Public Finance and Audit Act on 1 July 1987 all moneys relating to Commonwealth projects must be shown against the Consolidated Account (unless authorised by some other law of the State).

Accordingly, on page 127 of the Recurrent Estimates of Payments document for the year ending 30 June 1988 proposed payment for two Commonwealth funded activities are shown under Program 3 viz. National Energy Research Development and Demonstration Program (NERDDC) and Petroleum Products Subsidy—\$216 000 and \$1 382 000 respectively. Similarly, estimated receipts for these same activities are shown on page 29 of the (Recurrent) Estimates of Receipts document for the year ending 30 June 1988 under the heading Commonwealth Specific Purpose Grants.

As payments and receipts for these activities are of equal magnitude there is no net effect on the State's budget. This reflects the nature of these schemes in that payments are reimbursed upon presentation of

appropriate documentation. The Petroleum Products Subsidy Scheme differs slightly from the NERDDC grant in that all prior payments are funded via an advance of \$150 000 and operated on an imprest system.

Prior to 1 July 1987 transactions relating to these schemes were processed through the Department's Deposit (Working) Account and therefore fell outside the scope of the white estimate documents. However, payments and receipts were disclosed in the Program (yellow) Estimates under the Energy—Co-ordination, Development and Management Program (page 402). Payments relating to the Petroleum Products Scheme are shown under the subprogram: Petroleum Transport Subsidy and NERDDC payments are reflected under the subprogram: Research and Development.

It should be noted that in addition to NERDDC payments expenditures relating to SENRAC and the Energy Planning Executive are also included under the Research and Development subprogram. Furthermore, the NERDDC amount is an aggregated total comprising four individual project grants—

- Natural Gas for Locomotives
- Oraparinna—Invertor/Battery Storage Facility
- Cooper Basin Core and Log Analysis
- LMSTM Energy Model.

Minister of Education, Minister of Children's Services and Minister of Aboriginal Affairs

POINT PEARCE ABORIGINAL SCHOOL

In reply to **Mr MEIER**.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The contract for the reconstruction of the Point Pearce Aboriginal School was let in June 1987 and work commenced in July 1987 with Aboriginal labour being used. The reconstruction is being funded by the Government Insurance Fund at a cost of \$300 000. Commonwealth funds are not being provided for the reconstruction as a result of the fire, but \$650 000 has been allocated under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders component of the Commonwealth Capital Program for Stage II of the School Development.

COMMONWEALTH FUNDING

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE**.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The variation of \$2.6 million between the budgeted and actual Commonwealth Specific Purpose grants for primary and secondary education in 1986-87 is explained as follows:

	\$M
Budget Estimate	49.98
● Additional funding under the Resource Agreement	(+) 3.28
● Reduced funding of specific programs, announced in the 1986 Federal Budget:	
—English as a Second Language	(—) 0.89
—Special Education	(—) 0.23
—Computer Education	(—) 0.07
—Multicultural Education	(—) 0.15
—Professional Development	(—) 0.04

	\$M
● Other Commonwealth Grants not provided for in the original estimates	(+) 0.15
● Variation in the timing of receipts for various other programs	(+) 0.57
Actual Receipts	52.60

TEACHER RECRUITMENT

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE**.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The letters to which the honourable member referred were in fact answered by the Director-General of Education on 16 April 1986. Although written on South Australian College of Advanced Education letterhead, the contents of those letters did not reflect the views of the senior administrators of the College. The criticisms contained in those letters cannot be substantiated.

During 1986 and 1987 a close and successful cooperative approach to many educational matters, including teacher recruitment, has been maintained between the College of Advanced Education and the Education Department.

Recruitment procedures have been established to ensure that those applicants who are placed in vacancies are the most highly qualified people available.

The vacancies in specialist areas in secondary schools occur, in the great majority of cases, in the country. Not only are relevant academic qualifications essential, but the applicant must also be prepared to teach in the particular school which has the vacancy. These three factors, viz. the number of vacancies, the specialist nature of the vacancies, and the willingness of an applicant to teach in the particular school which has a vacancy, necessarily mean that it is not always possible to employ the most outstanding graduates from the South Australian College of Advanced Education. I stress, however, that applicants who do gain employment are the most highly qualified available.

PACIFIC SCHOOL GAMES

In reply to **Mr MEIER**.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: No. An invitation to participate in the Pacific School Games, Sydney, December 1988 was received and a reply is being prepared pending an investigation of any possible additional costs for the 1988/89 budget.

SCHOOL SPORT

In reply to **Mr MEIER**.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The answer is 'No.'

JARGON

In reply to **Mr KLUNDER**.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The honourable member, in reference to page 430 of the yellow book, under the heading '1987-88 Specific Targets/Objectives' asked for clarification on the term 'inclusivity' with regard to curriculum areas. The term 'inclusivity' simply means that the curriculum should not be fragmented to address issues separately; issues such as equality of opportunity, the education of Aborigines, should be seen to be a part of the whole curriculum.

SUPERANNUATION AND PAYROLL ACCOUNTING

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: Superannuation and payroll tax payments are inter-departmental cross charges for which the Education Department is funded by Treasury. In consultation with Treasury, the Department instituted an improved method of accounting for payroll tax and superannuation liabilities, resulting in a more accurate measure of the costs incurred in its operations. The effect of the changes has been to reduce by \$700 000 the amount of appropriation required by the Department in 1986-87 to meet the cross charges.

The decrease in the department's payments on account of superannuation and payroll tax was offset by a corresponding reduction in receipts to the Consolidated Account. There was no net effect on the State's finances.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FIGURES

In reply to **Mr KLUNDER.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The replies are as follows:

(i) The figure \$6 956 749 which appears on page 195 of the Estimates of Payments includes \$1 400 000 which refers to the net capital cost for 1986-87 of the Teacher Housing Authority. This cost has been excluded in the Education Department's Program Estimates. The 1986-87 Education Department expenditure figure of \$5 556 749 on page 194 of the Estimates of Payments is consistent with that of \$5 557 000 (rounded) on page 420 of the Program Estimates.

(ii) A discrepancy of \$364 000 between the \$31 505 000 on page 60 of the Auditor-General's Report and the \$31 869 000 on pages 413 and 420 of the Program Estimates is explained as follows:

The Auditor-General's Report was apparently prepared from a Department of Housing and Construction financial statement '(ED07)' which provides a submission of capital payments on schools for 1986-87 including Technical and Further Education Colleges. The Program Estimates were prepared from a Department of Housing and Construction financial statement '(ED05)' which reports capital payments and debt servicing costs incurred on behalf of the Education Department.

It appears that the Department of Housing and Construction use different selection criteria in preparing the abovementioned statements—hence the discrepancy of \$364 000 between the two has occurred. The Education Department will consult with the Department of Housing and Construction and officers of the Auditor-General's Department with a view to achieving consistent selection criteria in the construction of financial statements in the future.

DOWN'S SYNDROME

In reply to **Mr ROBERTSON.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: Information concerning the number of children with Down's Syndrome enrolled in South Australian primary and secondary schools is not available.

The Education Department does not categorise children who attend schools within this State according to specific intellectual disability. The quality of each child's interaction with a teacher, students in the class, and the curriculum

offered, is seen as the important focus. Emphasis is on ability rather than disability, with a conscious attempt to avoid the harmful effects of labelling and resulting stigma.

Increasingly within the range of options available to students and their parents, many children with disabilities are educated in regular classes with varying degrees of special resources and support. Children whose disabilities are of such a severity that they are unable to gain an education appropriate to their needs in a regular class have access to the resources and personnel provided in Special Education facilities in primary and secondary schools and special schools. Great emphasis is placed on consultation with parents in deciding appropriate placement. Practice and policy of the Education Department is that all children irrespective of the degree of severity of disability are provided with an appropriate education.

MISCELLANEOUS GRANTS

In reply to **Mr MEIER.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: Negotiations are still being undertaken with a number of organisations. When these have been finalised I will provide a complete set of grants.

CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

In reply to **Mr KLUNDER.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: Capital expenditure on classroom instruction relates to the purchase of computer equipment for the continued training of students in computer technology.

The allocation of \$150 000 for this purpose in 1986-87 was, as an interim measure, divided equally between primary and secondary education. The actual distribution of these resources was carefully considered to address the needs and priorities of schools throughout the State. In 1986-87, a higher relative need was discerned in primary schools and accordingly the distribution of those funds was biased in that way.

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES BUDGET

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The reason why the actual payments in 1986-87 under Program 13—Educational Facilities (page 135 of the Estimates of Payments) exceeds the budgeted level by some \$760 000 relates to a change in accounting procedure during the course of the year.

Until 1986-87, certain administrative costs (mainly salaries) relating to the provision of educational facilities and furniture replacement were charged to the Intra-agency Support Service Items provisions. Further, the amounts voted in the 1986-87 budget were calculated on that basis.

During the course of 1986-87 a decision was taken to improve accountability by reflecting those costs under Program 13—Educational Facilities. A commensurate adjustment was made under the Intra-agency Support Service Items. This format now records more accurately the resources devoted to the provision of educational facilities.

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION FUNDS

In reply to **Hon P.B. ARNOLD.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The apparently significant increase in funds being directed toward Aboriginal Education has arisen due to a change in the accounting methods

for Commonwealth funding of the Aboriginal Advancement program. Prior to 1987-88, funding was handled outside of the Consolidated Account. As a result of the provisions contained in the new Public Finance and Audit Act 1987, all Commonwealth Specific Purpose grants are now appropriated through Consolidated Account. Therefore the seemingly large increase in funding is the result of a change in accounting treatment.

RAYWOOD

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: For the year ending 30 June 1987 the recurrent deficit cost to the Education Department of the Raywood Inservice Centre was \$184 987.94. During the 1985-86 financial year the deficit was \$140 057.

PRIORITY COUNTRY EDUCATION PROGRAM

In reply to **Mr LEWIS.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The replies are as follows:
Question 1.

The Priority Country Education Program is an Equity Program of the Commonwealth Schools Commission. In 1987, an estimated \$1.17 million is being made available. The 1987-88 Federal Budget provided for funding to be maintained in real terms in 1988.

In October 1987, the Schools Commission is releasing its latest policy development paper entitled 'Schooling in Rural Australia'. While it is not a review of the Country Areas Program, its recommendations will probably impact upon the Administrative Guidelines for that program. Those guidelines are issued in January of each year.

Question 2.

The Priority Country Education Program is an initiative which seeks to provide greater equity to students who suffer educational disadvantage as a result of isolation.

Participation is open to all government and non-government schools which exist within the boundaries of Areas declared eligible to participate in the program. Swan Reach Area School is not located within a currently declared area.

The Schools Commission's Administrative Guidelines for 1987 place upon the States the expectation that they . . .

'will single out a limited number of regions for intensive application of funds rather than attempting to service all country areas.'

SCHOOL LIBRARIES BRANCH

In reply to **Hon. H. ALLISON.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The School Libraries Branch is presently located at FAI House, Flinders Street. As part of the re-structuring of school support services, the Branch will be relocated at the Goodwood Orphanage as soon as practicable.

EDUCATION EXPENDITURE

In reply to **Mr KLUNDER.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The 16 per cent real increase (actual 48 per cent) in education expenditure per student in the period 1982-83—1987-88 has been as a result of:

- (i) The retention of resources in primary and secondary education despite a substantial reduction in enrolments.

- (ii) Increases in the employment of Ancillary Staff and Temporary Relieving Teachers in schools.
- (iii) An increase in the average salaries of teachers as a consequence of salary increases for increments, degrees and diplomas.
- (iv) An increase in the cost of operating schools (particularly utilities, buses, etc.).
- (v) Increases in grants to schools associated with the Government Assisted Students Scheme and the disbursement of Commonwealth betterment funds.

- (vi) An increase in the cost of workers' compensation.

The primary sector has benefited most as a result of the real increase in per capita expenditure in education.

It is not possible to provide further details without substantial research and investigation by departmental staff.

ZONES OF RIGHT

In reply to **Mr KLUNDER.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The Education Development looks very closely at establishing enrolment ceilings for primary schools, where enrolment disparities between neighbouring schools would otherwise lead to additional costs in the provision of accommodation. In the case of the St Agnes and Ardtornish areas, the Education Department carried out a demographic examination in late 1986. This survey revealed that the enrolments in each school come from quite discrete areas surrounding the respective schools. In the St Agnes area the number of students has reduced significantly over recent years to the point where there are now 120 empty student places at St Agnes Primary School. At Ardtornish there is still community growth. The home addresses of students reveal that any zone to increase the enrolment of St Agnes would have to be drawn hard up against the Ardtornish School to gain between 12 and 25 students. This still leaves approximately 100 empty places.

Advertising vacancies for the St Agnes Primary School is only likely to result in attracting the 12 to 25 mentioned above who, along with any others, would have to bypass their local school. This practice is not encouraged.

It is therefore intended to relocate the Demac Unit from St Agnes, where it will not be needed, to Ardtornish—thus releasing four of the single relocatable metal rooms for relocation to other schools where accommodation is urgently needed.

WOMEN AT SENIOR MANAGEMENT LEVEL

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The Education Department has had a long and very public commitment to the achievement of equal employment opportunities for its women employees. Since the appointment of the (then) Women's Adviser, in 1976, and subsequently two consecutive Equal Opportunity's Officers, the department has maintained the participation of this specialist officer as a fully participating member of its Senior Executive. Through her membership on senior executive, and through her direct reporting relationship to the Director-General the equal Opportunity Officer is responsible at the corporate level for ensuring the department adheres to the principles and practices of equal opportunity in its policy development and implementation, in the planning and provision of educational services, and in the allocation of resources, including personnel resources, required to support its activities.

The department is currently developing an Equal Opportunity Management Plan. It will contain recommendations for the achievement of equal employment opportunity for all currently disadvantaged groups, including women, and will be accompanied by an Equal Employment Opportunity Policy with a correspondingly broad focus. The department does not have an Affirmative Action Policy, although it has an Affirmative Action Working Party which recommends and monitors initiatives under Section 47 of the Equal Opportunity Act. For the past year, the department has been operating a specific 'scheme or undertaking' within the meaning of Section 47 in order to appoint women in preference to men where schools request this and, in specified circumstances, at the deputy, senior and teacher level.

Such short-term measures to overcome the effects of past discrimination can only achieve lasting change if longer term measures are also set in place. In this context, the department is largely relying on changing the school-based promotional structure on the one hand, and on professional development, particularly targetted at increasing women's administrative and leadership status, on the other.

The number and ratio of women at senior levels of the administrative structure of the department was improved by its 1984 reorganisation, e.g. nine of the 19 new Superintendent of Schools positions, and seven of the 17 new Assistant Directors' positions were filled by women. All of these positions were selected on merit. At the same time, the new position of Director of Resources was filled by a woman.

Each Directorate in the Education Department is now developing its own five-year plan aimed both at ensuring women's participation at senior decision-making levels and at continuing to decrease their under-representation at the middle and senior levels of the Department. Each Director is responsible for developing, monitoring and reporting on a five-year plan particularly aimed at ensuring women have access to professional development, and to gain the experience necessary to ensure they move more quickly than at present into more senior management levels as vacancies occur.

SCHOOL EXEMPTION

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: During the years in question, one child (in 1985) was given formal exemption from attending school because of a disability.

EMPLOYMENT CLASSIFICATIONS

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: Set out below is the breakdown by employment category of the workforce figures mentioned by the honourable member.

It is important to realise that workforce data used in program estimates is usually quoted in both average full-time equivalents i.e. the average recorded over the number of pay periods during the year and actual full-time equivalents employed at a given point in time, usually 30 June each year.

While this practice is particularly relevant for agencies with stable employment patterns, this is not the case with the Education Department. Due especially to vacation periods (during which teachers and ancillary staff engaged

on a contract basis are regarded as being not employed) significant troughs in employment are recorded. Other factors which influence the average headcount are time short-worked by ancillary staff, fluctuations in level of leave without pay, replacement for paid leave and impact of enrolment fluctuations between each financial year. These factors account for noticeable differences between actual FTE level as at 30 June and average employment data.

As requested a breakdown for the major employee classifications is set out below:

1.	Average Full-Time Equivalent Employees	
	Actual 1986-87 (Fin. Statement P. 87)	Proposed 1987-88 (Yellow Book P. 413)
Public Service	875.7	844.3
Major Non Public Service (Teachers)	14 799.4	14 577.0
Other (mainly Ancillary Staff)	2 672.6	2 707.7
Total	18 347.7	18 129.0

The difference of 218.7 average full-time equivalents between 1986-87 (actuals) and 1987-88 (proposed) results from:

Teachers:

- the impact of enrolment decline;
- the four term year*;
- additional resources for AIDS education.

Ancillary:

- a Government decision to appoint 100 additional staff in 1987 and 1988;
- the four term year*.

Public Service Staff:

- the 1986-87 'back to schools' policy;
- the Government's service-wide EO/AO reduction policy.

*Note: Due to a calendar effect the introduction of the 4 term school year meant that an extra two employment weeks fell within the 1986-87 financial year for those teaching and ancillary staff employed during school terms only. (Generally this includes contract teachers and ancillary staff without leave conditions). This was approved by Treasury as 'once off' increase in the average employment levels for 1986-87, and was excluded in determining the 1987-88 levels.

2.	Full-Time Equivalent Employees	
	Actual at 30 June 1987	Proposed at 30 June 1988 (both from Yellow Book p. 413)
Public Service	867.6	856.0
Major Non Public Service ...	14 857.6	14 693.0
Other	2 997.8	3 013.0
Total	18 723.0	18 562.0

It should be emphasised that the Education Department is required to manage its workforce within the average full-time equivalent levels established during the budget process. Since the average employment level is directly linked to financial budget allocation it is regarded by the Treasury (and the Department) as the most relevant measure of performance.

This is consistent with other Government agencies, although their more stable employment patterns during the course of the year result in average levels approximating actual levels at a point in time. This is clearly not the case with the Education Department.

CHILD CARE

In reply to Mr KLUNDER.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: A total of at least 224 extra child care places will become available in the north-eastern suburbs. These will comprise 160 in child care centres (Modbury TAFE, Ridgehaven, Campbelltown/Newton and Para Hills), 45 in the Tea Tree Gully Out of School Hours program, nine in the H.A.C.C.—funded Respite Care program and 10 in Family Day Care in the Golden Grove area.

DOWN'S SYNDROME ASSOCIATION PROJECT

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: This project was to be funded from CEP grants and sponsored by the Down's Syndrome Association. The Children's Services Office has recently received advice from the Down's Syndrome Association that the Association will no longer be continuing with that project.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES STATE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

In reply to Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The total cost of the meeting was \$974.86.

INTER-AGENCY SUPPORT COSTS.

In reply to Mr KLUNDER.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The difference of \$160 000 in the two calculations of the inter-agency support costs of the department is explained below:

	\$'000
'Inter-agency support services not paid for' (Yellow Book—P. 149).....	41 543
Less selected debt servicing and maintenance costs which historically have been a notional charge against the Education Department	(—) 100
Less office service costs for the Education Centre e.g. Building Security Supervisor, municipal rates	(—) 60
'Other payments on behalf of the department' (Auditor-General's Report—p. 54) .	41 383

These two items are excluded from the Auditor-General's calculations at the discretion of his officers.

STRATHMONT HIGH SCHOOL AMALGAMATION

In reply to Hon. J.W. SLATER.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: While it is anticipated that each school will have viable numbers in 1988 (Strathmont 463 students and Gilles Plains 686 students) enrolments could drop markedly in the years to follow.

The schools have therefore taken steps to address the future educational programs in their communities. In 1988, for example, the Year 12 timetables will be linked to enable the combined student populations to select from the full range of subjects offered by each school. Student choices already indicate that a number of students will study subjects offered on each campus. In 1989 it is hoped to include all Year 11 students in this cooperative curriculum-sharing venture.

Recently the Northern Area Director of Education set up a Working Party to address the broader issue of the future of the two schools. Staff and parent representatives have been kept informed. By the end of 1987, the Working Party will present its findings and broad community consultation will follow. Pending the outcome, it is intended to upgrade female change rooms at Strathmont High School by adding a transportable facility to the site.

SCHOOL PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The reasons for seemingly conflicting advice to schools over a period of some months regarding the suitability of materials which could safely be used under playground equipment are detailed below:

A circular to Principals and Chairpersons of School Councils from the Director-General of Education, dated 17 July 1986, indicated that sand of a specified size and type was suitable for use under playground equipment. The circular also drew attention to the fact that thick grass was unlikely to last very long in well used areas. At the time of sending this circular Dr Somers, who is employed by the S.A. Health Commission, and is a specialist in injuries sustained in playgrounds, had made only preliminary contact with the Education Department. Results of research carried out on materials used under playground equipment were not then available because the S.A. Health Commission had not fully examined them. It was generally accepted, however, that sand of the specified type and 'pine peelings' were acceptable materials for use under playground equipment.

Statistical data provided by Dr Somers at that time indicated that 17 per cent of all injuries sustained in the age group of 5 to 17 years were caused by unsuitable playground equipment. Dr Somers's research had also shown that one in every two of these injuries was caused by the ground surface on to which the victim had fallen.

Dr Somers later commissioned and undertook other tests at the University of Adelaide to ascertain the suitability of sand particles as a surface material to be placed under playground equipment. It was then found that the consolidation of the particules under continuous use rendered the material dangerous and unsuitable. When the results of these tests were made available through the Department of Housing and Construction, schools were notified through the publication 'The 1987 Playground Manual'. This manual was distributed to schools through Education Area offices. The Facilities Manager, Western Area prepared an accompanying circular which was attached to that manual.

The circular from the Director-General of Education, dated 17 July 1986, contained the following statements:

'Principals of schools and their School Councils have a joint responsibility to monitor and manage the play equipment located on school grounds. To assist this process, advice is provided by the Department of Housing and Construction, by the Area Facilities Managers and through the School Building Information Unit of the Education Department.'

In addition, school principals are aware that matters pertaining to the proper maintenance of facilities come under the jurisdiction of the Department of Housing and Construction, and that any publication issued by that Department would supersede previous instructions dealing with similar matters.

Therefore, the two statements issued on the suitability of sand used in conjunction with certain pieces of equipment should not have caused confusion. Indeed, given the statistics of injuries sustained in playgrounds,

it would have been negligent not to have advised schools that sand was no longer considered to be a suitable material for use under playground equipment.

In Bulletin No. 10 concerning Local Government playgrounds, issued 1 July 1987, by Dr Somers, it was stated that no children who fell from equipment on to woodchips, or other specified safe under-surfaces, were injured.

Minister of Health and Minister of Community Welfare

THE SECOND STORY

In reply to Mr DUGAN.

The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL: Additional funds have been provided in 1987-88 to enable the Centre to remain open for an additional four weeks each year (i.e. from 48 to 52 weeks) and to cover the full year costs of providing a medical service.

RECOMBINANT DNA TECHNOLOGY

In reply to Ms LENEHAN.

The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL: This initiative involves the establishment of a basic prenatal genetic diagnostic service, including provision for expert genetic counselling. Funds will be largely used to employ a hospital scientist, technical assistant and social worker. The social worker will be located at Flinders Medical Centre.

Essentially, however, the clinical management of a patient will remain unaltered. The diagnosis will be made, as before, in the most appropriate laboratory (e.g. ACH, IMVS).

KALYRA

In reply to Hon. D.C. WOTTON.

The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL: The costings calculated in respect of the relocation of Kalyra Hospital have been worked out on the basis of the transfer of rehabilitation/convalescent services to the Julia Farr Centre, and the hospice services to the Windana Nursing Home. As this proposal is no longer being pursued and the alternative to transfer the hospice services to the Repatriation General Hospital, Daw Park is being negotiated with the Department of Veterans' Affairs, it is not possible to provide exact financial data at present. As soon as the negotiations are completed, a report on the changed financial circumstances can be provided.

BOOKING LISTS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL: This information is not yet available. However, as I indicated at the Estimates hearing, it will be forwarded directly to the honourable member in due course.

HOSPITAL BUDGETS

In reply to Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.

The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL: Attached is a sample of letters (e.g. RAH, QVH and Barmera Hospital) sent to recognised hospitals detailing financial arrangements for 1987-88.

Dr B.J. Kearney
Administrator
Royal Adelaide Hospital
North Terrace
Adelaide 5000

Dear Dr Kearney,
Re: 1987-88 Funding Allocation

I am now in a position to advise that your 1987-88 funding allocation is \$128 745 100 in accordance with the attached detailed statement.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that your allocation includes a component (where applicable) for workers compensation, general insurance, and superannuation based on 1986-87 actual expenditure (refer Attachment 2).

Funding Reductions

Your funding allocation includes the following funding reductions:

- ¾ per cent reduction based on the 1987-88 allocation
- Specific reduction of \$700 000 (with a full year effect of \$1 million)

Please note that Treasury has determined that the base for the funding reduction includes tied lines and that a further reduction is to be advised in the near future in relation to savings required to be achieved in respect of the Government Energy Management Program. As soon as these figures are finalised you will be advised.

The Under Treasurer has advised me to stress that the funding allocations, together with the arrangements for wage increases set out below, are the maximum levels within which the Health Commission, and therefore your unit is expected to operate. The funding reductions reflect a commitment by the Government to reduce overall Government outlays.

You are requested to advise the Metropolitan Health Services Division of your savings strategy by 30 September 1987.

Notwithstanding the tight budgetary conditions, it is important to note that:

- No services are to be cancelled unless prior Commission approval is obtained;
- No breach of the Commission's accounting policies and standards should occur;
- Where any cost saving measure has an impact on Revenue the proposal must be endorsed by the Commission.

Budget Constraints

The Metropolitan Health Services Division recognises that there are some uncertainties which may impact upon the 1987-88 budget and suggests that you make appropriate contingency allowances when framing budgets. I must emphasise that no funds are being held centrally to assist health units with potential budget overruns.

In relation to future budgetary planning and control, Treasury has confirmed the following guidelines:

- Except in extraordinary circumstances (e.g. natural disasters), all requests for additional resources will be dealt with in the annual budget process in order to enable the Government and the Commission to properly assess relative priority and the means of providing resources;
- Where new initiatives are undertaken, by allocating resources from within your budget, no commitment is to be made to a higher total resource level for future years without approval;
- For purposes of budget planning it is prudent to expect that the difficult financial and economic circumstances in which this budget has been prepared will continue and possibly intensify. Further adjustment to expenditure patterns and to programs (both recurrent and capital) may be necessary;
- Any over-expenditure incurred by your unit will be treated as a first deduction from your 1988-89 funding allocation. In addition, it is likely that there will be a penalty of the same amount applied to your unit enabling Treasury to reinstate consolidated revenue. It is therefore essential that you do not overrun your funding allocation.

Price Increases

Treasury has provided a 7 per cent inflation allowance which represents the total inflation rate estimated for the coming financial year.

On no account will any consideration be given for a claim where prices may have increased beyond 7 per cent (e.g. devaluation or other charges). Savings will need to be found within your existing funding allocation to accommodate such increases.

Funds to be Allocated

The following allocations will be made in the near future where appropriate:

- Nursing Career Structure funds;
- Booking List Strategy funds including the associated clerical component (where applicable);

- State Government initiative funding (subject to Ministerial approval).

In addition, all uninsured risks greater than \$1 000 will be funded from a provision set aside for this purpose.

Specifically Funded Items (Tied Lines)

The allocation provided to your health unit is a global allocation except for particular lines which will be specifically funded in 1987-88. The specifically funded lines, the method of varying allocation during the year and MMS reporting requirements are explained on Attachment 2.

Award Increases

Funds will be provided for increases relating to awards handed down during 1987-88.

No further supplementation (by certificate or otherwise) for other increases that result from promotions, reclassifications, re-organisations, etc. will be considered. These are matters which will need to be accommodated from within your approved funding allocation.

Please find enclosed a number of award claim forms (F7) and general claim forms (F17) for the Metropolitan Health Services Division.

It is essential that these forms are completed fully and correctly including the provision of detailed working papers supporting the claims.

Cash Flow Estimates

Your unit is requested to provide a monthly cash flow of payments on the prescribed form (Attachment 3) by 5 September 1987.

This information is required for Treasury and Health Commission reporting purposes and, if actuals vary significantly from the estimates provided, it will be necessary to seek explanations regarding those variances. It should be noted that Treasury has

allowed additional time for the cash flow estimates to be submitted in order that they may be more accurate than has often been the case in previous years.

The cash flow estimates provided must subsequently be those recorded on your Monthly Management Summary throughout the year (adjusted for budget variations provided). Under no circumstances is it permitted to amend the cash flow budget.

It would be extremely useful due to tight time constraints if you were able to forward the cash flow prior to the above-mentioned deadline. Your efforts in this regard will be greatly appreciated.

Revenue

The revenue budget will be advised upon finalisation of the Commission's revenue budget. In addition, it may need to be amended as a result of the new Accounting Policies (refer previous correspondence).

It should be noted that for 1986-87 the Commission finished with an unfavourable revenue variation of \$1m because of the high level of outstandings, predominantly in the Major Metropolitan Hospitals. It is essential that outstandings be reduced and maintained below the acceptable maximum of two months equivalent outstandings for non-compensable accounts. Your efforts in this regard will be appreciated.

Workforce Reporting Requirements

You will be advised in the near future of changed methodology for workforce reporting.

Conclusion

Should you have any queries on the above please do not hesitate to contact Mr Mark Miller, Chief Finance Officer, on 218 3372.

Yours sincerely,

David Blaikie,

Executive Director

Metropolitan Health Services

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

Attorney-General, Minister of Consumer Affairs, Minister of Corporate Affairs and Minister of Ethnic Affairs

APPEALS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:

1. *Total Appeals Instituted*
105 (To 10.11.82.—17 Appeals; From 11.11.82 to date—88 Appeals)
2. *Results of All Appeals*

Allowed	50
Dismissed	34
Abandoned, conviction quashed, leave refused	18
Pending	3
3. *Appeals Instituted in 1986 and 1987*
19 (to 29.9.87.)
4. *Results of Appeals Instituted in 1986 and 1987*

Allowed	11	(in whole or in part)
Conviction quashed	1	
Leave refused	1	
Dismissed	3	
Pending	3	

Of the 14 appeals that have gone to decision by the Court of Criminal Appeal, 11 have been successful.

STATE CLASSIFICATIONS BOARD

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: The membership of the State Classification Board is as follows:

Mr R.C. White, LL.B.(Hons), B.A.—Chairman
Dr C.P. Irwin, M.B., B.CH., D.P.M. (Witwatersrand), F.R.A.N.Z.C.P.

Mr J. Cross, B.A.(Hons), B.Ed., A.U.A., Dip.Ed., A.M.
Ms K. Jennings, B.A.(Hons)
Ms Ursula Sombetzki, B.A., Dip.App.Psych., M.Psych.
Mr C. Bitter, J.P.

The remuneration paid to members is as follows:

Chairperson—\$111 per 4-hour session

Members—\$93 per 4-hour session

The member sought information as to 'what check is undertaken within the State sphere on the material that is classified by the Commonwealth to ensure that the standards are in keeping with those that we would wish to see adhered to in South Australia.

With regard to written material, by an arrangement negotiated by the Minister at an interstate conference in 1977, Commonwealth classifying officers mark lists of titles of publications released by them with a warning where a particular publication relates to child pornography, bondage type activities, incest and bestiality. In these cases, the material is refused a classification in South Australia and is gazetted in the *South Australian Government Gazette*. Any vendors of these publications would be subject to prosecution under the Summary Offences Act if they sold these publications.

The Classifications of Publications Board's main function is to review classifications imposed on publications by the Commonwealth. On 1 April 1985, the Classification of Publications Act Amendment Act No. 1 of 1985, came into operation. As a result, a classification assigned to a publication under a corresponding law (which is the Australian Capital Territory Ordinance) is deemed to apply to publications under the Classifications of Publications Act. The

ACT Classification of Publications Ordinance has been accepted by other States and Territory Governments as the model for the implementation of the compulsory, national, uniform classification scheme. The Australian Film Censorship Board's decisions concerning films and the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department decision relating to printed matter automatically applied to South Australia (except films which are classified 'X' by the Film Censorship Board). The main function of the Board is to review decisions which may be controversial and to respond to complaints from the public.

The member asked, 'Has the Commonwealth laid down any standards or guidelines for the classification of films, videos and printed material?'

The Commonwealth has issued guidelines for films, videos and printed material. I have received a copy of the guidelines for videos/films and printed material and attach a copy for your information.

The member sought information on how many times the State Board has met.

In the 1986/87 financial year, the State Board met on nine occasions.

Last financial year, the Board reviewed five video tapes which had been classified by the Commonwealth. Three of these video-tapes had their classification varied. Furthermore, 743 publications (written matter) were refused classification by the Board. In these instances, the classification by the Commonwealth was changed by the State Classification Board.

FILM CENSORSHIP BOARD

Attorney-General's Department

Guidelines for Classification of Videotapes/Discs for Sale/Hire

G *General (suitable for all ages)*

Parents should feel confident that children may view material in this classification without supervision, knowing that no distress or harm is likely to be caused.

Language: Mild expletives only if infrequent and used in exceptional and justifiable circumstances.

Sex: Very discreet verbal references or implications and only if in a justifiable context.

Violence: Minimal and incidental depictions, and only if in a justifiable context.

PG *Parental Guidance (suitable for persons under 15 years)*
Material in this classification may contain adult themes/concepts which require the guidance of a parent or guardian.

Language: Minimal crude language if not gratuitous.

Sex: Discreet verbal and/or visual suggestions and references to sexual matters.

Violence: Discreet, inexplicit and/or stylized depictions.

Other: (i) mild supernatural and/or 'horror' themes.

(ii) minimal nudity if in justifiable and non-sexual context.

(iii) discreet informational and/or anti-drug references.

M *Mature (suitable for persons 15 years and over)*

Material which is considered likely to disturb, harm or offend those under the age of 15 years. While most adult themes may be dealt with, the degree of explicitness and exploitativeness of treatment will determine what can be accommodated in this classification.

Language: Crude language that is excessive, assaultive or sexually explicit is not acceptable.

Sex: Depictions of discreetly implied sexual activity.
Violence: Depictions of realistic and sometimes bloody violence but not if gratuitous, exploitative, relished, cruel or unduly explicit.
Other: Depictions of drug use if not advocacy.

R Restricted (18 years and over)

Adult material which is considered likely to be possibly harmful to those under 18 years and possibly offensive to some sections of the adult community.
Language: May be sexually explicit and/or assaultive.
Sex: Implied, obscured or simulated depictions of sexual activity; depictions of sexual violence only to the extent that they are discreet, not gratuitous and not exploitative.
Violence: Explicit depictions of violence, but not detailed and gratuitous depictions of acts of considerable violence or cruelty (see 'Refused Classification').

Other: Depictions of drug abuse if not advocacy.

X Extra-Restricted (18 years and over)

Material which includes explicit depictions of sexual acts involving adults, but does not include any depictions suggesting coercion or non-consent of any kind.

Refused Classification

Language: No proscriptions.

Sex: Child pornography, bestiality.

Violence: Detailed and gratuitous depictions of acts of considerable violence or cruelty; explicit or gratuitous depictions of sexual violence against non-consenting persons.

Other: Instruction 'manuals' for
 (i) terrorist-type weapons and acts.
 (ii) abuse of hard drugs.

A.C.T. CLASSIFICATION OF PUBLICATIONS ORDINANCE 1983

Guidelines for Classification of Printed Matter

June 1985

1. The Classification system is based on the following principles:

- (a) that adult persons are entitled to read and view what they wish; and
- (b) that all persons are entitled to protection from exposure to unsolicited material that they find offensive.

2. A classification officer and the Publications Review Board shall, in deciding whether or not an item is an objectionable item or is suitable or unsuitable for perusal by a minor, have regard to the general character of the item and any literary, artistic or educational merit it may possess.

Pictorial Material

Classification	Contents
UNRESTRICTED	—Male/female nudity without emphasis on genitalia; includes flaccid penis —Sex education manuals —Implied intercourse with no visible genitalia, including implied oral sex with no genital detail.
CATEGORY 1	—Explicit nudity including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● touching of genitalia ● erect penis —Intercourse without emphasis on genitalia (e.g. U.S. Penthouse type material) —Mild oral sex with obscure genital detail —Mild fetishes including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● transvestism ● rubber ● mild female domination —Relished descriptions of violence, e.g. some military magazines
CATEGORY 2	—Masturbation/ejaculation —Intercourse with explicit genital detail —Explicit fellatio and cunnilingus —Insertion of foreign objects in genital or anal orifices —Anal intercourse with consent —Sado-masochism —All strenuous bondage, excluding dangerous practices —Other extreme forms of sexual activity and fetishes
REFUSED CLASSIFICATION	—Bestiality —Paedophilia, child pornography involving minors under 16 —Publications which promote, incite or encourage terrorism —Gratuitously depict in pictorial form, infliction of pain, marks, bruises, welts consistent with painful flagellation. Dangerous practices

Hardcore paperbacks without illustrations

CATEGORY 1	—Most
CATEGORY 2	—Relished child pornography e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● incest ● school teacher/student —Extreme sexual torture

Covers (on printed matter with no other pictorial material)

Classification	Contents
UNRESTRICTED AND CATEGORY 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> —No offensive words ('fuck', 'cunt' etc) —Photographs of nude people should not depict genitals (perhaps pubic hair on back cover) —Photographs of breasts are acceptable, so long as they are not misshapen or abnormally presented —Buttocks, but not anuses, are acceptable —Nude poses should depict sexual activity —No proscriptions as material limited to restricted area.
CATEGORY 2	
<i>Classifications to be Flagged for Certain States</i>	
Classifications applied to the following types of material are to be flagged for the following States who may wish to further review the material.	
Subject Matter	State
Child porn paperbacks	VIC, W.A., S.A.
Extreme violence (Category 2)	S.A., W.A.
Sex with violence (Category 2)	VIC, S.A., W.A.
Bestiality (Category 2)	VIC, S.A., W.A.
Weapons manuals	VIC, S.A., W.A.
<i>Flagging Code</i>	
(1)	Brought to the attention of the Victorian Government
(2)	Brought to the attention of the South Australian Government
(3)	Brought to the attention of the Western Australian Government
(CP)	Child Pornography

JUSTICE INFORMATION SERVICE

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

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: To date, progress has not been as fast as initially anticipated, nevertheless, it has been considerable. Approximately 30 significant activities have been accomplished. In general terms, a new site has been established at 12 Victoria Place, the main computers installed and tested together with associated disk drives and peripheral equipment. Complex contract negotiations over a period of approximately 12 months with CSIRO have been completed in respect of the computer networking facilities. In terms of application development, a large amount of work has been completed and work is proceeding on approximately 30 projects. A training centre has been developed and training in respect of the first project with Award Text Enquiries for the Department of Labour is at an advanced stage. A number of agencies are presently using electronic mail facilities available on the system.

The agencies taking part in the Justice Information System are the Police Department, the Department for Community Welfare, the Department of Correctional Services, the Department of Labour and the Attorney-General's Department. Other agencies will not have access to core data stored on the system. Within that core data, some components will be confidential to an individual agency. For example, some information stored by the Department for Community Welfare will be confidential to that agency and not available to other Justice agencies within the Justice Information System. It would not be appropriate or feasible to provide a copy of data stored on the Justice Information System.

TRAVEL AGENTS ACT

In reply to **Mr S.J. BAKER.**

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: On 12 February 1987 the Travel Agents Act 1986 was proclaimed to commence but the operation of sections 5, 7, 11, 21, 22, 23 and 24 was

suspended to a date to be fixed by subsequent proclamation. On 2 May 1987 sections 7 and 11 were proclaimed to commence from 1 July 1987. It is proposed to amend sections 21 to 24 before they are proclaimed. This is required because the trust deed signed after the Act was passed and pursuant to which the compensation fund was established is not compatible with those sections.

It is not presently proposed to proclaim section 5 (which would make the Act binding on the Crown) until some problems occasioned by the provision are resolved. These problems have arisen because in some States the travel agents legislation binds the Crown and in others it does not, and the position of State owned tourist bureaux is thus uncertain.

ETHNIC AFFAIRS COMMISSION

In the reply to **Mr S.J. BAKER.**

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: In the period 1 July 1985 to 30 June 1987, the commission met on 24 occasions. The record of attendance of those persons who were appointed to the commission for any part of that period is set out in the following table:

Name	Eligible to attend	Number of Meetings		
		Present	Leave granted	Otherwise absent
Brewster, Mrs T.	23	21	—	2
Chirmuley, Mr D.G. ...	23	16	—	7
Colussi, Mr J.C.	19	10	—	9
Danieli, Mr M.	3	3	—	—
Douglas Broers, Mrs W.	12	11	—	1
Kaider, Ms F.K.	24	13	—	11
Krumins, Mr B.	11	10	—	1
Lesses, Mr J.K.	24	14	1	9
Nghia, Sr E.	12	11	—	1
Radis, Mr A.M.	24	21	—	3
Taliangis, Mr B.	24	20	2	2
Tham, Mrs T.K.T.	12	9	—	3
Schulz, Mr M.Z.	24	23	—	1
Wetherell, Mrs I.	12	11	—	1

FAIL TO VOTE

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: During the examination the member for Goyder asked a question on whether statistics were available on the number of electors who were prosecuted for failing to vote at the 1985 election.

The Electoral Commissioner has advised me that of the 59 218 electors who failed to vote 26 598 were deleted from lists of non-voters prior to issuing 'please explain' notices to the remaining 32 620 electors.

Of the latter 19 366 provided valid and sufficient reasons for not voting, whilst 3 168 notices were returned unclaimed.

Notices sent to electors enabling them to expiate the offence by payment of \$10.00, numbered 10 086. Prior to 6 June 1986, (the deadline for issuing summonses) 3 123 expiation fees were received, a further 1 549 were returned unclaimed, and 1 312 electors provided late, but valid, reasons for not voting.

Summonses were prepared for the remaining 4 102 non-voters. The inability to serve a large number of the latter, further late expiations or clarification of events resulting in electors' failure to vote, resulted in some 500 electors being dealt with by the Courts.

The amount received from expiation fees and prosecutions totalled \$48 101.

Ninety-six warrants were issued, ninety-one of which are still to be executed. Of the five warrants that were executed, four people were imprisoned and one had her sentence remitted.

OMBUDSMAN

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: On three occasions during the financial year the Ombudsman held a formal investigation utilising his auxiliary powers under the Royal Commissions Act by way of hearings involving complainants and other witnesses, as well as officers of the agencies concerned.

One of these matters involving the Department of Correctional Services and two relating to the Department for Community Welfare were sufficiently serious to apply such powers and involved allegations of breach of duty or misconduct on the part of officers of the agencies concerned. In none of the matters was there found to be any evidence of breach of duty or misconduct on the part of the officers concerned. There were no instances during these hearings of any party being represented either legally or by any other party.

In addition, there were several investigations conducted in a 'formal' manner, where it was not considered necessary to utilise the powers of the Royal Commissions Act. These involved a cross-section of complaints against various Local Government Councils, Government Departments and Statutory Authorities. Of particular note was an extensive investigation concerning electricity charges for irrigation purposes involving E.&W.S. and some 66 growers from the Riverland. A hearing was held at Loxton and all the affected growers were invited to attend. As a result, growers were provided with a detailed explanation of the nature and basis for the charges and all interest charges on the disputed accounts were waived.

Whilst pursuant to section 18 (3) (c) the Ombudsman 'may determine whether any person to whom an investigation relates may have legal or other representation', no parties involved in any formal investigation were accompanied by a legal or any other representative.

There are no resource implications in the use of the Ombudsman's Royal Commission powers. In effect, it is a different form of investigation which is seen as appropriate in the circumstances of the individual matter.

The 'Yellow Book' reference to a trend toward formal hearings related particularly to those matters where the Royal Commission powers are used. Already this financial year a number of investigations have been conducted using these powers, and several more have been identified where it is likely that these powers will be used.

JIS

In reply to Mr DUIGAN.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: During the examination, Mr M. Duigan sought information as to the amount of capital funds spent on the Justice Information System to date and how much capital expenditure would be incurred in the future. The capital expenditure incurred to 30 June 1987 is \$5 608 000 (as set out on page 29 of the Auditor-General's Report for the year ended 30 June 1987). The planned capital expenditure in 1987-88 is \$2.810 million. It is anticipated that the capital expenditure required for the 1988-89 financial year will be \$611 000. Capital expenditure beyond that date is not envisaged, but this could change if the parameters of the Justice Information System or the network is expanded to accommodate wider services than those required by the agencies involved in the Justice Information System.

BANKRUPTCIES

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: During the examination of the Corporate Affairs Commission's budget the member for Goyder asked questions relating to the number of prosecutions undertaken in insolvency matters and the turn-around time from the date of complaint to the resolution.

The Commissioner for Corporate Affairs has advised me that during 1986-87 the Commission completed 25 prosecutions under section 375 of the Companies (South Australia) Code for failure to submit a statement of affairs to a liquidator. A further 16 such prosecutions were in progress at the end of the year. Thirteen prosecutions were also completed for matters arising specifically from reports by liquidators under section 418 of the Code. At the end of the year a further 11 prosecutions from this source were in progress.

As to the turn-around times from the date of complaint to resolution, I am informed that in the year ended 30 June 1987, the Investigation Division completed 426 investigations with an average FTE level of approximately 14.0 Investigators. A broad indication of turnover time can therefore be gauged per officer during 1986-87. Where investigations lead to prosecution action the turnover time is directly affected by Court schedules and the complexity of the case. In 1986-87 the Assistant Commissioner for Corporate Affairs and four Legal Officers completed 62 prosecutions and a further 45 had been commenced.

Further details are contained in the Commission's annual report.

EXPENDITURE RECONCILIATION

In reply to Mr DUIGAN.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: During the examination, Mr M. Duigan sought information in respect of the reconciliation between the expenditure in the yellow book and that

contained in the estimates of payments (white book). A reconciliation is contained in the yellow book, page 151; a copy of the reconciliation from the yellow book is as follows:

PAYMENTS OF RECURRENT NATURE

	1986-87 Prop.	(\$'000) 1986-87 Outcome	1987-88 Prop.
Appropriated from consolidated Account	12 417	11 813	14 680
Special Act payments	217	227	257
Others			
Inter-Agency Support services not paid for	220	214	200
Deposit accounts	—	983	1 500
Deduct			
Funding not allocated to programs	—	915	1 313
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENDITURE (RECURRENT)	12 854	12 322	15 324

PAYMENTS OF A CAPITAL NATURE

	1986-87 Prop.	(\$'000) 1986-87 Outcome	1987-88 Prop.
Appropriated from consolidated Account	6 663	5 503	2 810
Other			
Inter-Agency Support Services not paid for	500	289	300
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENDITURE (CAPITAL)	7 163	5 792	3 110

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. M.K. MAYES: Associations which have increased their membership by greater than 10 per cent are as follows:

Recreation	%
Chess (Juniors)	107
S.A. Genealogy Association	10.2
Kindergym	40
S.A. Touring Cyclists	133
Australian Anglers	105
Sport	
Auto Cycle	224
Body Builders	41
Indoor Bias Bowls	14
Ten Pin Bowling	11
Bowhunting	60
Cycling	23
Diving	45
Fencing	18
Gaelic Athletics	18
Hang Gliding	21
Hockey	41
Ice Hockey	66
Judo	25
Korfball	80
Rugby League	15
Rowing	44
Clay Target Shooting	24
Roller Skating	35
Water Skiing	252

Recreation

	%
Swimming	205
Tennis	14
Touch	269
Underwater Federation	26
Wrestling	103
Bocce	13
Motor Sport	20
Orienteering	27
Rugby Union	14
Fitness	
Australian Sports Medicine Federation	35.3
S.A. Keep Fit Association	12.6

COURT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: During the examination of the Court Services Department's budget the member for Mitcham asked a question dealing with the time delays being experienced in the processing of probate applications.

The Registrar of Probates has advised that there are no delays in the processing of applications for grants of representation.

Mr Baker then asked a question on the number of matters that are dealt with by the Equal Opportunity Tribunal and their respective categories.

The Deputy Secretary, Appeal Tribunals, has advised that the total number of matters dealt with by the Equal Opportunity Tribunal in the period 1 July 1986 to 30 June 1987 was 48 in the following categories:

Application for Exemption from provisions of the Act	20
Complaints	28*
	48

*Of the 28 complaints 26 were lodged by one person and dealt with as an omnibus hearing.

Mr Baker also asked how many reporters (by category) are currently within the service and sought information on a comparison with these figures at the same time last year.

I am advised as follows:

Category	29.8.86	28.8.87
Stenotype/Shorthand	50.6	31.9
CAT	7.0	25.5
Tape (Transcription typists)	27.3	32.6
	84.9	90.0

Finally Mr Baker asked me to provide a breakdown of costings of the various forms of court reporting.

I am informed that costings are calculated on a per page basis. Four types of reporting are used: Court Reporters using steno machines or shorthand, Court Reporters using computer-aided transcription (CAT), Government Transcription Typists (GTS) using tapes, and a Contractor.

The full page cost for each category of reporting is as follows:

	Court Reporters (Steno/Short-hand)	Court Reporters (CAT)	G.T.S.	Contractor
Direct Costs	9.16	7.11	7.71	8.12
Indirect Costs	1.58	0.76	0.44	0.41
Full page costs	\$10.74	\$7.87	\$8.15	\$8.53

Further details are provided in the Attachment.

STANDARD COSTS, 1987-88	Average Annual Costs \$	
Court Reporter Services		
(1) Direct Costs		
(a) Salary—		
Average salary	30 865	
Payroll tax (5 per cent)	1 543	
Workers compensation	1 213	
(b) Materials—		
Equipment	109	
Maintenance (assume 10 per cent of equipment)	11	
Paper	38	
Other consumables	429	
(c) Photocopying Costs	283	
(d) Supervisors	2 066	
Total cost per individual per year	<u>\$36 557</u>	
No. of productive pages per year—4 200		
Average Direct Cost per page = $\frac{36\ 557}{4\ 200}$		\$8.70
(2) Indirect Costs		
(a) Support Services Cost × per cent of staff		
42 659 × 28%	11 945	
(b) Manager, Support Services		
Salary of Manager relating to Court Reporting × per cent		
breakdown of Branch 10 423 × 28%	2 918	
76 391		
(c) Superannuation Charges	139 768	
(d) Court Reporting Training Scheme		
Total Indirect Costs	<u>\$231 022</u>	
Average cost per person p.a.	<u>231 022</u>	
	36.6	
	6 312	
Average Cost per page	<u>6 312</u>	
	4 200	
Indirect Cost per page	<u>1.50</u>	
Total Cost per page—		
Direct Costs	8.70	
Indirect Costs	<u>1.50</u>	
	<u>10.20</u>	
Allowance for full pages = 95%		
Cost per full page = $\frac{100}{95} \times \$10.20$		
		<u>\$10.74</u>
C.A.T.		
Direct Costs		
(a) Salary—		
Average salary	33 290	
Payroll tax (5 per cent)	1 665	
Workers compensation	1 213	
(b) Materials—		
Equipment	9 025	
Maintenance—part of equipment purchase	—	
Paper	63	
Other consumables	535	
(c) Photocopying Costs	355	
(d) Supervisors	2 264	
Total cost per individual per year	<u>\$48 410</u>	
No. of productive pages for year—6 950		
Average Direct Cost per page = $\frac{48\ 410}{6\ 950}$		6.97
Indirect Costs		
(a) Support Services costs = \$42 659 × 32%	13 651	
(b) Manager, Support Services = \$10 423 × 32%	3 335	
(c) Superannuation Charges	67 412	
(d) Court Reporting Training Scheme	46 590	
Total Indirect Costs	<u>130 988</u>	
Average per person	<u>130 988</u>	5 137
	25.5	
Average per page (individual cost)	<u>5 137</u>	0.74
	6 950	
Total Cost per page =	Direct Cost	6.97
	Indirect Costs	<u>0.74</u>
		<u>7.71</u>
Allowance for full page = 98%		
Cost per full page = $\frac{100}{98.0} \times \7.71		
		<u>\$7.87</u>
Transcription Typists		
Direct Costs		
(a) Salary—		
Average salary	20 874	
Payroll tax (5 per cent)	1 044	
Workers compensation	1 213	
(b) Materials—		
Equipment	334	
Maintenance (assume 10 per cent of equipment)	33	
Paper	39	

STANDARD COSTS, 1987-88	Average Annual Costs \$	
Other consumables		533
(c) Photocopying Costs		405
(d) Supervisors		3 736
Total cost per individual per year		<u>28 211</u>
No. of productive pages for year—4 300		
Average Direct Cost per page = $\frac{28\ 211}{4\ 300}$		6.56
Indirect Costs		
(a) Support Services costs = \$42 659 × 40%		17 064
(b) Manager, Support Services = \$10 423 × 40%		4 169
(c) Superannuation Charges		4 697
(d) Training		25 049
Total Indirect Costs		<u>50 979</u>
Average per person	<u>50 979</u>	1 593
	32	
Average per page (individual cost)	<u>1 593</u>	0.37
	4 300	
Total Cost per page =	Direct Cost	6.56
	Indirect Costs	<u>0.37</u>
		<u>6.93</u>
Allowance for full page = 85%		
Cost per full page = $\frac{100}{85} \times \$6.93$		
		<u>\$8.15</u>
Contractor		
Precinct Courts	Pages	\$
March 1987	3 369	27 505
April 1987	94	582
May 1987	Nil	Nil
June 1987	556	4 551
	<u>4 019</u>	<u>32 836</u>
Cost per page =	<u>32 836</u>	8.12
	4 019	
On cost of 5 per cent for Administration on account of Chief Reporter, Supervisors, Assistant Director and Finance Branch		<u>0.41</u>
Cost per page with oncosts		<u>\$8.53</u>

In reply to Mr DUGAN.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: The member for Adelaide asked a question on the allocation to the Minister of Housing and Construction for the Court Services Department for capital works.

The Minister of Housing and Construction has informed me that the proposed capital works expenditure during 1987-88 for the Court Services Department is \$2 729 000 comprising—

	Total Estimate \$	1987-88 Expenditure \$
Supreme Court—Ground and First Floor West	1 708 000	479 000
Coober Pedy Courthouse	450 000	200 000
Holden Hill—Stage II	5 100 000	2 050 000
		<u>2 729 000</u>

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: The member for Hanson asked for information on the breakdown of accommodation and service costs as shown in the Estimate of Payments. This information is as follows:

	Accommodation and Service Costs 1987-88 Proposed	
Program 1	\$	\$
Heating	10 000	
Land Tax	38 000	
Light and Power	145 000	
Office Cleaning	313 000	
Rates	100 000	
Public Telephones	7 000	
Rent	1 576 000	
Security	32 000	
Telephones	156 000	
Sundries	9 000	
Management fee	5 000	
		<u>2 391 000</u>

Program 2	\$	
Heating	6 000	
Land Tax	16 000	
Light and Power	100 000	
Office Cleaning	288 000	
Rates	44 000	
Public Telephones	3 000	
Rent	626 000	
Security	28 600	
Telephones	98 000	
Sundries	3 000	
Management fee	4 000	
		1 216 600
Program 3		
Land Tax	1 000	
Light and Power	8 000	
Office Cleaning	35 000	
Rates	4 000	
Rent	55 000	
Security	4 000	
Telephones	4 000	
Management fee	1 000	
		112 000
Program 4		
Heating	2 000	
Land Tax	10 500	
Light and Power	18 000	
Office Cleaning	26 000	
Rates	18 000	
Rent	412 000	
Security	3 000	
Telephones	30 000	
Sundries	1 000	
		520 500
Program 7		
Cleaning	10 600	
Rates	4 000	
		14 600
Program 8		
Light and Power	8 000	
Office Cleaning	2 200	
Rent	74 000	
Sundries	2 000	
Management fee	2 000	
		88 200
Intra-Agency Support Services		
Heating	1 000	
Land Tax	5 000	
Light and Power	12 000	
Office Cleaning	19 000	
Rates	8 000	
Rent	293 000	
Security	1 000	
Telephones	19 000	
Sundries	1 000	
Management fee	1 100	
		360 100
		4 703 000

ADELAIDE ELECTORS

In reply to Mr DUIGAN.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: During the examination the member for Adelaide raised a question on the disparity between the number of new electors enrolled in the District of Adelaide between 12 June 1987 and 13 August 1987 (namely, 545) and the number of address labels supplied to the member during the same period.

The Electoral Commissioner had advised that although the on-line enrolment system is updated daily, all transactions are accumulated until such time as it is thought appropriate to provide members with an accumulated listing of additions to the file. This usually occurs on a monthly basis.

An accumulation of this nature was organised to cover the period 29 April 1987 to 5 June 1987 and in respect of the District of Adelaide there were 1 040 additions to the file during that period. Because of the need to close the roll on 12 June 1987 for the Federal election a further accumulation of the data base was organised to cover the period

6 June 1987 to 12 June 1987. In this period a further 790 electors were added to the roll for the District of Adelaide.

The computer printouts and address labels relating to both accumulations were not distributed to members until the month of July and may have been mistakenly thought to have represented new enrolments after the close of roll for the Federal election.

Minister of Labour, Minister of Correctional Services and Minister Assisting the Treasurer

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

REDEPLOYMENT

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: There are currently 61 excess employees who have been on the 'redployment list' for more than 12 months.

HOME DETENTION PROGRAM

In reply to the Hon. J.W. SLATER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: As of 22 August 1987, thirty-eight prisoners had been released on the Home Detention Program. Twenty-one of them have now completed successfully. Eleven prisoners are presently active on the Home Detention Program.

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: As of 22 August 1987, 38 prisoners had been released on the Home Detention Program. Twenty-one of them have now completed successfully. Six prisoners failed on the program and were returned to prison. Two prisoners committed property offences, while under the influence of alcohol. Two prisoners left their residence without approval and consumed alcohol. The remaining two prisoners were involved in domestic matters; one threatened assault on his defacto and the other left the residence without approval after an argument.

Eleven prisoners are presently active on the Home Detention Program.

SPECIAL NEEDS GROUPS OF PRISONERS

In reply to Mr DUIGAN.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The following information is provided concerning 'special need' groups of prisoners: *Drug and Alcohol Abusers*

A Prison Drug Unit has been established as a joint enterprise between the Drug and Alcohol Services Council and the Department of Correctional Services. The number of prisoners involved with the unit is 106 or 12.5 per cent of the prison population. It is estimated, however that the number of prisoners who are either drug or alcohol abusers may be as high as 75 per cent. Not all prisoners in this category have sought assistance but the Prison Drug Unit has been operating only since March 1987.

Aboriginal Offenders

The number of Aboriginal offenders in custody on 30 June 1987 was 137 or 15.7 per cent of the prison population. Aboriginal prisoners generally contribute 21 per cent of the intake of prisoners into South Australian prisons.

Behaviourally Disturbed Prisoners

The Department of Correctional Services is cooperating with a research project being conducted by the Management Assessment Panel. This research will arrive at a precise definition of the category of 'behaviourally disturbed' individuals and conduct a survey of the numbers of such individuals in prison or under correctional supervision.

First Offenders

Department of Correctional Services' statistics reveal that 30 per cent of prisoners have no previous prison record. While no regular statistics are collected on the previous conviction record of prisoners, a 1985 survey revealed that 5 per cent of the prisoners surveyed had no convictions prior to their current imprisonment.

PRISON INCIDENTS

In reply to Mr **INGERSON**.
The Hon. **FRANK BLEVINS**:

Type of Incident	Incidents in Prison 1985-86								Total
	ADG	YLP	CTC	Institution NPC	PTA	MTG	PTL		
Drugs	41	37	28	9	8	2	6	131	
Alcohol	14	1	1	1	2	2	2	23	
Attempted Escape (1)	8	—	1	2	—	—	—	11	
Self Inflicted Injury	13	20	3	4	4	2	—	46	
Attempted Suicide	4	—	1	1	—	—	—	6	
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Death	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Offender/Offender Assault	36	10	5	—	5	2	2	60	
Sit-In	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	
Climb Roof	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Hunger Strike	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	5	
Refuse Return Cells	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	
Other Refuse Orders	1	8	3	2	—	—	—	14	
Fire (2)	8	9	—	2	—	—	—	19	
Other Property Damage	1	7	1	—	1	—	—	10	

Notes (1) There was also one attempted escape from the Supreme Court Building.

(2) There were also two fires at the Northfield Security Complex.

There were a number of serious incidents reported in the Community Corrections Division including three suicides of clients, 11 other deaths, and one fire.

COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDER SCHEME

In reply to Mr **GREGORY**.

The Hon. **FRANK BLEVINS**: In 1986-87 the cost of the program was \$925 000. The average number of offenders on the scheme was 607, at a cost of \$1 523 per offender per year. If an offender worked on 30 days during the 12 month period, which would equate with the then maximum of 240 hours, the cost per work day would be \$50.00 per work day.

REPAIR CHARGES

In reply to Mr **BECKER**.

The Hon. **FRANK BLEVINS**: Correctional institutions of South Australia are public buildings, and ultimately responsibility for their maintenance lies with the South Australian Department of Housing and Construction. The Department of Correctional Services has an amount of \$30 000 allocated to maintain Yatala Labour Prison, Northfield Prison Complex and Dog Squad buildings with prison labour.

An advice of the cost of maintenance services is remitted to departments each year by the South Australian Department of Housing and Construction to include the total operating costs, however no direct payment is made by departments for these services. The advice lists locations and amounts charged but does not identify individual projects within locations.

NOARLUNGA COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTRE

In reply to Mr **BECKER**.

The Hon. **FRANK BLEVINS**: The Noarlunga Community Correctional Centre will have the following staff:

1 × District Probation and Parole Officer (SWO3 classification).

1 × Senior Probation and Parole Officer (SWO2 classification).

5 × Probation and Parole Officers (SWO1 classification).

1 × Community Service Officer (SWO1 classification).

3 × Clerical Officers (CO1 classification) composed of one at full time, one at four fifths, and one at three fifths time.

6 × Community Service Supervisors (casual part-time staff).

At 30 June 1987, the caseload for the Noarlunga Centre District Office was:

Probation	159
Parole	62
Community Service	76
	<u>297</u>

This includes offenders on the Fleurieu Peninsula, plus the area of Goolwa, Strathalbyn, etc.

PORT AUGUSTA PRISON

In reply to Mr **BECKER**.

The Hon. **FRANK BLEVINS**: All managers have authority under section 39 (2) to release prisoners up to 30 days early. This authority is often exercised where the prison is in a state of overcrowding. Port Augusta Gaol is overcrowded and therefore the Manager does release prisoners up to 30 days early. However, in every case the prisoner does serve some time before release.

Port Augusta Gaol does receive some prisoners from Police prisons who have already served all or part of their sentence in the Police prison. There have been occasions in the past where, after calculation of time served in Police

prisons and application of the normal rules applying to prisoners who are received into overcrowded prisons, prisoners have been released the same day that they have been received. These are exceptional cases.

PRISONER ADMISSIONS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The number of prisoners admitted to each prison in 1985-86 and 1986-87 are listed in the following table. These figures include prisoners received under sentence and on remand from outside the prison system. Transfers between prisons are excluded.

Prison/Year	1985-86	1986-87
Adelaide Gaol	3 093	2 564
Adelaide Remand Centre	—	520
Yatala Labour Prison	3	27
Northfield Security Hospital	5	9
Northfield Prison Complex	303	302
Port Augusta Gaol	419	522
Cadell Training Centre	87	106
Port Lincoln Prison	128	153
Mount Gambier Gaol	131	146
TOTAL:	4 169	4 349

NORTHFIELD PRISON

In reply to Mr BECKER and Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The Northfield Prison Complex, Female Section has the following areas and rooms air treated.

Heated and Cooled

Reverse cycle air conditioner	5 Administrative Offices
Reverse cycle air conditioner	Surgery
Reverse cycle air conditioner	Infirmery
Reverse cycle air conditioner	Visting Area
Reverse cycle air conditioner	Canteen Room
Reverse cycle air conditioner	'D' Wing Gymnasium
Split system air conditioner	Central Control Room
Split system air conditioner	Chief's Office
<i>Cooling Only</i>	
Ducted evaporative air conditioning	Sentenced Female
Ducted evaporative air conditioning	Prisoners Dining Room
Ducted evaporative air conditioning	Laundry
Ducted evaporative air conditioning	Sewing Room
Ducted evaporative air conditioning	Store Rooms

There is no air conditioning in two Interview Rooms, four Cell Wings, one Chapel and one Kitchen.

PRISON INDUSTRIES

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: External revenue earned by prison industries rose by 17 per cent over 1985-86 to \$300 210, and the value of work carried out within the Department rose by 39 per cent to \$244 350 (although a part of this latter figure is attributable to improved accounting procedures).

New contracts obtained during the period included:

Department of Services and Supply	Rubbish Bins
Department of Services and Supply	Book Ends

Department of Services and Supply	Vehicle Repairs
Department of Housing and Construction	Furniture
Department of Housing and Construction	Beds
Department of Housing and Construction	Piggery
SA Housing Trust	Letter Boxes
Goodwill Industries	Clothing Bins
Goodwill Industries	Mesh Baskets
Goodwill Industries	Nursery Trolleys
Goodwill Industries	Shop Furniture
St Vincent de Paul	Clothing Bins
State Bank of South Australia	Work Benches
Department of Agriculture	} Laundry Contracts
CAFHS	
Roseworthy College	Officer Belts
Department of Correctional Services	Prisoner Belts
Department of Correctional Services	Prisoner Footwear
Department of Correctional Services	Officer Footwear
Spastic Centre	Bath Seats
Department of Housing and Construction	Office Furniture
IMVS	Holding Cases etc.
St Peters College	Furniture Repaint
St Peters College	Pedestal Bins
Fire Service	Training Equipment
Department of Services and Supply	Wheel Barrows
Department of Correctional Services	Furniture
Somerton Park Community Centre	Outdoor Furniture
Salisbury Council	Plant Repaint
Strathmont Centre	Furniture
Education Department	Furniture etc.
Education Department	Barbecues
Childrens Services	Equipment, Furniture
Catholic School Association	Equipment, Furniture
Education Department	Desk Repairs
Education Department	Pedestal Bins
Fire Service	Training Vehicle
Various	Sign writing/manufacture
Minda	Furniture
Strathmont Centre	Furniture
Port Lincoln Hospital and Others	Vegetables
Royal Adelaide Hospital	Dried Fruit
Existing contracts were retained in most areas.	

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES STAFFING

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The following new staff were employed during financial year 1986-87.

Weekly Paid—24 comprising—

1.0 Caretaker	
2.0 Cook	
5.0 Storeman/Packer	
3.0 Storeman	
12 x General Hand	
1 x Driver	24

Government Management and Employment Act

Clerical	CO-1	34.4	
Officer—	CO-2	1.0	
	CO-3	1.0	
	CO-5	4.0	40.4
Correctional Industry Officer: Grade 2			2.0
Correctional Officer 98.00 (+1 NESA)			98.0
Publicity and Promotions Officer			1.0
Social Worker			24.0

Details covering cessation of employment with the Department is set out in the table hereunder.

Classification	Resigned	Retired	Dismissed	Reassigned	Employment Expires	Total
Weekly Paid						
—Kitchenhand	2.0					2.0
—General Hand	2.0					2.0
—Storeman	1.0				1.0	2.0
AO-1		1.0				1.0
AO-3		1.0				1.0
CO-1	12.0			5.0	2.0	19.0
CO-2				2.0		2.0
CO-5	1.0			1.0		2.0
CIO-1	1.0	1.0				2.0
CIO-2	3.0					3.0
PO-1	38.0	3.0	3.0	2.0		46.0
PO-2	2.0	2.0				4.0
PO-3	1.0					1.0
PO-12	1.0					1.0
PSC-5	1.0					1.0
SHR-5	1.0					1.0
SWO-1	7.0				1.0	8.0
SWO-2	1.0	1.0				2.0
SWO-3	1.0					1.0
TOTALS	75.0	9.0	3.0	10.0	4.0	101.0

The number of positions provided in the 1987-88 expansions are:

Mobilong/Adelaide Gaol decommissioning	18.0	
'E' Division Yatala Labour Prison	26.8	
Fine Default Scheme	8.4	
Yatala Segregation Unit	5.3	
AIDS Strategy	1.5	
JIS Development	1.0	
Adelaide Gaol overcrowding	2.1	
Reduction in vacancies	7.9	71.0
less:		
Savings on closure of Adelaide Gaol	10.9	
Reduced activity—Mobilong	2.5	13.4

WORKERS COMPENSATION

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The number of workers on compensation within the Department of Correctional Services is subject to daily change. The reasons for the compensable disability change with the individual. Both numbers and reasons are fluid, and subject to frequent fluctuation.

The reasons recorded at 9 September 1987, may be classified into the following six categories:

Injury as a direct result of prison assault	7
Accidental (slipping, falling, etc.)	16
Stress related	16
Motor vehicle accidents	1
Repetition strain injuries	1
Heart attack	1
	<u>42</u>

RECRUITS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: For the period July 1986 to June 1987 a total of 105 officers undertook initial Correctional Officer training. Of these one was a Correctional Industry Officer and one was a National Employee Strategy for Aborigines trainee.

Five officers resigned during the initial training period of seven weeks for reasons ranging from personal circumstances, financial, family and working conditions. Each of the remaining officers was offered continued employment on a temporary basis for a further ten months after which time they were to be considered for permanent appointment.

There were no resignations received from any of the new

recruits trained in the period July 1986 to June 1987 up to and including 18 September 1987.

INTRA-AGENCY SUPPORT SERVICES

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The estimated \$13 032 000 shown against the Intra-Agency Support Services not paid for consists of the following:

	\$
Debt Servicing Costs	9 376 000
Housing and Construction Maintenance Costs	1 408 000
Prison Health Services	1 700 000
Prisoner Education	326 000
Housing Rentals—Government Housing Authority	222 000
	<u>13 032 000</u>

COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDER SCHEME

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: During the 1985-86 period a total of 724 community service orders were commenced.

At 30 June 1986, there were 451 offenders on the program.

In 1986-87 a total of 1040 orders were commenced, and at 30 June 1987, 764 offenders were on the program, an increase of 313.

Using the two figures for the end of financial year, the average for 1986-87 is 607, which from a total program budget of \$925 000, is a cost of \$1 523 per offender per year.

It is difficult to compare non-custodial programs in terms of cost efficiency. The Department of Correctional Services has reviewed the operation of the Community Service Order program, and is instituting some operational changes to increase efficiency.

The program is subject to continual monitoring.

ADELAIDE GAOL

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The highest recorded number of prisoners at Adelaide Gaol was 355, on 8 August 1986. The current population (23 September 1987) is 275.

S AND D UNIT

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: As at 3.00 p.m. on 21 September 1987, there were 23 prisoners contained in the S and D Unit at Yatala Labour Prison. This Unit has a capacity to contain 26 prisoners.

The new purpose built facility will have a capacity of 26 single cells.

REMAND

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The average period of remand in custody is 36.5 days.

INTERSTATE TRANSFERS

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: Pursuant to the Prisoners (Interstate Transfer) Act 1982, there are ten prisoners currently in custody who transferred to South Australia. Of these, three transferred for welfare purposes and seven transferred for trial purposes.

NORTHFIELD PRISON COMPLEX

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: Prisoner request forms on any number of topics including permission to send material out of the prison are completed by the prisoner, handed to the Correctional Officer supervising them at the time, and forwarded to the Manager for processing. The Manager or his delegate then make a decision on the prisoner's request as outlined on the form and note in writing on the form the outcome of the request. This form is then returned to the prisoner.

As with all prisoner requests, some time elapses before they are processed and in most cases questions are asked or investigations initiated to determine conformity with Departmental policies and security requirements. Conversations with staff or indeed assumptions made by prisoners following conversations with staff do not constitute approval for actions.

In the case in question the female prisoner had made application for a loan from the Department of Correctional Services' Inmate Loan Fund for the amount of \$250 for the purchase of one Jason lambswool bed mattress cover. After the matter was investigated the application was approved on the basis that it was for her use in the institution.

The prisoner then made an application to have the cover sent out to a friend. This request was considered by the management and denied on the grounds that the purchase had been for the benefit of the prisoner during her incarceration. The prisoner, acting in advance of the outcome of her request, made arrangements with staff members to send the mattress cover out. Subsequent to this occurrence her action was discovered and she was interviewed by the Manager and lost three days remission for inappropriate behaviour in that she had disobeyed the rules of the institution. Subsequent investigations reveal that the prisoner's allegation that she was being punished for doing something that she was given verbal approval for was not true.

CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM

In reply to Mr DUIGAN.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The provision for motor vehicle purchases in 1987-88 is \$676 000 which, when added to the capital works program figure of \$13 million, gives the figure shown in the Program Performance Budgeting papers of \$13 676 000.

OFFENDER ASSESSMENT TOOLS

In reply to Mr DUIGAN.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: Currently probation and parole officers of the Department of Correctional Services are requested by Courts to prepare pre-sentence reports and community service assessment reports on offenders who have pleaded guilty, or have been found guilty. The reports are an aid to the sentencer. They provide recommendations as to the suitability of individual offenders for non-custodial sentencing alternatives. These two categories of reports constitute the present 'assessment tools' utilised to provide services to the Courts, upon which sentencers may place weight in determining an appropriate penalty.

BREACHES OF AWARDS

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The 1 404 alleged complaints were all in relation to alleged breaches of awards, and were justified. To provide further information would require an enormously time consuming exercise by departmental officers.

DISMISSAL CASES

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: In the last year a total number of 680 section 31 applications were lodged with the commission and, of these, approximately 90 per cent were satisfactorily resolved. Forty-six cases were heard at the arbitration level and of these 23 cases were dismissed.

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: As at the year ending 30 June 1987, the Government initiated intervention in the adoption leave case in the Clerks (SA) Award; the adoption leave case in the Adoption Leave General Award; and the termination change and redundancy case in the Clerks (SA) Award and the Wine and Spirit Industry (SA) Award. In

addition, I, as Minister, not as an intervenor but in the public interest, applied for a flow-on of the national wage case in the State wage case.

LONG SERVICE LEAVE

In reply to Mr DUGAN.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: There is an expected increase in worker payments in 1987-88 because of the 10 years anniversary of the Act (1 April 1977 to 1 April 1987). There are workers who have worked continuously during that period who will have accumulated 120 months service and would be eligible for a long service leave payment.

Details of the number of workers and the amount paid to those workers for the financial years 1985-86 and 1986-87 and an estimate for 1987-88 are set out hereunder.

Financial Year	Number of Workers Paid	Amount Paid \$
1985-86	406	1 619 552
1986-87	408	1 721 453
Estimate 1987-88	500	2 500 000

SHOP TRADING HOURS

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The 488 inspections referred to were all for shop trading hours and/or bread baking inspections. They did not include inspections dealing with non compliance of awards. The 488 inspections were made for a variety of reasons:

(1) To secure evidence for prosecution subsequent to an after hours visit.

(2) To give advice on the Act.

(3) To give a warning of a minor breach reported.

(4) To respond to a trader's request for assistance in interpreting the Act.

(5) To undertake an after hours inspection.

The department does not have available a detailed summary of the number of inspections made for each of the purposes listed above. As a result of the 106 complaints, 22 prosecutions were initiated.

WORKERS REHABILITATION ADVISORY UNIT

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: Statistics have been kept on the operations of the Workers Rehabilitation Advisory Unit. The average time off for workers referred to the Unit is not available from the data collected. However, 17.5 per cent of workers returned to work directly after unit intervention; 8.0 per cent were referred to long term rehabilitation programs; 15.0 per cent were paid out and retired as their age and disability prevented further participation in the workforce; 32.5 per cent were unresolved at the time files were closed by the unit because there were long term medical or legal problems for which resolution was long term; and 27.0 per cent made no reply at all to unit letters offering assistance. On occasions checks with employers revealed that the employee had already returned to work, resigned or retired.

Few significant delays were incurred in getting workers into rehabilitation programs. A problem has occurred in locating an appropriate service, due to the lack of these resources. Very few workers refused to participate in a rehabilitation program to which they had been referred.

NN

LIFTS AND CRANES ACT

In reply to Mr DUGAN.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: In 1986-87 there were approximately 150 escalators and 1 200 goods and passenger lifts operating in South Australia. The number of accidents reported involving lifts and escalators during the period 1 July 1986 to 30 June 1987 totalled 55. Of these 49 were associated with escalators and the remaining six associated with lifts.

The escalator accidents were all of a minor nature, mostly caused by persons losing their balance and falling. The most common outcome of these accidents were minor lacerations and an occasional sprain. Most of these accidents could be prevented by observing the regulations, that is, standing between the yellow lines, remaining stationary and holding the handrail, and in the case of small children increased supervision by parents.

Five of the lift accidents involved persons either being struck by a lift door or tripping as a result of the lift not levelling truly. The remaining accident was of a serious nature which resulted in injuries to two workmen who were involved in the process of removing a lift from the shaft. Evidence has been taken and consideration is being given to initiating prosecution proceedings.

The number of accidents reported in previous years were as follows:

1983-84—50

1984-85—59

1985-86—49

It can be seen that the number of accidents is relatively constant, and given the number of persons travelling on escalators each year and the nature of the accidents, the figures indicate a very high standard of equipment safety.

Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Fisheries and Minister of Recreation and Sport

FISHERIES RESEARCH

The Hon. M.K. MAYES: In reply to the question asked at Estimates Committee hearing on 17 September, 1987:

(1) The other 1986-87 expenditure on the Fisheries Research and Development Trust Account of \$639 000 as shown on page 552 of the Program Estimates 1987-88 consists of:

1986-87 Trust Account Expenditure		
Grants	\$'000	\$'000
FIRTA—Abalone	28	
FIRTA—Juvenile Prawns	9	
FIRTA—Yabbies	16	
FIRTA—Adult Salmon	39	
Aquatic Reserves User Survey	22	
Marine Science Technology Grant		
—Seagrass Study	38	
CEP—Artificial Reefs	252	
CEP—Marine Scale Measuring	11	
CEP—Microfilming	18	
RCD Fund—Mariculture	6	
		439
Conduct of Prawn Surveys		80
Gulf St Vincent Prawn Buy-back Scheme		106
Other		14
		<u>639</u>

(2) Other receipts for 1986-87 received in the Fisheries Research and Development Trust Account as shown in the 1987-88 Program Estimates consist of:

	\$'000
Commonwealth Grants	381
Sale of Prawn Catch	108
CEP Grants (State Component)	47
Spencer Gulf Prawn Analysis	43
Gulf St Vincent Prawn Buy-back Scheme	131
Other Receipts	12
	722

**Minister of Lands, Minister of Marine, Minister of
Forests and Minister of Repatriation**

LEASEHOLD LAND

In reply to **Mr D.S. BAKER.**

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The cost of making notations on leasehold land is comparable to the cost of registrations of freehold land in that notations in relation to changes of ownership etc. are performed in the Lands Titles Office for both freehold and leasehold lands.

The department does however, collect fees for providing consent to transfer or deal with the various types of leases. These fees are currently the subject of review with the objective of recovering the whole of the costs of processing the transaction.

FOREST VALUATIONS

In reply to **Mr D.S. BAKER.**

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The method used to value the forests is as follows:

1. Trees which have reached a merchantable size (between 10 and 13 years of age, depending on site quality and other environmental factors) are valued at net realisable value. That is, the current market price obtainable for the log (exclusive of any recovery for harvesting or transportation), if it were sold for the most appropriate end use in respect of its current diameter and quality. The estimates by size assortments are obtained from a computer model using sample data collected from departmental forests.

2. Trees which have not yet reached merchantable size are valued utilising average regional forest development costs (establishment plus maintenance costs). These costs are compounded to the age of the particular forest area at a real rate of interest equivalent to the department's desired minimum rate of return on investment projects.

The annual increment in forest value is obtained by subtracting the value of the forest at the beginning of the year from the value of the forest at the end of the year.

AUSWOOD AND IPL

In reply to **Mr D.S. BAKER.**

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The registered office of Auswood Pty Ltd is 499 St Kilda Road, Melbourne, Victoria 3000. This company also has a sales office in Brighton, Victoria, telephone No. (03) 592 8311. International Panel & Lumber (Australia) Pty Ltd also rent offices at the same address in Brighton. Their telephone No. is (03) 592 6422. On occasions when the offices of Auswood Pty Ltd are unattended, their telephone is answered by I.P.L. staff.

WOODS AND FORESTS DEPARTMENT

In reply to **Hon. H. ALLISON.**

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The reply is as follows:
Woods and Forests Department Organisation Structure

Woods and Forests:	
Director	P.M. South
Support Services Division:	
Assistant Director	D.R. Mutton
Senior Administrative Officer	D. Hanley
Chief Project Officer	I. Wallace
Chief Accountant	A. Benson
Chief Management Services Officer	G. Cotton
Commercial Division:	
Assistant Director	R.F. White
Production Manager	L. Cunningham
Marketing Manager	G. Heidrich
Production Co-ordinator	K. Hoath
Sales Manager	L. Taylor
Area Manager, Mount Gambier	B. Carrail
Chief Engineer	P. Tattershall
Mill Manager, Mount Burr	E. Meznar
Mill Manager, Nangwarry	M. Graves
Forest Operations Division:	
Assistant Director	R.M. Cowan
Harvesting and Marketing Manager	G. Bankes
Regional Forester, South-east	E. Pfeiffer
Regional Forest Manager (Central and Northern)	P. Johnston
Senior Forester, Environment	J. Riggs
Research and Development Division:	
Assistant Director	G.J. Geddes
Manager, Computer Services	W. Gibson
Principal Forest Management Officer	A. Keeves
Special Projects Officer	R. Lyons
Manager, Operations Research	W. Atyeo
Forest Resources Officer	I. Millard
Principal Research Officer	R. Boardman
Forestry Systems Officer	J. Leech
	SATCO Group Organisation Structure

SATCO Board:	
Chairman	P.M. South
Member	N.W. Lawson
Member	R.M. Cowan
I.P.L. (Holdings) Pty Ltd:	
I.P.L. (Australia) C.E.O.	G.A. Sanderson
I.P.L. (New Zealand) C.E.O.	A.J. Bloomfield
SATCO Victorian Agency:	
C.E.O.	H. Kobes
SATCO M.G.P.I.:	
C.E.O.	I. Hay
SATCO S. & M.:	
C.E.O.	M.C. Gray
Ecology Management:	
C.E.O.	J. Robinson

SATCO

In reply to **Mr D.S. BAKER.**

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The reply is as follows:
South Australian Timber Corporation

Members

P.M. South, Chairman
N.W. Lawson, Member
R.M. Cowan, Member

Officers

G.K. Patel, Executive Secretary
D.M. Curtis, Finance Executive
H. Kobes, Manager, Victorian Agency
SATCO/S. & M. Pty Ltd, Trustee for Shepherdson and Mewett Trading Trust

Directors

P.M. South, Chairman
R.M. Cowan, Director
N.W. Lawson, Director
G.K. Patel, Secretary
M.C. Gray, Public Officer
SATCO/MGPI Pty Ltd, Trustee for MGPI Trading Trust

Directors
 P.M. South, Chairman
 R.M. Cowan, Director
 I. Hay, Director
 R. Hay, Secretary
 International Panel and Lumber (Holdings) Pty Ltd

Directors
 P.M. South, Chairman
 R.M. Cowan, Director
 G.A. Sanderson, Director
 G.K.A. Ferguson, Director
 J.B. Ferguson, Director
 D.B.H. Stanley-Jackson, Director
 D.M. Curtis, Secretary
 International Panel and Lumber (Australia) Pty Ltd

Directors
 P.M. South, Chairman
 R.M. Cowan, Director
 K. Collin, Secretary
 International Panel and Lumber (New Zealand) Limited

Directors
 P.M. South, Chairman
 R.M. Cowan, Director
 D. Hanley, Secretary
 Ecology Management Pty Ltd, Trustee for Ecology
 Management Trading Trust

Directors
 P.M. South, Chairman
 A.H. Cole, Director
 G.K. Patel, Secretary

RO-RO VESSELS

In reply to Hon. P.B. ARNOLD.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: At least 13 roll-on, roll-off (RO-RO) vessels have been designed and built in Australia although none within the last 9 or ten years.

These include:

<i>Princess of Tasmania</i> (passenger/Ro-Ro)	1960
<i>Troubridge</i> (passenger/Ro-Ro)	1961
<i>Empress of Australia</i> (passenger/Ro-Ro)	1965
<i>Australian Trader</i> (passenger/Ro-Ro)	1970
<i>Brisbane</i>	1969
<i>Sydney</i>	?
<i>Melbourne</i>	1975
<i>Bass</i>	1976
<i>Lysatch Endeavour</i>	1973
<i>Lysatch Enterprise</i>	1973
<i>Seaway King</i>	Circa 1972
<i>Seaway Queen</i>	Circa 1972
<i>Union Rotorua</i>	1977

ISLAND SEAWAY

In reply to Hon. P.B. ARNOLD.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: Three tenders from within Australia were considered from the following companies:

- S.T.U.—Ship Technology Unit
- Burness Corlett Australia Pty Ltd
- M.J. Doherty & Co. Pty Ltd.

In reply to Mr D.S. BAKER.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: Reasons for increase in cost of vessel (net of bounty):

	\$M	\$M
(i) Rise and Fall (including Foreign Exchange adjustments and price increases for specified cost items)		1.512
Sub-Total		1.512
(ii) contract variations—changes in scope	0.711	
(iii) owner supply items	0.050	
(iv) inclusion of full DMH project management costs in estimate	0.170	

(v) naval architect—change in scope	0.062	\$M
(vi) project consultant—increased supervision	0.120	
(vii) minor consultancies—painting, vibration analysis, interior design	0.047	
(viii) Lloyds Classification—increased scope	0.016	
(ix) payment to Eglo for losses arising from delay in issue of final drawings	0.383	
Sub-Total		1.559
Total		\$3.021

In reply to Mr D.S. BAKER.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: In evidence to the Committee I advised that I did not think that there was any specific consultant's report recommending Eglo as contractor but that I was happy to get the relevant information received from Australian Shipping Consultants.

The situation is that the submission considered by Cabinet on 2 September 1985 advised that the offer from Eglo compared favourably with the figure provided by the project consultant. There is no detailed report on this matter.

LAND VALUATION

In reply to Mr LEWIS.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The Valuer-General has advised that his valuers have been reminded that, when determining valuations of rural land for financial assistance in terms of the Native Vegetation Management Act, reference may be made to interstate comparable scrubland sales. They have also been reminded that, when making comparisons between properties, dry sheep equivalents are to be taken into consideration.

LAND REZONING

In reply to Mr GUNN.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: As I mentioned to the Estimates Committee on 22 September, no compensation is payable as a result of rezoning under the Planning Act. However, if the land was to be rezoned at some between stage there is no provision for the owner to pay for betterment if an increase in value was to occur.

Whilst it has been suggested that farmers in the Willunga/Aldinga area are being forced off their land, it should be recognised that Government charges in the form of rates and taxes are only levied on the basis of farming land, viz. actual use, on that the farmers should be no worse off than any other in the State.

LEASEHOLD LAND

In reply to Mr D.S. BAKER.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The costs of maintaining leasehold land where no transactions occur is the cost of collecting the annual rental. This is approximately \$3 per lease per annum. Where transactions do occur the department charges applicable fees that recover part of the operating costs.

COORONG LAND

In reply to Mr LEWIS.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: Officers of the Department of Lands have been actively investigating Mr Robert Day's request for tenure over section 340, Hundred of Bonney.

Whilst Mr Day has made a request to purchase the land, a letter has now been received from the Ngarrindjeri Land and Progress Association Incorporated requesting that the land be made available to that association.

The association has sought to take control of this section because of its significance to the local Aboriginal community, whose remaining strong ties with the Coorong, includes this land. Mr Day is a member of this association, and, together with other Aboriginal people in the area, is a descendant of the original occupants of the land.

Given that the intent of the early reservation of this land in 1959 was to establish the area as a reserve for Aboriginal purposes, it is now my view that the land should be allocated to the association rather than an individual. Such an allocation will ensure that the land is managed in the best interests of the whole Aboriginal community.

Accordingly, I propose to approve that the land be dedicated as a reserve for Aboriginal community purposes and that it be placed under the care, control and management of the Ngarrindjeri Land and Progress Association Incorporated in terms of sections 5 (d) and 5 (f1) of the Crown Lands Act.

DOGS

In reply to Mr LEWIS.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: Since 1 October 1986 the RSPCA has launched 14 general prosecutions for cruelty with 14 convictions and an additional six are still pending. However, neither the police nor the RSPCA have any record of any prosecution of a person involved in dog fighting, or dog stealing for the suspected purpose of dog fighting during the last 12 months.

Both the Police Department and the RSPCA have been informed that dog fights are occurring in the outer metropolitan areas and both bodies have been actively involved in trying to trace them. The amount of money alleged to be involved has been an incentive to those organising the dog fights to maintain strict security.

Minister of Transport

PESTICIDES

In reply to Mr LEWIS.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: The Chemistry Division does not keep statistics for organochlorin pesticide residues found in meat fats, however, information on recent analyses can be provided.

During the week ending 2 September 1987, 621 meat fats were analysed for organochlorin pesticide residues under the meat fat residue survey of export meats organised by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) of the Commonwealth Department of Primary Industry.

The most common organochlorin pesticide residues found were DDT and its metabolites DDE and DDD and Dieldrin.

In approximately 50 per cent of the samples one of these pesticides was found at levels below 0.1 mg/kg. At the lower levels no attempt was made to positively differentiate between DDE and Dieldrin but the ratio of DDE to Dieldrin was around 20 to 1.

In about 5 per cent of the samples, total DDT was found to be between 0.1 and 2 mg/kg.

There were no samples with levels of total DDT about 2 mg/kg.

The maximum residue limit for DDT is 5 mg/kg.

One sample contained levels of Dieldrin and Aldrin above the maximum residue limit of 0.2 mg/kg.

As the laboratory only started the testing of meat fats for export this year, there is no comparison between this year and three to five years ago.

For a meaningful comparison, it is best to take the published results of the National Residue Survey conducted by the Commonwealth Department of Primary Industry.

The following figures for meat fat were obtained from the reported results for South Australia for the period from 1 May to 31 July 1983 and for the same period in 1986.

TOTAL DDT				
	Samples Tested	No residue found	Reportable Levels	Above 5 mg/kg MRL
1983	76	63%	32%	5%
1986	135	75%	25%	—

The comparison is inconclusive. It would seem that the levels for DDT are slightly lower than they were in 1983.

Dieldrin was not picked up during that period in 1983. One sample for the same period in 1986 contained over the maximum residue limit (MRL) for Dieldrin of 0.2 mg/kg.

CASH DEFICIT

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: In response to the question on the increase in the 1986-87 proposed cash deficit of \$84.8 million to an actual of \$93.1 million, the following table details the \$8.3 million variations not budgeted for:

	\$M
<i>Certificate Items</i>	
National Wage Cases	2.7
Fuel Price Increase	1.3
<i>Other</i>	
Damaged Railcar Repair	0.6
Property Rent and Rates	0.5
Loan Interest	0.4
Reduced Revenue from A.N.	0.7
<i>Savings Not Achieved</i>	2.1
	<u>\$8.3</u>

Treasury arrangements for the initial provision of funds of \$84.8 million did not include allowances for price increases due to wages, fuel etc. The amount of \$8.3 million was allocated to the State Transport Authority from the round sum allocation.

STA ASSETS

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: In respect of property sales the following transactions were completed in the 1986-87 financial year.

	\$'000	\$'000
<i>Land Sales</i>		
Metropolitan	2 990	
Non-Metropolitan	200	3 190
<i>Houses</i>		
Metropolitan	520	
Non-Metropolitan	2 030	2 550
Total property sales as reported in PPB		<u>\$ 740</u>

Approximately 190 sales were finalised during the financial year. The majority of these transactions related to the disposal of surplus railway homes spread throughout the State. Metropolitan sales accounted for 19 per cent of these transactions, with the bulk of these being land disposals in the north-western suburbs.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

Workforce
30.6.87

In reply to Mr **INGERSON**.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: I refer to the question concerning the workforce of the Department of Transport.

The workforce total of 543 FTEs at 30 June 1987, shown on page 200 of the 1986-87 Auditor-General's Report equates to 30 June 1987, actual of 542.8 FTEs shown on page 349 of the Yellow Book. It appears that any apparent discrepancy between the two books must have been due to the member for Bragg comparing average accrued averages over the year with actuals at year end.

In the program breakdown of the Yellow Book, only annual averages are used but the Summary on page 349 does state FTEs as at 30 June, which are the figures used in the Auditor-General's Report.

Absentees—includes employees on Workers Compensation	73
Introduction of 38 hour week for rail operations ..	22
Reduction not achieved as part of savings	27
	3 670
1986-87 Actual as per PPB	
Inoperative employees—those employed by the Authority, but are on Unpaid leave	29
Contract Employees—excluded from Treasury reporting as persons working on a fee for service contract	12
Auditor-General's Report	3 711

ISLAND SEAWAY

In reply to **Hon. B.C. EASTICK**.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: The vessel was built by the Minister of Marine using Eglo Engineering and was then sold to a nominee of a National Bank partnership between National Australia Bank Ltd and National Australia Savings Bank Ltd. The vessel was then leased for the purpose of operating a ferry service between Kangaroo Island and Port Lincoln and Adelaide and no other purpose to a company named R. W. Miller Marine (S.A.) Pty Ltd which is maintained by the Howard Smith Group of companies of which R. W. Miller is a member and who was previously employed by the Government to operate the *MV Troubridge*.

The Government has agreed with the Howard Smith Group for the provision of a ferry service for a period of 3 years. In the event that such agreement proves unsatisfactory for either party and is not renewed, the lease will pass to an operator approved by the Minister.

The vessel is expected to be completed for a cost within the amount set aside in the 1986-87 Estimates of Payments—Capital i.e. \$16.154 million. It was sold for \$16.0 million. It must be borne in mind that lease charges and hence operating costs are based on this figure.

In a contract of this size and complexity it is to be expected that certain claims will arise in the course of administration of the contract. These are presently being discussed by the parties but given that they are commercially sensitive matters it is not appropriate to provide details, however, in broad terms the claims relate to such matters as extensions of time, variations, superannuation and customs duty.

EMPLOYMENT NUMBERS

In reply to Mr **INGERSON**.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: In reply to the question about the reconciliation of 1986-87 full time equivalent employees (State Transport Authority), the following table provides a reconciliation between the Auditor-General's report and the Program Performance Budget figures on page 376. It should be noted that the information applies to employment as at 30 June 1987.

Workforce
30.6.87

1986-87 Proposed as Per PPB.
This was a target established by Treasury which incorporated a reduction in staffing levels due to savings being sought, but excluded absentees and CEP

3 548

AMONG OURSELVES

In reply to Mr **INGERSON**.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: The authority's house magazine *Among Ourselves* is issued quarterly. Distribution of the magazine is made to the following groups:

All S.T.A. employees (including Made Availables and Retired employees).

S.T.A. Board Members.

Premier, Minister of Transport and Director-General of Transport.

Various unions, State Government departments, libraries and media organisations.

A total of 4 100 copies are issued each quarter for an estimated cost of \$11 500 per quarter.

RAIL CARS

In reply to Mr **OSWALD**.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: The State Transport Authority has advised the following maximum waiting periods for trains at the Belair Railway Station.

Current Timetable Weekdays

37 minutes

Proposed November Timetable

Weekdays

16 minutes

RED LIGHT CAMERAS

In reply to Mr **INGERSON**.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: The cost of introducing the Red Light Camera System for the 1987-88 financial year is estimated at \$1.7 million. This figure includes provision for an upgrade of the total Traffic Infringement Notice System. The annual recurrent cost is estimated at \$482 000. An estimated revenue of \$180 000 for the remainder of 1986-87 following installation of the cameras and \$714 000 in the following full financial year has been budgeted for. These figures represent the maximum estimates of revenue levels. It is expected that the cameras will be introduced early in 1988.

TRANSPORT CONCESSIONS

In reply to Mr **INGERSON**.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: I refer to the question concerning a detailed breakdown of transport concessions. The following table comprises the information requested:

	86-87 Actual \$	87-88 Prop. \$
Salaries and Wages	37 801	41 000
Conferences Travelling Expenses	626	2 000
A.N. Pensioners and Others	296 971	320 000
State Concession Card Riders on A.N.	962	2 000
Blind Persons and Incapacitated Ex-servicemen (STA)	22 760	24 000
Children (All paid to the STA)	1 696 000	1 694 000
Taxi Service for People with Disabilities	222 589	1 144 000
Pensioner Concessions:		
STA	7 299 000	7 208 000
Municipal Bus Services	62 311	65 000
Private Bus Services	653 908	702 000
Troubridge	12 000	12 000
	8 027 219	7 987 000
	10 302 928	11 214 000

OLD REYNELLA

In reply to Mr TYLER.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: In general terms and taking into account the proposed magnitude of the development, the proponent should undertake a detailed analysis of the traffic generation of the development and the expected traffic volumes on the surrounding road network and at major intersections. It is the responsibility of the proponent to put forward solutions to any apparent traffic problems before the development is submitted to the local government authority, viz. City Council of Noarlunga.

At this time, departmental officers have had preliminary discussions with representatives of Pak-Poy and Kneebone Pty Ltd and Old Reynella Village Pty Ltd on the traffic impact of the development on the surrounding road network.

It is understood that this project is in its preliminary stages only and that the City Council of Noarlunga, as the local planning authority, has not receiving a formal application for this development which would require the preparation of a Supplementary Development Plan.

PROPERTY SALES

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: I refer to the question regarding page 450 of the Auditor-General's Report referring to a loss of \$248 000 arising from the disposal of properties not required for the authority's operations. During 1986-87 the following extraordinary 'transactions' occurred.

Write-off of land packages from the Asset Ledger which could not be identified.

There were a number of book entries, some dating back 60 years which were too vague to classify.

It must be taken into account that the S.T.A. inherited asset ledger entries from the old rail and bus system which were poorly documented.

It was decided to rationalise the property listing as the authority is undertaking an extensive review of its land holdings in order to provide an accurate list of land titles at market value.

The loss due to book adjustments was \$112 000.

The authority had to demolish four houses at Monarto South valued at \$80 000 due to the inability to negotiate a cost effective sub-division package.

Demolition of redundant structures, the most significant being the Hilton Road Bridge for a book loss of \$30 000.

The total in 1986-87 was a loss of \$34 000.

The balance of \$22 000 is the result of the in-house revaluation program. The loss or gain is usually insignificant, but in some instances, the value assigned to a house

(in most cases up to 6 months previously) can be too high. In summary:

	\$'000	\$'000
Write-offs		
Unidentified Property	112 000	
Monarto Houses	80 000	
Structures	34 000	
		226 000
Loss on sale		22 000
		<u>\$248 000</u>

STA FINANCES

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: I refer to the question regarding page 378 of yellow book, last year the executive line was \$52 million and this year it is \$62 million. The staff is increasing from 265 to 289 (State Transport Authority).

The increase in Support Services for 1987-88 over actual results in 1986-87 is due to the following factors:

	\$'000	
Carryover National Wage Case March 1987 ...		180
Additional Expenditure:		
Loan Interest	5 592	
Depreciation/Amortisation	(49)	
Provisions (e.g. for Long Service Leave, Workers Compensation)	1 902	7 445
Estimated increases due to escalation and pending National Wage Cases:		
Material escalation	493	
Future National Wage Cases	462	955
Partial payment of 3% Superannuation productivity claim		1 361
Transfer of sub-program 'Publicity and Marketing' from program 'Public Transport Services'		726
	10 667	
Less Savings to be achieved in 1987-88	300	
		<u>10 367</u>

In answer to the second part of the question, the increase in staffing estimates is the net result of transferring those previously reported under the sub-program 'Publicity and Marketing' and partially offset by staff savings to be achieved during 1987-88.

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: I refer to the question regarding page 378 and line 4 of the yellow book under 'Executive, Professional, Technical, Administrative and Clerical Support' for the State Transport Authority.

The increase of \$2.052 million between 1986-87 proposed and actual is mainly due to items which were not budgeted for and, as part of the previous funding arrangements, were approved by Treasury as certificate items.

The following table represents these variations:

CASH			\$'000
<i>Certificate Items</i>			
Relocation Expenses to 136 North Terrace	330		
National Wage Case	276		
Property, Rental and Rates	500	1 106	
<i>Non Certificate Items</i>			
Loan Interest	400		
Miscellaneous	19	419	
NON-CASH			
Depreciation and Amortisation	262	262	
SAVINGS NOT ACHIEVED			
Objective	490		
Achieved	225	265	
			2 052

The reduction in staff reflects the transfer of some employees to the program 'Publicity and Marketing' and the partial achievement of the savings objective in reducing salaried staff.

PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

In reply to Mr HAMILTON.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: The need for the provision of signalised traffic control devices is assessed in accordance with the 'Code of Practice for the Installation of Traffic Control Devices in South Australia—Department of Transport, Division of Road Safety, July 1986'. This code adapts criteria to suit conditions experienced within South Australia from Australian Standard 1742—'Manual for Uniform Traffic Control Devices'. Copies of the relevant extracts from these documents will be made available to the honourable member.

STA BORROWINGS

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: The increase in borrowings of \$46.5 million in 1986-87 represents the capital funding required for the authority's 1986-87 Capital Works Program, after allowing for receipt of any grants or sale of property. The following table details the source of funding during 1986-87.

		\$'000
Capital Expenditure		58 359
Capital Receipts		
ABRD Grant	2 425	
Sale of Assets	7 255	
Deposit Accounts	2 179	11 859
Increase in SAFA Borrowing 1986-87		\$46 500

The major items of capital expenditure in 1986-87 include the following:

	\$'000
New Railcars	14 770
Adelaide Signalling	10 619
Northeast Busway	8 149
ABRD Buses	5 461
Ticketing System	8 134

The total of \$177 627 000 as at 30 June 1987, outstanding in loans from the South Australian Government Financing Authority represents the funding needed to meet the authority's Capital Works Program over a number of prior years, after allowing for any receipts from sale of assets and Commonwealth/State Government grants. Major capital projects in the program over recent years have included:

	\$'000
Northeast Busway	59 077
ABRD Buses	10 359
Ticketing System	9 552
Mercedes Buses	20 955
Glengowrie Tram Depot	5 160
New Railcars	19 394
Adelaide Signalling	23 821

STA FINANCES

In reply to Mr INGERSON.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: The State Transport Authority has been allocated funding of \$116.32 million in 1987-88 comprised of:

	\$'000
Total Recurrent Expenditure	183 972
Less Total Income	67 652
	<u>116 320</u>

The following detail identifies each component of these categories shown on page 379 of the Program Performance Budget document.

	1987-88 Budget \$'000
INCOME	
Traffic Receipts	39 195
S.A. Government Reimbursement	19 875
Property	2 044
Advertising	1 244
Trading	1 565
Transit Rights Agreement	2 238
Operations and Staffing Agreement	793
Sundry Income	338
Interest on Investments	360
TOTAL INCOME as per Trust and Deposit Account	<u>67 652</u>
EXPENDITURE	
Traffic	54 786
Maintenance	33 928
General Expenses	34 751
Fuel, Oil and Power	12 164
Interest on Leases	4 025
Interest on Loans	26 180
Depreciation	10 301
Amortisation	4 867
Provisions (e.g. for Long Service Leave Workers Compensation)	2 970
TOTAL RECURRENT EXPENDITURE	<u>183 972</u>
includes inflationary allowance of	\$'000
National Wage Cases	2 616
Crouzet Ticket Allowance	1 500
3 per cent Superannuation	1 361
Material	1 300

Minister of Housing and Construction and Minister of Public Works

EHO—WORD PROCESSING

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: EHO already possess word processing facilities in the form of 2 Glass Typewriters purchased March 1984 and September 1985.

They also have a XT Personal Computer purchased in July 1984 and have access to the trust's Central Word Processing facility (i.e. Wang) for large jobs.

TRANSFERS

In reply to Hon. J.W. SLATER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The reply is as follows: Purely a guesstimate for the last 12 months, 4 000. However, transfer allocations for 1986-87 were:

	959	new
	2 168	vacancies
	<u>3 127</u>	total

SHARED OWNERSHIP

In reply to Mr M.J. EVANS.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The reply is as follows:

Analysis of Purchase Costs of Shared Owners—(17 cases)

Property Value \$	Value of Share \$	Other Costs	Total	\$
1. 58 956	14 739 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	176 40 450 110	15 515
2. 57 000	14 250 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	166 40 450 110	15 016
3. 72 769	18 200 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	244 40 450 110	19 044
4. 40 000	10 000 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	100 40 450 110	10 700
5. 52 000	13 000 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	140 40 450 110	13 740
6. 54 700	13 675 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	154 40 450 110	14 429
7. 43 000	21 500 50%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	310 48 450 110	22 418
8. 41 000	20 500 50%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	290 48 450 110	21 398
9. 64 769	22 032 34%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	322 48 450 110	22 962
10. 51 000	12 750 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	136 40 450 110	13 486
11. 49 000	12 250 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	126 40 450 110	12 976
12. 50 150	12 538 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	132 40 450 110	13 270
13. 36 000	18 000 50%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	240 36 450 110	18 836
14. 36 000	9 000 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	90 40 450 110	9 690
15. 62 481	15 621 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	194 40 450 110	16 415
16. 38 400	9 600 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	96 44 450 110	10 300
17. 57 000	14 250 25%	Stamp Duty Registration Administration Valuation	166 40 450 110	15 016

RAINWATER TANKS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The trust will no longer provide rainwater tanks in the metropolitan area or in country areas which have a reticulated water supply equivalent in quality to metropolitan filtered mains water.

Where rainwater tanks are currently provided, existing tenants will have the option of retaining the facilities for the duration of their tenancy. No rainwater tanks will be removed from properties occupied by sitting tenants while such tanks are serviceable, unless the trust is requested to do so by the tenant. Unserviceable tanks will not be replaced.

Unserviceable tanks or tanks with a limited useful life (less than three years) will be removed from vacancies along with the stand before the property is offered to an incoming tenant.

Total Number of Allotments sold at Golden Grove	1 455
Number (and per cent) acquired by S.A.H.T.	274 (18.8%)
Total Number of Building Applications	880
Number (and per cent) of S.A.H.T. Building Applications	178 (20.2%)

APPRENTICES

In reply to Ms LENEHAN.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: Of the department's 87 current apprentices at 30 September 1987, 86 are male and one is female (2nd year electrical fitting).

The department has provided apprenticeships in various trades for several females. One has transferred her apprenticeship to private industry and two have recently completed their apprenticeships and also moved to private industry.

S.A. HOUSING TRUST—GOLDEN GROVE

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The reply is as follows:
As at 30 September 1987:

PARLIAMENTARIANS' SUPPORT

In reply to Hon J.W. SLATER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The reply is as follows:

Electorate Office Expenditure for 1986-7 Financial Year

Electorate Office	Rent	Cleaning	Electricity	Telephone	Rates	Minor Office Equip.	Office Mach. Hire/Repairs	Security	Salaries	Maintenance	Commissioning Works	Minor	Total
Administration													
Adelaide	8 350	400	700	3 550	—	1 550	600	430	28 200	3 500	—	1 900	49 200
Albert Park	6 250	1 750	2 000	2 850	—	—	400	400	61 000	450	—	300	71 400
Alexander	7 400	500	650	2 500	1 900	—	50	—	28 500	—	—	250	41 750
Baudin	6 000	650	950	2 100	350	—	500	2 500	41 000	—	—	—	54 050
Bragg	7 950	950	2 150	2 100	1 750	400	400	450	33 600	550	—	650	50 950
Briggs	9 450	350	850	3 550	550	—	450	400	30 400	350	3 650	200	50 200
Bright	7 000	800	1 150	4 350	500	400	650	550	35 800	300	400	300	52 200
Chaffey	3 000	2 000	550	2 500	—	—	100	—	30 200	300	—	—	38 650
Coles	9 800	1 600	850	4 800	—	1 550	400	400	31 600	600	1 050	—	52 650
Custance	7 250	2 450	850	1 250	—	—	100	1 300	27 600	—	2 000	100	42 900
Davenport	4 450	1 050	950	2 700	—	—	400	400	26 500	600	—	25 950	63 000
Elizabeth	7 600	600	350	3 950	—	—	400	500	36 000	200	—	100	49 700
Eyre	10 000	1 400	400	4 100	700	200	450	150	60 600	100	2 650	150	80 900
Fisher	8 450	1 900	2 200	3 450	—	4 200	500	500	28 500	550	6 100	500	56 850
Flinders	4 300	550	500	3 950	—	—	800	—	44 500	—	—	—	54 600
Florey	5 950	600	800	2 100	350	—	350	500	27 100	500	—	150	38 400
Gilles	2 600	350	600	1 650	—	—	200	1 350	31 000	200	—	450	38 400
Goyder	4 550	2 350	800	2 300	—	—	1 250	—	32 400	550	2 050	—	46 250
Hanson	7 400	2 150	1 750	3 050	250	1 550	600	750	31 000	1 850	30 100	300	80 750
Hartley	8 350	400	1 250	3 200	—	2 600	350	500	31 200	2 300	—	3 200	53 350
Hayward	10 800	1 750	1 550	2 900	500	2 600	400	450	41 600	800	—	200	63 550
Henley Beach	3 100	1 250	1 050	1 950	—	1 700	250	450	31 700	100	—	—	41 550
Heysen	10 050	2 350	800	1 800	50	—	400	400	28 400	550	—	100	44 900
Kavel	8 000	2 350	450	3 850	450	—	250	—	28 600	—	8 850	—	52 800
Light	7 350	1 550	1 050	3 550	950	—	250	400	29 600	300	—	—	45 000
Mawson	7 450	550	2 150	2 600	650	1 550	500	400	29 300	200	—	—	45 350
Mitcham	8 200	800	1 750	2 650	1 250	—	300	400	28 200	100	—	600	44 250
Mitchell	5 200	850	650	1 200	—	—	150	—	30 500	1 800	—	250	40 600
Morphett	5 700	1 450	1 600	2 550	—	—	350	400	30 900	150	—	—	43 100
Mt Gambier	5 500	1 250	—	2 250	550	—	450	1 000	31 000	—	—	—	42 000
Murray Mallee	3 350	1 350	450	2 950	—	2 200	500	—	50 100	100	2 500	700	64 200
Napier	7 900	550	250	4 650	—	—	250	1 250	32 900	—	—	—	47 750
Newland	11 350	500	950	2 200	1 100	1 550	400	400	25 900	150	—	4 350	48 850
Norwood	5 100	450	1 300	3 500	450	—	250	1 450	46 900	350	—	900	60 650
Peake	5 300	650	1 500	4 650	300	100	150	450	33 000	200	—	900	47 200
Playford	9 100	550	1 150	2 750	600	100	350	350	41 400	—	—	—	56 350
Price	11 000	3 250	1 400	2 250	—	500	400	450	30 100	—	3 900	650	53 900
Ramsay	10 950	200	1 350	3 650	650	—	200	2 100	49 700	200	—	—	69 000
Ross Smith	8 200	600	800	2 900	600	—	400	1 700	63 000	300	—	5 150	83 650
Semaphore	4 350	1 100	1 400	3 100	—	—	750	600	31 200	150	—	—	42 650
Spense	5 450	600	1 300	1 650	700	—	250	1 300	30 800	550	—	150	42 750
Sturt	4 650	1 900	950	3 300	4 850	600	400	500	49 100	1 800	—	700	68 750
Todd	10 400	500	850	2 650	—	4 400	300	400	31 900	100	2 250	600	54 350
Unley	8 550	650	550	2 250	750	750	1 950	155	36 800	—	—	250	53 250
Victoria	7 600	50	150	1 600	1 400	—	50	—	23 700	150	25 950	—	60 650
Walsh	7 100	900	1 650	1 700	350	3 100	350	500	44 500	1 800	22 750	400	85 100
Whyalla	3 700	3 050	1 050	2 650	700	—	600	650	1 050	46 000	600	—	60 050
Various						2 150							2 150
Total	331 500	53 800	44 400	133 700	23 400	34 050	18 850	29 050	1 673 500	23 350	114 200	50 400	2 530 200

PROPERTY PURCHASES

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: the reply is as follows:

Cleve—Agriculture—Storage Depot	35 606
DCW—19 Hughes Street, Woodville—property	177 888
Art Gallery—203-7 North Terrace—property ..	2 014 124

SCHOOL BREAK-INS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: This department does not maintain records of school break-ins etc., and the following information was obtained from the Security Section of the

Education Department. The Education Department does not keep comprehensive records showing the actual number of break-ins at schools but rather the number of security incidents that occur. These may range from break and enter only, breaking and entry with theft and/or wilful damage or vandalism, fire and damage through vandalism to grounds, buildings, equipment etc. (e.g. drinking fountains) with no actual forced entry to buildings.

The total number of security incidents reported during 1986-87 was approximately 4 000 of which 1 096 (982 in 1985-86) incidents required the Education Department to reimburse schools for lost or damaged equipment, furniture etc. to approximately \$600 000. This figure does not include the costs associated with building repairs due to vandalism.

CLEANING

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

The Hon. T.H. HEMMING: During the 1986-87 financial year expenditure on cleaning by the Department of Housing and Construction was as follows:

	\$
Government Owned Properties	2 036 000
Rented Properties	944 000
Total	<u>\$2 980 000</u>

A list of clients for which cleaning is arranged is attached. With regard to reduction/containment of cleaning costs, the majority of cleaning is arranged on a competitive contract basis. Cleaning is done to minimum accepted standards and in keeping with the department's obligations to provide safe, clean, working conditions.

The following is a list of clients and properties for which the Department of Housing and Construction arranges cleaning.

Client	Property
Australian Bicentennial Authority	Torrens Building
Agriculture Department	5 Norman Street, Port Pirie Streaky Bay Former Marine and Harbors Building, 131 Lipson Street, Port Adelaide 3 Eyre Terrace, Victor Harbor Kingscote off Kingscote Terrace Port Lincoln State Bank Building Mobilong House, Murray Bridge 54 Poynton Street, Ceduna Kokoda Terrace, Loxton 5 Adelaide Place, Port Lincoln Crush Terrace, Waikerie
Arts Department	43 Fullarton Road, Kent Town Art Gallery Bolivar Museum Macerating Plant South Australian Museum, North Terrace, new buildings Old ADP Centre, Victoria Place
Attorney-General's Department	Education Building, Flinders Street
Children's Services Department	

Client
Community Welfare Department

Correctional Services Department

Courts Department

Education Department

Engineering and Water Supply Department

Environment and Planning

Ethnic Affairs Department

Fisheries Department

Property
1st Floor, State Bank Building, 85 John Street, Salisbury
1st Floor, Windsor Square, Elizabeth
Ground and part 1, Wilson Street, Berri
10-12 Digby Street, Kadina
Port Adelaide Mall, St Vincent Street
Kingscote off Kingscote Terrace
Mobilong House, Murray Bridge
Government Offices, Leigh Creek South
State Bank, 77 Jetty Road, Glenelg
1st and 2nd Floor, Windsor Square, Elizabeth
31 Playford Avenue, Whyalla
Part 1st Floor, Wilson Street, Berri
Port Adelaide Mall, St Vincent Street
39 Gray Street, Kilkenny
4 Bishop Street, Port Lincoln
Forensic Science Building, Divett Place
Juvenile Court, 75 Wright Street
Government Offices, Murray Bridge
Magistrates and Local Courts
Supreme Court
Mobilong House, Murray Bridge
Education Building, Flinders Street
Education Building, Flinders Street
State Administration Centre, Victoria Square
Torrens Building, Victoria Square
Kokoda Terrace, Loxton
73-75 Tasman Terrace, Port Lincoln
Crush Terrace, Waikerie
Streaky Bay
81 The Parade, Norwood
Mobilong House, Murray Bridge
Netley Complex
Government Offices, Leigh Creek South
Ethnic Affairs, 24 Flinders Street
5 Norman Street, Port Pirie
Former Marine and Harbors Building, 131 Lipson Street, Port Adelaide
1st Floor, Jobomi House, Port Lincoln
Port Adelaide Mall, St Vincent Street

Client	Property 3 Eyre Terrace, Victor Harbor 54 Poynton Street, Ceduna Kokoda Terrace, Loxton	Client Personnel and Industrial Relations	Property 31 Playford Avenue, Whyalla Wakefield House Torrens Building, Victoria Square
Health Commission Department	31 Playford Avenue, Whyalla Mobilong House, Murray Bridge Kokoda Terrace, Loxton 4 McKay Street, Port Augusta	Police Department Premier and Cabinet Public and Consumer Affairs	Police Headquarters, Angas Street State Administration Centre, Victoria Square AMP Building, 5 Norman Street, Port Pirie Wakefield House Edmund Wright House, King William Street 8 West Thebarton Road, Thebarton
Highways Department	73-75 Tasman Terrace, Port Lincoln		Corner King William Street and Sturt Street, Adelaide
Labour Department	AIML Building, 1st Floor, 276 Pulteney Street 105 Port Road, Bowden 5 Norman Street, Port Pirie T & G Building, Darling Street, Whyalla Part 1st Floor, Wilson Street, Berri Port Adelaide Mall, St Vincent Street Elizabeth House, Elizabeth City Centre	Recreation and Sport Services and Supply	Wakefield House State Centre Car Park, Gawler Place ADP Centre, Victoria Place Forensic Science Building, Divett Place Netley Complex Information Centre, Grenfell Street Government Motor Garage Government House, North Terrace (windows only) Education Building, Flinders Street 54 Poynton Street, Ceduna 131 Lipson Street, Port Adelaide
Lands Department	60 Railway Terrace, Warradale 107 Hampstead Road, Maningham 296 Greenhill Road, Glenside 12 Todd Street, Port Adelaide 1st Floor, 33 Murray Street, Nuriootpa Mobilong House, Murray Bridge Torrens Building, Victoria Square Treasury Building, King William Street Netley Complex 8 West Thebarton Road, Thebarton	Government House Technical and Further Education Tourism	Part 1st Floor, Jobomi House, Port Lincoln S.A. Travel Centre, 147A King Street, Sydney Tourist Bureau, 18 King William Street, Adelaide 25 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne Government Offices, Clare Gillingham Road, Elizabeth Shop 58, Torrens Park Shopping Centre Shop 35A, North Park, Prospect Shops 1-4, Tranmere Shopping Centre 10-12 Digby Street, Kadina 3A Rowells Road, Lockleys 491-493 Morphet Road, Oaklands Park Reese Avenue, Richmond 4 Vaughan Terrace, Berri Elizabeth House, Elizabeth City Centre Motor Registration Building, Wakefield Street State Administration Centre, Victoria Square Torrens Building, Victoria Square Torrens Building, Victoria Square
Local Government	Government Offices, Clare Gepps Cross Archive Facility Library, Museum 121-123 The Parade, Norwood Netley Complex Archives T & G Building, Darling Street, Whyalla Mobilong House, Murray Bridge	Transport	
Marine and Harbors	191 Greenhill Road, Glenside and lower block 12-14 Glen Osmond Road, Parkside State Administration Centre, Victoria Square Core Library and Z block, Glenside		
Mines and Energy	Education Building, Flinders Street		
Office for Technology	67 Hindmarsh Square, Adelaide Roy Terrace, Christies Beach	Treasury	

Client	Property	1985-86 (\$'000)	1986-87 (\$'000)	
Housing and Construction Department	388 Carrington Street, Adelaide	Adelaide Area	7 300	8 300
	38 Kensington Road, Rose Park	Northern Area	4 400	5 000
	7 Rellum Road, Greenacres Corner Semaphore and Bower Roads, Ethelton	Southern Area	3 400	3 800
	818 Marion Road, Marion	Eastern Area	2 100	2 400
	153 Main North Road, Clare	Western Area	2 200	2 400
	Scholz Avenue, Nuriootpa		<u>\$19 400</u>	<u>\$21 900</u>
	12-14 Ellen Street, Port Pirie			
	Corner White Avenue and Brownes Avenue, Mount Gambier			
	Marine Avenue, Port Lincoln			
	47 Myall Avenue, Murray Bridge			
	3 McGregor Street, Berri			
	153 Lacy Street, Whyalla Playford			
	63 Victoria Parade, Port Augusta			
	55 Francis Terrace, Kadina			
	Poynton Street, Ceduna			
	Wakefield House			
	Old ADP Centre, Victoria Place			
	State Administration Centre, Victoria Square			
	Torrens Building, Victoria Square			
	Netley Complex Government Offices, Clare			
Hillcrest/Hampstead DHC Workshop				
Woods and Forests	Tinsmiths Building, 135 Weymouth Street			
Betting Control Board	Tinsmiths Building, 135 Weymouth Street			
Electorate Offices	Various			
Road Safety Council	Gillingham Road, Elizabeth			
State Government	491-493 Morphett Road,			
Insurance Commission	Oaklands Park			

ACCOMMODATION AND SERVICE COSTS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: Provision allows for payment of properties at estimated market rates which are currently being paid for at less than market rates. Actual payments will depend on negotiations with building owners.

INDUSTRIAL ACTION

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The reply is as follows: Number of hours lost as a direct result of industrial action:

Year ending 30 June 1986—Nil.

Year ending 30 June 1987—392 hours involving various trades on 22 April 1987—over work being let to contract rather than being done 'in-house'.

ABORIGINAL EMPLOYEES

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The reply is as follows: Eight Aborigines are employed in the department:

- 2 Apprentices—Mechanic, Carpenter and Joiner
- 1 Driver
- 2 Clerical Officers, Class One
- 1 Clerk CO-3
- 1 Clerk CO-5
- 1 Executive Officer (EO-1).

ASER

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: Departmental expenditure on the ASER Building Regulation Advisory Committee expenditure as at 22 September 1987 is \$152 519.76, say \$152 500.

The current members of the committee are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| J. Wilson
(Chairman) | Principal Engineer
SACON
South Australian Department
of Housing and Construction |
| H. van der Pennen | Building Surveyor
Adelaide City Council |
| G. Brown | Executive Engineer
Department of Local
Government |
| N. Toseland | District Officer
Fire Prevention Division
South Australian Metropolitan
Fire Service |

From 1 July 1986 to 30 June 1987 ten meetings were held—Meetings 72 to 81 inclusive.

SCHOOL MAINTENANCE

In reply to Hon. D.C. WOTTON.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: Recurrent budgets are not specifically assigned to Clients (i.e. Education) as the major portion of maintenance funding (Breakdown) is committed as demand dictates.

The department has a requirement to utilise funds and resources where most maintenance is required and hence the budgets must be flexible enough within Regions to allow redirection of money and departure from the program when necessary.

The allocation for General Maintenance for 1987-88 \$29.3 million is only marginally more than the final allocation in 1986-87 and hence it is likely that Recurrent Expenditure for Schools in 1987-88 will be similarly proportional, i.e. in the order of \$22 million.

The actual expenditure between Education Department Regions for 1985-86 and 1986-87 was:

SALARIES

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: When comparing the average full-time equivalents actual for 1986-87 and proposed for 1987-88, there is a reduction of 63.6 full-time equivalents. This reduction represents an estimated savings of \$1 117 400 in salaries and related payments in 1987-88 and future years.

WORKERS COMPENSATION

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The proposed budget expenditure provides for an increase in the workers compensation premium due to the anticipated increase in the number of lump sum settlements under the 'old' Workers Compensation Act. There are a number of outstanding claims which are to be settled prior to the introduction of the new Act.

As at 30 September 1987 the number of departmental employees on workers compensation is as follows:

- 25 long term (two months and over)
- 29 short term (less than two months)
- 54 TOTAL

Nature of injuries is as follows:

- 20 back injuries
 - 7 strains
 - 3 neck injuries
 - 2 multiple injuries
- 17 arm/shoulder injuries
- 5 other

PARLIAMENTARIANS' STAFF

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The increase in staff to the Members of Parliament (Electoral Offices) last year of 4.3 persons occurred as follows:

Secretary to the President of Legislative Council (Previously paid by Parliament House)	FTE
Unley Electorate	1.0
*Albert Park	0.6
*Bright 2 days per week	1.0
*Hayward 2 days per week	0.4
*Playford 2 days per week	0.4
*Walker (20 hours per week)	0.5
	4.3 FTE

* Additional staff engaged resulting from permanent staff being on workers compensation (RSI).

The appointment of the 0.6 FTE for Napier occurred early July 1987.

WORKERS COMPENSATION

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The reply is as follows:
 1985-86—\$2 219 106
 1986-87—\$2 434 513

ADELAIDE REMAND CENTRE

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: As a part of improving the security of the roof area following the escape from the Adelaide Remand Centre, the roof decking was secured with self tapping screws at every crest of the roof decking to the purlins. Approximately 4 000 screws were used and the work took 2 days to complete.

The primary breach of security was made through a 300 mm × 300 mm exhaust vent in the security ceilings over a cell in Unit 5 on the top level of the centre. The escapee then removed ductwork and gained access to a ceiling space, broke through 32 mm of fire resistant plasterboard and then forced a way out through the roof decking.

Following repairs to the plasterboard and ductwork, the vents were secured to all cells on this level and, as an additional security measure, the roof was screwed down. The weakness in security was the vent in the ceiling to the cell. The total cost of the repairs and additional work was \$9 200.

ELECTORATE OFFICES

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: Three new electorate offices were established at a total cost of \$84 038.65.

Location and Member

- (a) 564C Tapleys Hill Road, Fulham Gardens.
Member for Hanson, Mr H. Becker, MP—\$30 907.10.
- (b) 6 Davenport Street, Millicent.
Member for Victoria, Mr D. Baker, MP—\$28 432.03.
- (c) 196 Anzac Highway, Plympton.
Member for Walsh, Hon. J. Trainer, MP—\$24 699.52.

HOUSING CAPITAL WORKS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The proposed program is as follows:

	\$
3 Four bedroom houses at \$90 000 per house	270 000
Karoonda	
Lucindale	
Gladstone	
2 Three bedroom houses in remote locations at \$160 000 per house	320 000
Mintabie	
Pipalyatjara	
9 Three bedroom houses at \$80 000 per house	720 000
Cook	
Lameroo	
Mt Gambier	
Naracoorte	
Pt Broughton	
Salt Creek	
An unallocated allowance to meet urgent needs	
14	\$1 310 000

It should be noted that the above costs are estimates only, and will depend on whether housing is provided by construction, purchase or relocation.

SCHOOL PROPERTIES

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The reply is as follows:

	Net Proceeds \$	Valuation \$
Underdale High School—Sale of Land	9 500.00	9 500.00
Compton Primary School—Sale of Land	400.00	n.a.
St Leonards Junior Primary School—Sale of Land	242 500.00	250 000.00
Mt Muirhead—Millicent—Sale of Land	27 509.55	n.a.
Hallett Cove—Lot 31 Ragamuffin Drive—Sale of Land	328 527.88	340 000.00
Pyap—Section 73—Sale of Land	15 505.00	n.a.
Millicent—Sale of Land	24 626.28	30 000.00
Bolivar East Primary School—Sale of Land	1 000.00	n.a.
Salisbury East Primary School—Sale of Land	14 000.00	n.a.
Seaton High School—Sale of Land ..	101 850.00	100 000.00
Salisbury East Primary School—Sale of Land	14 000.00	n.a.
Unley Wattle Street—Sale of Land ..	132 662.24	115 000.00
Total	912 080.95	

n.a. = not available