

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 11 September 1990

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

Chairman:

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings

Members:

Mr M.K. Brindal
 Mr M.R. De Laine
 Mrs C.F. Hutchison
 Mr V.S. Heron
 Mr R.B. Such
 The Hon. D.C. Wotton

The Committee met at 11 a.m.

The CHAIRMAN: I intend to conduct the proceedings of the Committee in a fairly informal manner. Changes to the composition of the Committee will be notified as they occur. If the Minister undertakes to supply information at a later date, it must be in a form suitable for inclusion in *Hansard*, and two copies must be submitted no later than Friday 28 September. I propose to allow the lead speaker for the Opposition and the Minister to make opening statements, if they so desire, but of no longer than 15 minutes each. I intend to take a flexible approach to giving the call for asking questions, based on about three questions per member, alternating sides. Members will also be allowed to ask brief supplementary questions, where this is necessary, to enable the free flow of information.

Subject to the convenience of the Committee, members outside the Committee who desire to ask a question will be permitted to do so, once the line of questioning has been exhausted by the Committee. An indication of this to the Chairman in advance will be necessary. I also remind members that there has been a suspension of Standing Orders to allow members of Estimates Committees to ask questions on matters related to Estimates of Receipts. In line with previous procedures, questions must be based on lines of expenditure and revenue as shown in the Estimates of Payments and the Estimates of Receipts.

Reference may also be made to other documents, such as the Program Estimates, the Auditor-General's Report, and so on. Members must identify page numbers in the relevant financial papers from which questions are derived. Questions are to be directed to the Minister and not the advisers, although Ministers may refer questions to advisers for a response. I now invite the Minister to proceed with his opening statement.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Members will be aware that the Government is committed to ensuring that Aboriginal affairs remains a high profile area and to raising the conscience level of all South Australians as to the needs and aspirations of Aboriginal South Australians. It intends to do this in a number of ways. First, by developing an overall Aboriginal affairs policy to provide the framework for the Government's approach to Aboriginal issues. This policy will ensure that services and programs are developed or delivered on the basis not of welfare, justice, or any other policy, but of a well-developed Aboriginal affairs policy, based upon the unwritten principles of bipartisanship which have developed between the members of the House of Assembly who have

shown a deep interest in the Aboriginal people's development.

I particularly commend the role of the bipartisan committee on the Maralinga lands, and the bipartisan committee on the Pitjantjatjara lands, members of which included the Chairman and the members for Stuart, Chaffey and Eyre. Historically, that committee has played a very important role in deliberations on Aboriginal affairs and has ensured a very large measure of bipartisanship in this very important yet very sensitive area. To this end, as Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, I intend to maintain strong links with Aboriginal communities across the State and to ensure that appropriate Aboriginal representatives are consulted on all matters related to their present circumstances and future aspirations. By developing an audit of human services, to ensure that Government agencies are sensitive to the development of culturally appropriate services and the concepts of Aboriginal family, kinship obligations and responsibilities are taken into consideration. This will provide the basis for our proposed Community Care 2000 strategy.

We also intend to continue to encourage and support the development of the economic and enterprise base of Aboriginal communities and individual initiatives. It is quite clear from a perusal of budget papers over the years that more than \$40 million a year is earmarked by State Government departments for Aboriginal services and by grants to independent community agencies. It must be said that most of this financial commitment is directed towards the welfare and justice sectors. Very little tends to be directed towards the economic development sector, and it is certainly my aim to see these priorities changed for the benefit and development of Aboriginal people.

Certainly, I think all of us would regard it as vitally important that we take every measure we can to break down the cycle of welfare dependence that is so often the norm in many Aboriginal communities. Of course, we also clearly want to address the issue of employment as a central means of breaking that cycle. We have set employment targets for Aboriginal people in the public sector, in statutory authorities and in local government. The 1 per cent employment target has been achieved, as of a week or so ago, in Public Service departments and earlier this year the shadow Minister and I attended the launch of the '1 per cent challenge', which set a similar target for statutory authorities and local government.

Obviously, the next step is to encourage the private sector also to increase Aboriginal employment. A number of other issues are currently outstanding. We certainly intend to consider supporting Aboriginal claims over certain land areas, such as the planned incorporation of the Ooldea area into the Maralinga Tjarutja land title, and to maintain pressure on the Commonwealth and the British Governments to encourage the support of the Commonwealth Government to clean up the areas of Maralinga contaminated by plutonium debris, and by supporting the claims of the Maralinga Tjarutja for a just and reasonable settlement of compensation claims.

A number of other areas as well have been pursued in recent years. First, the introduction of laws making it an offence to possess, consume and sell alcohol on certain Aboriginal lands; by setting up a coordinated strategy for the treatment and rehabilitation of alcoholics in the Aboriginal community; by promoting the self-help care philosophy of the Aboriginal Visitors Scheme and the mobile assistance patrols; and by promoting Aboriginal self-determination through Aboriginal community agencies and neighbourhood houses.

Minister of Employment and Further Education, Minister of Youth Affairs, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Minister Assisting the Minister of Ethnic Affairs, Miscellaneous \$1 942 000.

Witness:

The Hon. M.D. Rann, Minister of Employment and Further Education, Minister of Youth Affairs, Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Minister Assisting the Minister of Ethnic Affairs.

Departmental Advisers:

Mr David Rathman, Director, State Aboriginal Affairs.
Mr Graham Knill, Director (Operations).

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

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: First, I would like to put some housekeeping questions on notice. Although I do not expect the information to be provided now, I would appreciate its provision within the required time. As to committees that may have been established within the department, what was the title of each committee, the names of members, the function of the committee, the date on which it was formed, the amount of membership fees paid (where they are paid), the budgeted cost of servicing the committees and how often the committees meet?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: We will certainly provide that.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: There has been a significant increase in the provision for payments to consultants in this financial year. In order to obtain details about identified payments to consultants last financial year, I would like the name of each consultant hired by the department, the cost of each consultancy, the purpose and release of any reports provided, and the same information is required concerning proposed consultancies in this financial year. I would like to know the work proposed in respect of those committees.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: We can get back to the honourable member with that material.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: At page 22, the Financial Statement states:

The Government's decisions have resulted in an overall reduction of \$130 million in the no-policy change expenditure estimates from 1990-91.

However, there is no further information in the budget papers to identify these savings. What contribution has the Department of Aboriginal Affairs made to those savings, with specific identification of program savings and quantification of costs? Finally, there has been a vague suggestion in the budget statements over recent years calling for productivity savings.

However, no targets have been specified or savings achieved, in contrast, for example, with the presentation of the Victorian and New South Wales budgets, where targets are nominated. What productivity savings have been achieved in each of the past three financial years in the Department of Aboriginal Affairs? Can these be identified by program and the amount of saving stipulated?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I can certainly get the information for the past two years. However, in 1990-91 there is a proposed budget reduction of \$12 000 as an efficiency dividend that was agreed upon in bilateral talks with the Treasury. I can provide the other information in relation to previous years.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: I am interested to see that in the recurrent receipts the proposed amount was \$2.307 million; the actual amount was only \$1.523 million. I acknowledge what the Minister has just said, but I wonder whether

he can provide more detail as to why more money was not used from that amount.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: There has been a reorganisation of the funds. For example, the actual expenditure for Anangu-Pitjantjatjara for 1989-90 was reduced by \$492 000 due to special grant funds for maintenance of Pitjantjatjara roads being transferred to the Aboriginal Works Division of Sacon. I should also point out—to avoid any confusion—that the Maralinga Tjarutja voted amount for 1989-90 also includes the Commonwealth ATSIC contribution.

Mr Rathman: The other point that should be noted is that the Aboriginal visitors scheme, which was a Commonwealth voted initiative, has also resulted in a carry-over due to extensive consultations that have involved Aboriginal communities so that programs can be fully integrated into a community-based service. This has resulted in the need to carry over funds. There has been no loss of resources in that area and, as a result, there has been some under-expenditure in the program in the 1989-90 period.

Mr De LAINE: I refer to page 522 of the White Book under '1990-91 Specific Targets and Objectives' in relation to education and training. What is being done to improve the standard of education and training for South Australian Aborigines?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The South Australian Aboriginal Education and Training Committee, which reports to both me and the Minister of Education, has been operating successfully since last year. I hasten to stress that it is an interim committee until such time as the ATSIC elections are held. After that stage, regional councils will be invited to nominate members to the Education and Training Committee. It has been extensively involved in the writing of the South Australian Government's education and training strategic plan. This plan is South Australia's response to the 21 goals outlined in the national Aboriginal education policy, which was released by the Prime Minister late last year. The strategic plan outlines both long and short-term strategies necessary to improve access and participation at all levels of education, from preschool to adult education.

However, I point out that there is currently before Parliament new legislation relating to the establishment of a third university in South Australia—the University of South Australia. Of course, that takes up the component parts of the South Australian College of Advanced Education and the South Australian Institute of Technology and three campuses of SACAE.

Both SACAE and SAIT currently offer post-secondary courses in Aboriginal education—the task force at SAIT and the Aboriginal studies section of SACAE. I think that the union of these two bodies to form a new university gives us a unique opportunity to establish the first faculty of Aboriginal education in Australia. Indeed, the new legislation highlights for the first time in any university legislation in Australia that, as one of its functions, the new university would have responsibility to broaden educational opportunities for Aboriginal people.

Mr De LAINE: In relation to the same page but under 1989-90 specific targets and objectives, at different times the newspapers have run stories about the problems that Aboriginal street kids allegedly have caused in Hindley Street. Was action taken in this regard and what is the current situation?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: This question obviously relates to incidents in February, March and April concerning youth violence in the inner city area. In fact, there was considerable media identification of Aboriginal young people as being either largely or totally responsible for those incidents. That was certainly not the view of the police or the youth

workers in Adelaide. Undoubtedly, there was an Aboriginal component in some of the problems that were experienced in the Hindley Street area, but it was certainly not the whole story.

I was quite concerned with some of the media publicity, which turned out to be, in some quarters, quite inaccurate. During the Festival of Arts a number of group assaults occurred and, as I have just mentioned, Aboriginal young people were identified as being involved. There was a considerable campaign in one newspaper about this issue. We did take immediate action. The Director of State Aboriginal Affairs, Mr Rathman, established the inter agency task group on Aboriginal youth involving all State Government departments with responsibility for services to Aboriginal youth. It involved improved communication between agencies and a more cooperative approach to service provision, which has certainly been the result.

Specific programs targeting Aboriginal young people are making an impact, in particular, the Family and Community Services, Metropolitan Aboriginal Youth Team and Turkondi programs. The Youth Affairs Division, which is also one of my portfolios, has also provided funding for programs to defuse the Adelaide situation and to support Aboriginal community organisations with youth programs.

The Aboriginal community, particularly in the northern suburbs, has encouraged its young people to stay out of risky areas. The present situation is that the police report that there has been a substantial reduction in incidents in the inner city. Indeed, the recent reports indicate that the involvement of Aboriginal youth in criminal activity in Adelaide is, thankfully, currently very low. It is interesting also that at the present time the media is not focusing on this issue. There has been a reduction in the number of Aboriginal young people gathering in Adelaide, even on weekends, compared with February and March, and certainly a reduction compared, as I understand, with previous years during the same period.

The inter agency task group is working on a proposal to improve communication and cooperation between Government and non-government agencies, Aboriginal youth workers and Aboriginal communities to ensure that we do our best to prevent such a crisis from occurring again. Agencies are cooperating in developing access for Aboriginal young people to appropriate education and employment training and to recreation programs, both in Adelaide and in country areas.

I want to make the point that one of the editorials condemned the fact that the Government was looking at long-term reasons for these problems. We are actually sending people out to talk to the families of nine, 10, 11 and 12 year olds who are roaming around the city at night. This is in addition to a doubling of the number of police in the inner city. It is important that we addressed in a strong and forceful way the immediate law and order problems and that we also looked at why nine, 10, 11 and 12 year old children were out on their own in the city. We were condemned in one editorial for taking a long-term view, and this surprised me, because this was an editorial that previously had advocated strong support for the family.

I think any family that ignores the problems of its weakest members, in terms of children in trouble or at risk, is not worthy of the name. That is not the sort of family I know, and it is not the sort of family or community that members on either side of the House would want. I am pleased that this sort of action that was criticised was taken, because we looked at reasons for the problems as well as long-term solutions, and this has resulted, according to the police, in

a significant reduction in problems involving Aboriginal youth in the inner city.

Mr De LAINE: An area of particular concern to me recently was the drinking problem in the Port Adelaide Mall area, following the introduction of the dry area legislation to declare that area dry. Apparently, this has been very successful. I note from page 522 of the Program Estimates that a research project into the social impact of dry areas legislation was completed. Could you outline the findings of that research project?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Yes, certainly. The member is correct in saying that a number of dry areas have been created in different places around the State. Everyone would agree and, certainly, the councils involved agree with that legislation. Recently, I had discussions with the Ceduna council both in Ceduna and here in Adelaide about how those programs were working and whether they had been effective and, certainly, the feedback from the Ceduna council was that there had been a reduction in the number of incidents.

However, it was important to look at what was actually happening across the State, and this review of dry areas concluded that Aboriginal people and young people were obvious targets of most dry area applications, although it pointed out that, in fact, visitors to a community were often a major cause of alcohol-related anti-social behaviour. I think that report made it quite clear that we must not allow dry areas legislation or provisions to be simply a way of moving the problem elsewhere. There is no point in doing that; it would be just a cosmetic approach to the problem.

It is also quite clear to me (and I have been making this point to councils) that, if they want dry areas, they must also be constructive and productive in embracing support services that address alcohol-related problems and the underlying issues. I certainly believe that this area is still inadequately addressed by councils, and we will certainly be encouraging councils to say, 'Okay, if you want to enforce a dry area, what will you do in terms of working with your community to tackle some of the reasons for this?', whether it is a recreational or any other reason. We believe that there is a responsiveness from local government to start addressing these problems and, over the coming months, I certainly intend to make this point clear to councils in Adelaide and in non-metropolitan areas.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: In relation to page 522 of the Program Estimates, what has the department actually done to identify these people with some accuracy? Has the department any plans to conduct a census of South Australian Aboriginal people? If not, how does it propose to address realistically the problems of equity and advancement referred to in the program descriptions?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The national census identifies Aboriginal people. That has long been part of the census provisions. On the basis of self-identification through the census process, we estimate that there are some 15 000 Aborigines (perhaps more) in South Australia. The honourable member, however, raises other issues in terms of the way in which we deal (in a culturally appropriate way) with people who define themselves as Aboriginal. Indeed, a research project is under way, looking at these very issues in terms of who are the Aboriginal people of South Australia, where are they, and their community structures.

Mr Rathman: For some years, we have been attempting to tackle this, which is not an easy issue to define, on occasion. At present, we have appointed a research officer to look into a number of issues. He was, in fact, responsible for producing the papers on the question of dry areas. We are working with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Commission to identify the community profiles in a number of rural, remote and urban communities, so that we may target more accurately the types of services that can be directed towards those communities.

There is also a need to be far more discriminating about the use of resources. That is why the human services audit has been initiated, so that those in most need can be targeted. Last financial year, using the services of our research officer, we were able to identify clearly the need to direct more resources to community-based agencies. It is a difficulty we are attempting to address. The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission will be part of the process of trying to identify more clearly who the Aboriginal community is and the needs which that community has, as well as the services it requires from government.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Throughout page 522 we read about equity and justice. What has the Minister's department done to ensure that Aboriginal people employed by Aboriginal organisations are paid wages commensurate with similar employment classifications? I should like to refer to a letter addressed to the Premier from the Aboriginal community affairs panel at Port Augusta, and quote from that letter as follows:

None of us are paid our proper award wage but, in some cases, some thousands of dollars per annum under the award rate. The reason for this is that the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission refuses to recognise the appropriate awards under which Aboriginal workers are paid, and will not pay the award rates of pay . . . As far as I am aware, the Aboriginal organisation employees of South Australia are being uniquely victimised compared with their counterparts in the rest of the State's public and private sector.

We request that your Government take up our cause in this discriminatory practice. Please do not tell us to approach ATSIC on the matter, as we have been doing this for the past two years with ATSIC and its predecessor the Department of Aboriginal Affairs, all to no avail.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: We also have some concern in this matter. Of course, we are referring to Commonwealth employment. ATSIC is in the process of being established. Basically, ATSIC replaces the Federal Department of Aboriginal Affairs and the former Department of Aboriginal Development. In this process, there will be elections later this year so that ATSIC will be run by, for and with Aboriginal people. It is, certainly, in a state of transition. However, the same group approached me in respect of this issue as I am sure approached the honourable member, and I raised this with the Federal Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. I am awaiting a response. I think that it is very important to go to the top on this issue.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Under 1989-90 Specific Targets and Objectives, we read 'Participated in the introduction of programs by Government agencies in response to the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody'. Given the widely acknowledged dissatisfaction amongst Aboriginal people with that royal commission, what precisely were the programs introduced as a result, and who is responsible for them?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: A number of project initiatives were identified in the 1989-90 social justice strategy to respond to issues raised in the interim report of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody. The following progress reports have been submitted by various Government departments which have program commitments under these initiatives.

Under the Department for Family and Community Services we have the Metropolitan Adelaide Aboriginal Youth Team. This team has continued to expand to include five group workers and a senior. Intensive work with young people being detained in secure care has produced very positive results in reducing the number of young Aboriginal

people in institutions. A model involving a preliminary camp, followed by intensive worker involvement with family and young people, have produced excellent results. Workers undertake a series of education and leisure activities with the young people with an emphasis on culture and heritage. The team has established itself in premises in Hindmarsh and has undertaken a series of familiarisation measures with a new staff team.

There is also the intensive neighbourhood care strategy. This scheme has grown to involve some 17 Aboriginal families prepared to have young offenders and young people classified as 'at risk' living with them. Families are involved in regular meetings organised by the neighbourhood care scheme manager to develop supports and give training to these parents. We are looking at parenting care.

Again, under the Department for Family and Community Services, there is intensive personal supervision. This is a mentor scheme, under which Aboriginal community members befriend and support Aboriginal young offenders, and the scheme has proven most effective. Aboriginal community members have responded with enthusiasm to the scheme and currently a number have been assigned as possible supervisors. The scheme, in conjunction with the neighbourhood care program that I have just outlined, and other volunteers, has been particularly effective in involving the Aboriginal community in the rehabilitation of young offenders. The Community Advisory Group, a group consisting of concerned Aboriginal community members, has been established. This is a group of six who meet monthly and have discussions with departmental staff to review current programs, philosophy and future plans. The whole thrust of the royal commission was that Aboriginal community feedback is deemed imperative for the overall success of the various projects. We also have the garden project. An Aboriginal garden has been established, growing a variety of produce. Vegetables have been planted and will be distributed to elderly citizens of the Aboriginal communities in the country. Again, this involves young people.

The project allows young offenders to contribute positively to Aboriginal communities and to the environment. In going through these community welfare responses, I make clear that obviously we are not talking in terms of the Muirhead Royal Commission but we are just changing cell design. That is not attacking the real causes of the problems. It is important, but it is not the only strategy.

There is also the Turkondi employment program, again through the Community Welfare Department. It is an employment education program which teaches work skills and assists in full-time employment. The scheme operates in close association with the CES, and the factory complex at Dry Creek is now fully operational. There is also a community advisory group. All these programs have produced a positive effect on Aboriginal young offenders. The staff and the programs are working intensely with some 60 young Aboriginal offenders and their families, resulting in the number of Aboriginals in secure care being reduced significantly.

To the end of May this year, \$234 000 had been expended on those community welfare programs. An allocation of \$100 000 was made in the Court Services Department for the upgrading of holding cells at Port Augusta. Within the South Australian Health Commission, the mobile assistance patrols have been established and are operated by the Aboriginal Sobriety Group for the Adelaide metropolitan area and for the Murray Bridge area. To the end of May this year, about \$91 000 had been provided for the Aboriginal Sobriety Group and \$47 000 for the Kalparrin program.

That is a direct response to the Muirhead Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

To the end of May an amount of \$52 601 has been allocated towards upgrading the prison medical service and \$3 200 has been allocated to the Prison Dental Service. An allocation of \$650 000 has been made for the Police Department to undertake a minor cell upgrading program at designated priority locations. This will be of particular interest to the honourable member because, included in the upgrade requirements for 30 separate locations identified during 1989-90, were the cells at Mount Barker, which is in the member's electorate. In the meantime, it has been decided that the magnitude of problems identified at Mount Barker require that new cells be constructed. Therefore, a separate project has been generated independent of this \$650 000 cell upgrade allocation.

State Aboriginal Affairs has developed the Aboriginal visitors' scheme of which I am particularly proud. An amount of \$350 000 has been provided by the Commonwealth, and this project became operational in the metropolitan area in late 1989. In fact, it was an initiative of the former Minister of Housing, who is with us today as Chairman. Services are now available or are being planned in Ceduna, Coober Pedy, Murray Bridge, Port Lincoln, Mount Gambier and Port Augusta.

In the interests of saving time, I seek leave to include the rest of my answer on this topic in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

Department of Correctional Services

1. Fine Default Option

Scheme designed to provide an alternative to imprisonment for persons in default of fines where providing certain criteria for hardship are set, they may undertake to expiate the fine via community work.

2. Aboriginal Recruitment

To provide specialist training for Aboriginal persons showing potential prior to induction and to utilise outside agencies to: increase the number of Aboriginal recruits; improve the retention of Aboriginal recruits; and improve progression through promotional ranks.

3. Screening Procedures

To provide a mechanism to screen existing staff and potential recruits for racist attitudes and where necessary, to provide the appropriate training to eliminate such views.

4. Training Re: Prisoners at Risk

To provide improved training at induction and updated training to existing staff in identifying and dealing with prisoners at risk of death through illness, injury or suicides. This training will be updated through research carried out, within Australia and overseas and by liaison with Aboriginal community groups.

5. Training in Resuscitation

To provide refresher training in resuscitation techniques and equipment that updates the knowledge and skills acquired during induction and enable the proficient use of modern resuscitation equipment.

6. Training in Aboriginal Culture

To provide training and retraining of officers across all divisions, in Aboriginal history, culture and social behaviour to enhance the ability to work and communicate effectively with Aboriginal people.

7. Coordinator, Health and Welfare Services

To provide the inter agency structure necessary to coordinate medical, psychiatric and dental services to prisoners and to ensure that appropriate records are readily available.

8. Prisoner Visitors Scheme

To provide for members of local Aboriginal communities to visit institutions to ensure that prison authorities on ways in which management of Aboriginal prisoners can be improved. This service will also extend to helping prisoners access legal assistance, communicate concerns to prison management and assist prisoners through crisis periods.

9. Sundry Items

Costs arising from the need to utilise increased accommodation and other costs of training requirements.

Mr HERON: What measures are being taken in the metropolitan area to assist Aboriginal people under the influence of alcohol?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I certainly touched on this matter briefly in answer to the Muirhead Royal Commission question. This year, the State Government has initiated two programs aimed at providing an alternative to detention for intoxicated Aboriginal people. The most recent initiative has been the purchase of the Mulgunya Hostel on South Terrace for a much-needed day/night shelter to be run by the Aboriginal community. This shelter will be run by the Aboriginal Sobriety Group which is well known within the Aboriginal community and will help to ensure its success.

People should be aware of how the mobile assistance patrol works, as it is an integral part of this strategy and of the new shelter. The patrol, launched just before Christmas last year, is available throughout the metropolitan area to transport Aboriginal people under the influence of alcohol or drugs to a suitable care facility. These Aboriginal people have the choice of being transported either by the mobile assistance patrol or by police to the ASG's own care facility or to other State Government funded dry-out centres or, if circumstances warrant, to a hospital. Obviously, it has been identified in the Muirhead Royal Commission that a high proportion of custodial deaths were related to short terms of confinement for drunkenness. We are confident that this new facility will be an effective part of both the Government's and the Aboriginal community's commitment to eliminating Aboriginal deaths in custody.

The State Government has bought the property for \$320 000 from Aboriginal Hostels Limited, and it intends to vest title to the Mulgunya property in South Terrace with the Aboriginal Lands Trust for use by the Aboriginal Sobriety Group. Aboriginal Hostels Limited will use the process of the sale to develop a more appropriate hostel at Thebarton. It is expected that the shelter will cater for up to a 20-bed capacity and will be in operation before Christmas.

Important as they are, these are isolated responses to this problem. It is vitally important that we take a Statewide view of alcohol abuse amongst Aboriginal people and the support services that are provided. It is important that we do not look at alcohol problems as being just a symptom of or part of a pathological or biological problem. It should also be dealt with as a social problem. For too long the reaction to the problem has been ad hoc, and I am pleased to announce today that the Human Services Committee of Cabinet has endorsed approval to develop effective long-term solutions. Alcohol abuse, as we all know, can have a devastating effect on some Aboriginal communities and the development of a strategic plan will ensure that there is coordination and consistency in tackling this problem Statewide. It will ensure that all areas of the State are serviced, that resources are distributed and that programs are effective and coordinated.

Mr HERON: Will the State Government be assisting Aboriginal communities to develop viable enterprises?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I mentioned in my preamble that I was concerned that so much of the dollar amounts that go to Aboriginal communities and Aboriginal services tend to be welfare centred. I am not arguing that those services are not necessary, but we must look at some long-term strategies. The Federal Government, through ATSIC, obviously plays a key role in developing and funding economic enterprises for Aboriginal communities. However, I am keen that there should be a greater orientation towards economic development as this is an area that can provide the long-term benefits and opportunities for South Australian Aboriginal people to break the cycle of welfare depend-

ence. I have already mentioned the 1 per cent challenge, and to avoid being accused of prolixity, I will not repeat that.

State Aboriginal Affairs has engaged the services of an officer previously from the Department of Agriculture specifically to work with the Aboriginal Lands Trust communities on economic development. The first project involves working with the Port Lincoln Aboriginal organisation in creating up to 30 jobs over the next five to 10 years in a range of forestry developments. Currently, there is a major review (I think initiated by the Chairman) into the operations of the Aboriginal Lands Trust, and I have told the review committee that I want it to incorporate significant recommendations in relation to the economic development of various Aboriginal Lands Trust communities throughout the State.

I hope that we will have that report within a month or so.

Mr HERON At page 522 of the White Book there is reference to 'Community Care 2000 Strategy for Inter Agency Cooperation'. What is this?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I will give a brief summation, although I could go on for hours. It is my firm belief that Government initiatives in the welfare area of Aboriginal affairs should strengthen Aboriginal culture and not reduce it. Therefore, we need to establish and reinforce a set of principles for funding Aboriginal programs and, in essence, I believe these programs should focus on the family which, as we all know, is of primary importance to Aboriginal culture, just as it is of primary importance to our own culture; a healthy extended family must be the cornerstone of a healthy Aboriginal community. Community Care 2000 will consult with Aboriginal people to establish these principles that will guide the State Government as to the most effective way to provide support for Aboriginal people. The first part of this strategy is to undertake an audit of all human services directed towards Aborigines. We have to make sure that our programs are coordinated and are just not running parallel with each other.

Mr BRINDAL: The Minister might need to take my first question on notice: who specifically has been employed by the Office of Aboriginal Affairs in the past three years, both on the permanent staff, and on a temporary, part-time or contract basis, bearing in mind the member for Heysen's earlier question about consultants?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I will certainly take that question on notice. I want to make the brief point that I have been Minister for only 9½ months; State Aboriginal Affairs is not a service delivery organisation as such and is very much a policy unit. We have an outstanding team here with people working all hours in their own time, as well as in Government time, for their own people, and I have been enormously impressed as well as being moved by the commitment of the team in State Aboriginal Affairs, at every level, in terms of achieving social justice, equity, and access for Aboriginal people.

Mr BRINDAL: Has the Government conducted a survey of expenditure on Aboriginal programs and capital works in South Australia since, say, 1977, and an inventory of what is still functional? For example, what State resources were expended on the reserves of Yalata, Umoona, Davenport, Koonibba and the now derelict Bungala estate?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I will take the question on notice. The essential services area is one that we have been currently negotiating with the Commonwealth. I am taking the question on notice not to dodge the member's question but in order to give him a better reply. Certainly, Ian Carter's division in Sacon, which deals with essential services, has recently undertaken a major survey of every Aboriginal

community in this State to identify what there is, what is being used and what is needed in terms of capital works. This is the first time it has been undertaken in Australia and, in fact, all the other States have adopted it as a national model. There is certainly a current survey of those infrastructure needs and uses. I find it helpful when going into a community, for example, at Koonibba, to know the position in respect of the water supply, and we have that listed. We are going down the same track, but I will provide information on that.

The CHAIRMAN: I remind the member for Hayward to link his question to an item in the papers to give the Minister an opportunity to refresh his memory, and this would also help other members of the Committee.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: To follow up the last question, the audit of the State's infrastructure is a large and expensive volume and it is probably important for the Opposition to have a copy of the whole volume. Therefore, I should be happy to approach the Minister of Housing to see whether we can give a copy to the shadow Minister, who might find it useful in his travels around Aboriginal communities.

Mr BRINDAL: At page 522 of the Program Estimates and Information mention is made under 'Specific Targets/Objectives' of the Justice Committee. Who comprises the committee, what are their credentials and qualifications and what evidence is there of their achievements, especially given the total shambles that many believe exists in the field of Aboriginal legal representation? Are we to be subjected to more of the same people who have been getting it wrong for so many years now being given more money to go away and get it wrong again?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: It has been my approach and that of my predecessor to get things right. We are thinking along the same lines here. That committee is in the process of just being established, and basically it will include representatives of various Aboriginal justice bodies, Aboriginal Legal Rights, and so forth, but we can give a report on that once it is established. It is only in the process of being established now. We want to get it right. I am more than willing to have the involvement of the Opposition in terms of its advice on how it thinks this should go.

Mr BRINDAL: You will report back on the composition?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Yes, absolutely.

Mr BRINDAL: Again at page 522 reference is made to restructuring Aboriginal participation in land ownership and management and involvement in Government programs. What is meant by this, and what evidence is there that this restructure will flow from past consultation rather than simply being a new set of policies imposed by Adelaide? Further, how is it proposed to do this given the current preoccupation with the new ATSIC system, and to what extent is there evidence that can be produced that the process will be integrated with the present Federal Government initiative?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: That is an important question. It refers to the current review of the Aboriginal Lands Trust that has been underway for some time. I agree that it cannot be Adelaide driven but should be Aboriginal driven. The composition of that trust review includes the Chairperson, Bob Ware, Head of Aboriginal Heritage in the Department of Environment and Planning, and an Aboriginal person; Ms Val Power, who has held a number of important positions in Aboriginal communities, including Aboriginal adviser at Point MacLeay; Mr Colin Cook, who is a member of the board of the Aboriginal Lands Trust and who is also community leader at Gerard in the Riverland; and Gary Hiskey, who is the non-Aboriginal member of the committee—four out of five are Aboriginal. Gary Hiskey is known

nationally and internationally for his work with Aboriginal people. He is the magistrate with specific responsibilities in this area. There is also Mr Garnet Wilson, known to us all as 'Garnie' Wilson. He is Chairman of the Aboriginal Lands Trust. Originally, he was not a member of the review committee but earlier this year I thought it was vitally important that his experience be used. After all, he was the Chairman of the trust when it was started by Don Dunstan back in 1967.

The review committee has consulted extensively with all Aboriginal communities across the State and is now finalising its report. I want the report in by the end of this month, or early next month. It is expected that the review committee will recommend wide and sweeping changes to the current legislation in terms of the models for Aboriginal land ownership, management and control.

I am talking about the Aboriginal Lands Trust communities, not the Pitjantjatjara or the Maralinga communities. I am talking about communities such as those at Gerard, Point McLeay, Koonibba and Yalata. However, the policies will be developed in consultation with the Aboriginal community over the next few months. Once the review has been completed it is proposed that legislative changes will be introduced in the Parliament next year.

Mrs HUTCHISON: I refer to page 522, which relates to the targets and objectives. What strategies have been implemented in the past year to control the consumption of alcohol, specifically by Aboriginal communities?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I am concerned, as a member of Aboriginal affairs committees—and I know that the former Minister was concerned—that the provisions giving Aboriginal communities the power to ban or regulate alcohol use in communities applied only in the Pitjantjatjara and Maralinga lands. The same power for the community to take action to outlaw alcohol, backed by a legal provision that would give the police power to confiscate both vehicles and alcohol, and to impose severe penalties, did not exist in Aboriginal Lands Trust communities.

I mentioned earlier the bipartisan parliamentary committee looking into these issues. I know that members of that committee would share my view that those powers currently relating to Aboriginal communities in the Pitjantjatjara and Maralinga areas should also be applied in the Aboriginal Lands Trust communities. In his report, Mr Don Dunstan clearly recommended that this was an important action. We consulted widely with the Aboriginal Lands Trust communities who told us that they wanted the same powers in their Act as currently exist in the legislation relating to the Pitjantjatjara and Maralinga communities. Legislation was passed earlier this year with the unanimous support of both Houses of Parliament. I am pleased that this legislation is now in force.

The first community to apply under the regulations was the Yalata community, which has been devastated by alcohol problems over the years. I am pleased that that community has taken this very constructive and positive step forward to address those problems. The community has applied and I understand that the regulations were signed by the Governor last Thursday. Therefore, the Yalata community now has the legal power to enforce an alcohol ban and, just as importantly, it has the power to regulate and the police have the power to intercept on the community's wishes.

Mrs HUTCHISON: I refer to the Program Estimates (page 522) under 'Issues and Trends'. I understand that the area around Ooldea Soak will be returned to Aboriginal ownership. Can the Minister give any details of this situation?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Of course, the honourable member is a member of the parliamentary committee on the Maralinga lands. In July we visited many communities around the State. Ooldea is famous amongst non-Aboriginal Australians as the location for the Daisy Bates mission. However, for Aborigines, the Ooldea area has an importance that goes back for many thousands of years. Indeed, an anthropological study has shown that Ooldea—which now is a very pleasant rolling sand dune area (and I know that the former Minister has visited the area, as have I)—was the largest Aboriginal community in Australia for thousands of years. In fact, anthropologists describe it as an 'Aboriginal metropolis'. Artefacts were found there from as far away as the Kimberleys and Queensland.

It was quite clear that Ooldea, apart from being a source of clean water, even in times of dire drought, was also a major spiritual setting for Aborigines and a trading point where artefacts were exchanged. Some people have even referred to it as an 'Aboriginal Parliament' in the sense that different tribal groups came to discuss issues and debate concerns. Certainly, members will be aware that in 1984 an area of more than 75 000 square kilometres—known as the Maralinga lands—was returned to Aboriginal ownership and the Ooldea area was not included in that handover. In July the parliamentary committee passed a unanimous resolution that the Ooldea area, including 3 500 square kilometres of land associated with it, should be returned to the Aborigines because of its fundamental importance to them, not only in South Australia but throughout Australia.

A team is currently looking at the issue. Department of Lands officials are undertaking survey work and preparing documentation to define the land and facilitate its transfer by the end of this year, if that is possible and, if not, certainly early next year. That action certainly has my very strong support and I think that it will be a very great day for Aborigines in Australia when we hand over the title to that land. I will certainly invite members of our committee, the shadow Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and the former Minister to this historic handover ceremony.

Mrs HUTCHISON: What are the latest developments in the clean-up of the Maralinga lands? As the Minister is aware, I have a very keen interest in this matter.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Yes, I am aware of the honourable member's interest in Aboriginal issues, and particularly in relation to this issue. I think we have to look back to the 1950s and at what happened when the British were testing at Maralinga. What they were doing in that area was quite barbaric. Aborigines were herded from their land and communities and were forced into an artificial environment at Yalata and other places. The very problems that we are now trying to address at Yalata in relation to alcohol can be directly attributed to the breakdown in Aboriginal culture that resulted from the nuclear tests and the impact that they had on those people.

I have been told by Aborigines that they are impatient with the clean-up process. I can understand that. The tests back in the 1950s resulted in a considerable quantity of dispersed plutonium, americium and beryllium. This has been the result not so much of the major atomic blasts, because they tended to disperse farther afield, but of the trigger tests that occurred during that period. There was a series of tests of nuclear trigger devices. Some did not work. They resulted in major dispersal of plutonium—and we all know that plutonium is the world's most deadly substance. A royal commission headed by Mr Justice McClelland reported in 1984 and recommended that the area be cleaned up and made safe for Aboriginal habitation. That is certainly my view and I know that it is the view of the

member that this area should be made safe so that Aborigines can return to it.

Following the recommendations of the royal commission, a technical and advisory group has been established regarding how to clean up and the costs involved. That group includes British scientific experts, who have conducted extensive and worthwhile studies of the area, including research into Aboriginal lifestyles, to determine the extent of the clean-up required for people to live on the lands with minimal health risk. That technical advisory group has reported, and I understand that the report will be released in about two months. I think that Aboriginal people are understandably anxious about the report and its recommendations, and we are all keen that some decision be made on the clean-up process. As Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, I share the view that, after so much examination and so many studies, we have reached the stage where no more unnecessary delays must be incurred. I am sure that is the view of the Commonwealth Government, which has been most constructive in this approach. Decisions on the clean-up must be made and Aboriginal people must be assured that they can live safely on their lands. All the facts must be, and will be, revealed to those people.

I have asked that, when this technical report is released, not only should it be made available to Aboriginal people but also that Aboriginal people in the area, particularly at Oak Valley, be given some scientific expertise to enable them to handle and understand the report and to make a detailed and constructive response to it. I think also that the British Government must accept its responsibilities in assisting with the clean-up of the Maralinga nuclear test site. I know that it has been mentioned that perhaps the British could look at scholarships for Aboriginal people, but I think that it has a clear responsibility to assist with the clean-up of the Maralinga test site.

Obviously, no-one would underestimate the difficulties involved in cleaning up the lands to make them safe for habitation by traditional people who, in the Oak Valley situation, are a growing number. They are a tribal and community nomadic group, with many young kids who get in amongst the dust. Obviously, we are talking about a problem with plutonium, which remains dangerously radioactive for hundreds of thousands of years. Plutonium cannot be destroyed or neutralised; it can only be removed or buried. I suppose that the easy option and one with which I know that the Commonwealth and no honourable member of our Parliament would agree with, would be just to walk away and say, 'This clean-up is too hard or too costly' or to say, 'Why go to all this trouble for just a small group of people?' I know that that sort of response would not be acceptable to and would not be the attitude of the Hawke Government which, as I say, has been most constructive in its attitude towards the clean-up. It has certainly involved us, the State Government, and the Maralinga people in a very extensive consultation process which we have appreciated, and we have particularly appreciated the constructive attitude of John Kerin, the Minister responsible.

The atomic tests had a devastating effect on Aboriginal people. We are now counting the costs in terms of human tragedy, and I think that we all seek a guarantee that never again will Maralinga people be at risk from radioactive contamination. South Australia expects the widest possible clean-up program to be undertaken, to the point where there is not a significant health hazard to persons habitating areas which are not permanently sealed off. The sealing of an area should be the option only where the available technology cannot secure this cleaning-up process. I certainly

will make further statements on this issue during coming months.

Mr SUCH: I am happy for this first question to be by way of notice. What is the estimated total Government expenditure on Aborigines and programs for Aboriginal people in South Australia during the current financial year derived from Commonwealth or State sources, and how does this expenditure compare with each of the previous three financial years?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I will take that question on notice. Some rough guesstimates can be made, but I think it is important that we take that question on notice.

Mr SUCH: What evaluatory or review processes and mechanisms—

The CHAIRMAN: Bearing in mind my opening comments, could you relate that question to any documents?

Mr SUCH: I think that it relates to all aspects of it.

The CHAIRMAN: You are referring to page 522 under 'broad objectives and goals'?

Mr SUCH: Yes. What evaluatory or review processes and mechanisms exist to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the various programs for Aboriginal people?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I announced earlier that, in order to establish effectiveness and that these programs are properly coordinated, part of our Community Care 2000 program was to involve an audit of all Aboriginal programs throughout the State. This is a major new initiative. Before we actually move forward to the next stage, which is the Community Care 2000 strategy, I believe it is vitally important that we establish what is happening and undertake a thorough audit of all programs in this State.

Mr SUCH: Will the Minister promote the success of the educational programs which are currently undertaken, and have been for several years, at SAIT and SACAE?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Yes, absolutely. Again, referring back to the previous question, I do not believe there is any doubt that at SACAE and SAIT we have Aboriginal programs of national importance. I do not think that any interstate programs could compare with what is offered at those two institutions. The merger of those two institutions to create the third university will mean that we will have the pre-eminent centre for Aboriginal studies and Aboriginal education in Australia linked with a Distance Education Unit, which will also be one of the most advanced in the nation. I know that many Aboriginal people are hopeful that a faculty of Aboriginal education or Aboriginal studies will be established as part of the new University of South Australia.

Mr De LAINE: In relation to page 521 and source of funds, the proposed recurrent payments for 1989-90 amounted to \$2.307 million and the actual was only \$1.523 million. Can the Minister explain that difference?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I have already mentioned that some of these discrepancies relate to a shifting in resources. The details are as follows: voted, \$2.307 million and actual, \$1.522 million. Although staffing levels increased from six to 14 FTEs during the financial year, operating expenses for 1989-90 were lower than the voted figure due to the reorganisation of State Aboriginal Affairs. Savings were due to the lead-up time in getting staff appointed. Savings were also effected with Commonwealth funds for the Aboriginal Visitors Scheme, which had been carried over in 1990-91 due to country programs commencing at the end of the financial year, so the money was not taken up.

Included in the 1990-91 proposed budget is that reduction of \$12 000 as an efficiency dividend as well as an allowance of \$30 000 for a special Minister's appropriation. I am sure that all members who have been involved with Aboriginal

affairs would appreciate that local problems are often very small and require very small grants. However, that can have a major impact on Aboriginal communities, and that is why this special fund has been established. The Aboriginal Lands Trust was provided with additional funds in 1989-90 to cover the cost of completing that review, which I have talked about at length today.

The actual expenditure for Pitjantjatjara lands was reduced by \$492 000 due to special grant funds for the maintenance of Pitjantjatjara roads being transferred to the Aboriginal Works Division of Sacon. I have already mentioned that the Maralinga amount voted includes a Commonwealth ATSIC contribution. Basically, those differences and what would appear to be anomalies relate principally to a change in delivery of services from State Aboriginal Affairs to Sacon. Of course, there is a very strong linkage between those two organisations.

Mr De LAINE: In the 1989-90 specific targets and objectives, there is a line 'Supported community social justice projects'. Will the Minister provide some details of these projects?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Some of the social justice projects relate to the youth programs that I have already detailed and some relate to Muirhead initiatives in relation to dealing with young offenders. They involve the education and training initiatives that we have announced and various youth programs.

For instance, our WorkLink program, which is an employment and training initiative through the Employment Division of DETAFE. WorkLink operates a whole range of projects around the State, involving the long-term unemployed. I am very pleased that this year, 50 per cent of the participants in WorkLink are Aboriginal young people. I have already mentioned the youth strategy and the Hindley Street youth project, which has employed two Aboriginal youth workers, and the northern areas Aboriginal Neighbourhood House, with which the Chairman is well acquainted and which has appointed a youth worker.

Traineeships in the public sector have been made available to 200 disadvantaged young people, and 10 per cent of those would be Aboriginal people. A comprehensive range of measures has been introduced by the Department of Family and Community Services to reduce the number of Aboriginal young people in secure care.

I have already outlined many of those and, in the housing area, the housing cooperatives program of the South Australia Housing Trust was expanded with particular emphasis on groups with special needs, including low income households in outer metropolitan areas. The stock of Aboriginal housing was expanded by 74 and, in remote areas, four new houses were constructed, five were rebuilt and two major renovations were carried out, while 50 existing tenants were assisted with slow combustion heating in their homes. Additional funding in the youth housing area will enable the provision of a young Aboriginal women's shelter in the metropolitan area; self-contained unit accommodation for young people in Elizabeth; construction of medium to long-term accommodation for young men in the north-eastern suburbs; and a boarding house for youth.

A continuing emphasis has been placed on the needs of Aboriginal people in the communities of both in urban and remote areas, and \$12.7 million for measures for Aboriginal people have been built into agency base levels of recurrent funding in the past two budget periods.

Mr De LAINE: My third question relates to '1989-90 Specific Targets and Objectives', and the establishment of the Aboriginal Employment and Development Branch within

DETAFE. Could the Minister explain exactly what the branch does and how it fits into DETAFE?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: That program relates to a number of areas. Earlier this year, we launched the One Per Cent Challenge and, as I have mentioned, that is designed to increase Aboriginal participation in employment across the public sector, in Public Service departments, statutory authorities and local government. The way the One Per Cent Challenge works is that we are offering access and equity programs tailor made for individuals, as well as for the department. There is no point in setting up people to fail. I think that the unit, which is headed by my friend and colleague, Les Nayder, is currently working with statutory authorities including the STA and police. Police aides have been employed under this scheme, and the STA was the first of all the statutory authorities to take up the One Per Cent Challenge.

We have reached the 1 per cent target in Government departments, and we are all very proud of that. We have still a way to go in statutory authorities, but so far 50 people have been found positions under the One Per Cent Challenge. Of course, the Aboriginal Employment Development Branch is also working with DETAFE on a broader scale to improve training programs for Aboriginal people across the State and also to ensure that TAFE itself is an exemplary employer in terms of Aboriginal people.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Has the office of Aboriginal Affairs undertaken studies to establish how territorial disputes can be resolved under new ATSIC arrangements, and the bearing these arrangements may have on State legislation? I refer particularly to issues and trends regarding the restructuring of Aboriginal participation in land ownership and land management.

The Minister would be aware of the dispute that is currently in progress between the Kuyani Association based in Port Augusta and the Kokatha people. I have had the opportunity to discuss this matter with a number of traditional people, and I feel for them. They feel very strongly about this issue, and the Minister would be aware that they have called on the Government to carry out an investigation into this matter. I said that I wanted to know the bearing of this matter on other State legislation, and I would like to refer specifically to the Aboriginal Heritage Act which, I know, is not the responsibility of the Minister at the table. However, he has a lot to do with that legislation. It seems to me that the Aboriginal Heritage Act of 1988 is fundamentally flawed in that it takes no account of traditional Aboriginal tribal jurisdictions. Section 37 of that Act provides:

Nothing in this Act prevents Aboriginal people from doing anything in relation to Aboriginal sites, objects or remains in accordance with Aboriginal tradition.

I suggest that this section effectively permits one Aboriginal group or individual to go into an area that has nothing to do with them and interfere in a manner that may be most offensive to the legitimate, original traditional owners. I suggest also that it is clear that whoever drafted the legislation did not understand that Aboriginality *per se* is not the sole criterion in matters of Aboriginal heritage. I ask the Minister whether he has undertaken such studies, and his opinion in regard to the concerns that I have expressed about the Aboriginal Heritage Act.

The CHAIRMAN: Just before the Minister responds to the question—and I am sure that the Minister is fully able to accommodate the Committee as he sees fit—the member for Heysen was straying into an area that, as he rightly pointed out, is not under the responsibility and control of the Minister at the table. So, the Minister is well aware that the Chair has been fairly lenient about some of the com-

ments made by the member for Heysen, because they were more a statement than a question. I remind the member for Heysen that we have had a fair degree of latitude this morning, and I have been quite pleased about the way things are going, I would like to think that we will continue in this manner until the examination is completed.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: On a point of order, Mr Chairman, as I pointed out, I suggest that it deals very much with the matter of the restructuring of Aboriginal participation in land ownership and land management under the other piece of legislation: the Aboriginal Heritage Act.

The CHAIRMAN: I would suggest that you bring it up when the appropriate Minister is before the Committee. I look forward to hearing your comments then.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I would like to thank the Chair for his advice. I think I can respond in broad terms to the honourable member's concerns. I saw a statement made by the honourable member which I am sure is not true but which appeared to be backing one community against another. I am sure that that was not the case, because I do not know whether the honourable member had met with both sides, or what his anthropological expertise is in this area. It is important to point out that inevitably, at times, there will be disputes regarding which community or tribal grouping has spiritual or land ownership rights over a particular area. In fact, the actual Heritage Act has worked very well over the years. Bob Ware, who is the head of the Heritage Unit, has done an outstanding job; he is an outstanding Australian in what he has achieved in this area. Currently, there is a dispute between the Kuyanis and the Kokatha about certain sacred sites and who has ownership and control of them. I do not believe that I, as a white Australian, have the gall or the authority to say that this side is right and the other side is wrong.

It makes no sense at all. These matters must be resolved by the Aboriginal people themselves. They must be resolved by Aboriginal law-makers themselves—and I know that the honourable member understands what I mean by 'Aboriginal law-makers'. I am talking about traditional Aboriginal law. I understand that Aboriginal law-makers have been brought down to make some determination on these sacred sites. I also understand that there is still an outstanding issue of dispute between those two groups.

Last week, I attended a meeting with the Minister for Environment and Planning (who has responsibility for the Aboriginal heritage area); the Director, Mr David Rathman, the Chairperson of the Heritage Advisory Committee, Mr Henry Croft; and with Bob Ware, to discuss this issue. The Minister and I have identical views on this: that these matters must be resolved by Aboriginal people. We have asked David Rathman, Henry Croft and Bob Ware to meet with the parties concerned in an attempt to resolve the differences between the two groups in an amicable, mature fashion.

Concurrent with that action to deal with this immediate issue, my ministerial colleague and I have asked both Mr Rathman and Mr Ware to look at an effective mechanism for determining whether these issues can be resolved by Aboriginal means in the future.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: What specific action has the Minister taken to make representation to his colleagues regarding the need to review mental health services for Aboriginal youths, following reports that those youths are being denied access to appropriate mental health services and are also being diverted to gaols rather than being treated in psychiatric institutions? I refer to comments made earlier this year by the Director of Adolescent Psychiatry at the Adelaide Children's Hospital, Dr Jon Jureidini, who has

indicated that, in his opinion, Aboriginal youths are being denied access to appropriate and culturally sensitive mental health services.

Dr Jureidini's comments suggested that Aboriginal youths are under greater stress than their white counterparts because of cultural and economic pressures. He also pointed out an alarming increase in Aboriginal suicides, cultural and economic losses relating to deaths in custody, and other causes of increased mortality. He also pinpointed an over-representation of Aboriginal youths in remand centres. What direct representation has the Minister made in regard to that issue?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Both the Federal and State Ministers have had meetings, including one quite recently in Brisbane, on a number of recommendations from the National Aboriginal Health Strategy. One of the major changes involved is the formation of a Council of Aboriginal Health, based on Aboriginal communities, to advise the Government on policy issues. Another is the establishment of State tripartite forums to complement the activities of the council at State level and develop short-term and medium-term strategies to reduce the high morbidity and mortality rates of Aboriginal people.

Basically, there will be a health component of ATSIC, and these issues will be dealt with by Aboriginal people on those tripartite committees. Certainly, I will take on notice the specific questions that the honourable member has raised and consult with my ministerial colleague to obtain a reply for him.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Earlier today, I asked whether there were any plans to conduct a census of South Australian Aboriginal people. What mechanism is proposed to create levels of understanding throughout the wider community, as referred to on page 522 of the Program Estimates? Also on that same page is a reference to the release of the Dunstan report, which points out that, of the numbers of Aboriginal people employed by local councils, nine out of a total of over 200 were, in fact, working in outside labouring positions. If there is no accurate knowledge of the employment potential of a community, how can employment programs be created or training programs drafted to meet employment needs?

I attended the same function the Minister attended to mark Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander week the other day, and heard the Premier indicate that some 35 per cent of young Aboriginal people are unemployed at the present time. I know that the Minister has a particular interest, as I do, in the Wadlata Tourist Centre at Port Augusta, and I am concerned to learn that that centre does not employ one Aboriginal person. How does that square with the Government's claims relating to the Aboriginal employment situation?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: We are not making claims about Aboriginal employment: we are stating facts. The fact is that many people said that we would not be able to lift Aboriginal employment in Public Service departments to 1 per cent, even though that was the population share. However, we did that and it is the model for the rest of Australia. In the statutory authorities area and with local government we will do the same. We are now offering councils, through the utilisation of Commonwealth funds, subsidies in order to take on the employment of Aboriginal people for a certain period and then there is a guarantee of them taking it up.

Our officers have toured the State talking with local government about their options. I noted the other day that the Town Manager of Ceduna was talking about clerical staff who had been employed in that town. If we explain to local government what we are about—and I have already men-

tioned the WorkLink programs that involve local government employment of Aboriginal people (and 50 per cent of the people involved in WorkLink are Aboriginal)—we believe that we will obtain a sensible and constructive response from local government. I share the honourable member's concern about Wadlata and, if the honourable member is willing, I would be most happy to make a joint representation (because of the bipartisan nature of Aboriginal affairs) to the Mayor of Port Augusta to seek her support in this. I am sure that the honourable member will take up my invitation.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: I have a supplementary question. The Minister and I were both on the Public Works Committee when this project came before it, and Wadlata (which is an excellent facility), in my opinion, was always regarded as an ideal opportunity for European people to learn more about Aborigines and their way of life, particularly in that area. That is why I express a very real concern that there is not one Aboriginal person working in that facility. I am not quite sure why the matter comes back to the Mayor of Port Augusta, but if the Minister believes that that will help I would be very happy to make a joint representation in that regard with the Minister.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: It comes back to the Mayor of Port Augusta as she is the head of the Port Augusta council, the employing agency. I am sure that she would respond to a bipartisan approach and that this is something we should try.

There are no prizes for the faint-hearted. I will ask the Director to elaborate.

Mr Rathman: In terms of the Aboriginal Development Branch, it is important to note that all is not lost in respect of the local government sector. The Adelaide City Council has been involved in employing Aboriginal people and it is important to note that Bowman Park at Crystal Brook has taken on the services of four Aboriginal people under the scheme. In some sectors, local government is also strained, as is Government, in providing positions, and trying to involve themselves with this scheme requires an ongoing employment commitment for Aboriginal people who successfully complete the trainee program. There are many examples in the northern areas, including Bowman Park as I previously mentioned, where Aboriginal people are employed in the scheme.

Mr BRINDAL: The Minister has referred often today to the callous displacement of the Yalata peoples from the traditional lands in the Maralinga area and the consequent horrendous dislocation of Aboriginal cultural patterns within that community. In consequence of that dislocation, some movement back to the traditional lands has taken place in the area known as Oak Valley. I refer to page 522 and, in particular, to the assistance given to Sacon's Aboriginal Works Division to complete a review of outstanding essential services. The problem in Oak Valley has been the lack of services and facilities for those people who wished to return. Was that taken into account in the Sacon review? If not, why not? What infrastructure will be placed in that area for Aboriginal peoples who wish to return to the area?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: It certainly has been taken into account. We must remember that Oak Valley is the most mobile nomadic community of any in South Australia. Therefore, it poses particular problems in terms of infrastructure. If a building is located in one place, it will not move along the way. There are obviously clear infrastructure needs for Oak Valley, particularly with respect to water and the provision of water tanks around the area. Also, there is the need for access to compensation money through Maralinga/Tjarutja under the initial compensation package

which can be spent on infrastructure. We are looking at both the State component of infrastructure and Federal moneys and compensation moneys that can be accessed. No one would pretend that it is an easy task to provide infrastructure to Oak Valley.

In terms of services, those children are provided with schooling through a very dedicated teaching service. There is an outstanding young woman nurse who travels with the community and lives very much in a semi-nomadic environment with the community. I think she is one of the most impressive people I have met in public life in terms of her commitment to Aboriginal people. I will ask the Director to comment further.

Mr Rathman: In following on from the Minister's comments it is important to say that the Maralinga/Tjarutja organisation is very keen to ensure that traditional methods of living in that area are observed, and they are very concerned about the establishment of fixed community structures which lead to some of the problems that have occurred in other Aboriginal land rights areas in other parts of Australia and also within this State. They have been extremely sensitive to ensure that the elders' views of maintaining a low profile infrastructure are observed and that is why there is not a large infrastructure on the lands at this time.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: First, there is the question of mobility and, secondly, we do not want Oak Valley to become a welfare trap. We do not want it to become another Yalata. People are migrating from Yalata to Oak Valley. There has been an incredibly positive reduction in terms of alcohol and health problems. We want to help maintain that positive momentum—not by building monuments to Ministers.

Mr BRINDAL: I note that nowhere on page 522 is any mention made of the department's responsibility to traditional Aboriginal values and cultures. I have read the page fairly carefully and nowhere does that appear as a function of the department. I am bemused by that and I ask the Minister whether he sees the assistance in supporting Aboriginal peoples in their traditional values and cultures as a role of the department. If so, why is it not mentioned at all in these papers? Since I am given to believe that the Aboriginal place a great deal of spiritual importance on dreaming paths (one of which for the Pitjantjatjara people extends from the north-west tribal lands traditional through Ooldea and as far east as Kalgoorlie) has any thought been given by the Minister's department to provide for the Aboriginal people unfettered access to these dreaming paths, both in the preservation and the identification of all sites? If not, will the Minister further consider this matter?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I went up to the area in 1984 for the transfer of 75 000 square kilometres of that land, which includes Lake Dey-Dey and Lake Maurice. The land has been returned to Aboriginal people. If anyone fetters their right to travel along the dreaming routes, it would be the Aboriginal people themselves, because they have sole inalienable ownership, not just for this generation but for all generations to come. Has the honourable member been to Oak Valley?

Mr BRINDAL: I have been to a lot of the area, yes.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Then he would be aware of the fact that the Oak Valley community does follow dreamtime dreaming paths, and, of course, there is considerable cross-over between Western Australia and South Australia. There is a clear difference, and that is that South Australia does have land rights in place for those people, while other States do not.

Mr BRINDAL: Are those dreaming paths complete?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: When I sit down with Aboriginal people to talk about infrastructure or anything else, it is important that I hear what they have to say. They are the best determinants of what is important to their heritage, culture and spirituality, as well as their physical existence, support and care for their children. That has not been raised in my meetings with the Oak Valley community on any occasion. Believe you me, these people are very strong willed when it comes to making their points clear.

Mr BRINDAL: A great deal of money has been expended in the past decade on programs associated with Aboriginal peoples. When I visit places like Ceduna, I note the socio-economic circumstances of many of those people. What has the Minister's department done, or what is it doing, to ensure that money is better spent so it reaches the people for whom it is targeted and not another group of people who seem to be profiting from the socio-economic disadvantage of Aborigines?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: It is a good question. In fact, I am pleased to announce that building construction has begun in Ceduna on a TAFE college, which will have a special emphasis (probably the greatest emphasis of any TAFE college in Australia) on employment, training and economic development outcomes for Aboriginal people in the Ceduna area. I understand that that college will be completed next year.

There is enormous community support in Ceduna from both the non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal communities for the Ceduna TAFE complex. That is a positive and tangible initiative that we are taking to ensure the vital training component, so that the jobs that go to Aboriginal people are not just jobs that are seen as not having a future. That has a positive and tangible result. Also, part of the Aboriginal Lands Trust review will be looking at areas such as Koonibba and Yalata, which are close to the Ceduna area, and examining economic independence and enterprise initiatives. The reason why we have ordered this audit of services to Aboriginal people is for the reason that the member raises: to avoid duplication and to ensure coordination.

Mr SUCH: I refer to page 522 of the White Book and the reference to encouraging Aboriginal people to increase their economic dependence. If it is not already operating, will the Minister introduce a policy of payments and benefits for Aboriginal people being means tested? I appreciate that most Aboriginal people are not well off, but some can afford to pay for various services.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: If the honourable member is referring to social security and Federal issues such as that, various provisions are already in place. The very nature of those controls is to avoid making payments to people who are not deserving. Certainly, if the honourable member has information about any fraudulent use of funds from the Commonwealth in this respect, I would be grateful if he could refer that to me, and I will immediately raise those allegations with the appropriate Minister. I will ask the Director of State Aboriginal Affairs to respond further.

Mr Rathman: Fairly stringent regulations now exist at the Commonwealth level particularly, for access to allowances for education purposes, and there are also in existence under the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Commission stringent regulations applying to loans under the enterprise elements of the commission. It appears that a number of measures have already been put in place to exclude people such as I from having access to those resources. Morally—and we do hold some morals in our community—I do not believe I would want to have access to those resources.

Mr SUCH: On the same page reference is made to self-determination of Aboriginal people through the family. What does that really mean?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: One of the problems has been in terms of delivery of services. Too often we have thought about dealing with an individual's problems. If a young person strays and gets into trouble, we think how we can fix that person's problems or, if there is an offender, we question how we can rehabilitate that person. If a child is failing in the education system, we ask how we can deal with that problem. Particularly in Aboriginal Affairs (although not solely so) we have to recognise the fundamental importance of the family in Aboriginal society. For instance, in the Elizabeth area we have an Aboriginal neighbourhood house, which is used widely by Aborigines in that area. That neighbourhood house makes a positive contribution to education, training, confidence, health and welfare of Aboriginal people in the northern suburbs.

We are trying to link through those houses and other centres to try to sustain family groupings. The best way of tackling these problems is through the family, as is shown through the Mentor scheme: when kids get into trouble, a member of the extended family looks after them and tries to assist them in terms of their future. With Community Care 2000—it is in its absolute infancy at the moment—we are looking at delivering programs that very much involve recognising the importance of Aboriginal family structure, including the extended family.

Next year I will be making various reports to the Parliament on how we intend going about that. As I have said, the first step is to do an audit of all the human services provided to Aborigines and then asking, 'How can we do this better, and how can we involve Aboriginal families?' It might involve encouraging courses in parenting skills and other areas, but it gives a window opportunity to tackle real long-term problems, rather than attempting a quick fix, which everyone knows does not work.

Mr SUCH: Again on page 522, the broad objectives of the department suggest that it seeks to eliminate the ever present barrier of discrimination and overcome the prejudices that stifle the advancement of Aboriginal people. This is implicit in many programs, but what explicitly is scheduled to realise those objectives, because I cannot see any specific action?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: There is currently one example through high schools. It teaches non-Aboriginal and Aboriginal children about Aboriginal culture, and breaks down discrimination. It involves young people in discussions and courses designed deliberately to confront head-on those prejudices in order to produce more positive outcomes. We are looking at a series of measures around the State in the education area to break down prejudices.

The CHAIRMAN: Unfortunately, time does not allow the asking of further questions. I declare the examination of the vote completed.

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

Office of Tertiary Education, \$262 456 000

Chairman:

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings

Members:

Mr M.K. Brindal

Mr M.R. De Laine

Mr V.S. Heron

Mrs C.F. Hutchison

Mr G.A. Ingerson
Mr R.B. Such

Witness:

The Hon. M.D. Rann, Minister of Employment and Further Education.

Departmental Advisers:

Dr Adam Graycar, Director, Office of Tertiary Education.

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

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The Office of Tertiary Education is a small department—having a staff of only 12—but with responsibility for substantial expenditures. The total budget for 1990-91 is around \$272.2 million—not bad for a staff of 12—(\$282.5 million recurrent and \$9.7 million capital). A substantial proportion of this is offset by receipts of \$257.3 million (\$248.3 million recurrent and \$9 million capital), resulting in a net cost to the State of \$14.89 million (\$14.14 million recurrent and \$750 000 capital). Of the receipts \$257.1 million (99.9 per cent) comes from the Commonwealth and is passed on to higher education institutions, community groups and the Aboriginal Community College. These Commonwealth receipts account for 94.5 per cent of the office's total budgeting expenditure for 1990-91.

Of the net cost to the State by far the largest item—in terms of State money—is associated with the transfer of pre-registration nurse education to the higher education sector. The total budgeted cost for this program is \$13.8 million with offsetting receipts of \$3.171 million. The net cost to the State is \$10.7 million. This program has been implemented smoothly and it is expected that a report outlining progress to date and the success with which it has occurred will be issued in the near future. In particular, the significant capital program has been undertaken at around 4 per cent under budget.

Another major feature of this year's budget for the office is the introduction of the Community Adult Education Program. An amount of \$180 000 has been provided in this budget (with a notional commencement in 1991) and this will rise to \$300 000-plus in a full year. Within this allocation, special assistance of \$43 000 will be made available immediately to community groups to enable them to continue adult literacy programs in 1990. The balance of the funds will be allocated on advice from the Advisory Committee on Community Adult Education, which have established and, which will also be consulting with community groups on the details for the future operation of this program. It is expected that the Community Adult Education Program will include a continuing major commitment to adult literacy programs in the community as well as vocational/education re-entry programs and programs for those with disabilities. It will also absorb the existing Basic Adult Social Education Program (BASE Program), which will be wound up at the end of this year.

In this very tight year the Government is also pleased to be able to demonstrate its ongoing commitment to languages education with an almost doubled grant to the South Australian Institute of Languages. The allocation of \$95 000 should enable the institute to get its operations on a firm footing and I look forward to it working out a complementary relationship with the Centre for Language Teaching and Research recently established by academics working in this field.

In summary, this has been a very busy year for the Office of Tertiary Education. We have seen the processes towards the amalgamation of the component parts of the South

Australian College of Advanced Education and the South Australian Institute of Technology to form a third university in South Australia. Of course, legislation is currently before Parliament to achieve that goal. We will also see Roseworthy merge with the University of Adelaide, Sturt Campus of the College of Advanced Education merge with Flinders University and, of course, the Adelaide Campus of the College of Advanced Education merge with Adelaide University. Therefore, we hope that next year there will be three universities enhanced—or new in the case of the University of South Australia—up and running.

Of course, the Office of Tertiary Education has been involved in continuing dialogue with the Commonwealth in relation to funding and also the establishment of a world university as part of the multifunction polis. Therefore, it is an exciting time for the office and I certainly commend the officers for their work during the year.

Mr SUCH: I refer to page 517 of the Program Estimates. Given the amalgamations that are proceeding, why do we need an Office of Tertiary Education?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: That is a very good question. It is quite clear that we are expanding the provision of university places in South Australia. We are currently constantly involved in ongoing negotiations with the Commonwealth in relation to our share of funding.

Rather than the University of Adelaide, Flinders University, SACAE and SAIT or the new university arguing for their slice of the action, which of course they quite rightly do, and continue to do, the Office of Tertiary Education, as small as it is, provides a State-wide perspective on the higher education needs of South Australia. I do not believe that the university amalgamations could have occurred without the role of the Office of Tertiary Education and obviously a considerable amount of goodwill from the institutions themselves. The Office of Tertiary Education is involved in ongoing discussions representing the State-wide view on education. The institutions constantly talk to me about various things that we should look at, which obviously require a State-wide perspective and that is the function that OTE performs.

Basically, the Office of Tertiary Education is about planning, vision and a State-wide strategy. In terms of overseas students to South Australia, it will certainly have a major role in recruitment and marketing. We hope to triple the number of overseas students coming to South Australia. The Office of Tertiary Education also has a major role in the negotiations relating to nurse education and the world university, as well as a whole range of other programs with which it is involved.

Mr SUCH: In relation to the same page, 517, the proposed relative funding model of the Commonwealth Government for universities has attracted considerable criticism from some institutions. Can the Minister outline the funding effects for our institutions if this proposal is accepted? Furthermore, what views has the Minister given to the Commonwealth Government on this issue?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I share the concerns of the South Australian institutions and I have sought a reassurance from the Commonwealth, and from Minister Dawkins, that South Australian tertiary institutions will not be treated unfairly in higher education funding. In August I was basically concerned about some of the provisional Commonwealth plans for South Australian tertiary institutions that appeared to be inequitable and disadvantageous to the State's new university. In February the Commonwealth Minister made an unconditional promise that the State would receive \$37.5 million in a funding package for capital works between 1991 and 1993, including \$25 million for the new university. We

negotiated very hard to ensure that the new university got off to a flying start.

I certainly have not heard anything to the contrary, and I am sure that the Commonwealth would not renege on such a vital matter. However, I have been alarmed about reports that South Australia will receive an unfairly low proportion of new places in higher education. We simply cannot accept a situation in which South Australia is provided with a proportion of new places that is around half our population share, especially when our unmet demand (which means students unable to find places) has been shown to be at least as high as the national average.

Following those claims from our tertiary institutions, I sought assurances from the Commonwealth that the proposed relative funding model would not disadvantage any institution and, in particular, the establishment of the new university. Considering the honourable member's eminent background in this area, I think he would agree with me that the new university is offering courses in many areas critical to the State's future. When Mr Dawkins was in South Australia in February to announce, with me, the new university, he said that it would enhance the State's development capacity.

In addition, the proposed funding model may not adequately recognise the considerable differences that presently exist amongst institutions and the extent to which they take in students from disadvantaged backgrounds. Of course, part of the new university's very functions will be to encourage greater access and equity for disadvantaged students in South Australia. Those students are often less well prepared, and it is more expensive to deliver services to them on a basis that will maximise their chances for success. A fair and a just funding model will ensure that historical inequities in funding are redressed in both teaching and research areas.

Our basic analysis on the proposed funding model showed that Flinders University was underfunded by 6 per cent, and we are still having continuing dialogue with the Federal Government on this matter. This topic is of concern not only to Flinders University but also to us in relation to our State-wide strategy. In this access and equity area, Flinders University proposes to offer programs to country areas by using the facilities that are available through TAFE at Port Pirie, which is very important to the member for Stuart and also to the member for Mount Gambier. I have given a copy of my letter to the Commonwealth on this issue to the shadow Minister (Hon. Mr Lucas), and I am quite happy continually to brief the Opposition on this important matter for the State.

Mr SUCH: In relation to community-based adult education, once again I refer to the same page, 517. In December 1988 the Bannon Government announced a major expansion of funding for community-based adult education. The then Minister of Employment and Further Education, (Hon. Lynn Arnold), promised that funding for new community-based adult education programs would reach \$1 million by 1990-91. What will be the total level of funding for community-based adult education in 1990-91 and does the Government intend keeping its promise of spending \$1 million in that area?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: As mentioned in my opening statement, we have set up an advisory committee on community adult education which is chaired by Ms Pru Madsen and which includes a number of leading figures in the community adult education area. Basically, we see that committee advising me on the provision of funds to neighbourhood houses and organisations that offer literacy programs and adult education at a community level. When my

officers have visited these places and talked to people, it is quite clear that they are attractive to people who would feel threatened by a traditional university, TAFE college or school approach. They offer a softer interface and, therefore, play a very vital role in encouraging people to upgrade their skills.

This is the International Year of Literacy. In this area, that program involves a tripling of last year's budget, so I make no apologies for that. Of course, TAFE has a very extensive community education adult literacy program and, if the two areas from TAFE and the Office of Tertiary Education are shandied together, one would find a doubling of our commitments. Despite difficult circumstances, I think the honourable member will find that there has been a major improvement in this area.

Mr SUCH: As a supplementary question, will the amount reach the \$1 million?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Under the Office of Tertiary Education it will certainly not reach \$1 million this year, but it triples last year's figure and, when that figure is combined with TAFE's commitment, which is also involved in community education adult literacy, the figure is already around the \$1 million mark.

Mr De LAINE: Under the paragraph headed '1990-91 Specific Targets/Objectives' I note that it is intended to 'continue to build on successes in the overseas marketing program'. I ask the Minister what details of these successes he can provide and whether these successes have had any adverse effect on local student intakes?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: That is a very relevant question both to the State's educational direction and also to our economic development direction. Back in December and again in January, I announced that I thought that we should set ourselves the challenge of tripling the number of overseas students studying in South Australian tertiary institutions. I did that for a number of reasons. One was that I felt that the number of overseas students studying in South Australia was low compared with other States. I was particularly concerned when I was told that the Charles Sturt University in New South Wales, which is basically the group of colleges that have become a university in the Wagga Wagga and Orange area, had two or three times as many overseas students studying there as all the institutions in South Australia combined. It was quite clear that we could do better as a State.

Let us face facts. We put a lot of money into attracting tourists to come to South Australia. Often, they come for one, two or three weeks because of the valuable economic development impact. If we were to triple or quadruple the number of overseas students studying in Adelaide, it would have about the same economic impact as another Grand Prix each year, because those people will come to our city, become part of our community and spend money. However, there would be no point in doing that if it somehow took away places from South Australian students. There would be no point in it. Overseas students are full fee paying, so they are subsidising extra places for Australian students.

One of the things that concerned me was that different institutions were going to different areas of the world and making bids for overseas students and, therefore, competing against each other as well as competing against the other States. We are suggesting the establishment of a consortium through which we do our recruiting overseas as a State, and encourage the universities to be involved with the Office of Tertiary Education in this exercise.

In May, I went to Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore with representatives of the institutions, including Professor Alan Mead, the Director of the Institute of Technology;

Denise Bradley, the Principal of the SACAE; and Frank O'Neill, the Registrar of the University of Adelaide. Along the way, we met up with people from Flinders University, including the Vice-Chancellor, John Lovering, and the Chancellor, Deirdre Jordan. We met with Ministers in Indonesia and in Singapore, and we held the first ever graduation ceremony for Flinders students from Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur, which generated massive publicity in Malaysia for South Australian tertiary institutions.

Mr Brindal interjecting:

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Thank you. There was good television coverage here. In Indonesia, we were able to get considerable publicity for South Australian institutions. The five Ministers whom I met in Indonesia and their staff made the point quite clearly that South Australia's treatment of Indonesian students was exemplary. We do not suggest that improvement cannot be made. Generally, they are met at the airports, they are given assistance with accommodation, and given through life support during the time they study at our institutions. That is not the case with other States in Australia, where people arrive and are left to fend for themselves. We set ourselves a very ambitious target of tripling the number of overseas students by 1992, and I am confident that we will not only reach, but also exceed that goal.

I want to point out that, certainly, the universities agree that we will in fact reach that goal. In higher education, student numbers increased from 468 in 1989 to 782 in 1990; in TAFE the increase was from 109 to 174, not including the ELICOS English language students, who will total over 206 in TAFE this year. In the Education Department, the numbers grew from 11 to 55.

At the present time, the major region from which students come is South-East Asia, principally from Malaysia, Hong Kong, Indonesia and Singapore. Some students come from the Middle East and the South Pacific and a new type of student is the 'Study Abroad' student from the USA. There has always been a tradition in some universities in the USA that students would take one semester overseas, generally in Europe. Our market research shows that they would be very keen to come here during their winter and our summer, so we think that a summer school approach could be very valuable for universities. Students undertake a range of courses, especially those in economics, business studies, computing studies and engineering, and we are looking to develop study options in teacher education and nursing. Following this grilling of the Director of the Office of Tertiary Education this afternoon, he will hopefully have a couple of hours in which to recover, and he will be flying off to Brunei in an attempt to increase the number of students from that country to study in South Australia. He will also be having talks in Japan in relation to the World University.

Mr De LAINE: My second question may have been answered in part by the Minister, but I will ask it anyway, and he can adjust his answer if necessary. I refer to page 517 again, under the heading '1989-90 Specific Targets/Objectives' which states that:

Arrangements were set in place to exercise appropriate academic and other prudential controls in the private sector in relation to overseas students.

Can the Minister detail those controls?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I shall refer this question to the Director of the Office of Tertiary Education, who has had a special interest in this area.

Dr Graycar: There has been a range of difficulties with regard to students who have been regarded both as bona fide and as non bona fide, and there has been some publicity on the international scene about students who have over-

stayed their visas and who have tried to use education as a back-door means of immigration into Australia. While the Minister was overseas earlier this year, he had representation from a number of people who said that they have been able to place people in bona fide courses but that they have not always been able to get the visa arrangements worked out.

When the Minister returned to Australia, he approached the Minister for Education, Employment and Training and the Immigration Minister to seek a review of visa arrangements. That review is presently under way, and it appears that the Federal Government is likely to develop two types of visa arrangements. One relates to those involved in long-term courses that lead to the award of a degree or qualification following the completion of high school, and that in itself has its own internal control mechanism. These are fully accredited courses that fit national standards. The other ELICOS courses that have attracted a large number of students have not been a problem in South Australia, by and large, as we have had considerably fewer ELICOS students and fewer problems in that area. At the same time, the various States have been working towards some form of standard nomenclature on courses, so that students know what they are coming for and there are basic standards, and that is another quality control mechanism. So, in being able to ensure that students who come to South Australia get courses that are standardised, recognised formally, and quality-assured, we have made very great advances.

Mr De LAINE: My third question relates to the paragraph headed 'Issues/Trends' where it states:

Attention needs to be given to improvement in access to and success in higher education for disadvantaged groups in society and to improved efficiency, course transfer credit and course articulation.

What processes have been or will be put in place to achieve this improvement?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I thank the honourable member for his question. Access and equity issues are vital to this Government because it is quite clear that, for generations, a huge resource of talent, particularly among working class kids, has been wasted. When one represents areas such as Salisbury in my case, Port Adelaide, Port Augusta, the western suburbs, the southern suburbs and the eastern suburbs, one appreciates that too many young people are being left out of and left behind the higher education process.

Part of the functions of the new university—I am sure that we shall get bipartisan agreement in this—is that it will reach out to offer distance education to rural communities and, by a variety of measures, will seek to encourage normally disadvantaged people to become involved in the education system. I am particularly concerned, too, about rural students. That is why I mentioned Flinders University efforts to use the TAFE infrastructure to offer courses at Pirie and in the South-East. Instead of young people having to leave home, they will be able at least to do their first year of university courses—using TAFE facilities but being delivered by Flinders.

The new University of South Australia is also having talks with the Riverland College of TAFE. Of course the new university, too, will have a central focus in terms of distance education to reach more remote communities. Access and equity issues are vital.

The University of Adelaide is currently running the tertiary access program (TAP), which has been effective in recruiting Aboriginal young people into its courses. Flinders has also been doing some exemplary work in that respect. The vice-chancellors meet regularly in a committee whose acronym is SAGE—the chief executive officers of higher education. They are also looking at credit transfer and access

and equity provision to see whether we can standardise as much as possible the articulation from one institution to another. Considerable gains are being made.

Mr BRINDAL: The Minister has pointed out—I think that both sides of the House would agree—that the economic benefits for South Australia, our standing in the region and the benefits of mutually beneficially increasing the understanding of different cultures flow from the overseas students program. However, I was interested in the Minister's earlier comments. He said that as they were full fee-paying students they provide extra places for South Australian students. I should like the Minister to elaborate on that. If they merely pay their fees, they are getting payment for a service rendered, but they are not creating extra places and they are not subsidising our students. I should like an explanation.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: There are overseas students here who are not full fee-paying. My tripling challenge refers to full fee-paying students. Certainly, each of the institutions in their discussions with me constantly refer to the fact that it helps create places for Australian students because there is a fee component in addition to the actual costs of delivery. Dr Graycar can elaborate on that point.

Dr GRAYCAR: The issue is one where we are talking about marginal costs. It is the old economic story that, once we have the capital set up and the programs running, to make one extra item does not cost as much as the income. To add one student does not cost the \$10 000, \$12 000 or \$14 000. That is the fee if it is spread across the whole institution.

Of course, if a critical point were reached, where another classroom or building had to be built, extra costs would be incurred. That is the process at the moment. Fees come in a variety of ways. The cost itself is greater than the actual teaching arrangement. Universities usually take money into a central fund and then disburse it according to their own procedures. By and large, there are swings and roundabouts. In that way, extra places are created.

The important point to recognise is that, in addition to fees, there are living expenses. There have been various attempts to try to estimate the multiplier that comes into it so that the economic benefit is spread throughout the community as a whole.

Mr BRINDAL: I would like to ask a supplementary question on that point.

The CHAIRMAN: Before proceeding, let me point out that members may be allowed to ask a brief supplementary question to conclude a line of questioning before the next member speaks. This morning I was asked for a ruling on this and I hope the matter has now been clarified.

Mr BRINDAL: Have any representatives of higher education institutions in South Australia expressed any concern about the proposed World University in the South Australian submission for the MFP and, if so, what are they?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: That is an important question. We have first to elaborate just what we mean by the World University. One Flinders academic wrote an article for the *Australian*, I think, and it was quite clear that he misunderstood what is meant by the World University. We are not talking about a university that will offer stage 1 pharmacy, stage 1 economics, stage 1 psychology or stage 1 maths. We are not talking about a traditional campus. I would not be able to see any point in establishing yet another campus that would somehow be a rival to Flinders, the new university or the University of Adelaide. We see a different university that would be driven by the existing universities. I see the World University as very much a product of the existing university, again utilising the con-

sortium approach, which we talked about earlier today, in terms of attracting overseas university students.

I mentioned that Dr Graycar was about to depart this hemisphere this afternoon for discussions. Part of his discussions will be in Tokyo, with preliminary talks with the United Nations University in Tokyo. The United Nations University is not a traditional university but it has several research campuses around the world. There is one in Finland, one in Holland, and I think that there may even be one in Egypt and in Macau. The one in Macau has a centre on micro-electronics. The one in Finland had an environmental focus or resource focus. We shall certainly have discussions with the United Nations University with a view to whether there would be opportunities to establish a research institute in South Australia.

We are talking also about a centre for the export of education services by using the distance education mode through correspondence, interactive video or satellite transmission. We are talking also about a hub of a university that would specialise in master classes, symposia and short courses. We have had a meeting with the Vice-Chancellor of Flinders, with the retiring principal of South Australia College, Dr Segall, and senior academics to form a committee to progress the world university concept. We envisage, for instance, that there would be a group of international fellows, some of whom would be in South Australia on a regular basis, offering courses and master classes, in particular the summer school approach that I mentioned.

We will also see the establishment of other research institutes around the MFP proposal. We all must put out of our minds the concept of another Flinders University or another Levels landing at Gillman; that is not what we are talking about. We are asking people to reach out from themselves and not consider bricks and mortar in the traditional terms, but actually have a bigger view, a world view about how education services can be exported. I want to make it clear that the World University will not diminish other funding in any way; there would be no point in having it if it did.

Mr BRINDAL: Has any consideration been given to Australian students becoming full fee-paying students and thus subsidising the socially and economically disadvantaged in our community? If that has not occurred, why not?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The honourable member would be well aware of the debate over the introduction of HECS, the higher education contribution scheme and the loans scheme, and he would also be aware of this State Government's opposition to the imposition of HECS, which has been consistent. Whilst we recognise the funding problems that occur in higher education and recognise the difficulties of the Commonwealth, we are very concerned that we do not turn off students from coming into the system. These access and equity programs I outlined earlier are useful in order to ensure that people are not missing out.

The honourable member will also be aware of the quite high level of post-graduate fees paid at present by Australian students. Indeed, there has been a recent increase in the level of fees. It would be wrong to start creating a sort of binary system over again in terms of who can and cannot pay.

Dr Graycar: Universities and higher education are an important public resource, the funding of which is always a matter that is up for debate. Clearly, the Government has taken a view (as Governments have for a long time) that this is one public resource that does not operate at full market cost, because it enriches the community in so many ways.

Mr HERON: I refer to page 514 of the Program Estimates. What funds have been allocated to the proposed

University of South Australia, that is, recurrent from 1990-91 and capital for the period to 1993, and what impact does the Minister expect the formation of the third university to have on the tertiary education sector in South Australia?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The Commonwealth has announced that it will provide funds to enable capital works projects totalling \$25 million in value to commence during the period 1991 to 1993. In addition, an amount of \$2.5 million has been promised to assist with the cost of amalgamation during 1990-91. Obviously, when you are putting together a new university with six campuses (including one in Whyalla, at some distance) considerable cost will be involved.

I am very keen for the new university to use the latest technology to ensure that an *esprit de corps* exists between those campuses and that we can deliver courses using new technology, so that \$2.5 million is very valuable in terms of putting together the nuts and bolts. Commonwealth recurrent funds for the higher education sector are provided on a calendar year rather than on a financial year basis. For 1991, the University of South Australia will receive all the funds previously earmarked for the South Australian Institute of Technology (about \$48.3 million) and a share of the funds previously earmarked for the South Australian College of Advanced Education.

Obviously, because of the Sturt and Adelaide campus amalgamation, the Adelaide and Flinders Universities will receive a portion of that sum. Work is still being undertaken on the distribution of the college grant, but the University of South Australia should receive approximately \$43 million. The new university will have a Commonwealth funded recurrent budget in 1991 well in excess of \$90 million. In addition to the Commonwealth funds, the University of South Australia, as the major provider of nurse education courses, will also receive State funds, estimated at around \$9 million, which will bring the university's total recurrent grant to over \$100 million.

The formation of the third university in South Australia, coupled as it will be with the broadening of the profiles of the two existing universities, will have a significant impact on our tertiary education sector. Students should find themselves in more vibrant institutions where the range of choices and opportunities are substantial. We should see credit transfer and course articulation arrangements growing substantially, and the development of significant policies and initiatives which will enhance access to the system, especially, as we have already discussed, for those with disadvantaged backgrounds.

Mr HERON: Also referring to page 514, will the Minister indicate what future trends he anticipates in the number of overseas students studying in South Australia? Will he indicate from which countries or regions the students will come? In addition, will he indicate what he anticipates the major areas of study will be?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Basically, I see us looking at different strategies in terms of a geographical targeting of the countries we are seeking. Obviously, we will continue to look at Malaysia. I was interested to find when I was there that 100 000 Malaysians earned their degrees in Australian tertiary institutions. We believe that we can pick up a much greater share of students from Indonesia, both in terms of South Australia with regard to the other States and of Australia as regards the United States, which traditionally has been a major provider of education services.

There are also other areas involved, and that is what is happening at the moment, with Dr Graycar going to Brunei. We believe that there is a significant chance for students from Brunei, particularly in the areas of teaching and nursing. We are also looking to Thailand, Korea and, as I have

mentioned, the United States. This would not be to attract United States students to come down to do a whole degree (because, realistically, there would be very limited opportunity in that area) but certainly in terms of semester students. Another area mentioned by the universities in terms of targeting is Taiwan.

Mr HERON: Will the Minister confirm or deny media assertions that literacy programs are being cut?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: This is definitely not the case. All of the 1990 Commonwealth non-government adult education grant of \$132 000 was allocated to literacy programs, as was a substantial portion of the State's base program grants of \$60 000 in total. As I have mentioned, this budget sees a substantial additional commitment to community-based adult education, with total funding of \$210 000, including the new community adult education program of \$180 000 this financial year, growing to \$355 000 next financial year.

With the base grants made in January this year, a number of the neighbourhood houses had run out of their funds and were obviously very concerned about whether there would be any ongoing funding. In that area alone, we have tripled the funding. In the area of TAFE, which has a major role in literacy provision, one of the new initiatives is in terms of workplace literacy. If we are to take up the challenges of award restructuring and of re-gearing our economy, a literate work force is absolutely essential. Literacy, obviously, would have to be the foundation stone of upgrading skills. There is a major commitment to literacy programs within TAFE this year.

Mr SUCH: I refer to 'Specific Targets' at page 517, 'To complete the review of quality controls in the private tertiary education sector'. What is the current attitude of the Government towards the establishment of private universities or other tertiary institutions in South Australia?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I think there is some confusion here. The member is referring to private college courses relating to helicopter flying, the De Havilland school and various private business colleges. Private universities are not actually referred to. In the 9½ months that I have been Minister, no-one has come knocking on my door wanting to establish a private university, not even in the southern suburbs—and I am sure this has nothing to do with the success or otherwise of the Bond University.

Mr SUCH: I was referring to something a little broader than that. Would the current Government's attitude be favourable towards the establishment of a private university?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: As we will have three outstanding universities in South Australia next year, neither I nor the shadow spokesman on higher education would want to see any diminution in funds for the three universities. We would not want to establish something that would drag funds away from those existing universities. However, no-one has come knocking on my door with a grand plan.

Mr SUCH: In relation to the broad objective on page 517 'To ensure that the . . . tertiary sector is cost effective', and given the Auditor-General's statement at page 448 of his report, where he states that the unfunded liabilities for the tertiary colleges for superannuation amount to \$164 million and \$19.7 million for long service leave and further notes that there is no agreement with the Commonwealth regarding the continuing responsibilities for these liabilities, has the Minister addressed what is therefore a potentially serious situation?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I have a strong commitment that, while we do not want to interfere with the operation of our universities, they should be financially efficient and viable.

I am sure that all members would have noted in the Bill I introduced to Parliament last week to establish the University of South Australia that we have for the first time in legislation in South Australia a provision seeking to have the new university audited by the Auditor-General. There may be some opposition to that, but I am sure it would not be from the loyal Opposition of this State, because we are all concerned to ensure that there is an efficient use of State funds. The new university has a substantial slice of State funds because of nurse education. In terms of unfunded liabilities—and this is obviously an area in which we are all particularly interested—Robert Fletcher will provide further details.

Mr Fletcher: The present position is that the Commonwealth Government has agreed to fund the institutions to the full extent of any emerging liabilities for members of the State Superannuation Fund. To the extent that those costs exceed 14 per cent of the salaries of the members of the fund at any time, the State's general revenue grants will be reduced by the Commonwealth by the appropriate amount.

Mr SUCH: At page 452, the Auditor-General identifies the very substantial amount of the value of assets of, in particular, motor vehicles, at the South Australian College of Advanced Education, the Institute of Technology and Roseworthy Agricultural College. What steps have been taken to ensure that those vehicles are necessary and that they are all publicly identifiable by way of logo or some other form?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I am happy to raise this matter with the universities. One of the things we have made very clear in our legislation is that universities, by their very nature, must be free from interference by Government in terms of the programs they deliver. However, because there is the use of State funds in our universities, I would be very happy to take that question on notice and raise it with the Vice Chancellors and obtain a report for the honourable member.

Mrs HUTCHISON: Under 'Major Resource Variations 1989-90 and 1990-91' detailed in the White Book, what is the total commitment, both recurrent and capital, to nurse education in South Australia, and can the Minister explain the large growth in this area in recent years? The Minister touched on this matter in his opening remarks, and, as members would be aware, I have a particular interest in nurse education.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The estimated recurrent costs of nurse education for 1990-91 is \$12.778 million and the estimated capital cost is \$1.1 million, a total of \$13.878 million. There are estimated receipts of \$3.171 million to offset part of these costs, and the estimated net cost to the State for the year is \$10.707 million. The large increase in these costs in recent years has been principally on the recurrent side. For 1990-91, the capital costs will decline substantially from \$6.35 million last year to \$1.1 million. The rapid growth in costs has been associated with the growth in student numbers. Present costs are about \$8 000 per student.

The transfer of pre-registration nurse education to the higher education—indeed, now the university sector—has to be rated as one of the successes of this Government. It was a major undertaking achieved without major disruption, and is a credit to all those involved in the institutions: the hospitals, where the clinical experience still takes place, and the Public Service, where the necessary planning and system-wide administration has taken place. I certainly give credit to the Office of Tertiary Education and the Health Commission in this area. As the transfer is now almost

complete, it is timely that an overview be prepared and such a document will be released either late this week or some time next week. We are still putting the final touches to it. Members will find in that paper the full documentation of the costs incurred over the period of the transfer.

Mrs HUTCHISON: Under 'Issues/Trends' on page 517 of the Program Description, can the Minister outline the work of the South Australian Institute of Languages which he also briefly mentioned in his opening remarks? This institute is set up under the Tertiary Education Act and receives funding from State Government. As a very new student of languages, I am therefore interested personally in this matter.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I was really delighted to hear that the honourable member is joining other members in terms of languages. The Hon. Chris Sumner and Mr Terry Groom speak Italian fluently, while the Chairman excels in rhyming slang from the East End.

I am beginning courses in Pitjantjatjara and I am pleased to hear that the member for Stuart is learning Japanese, which will doubtless be useful for her in the future.

As I have mentioned, the South Australian Institute of Languages has had a substantial increase in its funding, an increase in its annual budget from \$50 000 to \$95 000, almost doubling in the context of a difficult budget. The increase will enable the institute to place its operations on a firm footing for the future. The full terms of reference of the institute are set out in the Act. Essentially, the institute is there to assist with the development of languages education at the tertiary level. This is important for the State's economic, social and cultural development. The institute's annual report will soon be tabled in Parliament, and members interested in pursuing activities in greater detail will find the relevant document interesting reading.

A major task of the institute has been the development of the tertiary languages policy, and this document, rather colourfully and appropriately entitled 'The Language Challenge' was released for comment earlier this year. There is much in that document to be commended and it is to be hoped that institutions will respond positively to it. The Languages Challenge is one of the outstanding strategies put forward in tertiary education in recent years, and I have asked each of the Vice Chancellors of each of the universities to respond to the challenges that it lays down for language education in our State.

Obviously, languages education at the tertiary level has to reflect what is going on in the primary and secondary levels. There has been a worrying decline in the number of people studying languages in our universities. That is one of the reasons why, in this multicultural society, the State Government has made a commitment that every primary schoolchild in this State from day one in 1993 will have the opportunity to learn a second language. It is very exciting for the future. My son is learning Indonesian and I know that in the northern suburbs the schools have taken up the Language Challenge with gusto.

Mr BRINDAL: And Japanese in the south.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Yes.

Mrs HUTCHISON: The Minister mentioned the Flinders outreach campus at Port Pirie earlier. As to broad objectives and goals, what is happening in that regard?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I was in Port Pirie in June, the day before Flinders talked to the Port Pirie TAFE college. Because of various initiatives we are taking in TAFE concerning new technology, we are keen to encourage other tertiary institutions to follow suit, and we are also keen to cooperate with other institutions in terms of credit and articulation of courses. I was very pleased that Flinders has

negotiated to deliver first-year courses to Port Pirie from 1992. As I understand it, it will enable students in a number of areas to do their first year while staying in Port Pirie and then finishing their degree at Flinders.

The new university is looking at the Riverland, and Flinders is also talking to Mount Gambier TAFE. It is an example that we cannot segmentalise further education. We have to ensure that there is a strong relationship between each of the providers. We are not talking about parochial concerns but about the future of our kids.

Mrs HUTCHISON: As a supplementary question, is the Minister aware of what courses will be offered?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: That is still being discussed, but I will certainly obtain a report for the honourable member on that matter.

The CHAIRMAN: There being no further questions and as we have reached the agreed time for the completion of the examination of the vote, I declare the examination completed.

Works and Services, Office of Tertiary Education,
\$9 700 000—Examination declared completed.

Employment and Technical and Further Education,
\$168 547 000
Works and Services—Department of Employment and
Technical and Further Education, \$3 780 000

Chairman:

The Hon. T.H. Hemmings

Members:

Mr M.K. Brindal
Mr M.R. De Laine
Mr V.S. Heron
Mrs C.F. Hutchison
Mr G.A. Ingerson
Mr R.B. Such

Witness:

The Hon. M.D. Rann, Minister of Employment and Further Education.

Departmental Advisers:

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

Mr Charles Connelly, Director, Employment and Training Division.

Mr Darryl Carter, Director, Administration and Finance Division.

Ms Bronwyn Webster, Director, Youth Affairs Division.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I will make a brief opening statement because there are a number of things which appear to be rather difficult but which can be explained. The proposed program expenditure for the Department of Employment and Technical and Further Education is \$213.6 million, consisting of \$187.9 million for recurrent purposes and \$25.7 million for capital purposes. The State will provide 88 per cent of recurrent funds and 25 per cent of capital funds. That is a very important point because I have been concerned, as Minister, about the continuing drop in Federal support in terms of recurrent funding for TAFE.

The Federal Government has been asking us to do a lot more in the area of award restructuring. We have the commissioning of new colleges and a considerable increase in the number of people seeking training yet our recurrent share of funding has dropped from about 21 per cent three or four years ago to about 12 or 13 per cent now. Through its 20 colleges, operating some 70 campuses across the State, the department services about 10 per cent of the adult population of South Australia each year. The department provides a broad range of vocational, foundation and community adult education programs, which generated about 13.5 million student hours last year; that is, 103 000 students and 13.5 million student hours. In addition to TAFE activities, the department is responsible for the Employment and Training Division, the Youth Affairs Division and the Aboriginal Employment Development Branch. Each of these units is actively involved in policies, strategies and programs to expand employment opportunities for the South Australian work force and, in particular, for youth and groups disadvantaged in the workplace.

The demand for TAFE services will continue to rise this year with the impact of industry award restructuring being a major factor. I refer to new capital facilities recently completed and in progress, such as the enormous Tea Tree Gully college, and further pressures on the demand for resources. In the context of substantial cut-backs in Federal funds that I have already mentioned, the State Government has endeavoured to achieve the required balance between the necessity to reduce TAFE's demands on the State budget and for it to provide greater access to a wider range of education and training opportunities. This has been achieved through the reduction and rationalisation of some programs and activities within the department, the provision of real growth of 2.6 per cent in State recurrent funds and an increase in the contribution of costs from users of the TAFE system. In particular, the following measures and strategies will be implemented during 1990-91: an administration charge of 25c per hour will be introduced from the beginning of 1991; a materials fee of \$75 per annum will be introduced for apprentices; detailed work will commence on plans to close the Lossie Street campus of the Kensington Park College of TAFE by the end of 1991; detailed negotiations will take place on the transfer of the administration of the adult matriculation program to the Education Department; and the central office of the department will be reduced by one division, with senior staff involved being transferred to provide additional support in colleges. These measures, together with the real growth of State funds, have enabled the Government to provide the department with additional funding for:

1. Apprentice growth in 1990 and expected growth in 1991—\$1.9 million.
2. Commissioning of new capital facilities; that is, bringing on-stream new colleges—\$1.5 million.
3. Ongoing social justice initiatives—\$1.2 million.
4. New social justice initiatives, including \$75 000 for a conservation training program for youth; \$140 000 for support for community literacy; \$50 000 to increase child-care graduates; \$140 000 for the implementation of workplace education policy; and the introduction of new courses and changes to existing courses to meet the demands of industry award restructuring—\$1 million.

These adjustments, reflected in the 1990-91 budget, will reinforce the role of TAFE colleges in facilitating the development and maintenance of the State's skill base and strengthen TAFE's contribution to the education and training of South Australians. They will ensure that South Australia's TAFE system, which has the highest participation

rate of any TAFE system in Australia, remains without any doubt the leader in TAFE in Australia.

Mr BRINDAL: In relation to page 496 of the Program Estimates, last year during the Estimates Committee it was revealed that the number employed under the line 'Executive, professional, technical, administrative and clerical' was 14.9 full-time equivalents higher than budgeted for, that is, there were 114.6 instead of 99.7 full-time equivalents. This number of full-time equivalents has again been retained for this year. When asked about this last year the then Minister said:

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 temporary secondments.

This year's Program Estimates appear to indicate that this temporary secondment continues. What is the full year salary cost of these temporary secondments and is it correct that they total over \$500 000? Further, what exactly do each of these seconded officers do?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I would like to outline some of the areas where there have been some changes in relation to central office. The figures certainly do suggest substantial growth in the planning and coordination program in 1989-90, and I can understand the honourable member's concern. The honourable member's assumption that planning and coordination relates mainly to central office is correct, although some planning and coordination expenditure at the college level is also in the program. There are two main reasons for the apparent growth in 1989-90; first, when the Office of Employment and Training amalgamated with the Department of TAFE, the Labour Market Analysis Branch was transferred from Employment and Training to the Planning and Systems Branch. That was a result of an amalgamation. This transfer is certainly reflected in the 1989-90 outcome. Secondly, during the year the Aboriginal Employment Development Branch was established and for 1989-90 the expenditure and staffing of this branch was reflected in the planning and coordination program. This program received strong Commonwealth support and for 1990-91 we have identified this work as a separate and discrete program.

On the broader question of the size of central office, which quite clearly is the thrust of the honourable member's question, there are currently 235 full-time equivalent staff in central office exclusive of the Employment and Training Division and the Youth Affairs Division. The recurrent budget for central office is \$11.7 million, and this represents 7 per cent of the DETAFE recurrent budget. In 1981-82, during the previous Government, the central office proportion of total recurrent resources was 8 per cent. In its report 'Education and Change in South Australia 1982', the Keesee committee indicated that the level of central office staff (and this is during a previous Government) was slightly less than occurs in other States. By 1986 the central office proportion of total recurrent resources increased to about 9 per cent.

In 1987-88 the then Minister of Employment and Further Education commissioned a review of administrative and support functions in TAFE by a joint committee of the Department of TAFE and the Public Service Association of South Australia. The committee reported in June 1988 and its recommendations were a major influence on the new central office organisation which was introduced in 1988-89. Recurrent savings in excess of \$1 million per annum have been achieved since 1987-88. I can almost hear the applause of members. As I indicated previously, the central office proportion of total budget is today down to 7 per cent, which amounts to \$1 million in savings. This proportion will be—and here is the good news—further reduced

during 1990-91 as the removal of yet another central office division—the Programs Division—is effected during the year.

Mr BRINDAL: I would like to ask a supplementary question, because I think that the Minister has toyed at the edges with the question I asked. Last year the then Minister who was at the table indicated that the total proposed level of central office saving to be reflected in the 1989-90 DETAFE outcome was in fact \$1.27 million. Is this figure a net one, that is, are the savings of \$1.27 million over and above any extra cost of these temporary secondments, or are the temporary secondments counted separately? Will the Minister provide a similar table to the one that was provided last year, and I direct his attention to the report of Estimates Committee B of last year at page 589, which indicates actual central office costings in 1989-90 and proposed savings for 1990-91.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I am happy to provide the table. I can take that on notice, but I would like to invite Mr Carter, the Director of Finance, to respond to that question.

Mr Carter: I do have a list of the secondments. I do not have the dollars alongside them, so I would like to take it on notice and provide that information to you. Your assumption that the secondments have stayed at about the same level is correct. We have a list of the projects on which those people are working, so that information will be provided in a subsequent statement.

Mr BRINDAL: My next question is based broadly on page 493 of the Program Estimates. On 23 August 1990 the Minister announced that one division of the central office would be removed (and he said that in his opening remarks today, as I understand them), the senior staff being transferred to provide additional support in the colleges. Will this move result in any overall reduction in expenditure by DETAFE and, if so, by how much? Has there been any discussion about the possibility of the curriculum section of TAFE being devolved into colleges also?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I invite the Chief Executive Officer to answer that question.

Mr Kirby: The transfer of staff from central office to the colleges will not lead to a saving but, rather, just a redistribution of expenditure. Bearing in mind that the loads on the colleges are increasing and that, therefore, this is given to assist them with planning and administration, it must be said (and in the light of the Auditor-General's Report I think it is backed up with evidence) that there are deficiencies in the management of colleges. Certainly we will need to strengthen further the accountability of college managers for expenditures now of very large sums of taxpayers' money.

The second part of the question related to the curriculum section. We have looked at decentralising curriculum, and it was one of the options contemplated this year. The difficulty for us is that there are no evident economies of scale—in fact, the contrary is true—of decentralising the curriculum activity. The purpose of keeping it together this year in particular is really forced upon us by developments in award restructuring, where we are required to redevelop a whole series of curriculum of which the metals industry's apprenticeship training is an obvious one. It is done on a national basis with the intention of maintaining national standards and a common core.

Every step of decentralisation presents us with a different problem of coordination. To give members the example of the metal industry apprenticeship, traditionally in TAFE the metal industry apprenticeships involve courses of about 840 hours off-the-job training. Under the new award we now have to convert them to something well in excess of 300 40-hour modules, all with a common base. In order to

complete it in the time scale required, that responsibility is being split between TAFE sectors throughout the nation.

That gives rise to very considerable problems of coordinating, because each module has to fit with the other in order to ensure that people still get the major qualification for the trade requirements.

So, that would still be an option in the future but, at the moment, the practical problems are very considerable in decentralising it to 20 colleges.

Mr BRINDAL: Did you say that there would be 300 40-hour modules?

Mr Connelly: There would be more than 300; about 340 40-hour modules.

Mr BRINDAL: The next question is based on page 503 of the Program Estimates and page 69 of the Auditor-General's Report. The Auditor-General notes in 1990 that \$478 000 was spent on subsidised and vacancy rents for employee housing, compared with an equivalent figure of \$345 000 in 1989. Will the Minister provide a background for the \$478 000 into amounts for subsidised rents and vacancy rents? Will the Minister explain the background for these expenditure items? What is the equivalent estimate figure for 1991?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I will take that on notice.

Mr De LAINE: On page 499 of the Program Estimates under the heading, 'Specific targets and objectives' it is intended:

To develop better pathways from pre-matriculation and matriculation subjects into DETAFE courses.

In the light of the Government's intention that DETAFE withdraw from the provision of adult matriculation, can the Minister explain this objective?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: This is a very important issue and one that has been generating some public debate, but I think that this question relates not so much to the DETAFE adult matriculation program as to the linkage of matriculation subjects into DETAFE courses. DETAFE Curriculum Services Division is examining subjects approved by the Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia, to determine credit arrangements in DETAFE award courses. Credit has so far been granted for DETAFE business studies, rural studies, women's studies and Aboriginal education programs. DETAFE staff are providing advice to the Senior Assessment Board of South Australia curriculum officers on the content of subjects being prepared for the South Australian Certificate of Education. SSABSA, Industrial and Commercial Training Commission and DETAFE are conducting two study pathway projects to determine entry skills required for employment, further education, and the engineering, travel and tourism industries. Preliminary consultation is occurring between SSABSA and DETAFE about credit for DETAFE award subjects in the South Australian Certificate of Education.

Mr De LAINE: On page 66 of the Auditor-General's Report, the Auditor-General expresses some concerns on the financial management and management control in some business enterprises. The Auditor-General also notes that there has been a comprehensive review of business enterprises. Can the Minister advise the Committee of the outcome of that review and indicate the likely future of business enterprises, in the light of the Auditor-General's comments?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The review of business enterprises was undertaken from a consultant from Victoria, and the review has been completed. The reviewer reported that, overall, the department has done relatively well in its commercial ventures and in developing its capacity to raise revenue. However, it was falling well short of its potential because of weaknesses in marketing, selling and commercial

accounting. The reviewer was of the opinion that the TAFE system is confusing the market with 10 business enterprises and 20 colleges operating under different names in an industry market the size of South Australia. As a result, the report recommends that there be only one TAFE business enterprise which coordinates, supports and markets the entrepreneurial activities of the department.

The department has made the report available to those people and groups who may be affected by the recommendations of the review (for example, college directors and existing business enterprise boards). Comments from those people and groups have been received and the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Kirby, is preparing a report for my consideration before recommendations are put to Cabinet. The department is also reviewing costing and pricing policies, which will be incorporated in a new commercial accounting system, which will be completed when the final structure of business enterprises in the department is determined.

Whilst it is recognised that improvements can and will be made to the operations of business enterprises, it is particularly pleasing to note the results of the enterprises for the year ended June 1990. Under existing arrangements, the financial results of business enterprises are independently audited and an annual report is forwarded to the Minister. To date, five reports have been received and in each case net operating profits have been achieved. These results are summarised as follows:

	Net Profit \$
Adtech	414 000
Marltech	7 000
Murraytech	10 000
Regency Applitech	5 000
Elizabeth Techsolve	50 000

At this stage I have not received the audited report of Crotech which is responsible for the design and construction of the Shrike racing car which competes in the Formula Holden Series. The performance of the Shrike in this year's series has been outstanding and anyone who watches Channel 9's *Wide World of Sport* will have noticed at the weekend that the Shrike car won. People might say to me, 'What the hell is TAFE doing, getting involved in motor racing?' It was one of the first questions I asked of the Chief Executive Officer when I became Minister, but the answer is plainly seen, even by myself, when one visits the Croydon TAFE and sees the enthusiasm of apprentices and staff working on this project. After all, we are the central car industry State; about 35 to 40 per cent of Australia's car industry is in South Australia, in both components and manufacturing.

It is vitally important that our apprentices and students do not just concern themselves with putting together and pulling apart old 1970 Cortinas. It is important that they be up with the latest in technology, computer automotive technology and precision engineering. Certainly, that is the case at Croydon. It is a business enterprise. They are learning entrepreneurial and marketing skills as well as the technical skills. One sees students working until 3 o'clock in the morning in order to be competitive and enterprising, and I am sure all members would support that. They are in the process of trying to sell the cars, and we are very hopeful that this will occur shortly and then continue to produce cars.

They are taking on multi-million dollar enterprises from overseas and around Australia, all using imported cars. This is a South Australian built car, South Australian manufactured and designed, and it is coming second in the series. I think it is a winning formula for TAFE.

Whilst I have not received the audited report of Crotech, I am aware of the accumulated debt associated with the Shrike project. This debt is mainly offset by two completed Shrikes and another in progress, together with parts and materials in stock. Apart from the favourable publicity for Croydon college and South Australia, the success of the Shrike has obviously enhanced its saleability, and, as I have indicated, negotiations are already underway between Crotech and a potential buyer for one of the cars. Yes, we are making changes to business enterprises. I am very pleased at the preliminary results on the way a number of those business enterprises are working. It is all about making TAFE relevant to industry.

Mr De LAINE: On page 498 of the Program Estimates, one of the specific targets for this financial year is to:

Restructure the teaching service to increase flexibility and enhance career opportunities for lecturers wishing to remain in direct teaching.

Can the Minister explain this restructure?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Yes, I will invite the Director of Employment and Training to answer this question for the honourable member.

Mr Connelly: The major purpose of the restructure is to get greater flexibility in the movement of staff between those employed under the Government Management and Employment Act and the TAFE Act, which governs the teaching, administration and management and staff in TAFE offices. The central office is largely governed by the GME Act. The second and probably slightly more important objective is to ensure that those whom we recruit and pay as lecturers spend most of their time in face-to-face teaching situations, rather than having to move into administration or management positions in order to gain promotion and improve their career paths.

As is happening in schools, we shall seek to introduce a new classification of advanced skills lecturer, which will give better career paths to teachers and will give them rewards for staying in teaching.

Mr SUCH: I refer to page 492 of the Program Estimates. Last year during the Estimates Committee the Minister indicated that unmet demand for TAFE courses was 9 489, and for subjects was 5 853, giving a total of 15 342. What are the figures for 1990?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: As I understand it, they are about the same order. In the vocational area, unmet demand of 4,621, and in terms of foundation education, it is 737—about the same order.

MR SUCH: My second question relates to page 503. Is the Minister aware of the work of a theatrical group Erotix which has been performing a play on safe sex at various TAFE colleges? That group is supposedly funded by the DETAFE, DEET, and the South Australian Health Commission. We have received some complaints about Erotix and the fact that its taxpayer funded work is being performed in easily accessible places at some TAFE colleges. What funding, if any, is provided by DETAFE, and is it a high priority for the expenditure of TAFE funds?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I shall get a report on this matter, which is obviously of concern to the honourable member and to us all.

Mr SUCH: My third question relates to adult matriculation and is relevant to the Program Estimates, page 499. Is it correct that in 1990 some colleges such as Elizabeth TAFE have actually increased student numbers in adult matriculation? When does the department plan to cease the provision of such courses? How much money will be saved in a full year as a result of the removal of adult matriculation courses?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: We could possibly answer that question in two parts. Certainly, the transfer of the adult matriculation program of TAFE to the Education Department is nothing new. I have been quite surprised by recent publicity that it is some kind of revelation. It is consistent with the joint ministerial statement that was made by the Minister of Education and my predecessor on this issue in 1989. Arrangements for this change in adult matriculation provision will include the transfer of the administration of the program to the Education Department next year. However, it must be understood that the change will not affect students enrolling in 1991 and that current students already enrolled in matriculation studies in TAFE will be able to complete their studies. That is fundamentally important.

Next year negotiations will take place on the progressive transfer of staff involved in the program. There will be various options available to them, including possible transfer to the Education Department or reassignment within the Department of TAFE. Obviously, there will be considerable discussion with the people involved. An interdepartmental working group has been set up, comprising members of the Department of TAFE and the Department of Education to assist in the transfer of the adult matriculation program.

The principals of the Education Department's senior schools will meet with Department of TAFE officers to ensure an effective transfer of the program which will result in the maintenance of a high quality matriculation studies program for adults and regular meetings between the South Australian Institute of Teachers, the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Department of TAFE, Mr Barry Grear, and the departmental management group for adult matriculation studies are planned. We see this as a phasing out of our role in adult matriculation. We do not want to jeopardise students who are currently enrolled. We want to assist staff in the most positive and constructive way to give them the choice of whether to go to the Education Department or reassignment within TAFE. As we have an obligation to existing students, we expect to save about \$150 000 in 1990-91—in that six month period. Mr. Carter, do you have anything further to add?

Mr Carter: The other information sought was on enrolments. I have a table that identifies enrolments for 1989-90, if the Committee would like to include that in *Hansard*.

The CHAIRMAN: It is of a purely statistical nature?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: It is purely statistical, Sir. Leave granted.

STUDENT ENROLMENTS, 1989

College	Matriculation Students			Prematriculation Students		
	F/T	P/T	Subject Enrols	F/T	P/T	Subject Enrols
Kensington	227	412	1 783	23	93	286
Port Adelaide	133	191	864	17	39	101
Elizabeth	115	191	833	—	*	*

STUDENT ENROLMENTS, 1989

College	Matriculation Students			Prematriculation Students		
	F/T	P/T	Subject Enrols	F/T	P/T	Subject Enrols
Panorama	15	272	588	—	85	134
Kingston	104	201	812	—	20	20
Sub-Total	594	1 267	4 880	40	237	641
Adelaide	N/A	N/A	1 192	N/A	N/A	2 685
TOTALS	594	1 267	6 072	40	237	3 326

TABLE 5: STUDENT ENROLMENTS, 1990

College	Matriculation Students			Prematriculation Students		
	F/T	F/T	Subject Enrols	F/T	P/T	Subject Enrols
Kensington	224	429	1 837	11	110	292
Port Adelaide	120	132	720	11	18	60
Elizabeth	*94	204	759	28	33	180
Panorama	22	248	620	—	62	150
Kingston	133	202	870	—	20	20
Sub-Total	593	1 215	4 806	50	243	702
Adelaide	Figures not available as enrolments are still continuing for External Studies (due end of July)					

* Elizabeth did not offer prematriculation in 1989. By offering this in 1990 students who normally would have started matriculation were able to study at the appropriate level. Elizabeth has an increase in total full-time students in 1990.

Mr HERON: I refer to page 505 of the Program Estimates. I do not see any direct reference but I have heard of a special conservation program being established. Will the Minister please elaborate?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I am certainly delighted to elaborate. This year the department—indeed the State Government—from this summer will be offering a new scheme called the South Australian Youth Conservation Training Program, which will probably be colloquially known as the South Australia Conservation Corps. The idea stems from California. In 1976, Governor Gerry Brown initiated a Californian conservation corps which is still running and which has been an outstanding success in involving and harnessing the enthusiasm of young people for conservation.

The idea was later adopted by the Lange Government in New Zealand. Mr Phil Goff, the then Minister of Conservation and Minister of Education, adopted the Californian scheme in New Zealand, involving the long-term unemployed, with particular emphasis on young long-term unemployed Maori people. It was an outstanding success. These young people work on a range of projects around New Zealand. They not only contribute to enhancing conservation in different communities but also gain important skills.

I looked at the Californian scheme and the New Zealand scheme—not directly, but I looked at the paper work and some of the reports on them, and spoke to the New Zealand Minister responsible for introducing the scheme. It seemed to me that whilst they were worthwhile in their present format, in South Australia we could go one step better.

It seemed that, whilst it would be great to give young unemployed people the opportunity of working on a series of conservation projects, whether they be reforestation, rehabilitation of mangrove areas, coastal protection or working in national parks, something had to happen at the end of their six months on the scheme. Rather than just giving young people a great six months working on important projects, it was important that we introduce a strong and clear training element to the scheme.

We envisage initially about 160 young people starting next year, involved in a series of projects around the State,

and 40 per cent of their time on the scheme would be spent in formal training, generally through the TAFE network. We envisage those unemployed people should receive unemployment benefit with a training allowance on top of that unemployment benefit and that there be a clear articulation at the end of their experience with the scheme in terms of going on to further training or studies. We want to harness the enthusiasm of young South Australians for conservation and environmental issues to encourage them back into training and then ultimately into jobs.

In the process of formulating that policy, I wrote to a number of environmentalists around the world seeking their advice and input, including several environmentalists whom I had met on previous occasions.

I am delighted that Dr Bob Brown—not a member of the Labor Party but a 'green' MP in Tasmania and a Franklin Dam campaigner—has strongly endorsed what we intend to do in South Australia. Only yesterday, he called on the Tasmanian Government to embark on a similar scheme. Before we have even launched this scheme we have received advice that the New South Wales Opposition, the New South Wales Government and the Queensland Government are very interested in it. It has the cooperation of the Federal Government—the strong support of my Federal counterpart Peter Baldwin—and will be a national pilot scheme in South Australia.

Dr David Suzuki, the broadcaster and award-winning environmentalist, has agreed to be patron of the scheme and has expressed his strongest support for South Australian initiative, saying that he hopes it is taken up elsewhere. We have also had the strong support of British environmentalist David Bellamy and, of course, the pioneer for all of us interested in the growth of the environmental movement over the years, Paul Ehrlich, a professor at Stamford University, is also strongly encouraging of this scheme. We understand that there is great interest in the scheme in Britain and we will be detailing that at a later stage. So, we are very excited about this opportunity. We are not concerned with training people to be conservationists; we are

concerned with harnessing that interest in conservation to give people clear training and job outcomes.

Mr HERON: A specific objective, identified at page 498 of the Program Estimates, is the development of models of alternative learning for implementation in learning centres and by audio visual means. As I am particularly interested in increasing the opportunity of access to TAFE services, I should appreciate hearing about the latest developments in this area.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I, also have an interest in the use of media to further the provision of education services in South Australia. Earlier this year we launched a pilot program linking the Adelaide College of TAFE in the city with campuses in Clare and Nuriootpa by way of an interactive video system. The interactive video is not a question of lecturers beaming up to these rural centres but is very much a way in which a staff member in Adelaide can not only teach students in Adelaide but simultaneously, through television, teach and have a dialogue with students in a number of other locations.

Mr BRINDAL interjecting:

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Basically, everyone can see and talk to each other. The system uses a codan, which is a system developed in the United States. To make it as simple as possible for people reading *Hansard* in generations to come, it brings television signals down to a series of pulses. These pulses are sent up the system, decoded and put back on the screen. It is a very exciting development. Originally, we were scared of the expense that would be involved, but the price of the technology is dropping all the time.

Originally, it was said that it would cost the equivalent of 2 000 STD phone calls to have the system up and running. That was cut down to the equivalent of 30 phone calls, then to six, and we believe that we can get it down to two. So, it is very cost-effective. For a rural community it means that the Clare campus can offer about 30 more courses than it could otherwise offer. It also means that from the Barossa Valley wine experts can be giving lectures here in Adelaide, saving an enormous amount of travelling time. It ensures that country students have access to specialist lecturers in the city and *vice versa*.

I know that the member for Stuart is a champion of this process, having been involved in TAFE for many years in Port Augusta. I am very pleased to announce to this Committee that next year we will be extending the system to the Spencer Gulf cities. Also, we hope to link Regency College to the system. There is a video that I would encourage members to see, which shows them how the system works. In fact, we might even run a film evening down here one night shortly.

We can have people showing engine maintenance; we can have the hospitality industry—and that includes cooking demonstrations—using this system, as well as more traditional lectures.

The CHAIRMAN: Perhaps, if we manage to get these proceedings over fairly early tonight, we can have it around 8.30.

Mr HERON: In relation to page 498, what income is expected to be raised from the new 25c administration charge, and what sort of annual fee will most students be faced with?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The administration fee has been announced as 25c per hour per TAFE student next year. Obviously, it was not a course we embarked upon lightly. We were very concerned whether there would be any negative impact on the number of students being involved in TAFE. We have tried to ensure that that charge, which is

necessary in order for TAFE to continue to expand, has a little impact as possible on student numbers.

The charge will be introduced from the beginning of 1991. A maximum charge of \$250 per annum has been set, although the vast majority of students are expected to pay \$90 or less. This \$90 figure is based on departmental data which show that approximately 90 per cent of students who are enrolled in TAFE programs attend for 360 hours or less per year. The \$90 compares favourably with the New South Wales standard fee of \$120 for a year's course. In fact, there are even rumours that that will go up very shortly.

The setting of an administrative charge has been necessary in order that the TAFE system can meet the huge demands placed on it through such initiatives as award restructuring, adult literacy, increased child-care provision, and the new training programs without having to reduce the important access provisions necessary to achieve our social justice policies. With a further reduction in the Federal share of funding for TAFE, it has been necessary to impose this charge. Concessions will be available. Full details concerning concessional arrangements are being prepared and will be available by the end of September. The 25c administrative charge is expected to raise \$1.475 million in the 1990-91 period, and the full year effect is expected to be about \$2.5 million.

Mr BRINDAL: In relation to temporarily seconded officers, will the Minister say whether the cost of those officers has been included in the calculation of the estimated savings of \$1.27 million?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: We will take that on notice.

Mr BRINDAL: This question relates to page 491 of the Program Estimates and to page 169 of the Financial Statement. I regard this as a very serious question. Total employment in detail in 1989-90 is shown in terms of average FTEs in both those documents as follows. In the Program Estimates on page 491 we find a proposed figure for 1989-90 of 2 838.1 FTEs, and an actual result of 2 899. However, in the Financial Statement we find the following figures: 1989-90 proposed, 2 851.8; actual 2 910.2. In other words, there is a discrepancy in the budget papers concerning these figures. This is a serious matter. What is the explanation for the difference, and will the Minister indicate how many of the proposed 2 954.5 employees in 1990-91 will be GME Act employees?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I will ask the Director of Finance to respond to that question.

Mr Carter: The figures reflected in the Program Estimates show both average full-time equivalents and point-in-time figures. For a start, there are two different sets of figures in that publication. The table provided in the Financial Statement looks like average employment figures. I do not have the specific answer to the variants, so I will take the question on notice.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: In terms of analysing the increase, there is a growth in the number of apprentices: all members would be pleased that we are getting record numbers of apprentices. In a couple of weeks from now, I hope we will also get a good result in terms of apprentice numbers. Apprentice growth accounts for 16 of those proposed positions. The increased cost of commissioning the Tea Tree Gully TAFE college accounts for 23 positions, and I am sure that some of the honourable member's colleagues would be very pleased about Tea Tree Gully coming on stream. Further, the commissioning of the Millicent campus, which has special interest for the Leader of the Opposition, accounts for an extra 12 positions; the commissioning of the Barossa campus accounts for 6 positions; and the commissioning of

the Mount Barker campus, of interest to the shadow Minister of Aboriginal Affairs, accounts for one extra position.

I referred earlier to Federal cutbacks and the increased burden of commissioning these new facilities. In the case of the Tea Tree Gully college, it is a facility of national size and significance.

Mr BRINDAL: I refer to page 499 of the Program Estimates and adult matriculation, and to the Kensington Park College of TAFE and the Lossie Street campus. The Liberal Party has received a letter from a senior member of staff at that college. Part of the letter states:

Over the past 2-3 years, at least one million dollars (\$1 000 000) has been spent on additions, upgrades and improvements to the buildings, etc. at the college. The money has been spent. The cost of running it now is only the cost of recurrent contingencies.

—The college waited for years for much needed extra accommodation. Now it is here and ready for use (\$300 000). Will it be wasted?

—The college waited for years to get a proper electricity supply. Now it has been supplied (\$150 000?). Will it be wasted?

—Asbestos removal, air conditioning painting of buildings, refurbishment of rooms, carpeting, all done recently. Will it be wasted?

In view of those comments, does the Minister still maintain his publicly stated view that the \$7 million to \$8 million in upgrading was needed at the college, and why did the department spend over \$1 million on a college it was considering for closure? On what was the \$7 million to \$8 million to be spent?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I find that letter from a staff member quite interesting. It basically underpins the reason for the decision. Quite frankly, as Minister and with the Tea Tree Gully, Millicent, Barossa and other campuses coming on stream, I could not continue to allow money to be pushed into facilities that clearly are inadequate and are deteriorating. I am not in the position of pushing good money after bad, and the decision to close the Lossie Street campus was not made lightly. I made very strenuous—in fact, some might even say strident—representations to the Commonwealth Government, which the Federal Minister described as hysterical at one stage, in relation to funding for TAFE in South Australia. It was quite clear we were facing some very hard options, not just in terms of Federal funding for the South Australian Government overall, which obviously impacts upon TAFE, but in terms of the specific allocations for TAFE. Its closure is not a reflection on the college or its staff, as it was recognised that it has an excellent record in providing quality courses. However, the Government must make decisions based on long-term plans for improving TAFE education and training provisions throughout South Australia.

Members have mentioned the increase in staff for the commissioning of new facilities. You cannot have it both ways. You cannot say, 'Let's keep everything running' because we would need another 20 TAFE colleges, and I am sure we would find the demand. Our 1990-91 TAFE budget was extremely difficult given the reduction in support from the Commonwealth, and particularly because of the huge increases in demands on TAFE from industry and the community. I am sure that the honourable member, like me, is sensitively in touch with the business community whose representatives can tell you about the demands of award restructuring. Fifty per cent of our curriculum staff in TAFE are currently involved in just the curriculum work for the metal industries alone. They are enormous demands, so hard decisions had to be made. I will not duck those hard decisions and allow more money to be pushed into Kensington Park until it becomes a bottomless pit for money.

Clearly, the TAFE priorities have to change, requiring adjustments to the organisation of TAFE which, in the short

term, will not be popular. In the case of Lossie Street, the maintenance and upgrading costs which would have been required over coming years, let alone the historical requirements, were just simply unsustainable. The running costs alone amount to about \$400 000 per year. In addition, if the campus were to remain open, substantial redevelopment would have to be undertaken, involving the placement of a lift in the main building, replacement of temporary buildings with new ones, the refurbishment of existing buildings and considerable site works. It was estimated that this would cost up to \$8 million and these funds are simply not available. Careful consideration is being given to the closure process, which will occur progressively over the next two years, so we are not suddenly sweeping the place out. Those people have done a damn good job and we want to ensure not only that they know that but that we work with them in terms of their future options.

The majority of students will finish their studies at Lossie Street as their current program of study is completed. For each program offered at Lossie Street campus, the relevant departmental program management group will be asked to consider the expansion of student places in existing colleges to accommodate the Lossie Street students where the transfer of students may want to be considered. The directors of the college will be involved in negotiations about the additional student places and resource reallocation. The transfer of resources will take account of the advice of the senior departmental program resource advisory group, and the planning for the closure will be on the basis of vacating the Lossie Street site by 1992. However, some space may be needed if it is not possible for arrangements for other locations to be completed. The Director of Kensington Park college will play a significant role in the consultative process taking place in managing the closure of the campus. The formation of a staff liaison committee, involving the South Australian Institute of Teachers, is taking place so that staffing issues can be considered fully and sensitively. Maintenance of the Lossie Street site until such time as the closure of the site occurs will give due regard to health and safety requirements, which are related to the honourable member's question.

Mr BRINDAL: As a supplementary question, all members of the Committee will appreciate the Minister's statement about throwing good money after bad. They will accept much of what he said. However, I am forced to ask whether the \$1 million spent on Lossie Street was good or bad money. Why was that \$1 million spent before the Minister made his decision? The Minister reacts on the advice of his officers, but is some procedure now in place so that the Minister can make the same decision without the expenditure of the \$1 million?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The simple fact is that we had to maintain operations at the TAFE college. Basically, we had to take on that hard option, as does industry when it is forced to close one of its operations, about whether we continue to pump money in or whether we are big and mature enough to take the hard decisions. The shadow Minister has been involved in business and has had to make tough decisions; indeed, he has some facing him now. The simple fact is that someone had to bite the bullet, and I am not going to duck away from that issue at all. Money was spent in terms of transportables that were put onto the site, and those transportables will have to be removed.

Mrs HUTCHISON: I refer to 'Issues/trends' at page 501. As award restructuring is occurring throughout the State and the nation, what impact will it have on DETAFE and how will it meet its demands in that regard?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Certainly, award restructuring is proceeding apace. The other night the shadow Minister and I were at the jubilee anniversary celebration of the Engineering Employers Association of South Australia, at which the issue of award restructuring was touched on a number of times. Throughout industry there is considerable debate about how we make training relevant to industry's needs, and how we change the nature of industry in terms of restructuring to ensure that there are clear pathways for apprentices and workers in terms of expanding the horizons of their jobs, upgrading skills and ensuring that qualifications and payment are based on the competencies achieved.

Certainly, the full extent of the demand on TAFE is unknown. In industries such as metals, automotives and timber increased demand is being experienced particularly for post trade technicians and production level classifications. The cost to South Australia of the training demand on TAFE in 1990 has been manageable through fee for service programs, although waiting lists exist for some high demand programs such as hydraulics and pneumatics.

Most major industry sectors have completed their second stage award restructuring and wage case submissions, based on the structural efficiency principles. The extent to which training is addressed in the submissions varies, for example, in metals and engineering, the arrangements are detailed, and a national approach, is being taken in relation to training reform and curriculum development. However, limited decisions on training have been made to date. Following the second 3 per cent wage decision, industries are in an implementation phase, moving from old to new classification structures.

This process will identify more clearly the needs for training in the short and longer term, and the impact will begin to affect demand on TAFE from 1991. Demand areas will be in advanced and post trade type studies, new programs for base grade and production workers and literacy and language support. While industry is expected to meet the majority of the cost for additional training, DETAFE will be the major provider in the areas of curriculum, staff, facilities and equipment.

Nationally, Australian Ministers of Labor have commissioned what is known as the Deveson committee to undertake an analysis of training demand and costs resulting from award restructuring. A review of fees policy is also included, and the committee is supposedly to complete its work by the end of this month, or early next month. I met with a delegation from the committee some weeks ago. The delegation included two eminent South Australians, Lyall Fricker, Mr Cooper's predecessor as the Director-General of TAFE, and Professor Barry Hughes, whose texts on economics are known to us all. We have certainly made it quite clear to both those members of the Deveson committee that TAFE is having great difficulty in accepting and responding to the burden of award restructuring while the Commonwealth is cutting back in its recurrent share of our funding.

At a State level, estimates of the additional cost to DETAFE have been included in its five-year financial plan. For industries such as metals, clothing, textiles, timber and automotive, curriculum review and development is well advanced at national and State levels, for example, the new trade modules will be introduced in South Australia next year. TAFE staff development resources and programs to support industry and award restructuring are being provided by both the State, and a policy and program of workplace education, literacy, language and communication is being introduced this year.

This service brings together a range of existing TAFE programs and services for industry on a cost recovery basis

and, during this formative stage of award restructuring, my departments will be seeking early resolution of a cost and fee analysis exercise by the Commonwealth and the State.

Mrs HUTCHISON: Turning to page 492, I refer to 'Vocational Education: rural studies'. As there is a slight increase in rural studies funding, can the Minister say to which colleges and in which proportions that money will go, given my interest in the Port Augusta college?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Rural studies will roughly stay around the same level, but I can give the member some information about Port Augusta and Port Pirie. The status quo has been maintained for rural studies at Port Augusta. However, the college successfully negotiated for the funding of a .5 position under the Rural Womens Access Grant. Funding amounted to \$10 000, and currently a submission for 1990-91 is with the Department of Primary Industry for on-going funding. Furthermore, the college is liaising with other Eyre Peninsula colleges to establish a rural management course from within existing sources. This would involve in the order of \$15 000.

In terms of rural studies at Port Pirie, the rural studies program has been going from strength to strength. Indeed, I was pleased to be able to visit Port Pirie TAFE recently and was enormously impressed with its interface with local industry and with the leadership of its college Director. Within the past two weeks the college has taken on another 40 on-farm trainees, bringing the total in the program to about 80 trainees.

Mrs HUTCHISON: I refer to page 491 and the capital works section of the resources summary. The Coober Pedy area is the outreach of the Port Augusta college. What is occurring in respect of the proposed building at Coober Pedy?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: We are currently looking at a submission for the proposed Coober Pedy facility. We are looking to put it to DEET for consideration for construction funding. DEET has approved design funds for sketch plans to develop the proposal further during 1990-91. The States Capital Projects Budget Committee was concerned about the high recurrent costs of the project, as was I. The proposal is about to enter the stage where extensive consultation with local Aboriginal groups and business organisations in Coober Pedy is to take place.

The Port Augusta college has reviewed the recurrent costs and, by delivering the programs with direct help for staff and facilities, it has been able to substantially reduce the recurrent commitment from \$320 000 a year to \$95 000 a year. This project is covered by a Commonwealth Specific Purpose Grant directed to projects with a high Aboriginal education need and the approximate project cost is about \$2 million. Certainly, I would have to take this matter to Cabinet, and obviously the construction is subject to the availability of Commonwealth funds in the coming weeks. In this consultation process I certainly intend to have discussions with the honourable member and, indeed, with the member for Eyre, Mr Graham Gunn, who has a strong interest in this area.

Mr SUCH: My question is a follow-up to a question asked earlier in relation to unmet demand for TAFE courses and subjects. Can the Minister provide a table showing a breakdown of the unmet demand in respect of courses and subjects for the year 1990?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I would be very happy to provide that information.

Mr SUCH: Is the growth in the number of persons undertaking apprenticeships keeping pace with the growth of the population and the needs of the State and, if not, what strategies are being adopted to counter those deficiencies?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The answer to that question is very brief: Yes, and indeed, more than keeping pace. In two weeks we will have the figures for next year, and I am hopeful of yet another increase.

Mr SUCH: I refer to page 507 of the Program Estimates. I applaud the programs that are indicated for women. What is TAFE planning for disadvantaged males, particularly young working class males, in respect of programs?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: We already have a number of programs aimed at disadvantaged males as well as females. Of course, the conservation course that I mentioned earlier is aimed at the long-term unemployed. We also have the WorkLink program in employment and training, which is particularly aimed at disadvantaged young people. We also have the Pre Vocation, which directly targets young people, including a large percentage of young males who are in a disadvantaged situation.

Mrs HUTCHISON: I refer to 'Foundation education' on page 493 dealing with Aboriginal education. Can the Minister give a breakdown of the funding for Aboriginal education projects within TAFE?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I can certainly do that. I have already mentioned a number of things that we are doing in terms of our Aboriginal education strategy. We have an Aboriginal education strategy headed by Judy Lucas which currently brings together what is occurring in TAFE and in the Education Department. Indeed, I have submitted a copy of the strategy that has been developed to the Federal Minister (Mr Dawkins), and I certainly anticipate a very strong response. I would like to know what kind of breakdown the honourable member is seeking. Is she suggesting a breakdown by the subprogram, because I can take that question on notice and provide a response?

Mrs HUTCHISON: Yes, I would appreciate a breakdown on the subprogram.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Certainly.

Mrs HUTCHISON: On page 505 reference is made to 'specific targets/objectives' for 1990-91. What are TAFE colleges currently doing to help young people be better prepared for work in education? We all realise that we live in a pretty complicated world. Are these young people really getting the help that they need to work their way through difficult decisions which they must make in their ordinary every day life and which affect their future? Will the new job and course explorer system help? What sort of relevance will that have to the situation?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I am certainly pleased to answer the question in respect of the job and course explorer, which is affectionately known as JAC. Earlier this year I looked at the pilot model for JAC and was told that it was virtually idiot proof. The first time the system had any failure was when I touched the keyboard. That particular problem has been ironed out and the system is now being installed in TAFE colleges throughout the State and, we also hope, in schools.

Therefore, the job and course explorer provides the most comprehensive one-stop up-to-date electronic system enabling people to seek information about education, training and jobs. The project is a joint development between the Education Department and our own department and was launched at the Technology School of the Future at Technology Park, which I encourage all members to visit. It is an idea that is attracting interest from overseas as well as from interstate. Interest has been expressed from Europe as well as the United States. It is an idea conceived in genius.

JAC aims to broaden students' choices by giving them a greater knowledge of the full range of jobs and courses leading to those jobs. JAC consists of two data bases, one

of occupational information and the other of post-secondary courses. The two data bases can be used independently or together via its job course link. For example, after someone has found details of an occupation, he or she can then immediately find course information and other educational or training advice. Therefore, what would normally involve ploughing through different sets of university calendars and TAFE information booklets—the swathes of information that is made available through the CES about each occupation, whether it be hairdressing, computer science or even statesmen and women—can all now be achieved at the press of a button. Of course, young people know how to use these computer systems and electronics systems, both through what they learn in schools and, of course, through video games.

The course explorer part of JAC contains information on more than 720 courses offered through South Australian universities, TAFE colleges and other training bodies. The job explorer part of JAC provides information on job descriptions, job duties and tasks, working conditions, relevant training and entry requirements, personal qualities and employment prospects. This information, which covers more than 500 occupations, can be retrieved by minimum education, interest areas, skills level and training, type of industry, working conditions and physical demands or by occupational title.

We also hope to have another system installed. We want this system to be in TAFE colleges, youth access centres and youth resource centres in our schools. Another system is to give people an idea of what jobs involve by using a video; in other words, the system will illustrate what the jobs would involve. That system will be known as the JILL (jobs illustrated), and will hopefully be introduced in the future.

In relation to some other areas as the honourable member has acknowledged the number of apprenticeships is increasing, and this suggests strong employer support. I have mentioned the prevocational area, which is totally State-funded; there are special programs and support for those with disabilities; we have clear links to schools; there are 16 000 students in schools who are given credit in TAFE courses; and, of course, there is the new certificate in introductory vocational education—in addition to TAFE, three schools will be running that scheme; and our traineeships are now extended to a variety of industries and increasing.

The honourable member is particularly concerned with disadvantaged young people. The State Youth Strategy is an innovative program to deal with this issue, involving a range of State Government departments and the Commonwealth in the staffing, funding and delivery of employment, education and training services to the most disadvantaged 15-year-olds and 18-year-olds in the South Australian community.

The strategies include the following: the development of an inter-agency cooperation program with the establishment of youth resource centres in different parts of the State to coordinate our efforts in employment, education and training for disadvantaged young people; youth strategy grants of \$150 000; the certificate in Aboriginal employment and education; and, of course, youth assistance grants totalling \$140 000 involving direct payments to young people to enable them to take up opportunities in education, employment and training.

Mr BRINDAL: In relation to the Government's youth strategy, under the heading '1990-91 specific targets/objectives (significant initiatives/improvements/results sought)', page 505 of the Program Estimates and Information states:

Establish mechanisms to monitor existing programs and encourage a consistent and coordinated approach to the funding of youth services on the basis of equity and accountability.

In view of that statement, why have existing programs not been monitored in the past and why has there not been a consistent and coordinated approach, because a lot of money has been spent on those things? It is to be applauded that it is now happening, but the question must be asked: why has it not happened before now?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I am afraid that I cannot take all the credit; self-promotion has never been one of the features of my personality. In fact, it was an initiative directly from the Premier and two previous Ministers, and we are basically refining the program. We believe that the youth strategy will be fundamentally important in terms of being more effective and efficient in the delivery of services to young people. That is why we are adopting this regional approach through the youth resource centres.

Ms Webster: Coordination and planning of services has always been part of the activity of Youth Affairs within the State. With the establishment of the Youth Affairs Division, we have actually put more emphasis on that particular role. We are establishing a number of mechanisms to monitor programs, all of which are cooperative mechanisms and are building on existing activity that is already happening.

First, we have established a planning and consultancy unit within the Programs Branch of the Youth Affairs Division, which will provide expertise particularly to non-government youth service providers in the development of their services. We are working as closely as ever with other funding bodies, particularly family and community services, in the decisions that are made in the Family Community Development Unit about the funding of non-government youth services. An inter-agency task group on Aboriginal young people is chaired by the Director of Aboriginal Affairs and that is also working very well to improve coordination.

We are negotiating with the Youth Affairs of Council of South Australia about a field development project, so there is some emphasis in the field. Of course, the youth strategy regional coordinating committees are a further extension, particularly at the regional level, of these coordination activities.

Mr BRINDAL: As a supplementary question: the Minister may be aware that the Marion youth project, which is an important project in my electorate and which started largely with the help of the previous member for Hayward, now finds itself in some financial difficulty, because a major sponsor, the Westfield Shopping Town, has withdrawn. The Government and the local council continue to support that project. In view of the comments made by the Minister and his adviser at the table, would it be appropriate to refer this matter to the Youth Affairs Division for some coordinated effort from Government to ensure that the project does not falter?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I would be delighted to do that. Although I do not want to appear to be pushy, I would like to visit the Marion Centre. I have heard a lot about it from the former member for Hayward and I am aware of the honourable member's support for the project. However, I believe that a personal visit would help me to get a hands-on feel for the initiative. We are aware of the problems and also the disappointment caused by Westfield's withdrawal of funding. I will be happy to have more discussions on this matter with the honourable member.

The CHAIRMAN: I accepted that question as a supplementary question but, after hearing it, I believe that the member for Hayward is stretching the bounds of friendship a little too far. I would like him to take those comments

into account when asking further questions. The honourable member will proceed with his second question.

Mr BRINDAL: In relation to Program Estimates page 499 and adult literacy, an information sheet circularised by TAFE adult literacy lecturers is extremely critical of the priority given by TAFE to adult literacy programs. Headed 'Funding of adult literacy, the facts', it quotes a national survey conducted in 1989 by Wickert, which concluded that 30 per cent of Australians had significant difficulties with everyday tasks such as reading things like timetables. It then states that each year South Australia spends only \$1.52 per capita on this 'at risk' group, while New South Wales spends \$24 each year and Victoria spends \$10.70.

I am advised that, even with recent increases in the State budget, we remain well below the figures for New South Wales and Victoria. I can show the Minister the table if he wishes. Does the Minister accept the general accuracy of these figures and, if not, will he provide the Committee with a detailed response?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I do not accept those figures which, to put it in colloquial terms, are both dodgy and bodgie. In fact, they do not mention the 22 per cent fall in enrolment in New South Wales in that area. Also, that statement is considerably out of date. Is there a date on that statement?

Mr BRINDAL: The sheet is undated.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: In the budget process we have announced a huge boost to literacy in South Australia through the Office of Tertiary Education hearings, as I mentioned earlier, where we will triple the number. In terms of literacy, about \$900 000 will be spent on these programs this financial year which, compared with the previous financial year, doubles our commitment. As I said, the highest levels of literacy are essential if South Australia is to move ahead. Therefore, we are trying to tackle the problem on a whole range of fronts which require different and innovative strategies.

I have mentioned the tripling of the figures for the community adult education program through neighbourhood houses and I do not want to labour the point. Another \$140 000 will be spent on community literacy programs within TAFE colleges and an allocation of \$140 000 will be made to workplace literacy for programs delivered in our factories and work sites. It should also be made clear that all these new initiatives are in addition to the more than \$400 000 allocated for adult literacy programs offered throughout the network of TAFE colleges. In addition, apart from specific courses, literacy is also a feature of many other programs such as the new preparatory education certificate introductory vocational education.

Literacy is also a key element of our Aboriginal education strategy and of our English as a second language program. TAFE is also the key provider of literacy to rural students. I am certainly very pleased that, despite a difficult budgetary situation, we have been able to provide a significant major increase to our literacy programs and to community adult education. The United Nations designated 1990 as the International Year of Literacy. More than one million Australians have basic reading and writing difficulties and low literacy skills, which costs Australia about \$3.2 billion a year in lost productivity.

Mr BRINDAL: In view of the Minister's answer and the obvious inaccuracy of this sheet that he acknowledges, can the Minister undertake to provide some sort of tabulation of the figures he gave us, so that we in this Committee can see what has been spent on adult literacy in his department this year?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Yes, we can certainly provide that information on South Australian programs.

Mr HERON: I refer to page 494 of the Program Estimates. What are the youth strategy grants and why are they not expended this year?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I am pleased that the honourable member has picked up on what appears to be a discrepancy in the budget papers. The youth strategy targets 15 to 18 years old and aims to ensure that all of them can participate in education training or employment, and the cornerstone of the strategy is, as I have already mentioned, to establish five regional youth resource centres. These will coordinate the development and provision of services across the spectrum of health, welfare, education, employment and training. This year, three of the five areas have established youth resource centres: Noarlunga, Port Adelaide and Salisbury; and suitable premises are still being sought in Whyalla and Port Pirie. Two of the resource centres will be colocated with the Commonwealth Youth Access Centres.

In each area, a senior project officer funded and employed through the Education Department has been employed and this cooperation signifies what the strategy is trying to achieve: better coordinated, more efficiently targeted use of resources across departments and between levels of Government. However, there have been some delays in this process and, obviously, that is the point that the honourable member for Peake has picked up. This is largely due to the senior project officer positions not being filled on the first call, and having to call the positions a second time meant that the positions were not filled until July.

Whilst it is regrettable that we have had these delays, it is also important that we get off to the right start and to make sure that things are done properly and, certainly, that delay has a significant impact on the expenditure of the youth strategy moneys. Nevertheless, \$95 000 of program assistance was given to the community in 1989-90 and now that the strategy is fully staffed all grants funds budgeted for in the current financial year will be spent.

Mr HERON: Still relating to page 494, what is the Youth Affairs Council of South Australia and what services does it provide that are of benefit to people working in the youth area?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The Youth Affairs Council of South Australia, which is known as YACSA, is the peak non-government body for youth affairs, and its role within the youth field is, I guess, roughly analogous to SACOSS in the broader welfare area. YACSA represents the interests of young people, youth workers, youth organisations and networks throughout the non-government sectors. As members know, the non-government youth field is very diverse and relies heavily on volunteers.

If I might divert for a second, that is why I was quite angry with media criticism of youth workers in March and April of this year, because 11 out of 12 youth workers in this State are volunteers. I go to Hindley Street and spend time talking with these youth workers, who are often very young people who work or study for a full day and then give up their time to work with street kids, people with drug and alcohol problems, young offenders and so forth and, in my view, they are real heroes in this State. The people condemning them ought to be condemned themselves.

I want to congratulate YACSA for playing an important role in coordinating this field and, in particular, for taking the responsibility for providing information and support to this sector and providing policy advice and the non-government youth perspective to governments and the broader community. I know that the supplementary question from the honourable member will undoubtedly be that there is an error in the budget papers. It has incorrectly listed

YACSA's 1989-90 grant as \$84 500. In fact, it was given the full \$87 000 as allocated, and the proposed \$89 000 for 1990-91 is also incorrect. I will have to talk to the Treasury about that. In fact, YACSA will receive \$91 000, which represents an increase of 4.5 per cent over last year's grant.

I want to take this opportunity to make an announcement to this Committee that YACSA will also receive a further \$30 000 for its field development project, which will enable it properly to support rural workers and youth organisations throughout South Australia. It has been asking for that for some time, and we are pleased to be able to deliver the goods to assist rural young people.

Mr HERON: It is good that the Minister is handing out money here today, so I will ask for another donation. This is with reference to page 494. What is the Youth Sector Training Council and how does it benefit youth affairs? Is there any money coming that way, Minister?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Yes, there certainly is. The Youth Sector Training Council coordinates the provision of training to youth workers throughout South Australia. Youth workers come from a variety of backgrounds and many have not had formal training. The youth sector training council conducts training needs analysis and provides a range of short, practical courses tailored to meet the specific needs of the workers. It also develops and publishes training resources and provides policy advice on training issues. The Youth Sector Training Council also contracts to provide training for a number of different departments and organisations and in so doing it generates income well above the ceiling grant that can be seen in the budget papers. Certainly, I am pleased to hear that the council is aiming to become self-funding within next year's grant period. It is anticipated that eventually the Youth Sector Training Council will form part of a human services industry training council. I am delighted there is funding in this year's budget for the council.

Mr SUCH: My first question to the Minister is what plans, if any, exist to amalgamate any of the existing TAFE colleges?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: At the moment, we are holding a number of discussions in relation to Lossie Street closure. Kensington Park College of TAFE does not just include Lossie Street: it also includes the Brookway Park College of TAFE, which is, in fact, a national centre for horticultural training. I ask the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Kirby, to elaborate on any future amalgamations.

Mr Kirby: We have no plans at the moment to amalgamate further TAFE colleges. With the demise of the Lossie Street campus, we will be down to 19 colleges, some of which are in the country and are very isolated from the main colleges in the centre. It may be that, with the development of the video-conferencing arrangement using telecommunication services, that will give rise to some opportunities to make further changes to the structure and profiles of the TAFE colleges to the advantage, we would hope, of the students. There will also be some consideration of the closure of small annexes to TAFE colleges. Although at the moment TAFE operates from 20 colleges, in fact it has over 70 campuses and it may be necessary to close old and dilapidated buildings which serve as annexes, because of high maintenance costs and future projected costs. However, at the moment, we have no plans beyond those kinds of development.

Mr SUCH: My second question relates to foundation courses. Given the significant amount of money spent on them, how does the department monitor the effectiveness of the various foundation courses, and are you satisfied with the operation of those courses?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: That is an important question. The whole thrust of TAFE is to ensure that the courses are effective. There is an \$80 000 study on student and industry satisfaction in terms of what TAFE provides. If you are referring to the stream 1 000 courses, I must point out that they are generally done on a cost recovery basis. Certainly, that will be the case.

Mr Kirby: We have some monitoring of such courses because they relate to particular community or industry groups. That is the first and most important measure of success. All accredited courses have to go through a process of re-evaluation, normally after three years. That involves extensive consultation with the clients of the course which in some cases may or may not be industry.

An important measure of success is the link between those basic foundation courses and the mainstream courses in TAFE, and that subject is monitored by the central office in the department and by groups such as program management groups within the college. The real gap in our appreciation is a comprehensive view of how industry and students feel about the quality of training and its usefulness. For that reason, we are about to embark on this study through the TAFE national R and D centre to do a comprehensive survey of TAFE students and their satisfaction.

The final point is that with the hierarchy of fees, which will be increased as a result of the budget discussion, we shall know fairly soon—in 1991—what value people place on many TAFE courses.

Mr SUCH: My third question relates to the overseas student program. We have had some discussion, so if I repeat something I hope that you will not rule me out of order, Mr Chairman. At page 66 of his report the Auditor-General made several critical comments about that program. In particular he noted:

The review revealed:

- management directives had not been formally approved until December 1988 which was a considerable time after inception and were amended in October 1989;
- financial operations were not in accordance with directives, including inconsistent accounting practices between colleges and the inability to determine that all costs were charged to the program;
- management control required improvement, including the provision of adequate documentation to support course fees and timely, consistent and accurate reporting.

What action has the Minister taken to solve those various problems? Does the Minister still accept the accuracy of a statement that was made by the Minister in 1988? He said:

On a marginal analysis, foreign students contribute an average of \$1 800 each to the system. A comparative study of four awards showed that each foreign student paid for his/her place and supported an additional .4 to 1.8 student places.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The short answer is firm action. The long answer is that the department has reviewed the financial management of the program, obviously with specific attention being given to the Auditor-General's concerns. As a result of the review, the pricing and costing policies are being amended and a common accounting and reporting system will be introduced before the next program commences in 1991. The results for 1990 show further growth in this activity, in which, by the way, TAFE was a pioneer. Apart from the income generated for the State and for the TAFE system, it brings with it cultural exchanges and promotes South Australia to our Asian neighbours. There is an enormous long-term spin off for people who come and study in South Australia, in terms of connections forged and maintained.

The projected outcome for 1990, in which I guess the honourable member is particularly interested is Adelaide college, 424 overseas students, income \$1.173 million, cost \$963 000; Regency, 50 students, income \$307 000, cost

\$253 000; Gilles Plains, four students, \$13 000 income, cost \$10 000; Elizabeth, six students, income \$34 000, cost \$13 000; Panorama, eight students, income \$28 000, cost \$20 000. The total is 492 students, income \$1.555 million, and a cost of \$1.259 million. That compares with 1988-89, with 200 students. The origin of the students is largely Indonesia, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Singapore, although I have met students in the TAFE system from China, Japan and other countries.

In 1988, that statement would have been accurate in terms of the small numbers that we have discussed. As additions to existing courses the profit is considerable. As numbers grow, new classes must be formed as the cost-benefit ratio changes. That is why we are reviewing our cost pricing policy in relation to overseas students—again taking firm action in response to the Auditor-General's advice.

Mr De LAINE: I refer to page 498 of the Program Estimates, relating to 'major resource variations' and funding provided for growth in the number of apprentices attending DETAFE. The amount is \$775 000. Will the Minister translate that growth into the number of apprentices?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: In South Australia annual statistics are compiled on the basis of a national formula, which is calculated as at 31 August each year and relative to the previous 30 June. Figures relating to the 1989-90 financial year are obviously interim only and subject to variation. The totals of contracted trainees in training for the past six financial years—this is apprentices and trainees combined—totalled 9 536 in 1983-84, 9 890 in 1984-85, 10 396 in 1985-86, 11 473 in 1986-87, 12 204 in 1987-88, 12 557 in 1988-89, and 13 670—interim figures only—in 1989-90. That is basically 12 600 apprentices and 1 070 trainees. We are currently awaiting some new figures. I invite the Director of the Employer Training Division, Mr Charles Connolly, to elaborate on what we are doing.

Mr Connolly: The origin of our concern about apprentice numbers dates back to about 1982-83 when there was a considerable downturn associated with the economic recession at that time, and a number of activities were put in train. The Government adopted a policy of training apprentices to their maximum ability to train, rather than to meet the actual numbers required. We moved very vigorously to support the notion of group training schemes and into the area of subsidising in some particularly disadvantaged areas. The net result is this quite considerable increase in the number of apprentices. We are running at the rate of an increase of approximately 6 per cent each year on the previous year. That relates to an earlier question about whether we are matching population growth. Population growth in South Australia is about 1.1 per cent, while growth in apprenticeships is a little under 6 per cent. So, we are gradually improving that situation.

Mr De LAINE: On page 499 of the Program Estimates, under 1990-91 Specific Targets/Objectives, we find:

To complete the development of a Legal Studies Certificate for Aborigines.

Is there a certificate course for non-Aborigines running parallel to this and, if so, why is there a need for duplication?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I invite the Chief Executive Officer to respond to that.

Mr Kirby: There is not one directly parallel to this. Legal studies are contained in a variety of TAFE certificates and associate diplomas. This particular course relates to providing legal aids in delivering legal services to Aborigines, particularly in remote communities. It is really a stepping stone for Aborigines to gain some full tertiary qualification in legal studies.

Mr De LAINE: I refer to page 493 of the Program Estimates. The figures suggest an essential growth in the planning and coordination program in 1989-90 which, I assume, relates mainly to the central office. Will the Minister explain, first, the specific growth in 1989-90 and, secondly, will he comment on the overall size of central office and the planned changes for 1990-91?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: That question follows a number of questions asked by members opposite. There were some questions that we took on notice relating to some clear discrepancies or variations that could not initially be explained. We now have an explanation for those discrepancies, and I invite Mr Carter to respond.

Mr Carter: The answer to the question raised about discrepancies between the Program Estimates and the Financial Statement relates to the State Office of Aboriginal Affairs which, during the year, transferred from the administrative responsibility only, I might add, of Sacon to the Department of Employment and Further Education. The staffing numbers involved in that group are reflected in the Financial Statement but not in the Program Estimates, because that office is not part of the department. That explains the variation.

With respect to the specific question about planning coordination, the answers to those questions have already been given. I reiterate that, as a result of the Office of Employment and Training amalgamating with the Department of Technical and Further Education, the Labour Market Analysis Branch that was previously with Employment and Training was transferred to the Planning and Systems Division of the department. That transfer is reflected in these figures, and that is the reason for the apparent increase. It is only a transfer of resources. Similarly, during the year, the Aboriginal Employment Development Unit was established within the department. The staff involved in that unit were included in the policy formulation figures for the outcome, which represents the growth for 1990-91. A separate program has been provided for that, as reflected on page 495. That now shows it as a discrete program with \$577 000 proposed for 1990-91.

Mr BRINDAL: My questions relate to the youth guarantee and to page 505 of the Program Estimates. At the last election the Premier promised on page 20 in his policy paper 'Families of the Future':

The first priority of the Government will be to ensure that every 15 or 16-year-old or older teenager who has been unemployed for longer than six months has access to education, training and employment.

In view of that, how many young South Australians are covered by this promise and for how many of these has the promise been kept? How will the Minister ensure that the promise is kept?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I have already outlined the youth strategy, and I guess that follows from what the honourable member refers to as the youth guarantee. The youth strategy is aimed at all young South Australians, particularly those between 15 and 18 and those who are currently disadvantaged. I invite Ms Webster to respond to that question.

Ms Webster: Within the strategy we have targeted specifically the most disadvantaged young people in the 15 and 16 year age group, in the first instance, that is, those young people who have fallen right outside the system. They are not in school; they do not appear on welfare statistics; they have disappeared, in a sense, in terms of any of our statistics. Part of the program is designed to provide workers who will provide whatever support those young people need to bring them back into the system, and this is where our youth strategy grants come into effect.

In some instances, that will require the establishment of special programs designed to meet the needs of these young people. The other thing we have done is target particular areas as being the areas of highest youth unemployment and lowest apparent retention to year 12 at school, and those regions have been mentioned before. These are the sorts of indicators used in targeting those areas.

Beyond that, the strategy targets all young people aged 15 to 19, particularly, who are outside the employment and training system. We have specifically targeted the most severely disadvantaged.

Mr BRINDAL: Are you prepared to provide the statistics?

Ms Webster: Certainly.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Perhaps I could also mention that there have been very significant changes in the whole thrust of youth affairs within the past year or so. Originally, youth affairs was separate from the Department of TAFE, as was the Employment and Training Division. There were various components within the youth affairs area that were running separately, such as the Programs Division and a Policy Division, and the Youth Bureau and Youth Initiatives Unit, the former Office of Employment and Training, amalgamated to form the Youth Affairs Division.

We did that to bring together the policy development, research and coordination role of the Youth Bureau with the service delivery role of the old Youth Initiatives Unit. Ms Webster has already outlined that the division's charter is to achieve equity of opportunity and outcome for young people as they make that very important and difficult transition from dependence to adulthood and as they contribute to the social and economic life of the South Australian community.

The division wants to achieve these goals through the development and implementation of quality programs and services for young people and those who work with them, the provision of expert advice and accurate information to Government and the community on a wide range of youth issues, and the achievement of a coordinated policy and program for young people across the Commonwealth, State, local government and non-government sectors.

Mr BRINDAL: My second question also relates to page 505 of the Program Estimates, in connection with youth resource centres. Again, in 'Families of the Future', the Premier promised:

Finally, the Government will pilot, in conjunction with the Federal Government, five youth resource centres which will bring together a range of labour marketed programs and information, counselling, advocacy and support services.

What progress has been made in implementing this promise?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The honourable member is correct in saying that the strategy has targeted five regions of the State which are the areas most in need. In each of those areas, a senior project officer has been employed to work with the local community and other service providers to assist those young people. In addition, we have already established youth resource centres in three of the five designated areas and are seeking suitable premises in the remaining two areas. There have been some delays because we are trying very hard to ensure that we get the right location and the right people and to see that we achieve full collocation of services with Commonwealth youth access centres, one of which is already operational in Port Adelaide, as the member for Price could testify.

As such, this aspect of the strategy has us well ahead of the recent Youth Ministers conference resolution to develop bilateral arrangements between the Commonwealth and State Governments in the provision of services to young people.

So, the very cooperative nature of the strategy within and between Governments has unfortunately led to some delays in getting the program as operational as quickly as planned and certainly as quickly as I had hoped. For example, while the management of the youth strategy is vested in the Youth Affairs Division of DETAFE, the senior project officers are funded and employed through the Education Department. I have already mentioned the problem with respect to the calling of these positions which meant they were not filled until July this year. But, as I say, we want to get the right people in the right place, and that is happening.

Mr BRINDAL: I have been informed that Ms Webster has an answer to a question asked earlier by the member for Fisher regarding the theatrical group Erotics. As I am as interested in this as the member for Fisher, I ask if she would provide that information.

Ms Webster: The theatre group is actually called Vital Statistix. It is a highly respected community-based theatre group in South Australia which has attracted funding from a number of State Government sources and most recently from the Australia Council. The theatre production referred to is called Erotics. Vital Statistix has a history of dealing with, I suppose, the hard topics in that it has presented theatre works on issues involving sexual harassment, young people and employment, and a range of other important social issues. This production, which I have not yet seen, deals with the questions of safe sex and relationships, and is aimed particularly at young people. It received, I think, \$2 000 from the Youth Affairs Division, but I will have to confirm that figure.

Mrs HUTCHISON: All my questions relate to youth matters. I refer to 'Major Resource Variations' on page 505 of the Program Estimates. The Youth Initiatives Projects funds dropped from \$260 000 last year to \$161 000 this year. Why is that so and what do the youth initiatives projects involve?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The Youth Initiatives Projects is a community-based program which encourages young people to initiate, plan, conduct and evaluate their own community project. It is based on the successful CITY program. We would all remember Community Involvement Through Youth, which ran for 12 years under both Labor and Liberal Governments to some acclaim, both nationally and internationally. Its prime value is in two areas. First, the young people are encouraged to take responsibility for a project from its beginning to its end. More often it is the first step for disadvantaged youth who can then go on to more formal training and employment. It has a good record in working with young Aboriginal people, young offenders and isolated rural youth who cannot otherwise get access to youth services.

Secondly, I refer to the community benefits from the many hours of voluntary work that these unemployed young people enthusiastically contribute. Examples of successful projects include the landscaping around the Brighton-Glenelg Community Centre, designing and printing a pamphlet to assist Goodwill Industries in the southern suburbs, the building of paths and facilities at Bool Lagoon in the South-East, and building a pergola and outdoor play area at the Aboriginal Women's Centre in Port Augusta. This reduction by \$100 000 is somewhat illusory because this year we plan to allocate the full \$260 000-plus inflation to Youth Initiatives Projects. However, these extra funds actually appear in another DETAFE budget line.

Mrs HUTCHISON: I refer to 'Issues/Trends' on page 505 of the Program Estimates. Many young people, especially those in the at-risk group, are interested in music. This is particularly relevant in my electorate, from my

knowledge of the young people there. Has any thought been put into how this interest could be used in helping young people to move onto further training and jobs?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: This is a really important area. Just as I mentioned earlier about the Conservation Corps and how we want to use young people's interest in conservation issues to harness their support, gather them in and try to redirect energies towards training and employment, I believe that the same can be undertaken with the rock industry. With the indulgence of the Committee, I will relate a story about some kids in my area. Back in 1985 there was a group of young unemployed people in the Salisbury, Elizabeth and Munno Para area who were long-term unemployed and, quite frankly, had very little future in terms of jobs. Many of these young people had serious social concerns. There were problems with alcohol, drugs, and so forth.

A very energetic youth worker involved with CITY, Frank Kinnear (and he will be very embarrassed by my mentioning his name), posed a challenge to these young people. He managed to obtain a grant for the youth to produce a video about life in the northern suburbs, because they all said that they would like to be involved in the entertainment or rock industry. That sounds fine, and it is easy to be keen but harder to realise those ambitions. He obtained a grant for these young people, who produced a video based on life for unemployed people in the northern suburbs, dealing with issues such as drugs and their relationships with the police, politicians, Government and employment.

That video was set to music that they wrote, produced and performed themselves. Coming from a media background, I was quite stunned at the production quality of the work that these young kids had put in to this video. The first film was called *A Rough Cut*, and the group ended up calling itself Rough Cut Incorporated. In fact, it has gone on from a Youth Initiatives Unit Project and a CITY-type project to become a Skillshare project in the northern suburbs.

About 400 to 500 people have gone through *Rough Cut*, and I am very proud to have been associated with it over the past five years. About 60 per cent to 70 per cent of those people involved—certainly from last year's quota—have gone on to obtain jobs. Many have been involved in professional rock bands, and many others have gone on to get jobs in associated aspects of the entertainment industry. Many of the kids who had long-term unemployment ahead of them are now involved in radio or television production. One, the 18-year-old film editor of *The Time*, has his own film making company. Clearly, we can use the interest of young people in the rock industry—just as with conservation—to get them involved in training.

Also, the rock music industry is one of the fastest growing industries in Australia. It provides many opportunities to involve our more difficult young people in an activity that gives them a goal for which to work. Having mentioned *Rough Cut*, I am pleased to announce today that the Youth Affairs Division, in conjunction with the Performing Arts Industry Training Council, has produced the book *Rock Pages*, which provides information for young people on the music and rock industries.

It lists the resources available, where to get training and advice, how to plan and organise a band, etc., how to organise the first gig, what agents do and what they should not be doing, and issues such as copyright and basic contract law. Basically, it advises young people in a realistic way, not only on the potential and opportunities but it also tells them of the pitfalls to be avoided and how to avoid being ripped off.

Anyone who has had anything to do with people in the rock industry will know that they often say how in the early stages they were perhaps led up the garden path by various promoters, and so forth. *Rock Pages* has yet to be launched, but already it is receiving international and national support. At the launch, I will be announcing some interest in this project by some major world figures in the rock industry.

Mr BRINDAL interjecting:

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I would be happy to invite Opposition members to the launch: I know there are a few old rockers in the Opposition, and I am happy to invite them along.

Mrs HUTCHISON: I would be interested in obtaining a copy of *Rock Pages* when it is launched. I refer to page 505 of the Program Estimates. Concerning youth initiatives and other areas of youth, what funding was provided in the electorate of Stuart? What were the projects and who were the proponents of funding applications?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Projects were funded in Port Augusta, Port Pirie and the Mid North in 1989-90. They involved 17 projects in those areas. I am not sure of the full funding details, and I will certainly get that information for the honourable member. About \$27 500 was spent on projects in the honourable member's area.

Mr SUCH: I refer to the Program Estimates, pages 501 to 503, and the Auditor-General's Report at page 67. The Auditor-General has indicated concern about cleaning within the college campuses. His findings revealed:

Documented policies and procedures to indicate appropriate management control could not be provided; standards of cleaning for particular areas were not defined, for example: hygiene, heavy duty, general, etc., nor was there documentation of the areas to be cleaned, for example: measurement, type of surface, frequency of cleaning, resources required and use; acceptable cleaning levels differed between colleges, for example: frequency of sweeping and polishing of floors; total cleaning costs could not be readily identified from the financial records; the estimated cost of cleaning varied considerably between colleges.

The department has indicated that it will have a review completed by July 1991. Have any estimates of potential savings been calculated? If so, what are they, and will the Minister confirm that a study at one of the larger colleges has indicated potential savings of up to 50 per cent?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: A review of DETAFE college cleaning operations with a view to achieving significant savings through the increased industrial cleaning contracts and for effective financial management control is under way. The honourable member said that the Auditor-General's Report estimates the cost of cleaning DETAFE colleges to be around \$4 million. The Auditor-General considers that substantial savings can be achieved. Regency college initiated discussions with the Federated Miscellaneous Workers Union (MWU) in respect of the conversion of night cleaning operations—departmental labour—to industrial cleaning contracts. Negotiations commenced with the MWU following discussions with me.

As a result, MWU members began industrial action, which included strikes and selective bans. I met with the MWU on 26 June and an offer was made to forgo the proposal of engaging contract cleaners in that specific area, provided that the union agreed to a joint review of all cleaning facilities with first priority being given to Regency college. As a result, the strike action and bans were suspended pending the joint development of the terms of reference. A review committee has been established and the terms of reference have been agreed to. The committee is to report to me by 30 June 1991.

A priority report on Regency college is to be submitted by December this year. The committee has already met with

staff at Regency college to establish agreement with the process for a review. A project officer has been appointed to carry out the review, addressing the issues raised specifically in the Auditor-General's Report. The terms of reference of the first review are as follows:

Identify whether any benefits will be forthcoming from changing the current method of reporting cleaning costs within the general ledger.

Investigate and recommend appropriate levels of management information that should be maintained by colleges.

Make recommendations as to the level of involvement central office should have in reviewing cleaning costs and performance levels for cleaning within colleges.

That is in line with our general policy of trying to devolve more responsibility onto colleges themselves in order to achieve greater efficiency. The terms of reference continue:

Develop and promulgate an operational guide for line managers (which includes current policies and procedures) to enable them to effectively manage the cleaning function within colleges.

That is the departmental review but, in terms of the industrial working party, as I said before, it has been established to review the cleaning function initially at Regency College and ultimately throughout TAFE colleges. The parameters of the review are as follows:

Evaluate work practices, materials, equipment, methodology, productivity and cost effectiveness of current cleaning service practices, with any recommendations on strategies for improvement.

Develop appropriate training strategies for cleaning staff.

Establish appropriate cleaning standards for the various types of TAFE activities with ongoing application subject to review as and when necessary.

The review committee to comprise of equal members of representatives nominated by DETAFE and the MWU (suggested eight members).

Mr SUCH: As a supplementary question, is the Minister willing to provide a table of cleaning, maintenance and equipment losses for all colleges for 1989-90, as was done last year?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Yes.

Mr SUCH: As to accounting systems within DETAFE, my question relates to page 503 of the Program Estimates. Since the accounting service of DETAFE has centralised the colleges accounting, have there been any savings and, if so, can the Minister indicate approximately how much?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Certainly, that is our aim.

Mr Carter: The change from local accounting to centralised accounting relates to the school funds, which were previously handled at the local level. The legalities of the operation of those funds was challenged and, as a result of the decision on that challenge, it was necessary to bring those funds and the transactions that related to them through the department's deposit account. First, that necessitated centralising the operations of the school fund account. I guess there are both savings and costs associated with that exercise. Certainly, it has now created some savings at the college level in that the processing of payment of accounts is now handled centrally and so the colleges do not have to undertake that work.

At the other end, there is pressure at the central office to put on some additional staff in the accounts payable area to meet the increase in transactions at the central office. The transfer of the previous accounting at the local level into the centralised deposit accounts system is about 90 per cent completed. When that is completed, we will be looking at a project relating not only to the deposit accounting system but also to the total accounting system of the department, that is, in relation to the cost benefits of the centralising the accounts payable function. Again, that is in line with the devolution of responsibility. There will be some benefits and there may be some costs that will be considered in the department during the year.

Mr SUCH: I refer to performing arts training (page 498 of the Program Estimates). The Beasley inquiry recently released an interim report recommending a single institute, or academy, for the performing arts. It was recommended that the Adelaide College of TAFE Centre for the Performing Arts be part of the new body. Is it true that senior officers of the Adelaide College of TAFE are opposing the move, whilst the CEO of DETAFE has indicated his support? What is the Minister's view? Furthermore, if the buildings and land of the Centre for Performing Arts are to be sold, can some indication be given of their approximate value? Has the Minister made any decision about making any realised sums available to the new institute or academy?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The question is that Mary Beasley's committee made an interim statement of the broad thrust of where they were likely to go. That was done to generate some more interest in the committee and its inquiry; to generate submissions and interaction. I think all of us agree that South Australia, with its designation as the 'Festival State', must do everything it can to ensure that we do not slip behind other States in terms of performing arts training. There has been considerable criticism over the years that, whilst we produce some excellent product in terms of events staged, we really should be looking at a greater coordination between institutions in terms of delivering training.

The document referred to by the honourable member was an interim statement; it was not even an interim report. The report will, I think, be released later this year. In terms of the resource implications of what the honourable member has indicated, it is not a question of whether I am prepared to support it. I want to see what the committee suggests before making a commitment. That would then have to go to Cabinet, and there would be wide consultation on the suggestions. It is interesting that the honourable member mentions that people at the Performing Arts Centre are strongly opposed; I understand that there are also people who strongly support it. The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of TAFE, Mr Peter Kirby, is a member of the committee and I am sure that he would like to contribute to this answer.

Mr Kirby: Not surprisingly, there are some different views about the proposal, and they come from both the TAFE and higher education areas. The view of students is overwhelmingly for facilities that will give them better educational opportunities and results in terms of their qualifications upon completion of their courses and better recognition in what is an extraordinarily competitive labour market. The view of staff of the institutions is also in favour of a merger because they already have considerable collaboration. They believe that a merger would take it a little further. There is some dissent about that view from senior management of the college; that is true. However, it is not a view that has been strongly expressed to the committee in its public hearings when the college was invited to attend and to make submissions.

It is a difficult issue because TAFE has certain qualities in these fields that higher education does not have. First and foremost, I refer to access to this kind of training without prerequisites in terms of educational standards. That has seen that some of our foremost performers, particularly in the area of music, have actually started as graduates of the TAFE course. The music school, I might say, is the strongest of the three areas in favour of a merger and it has been in favour of it for some considerable time preceding this inquiry.

The final outcome will depend upon a lot of consideration of a number of issues that must hang together. One of them will be finding the finance to establish a new academy. The

second one, and almost equally important, will be the positioning of the academy in relation to the existing education and training providers; that is, whether it will be part of the university or separate from it, whether it will take from both universities certain components of the performing arts, and what impact it will have on TAFE in terms of its staffing, its programs and its students. Finally, there is a further complication; that is, the fact that the Commonwealth now funds the higher education component of the performing arts and the State funds the TAFE component. Therefore, there are still questions to be resolved.

Mr SUCH: What are the three areas?

Mr Kirby: The three areas are basically dance, acting and music. The Centre for the Performing Arts and TAFE has both dance and theatre—that is, acting, drama. There is a separate school of the Adelaide College in Flinders Street, which is the School of Music. Then, of course, we have a variety of those activities reflected in the higher education sector. The one component that TAFE has that the other institutions do not have is technical theatre. It is the area with the highest demand for our graduates: we have more demand that we can fulfil. This involves stage management, lighting and technical production. The one thing which higher education lacks in putting on production and which is very much part of the performing arts education and training is technical theatre. Higher education very much wants to take that component of technical theatre to join the proposed merger as well.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I think that the Chief Executive Officer's mention of the different ways of entering the system is really important. Should someone who is a brilliant violinist be precluded from further studies at a higher level because he or she failed to pass, say, geography or whatever? Should we look at expertise and competence—or brilliance, in fact? That is one area that must be looked at. The other point that has been made clear to me—and I certainly am not an expert in the arts area, as honourable members would know—is that our TAFE graduates are outstanding. The very fact that universities want to embrace what TAFE has to offer, because of its excellence, is testimony in itself.

Mrs HUTCHISON: Program 8 at page 172 of the Estimates of Payments refers to the fact that a sum of \$690 000 was voted for the group training schemes and \$707 000 was expended. I have one of these group training schemes in my electorate, so could the Minister explain what results have been achieved from this expenditure?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Group training schemes were set up in the early 1980s when it first became apparent that, because of the widespread recession which was beginning to occur, a significant fall-off in the number of young people being indentured into apprenticeships was occurring. Since that time in South Australia there are now 16 group training schemes, seven of which are based on particular industries, such as the master builders scheme. I think one of my first activities as Minister was to present the apprentice of the year award in the group apprenticeship scheme in the master builders area. Seven are based on regional localities such as that mentioned by the honourable member (three are in the metropolitan area) and two are special purpose, which of course refers to Aboriginal schemes.

With the advent of the Australian training system, group training schemes also employ trainees under the scheme. At the end of July, 888 apprentices were employed in group training schemes and there were 88 trainees, that is, a total of 976 young people who otherwise probably would not have got a structured entry into a worthwhile career.

The group training schemes are particularly invaluable to small businesses that cannot run an indentured apprenticeship scheme. It enables groups of small businesses to combine, as is the case in the MBA system under the umbrella of the Master Builders Association, to work cooperatively and deliver apprentice training in the best possible way. So, it is vitally important to small business and to rural businesses in South Australia.

Mr Connelly: I think it is important to understand that many small businesses in South Australia are not capable of delivering the whole range of skills required for a young person undergoing an apprenticeship. Over the years, individual employers in the motor industry, for example, have tended to specialise—they are brake specialists or automatic transmission specialists—and apprentices cannot be indentured in one of those areas, because they cannot develop the full range of activities.

A group training scheme sets up an incorporated body, which is controlled by the employers and the trade unions in that particular organisation, with some modest funding from both the State Government and the Commonwealth Government. They employ the apprentices, but for periods those apprentices may visit five or six actual employers during the course of their four-year apprenticeship. As such, they gain the full range of requirements.

That was the original concept when we started in the metropolitan area. The rural areas posed a somewhat different problem because many small employers were not necessarily in the same trades and, in places like the Spencer Gulf area and Mount Gambier, one may well find within the group training scheme that there are apprentice cooks, motor mechanics, gardeners and greenkeepers, but the same principle is adopted whereby host employers become part of that scheme and individual young people may work with three or four of those employers during the course of fulfilling their apprenticeship.

Mrs HUTCHISON: At page 173 of the Estimates of Payments, program 9 refers to the fact that \$25 000 was voted for 'Tradeswomen on the move' and something in excess of \$11 000 was expended. As I am very interested in this particular area, could the Minister provide some information as to what the program means in terms of its outcomes and so on?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: 'Tradeswomen on the move' is just one of our strategies to encourage young women to consider the option of taking on a trade or apprenticeship, particularly in non traditional areas. Over the years a number of quite innovative projects have been designed in South Australia to demonstrate to young women and girls in school that they should not automatically exclude as their career option areas that perhaps traditionally have been regarded as a male area of employment. This is the third year of the 'Tradeswomen on the move' project and each year it has taken a somewhat different form from the year before. The expenditure shown relates only to the State moneys involved. Nearly \$25 000 of Commonwealth money was also involved in the program.

The form of the program in 1989-90 was to take young women in their last year at school into the work force actually to experience working at a trade. In 1989-90 there were 388 applicants, 96 of whom were actually taking work experience spread over nine trades. Preliminary examination of the outcome shows that 10 per cent of these participants are currently in apprenticeships or in the trade based pre-vocational courses. The entry of women into areas which are non traditional for women, that is to say, most of the trades areas apart from areas such as hairdressing, is a particular priority of this Government.

We are also running the 'Maths multiplies your choices' program in Whyalla which is based on a very successful Victorian scheme involving advertising and information being provided to young girls at a particular age when they are making decisions about the courses they will take in the future. Obviously, the range of those courses influences the sort of jobs and future training in which they might engage. I think the object of that 'Maths multiplies your choices' program is to encourage women not to exclude maths as part of their studies, because maths opens up a massive range of career options to them. In fact, many of those career options are not those that are perhaps even traditionally male oriented. I think that the campaign is aimed at emphasising that by eliminating maths from their horizons they are actually ensuring that their choices of future careers are quite narrow.

Mrs HUTCHISON: With regard to page 502 of the Program Estimates and the broad objectives and goals and, also, in relation to the 1990-91 specific targets/objectives, I would like to congratulate Mr Kirby for his work in the area of child-care provision. I am pleased with the initiatives by DETAFE in the provision of child-care, but what are the ongoing plans for this financial year for this important student service and how successful has this been from the point of view of both the department and students? Has it been monitored?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: If I could lead off on this topic, perhaps, after the dinner break, because of his special interest in this area, Mr Kirby could elaborate further, but it is certainly quite clear that the provision of adequate child-care is of fundamental importance in terms of women's career and study options. We, and I as Minister, have a commitment in terms of providing adequate child-care in all TAFE colleges. No-one underestimates the difficulty in terms of just finding locations for places such as the Adelaide College and Regency Park, but we are progressively bringing on stream child-care centres and child-care areas in the various TAFE colleges around the State, including in country areas. Indeed, I was very privileged to visit the Port Augusta TAFE and to see the amazing work that it has done by showing some innovation and being flexible, in remodelling an area that had not been used for child-care before, and to see that those young children are being looked after, enabling mothers, and perhaps even fathers, to pursue studies in the TAFE system. It is of critical importance, particularly in the area of women's employment and training.

Most recently we have made the decision, and I know it is one that southern members of Parliament will welcome, to initiate a child-care centre at the Kingston College of TAFE in the southern suburbs. That is badly needed. A range of programs at Kingston are of outstanding merit, including work that is being done in the area of QUICK-DRAW, the computer-aided design of clothing course, which obviously has a very strong women's component. Child-care provision is obviously critically important.

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

Membership:

Mr Holloway substituted for Ms Hutchison.

The CHAIRMAN: The Minister signalled to the Committee prior to the dinner adjournment that Mr Kirby would clarify some of the points raised by the member for Stuart in her question.

Mr Kirby: I thought I might mention the child care issue in TAFE. We have 16 child care centres in our 20 colleges,

and currently they cater for about 1 000 children. About half the centres are at licensing standard, which means that we could charge fees to meet our recurrent costs. The dilemma for us has been that the majority of the students are disadvantaged, in terms of income, and to charge at the full cost, as we could, to recover the cost we meet in providing these centres and their services would be to disadvantage them further. Our major problem has been with the Commonwealth, which has had a policy until recently that says that TAFE students, although disadvantaged, do not qualify for the fee subsidies that are available to parents who put their children into other non-profit making centres. This has meant that our recurrent cost has been the great obstacle to our expanding further. We have taken the policy decision that we would not necessarily bring our centres up to licensing standard, that we would charge only nominal fees and that the student services fee paid by students would bear much of the brunt of the cost of running the centres.

In its last budget, the Commonwealth announced that it would extend fee subsidies to parents who put their children into TAFE child care centres if they are eligible. This means that we can now bring our centres up to licensing standard. We can charge the fee, knowing that disadvantaged students would gain a subsidy from the Commonwealth and that would enable us to expand our child care provision at a much faster rate. At the moment, current costs are about \$500 000 a year, over and above the fees that we are paying. To upgrade would probably cost about \$750 000.

Mr BRINDAL: My question refers to Program Estimates, page 504, and to the Auditor-General's report on page 66. In asking the question, I acknowledge that the Minister has partially answered aspects of this question in his answer to one from the member for Price, earlier in the day. Nevertheless, it is worth putting the question to cover specific points that were not covered then. The question concerns business enterprises in TAFE. The Auditor-General's Report notes that there are 11 business enterprises and 18 business ventures. What are the names and purposes of each of the business ventures? In each case, what funding was made available from SAFA and from consolidated account and who undertook the review of the business enterprises? I believe it was somebody from Victoria, but I do not think the Minister gave a name. What was the cost? I know the Minister gave some of the recommendations, but were all the recommendations detailed in the previous answer?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I certainly covered the recommendations of the report from the officer from Victoria, who is Tom Malcom. We are happy to take that on notice and give the member a full and accurate rundown of their nature but, as one can imagine, CROTECH is involved with racing cars and there have been a number of other ventures; Kingston has QUICKDRAW, which is the CAD system, which is working in terms of the design of clothing. We will give the member a full rundown.

Mr BRINDAL: How many of the 11 business enterprises were those identified by the Auditor-General as having inadequate financial and management control, and which business enterprises did not comply with the conditions set by the Venture Capital Board? Also, has the Government accepted the suggestion that it might be more efficient to administer the ventures through a central corporate unit? I believe the Minister partially answered that.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Certainly, one of the recommendations is that all the business enterprises should be under one umbrella organisation. SATEC is the body that covers TAFE as a whole. I have already read into *Hansard* the description of the unaudited profits relating to this year but,

certainly, we can get that information for the honourable member.

Mr BRINDAL: My next question relates to business enterprises again. I refer to Program Estimates on page 504. Is it true that SATEC is managed by a public servant who is paid incentive payments according to business generated, and what is the total remuneration package paid to this person?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: SATEC is managed by a board, although it does have staffing, but I will refer that question to the Chief Executive Officer.

Mr Kirby: The executive officer of SATEC is an officer of TAFE who has been seconded out and who is under contract to the SATEC Board. I cannot give the member an indication of his remuneration package at this stage, but we could provide that on notice.

Mr BRINDAL: Does he receive an incentive payment?

Mr Kirby: Yes.

Mr BRINDAL: Is it usual for a public servant or somebody seconded from the Public Service to receive an incentive payment?

Mr Kirby: It may be, for people seconded from the Public Service, but I could not say how widespread the practice is.

Mr HOLLOWAY: I refer to page 172, program 8, with regard to industrial and commercial training. I note that expenditure last year was \$230 000 compared with a vote of \$160 000. I wonder whether the Minister could explain what training centres are involved and how significant they are for South Australia.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I think that the honourable member is referring to our skill centres and on page 172 of the Estimates of Payments there is a line on training centres which shows \$160 000 voted and \$230 000 spent. The training centres or, as they are more usually named, skill centres, are one of the success stories of South Australian industry training. The money provided by Government is establishment seeding money aimed at encouraging industry and the Commonwealth Government to provide additional training facilities that would not otherwise exist.

Each centre is run by a tripartite board on which the industry partners, employers and trade unions have a significant majority. There is a large measure of control by industry. That is vital if the centres are to be relevant to industry. They are closely linked to TAFE colleges so that they are not in competition but are complementary.

Nine centres have already been established in South Australia and the contributions are as follows: State Government, \$365 000; Commonwealth Government, \$1 606 000; and industry, \$1 775 000. In addition, three other centres are in the last stages of negotiation. If those three come to fruition as we expect, the figures will then be State Government funds, \$710 000; Commonwealth Government funds, \$4 386 000; and industry, \$3 395 000.

Just to recap, for each dollar of State money that has been invested in skill centres, nearly \$8 of Commonwealth and industry money has been provided. That is a useful expenditure of the State dollar.

The last scheme under active consideration is the timber and furnishing industry technology centre which we hope will be sited adjacent to the Marlestone TAFE College. In arriving at that position, officers from the TAFE college at Marlestone, and from the employment and training division of the department have managed to gain written promises of nearly \$1.5 million of high technology, Italian and West German timber processing equipment on a loan basis. Those officers and their colleagues from industry who are working on the skill centre deserve our highest congratulations for that splendid achievement.

Last week I met with a delegation of people from industry who are interested in establishing the skills centre in terms of timber and furnishing. I have also visited the centre. There is no doubt that what they are proposing would be the national centre. It has the strong support of industry and the unions. The equipment that I have seen, which they tell me is subsequently outdated, amazed me because of the robotics and technology involved. Obviously, Italy, Germany and Sweden are world leaders. We must ensure that that important industry in South Australia and in Australia is up to the latest in terms of design and technology. The skill centre will have an important demonstration effect for local industries, and the international support is quite outstanding.

Mr HOLLOWAY: What actions has been taken to address the Auditor-General's criticisms of the College Arms Hotel?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: That is certainly not a Dorothy Dixier.

An honourable member interjecting:

The CHAIRMAN: The Minister will ignore that comment from the honourable member.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The question has taken me by some surprise. However, I shall look at my briefing notes. The College Arms Training Company Pty Ltd, is a joint venture project between the Adelaide College of TAFE, the Australian Hotels Association and the Liquor Trades Employees' Union. The hotel was established to function as a hospitality skills centre operating in a commercial environment. Since it opened, 150 postgraduate students have received training through the hotel. The hotel is trading soundly relative to industry averages. In April of this year the Auditor-General expressed concern about the solvency of the company and the likelihood of an ongoing commitment to Government funds to sustain the business.

That might sound odd. I am sure that most members have visited the hotel. It is an outstanding asset to the State and it has a strong performance in terms of the number of people going through the hotel. However, the problem was cash flow associated with the training cost which commercial hotels normally do not have to carry. If it were operating as a pub it would be a nice little earner, but it is a training facility. If I wanted to run a pub I would not be Minister for Employment and Training, I would be doing something else.

We are running a hotel which is also a major training facility. It is part of our college network. Therefore, it has a much higher burden in terms of the number of people employed. Also, a large part of the facility is designated for training, and that would not otherwise be the case. Rather than keeping postgraduate students in an artificial environment, we are putting them at the coal face in terms of their dealings with the public and their commercial acumen, and we are ensuring that what they are learning is directly related to the industry. Any of those students would be snapped up fast by a smart hotel proprietor in this State or elsewhere around the country.

Also, \$35 000 in interest free loans provided by the Liquor Trades Union and the Australian Hotels Association and a grant of \$30 000 from the Adelaide college have been injected to overcome cash flow difficulties. Cabinet was advised in July that the injection of funds was not sufficient to remedy the cash flow difficulties, and options were outlined for the business to continue trading. The College Arms Hotel is currently preparing a new three-year business plan and will provide annual financial statements to the Treasurer. Adelaide College is to provide a subsidy of \$80 000 a year to acknowledge the company's provision of training to the college. That is only fair, otherwise the company would be

asked to do something that normal companies obviously would not do. After all, it is essentially a training institution. It is also a successful venture and it is an outstanding product.

Mr HOLLOWAY: My next question relates to the labour market research and program evaluation program as set out on page 509. I note from the program description that there are some comments about employment trends. Will the Minister comment on the latest ABS statistics and employment trends?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: This division provides me with a regular analysis of what is happening in employment and unemployment and looks at trends and the historical aspects of the figures, and makes predictions for the future. There was some media publicity last week when the ABS statistics came out that I had somehow tried to play down the problem. That is banal. What would be the point of playing down statistics that are quite palpable and will continue to show up in forthcoming months? At that time I said that I believed that unemployment will rise nationally and in South Australia over the remainder of 1990, and that that will obviously be of concern to us all. In Parliament I revealed to the House what the analysis was—that is, that the unemployment rate rose from 7.2 per cent in July to 8.2 per cent in August. During the same period, employment in South Australia grew by 400 jobs.

It should be pointed out that the average employment in South Australia in the quarter to August 1990 grew by 10 900 compared with the same period last year. The analysis is that the increase in the unemployment rate is not due to a fall in employment. Members, if not some journalists, realise that employment and unemployment can go up at the same time and that they can also go down at the same time. There is no see-saw effect directly related to each survey. We have tried to get out the message that employment has continued to grow. In the quarter to August 1990 it grew by 10 900 compared with the same period last year.

The other thing that was noted, as I said in my initial response, was that the jobless rise is due largely to the high seasonally adjusted participation rate since surveys were introduced. If the South Australian participation rate had remained constant in August at 63 per cent rather than rising to 63.7 per cent, the unemployment rate would also have remained constant at around 7.2 per cent. I do not want to play down in any way the seriousness of the situation. Despite the easing of monetary policy over recent months, it appears inevitable that unemployment will rise both nationally and in South Australia over the remainder of 1990, and obviously that will be of concern to all members.

It is true to say that the economy has continued to slow in response to the Federal Government's tight monetary policy, and this has led to a slump in domestic spending which has caught up with a number of our important industries here in South Australia. However, the extent of such rises in unemployment over the medium term will be determined largely by a number of developments at national and international levels, such as our export growth potential, our inflation rate and, of course, as I said, the wild card in the pack—the Middle East crisis.

Mr Ingerson interjecting:

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The honourable member mentioned payroll tax. That is why it is vitally important that our payroll tax remains below that of our Eastern State competitors, and that is acknowledged, obviously, both by industry and by the honourable member. A softening of our labour market position is likely to occur over the next few

months. We hope that it will be in the short term and that we will see a recovery next year. After all, we are still at least 100 000 or more jobs above the level that applied at the time we were elected to Government in 1982.

Mr INGERSON: Will the Minister advise the Committee of his prediction for employment in the year 1990-91, and will he advise the Committee what his Government will do about the continuing high youth unemployment rate?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I think that we have already made clear during the bulk of today's proceedings what we are doing in terms of a range of strategies aimed at disadvantaged youth—getting them back into training and getting them directly into jobs, with record apprentice levels. All of that is about youth unemployment and youth employment.

Our whole TAFE system—which has the highest participation rate in the country—is aimed principally at ensuring that young people have the skills to get the jobs, and get jobs with a real future. As to predictions, as I say, currently there are wild cards in the pack in terms of what is happening in the Middle East and, as has been acknowledged by the honourable member's Federal counterparts, that will undoubtedly have a bearing on both the inflation and employment outcomes over the next six months or so.

Clearly, we will continue with our approach of making a major investment to skilling and reskilling the work force to ensure that we are competitive. It is because we have a skilled work force that we have been able to win projects such as the submarine project and the smart end of the frigate project, and it was also instrumental in convincing the committee on the MFP that we were a desired location for the future. In terms of figures, it would be perilous at this stage to give a finite estimate on what would be the employment or unemployment rate in three or six months time. Needless to say, we are hopeful of a recovery next year.

Mr INGERSON: On page 508, under 1989-90 Specific Targets/Objectives, it is stated that the Special Employment Initiatives Unit will be strengthening the post-program labour market destinations of participants. Will the Minister advise the Committee what programs are in place and how they are working? The document states that they are ongoing, so will the Minister advise us of those facts?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I should like to invite Mr Charles Connelly, the Director of the division, to respond.

Mr Connelly: A number of labour market programs are currently being run which have been developed over a number of years. The first of those is the WorkLink program, which was primarily directed towards young people. However, in the past year, we have expanded it to the over-25s as well, realising that one of the largest disadvantaged groups is mature aged adults who have been the casualties of the middle 1980s recession.

During the course of 1989, for instance, that program—which provides paid work for a period of six months—has employed approximately 159 young people, 50 per cent of whom are women and a significant proportion of whom were Aborigines. A feature of that program is that it is located half in the metropolitan area and half in the country regions, because it is all too often too easy to neglect the rural areas in terms of running these programs.

During the course of 1990, 13 projects will be run under that program, some of which are in the southern metropolitan area. The next major program we run is called Work Ready, which essentially is providing short-term training for people in areas where there is likely to be immediate employment. An example, based on a primary school in Edwardstown, if I can use the southern area as an example

again, is a program which is directed towards women who are out of work (particularly single parents trying to get back into the work force), and which is providing modern office skills in word processing and the like.

Again, the results are very encouraging. A significant proportion of those people are moving fairly quickly into employment. Perhaps one of the major programs—which, again, is something of a combined effort—is a program called Home Assist, which the Premier announced in October last year. For many years, we had run a program called the Home Assistance Scheme, largely funded by State money, which joined both social justice objectives and employment objectives in that, through local councils, it provided activities aimed at keeping elderly, frail and pensioner people in their houses rather than having them go into institutions.

The labour market aspect was that the services that were provided to those households were provided by unemployed people who were employed for a year by a local council and, during that period, not only provided those services but also gained additional training to fit them for employment. We have now had substantial Commonwealth funds introduced into that program as well as funds from other portfolios (such as the Attorney-General's portfolios) to widen the range of services which applied in that program and to expand the number of people who can gain training for employment.

That program will now be delivered in every local government area within the metropolitan area as well as in a significant number of rural areas. That is a range of the sorts of program that we are running. The programs are each targeted at particular groups of unemployed and disadvantaged people, and it is the contention of the State Government that that targeting leads to better results than one overall program would.

Mr INGERSON: Page 507 of the Program Estimates states that the Government has completed a training program for people of a non-English speaking background to gain employment. Will the Minister advise whether there has been a report on that program and, if there has, will he advise the Committee of it or make it available to the Committee?

Mr Connelly: An internal report has been prepared and we will provide that report to the honourable member.

Mr De LAINE: Referring to page 505 of the Program Estimates under 'Youth Services', youth programs and services are provided by many Government departments as well as by non-government agencies. Has consideration been given to how all these different groups can have input into youth policy?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Yes; in fact, I am very pleased to announce tonight the establishment of a Ministerial Advisory Committee on Youth Affairs. It is vitally important that I, as Minister of Youth Affairs, am in touch with the youth sector, not just in terms of formal bodies such as the Youth Affairs Council of South Australia, although it fulfils a very valuable role not just in terms of the Service to Youth Council, various lobby groups, or my own department. There is a need for a forum for the ideas, policies and programs that we are putting forward which is broad ranging, which is not actually a representative committee in the sense that each organisation has to be represented, but which is basically a group of people who have outstanding merit in the area of youth affairs, both in servicing youth in terms of the professionals and of young people themselves.

I want to ensure that at least 25 per cent of the people involved in the committee are under 25 years of age. That committee is only just in the process of being formed. We

have sent out the invitations for people to be involved, and I am delighted at the response. It will certainly bring people from a variety of backgrounds to advise me on major issues and areas of concern related to young people. Committee members have been specially chosen for their individual expertise. They come from the private sector, the church, the community sector and from State and local government. In terms of the under 25 component, they have been chosen for their individual experience. One is a school student, one a journalist and one a young female apprentice carpenter. They will be given any necessary support and training to ensure that their contribution is maximised. This committee, which meets for the first time early next year, will present an exciting opportunity both to develop a high community profile for young people and to provide me with an important outside perspective on current issues.

Mr INGERSON interjecting:

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The honourable member asked whether they would be 52 per cent Liberal. Hopefully they will represent the youth vote in South Australia which is quite different from that. There will be an excellent gender balance on the committee. Indeed, the Chairperson is Ms Stephanie Key who will be well known to all members of this Parliament.

Mr De LAINE: Referring to page 505, the Minister has already announced the establishment of the Youth Conservation Corps. How will it operate and when will it commence?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I am pleased to elaborate on what is, I guess, my favourite project.

Mr INGERSON: Will you issue a press release on it?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: If necessary, I certainly will issue a press release because I know that many members opposite are about to embark on overseas travel, and they might be able to spread the word internationally. Indeed, I believe it is something that could well catch on in the very highest circles in European nations. Basically, we envisage a start to the program in January. This will involve the selection of the projects. Obviously that will be an important step. We do not want to get the thing off to a poor start. That is why I want it delayed until we can identify both the people and the projects and match them together. It is important that there is a mix of people in terms of the projects to ensure that the group dynamics of the Conservation Corps work.

I was in Western Australia several months ago to attend the Youth Affairs Ministers conference. Indeed, there is a scheme in Western Australia known as Westrek. It is different in concept as it does not involve the same training aspect as does our scheme. Basically, it involves young people, including those with problems and young offenders, in a range of rural-based projects. It takes them out of the temptations of the city environment and gets them involved in very productive work in a series of projects. It need not necessarily be purely a rural scheme. Many conservation works can be done in both the metropolitan area and in rural areas. For instance, there is mangrove work. Indeed, we could even involve the Conservation Corps down at Gillman. That idea has just occurred to me. We could also involve people in the southern suburbs in coastal protection and erosion programs.

I believe a proposal was put forward in Munno Para—indeed, the first proposal received on the basis of this scheme—by Sue Crafter of the South Australian Urban Lands Trust for a scheme involving reforestation or a sort of greening of that area. Obviously, Munno Para is looking towards Salisbury as its model, as I am sure the Chairman

would agree, in terms of greening that very important part of the metropolitan area.

Mr De LAINE: Under 'Vocational education' on page 498 of the Program Estimates, the Regency College of Food and Catering has, over the past several years, enjoyed a worldwide reputation for excellence. Does this reputation still apply?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Absolutely. I was overseas back in May and, as members opposite would agree, it is important to take a world view in terms of education and training. When I visited major hotels and educational institutions, Regency College was mentioned repeatedly. Indeed, the General Manager of one of Asia's largest hotels said that it was regarded as one of the best facilities internationally for the hospitality industry, particularly for chefs' courses and a variety of tourism and hospitality-related management courses.

We see Regency College as being both a centre for the export of education services, both internationally—and that is demonstrated by the number of overseas students studying there—and also in terms of exporting its services to projects in other States. It is interesting that other States tend to come to Regency for advice. I was at the Regency college just a week or so ago when two professors from Japan were there, both of whom headed a large school of catering and hospitality. In fact, it is called a university in Tokyo. They were seeking advice at Regency in terms of the development of their college in Tokyo.

They were also hoping for an exchange of lecturers and students, which could only benefit South Australia as well. We certainly encourage our lecturers at Regency to go overseas to study and be involved in international projects. We will only be ahead of the pack if our skills are maintained, and that includes the skills of our lecturers. We also have a situation at Regency college where Qantas has been seeking the advice of the college in a training capacity. I will invite the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Kirby, to elaborate on that Qantas connection. Certainly, the hotel school now generates over 30 per cent of its running costs from outside sources, that is, non-taxpayer sources. That is an outstanding achievement for TAFE and for Regency.

I have already mentioned the interactive video network that we are planning, and certainly it is important that Regency college, along with Adelaide college, becomes the central hub for our electronic classroom approach for the delivery of services. I invite Mr Kirby to comment on Regency's Qantas connection.

Mr Kirby: Just over a year ago Qantas approached the hotel school at Regency to engage some of its staff in a consultancy to look at the training of Qantas air crew cabin staff for Qantas services. As a result, the college designed and has now delivered training to all the cabin staff. It is a large program that will bring in an income in the tens of thousands of dollars to the hotel school.

It will also bring it some prestige because it will be the curriculum and standards of Regency that will be used even if New South Wales TAFE colleges participate in the program. It has been so successful that Qantas has now extended the invitation to the hotel school to provide ground staff training as well, other than technical training. It will provide training for passenger services and the catering staff on the ground for the whole Qantas organisation.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Developing on that, apart from Regency in terms of the international view, when I was in Indonesia I visited the city of Bandung, which is about four hours by train from Jakarta, up in the highlands. It is a city of about 1.5 million people, perhaps the third biggest city in Indonesia. It is very much the university or education

centre of Indonesia. It is interesting that South Australian TAFE has an enormous reputation in Bandung, especially among the Ministers we met in Indonesia, because the TAFE people here, through Sagric International, are involved on a rolling basis in a World Bank project teaching TAFE teachers. We are sort of training the trainers, and this is in the area of commercial studies. When I visited the TAFE teacher training facility in Bandung they were flying the Australian flag, as they do all the year round, and it is an enormous advert for South Australian TAFE.

This project was mentioned everywhere where we went throughout Indonesia, and we hope that will continue. I have made a submission to the Federal Government, hoping that this very important program can continue. TAFE officers are involved throughout Indonesia and they are involved in many other countries as well. Members might be surprised to learn that we deliver TAFE courses directly into Hong Kong using satellite on occasion and using distance education to Penang, Malaysia, and I understand that there is even a regular course being delivered through audio technology to Arizona.

Mr BRINDAL: In respect of youth services at page 505 of the Program Estimates, in the training and employment policy in the lead-up to the last election, the Premier stated:

In our next term we will be creating about 1 000 new places in traineeships, pre-TAFE courses, apprenticeships and youth employment programs.

While the Minister has said that we have a record level of apprentices now, I would like to know what progress has been made specifically towards that promise of the Premier in November last year?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I will take that question on notice and provide the honourable member with the exact figures.

Mr BRINDAL: My next question also concerns youth services and relates to page 505 of the Program Estimates. The Youth Activity Centre in the north-east is one of the largest serving youth projects in South Australia. It provides a range of services for young people, such as recreation, health and educational programs, a drop-in centre, counselling information, referral and advocacy. The centre contacts about 240 young persons a month, but it is now having difficulty locating new premises. Therefore, will the Minister give sympathetic consideration to assistance and, in particular, will he direct DETAFE officers to conduct urgent discussions about the future siting of the program?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I am delighted to respond to that. I will be happy to initiate discussions. I understand that that organisation is currently funded by the Department for Family and Community Services but, needless to say, Youth Affairs has an overview of all programs in South Australia. As for my sympathy, I might be short on self promotion but I am strong on sympathy and am pleased to help.

Mr BRINDAL: I refer to page 503 of the Program Estimates and the Auditor-General's Report (page 133). The Auditor-General notes:

There has been a 32 per cent increase in the payments for DETAFE in the payments for workers compensation in 1990 as compared to 1989.

In dollar terms this is an increase, on average, from \$1.68 to \$2.22. What is the exact figure for 1991? What action will be taken to reduce the cost of workers compensation for DETAFE?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I invite the Director, Administration and Finance, to respond to this question. Obviously, while I have an overview of all these matters, I do not carry this information in my head, particularly down to the actual dollar and cents figure. I am sure that the Director will be able to help.

Mr Carter: The following statistics provide a general comparison of workers compensation costs in DETAFE for the 1988-89 and 1989-90 financial years. It should be noted that from the commencement of the 1989-90 financial year lump-sum payments and common law settlement of claims lodged prior to introduction of the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1986 are no longer the department's responsibility. These, and associated legal and medical report costs are not reflected in 1989-90 figures, which are as follows:

Actual Payments	1988-89 \$	1989-90 \$
First 21 Days	N/A	248 684
Post 21 Days	—	—
Weekly Payments	599 928	580 864
Medical Expenses	451 652	427 176
Assessors Fees	877	7 264
Lump-Sum Payments (New Act)	N/A	92 369
Lump-Sum Payments (Old Act)	327 202	N/A
Common Law Settlements	235 212	N/A
Legal Costs	55 521	N/A
Medical Reports	13 888	N/A
Recoveries from 3rd Parties	(25 061) cr	(10 410) cr
TOTAL	\$1 659- 219	\$1 345 947
Premium	\$2 000- 000	\$930 000
No. of New Claims	203	290 (approx.) (approx.)

The department has been involved with the Department of Labour, which supported the Alan Bruce Program. This program has had only limited success in the department and has focused awareness on workers compensation more than ever before. In addition, the department has embraced the WorkCover model of early intervention in case management in an attempt to rehabilitate injured staff back into the work force at the earliest opportunity. In 1988-89, \$300 000 was distributed to TAFE colleges as risk management funding to eliminate workplace hazards and a further \$200 000 was made available during 1989-90. These funds were in addition to ongoing safety and health minor works programs. The department's Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Committee has also been active in developing strategies to reduce risk in the workplace and thereby influencing the cost of workers compensation.

Mr HOLLOWAY: I refer to the Estimates of Receipts, Financial Paper No. 2. At page 13 there is a line about TAFE general service fees. I believe that the material fees for apprentices have been increased from \$20 to \$75. What revenue is expected to be raised from the increase in the fee and can the Minister also say whether this increase will unfairly discriminate against apprentices compared with other TAFE students?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The materials fees for apprentices, as outlined by the Premier in the budget, will be increased from a minimum—and I emphasise this—of \$20 to \$75 from 1991. I was very reluctant to increase this charge as I expected it to fall largely on employers. However, as honourable members would know, the materials fees for those students in TAFE colleges who are not classified as apprentices are often in excess of the \$75 figure set for apprentices.

Indeed, materials fees of \$500 to \$1 000 are not uncommon and some fees are in excess of that figure to make some attempt to cover costs. Apprentices use large amounts

of materials and although a new charge has been set it will only partially meet the cost of those materials. The inequity of materials fees charged between apprentices and non-apprentice students in TAFE colleges has been a sore point for many students, particularly when someone is paying \$1 000 or more for materials fees seeing other students, perhaps using the same materials, paying \$20. So this new materials fee charge will assist in alleviating what I think most people regard as a clear discrepancy. The \$75 fee apprentice charge for materials is expected to raise \$400 000 in 1990-91 and the full year effect will be in the order of \$650 000.

Mr SUCH: I refer to page 503 of the Program Estimates. How many motor vehicles are available for the use of DETAFE staff? How many of these vehicles are available for private use?

Mr Carter: In terms of the number of vehicles in the department, we will have to take the question on notice. All colleges have vehicles; we have a register and the information is readily available. With respect to the private use of vehicles, five executive officers have that facility.

Mr SUCH: I refer again to page 503 of the Program Estimates and to the budget document entitled 'The Budget and its Impact on Women'. On page 72 of that document, reference is made to 25 major committees within DETAFE. For each of the department's major committees will the Minister provide the name of the committee, its purpose, its members and the organisation or organisations represented, the number of meetings held last year, the cost of the committee and remuneration payable to any member and the work achieved during the course of the year?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I am happy to take the question on notice. There has been some criticism of the number of committees, but I am sure that no-one here would suggest that we abolish TAFE councils, which, of course, are established in each TAFE college. They are a very valuable interface between colleges, industry, students and the community. Of course, no-one would suggest that we do away with the special committees dealing with Aboriginal education or with Home Assist and other important projects. I will certainly take the question on notice and provide a reply for the honourable member.

Mr SUCH: I refer to page 506 of the Program Estimates under the heading 'Industrial and Commercial Training' and, in particular, to traineeships. How many traineeships existed in South Australia as at 30 June 1990 and how does that figure compare with the Australia-wide figure? Furthermore, can the Minister detail the various categories of traineeships that are provided through DETAFE?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I have already mentioned the number of traineeships when I responded to a question about apprentices. Mr Connelly may wish to add further information.

Mr Connelly: Does the question refer to the number of trainees that we have or the number of different traineeship programs?

Mr SUCH: The categories of traineeships and the programs.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: We will take that question on notice.

Mr HOLLOWAY: I refer to page 506 of the Program Estimates, which relates to industrial and commercial training. One of the broad objectives listed in the program description is to facilitate the development of a more highly skilled labour force. How will the Federal Government's new training guarantee operate in South Australia and how will it relate to TAFE?

Mr INGERSON: Can I have an assurance that these questions are not being supplied to members by staff in the gallery. Whilst I do not care too much about Dorothy Dixers, I think we have some pretty basic rules in this place in relation to how the Estimates Committees are run. I think it is fundamental that staff of the Minister's office are not supplying notes and/or questions to members of Parliament during this session.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Does that also apply to shadow Ministers, who also might be in the gallery providing questions to members of the Opposition, albeit that we know the source of those questions?

The CHAIRMAN: As Chairman of this Committee I am sure that all members will agree with me that it does not really matter what the source of a question is. However, the rule is that members of the Minister's staff are not allowed to come onto the floor of the Chamber. If any information is sought from advisers sitting on either side of the House, I suggest that we adhere to the usual way of obtaining that information: if members of the Committee wish to have some assistance or something which enables us all to be fully conversant with the affairs of the Minister's portfolios, the advisers to the Minister should stay in the gallery and the advisers to the members of the Opposition should do likewise.

Mr INGERSON: I accept your comments and point out in relation to the Minister's comments that we have observed the standard procedures of the Parliament, namely, with a shadow Minister who is in the Upper House it is normally accepted that he or she be in the gallery and that we discuss matters with that Minister. During this day, that is exactly what we have done.

The CHAIRMAN: I made a ruling about that and I am sure that everyone will abide by that ruling for the remainder of the time available to this Committee.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I am glad that we have cleared up the procedures on this issue. However, the honourable member raises a very important question that I am sure that perhaps the honourable member opposite had planned to ask in relation to the training guarantee scheme because, indeed, the question was raised persistently by the member for Kavel, then Deputy Leader of the Opposition, about the Government's attitude towards the training guarantee.

Since that time there have been considerable discussions and negotiations. The training guarantee scheme became law on 1 July 1990. All employers with a payroll of over \$200 000 will be required to spend the equivalent of at least 1 per cent of payroll on training. The training guarantee aims to lift the level of training amongst the non-trainers in the industry and training must be employment related and structured to develop competencies which will enhance productivity.

I want to make certain points perfectly clear to the Committee, because some furphies have been put around that somehow the public sector will not be required to be involved in the scheme and, therefore, it somehow discriminates against private sector employers. That is just balderdash. Under the training guarantee the public sector is also required to meet the training obligations. Whilst Government departments will collectively be treated as a single entity, each statutory authority will individually be required to meet the obligation.

I want to reveal to the Committee the results of an ABS survey on training expenditure by industry which shows that on average the public sector spends the equivalent of 3.3 per cent of gross salaries and wages on training. On average the private sector spends the equivalent of 1.7 per cent of gross salaries and wages on training. In addition, 57

per cent of private sector employers with payrolls in excess of \$200 000 provided no training, compared with 4 per cent of public sector employers of the same size. So, it is quite clear that, in the private sector, many industries are pulling their weight but many industries are not.

I think one thing we also have to make clear to the Committee is that, as Minister responsible for employment and training in South Australia, my dream is that not one cent will be collected under the training levy and that not one cent will be collected from private sector employers in South Australia. I hope that they cannot find a dollar to raise because, if they cannot, that means that private sector industry is actually doing its job of training its staff and its people. The levy will only be imposed on employers who do not meet their training obligations under the Act, that is, spending 1 per cent of payroll.

The scheme will be administered by the Australian Taxation Office in a manner which minimises paper work for the employer and additional administration in the ATO. One of our principal concerns when the training levy or guarantee was first proposed was that somehow it would create a paper chase for private industry and that is the last thing we want to see happen. The guarantee will operate as an internal levy, giving employers the decision on how the training is undertaken within their enterprise. This contrasts with an external levy, which will be centrally administered and controlled. The external levy concept has been rejected. I am rather proud of the role of the South Australian Government in terms of negotiating some of these changes to the training guarantee.

In terms of record-keeping requirements, the Australian Taxation Office recently sent a circular to employers entitled 'How much do you spend on your training?' To outline briefly what employers are required to do, a public information campaign was recently run in the third week of July to publicise further what is required. That campaign, which I understand will be ongoing, includes an 008 inquiry line at the Australian Taxation Office, advertisements in the local press and television, and a detailed information package.

I know that there has been some concern from Opposition members and from industry about the role of the Registered Industry Training Agents (RITA). The Act provides for registered industry training agents to advise employers on eligible training expenditure and to issue certificates, binding on the Commissioner of Taxation, stating that activities and expenditure are eligible under the Act. So, these registered training agents will basically testify that certain work or training undertaken is in fact ridgy-didge, legitimate and fair dinkum training and not a pretence at training.

The operational guidelines for RITAs have not yet been approved and at the moment it is unclear whether it will be a bipartite (as opposed to a bipartisan) or tripartite organisation. Moneys collected by the Australian Taxation Office will be distributed to States and Territories on a pro rata payroll basis.

The honourable member who is responsible for industry matters on the other side of Parliament will be interested to know that the Construction Industry Training Council is presently attempting to develop its own levy structure similar to Victorian and Western Australian levies which have been recognised under the Act.

Mr HOLLOWAY: In relation to page 510 of the Program Estimates and the employment development skills formation program, one of the specific targets listed for 1990-91 is as follows:

Coordinate and review the women's employment strategy across a wide range of activities and portfolio areas.

Could the Minister provide some details as to how that might operate?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The women's employment strategy is a program which is particularly dear to my heart and I think it has a lot of potential. The initiative for the women's employment strategy originated from the women's adviser to the Premier's Office, Carol Treloar. I understand that Cabinet gave approval to the strategy back in December 1988. The goal is to establish a women's employment strategy as part of the Government's mainstream employment and economic development activities. A steering committee for the strategy was set up and met for the first time in March 1989. That steering committee is chaired by Mr Kirby, the Chief Executive Office of DETAFE, and has a membership of directors from the Department of Labour, the Children's Services Office, the Working Women's Centre, the women's adviser to the Premier, and a representative from the Department of Industry, Trade and Technology.

The strategy has set up a forum which crosses traditional departmental and portfolio boundaries and provides opportunities for advice from employers, unions, and bodies such as the Working Women's Centre. Following consultation with each of the departments, a set of priorities for Government departments was completed by July 1989.

Three specific projects for the strategy have been funded through the social justice strategy, and that includes a women in engineering program with expenditure of about \$93 000; women in award restructuring with expenditure of about \$115 000; the promotion of work related child-care provisions; and the appointment of a project officer for a year. The administration of the strategy has recently been transferred to the Employment and Training Division of DETAFE and the strategy will be reviewed by March 1991.

It is imperative that by then the goals of the women's employment strategy are achieved and that we see, for example, the incorporation of the issues identified in the strategy firmly placed as issues, say, on the agenda of the Standing Committee on Employment and Training. Women's employment issues need long-term attention. That attention needs to be given by all major economic and employment development groups.

Mr BRINDAL: As at this hour we must be concerned about the Minister's vocal chords, I shall accept this question on notice.

The CHAIRMAN: The honourable member does not have to give any conditions. Just ask the question and the Minister may choose to take it on notice or give an answer straight away.

Mr BRINDAL: My question refers to page 494 of the Program Estimates—Special Sick Leave. By staff category, what were the average sick days per capita, the average sick days without medical certificate, and the average without medical certificate as they pertained to Mondays and Fridays?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I was hoping to tot up those figures on the back of a piece of paper. If the honourable member will forgive me, I shall take that question on notice and come back to the Committee.

Mr BRINDAL: My next question concerns the Office of State Aboriginal Affairs and it relates to DETAFE, page 497 of the Program Estimates and page 71 of the Auditor-General's Report. Why is there an entry for DETAFE's capital accounts of a payment of \$350 000 as a transfer to special deposit account for the purchase of premises for the Office of State Aboriginal Affairs?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: That question is fairly easy to answer. Whilst the Office of State Aboriginal Affairs is a structural unit in its own right with its own portfolio and

its own Minister, for efficiency measures it has previously been attached to the Department of Housing and Construction when the Chairman of the Committee was the Minister of Housing and Minister of Aboriginal Affairs. Previously its administrative structure was connected, certainly through finance and administration, to the Education Department when that Minister was also Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. For the sake of efficiency, the same process is currently being employed with DETAFE, and this purchase is basically related to an aspect of our alcohol programs.

It was quite clear very early when I became Minister that there was a need for a day and night shelter in the inner city. It was difficult to locate the right premises. We obviously had discussions with the Federal Government, with Aboriginal groups and with the City Council. It seemed to us that the most appropriate location was in South Terrace at the Mulgunya Centre which had previously been run by Aboriginal Hostels Limited. We were aware that Aboriginal Hostels wanted to vacate the premises to move to the Thebarton area. It seemed to me as Minister, having inspected the site, that it was ideally located as an area that had been traditionally associated with Aboriginal people to use as the day-night care facility.

We negotiated with my Federal counterpart for the release of that building so that it could be purchased by us directly. That occurred. We received the money from the Treasurer to purchase Mulgunya. There will be a refit of the accommodation to make it suitable for a day-night shelter. We hope to have it up and running next year. This project is linked with the mobile assistance patrols that I talked about this morning. It will be run by the Aboriginal Sobriety Group. Although ownership of the land will be vested with the Aboriginal Lands Trust, it will then be leased to the Aboriginal Sobriety Group. That is why this rather odd provision appears in DETAFE's program.

Mr BRINDAL: Where is the centre?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: It is on the eastern side of South Terrace.

Mr BRINDAL: My last question concerns the College Arms Hotel. As the Minister replied to earlier questions, I would appreciate it if he would reply only to those subjects that he has not already covered. I refer to page 904 of the Program Estimates and page 72 of the Auditor-General's Report. What level of funding in 1989-90 was injected into the company by each of the three shareholders? What was the cost of waiving the first three months of lease payments for the company, and which budget line has absorbed that cost? What was the level of subsidy which will be paid by the Government for 1990-91? What were the names of the financial consultants employed, the cost of the consultancy, the findings, and who paid for the consultancy? What estimate did it make of the cost of training and what amount has Cabinet agreed to pay this year? Have discussions been held with the unions to try to reduce the level of wage costs? What was the result? If trainees were not paid full award wages, what savings might be made?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The honourable member raises some good points, most of which I shall take on notice. As I said, \$35 000 in interest free loans was provided by the Liquor Trades Union and the Australian Hotels Association, and a grant of \$30 000 from the Adelaide College itself was injected to try to overcome cash flow difficulties. That was insufficient to remedy the problem. We basically had to rationalise the training component of the College Arms. That was deemed to be an \$80 000 component, which was a direct subsidy by the Adelaide College to acknowledge the College Arms provision in training to the college. I shall certainly get back to the Committee on the other matters.

Mr SUCH: My question is brief and relates to page 504 of the Program Estimates. Will the Minister provide details regarding the reference to:

Continue and expand the joint venture relationships with Sagric International.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I shall initially recap on my historic visit to Bandung in May. Sagric was coordinating a project on behalf of the World Bank. It was basically utilising staff from TAFE not just in Bandung but around Indonesia as well. Sagric is the overseas commercial arm of the South Australian Government and runs a number of projects internationally that involve TAFE staff who are subcontracted out to Sagric, which in turn subcontracts them out to the operating authority—in this case the World Bank.

Mr Kirby: The strengthening comes through a joint agreement with Sagric whereby it will provide the marketing and we will provide the backup expertise, which really does little more than formalise the arrangement that was made before. It provides for the allocation of profits between the two parties.

Mr SUCH: My second question relates to page 499 under the heading 'Foundation Education' and in particular refers to community adult literacy. During 1989, Riverland TAFE received funding through the community literacy program to appoint a .4 temporary lecturer in literacy. The thrust of the program was to involve community groups and individuals in a volunteer network similar to the home tutor scheme. A report by the lecturer involved indicated that the program had been successful. The report indicates that funding was cut and the program was stopped in December 1989, just as the International Year of Literacy was to commence. Will the Minister explain the reasons for stopping that program in December 1989, and will his recently announced budget changes mean the Riverland TAFE program can recommence?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: That is fairly easy to answer. I have already announced a massive increase in funds for literacy, but that specific program was a Commonwealth Government funded program—and that Government pulled the funds. Obviously, we are trying to expand literacy provision, both through TAFE and through the Neighbourhood House Network, but that is one occasion, as with a number of other projects, where Commonwealth funds were made available for a short-term, finite period and they were not continued. It was a shame, but there is nothing we can do about it, apart from protest—as we did. In terms of support for community literacy, I can announce to the Committee that the Riverland is in line for funds following this State budget. It is the State Government to the rescue once again.

Mr SUCH: I refer to page 503, and the heading of 'Provision of Resources'. Referring particularly to occupational health and safety, what is the total estimated cost of ensuring that all TAFE colleges are fully in accord with all the provisions of the Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act, who calculated the estimate and what implementation timetable has been adopted?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I am pleased to be asked a question about one of my favourite areas, namely, occupational health and safety. I am sure that every member of this Committee has read my booklet *Limbs, Lungs and Lives*, a crusade for occupational health and safety reform and, if they have not, I can refer them to the appropriate place in the Library, I understand that the Chairman has 10 copies of this booklet which, obviously, is a national classic. In terms of the particular questions that the honourable member has asked, I should like to take them on notice and report back.

Mr BRINDAL: My questions relate to page 512 of the Program Estimates and the reference to 'develop plant and

equipment replacement strategy'. What is this strategy? Can a copy be provided, and what estimate of funding is required to implement the strategy?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I will invite Mr Carter to respond to that question, as I think we may be able to save time by giving you an answer now.

Mr Carter: The department is currently upgrading the existing asset equipment control system, the data base for which was previously held on the State computing mainframe. The data are being down loaded on a new PC-based system which will be held and controlled in central office. The new system will enable the department to fine tune its equipment replacement strategy in line with the requirements of State Supply and Treasury.

Mr BRINDAL: As a supplementary question, could that answer be explained more fully? Are there back-up procedures on the PC?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Perhaps I could arrange for the strategy to be provided to the honourable member. I know that some of these technical terms about down loading, and so on, can be a little confusing.

Mr BRINDAL: Thank you. My second question is about course relevance and relates to page 501 of the Program Estimates. What steps is the Department of TAFE taking to ensure that the courses it offers students are relevant to meet the needs of today's commercial world? My question is asked in direct response to a 42-year-old constituent of mine who, having attended a TAFE retraining course on Wordstar, rang me rather angrily because she could not get a job in the work force. She claims that Wordstar is, in fact, almost an obsolete word processing program and that most people want Microsoft Word or Word Perfect. My constituent was rather annoyed, because she believes that she has devoted two months to a retraining program that is largely irrelevant. Mistakes can happen, but what steps is TAFE taking to ensure that its courses are relevant?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Perhaps I will introduce the answer before asking Mr Kirby to respond. Let us make one thing perfectly clear; the best test of the relevance and effectiveness of the TAFE system is its use. It is not compulsory to attend TAFE, yet we have the highest participation rate in TAFE in the nation. In fact, in the area of computers and electronics we cannot cope with the demand. There is a huge unmet demand in terms of people wanting to use our courses.

We have very strong support from industry, not just in computing but in printing, where hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of equipment is being donated by industry. In the automotive area, one only has to go to Elizabeth or Noarlunga to see what Mitsubishi down south and the General up north do in terms of making donations of material. We have people from industry at a very senior level involved in each of our college councils.

I guess the one thing that has impressed me as I have toured at least three-quarters of the TAFE colleges in the State is that very strong interface between industry and TAFE. That is why our TAFE system is way out in front and leading nationally the way in Australia. I will invite Mr Kirby to respond in terms of computer programs.

Mr Kirby: The relevance of TAFE courses is a difficult question, as is keeping them relevant over a period of time. In relation to the Wordstar issue, I am not sure of the basis of the claim. I should like to point out to members that we have stream 1000 courses which, for TAFE, become just a matter of coordination. It is a question of someone offering a service to teach someone and other people willing to pay the price of that service. It is a fully self funded thing, and it teaches all kinds of courses. The criticisms that usually

refer to TAFE's developing courses in underwater macrame, for instance, tend to involve the stream 1000 courses. TAFE provides a convenient way of getting people who want to undertake a course together with someone who wants to give a course.

It could well be that this Wordstar course was such a course because those of which I am aware and which are currently being taught in TAFE are Microsoft and Word Perfect. Recently, we have put some of our own staff in central office through the Word Perfect course at Croydon Park TAFE college. In terms of how we determine it, first, as with all accredited courses, we must do a review within three years to determine whether the course is still appropriate and relevant. That review involves people from outside who are clients of the courses giving us advice as to whether or not the courses are still relevant.

From time to time we also undertake surveys. I mentioned earlier this evening the fact that we are going to invest the equivalent of \$80 000 in a major survey of TAFE clients, to try to establish the relevance of the training to the needs of those who undertake it. We are particularly conscious of the need to do that with the increase in fees. Ultimately, we cannot be sure that courses will meet the needs of all individuals, as they are based on general, average characteristics of people and the needs of employers.

The apprenticeship training course, the most long standing in TAFE, is one such course. We do get complaints, for instance, from apprentices and from their employers about the content of some of the apprenticeship training. Yet, that content is determined by industry—the trade unions and the employers themselves—and we deliver it. It does fit some circumstances for some people while not fitting others. For that reason, we are moving to the general trend of modularising courses, of breaking all long-term courses down into smaller modules so that people can pick up the basics and then have a choice in electives to gather around them what they want. We are always open to suggestions as to how we can test the market.

Mr BRINDAL: I do not think that anyone on this Committee doubts the great deal of good work that TAFE does and the general relevance of its courses. I suspect that it was a stream 1000 course, so I ask the Minister: is there not some way of TAFE's screening the courses? I can see what you are saying: that is a fee for providing a service for which a client asks. Nevertheless, if that service proves to be less than TAFE would normally offer its own clients, it is on TAFE that the matter reflects; therefore, TAFE should perhaps take greater responsibility in being selective in what it proposes to provide as a stream 1000 course.

Mr Kirby: It is a dilemma that continually haunts us. If we try to establish the standards to which the course will be delivered, we will be diverting the resources that would otherwise be given to training in the traditional TAFE accredited and non-accredited courses. If we decide not to participate in this, we would deprive many people of access to education for general purposes aimed at self-motivation. The bulk of our stream 1 000 courses are run in the country, and they provide perhaps the only means for people in rural areas to gain access to general education. They would cover such a wide variety of courses, for example, introduction to Japanese is a course that is now being run. Clay modelling and fine arts are others, and there may be just general discussion groups.

First, we would not have the talent to ensure that the courses were of the standard that the people participating warranted. All we could say is that, if we had complaints about them, we would ensure that the courses did not run

again. However, that is the only market test that we could really apply.

Mr BRINDAL: Referring to page 498 of the Program Estimates, it states that 'equity plans have been developed and implementation has commenced'. Will the Minister provide some details as to what is included in these 'equity plans'?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Several months ago I addressed equal opportunities officers and a number of TAFE principals on our program for equal employment opportunity. Certainly, it concerned me that TAFE considers that the Division for Aboriginal Employment Development, which is setting about the 1 per cent challenge that I outlined this morning, should be an exempt employer in the area of equal opportunity. We have asked each of the colleges to come forward with very detailed plans in relation to their equal employment opportunity strategies to ensure that there is improvement in the position of Aboriginal people in terms of our 1 per cent challenge, and also to look at what strategies were in place in terms of equal opportunity generally. Each of the colleges has sent in their plans to central office and, as I understand it, they are currently being assessed.

Mr BRINDAL: As a supplementary question, I understand that some of the colleges, especially in the light of the 1 per cent target for Aboriginal employment, seek to exceed that 1 per cent and put in their plan some months ago, but no action has as yet been taken. Can the Minister explain the reasons for the delay? It has been put to me that several Aboriginal people have in fact missed out on several months employment because of the delay.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I cannot understand how that would be the case. Let me go back to the strategy, because there is some confusion. There is a 1 per cent goal in Public Service departments that was announced about three years ago and, as of last week, the Premier during NADOC week announced that that 1 per cent goal in Government departments had been achieved. Obviously, we are keen to exceed that goal; I make no pretense about that.

What I launched back in April, in the presence of the shadow Minister, David Wotton, and the Archbishops, was the '1 per cent challenge', which was to extend that success story in Government departments across to public sector utilities or statutory authorities such as ETSA, State Bank, SGIC, STA and so on. We are also keen to involve local government by offering subsidies to local government and statutory authorities to take on Aboriginal trainees.

It is also true that program management groups have now been operating for over 18 months—referring to the earlier question—and have submitted broad plans for the future development of their areas. Equity planning has varied in the level of detail, understandably, on equity and social justice issues in relation to the capacity to initiate improvements in participation from under-represented designated equal opportunity groups. Our Programs Division provided some analysis of equal opportunity plans for the 1990-91 budget process. All program management groups have indicated some commitment to increase attention to this area of planning. A number have initiated staff development programs to support this planning.

There are increasing links between the Aboriginal education and preparatory education and vocational program management groups. The Performing Arts program management groups and Community Services program management groups have submitted for internal reallocations of funding to support their implementation of plans via the social justice budget process. Progress is steady and will be improved with decisions about the restructuring of the TAFE

service and clarification of the mechanisms for program management. I am sure that that will help the honourable member in understanding the process. As for the '1 per cent challenge' I am more than happy to make available the head of that office to brief the honourable member on the strategy, if that would be of use.

Mr BRINDAL: I refer to award restructuring in the Program Estimates at page 498, where it states:

Restructure of the teaching service to increase flexibility and enhance opportunities for lecturers wishing to remain in direct teaching.

The Minister alluded to this earlier today. What potential cost to the budget this year is possible from this strategy?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I have already outlined the sort of broad policy overview on that area, and I will ask Mr Kirby to respond on that issue.

Mr Kirby: TAFE teaching staff, members of TAFE employed under the TAFE Act, have received the two 3 per cent rounds that were awarded on the basis that they would involve themselves seriously in the restructuring exercise, which of course is geared to objectives of improved efficiency and effectiveness.

I suppose the ideal stance is that we do not expect there to be any increase in cost, although more realistically we would anticipate that there would be some, because the benefits might not be easily obtained in the short term. We might expect to have to pay on some additional cost that could be picked up in the longer term in productivity gains. We are not sufficiently far ahead in our negotiations (we have not yet agreed on the structure) to be able to anticipate what the new remuneration levels might be.

We have probably the most sensitive area to deal with, that is, translating the old existing structure into the new one, and no doubt we will then be engaged in arguments similar to those now being carried out in relation to school-teachers about whether there should be quotas on certain levels of new categories of occupation, or whether there should be simply a merit criteria on which to base a determination. Given the timetable for this financial year, we would not see great costs in this financial year, but there may be some significant costs in the following financial year.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I should add that I met with the leadership of SAIT last week for about an hour to discuss the ramifications of the exercise. I had been concerned by a letter that had been sent out to SAIT members which was quite inaccurate. I am pleased that we were able to resolve some of the misunderstandings, and discussions began this week between TAFE and SAIT on the award restructuring process.

Mr BRINDAL: In respect of credit transfer, at page 501 of the Program Estimates, I indicate that the Opposition applauds TAFE's efforts in credit transfer, but we would like to ask which program areas are currently being considered for credit transfer between TAFE and schools and which are being considered for transfer between TAFE and higher education.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I did give a report on some of the credit transfer issues earlier, but perhaps again I will ask Mr Kirby to elaborate, as he is Chairman of SAGE, which involves chief executive officers of tertiary institutions.

Mr Kirby: The major effort in the schools area has been in three areas, including hospitality and tourism. These courses relate to what we in TAFE would call business studies and commerce, and mechanical engineering, given the restructuring of the metals industry award. It is in those three areas that we have put most of our effort and we have made a great deal of progress, given the very cooperative attitude from the schools. One of the things which holds

this up at the moment is the formation of the new South Australian Certificate of Education, which is to be the new certification at the end of schooling and the matriculation process for entry to higher education.

Since that is not entirely settled as to either its structure or content, it is very difficult to engage with the Education Department in either joint development of curricula or to look at the areas which might already be given credit in studies and which in turn might gain some credit for students who study TAFE modules. That is an area into which we are putting a lot of effort.

At the higher education end, there has been a patchwork of credit transfer arrangements. In areas such as music, for example, TAFE students from the School of Music receive full recognition for their studies and after a two-year diploma course at TAFE are required only to add a year to their studies in order to gain bachelor status. In some areas of engineering we have similarly good credit transfer arrangements, but they have tended to depend on the institution and often the personalities in the institution and in TAFE at the time of gaining those breakthroughs. We now have a project supported by SAGE, which is this group of CEOs of the universities, the colleges and myself. We have now set up a project with Commonwealth help under Dr Tony Hayden of Adelaide University, which is looking comprehensively at credit transfer right across the board. That project will last in excess of 13 months. He has already made good progress in documenting what is currently available and he has now progressed to the stage where he is negotiating further credit transfers in every area in which we have some common study approach.

Mr INGERSON: I refer to Program Estimates, page 501, where there is reference to employment forecasting studies having been commissioned. Who was commissioned to do the study? What is the purpose and estimated cost of the study? Will a copy of the report be made available, or is it available now?

Mr Kirby: I cannot give the honourable member full details, but it is a joint project. The major sponsor is the Department of Industry, Trade and Technology, and the Department of Employment and Technical and Further Education will make a contribution. The consultants are Flinders University and the National Institute of Labour Studies jointly with a group whose name escapes me at the moment. The first stage of the project is completed and I think that the report could be made available. The second stage, which is the major stage of actually forecasting, will be completed by the end of the year. We will take the question on notice and provide the details that the honourable member requires.

Mr INGERSON: I refer to page 510 of the Program Estimates. Mention is made of a major monitoring and evaluation program coordination exercise, particularly in the area of small business. Can the Minister say what this program is all about?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: We will get a report for the honourable member.

Mr INGERSON: Page 512 of the Program Estimates refers to fully implementing and maintaining the new South Australian Government risk management program. What is that program and what does it attempt to achieve?

Mr Kirby: There are two parts to it but I think the risk management is mainly the Alan Bruce project, which was referred to earlier, mainly for reducing risks in colleges in terms of occupational health and safety. We could provide a report on that.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Risk audits of five colleges were conducted by the Government's risk managers, Sedgwick

James Pty Limited, and were assessed during the year. The risks identified are in the process of being prioritised to enable funding issues to be addressed. A number of the risks identified have been, or are in the process of being, eliminated and/or minimised, which obviously was our intent. The risk management program is an ongoing one and further risk audits are to be implemented. The minimisation or elimination of risks will be a continuous process. Details of claims against DETAFE and losses are being consolidated to facilitate a system-wide analysis of areas of risk for the department.

Mr HOLLOWAY: My question relates to the employment development skills formation program. One of the specific targets this year is the development of training and/or employment development infrastructures in regions of strategic importance. What attempt is being made to regionalise employment and training programs to reflect local needs more adequately?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I think this is the way to go for the future. As the Chairman would be aware, very recently we announced a rationalisation project of the employment and training schemes offered by the department in the northern suburbs—indeed, in the council areas covered by the Northern Adelaide Development Board, which includes Salisbury, Elizabeth, Munno Para and Gawler. Basically, it is a national pilot program and one of 15 projects to be undertaken nationally. The Northern Adelaide Development Board rationalisation project devolves responsibility for the delivery of five labour market programs to the Northern Adelaide Development Board covering those council areas. This comprises 16.05 per cent of all funds for these programs State-wide.

It is our view that, in relation to areas with specific economic development and employment problems, we should endeavour to involve effective coordination between Federal, State and local bodies, as well as private organisations. Just as we talked earlier today about rationalisation in a number of areas, we think it is vitally important that those programs be, first, coordinated; secondly, efficient; and, thirdly, flexible enough to pick up local needs and circumstances which we all know differ from area to area. They certainly differ between the north and the south, the north and the west, and so forth.

The Northern Adelaide Development Board will directly administer in the northern area the Self Employment Venture Scheme, Home Assist, WorkLink and Work Ready. A local employment development program officer has been in place with the board to assist with the implementation of the project. Included is a requirement for the generation of a regional employment strategy for the northern suburbs by June 1991. Also included is a requirement for infrastructure costs being shared by the NADB—\$36 500 under TAFE and \$43 100 in the first year.

That project has a Cabinet commitment for three years to the end of 1992-93. Again it was our view that one-year funding was insufficient to bring about the proper coordination and the long range planning that would be necessary to have an efficient and flexible training program for the northern suburbs. We wanted to give councils in the north the guarantee of funding for three years. It is probable that other metropolitan regions will seek to establish their own rationalisation projects. Final budget amounts will not be determined until each year's appropriations are set for individual labour market programs. Certainly, there is a guarantee of three-year funding.

I hope in the next few days to make an announcement, with the Chairman of the Northern Adelaide Development Board, Mr Max Davids, of various projects that will be

involved. What we are doing fits in very well with the Prime Minister's announcement of a national rationalisation strategy. It does not make any sense at all for local governments and State and Federal Governments to run around with schemes that might not only be parallel but also run against each other. They must be coordinated. A regional approach makes sense. We shall see how the pilot scheme works.

Mr HOLLOWAY: While we are on regional needs, what is involved in the Local Employment Development Program?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The LEDP has been running for several years. It is a program of support to locally-based organisations for the employment of local employment development officers who are appointed to coordinate local employment efforts, develop longer-term strategies and establish local employment initiatives. Last year \$141 000 was allocated for expenditure on that program. Initially, local councils, regional development boards and appropriate non-government agencies become involved in the program.

Certainly during 1989-90 the agencies that were supported with local employment development officers were the Southern Development Board (Adelaide), the Port Adelaide council, the Northern Adelaide Development Board, the Green Triangle Council for Regional Development and the Mallee Enterprise Development Organisation, which obviously would be of considerable interest to the member for Murray-Mallee.

Several issues are currently of interest. All current projects, with the exception of Port Adelaide, which concludes its three-year funding in February 1991, have ministerial commitment to continued funding into 1991-92. Again, we are trying to get over the problem of annual budgets. We are trying to move towards three-year budgeting in several of our programs. It is important that officers work with councils and with local business. Again, they have the flexibility and the local knowledge to ensure that the employment needs of an area are properly taken into account.

Mr HOLLOWAY: Has any assessment been made of the effectiveness of the Self-Employment Venture Scheme?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: That scheme has been running for approximately 10 years and has attracted enormous public support. About \$220 000 was originally allocated last year for the scheme, but this was topped up with a number of extra grants from the Treasury because, obviously, it is an area we want to see succeed. Basically, SEVS (the Self-Employment Venture Scheme) provides interest free loans and grants to unemployed people considered to have a potentially viable proposal for self-employment.

We are saying to unemployed people, particularly to long-term unemployed people with a decent and viable idea for a business venture, that we are prepared to give them both advice and a small grant, generally not exceeding \$5 000 for an individual or \$10 000 for a partnership, to get them up and running. Applicants must be unemployed, must be registered with the CES and must be eligible to receive a Commonwealth income support benefit.

Since 1985-86 SEVS has operated in conjunction with the Commonwealth Government's new enterprise incentive scheme, which provides income support and training to SEVS funded ventures for the first 12 months of operation. In the past year, 53 ventures were funded, employing 84 people, 40 per cent of whom were females. Approximately 6 000 inquiries have been received with over 1 200 people attending information sessions. That goes to show how well known and popular this scheme is, but it also shows that the committee is not a soft touch.

We are not going to back every half decent idea or any loopy ideas that come along for funding. We are trying to provide a hard edged assessment of those schemes. Many of them will fail but, in terms of enterprise and initiative, it is the skill gained in getting those ventures up and running that matters. Six training programs have been conducted with approximately 110 trainees, and a total of \$65 000 has been received in loan repayments to date.

I should like to give members some idea of the type of project that is funded. We have had a garment manufacturer, a signwriter, a motor cycle wrecking and spare parts business, a furniture manufacturer, general carpentry, an art gallery, computer software, industrial ceramics, auto instrument repair, custom built furniture, photography, second-hand clothing, antique second-hand goods, car maintenance of \$2 000—these are very small allocations—Asian fashion, another sign maker, lead lighting, desktop publishing, house painting and fitness consultants. Looking through the list, these are often small amounts such as \$450 for plastic welding, \$600 for that fitness consultant, \$2 500 for an upholsterer, and so forth.

Members would be interested to know that one of the schemes involved a reptile enclosure. I will invite Mr Connelly, the Director of the department, to elaborate further on SEVS, as he has had a fundamental role in the program.

Mr Connelly: As the Minister says, this is a program that for the past four years has been run in cooperation with the Commonwealth Government, the State Government providing loan and grant capital to set up the business, the Commonwealth translating unemployment benefit into income support, so that there is not the demand in the first year, at least, for living wages to be taken out of the business, which gives them something of a head start. A feature of the program is fairly extensive small business training, which can be up to five weeks.

In the past six months or so, we have been moving to make that training a compulsory rather than a voluntary issue, because it seemed to be that crucial. It is a program in various forms run in all the States, and the year before last the Commonwealth mounted a very extensive evaluation of it. In comparison with the control group, the test was whether the business was still operating 18 months after it had first commenced. Their findings with non-SEVS ventured small businesses being started up was that only 42 per cent of those were in business at the end of that 18 months.

The SEVS funded business was something like 58 per cent so, as the Minister says, there was still a failure rate but, nonetheless, SEVS schemes seemed to have a significantly better survival rate than the average small business.

Mr SUCH: Referring to accreditation under 'Planning and Coordination' on page 501 of the Program Estimates, it states that there is a need for a revision of accreditation procedures. With the demise of the Australian Council on Tertiary Awards, what likely changes to accreditation procedures are being considered by DETAFE?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I will ask Mr Kirby to provide some details.

Mr Kirby: A new body has been set up, called the Register of Accreditation in TAFE and Tertiary Awards (RATE) to replace the committee whose demise the honourable member has mentioned. Basically, the reason for the need for change is largely because of the introduction of award restructuring and the greater influence of industry on many of the accredited awards of TAFE. TAFE has been its own accrediting authority as have the tertiary institutions through the Minister, and it is felt that this is probably the time for review and some revamping of those arrangements. In addi-

tion, there is a perceptible growth in the number of private providers of TAFE-type courses, and there is a need to ensure that they have access to accreditation authorities as well. So, now with the national coordination through the new body RATE, there will be a general review of accrediting arrangements in all States.

Mr SUCH: Referring to community adult education on page 500 of the Program Estimates, it states, 'Progression towards full cost recovery policies within the program. Development of satisfactory Statewide coordination among providers of non-award education.' If full cost recovery is implemented, what level of fee might be charged for a typical course and what progress has been achieved towards satisfactory Statewide coordination? In particular, does the Minister intend to reestablish an advisory body in this area?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: We must clarify this issue because there has been some confusion in various statements made by Opposition members and others. There is a community adult education program under the OTE line which we discussed this morning and which has been tripled and runs through neighbourhood houses. Also, this refers to the stream 1 000 courses which were also referred to earlier today. In terms of full cost recovery, that has always been the process, certainly in recent years. The average would be about \$3 per hour for a stream 1 000 course. Certainly, that is what is meant by community adult education under this line.

Mr Kirby: We do try to coordinate with the general community-based providers, and the Minister's new committee will have TAFE representation, so it should enhance that cooperation.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: The committee which was recently established includes people who have been involved in the WEA, neighbourhood houses, community centres and TAFE, and is chaired by Pru Madsen. I want that committee to give me the advice, again coming from the coalface, about where the grants should be spent and strategies for ensuring that the most effective use is made of the dollar.

Mr SUCH: Referring to legal studies at page 499 of the Program Estimates, it states, 'To complete the development of a Legal Studies Certificate for Aborigines'. Will the Minister provide some detail, and is it intended that this certificate be for Aboriginal people only?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: This question was also asked earlier. Because of the importance of the area, whilst it is aimed at encouraging Aboriginal people to be involved in this program, it is certainly not Aboriginal specific, as I understand it.

Mr Kirby: This particular certificate is directed primarily to Aborigines in training as legal aides in assisting Aboriginal Legal Services among Aborigines and on Aboriginal communities.

The Hon. M.D. Rann: I apologise. I was thinking of another earlier reference. During 1988-89 a course was developed for field officers working in the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement. TAFE raised a concern about the availability of Commonwealth funds for the training program. This was resolved in June 1988. However, further delays occurred in the presentation of the course for approval and accreditation because the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement and the School of Aboriginal Education requested that the initial course proposal be re-examined to include para legal training for Aboriginal people in a wider range of Aboriginal agencies and Government departments, for example, DCW, the Multicultural Services Unit, Correctional Services, the Courts Department and the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

The Curriculum Services Division of DETAFE and the School of Aboriginal Education are now developing another course proposal based on advice from the above agency and the curriculum should be approved by December this year, if the current funding arrangements are maintained.

Mr BRINDAL: I refer to page 500 of the Program Estimates in respect of community adult education, where it states:

The Treasurer has approved new administrative arrangements for this program. From 1 January 1990 this program has been administered through a special deposit account.

What are the reasons for this administrative change?

Mr Carter: The approval from Treasury was based on the self supporting nature of the program. The deposit account, by its nature, is a self-funding account. Prior to that, the stream 1000 program was through our normal appropriation, through the current budget. The costs and the income were not as identifiable as they are through the deposit account. That is the major reason.

Mr BRINDAL: On page 498 of the Program Estimates reference is made to performance indicators being piloted in country and city colleges. What measures of performance have been used as these performance indicators and how has the pilot program progressed?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: Certainly, in 1990-91, if the honourable member looks at page 499, he will see under specific initiatives, improvements and result sought, 'To implement the Introductory Vocational Education Certificate and Community Bridging Courses'. Basically, we are trying in every single area that we can on a progressive basis, to improve efficiency in terms of our TAFE sector and these performance indicators are being employed progressively to ensure that we actually meet our target. It is all part not only of being financially accountable but of being relevant to industry. On page 501 there is a whole list of indicator items, which is, again, part of our process of trying to make TAFE more efficient.

Mr Kirby: I think it might be useful if we provide some additional information on notice, because there is a wide variety of indicators. The primary indicators are geared to identify attrition rates in courses and graduation rates, the cost of the same courses run in different colleges, the cost per student hour, the cost per face-to-face teaching hour, and so on. The indicators generally measure performance against resources that are given to us, to see if we can more effectively deploy those resources. However, I think if we give the honourable member a list it might be more helpful.

Mr BRINDAL: I refer to the Program Estimates at page 498. As to 'business studies', it states that a major review of the business program has been completed and an implementation strategy is being developed. What were the major findings of the review and what changes are being implemented? Is a copy of the review report available?

The Hon. M.D. Rann: We will take that question on notice and provide the honourable member with the relevant information. If honourable members, apart from this Estimates process, have any questions they would like answered by TAFE, the Chief Executive Officer and my staff are available for briefings. I know that the shadow Minister has taken advantage of briefings in this area. We regard TAFE as a particularly open organisation and I am sure that members will find that they are warmly welcomed by our TAFE college network. Indeed, I am sure that there would be college directors who would be keen to assist honourable members with their questions.

The CHAIRMAN: There being no further questions, I declare the examination of the votes completed. I want to thank sincerely the departmental advisers for their help and assistance.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9.58 p.m. the Committee adjourned until Wednesday 12 September at 11.00 a.m.