

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 12 September 1989

## ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

**Chairman:**

The Hon. T.M. McRae

**Members:**

Mr M.R. De Laine  
 Mr M.G. Duigan  
 Mr S.G. Evans  
 Mr G.A. Ingerson  
 Mr E.J. Meier  
 Mr P.B. Tyler

*The Committee met at 11 a.m.*

**The CHAIRMAN:** The procedure will be relatively informal. I will notify changes to composition of the Committee as they occur. If the Minister undertakes to supply information at a later date, it must be in a form suitable for insertion in *Hansard* and two copies must be submitted no later than Friday 29 September to the Clerk of the House of Assembly.

I propose to allow the lead speaker for the Opposition and the Minister to make opening statements, if they so desire, of about 10 minutes or so. I will be flexible in relation to the call for questions, but it will be on the basis of allowing about three questions per member, alternating sides, allowing supplementaries when there are reasonable circumstances.

Subject to the convenience of the Committee, members who are outside the Committee but who desire to ask a question will be permitted to do so once the line of questioning on an item has been exhausted by the Committee. An indication in advance to the Chairman will be necessary. Questions must be based on the lines of expenditure as revealed in the Estimates of Payments. However, reference may be made to other documents, for example, Program Estimates and the Auditor-General's Report, etc. Ministers will be asked to introduce advisers prior to the commencement and at any changeover, and questions are to be directed to the Minister, not the advisers, although Ministers may refer questions to advisers for a response.

Recreation and Sport, \$7 236 000

**Witness:**

The Hon. M.K. Mayes, Minister of Recreation and Sport.

**Departmental Advisers:**

Mr G. Beltchev, Chief Executive Officer, Department of Recreation and Sport.  
 Mr D. Harvey, Director, Racing.  
 Mr R. Moyle, Manager, Finance and Administration.  
 Mr G. Forbes, Acting Director, Operations.  
 Mr B. Smith, General Manager, Totalizator Agency Board.

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

**Mr INGERSON:** I will make a short introductory statement about the conduct of the Estimates Committees. I

refer to two notes that the Minister circulated to senior officers when he was Minister of Agriculture. In the first note, from the Office of the Minister of Agriculture to the Director-General of his department, the Director-General was asked to arrange the preparation of 10 Dorothy Dix questions for 'pre-emptive purposes' for the Estimates Committees.

In the second note, from the department's Director of Policy and Planning, Miss Bunning transmits the Minister's request to another officer of the department, as follows:

Ten 'Dorothy Dix' questions and answers are required by the Minister on major achievements of the department in the last 12 months, and planning activities for 1989-90. To this end, would each Director please ensure the preparation of at least two questions (with answers) from your area of responsibility.

At the bottom of her memo Miss Bunning further states:

All suggestions are welcome.

Will the Minister assure this Committee that this has not occurred in the Department of Recreation and Sport?

**The CHAIRMAN:** Before calling on the Minister, if that was a short statement then I must treat it very generously, but if it was meant to be a question it is quite out of order. However, since it has been said, and while the member for Bragg is considering his position in relation to the questions that he will ask, I will ask the Minister whether he wishes to make a statement.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will make a preliminary statement. My statement concerns the budget and the Government's achievements and ambitions in relation to recreation and sport in this State. The Department of Recreation and Sport is the Government agency which has the primary responsibility for establishing a framework for the development of recreation and sport and racing in South Australia, in partnership with recreation and sporting organisations and, of course, with the racing industry.

As such, the department administers Government funds in a manner which supports the success of South Australian's in their recreation, sport and racing activities through four major expenditure programs: development of recreation; development of sport; racing and gaming; and related support services. A number of significant achievements were made during 1989-90. These include: the completion of a series of studies on the impact of recreation activities on the River Murray, the Mount Lofty Ranges and the Flinders Ranges; further development of the Heysen Trail; recreation leadership courses developed in association with TAFE; and grants provided to those State recreation associations which had the potential to increase levels of participation.

A 10-year staged State facility development plan was completed. Criteria for the eligibility of funding from the department for sporting bodies and individual athletes were established. The establishment of a Racing Appeals Tribunal was also an important step over the past year.

A working party was established to examine the viability of licensed bookmakers. Penalties for SP bookmakers were substantially increased. I now propose to deal with each of the budgets in turn.

The first is the recurrent budget where total expenditure by the Department of Recreation and Sport in 1988-89 was \$7.166 million. This expenditure exceeded the budget estimate by \$196 000 million, due to wage and salary increases and additional expenditures approved through excess warrants. During the year, South Australia Totalizator Agency Board turnover increased by \$78.3 million from just under \$315 million in 1987-88, an increase of 24 per cent. The proposed recurrent budget for 1989-90 totals \$7.236 million.

It is opportune that I now advise that, for the first time, the Department of Recreation and Sport has a secure financial base on which to build for future years. In past years,

the department has relied on the recreation and sport fund to finance grants to sporting and recreation associations in addition to an annual allocation from Treasury under the grants and advances line. The amount of money in this fund fluctuates with the changing fortunes of Soccer Pools and Lucky Dates contributions which, in recent years, has declined from \$954 000 in 1986-87 to \$700 000 in 1988-89.

This financial year, however, the Government has decided that the proceeds from the small lotteries licence fees, estimated at some \$1.4 million, will be the major contributor to the Recreation and Sport Fund in lieu of Soccer Pools and Lucky Dates. The contribution from small lotteries is far more predictable and will enable the department more confidently to plan for the future.

The change of funding to the recreation and sport fund has also resulted in an overall increase in the recurrent budget for the department in real terms; that is, more money in the way of grants is available to sporting and recreation associations through increased allocations to the Recreation Institute and the South Australian Sports Institute. In 1988-89 a total of \$2.4 million was distributed to associations by way of grants. This financial year, an increase of 11.6 per cent is proposed.

In addition to the increase in State funds being made available to recreation and sport, the possibility of attracting substantial Federal funds has been enhanced as the SASI model for coaching programs and development funds has been adopted by the Federal Government. The South Australian model for drug testing, initiated through the Sports Institute, has also been taken and developed by the Federal Government through the AIS.

These initiatives will most certainly benefit South Australia during negotiations with the national sports authorities to determine this State's allocation from the \$230 million package over four years for sport and recreation recently announced by Senator Richardson, the Federal Minister. If I could now turn to the estimates of a capital nature, you will see that total payments proposed are \$5.52 million compared with \$0.897 million expenditure in 1988-89.

This increase in capital allocation represents one of the largest capital works budgets ever allocated to the department by the State Government. Major capital works to be undertaken from the above allocation during 1989-90 include: baseball—planning and design work for the construction of a new baseball facility, \$500 000; soccer—upgrade of Hindmarsh Soccer Stadium, \$1.45 million; land purchase—notional amount for purchase of land at State sports park for future velodrome and baseball facilities, \$1.938 million; velodrome—detailed planning, \$370 000; and southern facilities—feasibility studies.

I would now like briefly to outline other significant projects which are either currently under way or have recently been completed, to demonstrate what is being done for sport and recreation by way of provision of facilities:

1. Completion of the international hockey lacrosse complex at State sports park;
2. Resurfacing of the track at the Olympic Sports Field;
3. Major improvements to the State shooting park by the provision of a clay target range, international practical shooting range, and international hand gun metallic silhouette range;
4. Re-establishment of 13 netball courts at Port Lincoln;
5. Provision of a fully covered riding arena for disabled riders at Craighburn Farm, Blackwood;
6. Construction of a second international softball diamond at Barratt Reserve, West Beach;
7. Provision of rebound ace surfaces to tennis courts at Memorial Drive;

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8. Development of an indoor community recreation centre at Salisbury; and

9. Constuction of an international standard small bore and air rifle facility at Wingfield.

In addition, an amount in excess of \$16 million will be allocated over the next three financial years by the Race-courses Development Board to upgrade facilities for the benefit of racing in this State.

In conclusion, I advise that the 1989-90 budget for the Department of Recreation and Sport in both capital and recurrent allocations totals \$12 756 000. This represents the largest budget ever allocated to the department by any South Australian State Government, and will enable the department to continue to provide support to sporting and recreation bodies throughout the State in both the provision of financial assistance and facilities to enable associations to grow and become more self-sufficient.

**Mr INGERSON:** If the detailed answers to my four part question cannot be supplied today, will the Minister supply them at a later date? First, what amount of sick leave was taken during the past financial year and how much of this leave was taken on a Monday and Friday and days immediately before and after holiday weekends? Secondly, what is the current salary of the Chief Executive Officer and the salary applying at 30 June 1988 and 30 June 1989 and what allowances does the Chief Executive Officer receive in addition to salary? Thirdly, how many officers are employed at EO level and AO level? Fourthly, in relation to inter-agency support items not allocated to programs, will the Minister provide an itemised run-down of the spending during the previous financial year and the budgeted spending for this financial year under 'Salaries, wages and related payments' and 'Administration expenses, minor equipment and sundries'?

**The CHAIRMAN:** I am treating that as one question and I propose to allow that form of question regularly in each Committee.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The amount of sick leave taken within the department was 455.8 days for 1987-88 and 304.1 days for 1988-89, so that was quite a significant decrease. That figure was to 30 June, so perhaps the flu epidemic will have an effect on sick leave figures in 1989-90. In relation to sick leave not covered by medical certificate, it was 257.8 days for 1987-88 and 213.09 days for 1988-89, so again that indicates a significant decrease.

In terms of sick leave not covered by a medical certificate but taken on a Monday or a day immediately before or after a public holiday, in 1987-88 the figure was 53.73 days and in 1988-89 it was 42.87 days. The drop is just under 20 per cent. I think that answers all the questions about sick leave.

As to the Chief Executive Officer, the following question was asked:

Will the Minister provide information on the current salary of the Chief Executive Officer and the salary applying at each of 30 June 1986 and 30 June 1989, and any allowances the Chief Executive Officer receives in addition to salary?

All that information is published. The Chief Executive Officer is on the EO-3 range, and that applied at 30 June 1988 and 30 June 1989. The only allowances would be in respect of the provision of a car.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** And a telephone allowance?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Yes.

*Mr DUGAN interjecting:*

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Yes, the standard provision. We have one CEO and 15 AOs, comprising 67 full-time equivalents in the department.

As to intra-agency support service items not allocated to programs, the following question was asked:

Will the Minister provide an itemised run down of spending last financial year and budgeted spending for this financial year under salaries, wages and related payments, and administration expenses, minor equipment and sundries?

The allocation for support services for 1989-90 is \$285 000 in the policy, planning and development area. In respect of personnel, the sum is \$574 000; in computing it is \$30 000; in finance \$35 000; and in publicity and promotion the figure is \$23 000, making a total of \$947 000.

**The CHAIRMAN:** The member for Bragg asked for his list of questions to be tabled and, in so far as it will help *Hansard* and keep the record clear, I am willing to accept that.

**Mr INGERSON:** The totals given by the Minister are available to everyone, but we would like the actual breakdown of salaries to be provided.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will detail the figures in the order used previously. The figures are as follows:

POLICY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT	
Management	\$
Executive services	7 000
Minister overseas travel	32 000
Policy Development	
Scors	9 000
Scors (to hold conference)	5 000
Management reserve	126 000
Community sport miscellaneous	4 000
Women's policy development	19 000
Commonwealth Games	50 000
Social justice information services	3 000
Commonwealth Games appeal grant	30 000
Total Policy Planning and Development	\$285 000

ADMINISTRATION/PERSONNEL	
Support Services	\$
Correspondence	15 000
Travel/accommodation	16 000
Stores and equipment	20 000
Transport	26 000
Workers compensation	6 000
Personnel	
Staff development (departmental)	10 000
Staff development (operations)	12 000
Accommodation	
Citicentre and Liverpool buildings	
Accommodation Citicentre	140 000
Accommodation Liverpool building	5 000
Telephone	44 000
Energy	6 000
State Association House	
Accommodation	215 000
Facilities Management	
State Association House	
Operating	34 000
Womens playing fields Operating	20 000
S.A. Inst. Shooting Park Operating	2 000
Government employees housing	3 000
Total Administration/Personnel	\$574 000

COMPUTING SERVICES	
Computing Services	\$
Consumables	5 000
Operating	25 000
Total Computing Services	30 000

FINANCE	
Financial Services	\$
Operating	15 000
Fringe benefits tax	5 000
Audit fees	15 000
Total Finance	\$35 000

PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION	
Library	\$
Books	1 000
Journals	1 000
Publicity/Publications	
Publicity	10 000
Annual report	8 000
Recreation and sport news	3 000
Total Publicity and Information	\$23 000
Total Intra Agency Support	\$947 000

**Mr INGERSON:** I refer to page 383 of the Program Estimates. Each year under 'Source of Funds' we have the 'Payments from Trusts and Deposits' line. This year there is no reference anywhere to those payments and trust funds. Will the Minister provide that information? I ask this question because this year there is a \$2.2 million shortfall compared with the vote for the year 1988-89, and for the year 1989-90 there is a proposed increase of almost \$5 million. There is no explanation in any of the documents as to where that money will come from.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I think this came up previously under the Racecourse Development Board. The major allocation was \$4.6 million and the actual expenditure was \$2.3 million. There is a difference of about \$2 million between the amount voted and what was actually spent. I undertake to provide that detail.

**Mr INGERSON:** At page 385 the Program Estimates state that a 10-year State facility development plan has now been completed. Will the Minister detail that plan and explain the future development, if any, at Gepps Cross?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The plan has been completed within the department. However, it has not yet come to my desk or been to Cabinet. It is proposed that it will be completed this financial year. The overall planning aspect takes into account all of those priorities of sports throughout the State. At this stage I cannot give any fine detail on the 10-year State facility development plan. With regard to the proposals at Gepps Cross, we are looking at two additional sports being located there. As I mentioned earlier, notional funds are set aside for the purchase of land for the velodrome and we are also looking at land for the new international baseball facility. They are the two facilities currently on the drawing board for Gepps Cross.

**Mr INGERSON:** As a supplementary question, is the Minister saying that the Program Estimates are not correct, because they very clearly state that the plan is completed, not that it is about to be completed? The same question was asked last year, when no answer was given. It is the second consecutive year that this line has appeared in the document. It is not good enough for us to have put before the Parliament a statement that the plan was completed, but now we find that it is not completed. What is going on? Can we accept that the rest of this document is in fact accurate? This is not something that has been going on for several years. It is a very emphatic statement that it was completed.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It has been completed within the department but it has not yet been before Cabinet.

**Mr De LAINE:** At page 381, the Program Estimates refer to 'Development of recreation—grants; community services, etc.' Will the Minister explain the cessation of recurrent expenditure on grants for recreation and the introduction of an allocation for community services?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is a change in name to some extent which has led to the difference between last year and this year. I will give a break down of those figures. The figures on the community services line are yet to be finalised

with the various organisations. A significant number of grants in this area include salaries and funds coming in amounting to a total of \$1.256 million. These include salaries at \$479 000, operating costs at \$123 000, grants in advance of \$194 000, and the recreation and sport fund of \$436 000, totalling \$1.232 million. If we add the inward deposits of \$24 000 to that figure, it provides a total of \$1.256 million.

In 'development of recreation', we include areas such as professional development associations, \$11 500; bushwalking and mountain leadership, \$20 000; canoe board, \$20 000; Aboriginal sport and recreation, \$25 000; women's recreation, \$35 000; Friends of the Heysen Trail, \$16 000; publications, \$16 200; Play and Playgrounds Association, \$11 000; development of Feeling Great, \$10 500; and regional recreational planning, \$15 000. It also includes the Royal Lifesaving Association, the Surf Lifesaving Association, the volunteer coastguard and various other fundings which all go into the community for the development of those organisations. That funding represents an amount of \$753 000 directed to the community recreation associations of the types I have mentioned. I am sure the honourable member can appreciate the significance of that funding to those organisations in their initiatives. This funding program is very valuable and has certainly been enhanced by the operation of SARI.

**Mr De LAINE:** My question concerns the rationale behind the cessation of the recurrent expenditure on grants and the introduction of an allocation of community services. What is the relationship between the two lines?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We have designated three areas. The first is to provide the services through community organisations. For example, the Recreation Association for the Elderly is a very worthwhile and significant group in the community. We support it and allow it to develop so that it has an opportunity to grow and help itself. In a sense, participation and accountability is built into this program. Many States, particularly Queensland, throw the money in the air and the organisation that catches it gets it; it is basically the squeaky wheel gets the oil.

I think that the department is responsibly and carefully supporting organisations that are providing a large participation on the basis of the Government's belief in equity, justice and fair play. So, organisations like the Recreation Association for the Elderly get substantial support from us, not only in relation to cash but also in relation to the other part of the program, which is support for their development through management advice and services, publicity, administration, and so on; and that is the second prong in assisting those organisations.

In addition, we have an investment-type program to encourage these organisations to invest in themselves and their activities; and that is the third prong to the approach. This approach has been accepted gratefully and with a great deal of enthusiasm. The feedback I get from the community is that this approach offers organisations an opportunity to develop their programs with the department's expert advice and support. They even draw help from outside resources. The program has proved to be quite successful.

There is no doubt that this approach has given some organisations the opportunity to rethink where they are going and what they are doing, and most have welcomed that opportunity. We have seen a large number of organisations flourish, and they will continue to do so. I singled out the Recreation Association for the Elderly, which I think is one good example of an organisation that will flourish. This three-pronged approach supports the expertise and management guidance of the president, executive officer

and committee. I hope that that gives the honourable member an idea of how these programs work.

**Mr De LAINE:** I refer to page 385 of the Program Estimates. How will the performance of athletes at the South Australian Sports Institute be improved? How much of the institute's budget will be devoted to this aspect of its work?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** SASI's funding has increased quite significantly. When SASI commenced in 1982 its budget was about \$132 000 per annum and it is now \$2.3 million. The expenditure on the development of SASI programs has been very significant. The events of the past few weeks have been unfortunate for SASI and the sporting community, but I will not go into that. I will compare the funding for SASI for 1988-89 and for 1989-90 and make a statement about support for sport and what I think the increased funding will mean for sport in this State. The amount attributed to the sports plan this year is \$1.219 million and last year it was \$717 000 which represents 51 per cent of SASI's budget. This year the management fund is \$31 000 and last year it was \$26 000. This year \$61 000 is allocated to the women's unit and last year it was \$27 000. Administration expenses this year is allocated \$200 000 compared with \$194 000 last year, and this represents 8 per cent of the overall budget, compared with 13 per cent of the budget for 1988-89. This year sport psychology has a budget of \$89 000 compared with \$83 000 last year. 'Medical' has a budget of \$53 000 this year compared with \$3 000 last year. The sports science budget this year is allocated \$164 000 compared with \$80 000 last year. Coaching this year has a budget of \$640 000 compared with \$340 000 last year. And, SASI's program this year is \$60 000 compared with \$12 000 last year.

That is the background to the question asked by the member for Price in relation to the financial detail. On page 385 of the Program Estimates, under 'Broad Objectives/Goals', I note the following:

To establish specific performance objectives for athletes that can be measured based on research into the development of sport in South Australia.

To promote sport in South Australia and to assist associations to promote their own sport.

The last sentence is the key to the overall philosophy of SASI. I think we can be very proud of what SASI has achieved in the past few years. The member for Price would know, because of his involvement in cycling in this State, how significant that has been. This not only occurs in relation to cycling or cricket but in other sports as well; it ranges from volleyball, squash and netball right through many other sports. I should mention some of the key players in SASI. I acknowledge the retirement of Geoff Motley from the board. He has made a significant contribution since SASI's inception; and Michael Nunan and his team have given leadership to SASI.

Basically, we have come up with a development program for sport in this State which has given sport the opportunity to have a goal and to have measures against which to set itself. It has given a fraternal organisation in which people can cross-check their own objectives and achievements in terms of coaching, receive specific advice in regard to their coaching practices and strengthen their coaching methods, reinforce their skills and enhance their overall image as coaches or athletes within the program. It is very comprehensive in terms of the coaching program, and plays a very significant part in the development of sport.

The development of sport is the executive responsibility of the bodies for each sport. They have an opportunity to achieve all those things and to assess and reflect on their objectives, and they are given the opportunity to work with SASI staff to develop objectives and programs, whether in

junior development, elite programs or participation. It is very much our intention to funnel sport through SASI. Initially, there was some resistance to that as each sport has its own kingdom, if you like, and its own views about where it should be going. However, with time, SASI has proven the goods, and I am sure I could bring in a number of sports leaders of this community to reinforce that statement.

We can be very proud of SASI. It is a model which has been adopted elsewhere. The Federal Government is looking at this through the Australian Sports Commission as being the model to adopt with regard to all national programs. It is basically a template which offers program performance and assessment, accountability, and the opportunity to reach new goals and objectives in sport.

Just this weekend I had the opportunity to open two new bowling clubs in my electorate. On each occasion I had the opportunity to speak with the State President of the Royal South Australian Bowling Association (Mr Bob Greenslade) and the Senior Vice-President (Mr John Jenkins). Their comments, which were not prompted by me, are important. I had not met Mr Greenslade before Friday night, nor Mr Jenkins before Sunday.

**Mr INGERSON:** Is this an answer?

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order! I ask the member for Bragg, if he wants to raise these matters, to do so formally through the Chair.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is very important that the member for Bragg listen to this, because what SASI is achieving is important. I am sure that the President of the Royal South Australian Bowling Association would not regard it as a 'fob-off' to record his views about their State coach. Both gentlemen made the point separately that the SASI program had offered them a very substantial opportunity to see their State coach develop and reinforce skills, and to allow him to find a competitive and constructive environment in which to work.

Mr Greenslade and Mr Jenkins both said that the SASI program was very constructive for the sport of lawn bowls. Certainly, the new State coach has nothing but enthusiasm, and that speaks well for SASI. This was an impromptu response from sport to the funding and development programs the SASI has adopted, and that comment was unsolicited by me. I am delighted to hear those sorts of comment, which reinforce the views I hear throughout the sporting community, whether it involves athletics, netball, basketball or any other sport, in regard to SASI. It has delivered the goods.

The events of the past couple of weeks were very unfortunate, because they placed a cloud over SASI—I hope, only temporarily. For the sake of a few rather ill-timed political points, SASI has had a grey cloud placed over it. It is strong enough to recover from that, and the individuals concerned will survive. The facility is excellent: it is functioning in a very accountable and direct way in the sporting community. Our idea is to ensure that funds go through SASI and, the more dollars we can get into directly developing sport, the better it will be.

**Mr De LAINE:** How many women coaches are to be employed at the South Australian Sports Institute during 1989-90?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Our women's apprenticeship coaching program for 1989-90 involved \$115 000. Our full-time equivalent coaching positions for women will be 3.6. We can give you a breakdown on full-time coaches in regard to women. They are: one softball and one netball. Apprentice coaches comprise one swimming, one gymnastics, one athletics and one netball, and this year we will be considering other areas such as hockey.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** Is the Minister or the department aware of the difficulties that have arisen now that hockey, cycling and baseball international standard facilities are proposed or have been built? Young people are not encouraged to play sport, because the per capita fees that associations are now required to ask discourage rank and file members at the grade levels. When I refer to 'young people', I mean those who are over 18 but who must pay the adult fee. Those young people in their mid-20s have substantial financial commitments.

Hockey clubs are asking fees of \$130 or \$140 from even C and D grade players. In relation to the netball associations, I believe that they cannot get together because one organisation has a higher per capita fee than the others, but there are other reasons also.

I recently attended a tennis association AGM where a move was made to disaffiliate from the State bodies because of the per capita fees that were being asked. I am aware that the fees relate to not only maintenance of facilities but also administration of the State bodies. We are getting to the stage where we are becoming so specialised that ordinary rank and file members do not want to remain in the sport because of the high costs involved. Those people do not really want to play at a higher level, but they are nevertheless asked to contribute. Is the Minister or his department aware of these problems and has any discussion taken place in an attempt to resolve this dilemma?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Modern sport involves considerable cost. The community does have a high expectation in relation to the quality of sporting goods and the surfaces used. The sports themselves determine the central facilities. Governments would probably be delighted if those sports dictated that they wanted to play on cow paddocks, because the new surfaces involve astronomical costs for the Government. The Government has not embarked on this course of upgrading facilities; rather, the sports dictate those matters. Hockey has dictated that a synthetic surface should be the internationally accepted standard. I believe that a grounds committee is set up under the international body, and it determines what surfaces are acceptable for international games. So, the sports themselves determine the costs, because they determine the facilities required.

I think it is a fact of life that, if the sports come to Governments and seek funding in order to establish these very expensive facilities, we will have to accommodate those requests. Our philosophy is that these separate facilities should stand alone. I hope that the international facility will not involve the average hockey players in additional cost. The international facility at Gepps Cross should pay its own way. Obviously, if people want to play on it, they will have to pay a little more. However, it should not involve extra costs for the juniors who do not play on it or for those people who want to continue, at a non-elite level, to play in the Parklands. The sports must make those decisions.

Tennis is moving towards rebound ace and other surfaces which, in many ways, are cheaper to run than grass courts. A number of bowling clubs have now installed synthetic surfaces which are cheaper to run, because they do not require so much attention. Many new facilities are actually cheaper to run, but I believe that the international type of facilities should stand alone. I would be surprised if a player who plays in the Parklands on a Saturday afternoon incurred additional cost. The costs may relate to administration or the development of the sport. I would have to see some very solid figures before I was convinced that facilities such as those at Gepps Cross added significantly to the ordinary player's costs. Those facilities will increase the costs of the

person who plays on that surface, because that is part of the user-pays program adopted by the sports to run those facilities. Basically, the Government's philosophy is that we will build it, hand it over to the sports and then let them run it.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** In relation to players' costs, is it the Government's philosophy to encourage as many people as possible to play each type of sport, or does it intend to move towards elitism? Once the international facility is handed over to a State organisation, if that facility does not pay for itself or insufficient Government grants are available, the affiliated associations will ask the players to pay a per capita fee in order to try to cover the deficit. In addition, many local councils adopt a user-pays principle and ask the sporting clubs to pay for the facilities and their maintenance that traditionally councils have paid for.

In many instances the costs involved in playing sport are prohibitive, and frequently the very people who we should encourage to remain in it for the sake of personal development, if not for competition reasons, can no longer afford to remain in that sport. Has the Minister made any approach to the Federal Government at least to eliminate sales tax on junior sporting equipment—if not on senior sporting equipment—in some of the less elite sports?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I accept the member for Davenport's hypothetical proposition that, if sporting clubs are affiliated with a central body that runs an international facility which does not pay for itself, they will look at ways and means of overcoming the deficit. I do not think that it necessarily means that people will be discouraged to play the sport. If anything, an international facility helps to promote the sport and the standard, the quality of development, management, coaching, and so on. A balance has to be struck, and obviously this topic concerns the community and the Government.

The Government is committed to participation, and I have made a very deliberate attempt to ensure that participation is a main theme. The glory of SASI medals is all very well, but I want to ensure that information flows back to the ordinary person in the street who enjoys recreation and sport. The experience gained from training programs should flow back to them, and I think that is happening. In relation to tennis clubs, the benefits derived from the State coaching program and the expertise gained by the State coach can be passed down through the coaching clinics. I have seen that happen at a personal level. In relation to another sport with which I have had involvement, improved coaching, fitness and warm-up techniques have all flowed on through the expertise of SASI.

That is important for the ordinary person who might want to participate. It is a bit of a plug, but the Masters Games is a good example of what we want to encourage in respect of participation, because everyone can have a go. The member for Davenport is a bit of a jogger, and I occasionally see him in the Corporate Cup. He is out there probably more often than I am. The Masters Games are designed for people like us to get out and have a good run. The member for Goyder is also a runner of some note. I hope that he has taken up my invitation to participate in the Masters Games.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** What about sales tax?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will get to that. We are interested in participation because it is part of our philosophy. We want to see people out there recreating. People's whole mental and physical bearing is much better when they feel fitter. We want to encourage people in that direction.

As to sales tax, I have raised that matter with the Federal Minister both verbally and in written form. I have raised

it at the Sports' Ministers conferences and I have written to him to draw attention to the very point that the member for Davenport makes. At this time we are still pursuing it, and I accept the general thrust in terms of the discouragement to people taking up sport, especially young people in their twenties, whom the member for Davenport singled out. I refer to the commitments of people with a young family—particularly women—who do not have the time or the money to devote to maintaining their sport. We see them drop out from netball, tennis or any of the sports in which women are involved in their twenties.

We also see a rapid drop out rate just after high school and post-secondary school. That concerns us greatly. We need a net in which to catch young women and keep them in the sporting arena. Social mores could be involved—the belief that it is not the in thing to be seen in a netball uniform or to be physically fit. It might be that it is not seen to be feminine, or it might be a combination. It could result from the commitment of having a young family and mothers not having much time to devote to sport and recreation. It is also a time when people are financially under strain and, if they are buying a house or setting themselves up in a unit or flat and face other costs as well, then sales tax on sporting equipment is not consistent with what we are trying to encourage in terms of recreation and sport.

**Mr INGERSON:** Turning now to the velodrome, I notice in the capital works area that this year \$370 000 is put forward for a feasibility study. Can the Minister explain what that is all about? I understood that we had had several feasibility studies on this program. Secondly, what has happened to the \$1.9 million in the budget last year for the building of the velodrome? Will the Minister give us the current status of the question of boards versus concrete? Today I received a fax from a gentleman who is well versed in cycling and he claims categorically that a board surface for track cycling is far superior to the concrete surfaces in all instances. In his fax to me he indicates the following velodrome surfaces in respect of Olympic competition, as follows:

1960 .....	Rome	Board
1964 .....	Tokyo	Unsure
1968 .....	Mexico	Board
1972 .....	Munich	Board
1980 .....	Moscow	Board
1984 .....	Los Angeles	Concrete
1988 .....	Seoul	Board
1992 .....	Barcelona	Board
1996 .....	Athens	Board

In respect of the 1984 Los Angeles concrete track he states:

A new track that was bumpy, with waves and had to be resurfaced after completed. Not to standard.

As to the world championships, he indicates that the 1989 event on concrete in Lyon was to be cancelled only six weeks before the event, but the decision to go ahead was taken because of the money that had been spent in Lyon. He said that the event was an absolute disaster in terms of performance. The 1990 world championships are to be held on board in Japan and the 1991 championships in Stuttgart will also be on board. He further comments:

The history of steeply banked concrete tracks is not good.

He goes on to say that sprinters have to practise their skills in falling, and he is intrigued that sprinters will be required to fall from the top to the bottom of the track on concrete. He further comments that the concrete surface is hard and rigid. He says that concrete tracks have greater potential for punctures and that, in general, riding on concrete tracks causes major vibrations through the cycle itself which gradually affect the crutch area. This obviously means that there



is less opportunity to train and attain world standard. He makes the following comment:

The softer walled tyre means less tyre pressure, slower speeds, slower pedalling, therefore, less efficiency and less wind resistance. Less training at lower speeds and resistances is not normally known as the means to produce champions.

He speculates on whether we are heading towards a first class stadium in relation to cycling, or whether we are prepared to accept a second rate program in South Australia.

**The CHAIRMAN:** I did not interrupt the question, although it falls under a capital works line. If members do not object, I will read out the capital works line and we can go on with both areas in tandem.

Works and Services—Department of Recreation and Sport, \$5 520 000.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will go back to the first question. As to the feasibility study, that has been completed. The funding that has been allocated is to bring it up to the tender stage, that is, the call stage for construction. The \$1.9 million has not been lost. When one has a lag whereby exogenous factors enter the equation the department, with the agreement of Treasury, moves funds around to maintain other programs. We did that last year in order to benefit other areas. I would be delighted to see the velodrome being built now. Based on all past estimates, we should have been under way with it. The problem is that we cannot find a timber surface suitable to survive in our extremes of climate other than a rain forest timber that is natural kiln dried. We are faced with the prospect of bringing in rain forest timber. I am not willing to do that. I have not brought the matter before Cabinet—that is a personal statement. The Federal Government has now prohibited—

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** It gives exemptions.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I would be surprised if this purpose was approved from the Federal Government's point of view. I would like the Federal Government to give us a roof, which would solve a lot of the problems. The Federal Minister is not prepared to give that commitment. To build a complete velodrome with a roof would cost about \$18 million. We propose to construct a configuration that will allow us to include a roof. At this stage no-one in the timber industry is prepared to give any guarantees in respect of timbers strength when it is exposed to the extremes of our climate. Temperatures in this State go down to about freezing point and rise to about 44 degrees, while the variations in ground temperatures are much larger. At this stage it is highly unlikely that we would be able to use any sort of timber, whether it be softwood, timber artificially kiln-dried or timber treated synthetically. The only option is to use a concrete track.

If we built an \$18 million facility, the service and running charges along with the cost of construction would have to be borne by the State. There are options to give it commercial viability. However, if one looks at the proposed entertainment centre, one can meet the ongoing recurrent costs but, in respect of servicing the debt, it does not matter where you put it—whether it is in the middle of Sydney or Melbourne—that cost is too great to be met by the facility itself. A cycling velodrome has even more limited options.

The costs associated with building and servicing a velodrome prevent the State from sustaining the argument in favour of including a roof, so we are faced with providing a concrete facility. We are still negotiating with the various key players in cycling organisations in respect of the configuration of the cycling track. I understand that some of the complaints are not necessarily about the surface of the track but the geometry of existing velodromes. We are aware

that there have been some successes in this area. Our advice is that the velodrome in Barcelona is made of concrete.

**Mr INGERSON:** This fellow should know; he has been there.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The person from whom we obtained our advice has been there, too.

**Mr INGERSON:** I heard this from the coach of the Australian team.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** If that is so, he has two different answers. The tracks used in Brisbane and Auckland for the Commonwealth Games were made of concrete. It is not simply the track surface; the configuration of the track must be considered. Some people are unhappy about the configuration of some tracks but, according to senior Australian riders, the Auckland track has a good configuration, and they observed what happened in Brisbane, too. I do not think anyone can sustain the argument in favour of spending \$18 million to build a velodrome and then provide further funds to service it. Certainly, given the other commitments of the State Government, that argument cannot be sustained.

As much as the State Government is committed to cycling, it must be put in the context of the costs involved. In due course we will put together a package that will ensure that Adelaide has a top quality velodrome. If we can resolve the negotiations in the short-term, construction should commence by the end of this financial year. If we reach the stage of calling for tenders, we can go back to Treasury to obtain funds to commence construction of the velodrome. Of course, everyone takes the view that a timber track is the preferred option. However, I am not prepared to support that option because it would mean cutting down the rain forests and that would add to the problems we face as a global society.

Furthermore, why should this facility be any different from any other facility? While the world's rain forests continue to be cut down, everyone can develop a good argument for an exemption to allow us to provide a timber velodrome. Everyone complains about the Brazilians cutting down hundreds of hectares of their rain forests every day to provide highways and for inefficient agricultural purposes and, if we continue to demand their timber, that will continue. We should clean up our own backyard before we complain about their backyard. I will not allow rain forests timber to be brought in from anywhere in the world because I think that as a society it is time we marked the spot. It is unfortunate for cycling that this has happened. We will certainly do our best to provide the State with a very good cycling facility.

**Mr INGERSON:** I understand that an indoor cycling stadium has been built in Western Australia at a cost of between \$5 million and \$6 million and that there is serious questioning of SACON's costing for an indoor stadium.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I am not sure of the figure for Western Australia. I have heard that the superdrome in Western Australia ended up costing four times more than the original estimate. It is easy to quote figures and a good example is the proposed entertainment centre. An entertainment centre can be built for about \$12 million but, basically, it would be a tin shed and the facilities inside would be appalling. Sound control, air-conditioning and vision would be all second rate.

**Mr INGERSON:** I am talking about a cycling track.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I do not know about the Western Australian situation. Of course, one can build a second-rate facility and be saddled with it—

**Mr INGERSON:** It is not second rate; it is world class.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It could not be world class if it cost only \$5 million—that is just not possible. I am advised that it is simply a track with a roof over it and that there are no facilities at all. If that is what you propose for South Australia, you do not want to provide an Australian centre for cycling with add-on facilities offering coaching, training, administration, spectator facilities and other support services. George Forbes, the Director of Operations, went to Western Australia and talked with these people. The lacrosse/hockey stadium provided by SACON in this State is probably the best facility of its type in Australia. I have heard various international coaches say that it is one of the best three in the world. That facility was built by SACON. Sue Campbell was the architect responsible for that facility. If anyone was looking for a person to build and design a sporting facility, she would be first on the list.

She would have to knock back the offers because, from my personal experience, her reputation within the building community in this State is next to none, and she is also involved in the velodrome. We are putting it all together and we have now an expert team of people who can work on these facilities. This Government has been heavily engaged, since I have been Minister and since George has been Director, in looking at these sports facilities developments. I take a bipartisan position on this: I have a commitment to ensure that we have the best facility for cycling in this State.

I have a huge respect for people involved in cycling in this State and I have a very strong affection for the way in which people such as Charlie Walsh and others have conducted themselves. Obviously, given the resources that are put into cycling in the European environment, they do a magnificent job. Cycling is a huge participant sport in Europe, just like Aussie rules football is in Australia. They often get 40 000 spectators at some velodrome functions when international stars from Italy go to France, and so on. One has to dip the lid at the success of our riders at the Seoul Olympics, when they competed against the top three in the world, including the East Germans, who are the pinnacle of success. We are very proud of Charlie Walsh and the work that he has done with the Cycling Union of Australia. Cycling is a minor sport in this country of 16 million, compared with the number participating in football, soccer, tennis and cricket, yet our riders go off and bring back the goods. We want to see the best here, and I have worked with the Opposition on this. We must make the dollars stretch, and that is the way we will do it.

I hope that we will see construction commence on the velodrome at Gepps Cross this year, and that I can convince my Federal colleague to put a lid on it. I believe that the Federal Government should do that. In many ways, the Federal Government has squibbed on its commitment to us. The Hon. J.J. Brown gave me a verbal undertaking that it would consider putting a roof on it. That was not political electioneering. John Brown did a hell of a lot for sport in this country. He was one of the best Federal Sports Ministers we have seen. His commitment to cycling in particular was excellent and, had he survived, we probably would have had a lid for our velodrome. It is unfortunate: rooster one day, feather duster the next. He was one of the victims of the political environment. It is a sad loss in many ways to sport and tourism in this country.

I give the Committee a commitment that we will probably see the commencement of our velodrome this financial year. I must say that it is likely to have a concrete surface. We have contacted every timber organisation in the country to see what options are available for a timber track, but it appears that we cannot put the package together. The geom-

etry, construction and configuration of the velodrome is also very significant. We are talking with key people in the community on that issue, and we can learn—as we have learnt in many instances previously with projects such as the entertainment centre and the hockey/lacrosse stadium—from the errors that have been made at other facilities around the country and internationally.

**Mr TYLER:** Referring to page 384 of the Program Estimates and the line 'establish a series of recreational planning studies with local government', will the Minister explain how that operates? In my electorate, the Happy Valley council has undertaken several recreational planning studies and currently has an excellent recreational policy. I understand that the department has been involved in that process. Will the Minister elaborate on that line, say how it works and tell the Committee whether there is any follow-up by the department with local government once the study has been completed?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** As an overview comment, and as I stated in relation to SASI, we have developed a philosophy within the department that we provide expertise at all levels to assist sports and recreational organisations in this State. From 1986-87 to 1987-88 we dramatically increased (by about 12 per cent) our devolution of funds out of administration—in other words, from spending on our own bureaucracy to spending within this State's sporting and recreational organisations. Although I am a fairly modest person, I can say that we have achieved some very significant gains in terms of how we structured SASI, SARI, our racing division and our central administration. We have seen a significant opportunity for sports and recreational organisations to have the dollars in their pockets to spend as against our spending it for them. We have given them a model to use to spend the funds and the opportunity to assess how they are spending it; in this way they can measure that success with the spending of those dollars.

It is a very similar theme with recreation. We are encouraging recreational bodies and local government, which is a very important player in this area. I do not think it has played a big enough role, but that is politics. Local government must answer to its ratepayers, as we must answer to the taxpayers. No-one likes imposing extra rates and taxes, and local government is no different from any other level of government. It does not enjoy doing that any more, particularly in the 1980's, when it is more and more difficult for people to meet the demands placed on them. We must develop a partnership with local government.

In terms of recreation and sport, Mr Tyler's electorate is in a very unique situation. It is a rapidly growing electorate, and we have had meetings with his local government authorities to look at the sports facilities in the area. I restate my commitment to ensure that we see sporting facilities develop in the honourable member's area. The same applies to recreation. I believe that we have a role to play with local government. Also, the Federal Government has a role to play. The State and Federal Governments have picked up that responsibility. Local government has very enthusiastic people playing more of a role in this area, and it varies from council to council. In my area, the Unley council has been very enthusiastic in the past about being involved in these programs. It also has a policy and philosophical objectives with regard to recreation and sport.

I think it is fair to say that the Unley council has not spent enough on local sporting organisations; I think it could spend more to support sport in its area. In the case of the member for Fisher, I think his councils are very enthusiastic to see the development of recreational and sporting facilities. The honourable member's electorate contains a high



proportion of school age children and I think that Federal, State and local government have a responsibility to ensure that these young people have an opportunity to develop a healthy lifestyle, whether they want to compete or recreate.

The honourable member's electorate has some magnificent areas in which to recreate. The department is committed to supporting local government in the honourable member's electorate and surrounding electorates to develop their potential and in relation to programs that the department wants to develop. The department is working with the councils in that area to look at the potential for a major multipurpose sporting complex in the south.

I think the days of individual sporting organisations—whether it be the Happy Valley Hockey Club, Happy Valley Tennis Club or any one of the local clubs in the area—having their own headquarters has gone. Communities demand multipurpose sporting facilities, and that is why we are heading in this direction. Communities also demand first quality services. We did this in relation to racing, as I think the General Manager of the TAB would agree. The department is in the entertainment industry and needs to be able to compete. People demand first quality services. They will not go to the Cheltenham Racecourse, sit in the rickety old stand and get blown half-way across the course every time a 10 knot wind blows from the coast, when they can stay in hotels, bet and watch the races on Sky Channel.

The department must provide the services that the community wants—and the community wants decent facilities, good quality meals at reasonable prices, and entertainment. That is the message that we are conveying—and certainly the TAB is doing this through its auditoriums—to the racing industry, and this message must be conveyed in relation to sport. If one is to bring in club members in numbers, one must provide a facility that will bring them in as a family or as a group of friends.

The department has to look at this in relation to sporting facilities in the south—a restaurant, cafeteria, fitness room and other associated facilities in the one central area. The turnstiles have to keep ticking to pay for this enormous capital cost. That is where the department is at in relation to how it believes it should be working with local government, and there will be further progress in the near future.

In relation to recreational planning, it is important that we look at the whole area of recreation in the southern region. New areas are being built. For instance, there is the Seaford proposal, and this morning's paper mentioned other areas which are being considered in the southern region but which are not in the member for Fisher's electorate. The department also needs to look at the impact of major recreational areas such as the Murray River, Mount Lofty and the Flinders Ranges. The department has to work carefully with authorities such as the National Parks and Wildlife Service, the Engineering and Water Supply Department and the Department of Environment and Planning to see how the recreational demands can be properly managed in terms of the environment at both the regional and State levels. They are the sorts of programs that the department has embarked on. Of course, we have also considered the recreational needs of Golden Grove.

It is part of the Government's overall planning process to look at the needs of the community. In many ways the south has grown faster than many people expected. To some extent Government expertise and services are continuing to improve. Although the Department of Recreation and Sport did not exist when the south was being talked about in the 1970s, it would have been useful to have had such a department then so that it could make an integral contribution to the recreational needs of Happy Valley, The Hub and the

other areas. It is harder to catch up on what has already taken place. However, in some ways it helps because one now knows where the people are located and one can ascertain the pattern of demand when looking at facilities. But, it makes it more difficult politically because people have taken a position on what they want and how they fit into the overall network of the resources that are already available.

**Mr TYLER:** What has been achieved by the Playground Development Unit since its establishment? How many staff are involved with this unit?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It was a significant step on our part to bring the Playground Development Unit under our jurisdiction. At this time the unit has no regulatory powers, as members would be aware; it has purely an advisory role. The people involved with it have particular expertise in a technical and community sense in that they were well recognised as being leaders in their areas. Basically, the unit provides advice, assessments, reports and recommendations and uses as a resource the Australian Playground Standards, which basically involves information brought together from around the world.

It costs local governments a huge amount of money to bring their playgrounds up to scratch. I am proud to say that Unley council has led the way in this. Recently Unley council spent \$110 000 to upgrade its playgrounds to a safer standard; instead of having asphalt or grass in the playgrounds, the council has now placed bark chips or rubber packing under various pieces of equipment in order to cushion falls; and it has identified and eliminated the equipment that was regarded as being unsafe. Unley is not a large council and has a population of about 48 000 people. If one compares that with Marion council, which I suppose is 2½ times the size of the Unley council and probably has more recreation parks, or the Happy Valley or Noarlunga councils which would probably have huge numbers of parks with recreational playgrounds which were built in the 1970s and which are now regarded as being unsafe, one can see that a huge capital outlay would be needed.

In order to get it right this time, we believe that we ought to be responsible for ensuring that the best possible advice goes to local government authorities. That is where we stand with regard to the Playgrounds Advisory Unit. The Play Association of South Australia was very enthusiastic about this as it wanted a central coordinating body which would provide that advisory assessment role to the community. The Education Department is another large provider of play and playground equipment.

**Mr TYLER:** Also the Children's Services Office?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Yes, there has been a huge effort on its part. My local primary school has embarked on a plan to ensure that the equipment is safe, and the cost to it has been quite enormous. Much of the playground equipment has been changed over, at considerable cost. The function is very important. The statistics from the Children's Hospital on the injuries received by children from play equipment have been quite extraordinary. We have four full-time equivalent employees in the Playgrounds Advisory Unit.

**Mr TYLER:** One area which the department and the Minister, I know, are particularly keen on is to see more people with disabilities being involved in recreation and sport. I note that, on page 384 of the Program Estimates, a line under 'Commentary on major resource variation between the years 1988-89 and 1989-90' states:

Provision of \$.130 million to enable the establishment of a Disability Recreation and Sport Foundation.

Will the Minister explain how he sees that foundation operating?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The honourable member is correct. This foundation is part of our social justice strategy and part of our commitment to ensure that disabled people have a focal body advocating their needs, representing their organisations in a central area and liaising with Governments with regard to their needs. Some of the bodies already covered by this and benefiting from it are the Amputee Sports Association, Wheelchair Sports Association of South Australia Incorporated, Association of the South Australian Blind Sporting Clubs, South Australian Deaf Sports and Social Club Incorporated, Cerebral Palsy Sport, Riding for the Disabled, RADSA, Radio for the Print Handicapped and the Sport and Recreation Associations of Intellectually Disabled Persons SA. The intention is to provide an independent entity for disabled people, to be managed by a Chief Executive Officer reporting to a Board of Trustees.

The important thing is that it will not infringe on the autonomy of the organisations. It is not an umbrella organisation representing them; it advocates the needs of the organisations I have highlighted to Governments and the community. It is an advocate organisation to develop opportunities for the disabled within our community. I would describe it as a serving body, which will develop an increased participation rate and a higher profile for disabled sport and better management and development opportunities for those involved in administration and promotion of disabled sport in the community. This is not to be seen as criticism, because this is something which has come from those organisations, something they feel they need to have. It has been developed with them, and I will consult with them on the development of the foundation. There are some very successful organisations such as Wheelchair Sports and, if some other sports could take up the model and method of administration, management skill and promotional capacity Wheelchair Sports has shown in this State, a number of sports would rise like a phoenix from the ashes in terms of their current achievements.

Wheelchair Sports is really quite brilliant, and I pay public credit to Kevin Borden and Mark Tregoning and the committee of Wheelchair Sports, because their capacity to bring in sponsors and promote themselves is something one has to see to believe. By bringing into sport people with their achievements, smaller bodies that have not had the same success—

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order! I am sorry to interrupt the Minister, but I am forced to raise a procedural matter. The member for Bragg advises me that he has, and normally would have, the next call after the completion of this answer and that he has certain questions he still wants to put. It is now clear that they will not fit within the Committee's agreed program. That being the case, the officers with the Minister at the moment would need to come back after lunch. If it were a matter of putting a few of those questions on notice, as it were, and doing it quickly, I would cooperate with that, but I do not think that that will work.

**Mr INGERSON:** I put to the Committee that we meet for a further hour after lunch, on the ground that there have been six questions from the Opposition in two hours.

**Mr DUIGAN:** Fifteen!

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order! Before we commence a debate, this is an opportunity for questions to be asked and I would not cut questions off without very good reason. The mere fact of a provisional timetable is not a good enough reason. Equally, members of the Opposition have had more than generous treatment so far as their questions this morning are concerned, both in number and in length. I have been

advised there are more questions to be asked. Therefore—regrettable as it may be—we will need to have the officers back after lunch.

*[Sitting suspended from 1 to 2 p.m.]*

**Mr INGERSON:** Does the Minister have a car phone or a cellular phone which is rented and paid for at taxpayers' expense? If so, when was it installed, what was the operating acquisition and the installation, and what were the operating costs during the previous financial year and for this financial year to date? Will he provide a break-down of costs to indicate local calls, STD calls and ISD calls?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Yes, I do have a cellular phone. However, that does not come under this line, so perhaps it could be asked when we are dealing with the Department of Employment and Technical and Further Education.

**Mr INGERSON:** When will the Government implement the Barnes report recommendations about reducing turnover tax and the possibility of introducing telephone betting for bookmakers on course?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Basically, the Barnes report related to fixed odds betting. As a consequence of the industry's indicating that it did not wish to proceed with fixed odds betting, I made a decision not to proceed with the legislation in the Upper House. Therefore, in essence, the primary purpose of the Barnes report no longer exists. However, I have indicated to a representative of the Bookmakers League that we will work with the industry and consider some of the Barnes report recommendations. Primarily, any suggestion that the Government will forgo revenue would be tied to the possibility of new revenue being available. Fixed odds has been removed from the agenda, so it is unlikely that the Government will pursue turnover tax reduction. However, we will look at all the implications, which are far wider than just that one issue in relation to the bookmaking industry in this State.

I have indicated that, in the not too distant future, I will discuss with all industry representatives the matters raised in the Barnes report and that I will look to the industry for its contribution. Fundamentally, although Government does have a role, bookmakers and the codes must work hand-in-glove. I think it is fair to say that some sectors of the bookmaking industry feel that they are poor cousins. It is incumbent on industry to investigate ways in which it can support attendance, which means business for bookmakers. The Committee would be aware that attendances have decreased. I have quietly, gently and subtly made suggestions to the industry that, because it is in an entertainment environment, it must provide facilities.

I think it is fair to say that, through the Racecourses Development Board, Government funding decisions about fractions, unclaimed dividends and percentage turnover, we have contributed significantly to capital funding for improvement of facilities for racegoers, but the industry must do more to support racing in this State at the racetrack. The community must be provided with more incentive to go to the races, to the trots, or to the greyhounds. Facilities must be improved and the industry is addressing that problem very constructively. Entertainment must also be improved and that should be linked with the facilities so that patrons are provided with some incentive to attend the track.

In my discussions with industry, I will stress the importance of its contribution to improving facilities and therefore attendances. The discussions can then address the problem of how we will further enhance the racing industry by strengthening that hand-in-glove relationship between

bookmakers and the industry. At this stage the Barnes report is basically a resource document. It was tied very directly to the fixed odds betting issue. I indicated that, if the fixed odds betting legislation passed both Houses, no proclamation would be made before we discussed the Barnes report recommendation with the industry and with the Bookmakers League in particular. At this stage, I plan to discuss the broad issues raised by the Barnes report with the industry as a whole.

**Mr INGERSON:** Page 386 of the Program Estimates refers to an investigation into transferring the functions of the Betting Control Board to the Racing Division within the department. What is being investigated and what stage has that investigation reached?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The Betting Control Board or the Bookmakers Licensing Board would retain its independence. It is important to note that, when looking at any alterations to the Betting Control Board's operations, we would look at any benefits for the community as a whole. We have discussed with the Secretary of the Betting Control Board (Mr Paul Morrissy) and the Chief Executive Officer the possible relocation of the board's premises and also some economic benefits which might flow from alteration of administrative operations. However, the Bookmakers Licensing Board and the Betting Control Board (it is one and the same body) would maintain its independence, so we are basically looking at some economies that might be achieved through common accommodation and common administration.

**Mr Beltchev:** The discussions have centred on maintaining the operations of the board proper and also looking at the provision of the administrative support to the board flowing from a common administrative unit, which would be the Department of Recreation and Sport. However, the discussions are far from complete.

**Mr DUIGAN:** In an earlier response to a question about the velodrome, the Minister spoke about the critical support of the Federal Government for a number of South Australian sporting initiatives. I recently received material about a multi-million dollar Federal Government financial assistance package for South Australian sporting programs. What is the nature of the cooperation and of the discussions that take place between the Commonwealth and the State in terms of support of various projects in South Australia?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** As to the ongoing relationship with the Federal department, we have seen some significant changes over the years in terms of administration of sport at the Federal level. Whether we talk about the Australian Institute of Sport, the Australian Sports Commission or the Federal Department of Recreation and Sport, under the auspices of Senator Graham Richardson, it has been said on numerous occasions by significant people in terms of the national arena—I talk of the former Minister John Brown, the existing Minister and heads of the Australian Sports Commission or the AIS—that the relationship between South Australia and Canberra is a model for other States. We provide a good administration and an excellent development model. We have clear objectives which we generally succeed in achieving. It is an excellent foundation for the Federal people to look at in terms of achievements at the local and regional level.

There are various programs with which we have been involved in liaising, whether it be the Sports Commission or the AIS at a Federal level. Earlier I mentioned the drugs program, which basically the Federal people dressed up and called the Federal program. It was a State program that was adopted. When it went before the ministerial conference it was our program. Tasmania did not like the idea of South

Australia getting any kudos, so it made a few cosmetic changes to the program and called it a national policy.

So be it: if Tasmania wants to be like that, fine. Basically, it is our program under another name. That is one example of where close liaison occurs. The directors of the sports institutions and the recreation institute spend much time liaising with the Federal people. I believe that there will be great benefit to South Australia when the carve-up of the \$230 million occurs between the States, because obviously the Federal people want to see that money used effectively. They know that we can use it effectively.

Already we have the infrastructure in place. I make a comparison with Queensland which, in my humble view, is a disaster. It has some non-expert in sport, a non-expert in administration, tossing the money in the air, and Queensland hopes that someone will come and get it. The program has no accountability or development. It seems to be a hit and miss scatter-gun approach, whereas we have a careful program and a close relationship with all the sports, and this allows us to implement development programs. Sensibly, the Federal people like that sort of approach, and it places us in a good position to get more than our share of the Federal funds that have been allocated.

In numerous other areas our Chief Executive Officer and the directors of the institute and other members of staff liaise closely with Federal people on a whole range of programs. The other areas I mentioned are the development programs. Again, we have been used as a model, and the relationship with the AIS and SASI is superb. They talk about it being the ideal model for other States to follow. There are plenty of examples, and I believe that we have a good chance, because we can deliver the goods effectively and initially show everyone else how to do it, of getting more than 8 per cent or 9 per cent of the \$230 million that is to be allocated.

**Mr DUIGAN:** I appreciate that answer, and I am pleased that not only will South Australia get its proportion of the *pro rata* allocation or even more by the Federal Government but also that there will not be two competing agendas—a State agenda and a Federal agenda—in respect of the allocation of funds. My question is about the operational side of the department's pursuit of objectives. The Auditor-General's Report talks about the principal aims of the department being to increase people's participation in fitness, sport and recreation activities. The Program Estimates at page 384, in respect of the development of recreation, identifies a number of programs that are designed to get people involved in recreation and sporting activities. Therefore, how does the department go about monitoring the effectiveness of that objective and whether or not there is an increasing participation by people in the range of activities provided?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Basically, a development plan involving the particular organisation is agreed. This flows through to all the organisations that have a relationship with us. It includes an in-built performance formula which relates to a whole range of activities and which we believe must be monitored to enable us to assess the effectiveness of the dollars that are allocated. This is done in a constructive manner rather than in any negative or destructive way. It is a learning process from both points of view. Built into the formula is a monitoring program, and that is probably a better way of doing it. Obviously, it has some flexibility. We relate them to the organisations.

I refer to the areas raised by the honourable member such as 'stimulate industry-wide professional development', 'commence work on the establishment of a neighbourhood fitness network' and 'establish the Disabled Sport and Rec-

recreation Foundation'. They all have a relationship to funding, as I mentioned earlier; for example, the Recreation Association for the Elderly was one of many that I highlighted. There is a development program. I will ask the Chief Executive Officer to comment further.

**Mr Belitchev:** The new funding packages grants schemes operating now through the Recreation Institute in particular are focused specifically on increasing levels of participation. In the negotiation of development plans for each organisation, the funding packages relate specifically to those activities. They will increase the memberships and participation so that at the very outset we set down the specific program, the funding therefor, and projected the outcomes.

The outcomes are measured purely on the basis of participation. As a result of that, organisations are starting to develop programs that increase recruitment. Increasingly, they are starting to look at different areas in order to recruit new people whom they have not had before. Some of the traditional organisations such as Girl Guides and Boy Scouts are good examples of organisations going into new areas—geographic and socioeconomic group areas—in which they have not been involved before.

**Mr DUIGAN:** My third question relates to page 165 of the Auditor-General's Report. I refer to notes forming part of the financial statement for the Department of Recreation and Sport. A series of payments have been made over previous years to enable the Adelaide Aquatic Centre to meet its agreed operating deficit. That agreement runs for 10 years from 1985 to 1995. In the financial year 1987-88 no payment was made because of the successful operation of the centre, but I cannot find any allocation this year. Is that because it will continue to run effectively this year, notwithstanding the extra commitments that have been made in relation to the extension of the centre to incorporate a leisure pool?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The honourable member's assessment is quite correct: there is an allocation in round terms. We can draw on it if required, but we do not expect to do so, particularly given the proposed so-called aquatic developments now taking place in the honourable member's electorate in association with the excellent swimming and diving facilities already there.

**Mr INGERSON:** I refer to page 388 of the Auditor-General's Report and the reference to the TAB. There is a increase in agents' fees from \$1.286 million to \$2.621 million. There is reference to the fact that betting tickets must be imported. Why is that not done in Australia? Radio broadcast fees have increased from \$799 000 to \$1.541 million. Has there been any increase in time or charging in relation to that area? In respect of racing information there is a significant increase from \$657 000 to \$1.325 million.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** In respect of agents' fees, there has been an increase in the number of agencies. In respect of tickets, there has been an increase in turnover. No supplier in Australia has the quality of cardboard that we require. There was a supplier in Melbourne, but he is no longer available. The increased allocation of moneys available, which is set out as a charge against the TAB, is as a result of an agreement between SAA and the TAB, as I understand it, as payment for the provision of racing services through SAA. I am sure the honourable member agrees that the freedom of access that is provided under the arrangement between SAA and the TAB for racing information services is a very valuable part of the industry. The cost for racing information is additional. It relates to the TAB's costs for printing in the morning newspaper the daily race program, the race results and related details.

**Mr INGERSON:** I refer to the Australian Formula One Grand Prix at page 389 of the Auditor-General's Report. In 1988-89, there was a profit (although it might have been a payment) of \$100 000, but there is no figure for this year. Does that mean that a loss was incurred this year?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I do not have a copy of the Auditor-General's Report in front of me, but I query the figure of \$100 000. I do not believe that that figure is accurate. My information is that the figure was about \$8 000 in respect of the year before last. There was a loss of \$11 000 last year in respect of the TAB service for the Grand Prix.

**Mr INGERSON:** I made a mistake. The figure '1' appears in the column. I take it that that means \$10 000?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Yes.

**Mr INGERSON:** I refer to page 385 of the Program Estimates. What progress has been made in respect of the junior sports task force and equal opportunity of young children participating in sports?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The task force has not yet been established. As the honourable member would know, there was a review working party comprised of Mr Simon Forrest from the Education Department and Ms Wendy Ey, our adviser on women's sport and numerous other things. That working party reported to the Director of Recreation and Sport and the Director-General of Education. It made a number of recommendations in respect of junior sports participation, and some of them have already been adopted. The Minister of Education has made a public statement about the school sports program, and so on, and other recommendations are yet to be considered, including the establishment of the task force.

**Mr INGERSON:** I refer to the Health Development Foundation, which I understand is funded jointly under the Health, Education and Recreation and Sport portfolios. What is the total budget, how much comes from Recreation and Sport and in what form (recurrent or capital)? What is the Health Development Foundation doing in respect of fitness, and has its direction changed considerably since its establishment was first announced some three years ago? What is its involvement with commercial gymnasias and how much is allocated for this purpose? What are the conversion costs for the new gymnasium in the Station Arcade and who is paying for it?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will try to find that figure. The contribution from Recreation and Sport has dropped significantly. I think the initial establishment figure was about \$40 000, but it has dropped off now. It reports to the Minister of Health. One of its objectives was to eliminate the duplication that we felt occurred between various departments. We were concerned about the fitness information area. It disseminates information, on behalf of the Department of Recreation and Sport, with regard to fitness and healthy lifestyle.

I will take that on notice. It is fundamentally a fee for service arrangement, so the health development fund would be funded by us on a user pays principle rather than any allocation. I will provide that information later today; otherwise we will deal with it in the normal way.

**Mr INGERSON:** Is the change in direction from being a research based organisation to an organisation competing directly in the private sector through its gymnasias the directional change referred to, and is that the way the Minister sees the development foundation going generally?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is more appropriate that that question be directed to the Minister of Health.

**Mr INGERSON:** Regarding the sports institute, what has happened to the facility development plans announced for the current site at Holbrooks Road? Are they being inves-

tigated at any other site; if so, where, and what is the timetable compared to that put out about two years ago?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Negotiations are still proceeding for the sports institute and we are looking presently at several options. I cannot give a timetable other than to say there is a potential for things to finalise quite quickly, depending upon other organisations making decisions with respect to their accommodation.

**Mr De LAINE:** What additional work has to be done to build the Heysen Trail?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Quite a bit has been achieved already. In fact, the Heysen Trail is one of our significant tourist and recreational resources in this State. It is probably one of the most significant walking trails in the Southern Hemisphere, if not the world. We have completed over 1 000 kilometres of marked, designated walking trail and associated with that is the required maintenance and accommodation for walkers. Several very appropriate, environmentally sensitive buildings have been constructed on the trail, including one just out of Crystal Brook and another just out of Hawker, which was recently opened by our manager who has been responsible for the trail, Mr Terry Lavender. Our intention, with the Friends of the Heysen Trail, is to eventually develop it from the tip of Kangaroo Island, over the Fleurieu Peninsula, along the Mount Lofty Ranges, past Clare and up to the top of the northern Flinders Ranges.

I have had discussions with Terry and representatives of the Friends of the Heysen Trail. It has not yet been resolved whether it should continue on and do a loop and join up with itself. If so, it would go out to the north east of the northern Flinders Ranges towards Lake Torrens, I think, and loop back. There are significant problems in doing that. Once one gets out of the northern Flinders, there is the lack of availability of water, shade and nearby accommodation, because it is way out from any concentrated dense population areas. There are stations out there but station people do not want to be running out to save walkers every other day. They have enough on their plates without that. We must look at safety mechanisms and preservation techniques. I do not think that Terry has yet formulated how that will be resolved but, in the end, we will have 1 500 kilometres of designated, marked walking trail from the tip of Kangaroo Island to the top of the northern Flinders Ranges.

Quite a number of international people already walk the trail just for the sake of it. If one thinks of the number of private properties through which the trail goes, the agreements that have to be struck and the confidence of those farmers and graziers in the walkers, it is a very significant achievement. Being a farmer's son, I know that nothing gets up a farmer's nose more than people going through the property and leaving the gate open allowing stock to wander on to roads and possibly be knocked over by traffic. Farmers are very protective about ensuring that their properties are properly secure for a whole range of reasons. It is a significant achievement on the part of Terry Lavender and his staff in having negotiated arrangements with private land owners over many years to allow for the trail to go through their properties. There are still a few difficulties to overcome on the south coast.

A week ago I had to participate in the International Brain Injury Conference, and one internationally renowned surgeon from America travelled to Adelaide from Sydney by train because of the pilots' strike. On the train he met a Swiss walker who was over here specifically to walk the trail. This surgeon is also a walker of some note and the organisers had great difficulty in ensuring that he was actually

at the conference. He disappeared on the first Saturday morning that he was here for a clear period until the Sunday evening: he had been walking the Heysen Trail with the Swiss walker whom he met on the train and he was absolutely ecstatic about it.

The surgeon hopes to get back one day to walk the whole trail. We are doing some promotion overseas through our tourism facilities for the trail, which is a significant asset. I do not know how many members have taken the opportunity to go for a stroll along the trail, but I offer the invitation to take a more gentle approach, through the Fleurieu Peninsula, down towards Kuitpo and the coast. I have been on a very short section of it and it was absolutely spectacular. Such a trip is worth undertaking, and I am sure that Terry Lavender would be more than delighted if a member of Parliament asked for a tour. I am sure that the Friends of the Heysen Trail would be delighted to include any member of Parliament on one of their treks.

**Mr De LAINE:** How will the neighbourhood fitness network be set up, administered and funded?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Two years ago we offered to identify the needs of those people who might participate through their community in neighbourhood houses. There are some 90-odd neighbourhood houses throughout South Australia from Mount Gambier through to the West Coast and up North. We believe that this significant resource of neighbourhood houses—not only from the point of view of activities such as fitness but also from the point of view of a whole range of other matters, and that includes education—can form a network in relation to the running of programs.

I overheard the member for Bragg say, 'private enterprise'. In a sense it is; it would be an enterprise program run by neighbourhood houses for the benefit of the local communities. One of the greatest benefits of neighbourhood houses is that they are non-institutionalised in relation to time, organisational needs and formal participation. So, people who do not like to be institutionalised or who might have been institutionalised the whole of their lives and who want to enjoy freedom from the institutional network find those houses an important resource in terms of their programs, whether it be education, fitness or recreation. There is a huge recreational component in these neighbourhood houses.

**Mr De LAINE:** In relation to the increase in the number of applications approved for TAB facilities in licensed premises, what is the long-term future of current TAB establishments and their staff?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will kill a vicious rumour from the outset: the Port Adelaide TAB will not be closed. I am not sure where the honourable member got that from. With regard to the future of TAB agencies, the situation has been that communities are offered the service they want. A Government has an obligation, along with the statutory authority that is charged with the administration of totalizator agencies in this State, to ensure that the community has an opportunity to participate in the recreation that it wants, and that that should be provided in the most pleasant, convenient and efficient surroundings.

We had a problem with the unions in relation to the arrangements for agencies, as against sub-agencies. The Hon. Jack Wright investigated that matter and reported to me that security of employment should be offered to agency staff but that the Government should loosen, to some extent, the arrangements with regard to sub-agency approvals. It was a fairly convoluted and bureaucratic process. In all honesty, it gave me more grey hairs than anything else I had in front of me at the time, including racing commis-

sions. Irrespective of the decision, everyone seemed to agree. I think that the Hon. Jack Wright's recommendation was adopted. I cannot speak for the TAB; the board decided how it should conduct itself, and that is fit and proper. However, my view, as the Minister with the veto—and that is fundamentally my role; what is presented for approval is what goes through the TAB—was to decide whether or not that was appropriate.

The criteria, in my opinion, was commercial viability, and that should be the criteria that is adopted. I am talking about sub-agency approvals, because agencies have a different perspective in the sense that there is an absolute need for viability on the part of the agency because it is solely TAB run and has the responsibility as well. However, the staff are provided for a sub-agency by the agent. That agent is given authority by the TAB, and it is the TAB's responsibility. That is an appropriate way to deal with the matter. It has led to a much more satisfactory arrangement in relation to the community as a whole, whether the sub-agency be in the Norwood or Port Adelaide football clubs or any metropolitan hotel, say the Robin Hood, or country hotel, say, at Mount Gambier.

That facility is obviously what the public wants and I think the Government has responsibility to provide it. If it is on the Statutes we should provide it, and that is what we have done. I think that what we have done has loosened the system significantly. The TAB has guaranteed security of employment for those people who work under that arrangement; and I think that that is important. I believe there is an appropriate place for agencies. I think there are circumstances where agencies can be part of clubs.

Maybe the Nunjikompta Football Club would like a bar facility and feels that it can maintain a commercial agency; then it can have an agency next door as against a sub-agency. In that case the club would not have the responsibility of running an agency and its members and others would have the convenience of using that facility. What the TAB has done has been successful. Now I do not have irate club or hotel patrons ringing me at odd hours of the night abusing me about their hotel not having a sub-agency, and I can assure members that that was a regular occurrence in the past.

**Mr INGERSON:** Late last year the Minister was responsible for putting legislation through the House in relation to Foundation South Australia that sought to recognise that the advertising of cigarette smoking should be banned, principally in sporting arenas. What does the Minister intend to do about the fact that the East Torrens Cricket Club, which was the first cricket club and first sporting organisation in this State to recognise tobacco sponsorship as a bad thing, has had its application to Foundation South Australia refused? This seems to contradict the whole exercise of Foundation South Australia.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Just to correct the honourable member, I did not have carriage of that Bill. I am responsible as one of the Ministers in terms of being consulted about the budget, but the Minister of Health had the carriage of that Bill and still has the overriding responsibility for the conduct of the Act and of the responsibilities that Ministers have with regard to Foundation SA. I am interested in this new-found self-righteousness, advocating a cause for a club that made a decision earlier, in relation to the anti-smoking lobby, given the Opposition stand with regard to that Bill—which was to oppose it.

They probably realise that it has been a great success and has been welcomed by the community—the sporting community in particular—so they want now to jump on the band wagon. I am not familiar with the finer detail of what

has happened with Foundation SA, as it is something from which we stay at arm's length with regard to its administration. Basically, we have a responsibility for the overall policy, and that is where it begins and ends.

The budget is part of that process. The foundation is being chartered, and that was a very deliberate process. I recall the Opposition making comments when the Bill went through Parliament about ensuring that it was not a political pork barrelling process. I am not about to interfere in Foundation SA, and, if the honourable member is suggesting that I should, he ought to read what his own colleagues said about Foundation SA—and, probably, what he said, too.

*Mr INGERSON interjecting:*

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I cannot recall it off the cuff, although I can recall various remarks about being at arm's length. The honourable member has answered his own question.

**Mr INGERSON:** It is fairly hypocritical.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I do not think it is. I understand that there is some discussion between Foundation SA and the East Torrens Cricket Club about the amount of funds. From the vague information I have picked up through the media and the information one of my staff members has picked up, it is not a question of not funding the East Torrens Cricket Club but a question of how much. That is not in contradiction with what I believe are the provisions of the Act.

Basically, it should be a matter for Foundation SA and the East Torrens Cricket Club to resolve. I commend the East Torrens Cricket Club, as I did many other clubs. The enlightening and, I must say, surprising thing was the number of associations that made deliberate decisions not to have tobacco sponsorship. These include basketball, netball, swimming, etc. A number of quite prominent sports decided not to have this sponsorship. I cannot interfere in the very detailed decision: policy and budget matters are for the Minister of Health and the Chairman of Foundation SA to discuss.

**Mr MEIER:** The Minister has said quite a bit about where money is being spent in sport in the development of programs. I am concerned that not enough is being done in rural areas. I think back to earlier years when sport and recreation grants used to be available for particular sporting clubs and bodies to construct sporting facilities. On occasion, sports clubrooms were constructed, often as joint facilities. Quite a few areas have benefited, with the community having provided perhaps the lion's share of money and the Department of Recreation and Sport has been happy to come to the party. Yet, for quite some time now the areas in my electorate—and I cannot speak for other areas—do not seem to have been successful. Obviously, the input of the current recreation and sport program is oriented more towards large facilities and the metropolitan area at the expense of rural areas.

Will the Minister identify which grant moneys are still available to small sporting bodies in rural areas and has he a breakdown of what moneys have been spent on metropolitan versus rural areas over the past year or so?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will start with the last question first. It is an easy answer, in a technical sense, although not easy for me to have to convey. No local facility funds have been available for three years to local sporting organisations, whether in the country or in the city. Developments have occurred which could be described as regional, the most obvious being, first, the Port Lincoln netball courts, where we put together a package, if the honourable member can appreciate, not to win the seat of Flinders but on the basis of trying to preserve netball on the West Coast. One could



describe that as a regional fund, although we had no money for local facilities. However, if we did not put together that package we would not have had netball on the West Coast, because that is the centre for netball there. They had about 16 courts, eight of which were unplayable. They ran junior tournaments involving 450 players playing on those courts on a Saturday, so they needed help desperately.

We came up with the package together with the local council, and that bailed them out. That was about a year and half ago. We did the same for Salisbury with a package for a recreational centre, probably two years ago. They are the last local facilities of any significance to which we have actually been able to contribute. Local facilities no longer exist. In some ways, I feel sad about that, as I would like to be able to offer funding to our local clubs. I cannot think of any in the metropolitan area which has had any significant funding in the past two or three years. Halting the funding of local facilities has been the death-knell for them. Most funding now goes to a State or international level. Unfortunately, because we are so city-oriented, that tends to be located in the city. The sport basically determines where it wants the facility. For example, the hockey and lacrosse people determined that they wanted their facility as close as possible to the centre of the city.

We had a long debate with the small bore rifle people, who insisted that their facility be within a stone's throw of the city of Adelaide. We are talking about an international facility and obviously, we wanted to have that facility for the Commonwealth Games. We would be really pressed to convince the sport that it should be located at Port Wakefield, for example. The majority of users would be located in the metropolitan area, although country users do get the benefit. They have to come to the city to use the facility, as with hockey.

There are benefits to our country hockey players, because they are playing on an international facility when they have country tournaments. The juniors would be playing at an international facility. It does mean travel, and I acknowledge that. It is not possible to develop a \$5 million regional facility at this time, and that is unfortunate. In time, I would like to see our coming back into the program, supporting local communities and developing facilities, but at this time, with the budget as tight as it is and with the Federal Government reducing our grant money, it is just not possible.

I was not able to convey that, and I felt that we must do other things before committing ourselves to regional facilities, such as getting soccer, cycling and baseball in order. Any funds that you drain from that results in a delay.

**Mr INGERSON:** At page 385 of the Program Estimates you indicate that one of the objectives of the Sport and Recreation Division will be that selected sports have men and women equally represented. What sports are you talking about, and how will you attempt to achieve that objective?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We are talking about those sports that can achieve that representation such as hockey, tennis and softball.

**Mr INGERSON:** How will you attempt to achieve that?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** By consultation with the sporting associations.

**The CHAIRMAN:** It now being after 3 p.m., there being no further questions, I declare the examination of the votes completed.

Employment and Technical and Further Education,  
\$146 455 000

Works and Services—Department of Employment and  
Technical and Further Education, \$4 061 000

**Chairman:**

The Hon. T.M. McRae

**Members:**

Mr M.R. De Laine  
Mr M.G. Duigan  
Mr S.G. Evans  
The Hon. E.R. Goldsworthy  
Mr E.J. Meier  
Mr P.B. Tyler

**Witness:**

The Hon. M.K. Mayes, Minister of Employment and  
Further Education.

**Departmental Advisers:**

Mr P. Kirby, Chief Executive Officer, Department of  
Employment and Technical and Further Education.

Mr D. Carter, Director, Administration and Finance Division.

Mr C. Connelly, Director, Employment and Training  
Division.

Ms B. Webster, Director, Youth Affairs Division.

**The CHAIRMAN:** I declare the proposed payments open for examination and refer members to pages 127 to 136 in the Estimates of Payments and pages 355 to 374 in the Program Estimates in relation to the recurrent payments and to page 210 in the Estimate of Payments and pages 355 to 374 in the Program Estimates for the works and services. I will offer both the lead spokesman for the Opposition and the Minister an opportunity to make a short opening statement if they wish.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** This is the first budget of the Department of Employment and Technical and Further Education. As the Premier announced in the budget speech, the creation of the new department through amalgamation of the previous Department of TAFE, the Office of Employment and Training and the Youth Bureau will ensure and improve coordination between the Government's training and employment programs and policies with particular emphasis being given to the needs of young people.

The budget for the department in 1989-90 is \$168.2 million, \$146.5 million for recurrent purposes and \$21.7 million for capital purposes. The State will provide 86 per cent of the recurrent appropriation and 32 per cent of the capital appropriation. The recurrent budget provides funds for a 'special package' of employment and training measures for disadvantaged groups at a total cost of \$2.940 million in 1989-90 with a full year cost of \$4.326 million. Details on the package are outlined in the Government's Social Justice Strategy.

Initiatives in the special package include: \$750 000 for additional pre-vocational places in TAFE colleges; \$206 000 for expansion of youth employment and support programs; \$513 000 to establish Youth Resource Centres and for Youth Strategy Grants; \$244 000 to expand group training schemes; \$326 000 to extend training programs for disadvantaged adults and for industry training centres; \$175 000 for women's programs and initiatives; and \$100 000 for courses for disabled people.

The capital budget provides funds for the completion of major works in progress at Kingston College, Murraylands College and the Millicent Campus of South-East College.

Recurrent funds have been provided in the department's budget for the commissioning and operating costs associated with these new facilities. Capital funds have also been provided for the commencement of new works including: \$1.5 million for a technology centre for printing and visual communications at Croydon Park College of TAFE (total cost \$4 million); \$518 000 for Stage 1 of a new TAFE facility in Mount Barker for the Barker College of TAFE (total cost \$4.1 million); and \$5.2 million for the first stage of a new TAFE College at Tea Tree Gully (total cost \$19.2 million).

The new college at Tea Tree Gully will use innovative learning strategies in the delivery of its educational programs and, to achieve this before the opening of the college, it will be necessary to develop a comprehensive range of student-centred learning materials. Nearly \$500 000 has been provided in the recurrent budget for this purpose. The department's budget for 1989-90 incorporates real growth in the level of State funds for both recurrent and capital purposes. This reflects the Government's ongoing commitment to this important portfolio which is critical to the economic well-being of the State.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Does the Minister accept the view that some South Australian companies do not spend enough on training their employees and, therefore, a scheme such as the proposed training guarantee is necessary?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is fair to say that many companies are seeking more highly skilled employees. About a fortnight or so ago, along with the Director-General, I was privileged to be at a lunch with the Engineering Employers Association and the one theme that came through was the need for more highly skilled workers and the opportunity for retraining and training of existing employees to meet the demand for production. It is fair to say that there is a crying need in this area. We can look at the comparative economic structures in western European countries and see the increased need for training in this country.

How we achieve that still has to be negotiated and it has to be a process of negotiation with industry. Industry wants improved training methods. It wants more highly skilled employees and there has to be a process by which Governments and industry negotiate an arrangement whereby we can supply and offer opportunities for people to become more highly skilled.

My answer to that question is that there is a need for improved training in the community. There is a need for more highly skilled people. There is a need to retrain people. If we are going to be a virile and responsive economic community, we have to embark on that course. As the Premier has said, we are yet to embark on detailed discussions with the Commonwealth about its proposal. We do not have its proposal. No doubt the Commonwealth has explored its position about what it wants to see implemented, but at this time I do not have any detail at my fingertips and I cannot give a comprehensive response to the question about what the Commonwealth believes and how it should be achieved.

As publicly reported in today's paper, the Premier has some concerns about the proposed levy. I share those concerns and we have to get down to the table to negotiate with the Commonwealth and industry. I say that collectively in respect of both employees and employers as to what they want to achieve.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** I take it that the short answer is, 'Yes.' Has the Minister had any discussions at all, because the scheme has been in the open for some months? Minister Dawkins has been proclaiming the scheme and saying that the Commonwealth will institute such a

scheme. He is about to go off to Cabinet next week to ratify the scheme, we are told. Has anyone in the Government—this Minister or any other Minister—had discussions with the Commonwealth at all about the scheme, or has nothing been done?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I understand that Commonwealth officers are coming here next week to have detailed discussions with our officers, with the Director-General of the Department of Employment and Technical and Further Education.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** This is in the week when the proposal is going to Federal Cabinet?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** That is the arrangement. Commonwealth officers are coming here to discuss the detail of the proposal. That is the extent of the arrangement at the moment. In my brief period as a Minister, the discussions with the Federal Minister have been concerning an agreement that we need to improve our training, improve the quality of our work force, offer better opportunities to our work force and offer better access of skilled workers to our employers. It was the broadest possible discussion.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** That's a kind of agreement?

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order! I ask the Deputy Leader to direct his question through the Chair.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** I take it that he is sort of saying that he agrees with the Commonwealth scheme.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order! It is up to the Minister to say what he is saying.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Thank you, Mr Chairman. It is not that at all. The Deputy Leader has been around for a long time and he is not going to put those words in my mouth. We have had discussions about training and improved needs for skills in the work force, about better opportunities for people to retrain, and so on. How that should be achieved is yet to be discussed with the Federal Government.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Has any support for the scheme outlined by the Federal Government been given by the Minister or any of his colleagues? I understand that the scheme is about to go to Federal Cabinet next week.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I am not sure what the arrangements are for the Federal Minister. That is for him to decide. No doubt we will find out next week when the Federal officers come to talk to our officers what the position is. I will then be in a better position to inform Cabinet and the Premier about the details of the scheme. We may then be better able to give a comprehensive response. At this time we do not have that detail at our fingertips and it would be foolish to embark on any statements. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition would not embark on making any statements, either, for or against it without having the detail at his fingertips.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** It is unbelievable. Has any support been indicated for the scheme by the Minister or any of his colleagues?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I cannot speak for my colleagues and, since I am the Minister responsible, there has been no formal communication with the Federal Government about the scheme other than discussions, probably that my predecessor had. As the Deputy Leader has said, the need for training and for increased effort in training in this country has been discussed by Minister Dawkins for some years. As a member of Parliament, I have noted his comments reported in the press, but there has been no formal communication from this Cabinet to the Federal Minister about our position about this scheme, certainly not that I am aware of. I would have to have in front of me the detail of the proposal that

the Federal Government has that is now being fleshed out in both the print and visual media.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Is the Minister telling us all he knows about this scheme?

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order!

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** It's supplementary.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Are you seeking to ask a supplementary question?

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Yes, they are all supplementary.

**The CHAIRMAN:** In that case, I call the member for Adelaide.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** This one is supplementary, anyway.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order! I call the member for Adelaide.

**Mr DUIGAN:** Before asking questions about State Government initiatives in the area of training, can the Minister clarify the inter-relationship between the three areas now under examination? A number of the programs seem to overlap. Can he explain the relationship between the Department of Technical and Further Education and the Office of Employment and Technical and Further Education? How do they relate to each other?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I believe confusion arises because of a misprint in the documents. It is actually the department. To clarify the position, let me explain the Premier's announcement. There is now one department, the Department of Employment and Technical and Further Education. That new department takes over all the functions that existed in respect of the Office of Employment and Training and the Department of TAFE. I ask the Director-General to explain.

**Mr Kirby:** The first one relates to 1988-89 in respect of three elements of the department. They are then brought together for 1989-90. The frontispiece refers to 'office' but should refer to 'department'.

**Mr DUIGAN:** As to vocational education, which is the program under the Department of Technical and Further Education on page 337 of the Program Estimates, and in relation to the facilitation of entry into the work force, which is the program of the Office of Employment and Training on page 351, can the Minister explain the efforts being made by the Government to ensure that those students who are undertaking training programs are able to be absorbed into the work force?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Overwhelmingly, most of them are apprenticeship trainees who enter the program to enhance their skills.

**Mr Kirby:** The vocational education program of what was formerly TAFE provides courses and services for people in the general area of vocational skills. Overwhelmingly, it is comprised of part-time students already in employment who want to enhance their skills. It also includes immediate entrants to employment such as trainees and apprentices who already have a contract of employment. So the program is about people already employed who want to enhance, develop or acquire new skills.

**Mr DUIGAN:** What steps has the Government taken to ensure that small businesses benefit from existing training programs offered by TAFE?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The system of group training schemes have been developed to provide opportunities for small employers. A very good example is the Australian Hotels Association and its group apprenticeship scheme. The benefits are very significant in that it provides multi-skilling for apprentices as well as an opportunity for the employer who may not ordinarily be able to participate because of the size or commitment of his business. It pro-

vides benefits for both the employer and the apprentice. For example, it may be a specialist restaurant with a particular cuisine and it may be able to offer an apprentice certain skills which would not be available to an apprentice employed with a restaurant attached to, say, a local motel.

Seven industries are involved and six of them are regionally based. There are two special purpose schemes: one for Aborigines and the other for the disabled. I think it offers a great opportunity and it certainly has been a great success. It would be fair to say that it has given opportunities to both employers and employees that would not have otherwise existed.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** I think the Minister told the Committee that he is in favour of the scheme. The basic details have been known for some time, including the level of the proposed levy and the fact that it is to be compulsory. Does the Minister agree with the basic elements of the scheme?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I give the Deputy Leader 10 out of 10 for trying and nought out of 10 for accuracy. I did not say that I am in favour of the scheme as such. I said that I am in favour of increased effort in training and offering the work force improved skills and better opportunities and offering employers better trained people. Everyone I have met in the technical and manufacturing industries is screaming for more highly trained people. Everyone I speak to seems to say that there is a shortage of skilled people in the work force. Obviously we need improved training, improved effort in training and improved methods of training. That involves industry, TAFE, unions and everyone in the community if we are to survive economically.

The Deputy Leader is a bit light on in detail in regard to what has been announced. On Friday the form of the levy was announced. No-one knew whether it would be an internal or external levy. There have been no talks about the merit or otherwise of the proposal. That is why Federal Minister Dawkins is sending officers to South Australia next week.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** The Minister gets nought out of 10 for candour and 10 out of 10 for obfuscation. An article in today's *Advertiser* states:

The United Trades and Labor Council rejected employer criticisms, saying TG was the result of lengthy talks with both employers and unions. These had found there was a need for enforced minimum training expenditure to counter the national skills shortage.

Is that a statement of fact?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is, as the article states, between the employers and the unions.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** You are not informed of these matters?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I am not involved in the consultations.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order! I ask the Deputy Leader to put his questions one by one, allow the Minister to answer and then let me call for the next question.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** If the Commonwealth Government introduced such a scheme, would TAFE be in a position to cope with it?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** That depends on the extent of the scheme and how it is implemented. If the scheme was implemented to the extent that has been mooted, we would look at it carefully. The only detail I have at the moment is a press report. A significant allocation of resources would be required before TAFE could participate. I can speak only in the broadest sense because we have no details as to what industries would be directly involved, what existing industries would have a commitment above the levy mentioned

in the press release, whether TAFE would be involved and whether private training methods would be used.

At the moment it is all fairly hypothetical. If all of the funds mentioned were allocated, we would be stretched to the limit. Obviously there would be a sudden influx of resources and there would be a demand on our staff and we would probably have to rapidly review our capacity to meet that demand. Initially, a lot of effort would go towards implementing a training package. There would be a lot of pre-administration work, so we would have time to amalgamate and consolidate resources to allow us to participate in the program.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** The Minister indicated earlier that he had not had any formal communication with the Commonwealth Government on the training guarantee. In his informal discussions with Minister Dawkins or any Ministers, has there been any indicated support for the training guarantee scheme?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I have had some informal discussions with Minister Dawkins as a consequence of the ministerial conference of Education Ministers, if I recall. I was generally supportive of the whole idea of improved training in this country and of looking at schemes that would enhance that. That basically was the extent of my informal discussions with Minister Dawkins on that occasion and on a subsequent occasion when I discussed training with him.

**Mr De LAINE:** Referring to page 347 of the Program Estimates, and the line 'facilitation of entry into the work force', women, a large number of whom are single parents who have spent some years attending to family responsibilities, find it extremely difficult to obtain training and job opportunities after being out of the work force for some years. What is being done to assist women in this situation to get back into the work force?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** A number of schemes have been initiated both at a Commonwealth and State level. The Commonwealth has a program designed to assist women to obtain entry back into the work force. At the State level there are two women's enterprise development officers, one based at Norwood and the other at Grange. It is intended to expand that program. There is a special women's self-employment activity, which is also part of the department's program, and there is provision for more child care places—a very critical aspect that is being examined.

The adult unemployment support programs, which are designed to assist women—one is called WORD and another is called New Power—are designed specifically for the unemployed adult and, more specifically, women. We are looking at changes to the YEP scheme to include adults and to help women gain new skills, and there is also the NOW program (New Opportunities for Women). It is conducted through TAFE, and additional expenditure is allocated for 1989-90. Overall, there is greater promotion to encourage women to study to train or retrain for employment. There is a fair emphasis within what was the old Division of Employment and Training and at TAFE to encourage women back into the work force.

**Mr De LAINE:** Can the Minister say whether or not the department's budget includes any provision for the planned new TAFE College at Tea Tree Gully?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Yes. The commissioning of stage 1 of the Tea Tree Gully college is included in the budget as an additional \$472 000 for pre-commissioning activities. As I said in my opening remarks, Tea Tree Gully stage 1 represents \$5.3 million from this year's budget of a total of \$19.2 million. It will be one of the new technology colleges and will certainly engage the latest technology and teaching

methods for its students. It will serve probably one of the fastest growing areas of metropolitan Adelaide. Obviously, its demands will grow very rapidly in time with what is happening with the surrounding population.

**Mr De LAINE:** This next item is referred to on pages 350, 351 and 352. Aboriginal young people, especially those in rural communities, find it particularly difficult to make the transition from school to employment. What has the Government done to address this problem?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** From the point of view of Aboriginal young people, especially those in rural communities, there is a great need to develop programs which bridge the gap from school to employment. As best we can, we must encourage the whole community to have a fairly even playing surface, and that needs particular emphasis for young Aboriginal people. In the budget for 1988-89, under the YEP scheme, 50 per cent of the participants were Aboriginal. In 1989-90, again a high proportion of those participants will be Aboriginal, while four of the nine projects are wholly Aboriginal projects.

Two youth worker positions are connected to Aboriginal youth workers and, in the Youth Initiatives Unit programs, there are 94 Aboriginal participants, a significant number of whom would be non-metropolitan Aboriginals. So, we have a number of commitments in terms of young people in the rural communities.

We provide funding for pre-training in the workplace. We promote apprenticeships with a concentration on educational requirements and the availability of pre-training through TAFE. We intend to assist in the recruitment for training of Aborigines in the private sector, with five placements between May and June 1989. We intend to liaise closely with the TAFE School of Aboriginal Education to ensure appropriate pre-training. So, the Division of Employment and Training will be liaising closely with the apprenticeship program.

The State Government intends to spend on Aboriginal education the target of 0.6 per cent of the recurrent TAFE budget. In fact, at this time prior to amalgamation that amount is 0.88 per cent of TAFE's recurrent budget, and that represents a total amount of just over \$1 million. These programs, which will be based at the Adelaide college, include the state equity program and the social justice program; and that amount includes salary overheads from the Commonwealth. I think we can be fairly proud of our achievements in this area.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Is it a fact that virtually no work has been done with the States on the details of this training scheme?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** That is a fair comment with regard to the levy, which I think is the point of debate in the community. It is probably fair to say that no detailed work has been done in this State on the levy. As I said, the announcement was made last Friday, and no-one knew the direction prior to that announcement.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Will the Minister confirm whether in the past 24 hours or so he has discussed with the Premier the tactic to hedge on this training scheme until after the State election?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Absolutely not. I have not spoken to the Premier about this matter in the past 24 hours. It was not raised in Cabinet. I cannot remember the last time I spoke with the Premier about it. The Deputy Leader is insinuating some collaboration—

*The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY interjecting:*

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The facts always ruin a good story. The situation is that—

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** This is what happens: do nothing.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order!

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is not that at all. Next week the officers will have discussions. Then, we will have a much better idea what the Commonwealth has in mind; we will then have that detail in front of us and will be able to consider it appropriately. It would be like buying a used car and not knowing its make, model, mileage, cost or history. We are not in a position to be able to discuss the levy issue at this stage.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** Does the Minister share the view of the South-East College of TAFE about the problems being caused by the higher education charge scheme? In explanation, I will read a letter written by the President of the South-East College of TAFE Council, which has campuses in Mount Gambier, Millicent and Naracoorte. In these areas it is important that training be available to women, young people and Aborigines, as they are further away from the city, where much training is provided. It is important that they have the best possible tutoring. The letter states:

The council of the South-East College of TAFE is concerned at the effect of the recently introduced Higher Education Contribution Scheme is having on current and potential TAFE college lecturing staff.

In South Australia, the possession of tertiary TAFE teaching qualifications is not a prerequisite for employment as a TAFE lecturer. However, the department makes up to five hours per week available in the first four years of a lecturer's employment to enable he/she to complete the Diploma of Teaching (TAFE) through the South Australian College of Advanced Education.

The introduction of HECS has meant that lecturers undertaking this course have had an additional charge of up to \$3 000 levied on them personally while in the middle of an arrangement which previously provided the program at no charge to them. As a result, a large number have dropped out of the program, to the lasting detriment of TAFE students throughout South Australia, particularly in country areas where recruits make up a higher proportion of staff than in the metropolitan area of Adelaide.

To make it worse, the Commonwealth Government has made available 40 000 scholarships for primary and secondary school teachers, but none for TAFE. In some other States, State Governments have accepted liability for the payment of HECS, at least for currently employed staff. The South Australian Government has made no such offer, and my council is concerned that it will have a detrimental affect on the quality of TAFE teaching in the State.

Does the Minister share the view of the South-East College of TAFE? What action is he taking or does he propose to take to rectify the situation? Does the Minister support the Commonwealth's position that 40 000 scholarships should be available only for primary and secondary school teachers and not for TAFE teachers?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is fair to say that there is some impact on TAFE staff. We have asked the Commonwealth to review the HECS on TAFE staff, and we have an undertaking that it will undertake that review in September. Peter Kirby is chairing a national committee that is reviewing entry level training for TAFE teachers. The matter is in hand and will be dealt with. I hope we can make some headway.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** I have a supplementary question. What happens in the case of those who have had to pay the \$3 000? Are those who did not pay the \$3 000 in a state of limbo, or is there a threat of their having to give up the course altogether?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We are unable to answer these questions at this time because we are in a state of limbo. The answer will not be known until the end, and we are not there yet. We do not know the likely impact of it. We hope that there may be some changes before the deadline is reached.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** Have we lost staff through this or not?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** They have dropped the program—we have not lost staff.

**Mr TYLER:** I draw the Minister's attention to page 362 and the program description 'Vocational education'. With reference to the objective of providing an educational focus in central office to plan and to coordinate the industry and award restructuring responsibilities, what is the proposed method of doing this? Will it involve more staff and, if so, how does it affect the claim made previously in Parliament by the member for Coles that TAFE has failed to implement reductions in central office at a cost of \$500 000?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Dealing with the last question first, we refute that suggestion, but I will ask the Director-General to respond on the question of costs.

**Mr Kirby:** We have reduced the central office cost of staffing in each of the past five years. In 1987-88 we had a review by Tattersall of the organisation and staffing levels in central office. The review was called Review of Administrative and Support Functions, and recommended savings which would achieve a \$751 000 reduction in the staffing levels of central office. Of course, this figure assumed that as staff were identified as those which could be removed from central office we could actually remove them, but we had to rely on attrition.

In fact, we did not achieve \$751 000, but did achieve \$600 000 in further staff savings in 1987-88. We have now had a further reorganisation in central office and have reduced the senior positions by two, abolishing the positions of what were formerly Assistant Directors-General, and also the positions of Director which, in educational classification terms, are the ED-5 and ED-4 positions. We now have a flatter organisation that is not so highly classified. This has led to the non-replacement of four further senior office positions in the last year at a saving of \$215 000, and we have identified a further five positions which will be up for savings as soon as they are vacated.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** In relation to the award restructuring process, the Federal Government has set aside the sum of \$3.5 million as part of a general program to assist with that exercise. It is very hard at this time to pinpoint the needs that can be identified for retraining of TAFE staff and the whole process related to that, with regard to the award restructuring. Suffice to say that we need significant resources to be able to undertake the implementation of award restructuring through TAFE, because some major changes will be needed in the approach to education that has been adopted by TAFE.

The flexibility that will need to be adopted and the changes to on and off campus training will be very significant. We are already undertaking some off campus training, working with the two large vehicle manufacturers, which means some significant changes in the approach of TAFE staff and administration. In some ways time is against us, and in some ways time is on our side. The very fast industries involved in restructuring, such as the metal industry, will put a fair bit of pressure on TAFE, and we must perform in order to meet those demands. However, a number of other industries will probably drag the chain in getting the award restructuring through. The metal industry has been particularly committed to it, both the employers and the unions having put huge resources into the process, and that industry is well ahead of the rest of the field. What it means in the long term is that we really have to 'suck it and see' before we can say.

**Mr DUGAN:** As a supplementary question on the matters raised by the Director-General in his answer, what arrangements are being made for increasing the administrative and functional responsibilities for the management in

each of the TAFE colleges, in terms of the decisions about not just the employment of staff but the composition of the programs offered by each of the colleges?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Recently, there was an annual meeting of principals of colleges. I did not personally address the meeting, but spoke via a video to talk about the challenges in front of them and, to respond to that, they will need a greater capacity to meet the needs of their community. To do that, there may need to be some administrative changes within the TAFE structure. Basically, we have two unions covering TAFE staff. To move one person from a position to a promotional position creates some administrative hurdles, so we must resolve those problems.

Over all, the administration of the functional responsibilities of TAFE colleges is under review. That commenced in May of 1989 and we hope to have the report by the end of the year.

**Mr TYLER:** Some of the TAFE colleges within our community are much underrated. In my district, Noarlunga and Kingston play a very important role and run some superb courses and programs for the community. Recently, along with other members of Parliament and of local government, I attended an open day at the Kingston college. I mixed with staff and the people involved with that college and I was quite impressed with the range of courses that that college provided.

The question I wish to raise was raised during that visit, and that concerns the whole area of child minding. TAFE provides child minding facilities and that enables a number of students to take up those courses. What does the department plan to do to increase the child-care services during 1989-90, so what plans are there for the future?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We provide child-care facilities at 16 of our 21 colleges. Two of the larger ones, Regency Park and Adelaide, are areas where we do not provide child-care facilities for the students at the moment. We have an abiding desire to provide child-care facilities at those two colleges. We have a commitment to establish a child-care facility at Adelaide as soon as we can, and some plans are afoot to do so. One of the advantages we have is that we run child-care training course under our auspices, so it is an important aspect. This year, we will be funding an additional \$72 000 to enable increased staffing of existing centres, and to provide our new centre at Adelaide.

I can assure the honourable member that we are committed to that program. Throughout the State 781 children are enrolled in child care facilities at 16 colleges. When the Adelaide College facility is established, that number will probably be significantly increased. The problem is finding a site for the child-care facility and, as I am sure the member for Adelaide would appreciate, that is not an easy task in the centre of the city. There is a need for such a facility and we recognise that it requires urgent attention.

In relation to the comment that the community may underrate TAFE, industry alone contributes about \$6 million per annum for equipment and materials at the colleges. I recently had the opportunity to inspect the Submarine Corporation. Further, Cigweld made a donation of about \$250 000-worth of computerised welding equipment which is state of the art technology.

**Mr TYLER:** How does the department intend to increase participation of disabled people in TAFE education during the current year?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We have allocated \$100 000 out of this year's budget in order to assist disabled people to participate in TAFE education. A variety of schemes are proposed, including a trainer/training package developed for the support of implementation of new courses for the

disabled, a pilot project for the provision of facilities for the disabled in South Australian prisons, funds to be allocated on the advice of a preparatory education program and a curriculum project conducted by the Centre for Applied Learning Systems to develop a resource register for support of implementation, so a variety of schemes are being offered. There is an onus on each college to ensure the basic things relating to access for the disabled. I believe that, as colleges upgrade their facilities, those matters will be addressed more frequently.

**Mr MEIER:** At page 335 of the Estimates of Payments under the resource allocation for 'Executive, professional, technical, administrative and clerical support' there has been an increase from 87.7 full-time equivalents proposed 1988-89 to 101.5 actual 1988-89, which is an increase of about 14 full-time equivalents. What are the reasons for the increased staff levels and in what areas have those increases occurred?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Basically, that increase relates to staff who were seconded in order to improve the systems within the head office administration, so it does not involve additional positions as such; rather, they are on temporary secondment.

**Mr MEIER:** As a supplementary question, if one takes it on the secondment basis, one would assume that those positions would not appear as full-time equivalents in next year's figures. How many officers are currently employed at the EO level and the AO level? Further, what is the current salary of the Chief Executive Officer and the salary applying at 30 June 1988 and 30 June 1989 and what allowances does the CEO receive in addition to the salary?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will have to take that question on notice.

**The CHAIRMAN:** If the Minister undertakes to supply information at a later date, we have asked that it be submitted no later than Friday 29 September to the Clerk of the House of Assembly.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The salary as of June 1989 was \$92 522, which includes an office expenses allowance, plus a motor vehicle and running costs.

**Mr MEIER:** How many days sick leave were taken during the past financial year? How much of this leave was taken on a Monday, a Friday, and the days immediately before or after holiday weekends?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will have to take that question on notice. For the 1987-88 financial year a sample, which involved 25 per cent of DTAFE employees' leave records, indicates an average sick leave absence of 4.78 working days per employee and the same sample of leave records for 1988-89 shows no significant change in this pattern. That gives the honourable member an average and we will have to take the rest of the question on notice.

**Mr MEIER:** Will the Minister provide an itemised break down of spending for the previous financial year and budgeted spending for this financial year under 'Salaries, wages and related payments' and 'Administration expenses, minor equipment and sundries'?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We will take that question on notice.

**Mr S.J. EVANS:** As a supplementary question, could we have provided in that material information about other expenses? If an officer has unlimited use of a motor car, does that apply to an AO or an EO? Does the payment for a home telephone include the total telephone account? Can that information and information about any other benefit be provided, because I am trying to compare these benefits with what members get?



**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We will take that question on notice. The standing Government administration rule is that CEOs are the only ones who get a car with full availability.

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We will clarify the position. As in the case of the Department of TAFE, only one car is provided with freedom of use. Other cars are provided on the basis of need for employment. If an AO takes a car home, it is because he must do something that night or because of a commitment in the morning requiring the car. I will get those answers. No-one has the complete cost of a telephone met, but college directors get an allowance towards their telephone. I will get a detailed reply for the member.

**Mr DUIGAN:** I have both a general and a specific question about business enterprises or operations in which the colleges become involved. The general question is: what procedures are there in the central level of the department to ensure some degree of accountability for, or surveillance over, the ventures that various parts of colleges enter into?

My specific question is about the Shrike racing car project undertaken by Crotech, the business arm of Croydon Park College of TAFE which, particularly about November last year, aroused much interest. What is the present position regarding that project? I could refer to other projects, but I am interested in the general policy of surveillance of general business operations as well as this specific operation.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** First, such projects are separately audited. They are a separate entity accountable for their own operations. In addition, the Treasurer and I as Minister of Employment and Further Education have established a mechanism for financing business ventures—the Venture Capital Board. Membership of the board comprises representatives of the Department of TAFE, SAFA and the Adelaide Innovation Centre.

To get projects up and running, they come through the Director-General to me. Basically, that is how they operate, and they are vetted accordingly. They are specifically accountable for their activities. They are not in any way submerged or allowed to disappear in the general accounts. The Director-General has pointed out a good example for the member for Adelaide. The College Arms Training Company Proprietary Limited—referring to the Auditor-General's Report—has had its audit subcontracted to the private sector. Audited financial statements for the company were not finalised at the time of preparing the report. The relevance is that the private sector has an involvement.

As to the specific question regarding the Shrike racing car project undertaken by Crotech, the business arm of Croydon TAFE, it is a successful project sponsored by Crotech with commercial and education objectives.

I do not know whether members have taken the opportunity to see some of the Holden formula championships as reported on television, but the Shrike has performed admirably considering that the car was still being built when the first performance race at Mallala was due to start. That put a fair bit of stress on the team. There has been much acclaim about the quality of the car, the technique involved and the effort that has gone into it. I was present when the team first ran the car. Both drivers, who are experienced professional drivers—one is an electrical engineer and the other is a mechanical engineer, both of whom are well skilled in the automotive industry—praised the machinery to the roof tops.

One of the problems encountered in the Holden formula class is that the motors were not sufficiently strong to take the pounding that they were given. The cars are only 10 km/h slower than formula one cars. They put out enormous kilowatts at the drive shaft, and the team found that they

were doing up crankshafts rapidly because of the stress that the motor was putting out. The components driving the car through the rear wheels were not up to scratch. They have had to upgrade the materials supplied by GMH in order to meet the demands and stresses that the cars were being put under. The design and all the work that went into the project was praiseworthy. A number of the motors that were being put into the cars were not meeting the racing standards required, and this created difficulties for all the teams. The team has come fourth or fifth on occasions and, indeed, has been successful.

**Mr DUIGAN:** My other question relates to the program 'Labour Market Research and Evaluation'. The first part of the question relates to both unemployment and youth unemployment in South Australia, both of which have declined considerably, according to the most recent ABS statistics. Have the programs offered by TAFE been altered in any way? Alternatively, can the contribution made by TAFE courses be seen to have had a direct impact on those falling levels of unemployment because of the level of training skills being provided? More specifically, regarding the research that has been undertaken by the department, what degree of cooperation is there between the department and the various sectors for which we are training to ensure that we do not take in more students than various sections of the industry can absorb in any one year?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** As to the general question, it is fair to say that we were delighted with the labour market statistics for August that were announced last week. This indicates the strong foundation in South Australia in the manufacturing, technological and service economy. It was heartening to see the youth figure improve. We have come from a position where about 27 per cent of 15 to 19 year olds have been unemployed to a figure of about 16.5 per cent. There is still room for improvement and we are embarking on that. There is no doubt that the comprehensive package that was offered through the Office of Employment and Training and TAFE, in terms of training and employment programs and opportunities, has had some impact on the labour market and offered self-employment opportunities and training packages. As can be seen from the budget, we are going to further embark on pre-vocational training packages, increased moneys for apprenticeship and increased employment within the public sector. So we are offering a whole range of opportunities to young people in the community, and we believe that, coupled with what is happening in the general community, it is good news for them.

I will not be so bold or provocative as to say that by the year 1990 no young person who is looking for a job will be unemployed. We are offering young people an opportunity to be educated and trained in order to seek employment in the community. That is important. I think it is fair to say that we have achieved some success in the past year given the massive drop in adult and youth unemployment. From our point of view it is heartening to know that only 10 per cent of our young people are unemployed at the moment. We are working on the link between industry and training, and that is one of the reasons for bringing the Office of Employment and Training into the TAFE structure. There are areas that can be brought together to strengthen them, including labour market statistics, training as a whole, youth initiatives and youth employment. Bringing them together strengthens them and offers an improved and coordinated resource.

It is fair to say that industry relates directly to the Office of Employment and Training. It is our eyes and ears in terms of what is going on in industry. As a division of the

new department, the Office of Employment and Training will have direct linkage with TAFE. I hope that employer organisations such as the Chamber of Industry and Commerce, the Employers Federation, the Retail Traders Association and the Hotels Association feel comfortable and can say to Mr Connelly and Mr Kirby, 'We think this is the way that industry and training should be going.' That is the advantage in having only one organisation—the message can be passed on.

I call on industry to continue to use the Office of Employment and Training as its sounding board and to communicate with TAFE. TAFE has a direct link and obviously people at the coalface can communicate that back. I think that that is important. Certainly we must refine the demands of industry for training. We must meet that need because, if we do not, private industry will. If TAFE does not supply the training programs that employers and employees want, they will look elsewhere very quickly. Large employers with resources already have their own training programs. We must respond to what is required. Information gathered by TAFE from the Office of Employment and Training must be passed on to the college principals, who will then supply the programs required by industry. College principals must be sensitive to what industry says about training needs.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** In 1988-89, as a result of the emergence of re-entry schools in the Education Department, there was a review of TAFE's provision of adult matriculation courses. That is stated in TAFE's 1988 annual report. What were the findings of the review? Will it result in any winding back of TAFE's adult education matriculation classes?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** That matter is still under review. I am still negotiating with my colleague the Minister of Education.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** The review was a year ago.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Be patient. It would probably not mean in the short-term any winding back of TAFE's role. We have yet to finalise discussions with the Minister of Education. Hopefully a decision is not too far away.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** Are you suggesting that there could be a long-term winding back?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It depends on the demand in the community and what it wants in respect of education resources. Some people might prefer to have a TAFE based program and others may not. I think that that is really the crux of the question, and it will be negotiated with the Minister of Education in respect of the long-term implications. I think that TAFE will still have a role in the area of adult matriculation.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** On page 374 of the Program Estimates it is stated that the general service fee is expected to double to \$2.324 million. What is the reason for the increase and what is the increase in the general level of service fees? Will the fee apply to a wider group of students than has been the case in the past?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It occurs as a result of an accounting procedure whereby money comes into the central office and then goes back to the colleges. There is some consideration of a minor fee alteration, but no decision has been made.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** It is also stated that there is talk of rationalising the range of student fees levied throughout the college network and implementing approved charges. It appears that there will be some change.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The honourable member has incorrectly interpreted the word 'rationalisation'. It does not mean an increase in fees; it means that there will be rationalisation.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** I refer to the College Arms Training Company Pty Ltd, which is mentioned on page 197 of the Auditor-General's Report as follows:

The company operates as a training facility for the hospitality industry and as a licensed commercial hotel providing bar and restaurant services.

The company commenced trading in November 1988. The report also states:

I have subcontracted the audit of the company to the private sector. Audited financial statements of the company were not finalised at the time of preparing this report.

I will issue my report of the auditor for the period ending 30 June 1989 when audited accounts are received.

Has the audit of this company now been finalised and does it have a trading profit?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We do not know at this time. A private company is subject to the Companies Act and that is why reference is made by the Auditor-General to the audit process.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** As a supplementary question, the Minister has said that it is a private company, yet it comes under his jurisdiction, I assume. Is he saying that he is not able to give us information at all on the operation of that company?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I am not saying that at all. I am saying I am not able to do so at this time, but I will get it. Just to clarify that matter, the obvious thing is that the auditor did not want to undertake two audits on the same set of books. He has obviously bowed to the independent auditor undertaking that audit and, as soon as that is available, it will be made available and we will know whether we have a book profit, loss or whatever.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** As a supplementary question, from the Auditor-General's comment, he is concerned about audits which are done in relation to a number of companies which may be incorporated in the name of the Minister? The Auditor-General has drawn attention to the fact that, in his view, this is an unsatisfactory state of affairs. Is the Minister aware of that comment?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I certainly cannot draw any conclusions. The Deputy Leader has not pointed me to any statement with regard to the College Arms in that comment. It has just been pointed out to me that the auditor was appointed by the Auditor-General so, if he has any complaint, it is a complaint about himself, I suppose. I am certainly not aware of any specific comments in regard to that training company by the Auditor-General. If they had been made, I am sure they would have been drawn to my attention. If the audited statements make some criticism of the financial practices within that company, no doubt they will be publicly aired and the Auditor-General will not hesitate in drawing them to the attention of both the Parliament and me.

**Mr De LAINE:** As the cost of TAFE course materials is a problem for some people, especially those who are unemployed, and because some courses have very high costs for materials—for example, special materials and chemicals—what is being done to assist these people to undertake courses to improve their employment prospects?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I am a little confused about the question. The honourable member is referring to the cost of materials, and we know of courses in which the materials are very expensive. Is he suggesting that there is an impediment to people pursuing careers because of the cost of materials?

**Mr De LAINE:** Yes.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The cost of materials depends on the course, and the costs vary from course to course. The

cost in some apprenticeships is extremely low, the average being between \$35 and \$70.

**Mr De LAINE:** One example that comes to mind is the panel beating course in which the material costs were about \$600.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** First, if they are apprentices, they do not have a problem with employment. Secondly, with regard to the costs, they would be post-apprenticeship courses—post-trade in a sense. Food and catering is post-trade also. If one is using top quality ingredients, there is a high expense involved. However, those people would be generally those in a retraining process to further enhance their employment prospects rather than seeking their initial full-time trade employment. Concessions are available to apprentices on a needs basis, so if someone is unemployed, they are assisted with respect to their costs.

**Mr De LAINE:** What projects are planned for the Port Adelaide campus?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The Director-General can answer that question.

**Mr Kirby:** The difficulty with the Port Adelaide campus at the moment is to find suitable premises in which to conduct the courses that are in demand in the fishing industry and other industries related to seafaring and marine activities. It is the ideal location to conduct such courses because of its access to facilities and the waterfront. There is a premium on property in the area now that Port Adelaide has become quite an attractive development area, so we are having difficulty actually locating suitable premises. We have the equipment now, much of it having been donated by industry, but we are still unable to introduce the courses because of the lack of accommodation.

**Mr De LAINE:** At page 365, the Program Estimates state: 'To produce indicators of performance relevant to the work of colleges, senior management and program management groups.' Will the Minister explain what 'indicators of performance' means in this context?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Again, I will ask the Director-General to answer that question.

**Mr Kirby:** First, program management groups were only introduced a year ago and they provide the opportunity for lecturing staff to participate in the process of setting priorities and determining resource allocation. The lecturing staff from a particular school, which would be a school related to course activities such as business, mechanical engineering or transportation, form a program management group to look at the distribution of the resources in TAFE, the demands placed upon those resources and to provide advice for the budget process in how those resources might be better utilised. In the course of doing this work, we need to develop performance indicators that will go beyond the present indicators, which are really not sufficient to judge resource allocation. To give an example, we collect for the Commonwealth statistics about enrolments in courses, successful completions, attrition rates, and so on.

That gives us one level of information that is of some use, but the important thing is to discover why those who have not completed the course did not complete it. We now need to develop those kinds of performance indicators with the help of teaching staff so that the system becomes one that indicates not only what has been done but what might be done better to improve the present situation. The program management groups are currently assisting us with the development of performance indicators that are both qualitative and quantitative in nature.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Page 195 of the Auditor-General's Report refers to some of the committees of review into the TAFE administrative and support functions.

One committee established in November 1987 reported in June 1988 and, among other things, its report stated that 'savings could be made in the college administrative and support functions'.

What estimate of potential savings was made in that report and what areas did it refer to? Why has it taken until August 1989 to set up another committee to review the recommendations?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I think that the Director-General answered this question previously, but I will go back over it. I think the Deputy Leader is referring to the Tattersall report which was the review of administrative and support functions that recorded achievements of \$751 000 for the budget strategy for 1987-88. A saving of \$600 000 was achieved in that period.

In relation to the current review, it is not an administrative review of the head office facility but a review of college resources. It is looking at the need for college resources as against what the Tattersall report looked at, obviously, the essential resource being the central office. We removed a number of senior positions and they have not been replaced. That led to significant savings being recorded in the department.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** What was the level of unmet demand in 1989 for TAFE courses, and how did that compare with the unmet level of demand in 1988? It was reported two or three years ago that about 15 000 students had missed out.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We think the number is about 9 000 students for both years, but I will take that question on notice and give the precise figure later.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Page 337 of the Program Estimates states:

Review provision of electrical/electronic training as between colleges with regard to equity of resourcing and balance of programs.

Does this mean that the current courses at some colleges will be removed?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** No, the intent of the review is to get the best out of the equipment, teachers and resources that are related to those courses.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Does the TAFE budget include an amount of \$1.2 million for savings to be achieved by efficiency? If that is the case, what are the efficiencies?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** An amount of \$300 000 was saved last year through the rationalisation of classes and class sizes.

**Mr DUIGAN:** Either now or at a later stage, will the Minister provide the costs for maintenance, cleaning, vandalism and theft in the various TAFE colleges for last year? What arrangements will be made to try to reduce the incidence of vandalism and theft in colleges next year?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I do not think that we will be able to give the figures on a college by college basis. I will take that question on notice. The expenditure on reimbursements for thefts, loss and public liability during 1988-89 was \$78 000, of which \$46 000 was for motor vehicles and other liabilities and \$32 000 was for thefts, losses and damages.

**Mr TYLER:** I am aware that the Noarlunga TAFE college is planning to set up a branch office in the Woodcroft area. However, I cannot find any mention of that on page 367 of the Program Estimates.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is for the year after.

**Mr TYLER:** How will that college be established? Who will determine what courses are available, or has this detail not yet been finalised?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We have not yet consulted the community, so nothing has been finalised. There will be

close discussion with the Noarlunga TAFE College which obviously will make an assessment. This is part of our program of ensuring a community responsive package.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** Page 332 of the Program Estimates, under 'Business Studies', shows the proposed 1988-89 recurrent expenditure as \$14.8 million and the actual as \$17.1 million. What was the reason for the increase? Was there a level of unmet demand in this area? If so, to what degree? Page 337 of the Program Estimates talks about a specific increase in participation from equal opportunity targeted groups. Will the Minister provide further information on this and say how it was achieved?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is interesting to note from the analysis that the demand for the business studies courses came mainly from the Adelaide college. The member for Adelaide nods: I also acknowledge that, because a number of my constituents are enrolled in that college or intend to go from part-time to full-time in that college. The funding basically came through traineeships or through self-supporting programs at Adelaide.

In answer to the other part of the honourable member's question, earlier I specifically went through the Aboriginal program. We have particularly targeted Aboriginal community groups and have allocated additional funds to particular groups. We have targeted young people, sole parents, the disabled and the long-term unemployed as the groups for particular programs.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** The Minister spoke about the specific increase in participation.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** That is what we are targeting.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** How great was the increase?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We will have to take that on notice.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** The same statement said:

To review the provision of business studies across the State with regard to the balancing of programs.

What is intended by that balancing of programs throughout the State? Most of them up until now have been at Adelaide.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I can draw on some experience as Minister of Agriculture, because there was quite a demand within the rural community for business studies courses. As Minister, I wrote to the then Minister of Employment and Further Education asking for TAFE to look at what was being provided. We wanted to combine some of our programs in the Department of Agriculture with them. As the honourable member probably knows, there is a heavy concentration of business studies courses in the metropolitan area, and one of the points of the review will be to look at dispersing those programs throughout the community.

A large proportion of students at the Adelaide college would come from a very wide geographic area, not only from the metropolitan area but also from the honourable member's electorate and, probably, from the electorate of the member for Goyder. People attend the Adelaide college on the basis of the programs offered. TAFE has taken up the challenge of the opportunity to look at broadening that base and perhaps easing the pressure that Adelaide is facing, which is enormous.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** Regarding the number of TAFE colleges, are discussions currently taking place on the possible mergers or rationalisation of TAFE colleges and, if so, does the department have a long-term view on the appropriate number of TAFE colleges required for an efficient TAFE service delivery?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The honourable member will be aware from his own electorate that the Barker college is now being created, and that means an amalgamation of four campuses—Murray Bridge, Aldgate, Mount Barker and

Mobilong Prison. That is the only amalgamation on the agenda today. There are 20 colleges with 70 campuses, and the department's advice to me is that that is the appropriate number, given the current demand within the market. I cannot predict what is down the track; that will be for others to determine. The advice I have at this time is that the appropriate number of colleges has the appropriate number of campuses.

I have some further information, if this is the appropriate time to give it, in relation to questions asked previously. The member for Goyder asked a question in relation to the Director-General's salary and allowances. As of 30 June 1988, the salary was \$82 992, with no car for private purposes. As we recorded, the car is currently available for the Director-General's private use, and I understand that it is the only one within the department that is available for that purpose.

In answer to the member for Goyder's question on staff numbers, we have 104.3 AO/EO equivalents. Of those, 11 are in the EO category—that is, 11 out of 104.3 AO/EO equivalents as at 30 June 1989.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** This question relates to overseas students. In 1988, 146 fee-paying overseas students were attending TAFE, with a gross income to TAFE of approximately \$750 000. Will the Minister give the equivalent number for 1989, the predicted number for 1990, and the number of fellowship students (that is, the groups employed by overseas Governments) who were involved in TAFE in 1989?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** During 1988-89 TAFE had 200 students enrolled in full-time courses, and that generated a gross income of \$1.25 million. For the year 1989-90 the estimates are for 250 full fee-paying overseas students, generating a potential gross income of about \$1.5 million. The total foreign exchange earnings for South Australia last year, incorporating all the State tertiary institutions, was about \$7.8 million, with an estimated growth to about \$12.5 million in 1989-90.

I cannot give the fellowships, as we have not taken out those figures. I will take that on notice and provide the response to Parliament. Out of interest, related to the question from the member for Davenport about international projects, TAFE is involved in several projects, as follows: in the Philippines, a maths and science project worth about \$15.2 million, with a potential gross income to TAFE of about \$160 000 over four years; a vocational update program in the Philippines worth about \$21.5 million, with a gross income to TAFE of about \$150 000 over three years; and a vocational update project in Indonesia valued at about \$16.4 million, with a potential gross income to TAFE of about \$218 000 over four years. There are also some miscellaneous programs: one in the Maldives, with a gross income of about \$250 000 over one year, because we have a fellowship; in Saudi Arabia, a consultancy; and the Swiss Government, in association with Indonesia, has another consultancy program, with a gross income over four years of about \$500 000. Those give a background to what we are doing overseas.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** What is the impact of that? Obviously, it will make an increasing amount of money, but does that help to fund more places for Australian students, or does it exclude them because fewer places are available?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It means more opportunity, because it is built in as part of the cost structure.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** It means more places available overall?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Yes.

**Mr MEIER:** The Adelaide TAFE campus includes a Centre for Applied Learning Systems which is part of the facilities to provide educational training aids for lecturers of students in a wide variety of TAFE courses. Has the Minister ever used these facilities and, if so, on how many occasions and for what purposes?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I have used it on three occasions. The first occasion related to a video to encourage overseas students to come as full time students to use TAFE resources. The second occasion occurred because I was unable to attend the college principals annual conference which was held in Berri on a Thursday about three weeks ago. The opening was on the Thursday when Parliament sat. I was due to attend at 11 a.m., but obviously I had a commitment to Parliament, so that was not possible. I therefore made a video at the Centre for Applied Learning Systems that was then forwarded to the meeting in order to act as the opening address for the college principals annual conference.

I also participated in an Imparja TAFE link-up with the Aboriginal community and I was asked a question about this matter in Parliament. We had links with Indulkana, Amata, Ernabella, Alice Springs and I think a couple of other places. Various people were involved, including people from TAFE and the Department of Recreation and Sport. We were actually present in the classrooms and spoke to the children. One of the Aboriginal Central Districts football players also attended with me. The children wanted to ask questions about football and who would win on Saturday.

**Mr MEIER:** Who authorises ministerial access to and use of the facility and does the Minister know how many other Ministers have used the facilities?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I authorise access to the facility. Since 20 April when I was appointed Minister, I have not had any occasion to approve any other Minister's using that facility.

**Mr MEIER:** As a supplementary question, I understand that at least one other Minister has used the facilities and I am sure that would have been since April. Who else besides you may have authority to allow Ministers to use the facilities?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The facilities are sometimes hired out to a private media training company, which may have used the facilities for its own commercial benefit and paid an appropriate fee to the TAFE college.

**Mr MEIER:** Will the Minister provide details as to whether it has been used by other Ministers?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Yes.

**Mr MEIER:** Who pays for the use of this equipment?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The college pays for it as part of its budget. When I prepared a video for the overseas sales program, presumably the costs would have been met by the department, and I assume the same situation applied with regard to the video for the college principals conference, but I can check that. However, when the college itself uses the facilities, such as on the Imparja link-up occasion, I presume the Adelaide college paid for that as part of its education program, because it was part of its extended learning program that it offers to Aboriginal communities in distant places.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** The Minister said earlier today that a submission on the training scheme had not been sent by the Government to Canberra.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** No, I did not say that at all.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** I hope that the Minister will tell us what he did say. He said that there had been no formal submission but that there had been some chats.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** You will have to get up a little earlier.

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order! I ask the Deputy Leader to put his question and then I will ask the Minister to answer.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** I thought that is what he said, but we will have to read *Hansard* to establish exactly what was said. However, my clear recollection is that he said there had been no formal submission, because I pressed that point. In another place today the Premier said that a formal submission had been made. He said:

The Government made a submission to the Commonwealth on the matter earlier this year and the submission said, among other things, that the Government strongly endorsed an expansion of industry training and said it had to be done on an industry by industry basis.

In the light of this information, will the Minister make that submission available to us?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** As I understand it, the submission did not relate to the issue of the levy; rather, it related to the issue of training. At no stage did I say that a submission did not exist; rather, I was asked whether there were any formal or informal discussions with the Federal Minister and I said 'Yes' to both questions. As I recall it, one discussion was raised just after I was appointed Minister, I think during the Education Ministers council meeting, and I had another informal discussion with the Minister about training as a consequence of that.

I had no idea of the proposal regarding the implementation or the structure of the levy, but the State did respond to the Federal Minister in relation to training and support of the proposition that there should be more training within the community. That was prior to my time, and that matter was communicated by my predecessor. That is obviously what the Premier is referring to. So, if the Deputy Leader thinks that he is collaborating with his colleagues in another Chamber to trip up the Premier and me, he has failed abysmally.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** I asked the Minister if he would table the submission.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will consider it. It is not a document that I personally handled; it was handled by my predecessor. It is probably appropriate that I get a review of the position of the levy issue from the Federal officers, because that is the issue that seems to have established the focus of the debate between employer and union representatives.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** We are talking about tabling the document. What are the criteria on which the Minister will table it? The Minister has not made up his mind, saying that he will go away and think about it.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I am told by officers that the submission was forwarded to the Federal Minister just before I was appointed Minister. I will discuss it with the Premier.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Get your marching orders!

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order! I ask the Deputy Leader of the Opposition to direct his questions through the Chair.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We are a very tight team—different from your lot.

*Members interjecting:*

**The CHAIRMAN:** Order!

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** In last year's Estimates Committee the Minister provided a detailed breakdown of the targeted and achieved savings for 1987-88 in the central office. He indicated that the full year savings would be \$1.08 million, and he identified further savings of \$265 000, a total of \$1.3 million savings proposed for 1988-89. The Minister might need to take the question on notice because a detailed table was provided last year, but will the Minister provide an

update of the detailed table to include figures for 1988-89 and the proposed figures for 1989-90?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will need to take that question on notice, because it will require detailed attention.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** I refer to page 343 of the Program Estimates under 'Business Enterprise Management'. The Minister mentioned the procedure and structure for the evaluation and approval of ventures. What is the strategy for TAFE business and enterprise development, and what ventures have been identified so far?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We have identified a number of those business enterprises on which we have embarked. I mentioned one concerning the Crotech scheme. The structure encouraged has been to look at what commercial opportunities we have with those business ventures. Based on my exposure to them in the short time that I have been Minister, it appears as though there is a strong enthusiasm from private industry. There is large influence by private industry on the boards of those organisations.

The process has been to consult closely with industry. It is important that we look at how we can develop those opportunities. I will go through those at which we are currently looking so that the member for Davenport has a better picture of the options.

There is a joint venture now between Kingston College of TAFE and the private sector concerning design development and marketing of computer software to assist the garment design industry. That is aimed specifically at unique technology and software which will be available to private industry in this State. It will be unique because many of our clothing manufacturers are small and do not have the same resources as larger interstate manufacturers.

They are enthusiastic about this. I had the opportunity to see what was being done at Kingston TAFE last week or the week before and the software program should be completed by the end of the year. Because there were industry representatives with me, when we went through the college, the feedback I got was one of waiting with anticipation, because the marketability of this program to smaller manufacturers is significant.

Development and commercial viability of specialty computer software developed by Panorama College to assist the machining industry is another aspect. Panorama is going ahead in leaps and bounds, particularly in respect of the initiatives taken in the highly technical welding area relating to the submarine project and also the frigate development.

There is also a college program at Marlestone to develop an adjustable shoe last which has a potential for international sales, and discussions about commercial sales are being conducted with an international shoe making company. That is in the centre of the State's shoe making area. It is a good area in which to pursue that activity. Another activity is a consortium of college based business enterprises and a private sector company bidding for a potentially lucrative contract in ship building. If the consortium is successful it has the potential to generate foreign earnings for the State. There are a number of opportunities there. Also, we have a number of inventions suitable for aged care and rural industries and these are being assessed. That is a list of the programs now undertaken.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** I thank the Minister for that information. As to employment and training, what is the expected number of apprentice commencements for 1989-90?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The figure for 1989-90 is 3 923.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** I want to revert to the training scheme. In the informal discussion which the Minister had with Mr Dawkins, was the question of using the payroll tax system ever mentioned?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** No. There was no mention of payroll tax. There was discussion about the need for increased training. I did not know at that stage what Minister Dawkins had in mind about an internal or external levy. How could I? It was only announced last Friday. It was a general discussion about the need, as the Minister saw it, for improved training within Australia to meet the Federal Government's philosophy of revitalisation of manufacturing and technological industries. That was basically the extent of it. There was discussion about agreement that we needed to do more for training, and broadly that was the extent of the conversation.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** As a supplementary question, the first you knew about it was when you read it in the newspaper?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Yes, that is about right. The other thing is that I have been in this ministry for only a short time. I have had to pick up from my predecessor what has transpired. The document was forwarded to the Federal Minister before my time. The work was done by my predecessor. I am advised that the issue of the levy was clarified by the Federal Government only last Friday.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** That confirms what we said earlier: the Minister is finding out through the newspapers what the Federal Minister has in mind, particularly the suggestion that the levy would be provided through State payroll tax. It appears that there has been virtually no work with the States in respect of the details of the scheme.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** In respect of the levy that is true. Federal officers contacted the Director-General.

**Mr Kirby:** I was contacted on the day that the news release went out.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Will the Minister contact Mr Dawkins to tell him to lift his game?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** As I have said, next week officers of my department will have discussions with Federal officers. When we know just what is in the package we will be able to make some constructive comments.

**Mr MEIER:** I refer to the Pirie College of TAFE, Yorke Peninsula campus at Kadina. The college is to be re-sited and currently there are two transportables on site. I believe that they are presently being reinstated to lock-up stage, but it appears that the carpet needs to be replaced, the curtains are shredded and they need painting inside and out. The Demac at the current Taylor Street site is to be moved, along with the building at Wallaroo. When will the two additional buildings be moved to the new site, and when will they be refurbished?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is planned that the first two buildings will open for the start of term next year, and refurbishment is part and parcel of that. I will take on notice the question in respect of the other two buildings.

**Mr MEIER:** The college will certainly be disadvantaged if it has to wait for the two additional buildings until some time in 1990. I think there is an understanding that they will be moved as soon as possible. I ask the Minister to do everything possible to ensure that the buildings are moved between now and November so that full refurbishment can occur before the start of school next year.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I take the honourable member's point. We will try to do that before November 1989.

**Mr MEIER:** Where does the Yorke Peninsula campus appear on the Commonwealth's rebuilding program for TAFE colleges?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Unfortunately, the Commonwealth has a three-year program and the Yorke Peninsula campus does not appear on it.



**Mr MEIER:** I understand that discussions have been held—either formally or informally—with the Regional Education Office in respect of it and the library resource centre moving to the new site. What is the status of those discussions? Are there any firm proposals as to when the Regional Education Office will move to the new TAFE site along with any additional facilities that might be necessary for such a move to occur?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We are not aware of those discussions, but that is not unusual because they would be at local level. Obviously they would have been held with the principal of the campus. I will obtain details of the discussions.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** On page 353 of the Program Estimates under '1988-89 specific targets/objectives (significant initiatives/improvements/achievements)' there is reference to the prevocational training program. What was the result of the comprehensive evaluation of the prevocational training program? What action has resulted from that evaluation?

**Mr Kirby:** Over two successive financial years we have had withdrawal of Commonwealth support (which was quite extensive) for prevocational training in this State. The Commonwealth sees prevocational training as counter-cyclical in terms of apprenticeship training. When the level of apprenticeship training falls, it supports prevocational training, and when apprenticeship training rises it withdraws funds. We do not believe that that was the agreement when we entered into arrangements for prevocational training. Nevertheless, the Commonwealth has now withdrawn the last of its financial support for prevocational training and as a result we have two problems. First, we have had to look again at the nature of prevocational training to see whether we can get more State money on the basis that we no longer need to follow Commonwealth guidelines, so we have greater freedom. Secondly, we have impressed on the State the importance of prevocational training and its success in order to gain funds to replace the loss of Commonwealth revenue. We have gained funds to replace the loss of Commonwealth revenue—

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** From where?

**Mr Kirby:** From the State budget. It is \$750 000 in the current year and \$1.5 million in a full year. That will allow us to restore the program to its previous level and replace the loss of Commonwealth places.

At the same time, we have consulted those users of prevocational training and those involved in it, including the Industrial and Commercial Training Commission, to see whether there could be some changes to the program, for example, in its duration or content, so that it could be made more cost-effective. We are just about at the completion of that, and there will be some changes, although, given the timetable, they will probably be minimal for the coming year because colleges need the programs in place, students need to know what they are enrolling for and employers need to know the outcome. We expect that the impact of the review will have a greater effect in the following year when, possibly by shortening the programs and introducing a greater level of competency-based assessment, we will be able to achieve the same outcomes but with a lower per capita cost.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** Reference is made on page 367 to the devolution of decision-making. How far has that process of devolution of personnel decisions to line managers gone, and what powers do TAFE principals have over personnel decisions?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will ask the Director-General to again respond.

**Mr Kirby:** Prior to the last financial year, colleges had responsibility directly to the management of their incidental expenditure only. The rest was controlled by the central office of the department. That meant that, when a vacancy occurred, a lecturer having left a college, they had to come to central office and ask for that person to be replaced. Last year we changed it and gave them their full budget, and that means that they now have responsibility for the administration of much larger budgets, including the full salary component and on-costs related to salaries. They have had some problems of digesting that change in their management structures and, as a result, it did not go quite as smoothly as we had hoped. We expect in the second year of operation that they will become better acquainted with the management needs for running a budget of that kind.

This is partly linked to an earlier question about review of administrative support of colleges. This level of devolution and decentralisation has required us to review the non-teaching support available to colleges, and we also hope to strengthen that as a result of the current review. They are now in a position where they can, to all intents and purposes, replace staff as they leave or determine some change in the profile of the teaching program which might mean changes in staffing. They could, for example, reshape a program to reduce activity in one area and increase it in another, subject to the overall constraints of the budget and to departmental priorities, which are Government priorities imposed on us and the colleges. They now have a fair jurisdiction over the control of their resources and are in a position that is much more paralleled in colleges of advanced education than in schools.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** On page 373 there is a reference to evaluation of a consultancy study forecasting employment requirements for the South Australian economy to the year 2005. Can the Minister say whether the consultancy has been completed, who is doing it, what is the cost, what are the major findings and when it will be released for community consumption?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is currently being designed; it has not been let to any consultancy and it will take about six months to undertake. It is on the agenda.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** As a supplementary question, when the Minister says that it will take six months to complete, is he talking about a period after the terms of reference are decided or will a decision on the terms of reference take six months? Will it be let for tender to obtain the consultant, or is there already an agreed consultant and, if so, whom?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It will be six months from the time of letting the contract, and it will be a restricted tender because of the requirement that only a certain number of people can perform the task.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** How restricted?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** To people in the industry who are capable of meeting the requirements.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** When do we expect it to go to tender?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** In about three months, so it is nine months from now.

**Mr MEIER:** Still referring to the Yorke Peninsula campus of TAFE, it has become clear to me that additional staff are needed, particularly in two areas—first, the agri-business side (the Minister would perhaps know a bit about that having been Minister of Agriculture), and, secondly, in commercial studies. Whilst we have a lecturer based at Yorketown who can undertake farm training courses, there is no-one in the area who can provide a certificate in farm management. The students currently must go to the Light College of TAFE at Nuriootpa if they want to undertake such a course. It is expensive enough to travel, let alone

find accommodation, and I believe that the Light College of TAFE does not have its own permanent instructor but that its instructor comes from the Adelaide College of TAFE. Whilst a full-time person at Kadina would be ideal, what we seek as a compromise would be at least a shareperson with the Light College of TAFE. Can the Minister give any indication of future thinking in this area?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is the same problem that we face throughout the post-secondary education system, in that the demand is growing enormously. My own personal experience is that there is an increasing demand for agritype business programs, perhaps involving finance on the farm; but, we will look at that. Given the points that the member has raised, he may want to outline them in more detail in writing. However, I am happy to respond in regard to the matters raised now and indicate that we will review the situation given his comment about distance and accommodation concerning Nuriootpa and the fact that he says there is no full-time lecturer there, anyway. Perhaps if the member put full details in writing, we could fully explore his proposal and come up with a solution, perhaps not in the short term but in the long term, that will address the issue for his constituents who want to undertake that course.

Our intention is to try to encourage people to undertake tertiary education not to discourage them. The difficulty is trying to meet the demand as it rapidly grows and, as the member for Goyder will appreciate if he looks at the figures, the demand has rapidly grown over the past few years.

It is difficult to get physical resources but even more difficult to get skilled resources, as packages offered by the private industry for lecturers and consultants are high. We had the same problem in the Department of Agriculture, and the Director-General often complained about the Department of TAFE pinching agricultural officers, the private sector then taking them from TAFE. This occurs throughout the State in the wool and meat industries. There is a constant movement of highly skilled officers from the public to the private sector because the money and service facilities offered to improve one's skills and employment prospects are extremely high. We must find skilled people to replace the ones who leave, and they do not fall off trees.

TAFE is constantly replacing people who move to the private sector. This is good for the private sector, which sees these people as the resource it needs and for the State but, unfortunately, TAFE has to find replacements. I will be happy to respond in detail. We will review the situation and get back to the honourable member. However, I ask him to put his detailed question in writing. That will help us to cover the specific points that were mentioned.

**Mr MEIER:** The Minister will know, as he was the Minister of Agriculture, that the Agriculture Department's Kadina office kept losing people in this way. I suppose he was happy to leave that portfolio because of the pressure I put on him for the better part of 18 months to two years to have officers sent to Kadina; thankfully, the Minister accomplished that before he left his portfolio.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We did that.

**Mr MEIER:** I was interested in the Minister's statement about employing skilled persons. I will see whether I can find skilled persons so that the Minister has merely to give the authorisation to employ them.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** This is a huge problem, particularly in rural areas where people shift to private enterprise. There are massive problems in replacing them. The Agriculture Department's Kadina branch is one example, but every area of that department had the same problem: one would get a program in place and lose the person. So, any assistance will be gratefully received.

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

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Have there been any discussions with the five South Australian universities and colleges about offering higher education courses to some of the TAFE colleges in rural areas and, if not, are there any possible developments for the future?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I cannot recall any discussions that have been brought to my notice. The Director-General is a member of SAICH, the vice-chancellor and college heads body and, given the amalgamation discussions that are now going on, I doubt whether there is any conclusion with regard to courses being offered through TAFE. It is an interesting option and I will be happy to take it up with the Director-General to see whether or not that is an option, given the state of discussions on amalgamation of the institutions.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** I would like to know what is intended by the statement on page 364 of the Program Estimates as follows:

To develop satisfactory statewide coordination among providers of non-award education.

In particular, have there been any discussions with the WEA?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** There are a number of areas of non-award education. We are looking at the Statewide coordination of those non-award educators. In the current budget program there has been an attempt to bring together like programs within local areas. I can think of my own area, in which there has been particular emphasis on bringing together the Camden Community Centre with the Clarence Park Community Centre. There has been a direct attempt to coordinate non-award education so that there is no duplication within geographic areas and within the non-award areas offered.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** In relation to page 339 of the Program Estimates, which Government policy decisions have been made in respect of the Report of Provision of Community Adult Education Programs, which is the Tillet report of 1989?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Basically, we have accepted the general thrust of that report and now have to put together the financial package to deliver the recommendations in terms of the community education program. At this time I have not finalised the package we will be putting forward, but my predecessor made certain commitments about that, and we will endeavour to meet those commitments. I doubt whether we can meet the financial commitments in the first year, but we are looking at a three-year period to introduce those community education based programs. The idea of the coordination and central efficiency that would be offered by what Tillet has proposed would be attractive to the community. From our point of view, it certainly has benefits.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** At page 197 of the Auditor-General's Report there is talk of the Formula Holden venture to which the Minister referred earlier. The Minister gave us some detail as to the results of that program. The Auditor-General's Report shows that \$250 000 has been approved for that project. How much of that has been expended and what is the current status of the venture in relation to the overall exercise?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Basically, we spent all of that on training and the development of the cars. Crotech has expressed interest in purchasing the Formula Holden cars. Given the reaction of people in the industry, they will be buying the cars. The honourable member may have more knowledge than I of the price of these cars, but to bring in

a RALT-5, which is about an equivalent body and chassis with the motor, costs around \$140 000. Our vehicles can be produced for about \$100 000.

I am told that imported cars require a lot of conversions. There are two popular imported brands of open wheel racer that are capable of being modified to the Formula Holden requirement. The people I spoke to at Mallala and Croydon, before the Formula Holden series race was run on the weekend, are in the industry. They were looking at the car from the point of view of purchasing it. They indicated a very strong interest in it. They were very interested in the quality of workmanship and said that it was far better than the imported product. They felt that it had much more going for it. Obviously, they wanted to see the initial teething problems sorted out, but many problems related to the Holden motor.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** Page 333 of the Program Estimates, under 'Migrant education', shows in 1988-89 a proposed expenditure of \$5.4 million, whereas the actual was \$4.9 million. It appears that we did not expend what was expected. Is that because we did not put out as many programs?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It was a one-off project. That was the distance learning project at the National Curriculum Research Centre.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** The Auditor-General's Report at page 194 refers to accommodation costs. What is the net effect on TAFE of the new arrangements for accommodation that were instituted by Sacon on 1 July 1988?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** No impact on our budget situation because we were given full funding to meet those costs.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** The Minister says that it has full funding in the budget through another item. Was there an increase in that amount compared with the previous year?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** There was an increase, but I will take the question on notice and obtain further information.

**Mr MEIER:** The Minister said that to buy an imported car, kit or chassis was considerably more expensive. I point out that it would have a different motor.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Some 2½ months ago I met with the project partners who, as I said earlier, are both drivers. One is an electrical engineer and the other is a mechanical engineer. Both were very supportive of what was happening and of the project at Croydon. I asked them about the purchase price of an overseas racing car such as a RALT-5, which I think is equivalent to the Formula that is being run now. They said \$140 000, and I think that includes the motor. The package would include a motor, spare parts, a chassis and wheels. Our vehicle works out at about \$100 000. Of course, the RALT-5 is fairly well tested. It competes in formula three events in Europe and America. So it is a fairly well tested chassis and system. Our system is brand new and has been built from the ground up.

Even with the teething problems we have had with the motor (and other motors have had them as well), it is proving to be very popular. I do not know whether we have any firm orders at this time, but certainly during Grand Prix week there will be a special Holden formula race involving three cars. When I went out to Mallala only one had been built. When I went down to Croydon on the Friday morning two days before the race they were still putting the chassis together on the second one. Both drivers were road testing the other car to get the feel of it. Both vehicles were put on the track and, in fact, the one that finished the race was the one that was on the assembly line on the previous Friday. They worked all Friday night and until the very early hours of Sunday morning to put the car together. That vehicle actually lasted out the race. I think the other one did a head gasket during the race, which is

one of those things that can happen in formula one racing. To actually complete a race is an achievement itself.

It is a very successful project. A number of senior apprentices are working on the car. It must be very exciting to work with technology at that level. I am sure they would be delighted if the honourable member paid them a visit to see for himself. The work area inside the cage is very secure because they are dealing with expensive parts. The apprentices working on the project are in the centre of the cage and the other apprentices are all scattered around working on the normal program. The project is the focal point of the college. It is a superb environment, because you can see it all happening.

**Mr MEIER:** On pages 347 and 358 of the Program Estimates under 'Industrial and Commercial Training, Training Commission', I notice that the actual amount for 1988-89 was \$298 000, while the proposed amount is \$705 000. That is a very significant increase. Will the Minister explain the reason for that increase?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** An amount of \$328 000 has been identified for a computer record system for an essential apprenticeship record data base which the Office of Employment and Training has argued for for a number of years.

**Mr MEIER:** Could one of the Minister's officers provide details of that?

**Mr Connelly:** Currently we have a system which was developed about seven years ago when the first moves across the nation came about for a common system of reporting on apprenticeship statistics. At that time, the Government Computing Centre was running a system of Cyber mainframe computers. They are now being phased out. Our system is totally locked into those Cybers and we have gone through a fairly lengthy period of development and refinement of this system over a number of years. We are now not only ready but the system has to be implemented because of the demise of the Cyber. It is a fairly complicated system and, as I say, it is integrated into a national system of statistics collection.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I do not want to interrupt the honourable member, but I have an answer with regard to the accommodation question. The increase is from \$820 000 to \$1.116 million for 1989-90—an increase of \$296 000.

**Mr MEIER:** I refer to the literacy program on page 363 of the Program Estimates. What programs are intended for 1990, the International Year of Literacy?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** As the honourable member says, 1990 is the year of literacy. A number of programs are being worked on. It is such a good question I will have to take it on notice. A group is looking at what programs should be highlighted in 1990. But, be assured, we are aware of the significance of the year and we will give it due consideration in terms of our program for 1990. It will certainly receive the proper emphasis in terms of the community's vision of what TAFE does. However, at this stage no final detail is available.

**Mr TYLER:** In relation to the Employment and Training Equity Unit, page 351 of the Program Estimates mentions the Tradeswomen on the Move Project and indicates that this project has visited 42 schools (22 of which were rural) and has involved 93 female students (41 of whom were rural) in a range of non-traditional work experience programs. The Program Estimates also indicates that in 1989-90 a greater variety of work experience programs will be made available for more girls. What are some of the details of that program for 1989-90, what is some of the history of the program and has it been effective?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We are delighted with the Tradeswomen on the Move Project, which I think has been a great

success and we look forward to its continuing in 1989-90. We have enjoyed cooperating with the Commonwealth on this program and I hope that the Federal Minister (Peter Duncan) will also be involved. We look forward to a continuation of this program.

The achievements have been very significant. We wound up the 1988-89 year a couple of weeks ago. It is wonderful to see the confidence and self-esteem generated by this project. I believe that the program provides great benefits and that we should continue to encourage it. I visited ETSA in order to meet one of the young women who entered an apprenticeship as a consequence of the program. She is doing electrical fitting and hopes to proceed to electronics. It is a little like this career path and award restructuring; she has an ambition to be an electrical engineer and, given her commitment, I think that she will achieve her ambition. This program provides an excellent opportunity to exhibit role models to young women. Tradeswomen visited 42 schools and, as a consequence of the 1988-89 program, I believe that 300 inquiries were received. I hope that the program can continue with the Federal Government's support.

**Mr Connelly:** In the first year of the program we had only a very limited number of trades to which we could expose the young women. We utilised tradeswomen whom we had seconded from private industry and who were already qualified tradespeople. We took them around to a number of high schools and covered most of the State from Ceduna, and Port Lincoln to Naracoorte and Mount Gambier in the South-East.

During the second year of the program it was expanded to include 20 young qualified tradeswomen who were in industry, so it was not a matter of a central bureaucrat's trying to convince young women that this was a proper option for them; rather, apart from a few years, these tradeswomen were virtually the students' peers to whom they could immediately relate. It is difficult to undertake an immediate assessment, but there is no doubt that the questions asked and the degree of interest not only from the students but also from careers counsellors and schoolteachers highlights the fact that this has had a strong impact on the young women and on the young men in the schools.

**Mr TYLER:** One criticism made is that Australia is not responding fast enough to the need for a more skilled work force. What has been done to ensure that people who are unemployed because of redundant skills, or those still employed with out-of-date skills, can gain new relevant skills?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I suppose that this question is relevant to the point made earlier by the Deputy Leader about training. I make no apologies for the fact that I support the need for increased training in this country. This is a community issue which requires greater effort from every sector of the community. Everywhere I go in my new role as Minister of Employment and Further Education I constantly receive demands from employers for more skilled people in the work force. The demand is enormous for highly skilled people in our new technology and manufacturing industries, so we must answer that demand. If TAFE does not answer that demand, the large private employers will do so.

I listened with great interest to the debate about the levy. The whole concept of training needs has been discussed for some years and Mr Dawkins has talked about it, as we have, for some time. I recall the economist from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry comment that such a levy would be a burden on industry. However, industry is crying out for skilled people, and it will continue to do so. If

industry is to have those skilled people, then this matter must be addressed as a community issue.

How that is done is yet to be debated and I look forward to the opportunity of negotiating with Federal Ministers, with industry and with the unions as to the appropriate method. Quite obviously, a number of methods are available and the Federal Minister has floated one on which we will obviously get further detail in the following week. We must all agree that we need to place greater emphasis on training.

Regarding the question about the unemployed, I think there is particular need to address those people who have, as it were, fallen through the net. Those people fall into many categories: people who have not had the training, who do not have the basic entry into training and need the opportunity to build up self-confidence and self-esteem to have that level of training; those who have skills which are no longer relevant to the industries or which are out of date; and those not able to gain new relevant skills in order to make themselves viable and able to lock into employment.

In this case we are developing skill centres, and the purpose of the program is to involve industry and the Government in a new approach to development and delivery of funding and training. This program increases the role and contribution of industry in providing training. Clearly, industry has a much greater role to play in skill formation of the workforce; that is evident. I do not know whether the honourable member has seen any of the training films from the unions and the employees in the metal industries. They are talking now about these training modules and how they move them around. They move them on to the work site and, off the work site, on to the campus. It is a highly flexible program and, obviously, part of that skills development will involve employers having training programs on the work site—on the job training—which are recognised, accredited and under supervision. All of those things need to be looked at.

We have been through this program. We need to look at how we can, in fact, reskill these people, how we can get them back into efficient, productive, self-fulfilling achievement within the workforce. Private sector resources have to be locked in as well. Obviously, there is a need, as has been acknowledged by those progressive members of the private sector, to bring together all the resources to prevent a duplication and to lock together the best possible combination we can for the sake of the community. It is fair to say that we do not want to see people bludging off others. In many cases, that does happen now. In my opinion, industry training and retraining are guarantees of success of that business. If you have people who are skilled and you give them opportunities to upgrade their skills, the productivity and the returns are very fulfilling, in my opinion. These programs will give the people who feel they have fallen through the net an opportunity to get back in. The centres we have established are in retail and horticulture, in plastics and rubber—industries, of course, which are very much related to our State—automotive, road transport and hospitality. We are also well advanced in development of engineering and marine fabrication and textile, clothing and footwear and we are looking at a number of others—timber and furniture, livestock, fishing, aviation, electronics and automotive manufacturing.

The comprehensive program reinforces not only our catchcry, which is to give every kid an opportunity, but also gives a chance to mature adults who have been in the workforce. For instance, there were tooling tradesmen at GMH when the tooling centre closed—I have a couple of

constituents in this situation—in their fifties and some of them are on the scrapheap. How do they get retraining when they have done a job for 30 years? The opportunity is there now for these people to be retrained, of course, not in metal fabrication, but in other areas.

Over the past two years we have committed nearly \$300 000 to support this program and this year we are actually upping the ante. There will be \$160 000 available to the centres, so it is a comprehensive program, and I think it is fair to say it will give everyone an opportunity, who has been faced with not having the appropriate skills, to consider whether they can, in fact, go back into the workforce.

We will be offering them entry level training, retraining and upgrading, re-entry training—that will be basically for the unemployed—multi-skills and specialist skills programs. That is a good news story for the community as a whole.

**Mr DUIGAN:** Will the new department be continuing to fund local employment assistance programs? First, there is not the same amount of detail in the new program description for the department on page 372, as there was for the old Office of Employment and Training on page 353, and the new program title, in terms of the 1989-90 targets talks about rationalisations between programs.

Secondly, will the skill share program being run by the Commonwealth in any way overtake the role that was previously played by the Office of Employment and Training in terms of the provisions of financial assistance to local employment projects?

Thirdly, a number of organisations with which I have been involved—for example, DOME (Don't Overlook Mature Expertise), the Adult Unemployed Project of Prospect and the North Adelaide CYSS Program—have for one reason or another, as a result of rationalisations and reorganisations and new priorities, actually attracted no funding or less funding. That is why I asked whether or not the new department will continue to provide financial assistance to local employment projects.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We have good news. I suffered the same situation in my electorate with regard to Federal funding for those programs. I had in my area three employment programs—particularly youth employment programs—we now have none for a number of reasons, but primarily the Federal Government has pulled out funding. We have increased our funding quite significantly to our employment support programs and I will run through that.

The adult skills training will be \$81 000 for this year; skill centres, \$41 000; adult extension of the Youth Employment Program; and extension to the Adult Unemployed Support Program—the overall increase for those programs is just over \$1 million for 1989-90, which represents a significant growth.

We will give the actual figures later because some of them are merged so we do not have the figures for 1988-89 to give a breakdown. The overall thrust has been to massively increase the areas—for example, the adult skills training was \$10 000 last year; it is now \$91 000. So, we are putting significant funds into the area of local employment assistance programs, and we can be proud of the commitment that we have made. I hope that it brings results for the people who are in need.

**Mr Connolly:** As to the Skillshare question, Mr Duigan would understand it better than most because of his interest in organisations like DOME. In many ways the Commonwealth Government's Skillshare tends to overlap some of the programs that we run in South Australia, for example, the Adult Support Program. We have been careful to pick our way through that and not duplicate what the Common-

wealth is paying for. That has worked out in three ways, the first of which is where we have handed over an existing program which the State was funding to a Skillshare. A case in point would be the program which we were running and which was providing women with computing and word processing skills at Salisbury. It has now been incorporated into the Skillshare activity run out there and we no longer fund it; we have moved our funds elsewhere.

Another case in point would be the Western Office Retraining Program at Henley Beach, where Skillshare does not provide the training which is run through our program. It contracts training. We are paying for and running a training program of our own to a group which is not the Skillshare target group, and that program is also running under contract. We have a bigger and more viable program, but we are sharing many of the infrastructure costs associated with that. In some cases we have actually given money to a Skillshare program to start it off. A case in point would have been where we closed down a program which was being run at Bowden and which was providing training essentially for mature aged ethnic background men who had been placed out of work. That program has now been passed over to a Skillshare program and we have given a seeding grant as our contribution to what is being taken over. As far as State money is concerned, we try to work out the best deal in the circumstances, while marginally increasing the State's money going to other sorts of activities.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Does the Minister have a car phone or a cellular phone which is rented and paid for at taxpayers' expense? If he does, when was it installed?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Yes, I do, and it was installed on 6 July 1989. The unit cost \$3 900 and to date there have been 45 calls at a cost of \$33.39. The rental, installation and licence fee was \$178.43.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** For how long was that?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** For the year, I presume.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Is that the total value of the calls?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Yes, that is what I have been billed for so far.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Does the Government provide any funds for Bridging the Gap? What has happened to that organisation?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We have had a discussion with the Chairman of Bridging the Gap. Mr Connolly has been the officer responsible for discussing the matter with the Bridging the Gap committee. We propose a review of its programs to meet the needs that we believe it should be meeting. Our view is that it really has not been meeting the needs of young people, who are disadvantaged and who would not normally go through the normal CES process or be successful if they did. The feeling is that it meets a need, but most of the young people who have used it would probably have been employed through the ordinary institutional methods available to them. It was originally my understanding of the documentation that Bridging the Gap was to be self funded, but it is virtually totally funded by the State Government. If Government funds are to be used, we must pick up the area of young people who will not ordinarily find employment through the system. We believe that there is no point in having a system that duplicates what the Commonwealth is doing for young people who would normally find employment.

If the Commonwealth is successful in providing a service to those young people, that is fine. Perhaps the Commonwealth ought to be doing the whole thing, rather than allowing the kids who drop through the safety net not to be

picked up by them. It would appear that it will not devote its attention to that, and it is left to the State and well meaning community organisations to pick up where the Commonwealth has left off. I have had discussions with the Chairman of Bridging the Gap, and we are now looking with that organisation at the available options. I have indicated my willingness to continue to fund it until we have sorted this out. If we could develop a program where Bridging the Gap picked up the area that we believe it should pick up, we would be happy to look at some sort of funding arrangement in order to continue that program.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** At page 344 of the Program Estimates in respect of youth affairs there is a reference to the youth offer which was implemented and evaluated. I seek details of how it was implemented in 1988-89. In the 'Budget and Social Justice Strategy' on page 18 is an estimate that 7 500 people aged 15 to 19 years do not participate in any educational training or have a job and that in 1989-90 it is intended to ensure that no 15 or 16 year old, or older teenager who is unemployed for more than six months, need be without education, training or employment. Apart from the other matters raised, how many young people will be involved? What will it cost to extend the offer to all 15 to 19 year olds?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The youth offer as it was in 1988-89 was implemented at Elizabeth and Whyalla. An evaluation resulted in the development of a comprehensive State Youth Strategy, which has now superseded the youth offer as it stood. I am told that the analysis of the evaluation of the youth offer as it operated in those two locations was that it was of limited benefit and needed to be significantly expanded if it was to be of any use at all. It was then the benchmark for the State Youth Strategy which was outlined by the Premier in part of the budget papers concerning where we are going with our commitment to give every young person in the community an opportunity, whether it be for employment, training or education. The last part of the question was about targeting particular groups.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** What would be the cost if we extended it to try to pick up the 15 to 19 year-olds instead of the 16 to 18 year-olds?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We will take that on notice to give some guesstimate of the 15 to 19 year-olds, but we are targeting 15 to 17 year-olds as part of the youth strategy.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** What numbers are involved in that?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Off the cuff, 4 000.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** The 7 500 as originally intended would not be involved?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** That would pick up the 15 to 19 year-olds. We are targeting the 15 to 17 year-olds as the most at-risk group.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** It was stated in the 1985 election campaign that it was estimated that the youth employment scheme program would cost \$4.8 million in 1985-86 and \$23 million over a three-year period, and that it would create 18 000 employment and training opportunities. Further, the program would be linked to other development initiatives and the needs of industry to ensure that the community as a whole benefited. Will the Minister provide some detail, taking into consideration that it is stated in last year's Program Estimates at page 203 that a break-down of the specific program is available in the YES task force report? Is the Minister prepared to make that report available? Further, what number of employment and training opportunities were created, and what funding has been provided under YES for each year since 1985? Can the Minister provide a detailed break-down of all of the component parts of that program? Finally, listed on page 135 of the Program

Estimates is \$74 000 for youth employment initiatives; what is involved in that allocation?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The \$74 000 is basically kept in the department on the basis of there being no commitments at the beginning of the budget. However, schemes that come up during the financial year are evaluated, and it is an opportunity for those schemes to be funded if they meet the criteria of the program. There is a phase down of the YES program and I am informed that those amounts were higher last year and the year before, so there is a reduction in terms of the allocation. We will take the other question on notice as it was quite comprehensive.

**Mr MEIER:** The Minister stated that there is a phase down of the YES program. Is he suggesting that it has not worked as originally anticipated in 1985?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** No, we are expanding other options under a broad category of youth strategy and under employment opportunity categories so that a whole range of schemes are being developed. This was obviously prior to my time, but my predecessor was advised that we ought to be looking at broadening the options. Fundamentally that is what is happening.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** At page 369 of the Program Estimates under 'Government Youth Strategy', there is a reference to developing and implementing the State Government's Youth Strategy. The Minister made a comment about some programs, but what is the youth strategy? Is it documented and could a copy be provided? On page 134 appears an amount of \$248 000 for youth strategy grants. Will the Minister provide a break-down of how that \$248 000 is to be allocated?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I am happy to give an outline of the youth strategy as it stands. A public document, which will outline the thrust of the youth strategy, will be available very shortly, and I will be happy to forward a copy of that to the member. Basically, it gives a priority to assist the unemployed, the disadvantaged and at-risk young people and to assess and participate in education, training and employment. Within that is a sub-category of homeless young people who are a specific target group within the priority. There is a \$2.6 million commitment within the strategy, including initiatives to lift the number of places in employment and training for disadvantaged young people, to improve careers and study advice and information, and to improve the coordination and targeting of youth services.

The cornerstone of the strategy is to establish five regional youth resource centres to bring together in the one location workers with youth from across the spectrum of health, welfare, education, employment and training agencies at all levels of Government—State, Federal and local, as well as non-government agencies. The youth resource centres will be a base for the development and provision of coordinated and targeted outreach services to disadvantaged young people such as those living in youth shelters. The objective of those outreach services will be the provision of coordinated, concerted and consistent support to disadvantaged young people, so we will not just bring them in and give them a roof over their head. The idea is to give them support and get them back to their family environment and support them there. It is a comprehensive package.

Concerning funding, the youth strategy grants will enable regions to develop special programs to target specific needs of particular groups such as the young homeless. We will be allocating \$150 000 for that purpose. Youth assistance grants will be made available to workers in youth resource centres to enable them to provide direct financial assistance to disadvantaged young people, thus assisting them to participate in employment. We have allocated \$100 000 for



that purpose. I have not elaborated on the training package or the education package within that. That is another part of this strategy but, as I say, a public document will be available very shortly which will outline in full the commitment to youth strategy.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** Does that include the Second Story?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** No, that is a Health Commission initiative.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** How much of the \$23 million from the 1985 budget was spent?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I am advised that it is pretty close to that but, as I said, we will take the question on notice.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** Page 134 of the Estimates of Payments states that some \$60 000 is to be allocated to the Youth Sector Training Council. What is to be achieved for that \$60 000?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The Youth Sector Training Council is to be contracted by the Commonwealth and State Governments for two years to undertake a number of steps, as follows: conduct training needs analysis; develop, provide and coordinate training as needs dictate; provide regular information about training issues and opportunities; develop and publish training resources; develop and maintain a register of trainers; develop policy related youth sector training; work on the issue of accreditation of training; provide advice on training issues to Governments and the tertiary and youth affairs sectors; and work towards becoming self-funding. This \$60 000 State Government funding is to be matched by \$60 000 that was recently made available to the Youth Sector Training Council by the Commonwealth through the Youth Bureau.

**Mr MEIER:** In respect of hospitality trainees, last year under 'Specific Targets/Objectives' the Program Estimates stated:

Implement hospitality traineeships for at least 60 trainees in 1989 and consolidate clerical traineeship offerings.

How many hospitality trainees were trained?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** There were 41 trainees.

**Mr MEIER:** What happened to the other 19?

**Mr Connelly:** Getting a traineeship depends on persuading an employer that it is an appropriate thing to do. We have a significant workload in doing that. Our target was 50 and we achieved 41. It is fair to say that the hospitality industry is now grasping the nettle, and we expect that sort of rate of growth to continue. It was our first year, and getting 41 we thought was a not unreasonable actual achievement.

**Mr MEIER:** On a supplementary question, has a number been set for this year?

**Mr Connelly:** That would be something we would do in conjunction with the Industry Training Council, which is a representation of employers, the trade unions and the department.

**Mr MEIER:** Page 363 of the Program Estimates under 'Issues/Trends' states:

The client demand has not been identified adequately, nor has a clear process for the implementation of policy yet been demonstrated in this program.

That statement seems unusual in that it almost appears as though the department is not sure where it is going or what it wishes to achieve. What does it really mean?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is an equity and access program that is related to a number of target groups, such as women, the disabled and so on. Work is still being done to identify the demand, the resultant need and policy direction. As yet, the clientele has not been finalised and, as a consequence, their needs have not been addressed. For example, a policy which was recently released in relation to the disabled (I

will be happy to get this for the honourable member) reinforces the program that has been followed. The programs are worked on and released progressively, and that is part of the reason for that statement. Obviously, implementation is gradual.

**Mr MEIER:** Has a specific amount been set aside for this program?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I will take that question on notice because we need to identify the people who are working on the programs both in the central office and in the colleges. The time devoted by individual officers at college level may be hard to identify, but at central office level we can identify it. It would be difficult to give an hour-by-hour breakdown of what particular college officers do in relation to the implementation of policy as that would be intermingled with other commitments, but we could do this in relation to people working in policy development. I do not think the wording of the statement is the best; it could be improved significantly.

**Mr MEIER:** It is clear from your answer that next year it will be spelled out in more detail.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Given that we are releasing policy documents, it seems to me that it would be not appropriate to say that client demand has not been adequately identified. If one produces a policy document, obviously one has identified some demand, whether it be for the disabled, Aborigines or women.

**Mr MEIER:** Page 364 of the Program Estimates under 'Issues/Trends' states:

Significant reduction in program costs resulting from: lower part-time instructors' rates; fewer full-time TAFE Act staff in the program.

What are the lower part-time instructors' rates?

**The Hon. M.K. MAYES:** I suppose the honourable member finds that surprising from a Labor Government. There is a new class of part-time instructor at a new rate which is below the rate instructors would have been paid previously.

**Mr MEIER:** Supplementary to that, I note that TAFE personnel are often not qualified from a tertiary point of view. Are we mainly talking about that type of instructor?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Yes and no, depending upon the particular instructor. Enrichment courses are available, and they may well take them.

**Mr MEIER:** Will the Minister make available the rates of pay for instructors?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Certainly; we will take that on notice.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** What is involved in the allocation of \$260 000 for the line "Youth initiatives project funds"?

**Mr Connelly:** The Youth Initiative Unit is a former branch of the Office of Employment and Training and now forms part of the Youth Affairs Division of the new combined department. Youth initiative projects are directed towards young unemployed people. The principle behind them is that young people, as a group, come together with a project which is of community value. They have to design the project themselves and gain a commitment from local private enterprise for materials, and so on—perhaps a local council—to enable them to carry out that project.

We give them a small grant of, perhaps, \$800 to \$1 200 to enable them to do that and, in the process, they must run a bank account, account for that money, properly acquit it and negotiate with the bank manager. It is a training exercise. The project in which they are involved, which is something which captures their interest, enables them to develop a number of skills which are valued by employers when they try to gain employment. For a very small sum

of money we can run a very significant and extended series of programs. One program involves the State Emergency Service. The voluntary organisation to the north of Elizabeth had three trucks which had become unserviceable. A group of young people were able to cannibalise the three trucks and create one good truck.

They used TAFE expertise and appropriate training components during that exercise. That is a typical program. Approximately \$290 000 was spent on these projects, and in the course of a year they are likely to involve about 1 200 young people.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** What is involved in the allocation of \$50 000 for the Youth Services Development Fund?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** That was established in 1988-89 as part of the youth services program of the social justice budget. A total of \$50 000 was made available in two funding rounds in November 1988 and March 1989. Grants of up to \$3 000 were provided on a once-off basis for projects with a local or regional focus which meet a community need targeting socially, culturally and economically disadvantaged young people. The projects were assisted in a variety of ways by funding: travel, purchase of equipment, minor capital works, development of support network, the coordination of services and cooperative arrangements with local government. An advisory group considered applications.

The group consisted of representatives of the Youth Affairs Council, local government and the Department of Local Government and was chaired by an officer of the Youth Bureau. In 1989-90 a further \$50 000 has been made available for the Youth Services Development, and it is anticipated that it will be distributed in a similar way. The first funding round will be in November 1989.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Earlier this year the Youth Affairs Council of South Australia called on the State Government to establish 10 local employment development agencies at a total cost of \$300 000. What is the Government's response to this submission?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I was not Minister when that document was put to the Government, but I understand that it was a general policy statement from the Youth Affairs Council. Our response to it is the Youth Strategy. I do not have any details other than that. Some of the schemes we touched on earlier with regard to employment opportunities would be part of our response to what YACSA put forward as part of its policy statement, and also some of the initiatives for the Youth Strategy. So, at this time I cannot give an indication of the formal response from the Government, other than our commitment of millions of dollars to the Youth Strategy.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** In the field of youth development the Minister talked of youth initiatives and project funds to do up old trucks and make one truck out of three. I sense that one problem is providing supervision to ensure that the hours spent are reasonably productive. Unless people develop that type of approach, they are unlikely to be of much benefit to private enterprise or even to a Government department. Has the department looked at trying to co-opt the services of people such as the Jaycees and Apex?

Many community projects can be done and much expertise gained among those young people. Most of them have found a way to have a stable position in life, sometimes through good luck and sometimes through effort. Because Governments are doing more and more for people today, there is less opportunity for service club people to find worthwhile projects. I sense that there must be a great opportunity in that field for Governments to encourage

joint efforts. I know that in Apex, Rotary, Jaycees and WAYMCA there are some very capable young people that give leadership compassionately and sensibly to help people take up a trade or get back into the work force.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I have a similar view. If we have people out there who have the skills, the expertise and the time, we should not waste any opportunity to enlist their support. No doubt, many skilled people out there are engaged in supporting various community organisations with their time and skills. I have one local community group called TOYS, an acronym. Basically it takes broken down toys that people are finished with, and repairs them. They work as a group and they also teach others how to do that. They have got some skilled tradespeople who are retired—cabinet makers, joiners and so on—and teach the others how to do it. There are numerous examples of people involved in community activities using their skills.

One of the problems is in trying to get an on-going commitment, particularly from busy working people who have family commitments, sporting commitments, and their own lives to lead. It is time consuming. People who are the executive officers just about end up doing 24 hours a day. They get totally consumed and involved in the families of the young people. They virtually live another life. That is one of the problems. We have got to find people who are prepared to do that. People who are involved in Rotary, Apex, Lions or any one of the clubs generally have a thousand other things on their plate as well. The officers tell me that they are absolutely well meaning and totally committed, but the problem is they have got 10 other projects at the same time. They can put in a couple of hours a week but business and other commitments take them out. The continuity of the relationship is very important in developing the self-esteem of the young person with whom they are working. It has to be a consistent, constant on-going commitment. It is a lot to ask of anyone who has a family or commitments in their unit.

**Mr Connelly:** We have engaged the help of the organisations referred to. Mention has already been made of 'Bridging the gap', involving the Rotary organisation. Another Rotary organisation which we initially kicked off with seeding money was 'Business in the community'. That is continuing with the help of seconded public servants who are acting as the executive officers to that organisation. We have also for a number of years in the new initiatives unit run a program called SCIIY—as the Minister says, this area is replete with acronyms—and that stands for the Services Clubs involvement for Youth. It was more to do with Kiwanis. They have run a number of activities, taking particularly disadvantaged young people away to a weekend camp and working with Apex and Kiwanis people to begin to think what their future might be.

We have run a scheme whereby we use members of Apex clubs as what we call mentors when a young person, evinces an interest in becoming a watchmaker or whatever it might be. You find somebody in the service clubs who is a watchmaker and is prepared to spend time with that young person explaining what is involved in carrying out that profession or trade. As the Minister says, it is very time consuming of those people. We get a tremendous response for a time, but then the demand on that individual becomes too great, whereas the demand from the young people continues.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The Director of the Youth Division, Ms Webster, would be delighted to have any offers of any community group. If the honourable member knows of any service clubs that can help, we would be more than happy to talk about it. Any of those opportunities we miss might mean some young person not developing a career

opportunity. Far be it for me to turn down any offer that would be forthcoming from any community group.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** I have always believed that, in the area of salvage, there is a huge loss of public money every year. Material is thrown out that is not damaged very much or not damaged at all. It is palmed off at peanut rates. If we talked to some of the service clubs we could run a business with people actually restoring material and running a second hand operation. It would be worth tens of thousands a year that could be put back into the program.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I am not sure if that is an offer from the honourable member to be a member of such a body.

**Mr S.G. EVANS:** I would be interested.

**Mr MEIER:** On page 356 reference is made to vocational education expenditure. I compare that to last year's Program Estimates at page 184. Initially I thought there were 69 extra positions created but there are some different headings, so that obviously is not necessarily correct. I would like to know what has happened to the following categories under vocational education, because they do not appear in this year's group: language, library and media studies, music, paramedical and performing arts? Where are those areas now? What are those people doing? Some 78 people were employed in the 1987-88 year. I have not found those areas under the new arrangement.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** They are buried in the body of the other lines which are listed, for example, languages. I am assured by the Director of Finance that they are here. We will provide a break-down and a number of others can easily be tabulated. Language is within Community Services, so they are all under another heading for this year's program.

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

Office of Tertiary Education,  
\$214 754 000

Works and Services, Office of Tertiary Education,  
\$15 250 000

**Chairman:**

The Hon. T.M. McRae

**Members:**

Mr M.R. De Laine

Mr M.G. Duigan

Mr S.G. Evans

The Hon. E.R. Goldsworthy

Mr E.J. Meier

Mr P.B. Tyler

**Witness:**

The Hon. M.K. Mayes, Minister of Employment and Further Education.

**Departmental Advisers:**

Dr F. Ebbeck, Chief Executive Officer.

Mr R. Fletcher, Executive Officer (Resources and Planning).

**The CHAIRMAN:** I declare the proposed payments open for examination and refer members to pages 137 and 211 in the Estimates of Payments and pages 375 to 379 in the Program Estimates.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Has the Minister received a submission from the governing executives of our universities and colleges (SAGE) for State funding of higher

education and, if he has, what were the details and what is the Government's response? The minutes refer to the fact that they sent a submission to the Government seeking State funding for higher education.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I have had discussions with Vice Chancellors about Federal funding for State institutions on the basis of equity, access and all those things. I have asked them for their advice with regard to funding, but I have not yet received a reply. I expect to receive a response from them about their attitude towards a funding basis, but I am not sure what the Deputy Leader is referring to.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** There was an intimation that SAGE had sent a submission to the Government for State funding of higher education.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** We will have to check that, because we have not received it.

**Mr MEIER:** As a supplementary question, do you know whether other States are providing funding for extra places in higher education institutions?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I understand that that is the case. We do not have any specific figures, but we know that Victoria funds the equivalent of about 2 000 places and Queensland provides some funding, but we are not quite sure. We do not know the situation in relation to the other States.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** In relation to the higher education restructuring proposals, if the Flinders University and SAIT merger proceeds, does the Minister believe that the three institutions model for South Australia, that is, Flinders/SAIT, Adelaide/Roseworthy, and SACAE is a stable model capable of enduring into the twenty-first century?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It is really hard to predict what the 1990's will bring for higher education in this country in the current environment. I personally think that there will be some problems for the smaller institutions to survive in the competitive market for research funding, etc, and also to offer the sort of equity and credit and access for which students are looking and which will be available perhaps in other States if those institutions in other States actually go through to completion. Flinders and SACAE would be reasonably large institutions; and Adelaide would be very small in comparison on a national scale. That, to me, would pose a problem for Adelaide. From what I have been told in my discussions with Minister Dawkins about this, it would be a target from the Federal Government's point of view. I had discussions with Minister Dawkins and I asked him and his advisers what it would mean if the amalgamations did not proceed. When asked whether we would be disadvantaged, he said, 'No, you would not be disadvantaged but you will miss out on opportunities'.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** It's the same thing.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Almost yes. If there was some configuration where, say, health sciences on North Terrace was attached to the University of Adelaide and there was some conglomeration of, say, Salisbury and the SAIT campus and The Levels, there could probably be a reasonable amalgamation option. The problem, it seems to me, is that it may be just a slow death for the University of Adelaide, and that is what worries me most.

So, my view about three institutions depends on what happens interstate. If the amalgamations fall apart interstate, I do not think there will be any detrimental impact. From what I hear, there are problems in some of the other States. I am not sure what will happen with regard to the Opposition Parties in Western Australia in regard to amalgamations going through the Upper House. New South Wales is pretty much down the track. I am not sure how

far advanced they are in Queensland. There certainly are some problems there.

In the end, it may be that three institutions could survive quite handsomely. If they do not amalgamate, I would like to see a closer cooperation between institutions in this State: credit recognition when it comes to seeking research funds; cooperation between the similar faculties for establishing joint bids; and aspects like that. Unless we do that—and assuming that these other States go ahead with the amalgamations—we will suffer some disadvantage. Of course, the outright benefits that are being promoted are being questioned by a lot of people. I think there are probably some grounds for questioning the outright wholesale amalgamations. So, it seems to me that, if the institutions proceed as they are proceeding at the moment—and there seem to be no movement between SACAE and Adelaide University and still some movement between Flinders and SAIT—we may end up with the three institutions model, anyway, going into the 1990's. It would then really be a question of how they could lock together their resources to ensure their survival.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Is the Minister actively promoting his view or does the 'hands off' attitude adopted by his predecessor after some initial warmth still prevail?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Our position is to allow the institutions to determine their direction. In the current environment it is proving to be the right position: to allow people to explore what their options are. The institutions wanted to do that. They made clear to my predecessor and to Cabinet that they wanted to find their own level, and they are embarking on that. Much energy is devoted to the arguments for and against, but our position is to allow them to determine their own course.

**Mr DUIGAN:** While much of this argument and petty bickering goes on between a number of institutions, a number of other important issues related to the administration of tertiary education need to be addressed, and my questions deal with them. First, accreditation and transfer of points for subjects in one institution being allocated to a degree pursued in another institution is identified as one of the important issues in the program statement in the Office of Tertiary Education. Yet, in the Program Estimates I find no mention is made specifically of funding. Can the Minister say what role the Office of Tertiary Education is playing on its own behalf or in association with other institutions to ensure that this important area of accreditation between institutions is hurried along?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** This question ties up with the amalgamation debate and is one of the key concerns. It is incumbent on the institutions to address this issue. I have had numerous discussions with various people, both for and against amalgamation. I have taken up with them the need to address constructively the issue of cross-credits, recognition of academic achievement in other institutions, particularly within this State, and in other States as well, and a recognition of the achievements of people. This question needs to be addressed carefully. Many people who are opposed to amalgamation have said to me, 'We can do that; we can address it.' I wish that they had done so before this debate stimulated the issue. If that had been done, I doubt that we would have had to go through such acrimony about amalgamations. If they do not address it and if amalgamations do not proceed, the people involved will merely set a time clock for the re-emergence of the debate about amalgamation, because it is a critical issue that must touch many members of our community who have studied in one institution and who want to undertake further study in another one but are unable to do so. They will not and cannot get

recognition for their work. The institutions need to clean up their act, and we have the role of a conduit in this process.

I will certainly actively observe particular institutions that have put on hold their amalgamation discussions as to what they do to address these issues. If they do not address them and do not proceed with amalgamation, it is incumbent upon me and the Office of Tertiary Education to pursue the matter with them to ensure it is addressed. We do have areas that have good communications and recognition—SACAE and TAFE have established relationships for credit, and TAFE and SAIT also have relevant recognition for accreditation—but we do have to recognise that there is some problem from SACAE to the universities and from SACAE to SAIT, so we must address that. We will have to take a pro-active role if the institutions do not get on with this recognition.

**Mr DUIGAN:** Something needs to be done. A lot has been said about the preparedness of institutions to try to ensure, at least on behalf of the students if not on their own behalf, that students can transfer from one institution to another. Reference is made in both the Estimates of Payments and the Program Estimates to international education, which could be the sale or exporting of South Australian educational product. An amount of \$241 000 is proposed to be spent in 1989-90, and I recall that the previous Minister of Employment and Further Education appointed an officer for 12 months to assess the Government's potential to assist in the export of educational services. Presumably the potential has proven sufficient for the exercise to continue. Will the Minister indicate whether any concrete evidence is available which justifies the commitment of the Government in this area of export education?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** This is a success story. On Thursday, Dr Ebbeck is embarking on an expedition to Brunei and Indonesia as part of a follow-up to an Austrade delegation in July. There has been a very positive response from those international communities—I speak particularly of Thailand and Brunei—with regard to what this State is able to offer their students. We have a fairly tight, no-frills package, and numerous stories can be related as to what we offer compared with other States that tend to send three or four representatives (one from each of the institutions) who tend to squabble over the spoils. It is much better if we are able to have one representative.

We have made that position permanent. In fact, Ms McLoughlin went with the Minister of State Development and Technology on his trade delegation, and every report I have received from South Australians who trade in those areas is very positive about that whole approach. It was very professional and a credit to Ms McLoughlin and the way she conducted herself. Obviously, Dr Ebbeck will have the opportunity to follow up those matters.

It is fair to say that our team is Dr Ebbeck and Miss Lorraine McLoughlin. The \$241 000 includes an estimate of \$116 000 which will be recovered from the institutions and which is their share of the joint activities. It is fair to say that, as South Australia is relatively unknown, we are adopting the approach of selling our State as a pleasant place to live, a place which has a range of excellent courses that are very suitable—

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Prospective spouses.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Indeed, we are doing that as well. In fact, we are attracting a number of Swedes and Norwegians.

**Dr Ebbeck:** And the business migration program.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** It all links together. On a more specific note, there were over 250 full fee paying students

in the public sector in 1988, and they paid in excess of \$2 million. In 1989 we expect that number to be over 620 students and they will contribute about \$4.5 million to the State.

**Mr DUGAN:** The Estimates of Payments show an increase of 33 per cent in the amount allocated to nurse education, and that is more than the amount provided for the capital works program. What will the extra money over and above the \$2.228 million that is allocated in the public works program be allocated to?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** There are an additional 690 State-funded students and 110 Commonwealth-funded students. The State will spend a massive \$7.6 million on nurse education, and the campuses involved are Sturt, Underdale, Salisbury and the SAIT campus that is nearing completion. The Whyalla facility will cost nearly \$3 million.

**Mr MEIER:** Page 379 of the Program Estimates under '1988-89 Specific Targets/Objectives' states:

A discussion paper on the future direction and organisation of higher education was issued in July. Subsequently there has been significant work within the sector on matters of access, equity, credit transfer, course articulation, academic rationalisation and institutional reorganisation.

What improvements or achievements have occurred in each of those areas?

**Dr Ebbeck:** Subsequent to the release of that paper by the Office of Tertiary Education, Cabinet established a ministerial working party under the chairmanship of Andrew Strickland. Part of that working party was the total membership of SAGE, the group that the Deputy Leader mentioned earlier. It took upon itself the task of establishing a number of working parties, including those that are listed in our document. One was funded by the Federal Government to the tune of about \$50 000 as a national research project, and that concerned access and equity; and that is underway as a research project of the SAGE group as a cooperative venture. A number of other working parties still exist, particularly in relation to credit transfer. The role of the office is to provide whatever assistance it can in resourcing contact with the Federal Government. At this time they are still projects of SAGE, and in some respects it guards them jealously.

As the Minister said, the outcome at this stage is still tied up with the outcome of the discussions on the future structure of higher education in this State. If they fall by the wayside, as the Minister has indicated, the office will take a more active role in stimulating discussion and, hopefully, will take action on these matters.

**Mr MEIER:** I take it that we will see considerably more result at this time next year.

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I hope so.

**Mr MEIER:** I am aware that it is not possible for a South Australian to undertake a degree in law externally, yet people in the ACT and New South Wales can, through Macquarie University. I inquired some little time ago and was disappointed that there was no option. Is there any discussion going on to see whether one of the tertiary institutions in South Australia could offer an external course for a degree in law?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** To our knowledge, there is no discussion with regard to any distance education program for law. There is an increase in the number of places in which people can study law in this State but, under the new arrangements as proposed, there will be an institution designated to provide distance education programs. One of the faculties provided will be law, so there will be an option for South Australians to undertake a law degree through an institution, although it may not be a South Australian institution.

**Mr MEIER:** Supplementary to that, do I take it that that option will eventuate in the next six to 12 months?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** Within the next 12 months.

**Mr MEIER:** On page 379 of the Program Estimates under 1989-90 Specific Targets/Objectives is the statement:

To implement the initial phase of the community adult education program.

What is meant by that and what will be the level of funding?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** I touched on that in answer to a previous question. We are currently working on the program and trying to assess what funding we can give it. It would be a phase-in of those programs, hopefully, to meet the commitment my predecessor gave late last year, but I am pretty positive that I will not be able to meet the financial level he indicated late last year.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** In relation to the Higher Education Contribution Scheme—HECS—does the Minister support its continued operation or does he believe that its introduction has made access to higher education more difficult for some disadvantaged groups?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** HECS has created some problems. The Office of Tertiary Education is actually working on the matter at the moment. We are reviewing the situation with regard to the impact of HECS and whether it has created disadvantaged students. I would hope that we can obtain that report some time before Christmas.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** You will obtain a report?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** The Office of Tertiary Education is reviewing the impact of HECS on continuing students to see whether there is some disadvantage.

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** On page 375 of the Program Estimates the recurrent expenditure proposed for 1988-89 was \$241.8 million. The actual was \$216.1 million. The capital expenditure proposed was \$37.7 million and the actual was \$27.4 million. Are there any reasons for these very significant unbudgeted reductions?

**The Hon. M.K. Mayes:** This is a fairly complex answer, Mr Chairman. It relates basically to the HECS program. I will go through it if the Committee will bear with me. The provision of higher education opportunities continues to increase with an additional 500 EFTSU Commonwealth funded intakes in 1989 and a further 250 EFTSU in 1990.

Budgeted recurrent funding for 1988-89 was \$229.5 million whereas the actual funding was \$204.5 million. There are a number of uncertainties in the original estimates arising from the need to make assumptions about the rate of supplementation. Furthermore, on this occasion the Commonwealth's programs for 1989 were not known at the time the estimates were prepared and so there was a significant element of the unknown associated with around 50 per cent of the budget. Nevertheless, it is possible to approximately identify the major contributions to the shortfall of \$25 million:

- (a) The Higher Education Contribution Scheme was introduced from the beginning of 1989. One aspect of the way in which it has been established results in about 20 per cent of funding being paid to institutions directly either by students or from the Higher Education Trust Fund. This would account for about \$22 million.
- (b) Prior to 1989, institutions received 7/13ths of each year's grant by 30 June. From 1989 payment arrangements have been altered so that 50 per cent is paid. This would have resulted in a shortfall of about 4 per cent—around \$9 million.

(c) Offsetting these amounts was a transfer of Minor Works and Equipment funding from capital grants to operating grants. This change occurred for the beginning of 1989 and, based on receipts in the first half of 1988-89, would have added about \$7 million to recurrent funds. These changes alone account for approximately \$24 million.

**The CHAIRMAN:** There being no further questions, I declare the examination of the votes completed. I thank the witnesses and members for their attendance.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 9.55 p.m. the Committee adjourned until Wednesday 13 September at 11 a.m.