

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Friday, 28 July 2017

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B**Chair:**

Mr L.K. Odenwalder

Members:

Hon. S.W. Key

Hon. A. Piccolo

Mr S.K. Knoll

Mr A.S. Pederick

Mr V.A. Tarzia

*The committee met at 09:00**Estimates Vote***SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE, \$821,399,000****ADMINISTERED ITEMS FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE, \$59,000****Minister:**

Hon. P Malinauskas, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety.

Departmental Advisers:

Cmmr G. Stevens, Commissioner of Police, South Australia Police.

Mr D. Patriarca, Director, Business Service, South Australia Police.

Mr I. Hartmann, Manager, Financial Management, South Australia Police.

Mr S. Howard, Superintendent, Officer in Charge, Executive Support Section, South Australia Police.

Mr C. Andrews, Manager, Business Service Support, South Australia Police.

The CHAIR: Good morning, minister, commissioner and ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to Estimates Committee B. Estimates committees are a relatively informal procedure. As such, there is no need to stand to ask or answer questions. I understand the minister and the lead speaker have agreed on an approximate time for the consideration of payments. At the moment, I have from 9 till 11 with SAPOL. Is that what we understand about this morning?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes.

The CHAIR: Excellent. If the minister undertakes to supply information at a later date, it must be submitted to the committee secretary by no later than Friday 27 October. Committee responses will be published during the 14 November sitting week in the *Hansard*. I propose to allow both the minister and the lead speaker for the opposition an opening statement of about 10 minutes each, should they wish.

There will be a flexible approach to questions. It is all very informal and flexible, but questions must be based on lines of expenditure in the budget papers and must be identifiable or referenced.

There is no formal facility for the tabling of documents. However, documents can be supplied to the Chair for distribution to the committee. The incorporation of material into *Hansard* is permitted on the same basis as applies in the house, that is, that it is purely statistical and limited to one page in length. All questions are to be directed to the minister. The minister may then refer questions to advisers for a response.

During the committee examinations, the media can be present and television cameras will be permitted to film from both the northern and southern galleries. Minister, you are appearing first of all as the Minister for Police. I declare the proposed payments open. I refer members to Agency Statements, Volume 3, and I now call on the minister to introduce his advisers and make a statement, if he wishes.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Good morning and thank you very much, Mr Chair. Allow me to introduce the gentlemen sitting with me at the main table. On my right, I have the Commissioner of Police in South Australia, Mr Grant Stevens. On my left is Mr Denis Patriarca and on his left is Mr Ian Hartmann. Today marks my second appearance at this committee, and a substantial amount of work has been undertaken in the preceding 12 months.

At the fore of all that work have been, of course, the men and women within SAPOL who each day serve our state tirelessly as they endeavour to keep our state and South Australians safe. I have been fortunate enough to have witnessed those officers conduct their duties in some of the most challenging environments and across all corners of South Australia, from the front line in Hindley Street in the early hours of one particular Sunday morning to our remote Aboriginal communities on the APY lands and the expanses of the West Coast region. Each of these experiences expands my knowledge of policing and provides the opportunity to speak to officers about their experiences and challenges on the front line.

With every interaction, and at every turn, I continue to be impressed by the passion and the calibre of our officers, and by not only their commitment to the safety of the state but also the manner in which they engage with communities in the delivery of positive outcomes to the daily lives of South Australians. That impact was recognised in the Report on Government Services published in January by the Productivity Commission, with South Australia Police receiving the distinction of being regarded as the most professional police force in the nation. They were some three percentage points higher than the national average on that score.

As I mentioned earlier, the previous year has been exceptionally busy. The state government continues its commitment to building the largest and also one of the most technologically advanced police forces not only in our state's history but also in the nation. This commitment has seen historic levels of growth in recruitment, with the Police Academy a current hive of activity, housing in excess of 360 cadets as we speak—the most since 1977—each on the first steps of their journey to becoming a front-line operational SAPOL officer. These recruits will see the state government honour its commitment to recruit an additional 313 officers and, in turn, support our proud legacy of having the most police per capita of any Australian state.

Coupled with the continued growth of the police budget to its highest level in recorded history, this affords the police commissioner the opportunity to have a visible police presence to ensure that South Australians not only are safe but also that they feel safe. South Australians do not just feel safer as result of the work conducted by SAPOL, though: they are actually safer. Over the last 10-year period between 2006-07 and 2015-16, South Australia has witnessed a steady reduction in recorded crime, resulting in a decrease of 30.5 per cent, or 47,075 offences, of total offences against persons and property. It is important to remember that these figures represent real people, our friends, family and neighbours, who, had it not been for the work of our police, would have otherwise suffered the trauma of being a victim of crime.

However, the work is not done and the challenges posed to our community continue to evolve, whether that be through the threats of crimes in the 21st century or the risks posed by terrorism, and we must ensure our police are provided with all the resources necessary to combat crime. That is why over the last 12 months I have been proud to be able to stand with the police commissioner as SAPOL has delivered facial recognition technology, ruggedised tablet technology, body-worn cameras for front-line officers, and enhanced firearms training simulation. Technologies

such as these ensure that our officers have the tools of the 21st century at their disposal, and in turn guarantees the continued enhancement of the manner in which police services are delivered.

Nowhere has the desire for continuous improvement been more evident than with SAPOL's 2020 reform agenda, led by the commissioner. Again, I want to put on the record my support for the police commissioner in his decision to make all the necessary reforms to ensure that we have police on the beat providing a visible presence in the community, providing a real deterrent to the commission of criminal activity. We hope that those opposite would also support initiatives that make our community safer. The government will continue to stand with our police force to ensure they have the capacity to continue to provide the exemplary level of service to the South Australian community that the community reasonably expects.

In closing, I want to place on the record my thanks and appreciation to all of SAPOL's officers, who are the first responders in South Australia, who run towards danger when everyone else is running from it, for their commitment, passion and professionalism as they work tirelessly in making our state a safer place. To the police commissioner and his executive, for their leadership, which enables our community to take confidence in the direction of the South Australian police force, I also say thank you. Finally, I thank the Police Association for their continued advocacy of the interests of their members. They are an important component of our policing system in South Australia.

The CHAIR: Thank you, minister. Member for Schubert, do you have an opening statement?

Mr KNOLL: Only to echo the sentiments in relation to the opposition's thanks for the work SAPOL does. It is a difficult gig but one I think that is done, by and large, very well; certainly, I think the respect the community has for SAPOL is pretty good—unless, of course, we are talking about the people who fall foul of SAPOL's work, whose opinions are, perhaps, slightly different.

I would like to start off on Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 119, Workforce summary, and some questions that I think we ask on a regular basis. How many active sworn police officers—FTEs—were there as at 30 June 2016 and 30 June 2017?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Thank you for the question. I am able to provide the following information: as at 30 June 2017 there were 4,477 0.4 police or community constables and 339 cadets. On top of that, there were 1,069 unsworn members, which brings it to a total of 5,885.

Mr KNOLL: Was that 30 June 2016 or 30 June 2017?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: 30 June 2017.

Mr KNOLL: Do you also have the 30 June 2016 figures there?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: In respect of the 30 June 2016 figures, we will take that on notice to get you the actual numbers. We have the workforce cap numbers, but to get you the actual numbers as at that particular date I will take that on notice.

Mr KNOLL: That is fine. Also, in light of 313, is it possible to get that over the forward estimates as at the end of financial year date for 2018-19? Essentially, what I am trying to get at is whether total police numbers will plateau.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I can answer that for you. In terms of the four-year workforce cap profile, the following is currently forecasted: as at 30 June 2018, our expectation is that there will be 4,713.2 sworn officers—that is both police and community constables. That number will continue over the forward estimates.

Mr KNOLL: So, 4,713 will be the number that will stay consistent.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes, that is correct; that is what is provided for in the budget. On top of that, for the sake of clarity, also within the workforce cap are numbers of unsworn members and cadets. We also offer a course for a continuous number of cadets in the system each and every year in order to maintain that record level of 4,713 police.

Mr KNOLL: That is obviously an FTE cap.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Correct.

Mr KNOLL: You have talked about active police cadets. How many non-active sworn officers were there at 30 June 2017?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: As at 30 June—is the number you are seeking for sworn officers, the active—

Mr KNOLL: Yes, non-active sworn.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Non-active sworn is 90.9: 39 male and 51 female.

Mr KNOLL: This is my first time to the dance so can you just explain what a non-active, sworn police officer is and the main reasons for them being—

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes, I am happy to. It shows the number of employees in each of the categories and includes those people who are on leave without pay. For instance, this would include someone on maternity or paternity leave or any other reason why they would need to take an extended period of time of leave without pay. I am sure the commissioner will correct me if I am wrong here but another instance would be if someone was on a long-term period of sick leave where paid sick leave was not available to them—something to that effect.

Mr KNOLL: How many transit police FTEs are there, as at 30 June 2017?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is that there are 96 plus one ASO.

Mr KNOLL: Just going back to non-active sworn: are any of those people suspended police officers—perhaps a situation where it is not sick leave, not paternity leave—are any of those 90.9 people who have been suspended without pay for disciplinary reasons?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: That category of inactive sworn officers would include those members who are on leave without pay or who have been suspended from duty without pay, yes.

Mr KNOLL: Do you have a breakdown of how many officers would fit that category?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No, but I am happy to take that on notice.

Mr KNOLL: I will switch our attention now to the same budget paper, page 119, on the net cost of services. Minister, I am sure you will be well aware and so will the commissioner about a Coroner's report that was handed down in the last weeks in relation to the conduct of Firearms Branch, especially in relation to the Marksman firearms range. It is quite a long and, one would have to say, scathing report. It also details the tragic suicide of a person late last year when tethering devices were not put in place. It details in there the fact that there was a letter sent to your office that incorrectly stated the status of the tethering system that was designed to be put in place at Marksman. I wonder if you could comment on that but also what action has been taken subsequently.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am struggling to understand the relationship between your inquiry and the budget papers but, nevertheless, I am happy to—

Mr KNOLL: No, I agree with you, minister. You can choose not to answer this, if you like.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am happy to just quickly reflect upon the fact that, clearly, the case of Mr McConnell is tragic, as is any suicide. I think the key measure that the community should be conscious of is that there is now legislative change that has been passed through parliament, as you would be aware, that now requires firearms ranges of the likes of Marksman to have tethering installed.

We think that is a positive step forward and, now that it is in place, represents an improvement when it comes to safety in and around firearms ranges of the likes of Marksman. That said, I am happy to indulge and provide that detail, but I reiterate that I do not think there is any budgetary implication as a consequence of those changes.

Mr KNOLL: If I can turn to something that potentially could be a budgetary implication, especially in relation to the workforce summary, the commissioner has made comments on radio about the fact that he has undertaken to look through the report, and there is obviously questions that have been asked—well, not questions that have been asked but statements made by the Coroner in relation to the conduct of certain officers. I am just asking what time line there is in relation

to dealing with this matter and whether any decisions have been made in relation to either investigating further, or what are the next steps post the—

The CHAIR: Again, I do not mean to—

Mr KNOLL: This directly relates to—

The CHAIR: Hang on, hang on.

Mr KNOLL: —whether or not employees are going to be suspended, which very much has budgetary implications.

The CHAIR: You have not heard what I was going to say. I could have been congratulating you on your excellent question, but I am not. I am saying you are skating very close to the edge of what is allowed during budget estimates. The minister, again, can choose to answer if he wishes and in any way he wishes, and then we will move on to a budget line.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: If it is okay, Chair, this will be the last time. I am happy to accommodate the question, but I am not inclined to see an important process of the parliament be put down a path that is not consistent with what the intent of estimates is. But for the sake of the member for Schubert, I am happy to accommodate him this one last time.

It is important to note from the coronial inquiry that there are no specific recommendations for SAPOL that come out of it. There are things within it that are naturally of concern that I have no doubt the commissioner has contemplated in the way that is appropriate, but there are no specific recommendations that have come out of that coronial inquiry for SAPOL—more lessons to learn. The most important thing—and again I reiterate—is that we have now put in place a legislative regime that requires tethering at firearms ranges of the likes of Marksman, which will go a long way to having an additional level of protection for people who would otherwise seek to use a firearms range like Marksman as a place where they could commit suicide.

Mr KNOLL: There is going to be no follow-up action is essentially what your answer is.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Not at all. There have been substantial follow-up actions, not least of which is a change of law of the state, which now requires firearms ranges like Marksman to have tethering systems in place. That is a substantial step forward, which we think is positive. I want to put on record my thanks to all sides of politics that worked hard to see that legislative change take place.

Mr KNOLL: Okay. It did not need a legislative change to introduce the tethering system.

The CHAIR: Hang on. You do not need to comment on the minister's answers. You can ask a question if you like.

Mr KNOLL: Okay. We will leave that with some very little clarity. Can we move on to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 121 in relation to the Public Safety program summary. Minister, can I ask how many community constables there are at the moment? I note that there were 25 and a bit FTEs as per the last annual report. I am just seeking something from 30 June 2017.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: As at 30 June this year there were 22.4 community constables.

Mr KNOLL: How many are stationed on the APY lands?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: There are currently three, but I am also advised that seven vacancies are available positions ready to go; it is just a matter of dealing with the substantial challenge of recruiting people into those roles. In terms of remote communities and community constables, because this is an important part of policing on the lands, there is also one at Yalata.

Mr KNOLL: That is in addition to the other three?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Correct.

Mr KNOLL: We say there are three on the APY lands, so that means there are about another 19 somewhere else?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Correct.

Mr KNOLL: Can you detail where those 19 are?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I do not have a breakdown of each and every one of the 19, but it is fair to say that there are a number in regional South Australian LSAs, places like the Far West, for instance, and some are stationed at Port Lincoln, I am advised, but also are scattered around other LSAs around the state, including a few in metropolitan Adelaide as well. If you like, I am happy to take on notice where the other 19 are in terms of how many are at which LSAs.

Mr KNOLL: Sure. In the community, a community constable has a specific jurisdiction, as defined by the agreement the commissioner sets. Are those jurisdictions only defined by geography, or are there situations where there is a gradation to the level of power and responsibility that a community constable can undertake?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: That being a question of an operational nature, I might invite the police commissioner to respond.

Cmmr STEVENS: Thanks, minister. Yes, there are differences in the level of authorities some community constables have. Traditional community constables working on the lands have some restrictions in relation to the duties they undertake and the operational safety equipment they are able to carry. Metropolitan community constables are far more closely aligned to the authorities of a generally sworn police officer.

It is also important to point out that we are expanding the concept of community constable to extend beyond Indigenous Australians being employed in that capacity, and we are looking at other culturally and linguistically-diverse communities, where we can leverage the same sort of engagement with a community by having somebody from that community working as a community constable.

Mr KNOLL: For those who are outside of people with Aboriginal heritage, what sort of FTE count, how many are you looking at to work in those culturally and linguistically-diverse communities?

Cmmr STEVENS: My understanding is that at this point I think we have about four people who would fit under the heading of community constable who do not come from an Australian Indigenous community background.

Mr KNOLL: And they are likely to be within metropolitan LSAs?

Cmmr STEVENS: Yes.

Mr KNOLL: When you provide the breakdown, can you provide a breakdown of that?

Cmmr STEVENS: Yes.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Happy to take that on notice.

Mr KNOLL: I move on to the provision of psychological assessments. As I understand it, currently there are a number of branches that need—

The CHAIR: Sorry, which budget line—you have lost me.

Mr KNOLL: Page 119, net cost of services, but the workforce summary is probably more appropriate. Minister, can you outline which branches are required to undertake annual psychological assessments?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is that there are a number of branches that undertake psychological assessments and training on a more systematic basis. I will have to take on notice which sections they are. Just to provide an example, for those officers working in the sex crimes section, they would be an obvious category, having to deal with traumatic circumstances on a regular basis. I am happy to take your question on notice and get a list of exactly which branches do assessments.

Mr KNOLL: I suppose what I am asking is: does SAPOL track adherence to that requirement? I assume it comes under some sort of general order which would be the requirement to undertake that.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that, yes, there is a monitoring arrangement in place around who undertakes the training and assessment and so forth and who does not. That is the responsibility of the relevant branch manager.

Mr KNOLL: Is there a reporting mechanism that comes as part of that? You say it is undertaken by the relevant branch manager, but is that reported up through the chain? Is there a report that you can undertake to provide the details as to whether or not compliance with that has been fulfilled?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am happy to take that on notice to get the accurate details around how that takes place.

Mr KNOLL: If I can move on regarding the same budget line and the net cost of services. I received the first copy of the *Blueprint* magazine in my in-tray a couple of months ago. I am keen to understand, first off, the rationale behind it and also how often that magazine is likely to be published and the costs that are associated with it.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Again, relating to something that is operational with SAPOL, I will invite the commissioner to answer that.

Cmmr STEVENS: Thank you, minister, and thank you for the question. We have traditionally produced the *Blueprint* magazine for as long as I can remember, and it has had different iterations and different names over its history. It is currently called *Blueprint*. There was a hiatus in its production of almost two years, I think, between publications.

The purpose of the magazine is to inform our workforce of changes and innovation which are occurring within SAPOL, as well as highlighting significant achievements, investigations and major incidents which we manage and to provide some perspective on people within the organisation to shine a spotlight on those people who have done well or warrant that sort of exposure. The exact cost, we will have to take on notice, but it is in the order of \$20,000. I think the intention at this point in time is to produce that magazine on a quarterly basis.

Mr KNOLL: Is there an FTE allocation to that program?

Cmmr STEVENS: It falls within the duties of our new governance and capability service and is produced by our media and public engagement and our communications and marketing areas.

Mr KNOLL: I assume the \$20,000 relates to publication as opposed to any sort of staffing resource.

Cmmr STEVENS: They are the publication costs. It is an annual cost, not a per edition cost.

Mr KNOLL: Still on this budget line, a comment I get quite often from talking to front-line police officers that I meet around the place is the difficulty they have when they apprehend criminals. Depending on the nature of what they are doing, it can mean a lot of time back at the office or the station processing somebody through the system. Can you outline what work is being undertaken currently to try to manage that process and improve it?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Thank you for your question. It is an important one. As you are well aware, the government is committed to making sure that we have a large police force, but I do not think that can be used as a means for a lack of innovation. We are making sure that we are looking at inefficiencies as well. We do not just want a large police force, we also want an increasingly efficient and productive one. Technology is part of making sure that we can deliver that. There are a number of technologies that we have rolled out in order not just to be able to achieve more activity on the front line and an enhanced ability to catch criminals, but also to make sure that SAPOL can be as productive and efficient as it reasonably can.

A big part of that was the introduction of mobile ruggedised tablets into the police force. It has been a very substantial procurement exercise and it certainly does not represent what at first appears as a key front-line resource when it comes to catching criminals, but it does dramatically increase the time available to police officers. The ruggedised mobile tablet technology means less time in the station doing basic reporting mechanisms, now that they can be done out in the field

without the officer having to go back to a station to complete a report. They can take witness statements right there on site.

That is a substantial leap forward, and that technology is being rolled out. A substantial trial took place before that occurred. I do have some statistics that refer to how many extra hours that enables a front-line police officer to spend out on the ground, which I am happy to provide you with in a moment. Other efforts are being undertaken, and I might invite the police commissioner to add to that in terms of more process-orientated issues.

Cmmr STEVENS: In addition to the technology opportunity that the minister has outlined, there are other aspects to our technology program, which features as a part of our 2020 reform program as well. The introduction of portable fingerprint scanners provides a streamlined process for police officers to identify people they are engaging with on the front line without having to undertake significant inquiries to establish identity. The one drawback with that legislation at the moment is that we can only do that on a voluntary basis with people, as opposed to being able to require them to provide a fingerprint on a portable scanner.

In addition to the ruggedised tablets, we have also produced portable data terminals (PDAs) for police officers on the front line so that they can access our systems while they are out and about. We have introduced body-worn video, with our expectation being that it will dramatically reduce the number of matters that require police officers to attend court, with the capture of activities, behaviours and admissions on video at the time of a police officer interacting with a person.

We have also introduced an adult cautioning model, which shows significant savings in police officer time by being able to deal with low-level matters that would ordinarily have been an impost on police officer time through charging, preparation of a brief and court file, and attending court, for matters that invariably end up with little or no penalty out of the court process.

We have also sought changes and participated in discussions about changing legislation, particularly in relation to the Summary Procedures Act, which streamlines the documentation that goes with arrest and report files, once again to make it easier for police officers. We are looking at technology opportunities for police officers to appear in some court matters by video link, to reduce travel time and waiting time. We are also continually reviewing our systems, looking for opportunities to remove red tape and unnecessary bureaucracy, but there is a non-negotiable that comes with our legislative obligations in terms of managing prisoners, managing the court processes and the material that is required by that process.

Another initiative that we have been working on for some time, along with courts and the DPP, is an electronic brief model, where we are actually moving more closely to a paperless brief, which frees up officer time in terms of having to produce multiple copies of arrest and report documentation and case files.

Mr KNOLL: If I can move on to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 125, and I assume this is where it sits in the crime and criminal justice services program. Can I ask what the FTE allocation or how many people actually work in the e-crimes branch?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: We will have to take that on notice.

Mr KNOLL: Does the branch produce statistics around the number of items they process on a yearly basis?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes.

Mr KNOLL: Do you have any of those figures available and can you commit to taking on notice—what I am looking for is the number of items they have processed in this last financial year versus years previous. Also, I invite the minister to comment on what the current turnaround time is between items that cycle through e-crimes? I understand completely that there are some that gain higher priority than others, but is there an average turnaround time that exists for standard matters?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am happy to take that on notice. Just for the sake of clarity so we get you the information you are after, in terms of processing e-crime matters, are you talking about where, for instance, information is trying to be extracted from a tablet—

Mr KNOLL: A tablet or a phone. For instance, I understand that when you are trying to pinch someone for drug dealing, evidence of text messages back and forth is pretty important. You need to extract that from their phone. Certainly, when it comes to child pornography and those sorts of claims, getting through to a laptop is important. I understand that there are some special cases, but then there would be a lot of volume cases, I would have thought, especially in relation to drug-related crime. I am just trying to get an understanding of what the turnaround time is for a matter like that.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am happy to take that on notice, but I will just invite the commissioner to add any remarks, if he has any.

Cmmr STEVENS: Thank you, minister. We are able to produce that material. We do keep a record of the processing time frames, but I think it is worth noting that this is what you might describe as a growth area and one that we do find challenging to keep pace with. Historically, when we were talking about forensic examination of technology devices, we were talking about crimes that related to people conducting fraud offences and that sort of thing where we are looking to search records, but we have seen this exponential growth in this particular area where we now find that almost every crime that we investigate has a technology component that requires some type of examination of a device or of a technology platform, such as social media, where we are looking for evidence to support or refute allegations.

This growth does present significant challenges and we are currently reviewing our e-crime strategy and developing a plan which we hope will, in some respects, mitigate those challenges. Having said that, with the way technology continues to evolve, it is one of those areas where we are going to continually face challenges, and we are acutely aware of the expectations of the court and the DPP in terms of us fulfilling our obligations to produce evidence for those processes.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: Minister, just while we are talking about technology and IT, I am wondering if you could, in reference to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 120, inform the committee about the implementation of the facial recognition technology by SAPOL?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Thank you for your question because it is an important one and speaks again to the government's commitment to having a technologically advanced police force. At the 2014 election, Labor committed to providing police with all the latest technology we reasonably could provide, and that included a facial recognition technology commitment. NEC Australia was awarded the contract, worth \$780,000, to provide SAPOL access to the NEC software that is considered to be the fastest and most accurate facial matching software in the world.

In practical terms, the software enables SAPOL to search, scan and monitor images and video of suspects against databases, leading to the faster and more accurate identification of persons of interest. To alleviate any concerns that may exist, I can assure members of the committee that the facial recognition technology does not keep records of people's photos or video that it is seeking to match against the existing database. If a match is made, it is against existing mugshot databases. This means the records of the individual concerned are already within the system as a consequence of a previous incident.

South Australia will be a nation leader as the only state to have this advanced technology, which is also used by the Australian Federal Police. This is yet more support for Adelaide's efforts to maintain our place as one of the safest cities in the world and continue our work to improve our standing in the community. I am pleased to advise that the SAPOL facial recognition technology went live in March this year, following a successful trial period. At the end of the trial period, there were seven arrests attributed to the use of facial recognition technology, with an additional 41 persons identified as potential matches to persons of interest requiring further investigation.

Investment in this state-of-the-art technology ensures that our police have the tools and technology needed to most effectively protect and serve our community. The implementation of this technology greatly assists in reducing the time officers spend on identity management activities and allows them to be directed back onto the streets, in turn keeping people safe. Projects to deliver technology such as facial recognition and body-worn cameras demonstrate the understanding that this government has of the increasingly important role that technology will play in 21st century policing. We are committed to continuing to embrace technological advancements to ensure that we are equipped for smart policing.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: Again, my question refers to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 120. Minister, can you inform the committee about the new virtual firearms simulator that is operational, as I understand it, at the Police Academy?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Again, I thank the member for Ashford for her question. This is a recent development, and last week I had the pleasure of witnessing the new 300-degree virtual reality firearms simulator that is now in operation at the Police Academy, providing police officers with enhanced training for high-risk situations. The \$480,000 simulator will be used to train cadets, refresh skills of front-line police officers and provide advanced training for STAR Group officers.

The simulator provides highly realistic scenarios—rather confronting, in some instances—across a range of screens, allowing officers to hone and develop communication skills, decision-making, de-escalation abilities and rapid response. The simulator will also be used for testing officers across marksmanship, pistol and electronic device (taser) abilities. Incorporating a live-fire range, the simulator will also save costs on ammunition, reduce environmental impact of firearms training, boost safety and reduce the number of training days cancelled due to things like unfavourable weather.

The state government continues to modernise our police force, with the simulator complementing other technologies such as body-worn cameras, rugged tablets, facial recognition technology and fingerprint scanners. We have obtained one of the most state-of-the-art firearms training simulators available in Australia. The cost of the system included the computer system and software, data projector, both day and night tracking camera capability, firearm simulators and a range of hardware to ensure safe training. I am delighted that the simulator is in operation at the academy at exactly the right time, with such a large number of cadets at the academy as we speak.

It is important to note that the use of firearms in the South Australian community is relatively rare, and it is a good thing that it is only in the rare instance that men and women in uniform find themselves having to use firearms. However, they do remain an important tool and it is important that the South Australian public can have confidence in the fact that when a uniformed police officer decides to use a firearm they are doing it with the best training available to them. It is also important to remember—and this is a really important point—that this simulator is as much about training police officers about when not to use a firearm as it is about when to use one.

This is not just a training device aimed at improving marksmanship, it is also about training officers in de-escalation, which is an equally important capability that we obviously want our police officers to have. It is a fantastic piece of technology and I think it is going a long way to assist the Police Academy at a very busy time.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: Minister, you mentioned the opportunity of body-worn video technology (I think this refers to the same reference I have already mentioned). This is an issue in the news at the moment, certainly in the US. Can you inform the committee about the rollout of body-worn video technology by SAPOL?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Thank you for that important question. Body-worn video, in my own assessment, is an outstanding piece of technology; more importantly, the assessment of the men and women in SAPOL who are now using this technology is that it is a great advance. In May, I had the great privilege of joining South Australia Police as they began the statewide rollout of body-worn cameras for all front-line officers, which sees SAPOL as a leader in the nation with the deployment of this technology. This rollout realises the commitment made by the state government in the 2014-15 state budget of \$5.9 million to introduce the technology.

Body-worn cameras will enhance officer security and further increase the public's confidence in what is already the most professional police force in the nation, while also delivering faster and more accurate outcomes for the criminal justice sector. Following a thorough acquisition and trial process, Communications Design and Management Pty Ltd was awarded the tender for the body-worn video technology. The contract will see all uniformed police patrols wearing body-worn video as they perform their patrol duties within three years, with 1,000 cameras in operation by the 2019-20 financial year. This staged response enables SAPOL to handle the download of any recordings.

Body-worn cameras are compact, light and thin, and mount easily on the SAPOL uniform. This enables the camera to be visible to the public at all times. The camera is an extremely versatile,

wide-lens camera that provides the capture of quality vision and also ensures that it can be used by SAPOL in all conditions across the state, including at night. The camera can record audio and vision but only records when activated. The activation of the camera is a single one-touch activation and, when activated, two red lights at the base of the camera are illuminated. The cameras are subject to a secure encrypted and locked system, with any video recorded able to be downloaded only on the SAPOL system using SAPOL software.

SAPOL is confident that the deployment of this technology will result in an increase in transparency, which will only serve to further strengthen public sentiment towards SAPOL through improving the quality of evidence, resulting in a reduction of not guilty pleas and reduced time and costs for legal and court proceedings. They are confident it will also see a reduction in the need for use of force by police, improving the safety of police officers and reducing the number of complaints against police officers, whilst also providing officers with an invaluable opportunity to review and improve their practices on the beat.

Members of the public will have already seen officers on the beat using cameras in places like Hindley Street, and will soon see the cameras deployed in the Traffic Support Branch before they are rolled out to every front-line officer in the state. The rollout of body-worn cameras is the latest in this state government's desire to ensure our police force is a 21st century police force and the most advanced in the nation. The first deployment of body-worn video was in May this year, with full deployment expected to be over the three-year period.

The schedule is to be progressively deployed, and 230 body-worn cameras and supporting infrastructure will be supplied to the following locations for use by front-line police by December this year: 80 cameras to the Traffic Support Branch, 50 cameras to the SA Police Academy, 30 cameras to the Public Transport Safety Branch and approximately 70 cameras to the Eastern Adelaide LSA. An analysis of the current legislative environment has indicated there is no requirement to amend or require legislative change at this stage. The body-worn devices will primarily be used by front-line operational police.

Mr PEDERICK: I have a supplementary question: in regard to the firearms training simulator, what did you say was the total amount that cost?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised it was \$480,000.

Mr PEDERICK: In the budget it says \$380,000, and for the 2016-17 budget it was going to be \$190,000, so there are some anomalies there.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The figure I have quoted may well include the operating cost associated with it, as distinct from just the procurement.

Mr PEDERICK: So, what you are saying is that the operating cost is separate from the total project cost.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: It depends how you define 'total project cost'.

Mr PEDERICK: All I am saying is that your figure is \$100,000 different to what is written in your budget.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that the figure you are referring to is most likely to be the direct capital cost, as distinct from other associated costs; for instance, the software licensing component of the exercise or other operational costs that are associated with using the simulator, as distinct from just the installation of the physical infrastructure at the Police Academy.

Mr PEDERICK: In what part of the budget would we find those operational costs, minister?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: You will find them within the broad, general operating revenue figures that you see within the operating budget, I am advised.

Mr KNOLL: I have a supplementary on that line as well. Obviously, police officers need to go through their yearly IMOS requalification. Will this be used in addition to the current regime or will it be used to supplement it?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: It is a good question; I am glad you asked. It is important to understand that the firearms simulator is not there to completely substitute the other training that is already in place. Live firearm training will continue to be used, but the new simulator will work with and complement the other training components that already exist. So, it is in addition to, rather than in substitution of.

Mr KNOLL: Except that in your answer before you said that it will, essentially, help to offset the cancellation of training due to bad weather, but surely that training was going to be live fire outdoor training, which will then be substituted by indoor simulator training?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that there are also indoor live firing ranges, as well as outdoor ones. This will be a complement, so that when an outdoor event might be scheduled, for instance, the indoor facility could be used, but not to substitute other training activities. So, this is very much about adding to the existing suite of firing training options that are available to SAPOL.

Mr KNOLL: So, they will still need to do—I do not know what it is, 60 live fire rounds or whatever—the live fire test as part of getting their requalifications.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes. I will just add to that, though: with the simulator, I cannot tell you—having gone down and had a look at it—how impressed I was with how real it is. It is very much a simulator. The firearm used in those simulators is an actual SAPOL firearm but with a different cartridge in it so that the recoil, the weight, the pressure on the trigger—everything—is incredibly similar. It should not be confused with some sort of video exercise; it is very much a simulator.

Mr KNOLL: I will move back to e-crimes. In relation to this strategy I was asking what sort of time line there is on the development of that e-crime strategy.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I might invite the commissioner to answer that, being of an operational nature.

Commr STEVENS: We are very close to having completed that strategy. It is important that we complete that prior to making any changes to the way we deliver our services within the e-crime space. We are looking to enhance our capability, but I am strongly of the view that, rather than take an ad hoc scattergun approach, we should do it as part of a comprehensive suite of strategies. So, it will be this year but I do not have an exact date.

Mr KNOLL: As part of that, are you looking to quantify how much shorter the turnaround time will be or is there some sort of measure around reduction in court delays that you would be looking to implement as part of the strategy? Is there a target that you will be setting around reduction of court delays?

Commr STEVENS: I am not aware of a specific target but the overall aim is to be as efficient as we can in processing e-crime exhibits. Some of the measures that we are looking at are upskilling people on the front line to do some rudimentary analysis of technology devices, providing them with appropriate software and tools so that they can do that effectively without damaging the evidentiary value of those items, and making sure that we have a proper triaging system in place, we have the correct skill set to manage those devices when they come in, and perform those functions as quickly as possible.

Mr KNOLL: Do you have any understanding of how regular court cases have to be delayed because of slow processing from e-crimes?

Commr STEVENS: I do not have specific details on how frequently that occurs but I am aware of occasions where matters are adjourned and, in the worst-case scenario, where members of the judiciary express their dissatisfaction with the fact that forensic evidence is not available. It is one of those areas that we micromanage and wherever there are any instances where we become aware of pressure being placed upon SAPOL by the courts, we endeavour to satisfy that judicial requirement as quickly as possible. However, it must be acknowledged that the rapid expansion in the number of items that have to be processed presents a significant challenge and it is one that we are acutely aware of.

Mr KNOLL: I have heard one anecdotal case where cases were delayed by years because of slow processing. Is that something you are aware of or do you think it is more likely to be months?

The CHAIR: I will interject here. The minister can answer this if he wishes but this is really a question for the Attorney-General. Notwithstanding the commissioner's direct knowledge of these matters or opinions about these matters, this is a question for the Attorney-General, but the minister may choose or not to answer.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No, that is fine.

The CHAIR: So, let's move on.

Mr KNOLL: So, e-crimes branch does not sit within SAPOL?

The CHAIR: No, e-crimes branch sits within SAPOL. The courts—

Mr KNOLL: I am talking about the conduct of e-crimes branch.

The CHAIR: No, you are talking about court processes, which sits with the Courts Administration Authority.

Mr KNOLL: The question I was asking was around whether or not the delay in processing items for e-crimes branch was months or years.

The CHAIR: Yes, that is right, but you are assuming the minister has knowledge of these delays, which he does, anecdotally, presumably, but it is not his responsibility.

Mr KNOLL: I did not realise you needed protection, minister, but thank God the member for Little Para is in your corner.

The CHAIR: I am not offering protection; I am trying to keep you on the straight and narrow, member for Schubert.

Mr KNOLL: You are just trying to obfuscate the people getting answers as to how their court system is working.

The CHAIR: No. You had a chance to question the Attorney-General about how the court system was working. He was here all day, the other day. I was here too.

Mr KNOLL: Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 125, summary of program 2.1. Minister, in the Stop the Hurt report you announced—was it—\$549,000 of new money for sniffer dogs? I assume that SAPOL will be training and looking after those dogs?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I can confirm that police dogs are under the control of police, yes.

Mr KNOLL: So, the extra \$549,000, how much extra resource does that equate to?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice—let me just double-check—is that it is two dogs, and that cost represents more than just the dogs themselves, albeit that highly trained and skilled dogs are expensive. There is also the training of the handlers associated with those dogs, rather than just the dogs themselves. So, that figure that you referred to is the overall cost.

Mr KNOLL: I am also wanting to ask: is that half a million dollars ongoing over the forward estimates or is that a single year, and then the rest of the operation will be absorbed?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Over the four years.

Mr KNOLL: And that is two dogs and two handlers?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: And also the associated equipment as necessary, for instance, things like motor vehicles, of which there will be two.

Mr KNOLL: No problems. Thanks very much. Again, the same program, Crime and Criminal Justice Services. In relation to intervention orders, I am after the number of intervention orders that police have granted and the number of intervention orders that have been breached over the 2016-17 financial year.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I will make sure we get the right numbers, so just bear with us. For the benefit of the committee, it might be worthwhile providing a bigger picture in terms of what has happened regarding those numbers over a sustained period of time. In terms of police interim intervention orders for the year July 2013 to June 2014, there were 1,377 police interim intervention orders; the following year that number went up to 2,883; and in the year following that (2015-16) the number became 3,305.

In the first six months of last financial year, that is, from 1 July 2016 to 31 December 2016, that number was 1,678. I do not have the specific number for the second half of the financial year, but for the sake of the argument, if you were to double that, you can see that that would also represent growth on the previous year.

Mr KNOLL: Do you have numbers there over those same financial years for the number of breaches of those intervention orders?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I do not have those at hand; I am happy to take that on notice. In respect of that growth, it is worth commenting on that, and I will let the police commissioner comment on it more as well. That growth represents a substantial challenge for SAPOL, but more importantly it represents the effort SAPOL is putting into the area of domestic violence. I do not think the community should be alarmed at that number being a reflection upon a growth, necessarily, in the commission of domestic violence, as distinct from police starting to be able to police the area with more efficiency than was previously the case.

Domestic violence represents a very tragic and important challenge within the community, and the growth in these numbers on one level is utterly tragic, but on another level should provide a degree of confidence that this is an area of work to which SAPOL is wholeheartedly committed and is taking very seriously. I will ask the commissioner to add to that.

Cmmr STEVENS: To reinforce those comments, I do not think it is any secret that domestic violence response plays a significant part of the work done by front-line police, and with our focus on positive action to protect victims of domestic violence it has an impact on how we prioritise our resources. We are looking to invest more resources into the domestic violence response to ensure that we meet the community's demand.

The current effort and focus we have had on domestic violence has seen an increase in reporting of domestic violence matters, and it is reasonable to propose that that increase in reporting comes about as a result of increased confidence within the community that their matter will be taken seriously and that there will be positive action as a result. It is not just as a result of the effort of South Australia Police but also is, I believe, reflective of the way domestic violence is understood by the community and dealt with by the courts and the support agencies that are providing assistance and services to domestic violence victims.

Mr KNOLL: Are there specifically tasked domestic violence roles within SAPOL?

Cmmr STEVENS: Yes, there are. Each local service area has a family and domestic violence investigation group.

Mr KNOLL: And do you have any gross numbers of what sort of FTE count that would be?

Cmmr STEVENS: I do not have those with us, but we can supply those.

Mr KNOLL: And is this new family and domestic violence team a 2020 initiative, or is it something that has been around for a little bit longer than that?

Cmmr STEVENS: Each local service area has had family and domestic violence investigators for as long as I can remember. The commitment to increasing the resources in those areas is as a direct result of the work that has been done. A couple of years ago we established a Family and Domestic Violence Branch, which is a central branch coordinating the policy, training and oversight of domestic violence matters at a senior management level, and we are also looking to enhance that capability at the moment as well.

Mr KNOLL: Fantastic, thank you. I now move on to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 121, Public Safety. Obviously, the minister announced in March, and enacted in about August/September last year, the changed arrangements to police station opening hours. This was about reorientating

of resources. I am trying to get a handle on what the quantum of redirected resources has been. How much was saved by reducing police station opening hours, and where were those resources diverted to?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am very glad the member for Schubert has asked this question, and we are very grateful for the opportunity to talk about this, because I am very aware and very conscious of the fact that some members of this parliament are out there suggesting that, somehow, the community is less safe as a result of the adjustment to police station hours, and suggesting that, somehow, this is resulting in less service for the community, when that could not be further from the truth.

The government and I are on the record as supporting the police commissioner and his being able to use the authority and responsibility invested in him to exercise his leadership around operational matters, including the operation of police hours. The member for Schubert may not be aware that very few crimes are committed in the lobby of police stations. They tend to occur out in the community, and I think the commissioner is incredibly wise to decide to take resources out of police stations where crimes are not necessarily being committed if that enables him to put more officers out on the beat, and that is exactly what is occurring.

In respect of your question, the objective here has never been about saving money. Indeed, it has not necessarily saved money is my advice, because those police are still employed. It is just that they are out on the beat doing the work there.

Mr KNOLL: I am simply seeking to understand what the quantum of that redirection is.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: In terms of people?

Mr KNOLL: Either FTE count or dollars.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is that closer to the implementation of some of these changes, it was able to result in approximately an extra 30 police officers being able to be returned to the front line, and they are able to be used at the disposal of the LSA commanders as is operationally required. That is extraordinary. That is a big number of extra police out on the front line who would otherwise be stuck behind the counter of a police station if the opposition had their way and sought to impose upon the police commissioner the requirement that those officers instead be behind the counter in a police station.

Mr KNOLL: Minister, post these changes, has there been an increase in the FTE resource count given to any of the 24-hour police stations either at Port Adelaide, Elizabeth, Hindley Street or Christies Beach?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Just to understand your question, are you asking: have additional resources been provided to respective LSAs?

Mr KNOLL: No, what I am trying to get at is that some stations have reduced their hours. Have the remaining 24-hour police stations been given a greater resource to cope with the increased workload?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is that there is a degree of discretion that is invested in LSA commanders to be able to make decisions around how they allocate their resources in terms of police station hours—administrative functions versus being out on the road—which is again an important point. The level of discretion that an LSA commander will be able to exercise in regard to operations is dramatically constricted if you have a politician deciding to impose upon the police when stations have to be open or closed. Quite frankly, I think such a policy compromises the safety of the community.

Mr KNOLL: Have any of the LSA commanders used that discretion to increase resources in any of the 24-hour police stations?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I do not have any specific information on hand, but I am advised that it would be reasonable to assume that some LSA commanders have used that discretion in such a way, yes.

Mr KNOLL: I refer to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 120. I assume I am talking here about the minor capital works, vehicles and equipment annual program. I assume, obviously, that at the moment front-line transit police are using Holden Commodore vehicles. When is that contract likely to end, given we are only months away from the Holden closure?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am happy to take on notice some components of that question, but let me attempt to answer it all and then you can ask me to take any particular components on notice. Yes, of course SAPOL complies with the state's procurement policies generally, and that means that the overall majority of police vehicles—the majority being represented by general patrol cars—are Holdens, produced at Elizabeth. That continues to be the case.

However, of course, with the impending closure of General Motors at Elizabeth, SAPOL does have a strategy in place in terms of procurement beyond that. That process is well and truly underway. I have been briefed regarding that, but there is a commitment to continue to purchase Holdens right up until, essentially, the closure of Elizabeth, with the view of having a new police car following that. That work, clearly, has to commence early, because there is a long lead time for putting a police vehicle operationally on the ground. That exercise is underway and of course, when that process is complete, there will be a public announcement accordingly.

Mr KNOLL: Has any decision been made on a replacement vehicle?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No.

Mr KNOLL: I assume there is a continual upgrade leasing program. How much was spent on leasing patrol vehicles in 2016-17?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Maybe it would be best if we take that specific number on notice.

Mr KNOLL: If you could also take on notice what the budget is for 2017-18.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am happy to do that.

Mr KNOLL: In relation to body-worn cameras, when you were reading out the list of cameras I did not catch them to write them down. Are you able to provide a total figure of how many cameras have been purchased to date?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I mentioned the rollout schedule of the next batch and I am happy to repeat that. There are 230 cameras that we are aiming to deploy by December this year.

Mr KNOLL: I am sorry—will be deployed?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes.

Mr KNOLL: Are these in addition to the existing stock?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes.

Mr KNOLL: That 230, let's say, is between 1 July and 31 December?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Reasonably, yes; by December this year.

Mr KNOLL: So, how many cameras were in place at 30 June this year?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: They would be the ones that have already been allocated to Hindley Street, which is approximately 30.

Mr KNOLL: Do you have a total budget for this? I assume it sits in the high-tech crime fighting equipment budget—\$4.2 million is the total project cost that is stated in here, but I assume that is for the rugged tablets and other things as well. The total budget cost for the purchase of the 1,000 body-worn cameras.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Which number were you after?

Mr KNOLL: The total budget cost for the purchase of the 1,000 body-worn cameras.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I want to be clear about this, because there are number of ways—do you want just the physical—

Mr KNOLL: Just the physical capital, because operationally, I assume, it would be pretty difficult.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I have a figure that includes the operating expenditure. If you want, I am happy to take on notice the actual physical camera.

Mr KNOLL: I will take whatever I can get at this stage.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Sure. For the 2017-18 financial year, that cost is \$1.554 million, and for the two years following it continues to go up.

Mr KNOLL: The annual report for 2015-16 says that the cameras will be rolled out over the next three years. I assume that it started 2016-17, 2017-18 and then 2018-19.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: And continues in 2019-20.

Mr KNOLL: So, it will now continue into 2019-20?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: That is my advice, yes.

Mr KNOLL: Do you have any figures for what the rollout is going to be? You have given me until the end of December. Is that 230 figure for 2017-18, or are there others that will be purchased in the second half of this financial year?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: We will take that on notice. As I mentioned earlier, there is a rollout scheduled to cover all front-line officers, in effect, across the state. That occurs over a three-year period. I have outlined in pretty thorough detail what that is between now and the end of the year with the Traffic Support Branch, Police Academy, Public Transport Safety Branch and then the Eastern Adelaide LSA.

In terms of the more detailed schedule beyond that, I am happy to take that on notice. In fact, it may be the case that that level of planning has not exactly happened right at the moment, but I am happy to take that on notice. We have a pretty detailed schedule of works between now and the end of the year, and I assume that will continue to be on that.

Mr KNOLL: Just a quick question, if I could move to the activity indicators on page 127, from 2015-16 there was a halving of the number of Blue Light discos, or at least a halving of the number of people who attended Blue Light discos. Is that a policy decision, or have kids found something else to do?

The Hon. S.W. KEY: Did you used to go to them?

Mr KNOLL: I think I went to one once.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The number that you refer to, as it reads, is the number of people attending the functions.

Mr KNOLL: Yes, it has halved.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: That is what it says, yes.

Mr KNOLL: Yes, so my question is why? Is that a specific policy decision, or is it because kids are Netflixing and chilling?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I might invite the commissioner to answer that.

Cmmr STEVENS: I hope it is not my kids. Blue Light is an incorporated association that is supported by SAPOL. It is essentially underwritten or staffed by police officers who are undertaking community service activities, quite often in their own time. There is a change in the nature of what children are doing and what they find interesting. Blue Light is continuously reviewing the sorts of activities and opportunities they are providing for children to become engaged, and it is a matter for each Blue Light sub-branch to determine whether or not they are going to run these sorts of events, and I would suggest that the decisions as to whether they schedule further events would be based on the level of patronage they get from past events.

Mr KNOLL: It is a personal interest, that is all. I refer to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, and the activity indicators on page 132. Minister, can you give an explanation as to why it is projected that

there is going to be a 10 per cent decrease in the number of driver screening tests conducted in 2017-18?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: It is a good question and one that I have asked previously myself. The way this works is that the number of tests that are forecast to be conducted has remained relatively steady, but you will see that in previous years, if you go to the statistics beyond the ones in the budget papers, SAPOL has consistently exceeded that number, and it would be a reasonable expectation that that will continue into the future.

Mr KNOLL: So you would expect it to be back up around 550,000?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: It has remained relatively consistent on those levels, and I think it is reasonable in this instance for past numbers and past practice to be a predictor for the future.

Mr KNOLL: There has not been any policy change or resourcing change?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No. I might just invite the commissioner to add some remarks.

Cmmr STEVENS: Thank you, minister. I would just like to point out that there was some criticism levelled at SAPOL in relation to a reduction from past years' activities. I think what must be noted is that our targets have remained constant and our history shows that we exceed those targets. I am just putting on the record, I suppose, that the observers who may criticise the organisation for not having maintained the same levels of activity are probably not giving due regard to the fact that we continue to exceed the budgeted targets that we stipulate.

Mr KNOLL: Turning to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 125, the description talks about innovative techniques to confiscate illicit profits and assets. I assume that the Confiscation Branch would sit within that. How much were confiscated assets in 2016-17 in dollar terms? And do you have the figures for the backwards and forwards years?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Unfortunately, we do not have those statistics at hand. They are recorded, so I am happy to take that on notice.

Mr KNOLL: Could you take that on notice for 2016-17, 2015-16 and 2014-15? I do not know if you can budget for these things going forward.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that there is no budget effort going forward, but in terms of figures recorded in the past, that is something I can take on notice and endeavour to get to you.

Mr KNOLL: I refer to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 120, Investing expenditure. How many CCTV cameras are covered by SAPOL?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I have the numbers of CCTV cameras that are available within the Adelaide city council. Would that be of use?

Mr KNOLL: Yes. I assume the Adelaide city council has some. I do not know if SAPOL has any themselves, but what I am looking for is the total number that are monitored at the moment by, is it the protective services branch?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: That is right. In the Adelaide city council there are cameras that are owned by the council themselves but that are monitored by the Police Security Services Branch. That is currently 111 cameras: 103 within the CBD and eight in North Adelaide.

Mr KNOLL: These are all Adelaide city council-owned cameras and SAPOL monitors them, and that is the arrangement for all of them. Are there any other cameras that are monitored by Police Security Services?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: For the sake of accuracy I think it might be appropriate to take that on notice so that we can give you the precise numbers.

Mr KNOLL: I might ask a bit more of a general question then. Has SAPOL done any work to talk to other CCTV camera operators, licensed venues, about whether or not they can be connected up to the same monitoring network?

Cmmr STEVENS: We do liaise with our stakeholders in the liquor licensing industry and in the retail industry as well, particularly in those high-volume areas. There are challenges in integrating privately-owned CCTV into our monitoring network. We are looking at the options to achieve that, but in order for that sort of regime to be effective we have to have some capacity to stipulate what type of technologies are being installed, how they are managed and monitored, how they fit into the network.

In my observations of other jurisdictions, both in Australia and overseas, I have seen very successful outcomes as a result of being able to tap into a broader network, but there are those technology challenges to be dealt with before we can achieve that. Our current practice is that through our liaison with those various stakeholders we access their CCTV vision on a needs basis. We do not have any active live monitoring.

Mr KNOLL: I assume that when it comes to evidence gathering timing is not a factor, but when there is potentially a live situation ongoing have you experienced delays in getting access to that footage? That is, have the licensed venues been compliant and happy for you to come in and have a look straightaway?

Cmmr STEVENS: Generally, there is a high level of cooperation.

Mr KNOLL: Moving on to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 127, and activity indicators for drug diversions. I see that they have been fairly steady over the past 12 months. Again, because this is my first time in this shadow portfolio, can you outline who conducts the drug diversion program and also how the process works? I assume a copper gives a slip to someone they pinch and—

Cmmr STEVENS: The process works where a police officer deals with a person who has a small quantity of a controlled substance in their possession, a simple possession offence. That matter is dealt with by the police officer at that time making contact with the drug diversion program and scheduling an appointment for the individual concerned.

Mr KNOLL: So, the police officer schedules—

Cmmr STEVENS: We facilitate that interaction—

Mr KNOLL: You do?

Cmmr STEVENS: Exactly. The process is that where the prosecution, for want of a better word, is withheld pending the person successfully completing their obligations under the drug diversion program, that drug diversion is undertaken by Drug and Alcohol Services—

Mr KNOLL: DASSA?

Cmmr STEVENS: Thank you—not by SAPOL. On successful completion of the obligation, the matter is finalised. If the person does not attend, then the prosecution is enlivened and we proceed down the court path.

Mr KNOLL: Is that just for cannabis or is that also for other illicit drugs?

Cmmr STEVENS: It is for all illicit substances under a prescribed amount.

Mr KNOLL: So, what happens when someone does not complete the program is that the simple offence charge gets held and then, obviously, reinstated. Do you have any figures on the multiple use of that program in 2016-17? I do not think I have anything here.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: We will have to take those numbers on notice.

Mr KNOLL: Does SAPOL provide any funding to DASSA to provide this program?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No.

Mr KNOLL: I assume that would come out of somewhere else. Is the program free to the participant?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes.

Mr KNOLL: So, the only cost to SAPOL of administering the program is the work of the police officer to monitor the progress. In Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 128, under highlights, you

talk about processing over 33,000 prisoners through police holding cells. I am interested in the use of the term 'prisoner'. We are not talking about how many people you have arrested and we are not talking about remandees. Are we talking about sentenced prisoners?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Police prisoners.

Mr KNOLL: So, 33,000 people were arrested and held. They are arrested and some of them are out on bail and some of them then become remandees.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Correct.

Mr KNOLL: But the act of arresting and locking someone up is 33,000—that is the figure we are getting to.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The commissioner will correct me if I am wrong, but once a person is taken into police custody, they will fall into this statistic.

Mr KNOLL: Do you have this figure for 2015-16?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I will take that on notice.

Mr KNOLL: And for a couple of financial years back from that, as well.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Sorry, I have the number at hand. In 2015-16, the number of prisoners processed through police holding facilities was 34,530.

Mr KNOLL: 34,530 in 2015-16. Do you have 2014-15 there?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No.

Mr KNOLL: Okay. Is this budgeted to keep fairly consistent for this coming financial year?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I will have to get you the number for that.

Mr KNOLL: Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 119, net cost of services. What is the value of salary overpayments? I do not know if you guys get paid through Shared Services—people get overpaid. Do you have a balance of how much salary overpayment is due to be recovered from police officers as at 30 June 2017?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No, we do not have the number at hand.

Mr KNOLL: Could you take that on notice?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes, we are happy to take that on notice.

Mr KNOLL: Are there any SAPOL staff seconded to managing this process?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that Shared Services does it for SAPOL.

Mr KNOLL: Could you take on notice a breakdown of how much the FTE account is for, for managing these overpayments? I know what happens with other departments.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am sorry, but Shared Services are the appropriate people to be asked that question.

Mr KNOLL: Sure, except that I am sure you get charged corporate overheads for what they do.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Again—

The CHAIR: But the minister is not responsible for it; that is the point.

Mr KNOLL: You are always very helpful, Chair. I will turn to Recruit 313. What was the attrition rate for sworn officers in 2016-17? I am on page 119, Workforce summary.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Last year, there were 134 police who separated from the police force. I am advised that there were 150 FTEs but 134 actual.

Mr KNOLL: Obviously, there was an increased budget allocation last year—a significant sum of \$40 million or \$50 million and some of it was in relation to Recruit 313—do you have a total budget cost of what it has cost to deliver these extra 313 police officers?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: It might be best to take that number on notice.

Mr KNOLL: This is across various parts of the budget but it adds up to about \$40 million. I am looking at page 122 in the financial commentary where it states, 'indexation of expenses and additional police resources in 2017-18'. It is a phrase that is used in a number of different spots across the budget and I am keen to understand what that means.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Can you just repeat that?

Mr KNOLL: At page 122, the financial commentary, 2017-18 budget versus 2016-17 estimated result:

The \$12.1 million increase in net cost is primarily due to:

- indexation of expenses and additional police resources in 2017-18 (\$13.8 million)

I am looking for some sort of breakdown because that same phrase is used across a number of different sub-programs and I am keen to understand it.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: It means what you would reasonably expect it to: that the indexation refers to the associated increases that come from changes in things like CPI or changes to wages through an enterprise bargaining agreement and so forth. So, the reasonable increase in expenses associated with unavoidable costs such as changes in the CPI, for instance.

Mr KNOLL: Some of this, I assume, would be in relation to the—has the new EB just come into effect now?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The short answer is that it has been in effect for 12 months but it gets a bit confusing around operative start times even though it might have been pre or post the negotiation period, but it has been in effect for a year.

Mr KNOLL: I will move on to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 118 in relation to the Firearms Branch. I am keen to understand: the new act and the regulations have come into force and I would like to put on the record that I think it was a good outcome of this parliament that everybody was able to work together for a pretty sensible solution that I think balanced the rights of gun owners with public safety. I am sure there are some people who are not happy but, in these situations, not everyone can be happy. Can you give us a rundown of the notification that has been sent to the 66,000 firearms licence holders in South Australia? How are people going to be notified of these changes?

The CHAIR: While the minister is conferring I would just like to welcome to the Estimates Committee the Royal Society for the Blind from Port Noarlunga. They are guests of the member assisting the Treasurer, the member for Kaurana.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: There is a substantial communications exercise that has been associated with the changes in laws. Again, sorry, I will just take this opportunity also to reflect upon the member for Schubert's remarks around the hard work of the parliament to get this done. I think the person who probably deserves the most credit is the member for Light, who just so happens to be in the chamber with us, who undertook the start of this exercise and largely saw it through. It is very much a substantial effort that I think the member for Light deserves a lot of credit for, but also a key number of people in the Firearms Branch who did a lot of work as well. I will not attempt to name them all, but there were a number.

So, yes, upon that exercise being completed there is a communication strategy associated with that, because there are changes that have implications for registered firearms owners. The member for Light has, I think, a copy of that correspondence, but also it importantly refers—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: That is right. The direct mail correspondence with registered firearms owners, I am advised, also refers to websites and so forth, where they can get extra information as well.

Mr KNOLL: There are some fairly significant and onerous changes around security arrangements for firearms. I am talking specifically about the provision of strongrooms or the increased requirements for surveillance or things like that. Will Firearms Branch undertake to proactively contact the people for which that applies? I assume it starts to get a little bit technical, and there needs to be a negotiation around how these new regulations are implemented?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I think the short answer to that question is that yes, there is direct contact, I am advised, with firearms owners through things like direct mail. Presuming that falls into the definition of what you characterise as direct contact, then yes, there is direct contact with firearms owners.

Mr KNOLL: Can I ask how many audits of firearm licence holders were done in 2016-17?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that between 1 July 2016 and 20 May 2017 there were 2,842 audits completed. That compares to the number of 2,857 for the entirety of the previous financial year. On that basis I think it would be reasonable to assume there were more audits conducted in the financial year 2016-17 than there were in 2015-16.

Mr KNOLL: Sorry, so 2,857 is for the 2015-16 financial year, and then 2,842 is for—

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: It is 1 July 2016 to 20 May 2017.

Mr KNOLL: Okay, so for 11 months. Do you have a figure there of how many firearms were lost over those two financial years?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that an annual average of 450 firearms registered to licensees are to be missing, and about 500 licensees who have been in breach of security compliance provisions.

Mr KNOLL: So, 450 was for the 11 months?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that it is an annual average.

Mr KNOLL: In the last couple of moments we have, I refer to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, in relation to Workforce summary. The commissioner has had a very strong focus on gender parity in dealing with our police force, and at various times it seems like the target is on track; the target is potentially not on track. Can I ask specifically, is the target to have 50 per cent of new recruits female, or is it the target for 50 per cent of the police force to be female?

Cmmr STEVENS: The target, which was set to commence on 1 January 2016, was 50 per cent of sworn recruits.

Mr KNOLL: Okay, so there is not necessarily an end date to that, so it is not as though you are trying to achieve 50 per cent of the total workforce.

Cmmr STEVENS: No. I suppose ultimately that would be the aim over time.

Mr KNOLL: As a generation cycles through.

Cmmr STEVENS: Yes.

Mr KNOLL: How is that target going? You said there are 360 cadets at the moment.

Cmmr STEVENS: I do not have a total breakdown of the current situation, but when we commenced the intensive recruiting campaign to honour the 313 commitment, there were four courses where we were around the 46 to 42 per cent ratio of males and females. But, since then, for about the next 12 courses we are sitting around the 54 per cent mark. So, over the total life of the 313 program the target has been met.

I must stress that the obligation on me was to complete the 313 program, which essentially became the first priority, and the gender parity target became a secondary priority but one that was still expected to be honoured where possible, and I think we have achieved that quite successfully.

Mr KNOLL: Will Recruit 313 be completed by 30 June next year?

Cmmr STEVENS: Yes, it will.

Mr KNOLL: And that also takes into account the attrition rate over the 2017-18 year?

Cmmr STEVENS: Yes. One unknown variable we cannot account for is any changes to attrition that are not forecast, particularly amongst recruits who separate during a training program. It is very difficult to backfill those. Our discussions with the minister and with the Police Association have highlighted that this is a genuine effort to meet that target, and it would only be those variables that potentially would impact on the number.

Mr KNOLL: So, you are looking at a scaling down of the academy post 30 June next year?

Cmmr STEVENS: That is correct. We have had to undertake significant reform to the way we deliver our training to recruits to accommodate the substantial number we have in the academy at the moment. As an example, we have gone from courses of around 22 to 28 participants to courses of 50. The simple logistics of managing that influx, in terms of providing the same level of quality training, has required a rethink of how we do that.

A lot of the changes that have come out of addressing this 313 surge have provided us the opportunity to institute generational change in our training programs that might not have occurred for years under our normal operating processes. Having said that, once we complete the 313 commitment we will revert to recruiting against attrition, so there will be a scaling down of resources within the academy, and we will once again consider how we can most effectively provide training to a different group of people, a different number, at the same time.

Mr KNOLL: I have a couple of questions in the last couple of minutes. I know you are pretty tight on the time. Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 120, in relation to the investing expenditure. How many stages are there to the police records management system?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: What do you mean by stages?

Mr KNOLL: It mentions here stages 2 to 4. I assume stage 1 has been completed but I am not certain whether there are stages beyond 4, given that this is out to June 2020. Are stages 2 to 4 to be implemented this year?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I will invite the commissioner to answer this.

Cmmr STEVENS: The next forecasted rollout is stage 5, which is the bulk of the work which needs to be undertaken to deliver the Shield program. There will be other elements that follow that but essentially the bulk of Shield will be completed by then.

The CHAIR: I am going to insist on sticking to the timetable. If you have an omnibus later on, you might be able to include some of that later.

Mr KNOLL: We are here all day.

The CHAIR: We are here all day. I declare the examination of the proposed payments completed.

Sitting suspended from 11:00 to 11:16.

DEPARTMENT FOR CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, \$341,779,000

Minister:

Hon. P. Malinauskas, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety.

Departmental Advisers:

Mr D. Brown, Chief Executive, Department for Correctional Services.

Mr C. Sexton, Executive Director, People and Business Services, Department for Correctional Services.

Ms J. Casey, Director, Governance and Executive Support, Department for Correctional Services.

Ms K. Flannery, Manager, Executive Services, Department for Correctional Services.

The CHAIR: I declare the proposed payments open for examination. I refer members to the Agency Statements, Volume 1, and I invite you, minister, to introduce any new advisers you have with you.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Thank you, Mr Chairman. On my right, I have Mr David Brown, Chief Executive, Department for Correctional Services. On my left is Mr Chris Sexton, whose official title is Executive Director, People and Business Services.

The CHAIR: Thank you. Do you have an opening statement?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The year 2016 has been a challenging, but very exciting, year for Correctional Services, with one of the key highlights being the launch of the 10 by 20 strategy to reduce the number of people re-entering correctional services by 10 per cent by the year 2020. The South Australian prison population grew by 7.9 per cent in 2015-16, and although the growth slowed to 3.2 per cent in 2016-17, the 10 by 20 initiative aims to further stem the growth of prisoner numbers and alleviate the pressure on our prison system by reducing the rate of reoffending. Most importantly, the 10 by 20 initiative will create a safer community, with fewer victims and less crime occurring.

In 2016, a strategic policy panel was tasked with providing independent strategic advice on the development of a three-year reform strategy for 10 by 20. The panel handed down its report, comprising of six overarching themes and 36 recommendations, which outline a systematic change in the approach to the management of offenders. The state government has accepted all recommendations of the policy panel and released earlier this month an action plan that outlines the government's commitment to reducing reoffending and building community safety.

The state government has committed over \$40 million, including \$28,103,000 in new funding to achieve this target. A total of \$18.9 million has been budgeted over the forward estimates for the New Foundations program to support offenders leaving prison to obtain stable accommodation and support services to reintegrate back to the community.

A total of \$9.2 million has been allocated across the forward estimates to deliver the Work Ready, Release Ready program to ensure more prisoners have work skills upon release from prison and to link offenders with job network providers.

Rehabilitation programs focusing on family violence, sex offending, violent offending and drug and alcohol dependency will also be further expanded, with approved funding of \$12.5 million extended to 2020-21. Tailored rehabilitation will focus on the needs of Aboriginal offenders to address the disproportionately high rates of incarceration and reoffending.

The reality is that Aboriginal Australians experience higher levels of disadvantage than non-Aboriginal Australians on a range of measures, and the state government is committed to ensuring that the specific and cultural needs of Aboriginal offenders are appropriately addressed through the provision of supports, services and programs.

Expanding community supervision and reintegration is also a key pillar of the strategy and will include the expansion of the home detention programs, with additional monitoring staff, technology and support and rehabilitation services for offenders.

The Department for Correctional Services has already undertaken a number of reforms to increase non-custodial interventions, including the delivery of the Bail Accommodation Support Program. The state government committed \$9.773 million to deliver this program, which officially opened in May this year. The opening was a huge milestone for Corrections and the culmination of five years of work.

The Bail Accommodation Support Program is a significant investment in South Australia's justice system and provides short-term accommodation for up to 30 alleged offenders on bail who would otherwise be remanded in custody due to a lack of accommodation in the community. This is also a prime example of meaningful partnerships between the government and the non-government sectors.

The 10 by 20 strategy will also reduce costs to the community. The fact is that it is expensive locking people up, and this will free up government resources to invest in schools and hospitals rather than prisons and courts. We will have safer communities, fewer victims and a possible cost saving of approximately \$20.5 million.

As we continue to realise the impact of these outcomes, the pressure on the prison system continues to be adequately managed by expanding capacity across the existing prison infrastructure. Since the start of this term of government in 2014, the state government has invested \$242.5 million on extra capacity in our prisons, which equates to an additional 883 beds.

During 2016-17, an additional 142 beds were commissioned across the prison system at Mobilong, Mount Gambier and Port Augusta, with a further 128 expected to come online in the first quarter of 2017-18 at Port Augusta.

In June this year, I had the great pleasure of opening Mobilong's newest accommodation facility, the Eyre Unit. The Eyre Unit has been designed to fit with Mobilong's prison operating philosophy and further support an incentive-based regime system in which prisoners can progress through independent living accommodation.

In addition to this wonderful new unit for prisoners, there is an additional support building for staff, comprising an officers' station and multipurpose interview rooms, which can facilitate one-on-ones with professional services staff and conduct videoconferencing for the purpose of courts and legal visits.

Expanding capacity across the existing prison sites means jobs for local businesses, jobs for contractors and subcontractors and, importantly, jobs in Corrections. Over the last year, I have had the pleasure of seeing over 150 training correctional officers graduate into what will be a challenging but rewarding career.

In terms of community safety, the department's obligations do not just end with prisoners and offenders. Corrections must maintain an ever present duty of care to victims of crime. Earlier this year, it was announced that DCS would be part of a trial implementing GPS tracking ankle bracelets on domestic violence offenders. The trial is aimed at increasing the safety of victims and preventing perpetrators from reoffending by employing technological advances to better protect South Australians.

Despite the substantial challenges facing our prison system, I am committed to working with DCS to ensure it continues to fulfil its obligations to effectively manage the state's prisoners and offenders while exploring new pathways and implementing changes to benefit the system and, ultimately, the community.

At the conclusion of those remarks, I want to quickly put on record my sincere thanks to the men and women working within the department. I think it is fair to say that, despite the substantial challenges I have just outlined, not only has the department, by and large, managed well the circumstances and the pressures they are currently under, it has also had the ability to focus on what I have been very keen to see, which is a strategic, wholesale shift in the focus of Corrections towards reducing the rate of reoffending.

That has been a substantial policy undertaking and has required leadership and also a lot of hard work from a number of people working with DCS. I want to put on the record my sincere thanks to them for being able to do that because to manage a complex operational environment and also lead strategic change is quite a substantial effort, and I do want to sincerely express my thanks for a lot of hard work that has gone on within DCS in relation to that.

The CHAIR: Member for Schubert, do you have an opening statement?

Mr KNOLL: No.

The CHAIR: Please proceed to questions.

Mr KNOLL: I refer to Budget Paper 4, Volume 1, page 154, Custodial services, Activity indicators. What was the daily average prisoner population for the April to June quarter?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The April to June quarter of 2016-17?

Mr KNOLL: Yes.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I do not have a quarterly number, but I think it would be best to give the member for Schubert the actual daily average figure as at 30 June last financial year. Would that be of use, rather than the quarterly breakdown?

Mr KNOLL: I assume it is 3,001. That is what is in the budget, but that is only an estimated result.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No, it was the 2,998 figure. The actual daily average was 2,998.

Mr KNOLL: We were told at Budget and Finance that the January to March figure was 3,062. We also know that the nine-month figure to the end of March was 2,977 and if I roughly do the maths, it means that for the June quarter it is somewhere around 3,070, or thereabouts. I said 3,073, but if we are subtracting three, my numbers are going to be a bit off. Minister, the projection for 2017-18 states that 2,989 is going to be the prisoner population daily average for the 2017-18 year. How was that figure arrived at?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The department undertakes a very substantial exercise when it comes to prisoner projections. It is actually quite a complex exercise, but the department has proven to have a pretty good track record when it comes to trying to project prisoner numbers. It is an inexact science, naturally. We are trying to predict the future, and there are a large number of inputs that can affect what actually results in terms of the prison population, but the department has a forecasting exercise where it projects what the daily average will be. As you quite rightly state, the daily average projection for the 2017-18 financial year is 2,989.

Mr KNOLL: You said in your introductory remarks that the prison population increased by 3.2 per cent this year. The year before it increased by 7.9 per cent. On my maths, over the last six years, there has been about a 6 per cent average increase?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Correct.

Mr KNOLL: How is it that you are actually budgeting for a decrease in prisoner population over the coming 12 months?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Naturally, the department has to recast forecasts and projections on the basis of relevant policies the government may have or other legislative changes that may exist, so there are a few key things that will have an impact this financial year that were not present last financial year. We have seen an expansion in home detention numbers that members should all be familiar with but, also, in last year's state budget there was an investment of in excess of \$9 million, I think—I am advised it was \$9.9 million—towards additional criminogenic programs.

One of the key objectives of the investment in the extra criminogenic programs was making sure that prisoners got the programs they needed in order to be able to be paroled in some instances, and also to not come back. A combination of those things, amongst other things, has seen that forecast reduce in 2017-18.

Mr KNOLL: Let me unpack that a bit. Looking here at the forecast prisoner population for 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, as provided in the Public Works Committee submission on the Port Augusta prison expansion (this is from September 2015), it says that for the 2015-16 financial year you were predicting a 2,772 daily average. It ended up being 2,870, so it missed on the upside by 100 people. In 2016-17, it was predicted to have 2,853—sorry, that was 2,870. For 2017-18, it was predicted to be 2,937 and it ended up at 3,000.

In fact, if I were to go back to previous years, the prison population has overshot rather than undershot basically every single estimate. Given the fact that the long-term average is about 3 per cent and the average over the last five years has been 6 per cent, I struggle to see how these

figures are going to have a level of credibility unless there is something more specific coming into play.

I will move on to a question rather than commentary. In March 2017, the department made a submission to the Select Committee into the Administration of South Australia's Prisons that said the prisoner population was due to peak at 3,445 (this was for 2021-22), yet in April in a Budget and Finance Committee hearing—so we are talking a few weeks later—that figure was upgraded to 3,568. In the space of a few weeks there was a significant uptick. What changed earlier this year to cause, at that stage, an increase to the projected prisoner population?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Just so that I understand your question, you are saying that some time around March or April this year the projection changed, in one instance, for 2021-22 with an increase in the order of—

Mr KNOLL: About 120.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I was going to say about 100. Why did that happen?

Mr KNOLL: Was a calculation undertaken at that point? Was there a change in circumstances that caused a calculation change?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The timing of projections is around that time of the year. Projections are rarely remodelled, as you would reasonably expect them to be; they are projections, and I cannot reiterate enough that it is an extraordinarily difficult exercise to try to predict how many people are going to be going to gaol in four years' time. Nevertheless, that exercise is typically taken around that time of the year that you are referring to and that would have informed the change you refer to.

Mr KNOLL: In the profile of increase it seems that this 2017-18 year looks as if it is going to be an anomaly. You are forecasting a reduction, and after that it looks like it returns to trend. Can I ask: what number of prisoners are we assuming are going to be diverted from custody into a home detention scenario for the 2017-18 financial year? How many people are we diverting from prison to a home detention situation?

The other point I would add, minister, is that, over the time—and I think you have admitted this on a number of occasions—the recidivism rate has actually not decreased but has been increasing; it has been sitting at a higher level. So, the other question I have is: are you expecting a drop in the recidivism rate to contribute to this year's drop in prisoner population?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Let me start with that last point first. Yes, I have been on the record as saying that I believe a reoffending rate of 46 per cent is too high. Just to be clear, there are two measures when it comes to reoffending, as measured by the Productivity Commission through the RoGS data: there is a return to prison and there is a return to Corrections, the higher figure being a return to Corrections. In South Australia, that figure is approximately 46 per cent, and yes, I have been on the record as saying that I believe that number is too high, although it is important to provide a bit of context around that.

The national average for reoffending is in excess of 50 per cent, so South Australia does perform substantially better than the national average. That said, as a general rule, I still believe a 46 per cent figure of reoffending is too high, hence the government's commitment to a strategy of reducing that by 10 per cent by 2020.

In respect of your home detention question, we do not have a projection at hand for the number of people we see going into home detention by the end of the financial year. However, to give you some context, I have the numbers as at 30 June: there are 100 offenders on court-ordered home detention and on electronic monitoring—these are all people who are subject to electronic monitoring, I am advised—126 offenders on released ordered home detention; 420 offenders on intensive bail supervision, ordered by the court; one offender on a licence, ordered by the court; 27 offenders on parole, ordered by the Parole Board; 22 offenders on treatment intervention, ordered by the court; and four offenders on extended supervision orders, ordered by the court.

I am advised that DCS leases 1,270 electronic monitoring units and subleases 25 of these to the Department of Communities and Social Inclusion to monitor juvenile offenders.

Membership:

Mr Caica substituted for Hon. A. Piccolo.

Mr KNOLL: What rate of recidivism has been used to calculate the 2017-18 financial year daily average prisoner population?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The answer to your question—and it is a good one—is that the reoffending rate that is assumed for the purpose of the projections is based on what past practice has been. Figures are looked at historically in terms of what has reasonably been achieved around reoffending, and that informs the projections.

Mr KNOLL: So, it is around 46 per cent.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that it would not necessarily be an accurate description to pick a specific number and say, 'It is 46 per cent,' but I am advised that historical experience is what informs it over a substantial period of time, and a more recent experience has been 46 per cent, or thereabouts.

Mr KNOLL: So, it is not a change in recidivism rate: essentially, the best information that you can give is that more people are being diverted to home detention. Would that be a factor? I am just trying to get to the bottom of why we are seeing a blip when we have had an increase in prison population, and a steady increase, for quite a while. What are the major factors that caused this to turn around?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: As I alluded to earlier, I am advised that there are a number of variables that come together; there is no one specific measure or policy that results in that reduction. However, if I was to recap on some of the highlights: as I mentioned earlier, there was that substantial investment in criminogenic programs (and a very high number of approximately \$9.9 million) and that has a twofold effect, but for the purposes of this exercise it has the effect of ensuring that people have undertaken the programs that would best put them in a position to be eligible for parole where they otherwise might not be had they not undertaken the respective criminogenic program, so that is a significant variable.

The other thing that is worth mentioning is the introduction of the Bail Accommodation Support Program, which I alluded to in my opening statement. Just so the committee understands how that works, there was evidence to suggest that there were a number of people going onto remand, not necessarily because of the nature of their offending but rather because they had nowhere they could be bailed to in respect of a residential address where they could be located.

The Bail Accommodation Support Program provides temporary accommodation arrangements so that someone can receive bail who would otherwise have been put onto remand. That has already, I am advised—despite its only recent implementation a few months ago—seen a marginal reduction in the remand rate and that in turn informs what the prison projection is for this year, so there are a number of things that come together to inform that prison projection number.

Mr KNOLL: In terms of the criminogenic rehabilitation programs, are we talking about the domestic violence, Making Changes, the Sexual Behaviour Clinic and that sort of stuff?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes.

Mr KNOLL: In terms of criminogenic rehabilitation, those programs have been in place now for a number of years. Apart from the quantum, what changed about the programs that have caused them to be a factor?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The first point is that naturally the quantum is probably one of the most significant variables, because with additional investment there is more quantum, more people going through the programs, more people getting parole who would otherwise be ineligible. But that takes a lot of effort, and there are other elements to this as well.

Departmental programs are central to integrated offender management and currently delivered across a range of locations, both in prisons but also in community corrections, and the

program hours delivered counting rule includes only total program hours once a program is completed. Specialist staff deliver intensive group-based programs in prisons across the state. Each program commencement has a number of participants, and the number of offenders in each program varies, depending on the type of program, with up to 15 participants in some support groups. There are a number of elements that come together to be able to deliver that, but if you are asking this question specifically in the context of the projection, the quantum is a significant one.

I have here—helpfully given to me by the CE—a number of program hours being delivered. So, in the 2015-16 financial year, the actual number of hours delivered was 5,418. That went up to the estimated result in 2016-17 of 7,151, so that is a big increase and has a real impact when it comes to the number of people getting access to the necessary criminogenic program.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: Minister, I am referring to Budget Paper 5, Budget Measures Statement, page 23. We have talked about some of the programs, and the member for Schubert, I think, has led us in this direction, but I am interested in the New Foundations program?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I want to thank the member for Ashford for her question, because it is a really good one and speaks to exactly how the government is going to go about achieving our reoffending target that I talked about. Having a target is an important step forward when it comes to the strategy, but a target in and of itself does not just get realised, you have to make sure you are doing everything you can to realise that target, and the New Foundations program fits squarely in that category.

I mentioned earlier that a strategic policy panel was tasked with identifying best practice around the world and identifying strategies that would reduce the rates of reoffending, and they then released that panel report, with a number of recommendations and strategies associated with it. One of the key pillars of the government's response to the panel's report is the New Foundations program.

The New Foundations program will assist in the delivery of the 10 by 20 target by supporting offenders to desist from crime through the provision of appropriate accommodation and individualised supports and services. The government's commitment to reducing the rate of reoffending is demonstrated by the \$18.9 million investment in this program. Research shows that having access to stable and appropriate housing plays an essential role in the likelihood of someone reoffending or not, as we know that unstable housing and homelessness and crime are closely linked.

Stable housing also supports the effective delivery of rehabilitation and reintegration programs after offenders are released from prison. The New Foundations program seeks to address this need by linking offenders to appropriate housing if they are at high risk of entering into homelessness or inadequate housing when leaving prison.

The program will also include individualised reintegration, rehabilitation and tenancy management support to ensure participants successfully return to living in the community. New Foundations is based on an international model called Housing First, and is a recovery-oriented approach. The Housing First model seeks to establish permanent and stable housing arrangements for people who are at risk of homelessness, and in implementing this program the state government will be following best practice as Housing First programs are being implemented in Canada, the US and the UK.

New Foundations will be led by the department in partnership with the non-government sector, which will be responsible for providing appropriate accommodation, tenancy support, and rehabilitation and reintegration support services to participants. The program will involve:

- Accommodation—where participants will have immediate access to stable accommodation. The type of housing required will be tailored to the needs, strengths and preferences of the participant.
- Tenancy support—many offenders do not have the skills to live independently. They require support to build their capability and understanding of tenant responsibilities, which includes paying rent on time, being a good neighbour and property maintenance.
- Rehabilitation and reintegration support services—there will be individual supports and services available to participants to address underlying causes of their reoffending

behaviour. A range of services will be provided, including employment preparation, mental health treatment and family reunification supports.

The New Foundations program participants will be able to access housing and associated supports for up to 12 months following their release from prison. During these 12 months, participants will be responsible for building independent living skills with the intention that they will be capable of independently maintaining their living arrangements in the long term.

In combination, these supports will enable participants to return to the community in a stable and healthy way and as participating members of the community. I must stress, however, that this program is not about displacing other priority groups from community and social housing. Through a competitive procurement process, a tender will be released and will be supported by an innovate co-design process.

The contract with the successful organisation or organisations will include payment by results measures that will ensure that taxpayer money is used to achieve the best outcomes possible for the community. New Foundations will deliver a wide range of benefits to the community, and these include: first, reduced reoffending through addressing the length between homelessness and crime; reduced homelessness, as participants will be able to access secure and stable housing and will be provided with the support they need to sustain permanent housing; increased availability and diversity of accommodation options in the community that will support offenders but not displace other high-needs individuals; and, reduced demand for prison beds and the associated cost savings. It will provide value for money for the state by supporting the provision of housing and individualised support for eligible offenders in a way that achieves value for money.

Finally, New Foundations will enhance community safety by increasing the connection that offenders have with community through appropriate stable and sustainable housing to enhance rehabilitation and reintegration. The \$18.9 million investment in the New Foundations program is included in the 10 by 20 action plan response that I released in July to reduce the rate of reoffending by 10 per cent by the year 2020.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: Just building on that response, minister, I compliment you and everyone in Corrections for that action plan, which I think is an excellent way forward and makes clear what is the plan. I also put on record my appreciation of your support for Seeds of Affinity and the great work they do. You have talked about accommodation and support: everyone needs shelter, so that is pretty important. I refer to Budget Paper 5, Budget Measures Statement, page 24. Can you talk about the Work Ready, Release Ready program? Along with shelter, people also need employment.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Again, a very good question because you are absolutely right. We know from world's best practice when it comes to reducing reoffending, there are a number of key elements that need to be realised. One, as you mentioned, is housing, but the second is work or the prospect of being able to get a job. Along with basic support mechanisms in the community, the combination of those things is what can realise a reduction in reoffending.

The Work Ready, Release Ready program is speaking to that second element, which is about work. It implements a number of recommendations made by the 10 by 20 panel and forms part of the government's approximately \$40 million investment and rehabilitation measures aimed at reducing reoffending. The government has committed \$9.2 million to Work Ready, Release Ready. This initiative places a renewed focus on offender rehabilitation through increased access to education and support opportunities for prisoners and through supporting offenders to secure employment upon release, with the assistance of a specialist job network provider.

Many offenders who enter the prison system lack work skills and education, and over the past 15 years there has been a steady unemployment rate at the time of incarceration of 55 to 65 per cent. Research tells us that rehabilitating offenders and equipping them with the tools and impetus to make positive changes in their own lives, and motivating them to make positive contributions to society, will help to ensure offenders successfully reintegrate into the community and will lessen the likelihood of them reoffending.

Ensuring appropriate rehabilitation opportunities for prisoners and promoting their successful reintegration into the community upon release is obviously a government priority. The value in such

initiatives has already been recognised by the government in its support of educational programs and employment initiatives currently available to offenders. Currently, the department has its own registered training organisation, VTEC-SA, which offers accredited training packages and courses to prisoners. An established partnership with TAFE SA also provides vocational training to prisoners. Prison Industries provides prisoners with a structured day where work-life balance is mirrored to reflect community expectations.

I commend the department for the success of these initiatives and programs to date and their continual commitment in striving to achieve positive rehabilitation outcomes. I am pleased to tell you that Work Ready, Release Ready will enhance the education and employment initiatives currently offered to prisoners. The program will give offenders optimal opportunity to take ownership of their actions and address the reasons for their past offending behaviour. Upon entering the prison system, offenders will be evaluated on their individual education and employment needs. Areas of focus will be identified, allowing for a consistent approach to rehabilitation activities throughout the whole of an individual's sentence.

Education and job readiness vocational training opportunities will be expanded to help prisoners overcome barriers to employment upon release from prison. Prisoners will have the opportunity to access tailored education programs that meet the needs of both the individual prisoner and the needs of the job market. There will be an emphasis on upskilling prisoners in the use of technology to prepare them for transition into modern workplaces.

Partnerships with local businesses and specialist job network providers will be established to increase opportunities for offenders to obtain employment upon their return to the community. Having a specialist job network provider is fundamental. They will be engaged to work with prisoners to connect them with employers and assist them in gaining employment when returning to the community. Partnerships with the local business sector will also be established to raise awareness of prisoners' skills, further helping to break down barriers to employment for prisoners upon release.

The program includes appropriate performance indicators to achieve direct employment outcomes based on a fee-for-service and payments by results mechanism. Work Ready, Release Ready addresses the link between the lack of income security and crime and is geared towards reducing reoffending and obviously reaching the target, and building a safer community and healthier neighbourhoods in the state.

Mr KNOLL: We were advised in the select committee that the peak prisoner day—the day when we had the most number of prisoners—was 3,093. I think it was in early February, around the 1st or 3rd. Has there been any further update on that? Have we had a higher peak than on that day?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised no.

Mr KNOLL: Budget Paper 4, Volume 1, page 152, regarding the Custodial Services program. How many female prisoners do we have at the moment? I am happy for you to advise of the latest date you have.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that as at 28 July this year—which is today, so as of this morning—there are 158 women in AWP.

Mr KNOLL: Do you have there what the peak female prisoner population has been?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Sorry, just for the sake of the record, I said that there were 158 women in AWP. I should also mention that there are some women housed at Port Augusta and also at the Pre-release Centre—a far smaller number, I should mention, but a number. Sorry, your question was the peak—

Mr KNOLL: Female prisoner population.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: On the date that you talked about, when the prisoner peak occurred, 3 February, I am advised that there were 173 women in Adelaide Women's Prison.

Mr KNOLL: On the same page, same budget line, can I ask who the inspector of prisons is, or if it is more than one person, how many there are and who they are?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The visiting inspectors program has a number of people within it. I am advised that there are approximately 20 people who are visiting inspectors within our prison program. There is a lead visiting inspector. He is a gentleman by the name of Mr James Hugo.

Mr KNOLL: How many inspections would be done on a yearly basis?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: To get you a precise number, I am going to have to take that on notice.

Mr KNOLL: And if you have a breakdown by prison of how many inspections are done, that would be pretty good. Moving on, I understand that last year was the first year that, to save having to say that the budget blows out every year because you do not put in a separate budget for surge beds, can I ask what the budget for surge beds is in 2017-18? I understand that this is done on a yearly basis.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that the answer to that question is zero.

Mr KNOLL: So, you are saying that you are not going to use any surge beds this year?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that in the 2017-18 year, the predicted daily average, as we said earlier, was 2,989, but the projected approved number of beds as at 30 June 2018 is 3,291. Just to provide a bit of extra information for the member, that is a consequence of the Port Augusta Prison being expected to come online in coming months, and then, of course, the Mount Gambier Prison being due to come online this financial year as well.

Mr KNOLL: Do you have more precise dates on Port Augusta and Mount Gambier opening?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am able to say that it is our expectation that the Port Augusta Prison will be online certainly in the next four months.

Mr KNOLL: When you say in the next four months, do you mean by November?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes.

Mr KNOLL: Can I ask when the Mount Gambier Prison is scheduled to be open?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is that we plan to have it open by the end of the financial year, notwithstanding the fact, and I am happy to place on the record, that building prisons is an incredibly complex exercise. People understand that there may be delays in that process, but we are working to have it complete by the end of the financial year.

Mr KNOLL: I am just looking for the specific date. I understand that from either—

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I just want to be honest about this. We are working to have it completed by the end of the financial year. I am loath to provide a specific date because, naturally, these things are moving feasts. You understand that it is quite complex. I do not want to mislead anyone by identifying a specific date.

Mr KNOLL: Especially if you find more bones.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: That is exactly right. The exercise at Port Augusta, a substantial expansion of the 128 beds, has produced complexities that people cannot reasonably predict, including finding bones at the prison, which at one point we were concerned were human remains. These things delay these exercises. I am reluctant to put a specific date on the Mount Gambier prison, because we do not want to mislead the community down there, which has, by and large, worked with the sector to build the prison. There are a lot of people working on site. I just do not want to unreasonably mislead people by providing a specific date.

Mr KNOLL: In evidence that Mr Brown provided to the select committee, Port Augusta was due to be completed in March. At that time, it was suggested that it would be completed in what was the September quarter, so the third quarter of the year. Now you are saying that there is basically another three-month delay to the opening of the prison.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No, I am not saying that. What I am saying is that I am being very deliberate about making sure that I do not put a specific date on when Port Augusta will open so as to mislead anyone. We are working to have it online as soon as possible. There is hope that

that will occur by the end of September, but again, in light of the challenges that we have experienced at Port Augusta that are beyond anyone's control, whether it be the department or indeed the builders, I am just being very conscious that I am not inadvertently misleading or misinforming people's expectations around when it is to be open. But we are working to have it concluded by the end of September.

Mr KNOLL: Hang on, you just said November and now you are saying September.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I told you, when I told you, that we would have it open by the end of November, but that does not mean that we are not working to have it open sooner than that, and we would hope to have it open at the end of September.

Mr KNOLL: Either way, that is a delay from what we have been told previously when it was suggested that it would be open in August.

The CHAIR: This is just commentary, Mr Knoll. The minister has explained himself pretty adequately, I think.

Mr KNOLL: That is fine, I am happy to move on. Can I ask—

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Herein lies the point—

Mr KNOLL: Yes, because you do not want to give a deadline in case it gets blown out further. That is essentially what you are saying.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: You want to be cute about various time lines—

Mr KNOLL: I just want there to be some sort of definitive—

The CHAIR: Order! Member for Schubert, first of all, when we speak over each other, Hansard cannot transcribe what we are saying so it does not matter what we say. Second of all, the minister should be heard in silence. Do you have another question?

Mr KNOLL: I do. Same budget line: minister, can you detail payments made to non-government organisations from the Corrections department budget in 2016-17? Do you have a list there of organisations and how much money they have been provided?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: If you want a list that breaks down each NGO, who got how much, I would have to take that on notice. I am happy to do that.

Mr KNOLL: When will the New Foundations program actually be up and running? I understand we have to develop the thing, but when is the predicted go date?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: This financial year.

Mr KNOLL: Would that be the same for the Work Ready program?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: For both New Foundations and Work Ready, Release Ready, we are aiming to have them up and running this financial year.

Mr KNOLL: I am looking at the 10 by 20 report. There is a bit of a time line, and I must admit that it is a bit murky, but it does suggest that it will not be until—

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Not as murky as the opposition's policy in respect of the respective area, but nevertheless.

Mr KNOLL: Time will come. Essentially, you will be designing the New Foundations program in this financial year, but what I am looking at says that it will be 2019 before it will be delivered?

The CHAIR: What is that document you are reading from, member for Schubert?

Mr KNOLL: 10 by 20.

The CHAIR: That is the 10 by 20 document, is it? No, I believe you.

Mr KNOLL: I have read it cover to cover.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Just to reiterate, the government's objective for both the Work Ready, Release Ready and the New Foundations programs is to have both contracts executed this financial year and then implementation to occur beyond that.

Mr KNOLL: Are you looking at 1 July 2018 as a start date?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: You will understand, I am sure, that the money was in this year's budget, and we are now about to commence a procurement process. We are engaging with the non-government sector for a range of reasons. We believe they are going to be key partners in delivering these programs and now we are undertaking a procurement process. In terms of a specific date when this program will start and so forth and in terms of impacts, it would be a little presumptuous for me to articulate an exact date in light of the fact that the procurement process is still to finalise.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: I refer to Budget Paper 4, Volume 1, page 149. Minister, can you tell us about the community grants program?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I thank the honourable member for her question, and it does follow on, I think, from one question asked by the member for Schubert. The department is committed to strengthening its strategic partnerships with community organisations through the provision of community grants. The department's community grants program aligns with the state government's strategic directions of safe communities and healthy neighbourhoods and particularly the 10 by 20 strategy to reduce reoffending. The grants program was introduced by the department in 2013 to provide additional innovative, imaginative and creative services and programs to prisoners and offenders.

The grants aim to enhance protective factors of offenders in relation to their recidivism. Protective factors include matters such as employment, health, housing, relationships, finance and budgeting, as well as a range of other key life skills. The Department for Correctional Services recognises that connection to community and meaningful activity are important to reducing reoffending and improving community safety. Whilst traditional service providers continue to work with prisoners and offenders, DCS also actively seeks a more diverse range of service providers to approach addressing protective factors innovatively, with less reliance on a small number of community organisations.

Grant funding is available through DCS annually, with two types of grants offered for the provision of programs and services. The programs and services can be delivered in prisons, community correctional centres or in the community. The first type of community grants are for up to \$10,000. These may be short term and may be specifically designed to address location or regional needs. The second type of community grants are for up to \$40,000. These may have longer delivery time frames or require significant investments by the funded organisation.

The grants are one-off funding for the programs and services specified and are not intended as a recurring funding source. Both grant types require demonstration of meeting defined outcomes. Grant applications are evaluated and reviewed by an evaluation panel and recommendations are made to the CE for final approval. The awarded grants are detailed publicly on the department's website and in 2016-17, the department awarded 11 grants of varying amounts ranging from \$9,990 to \$40,000. Examples include:

- Neami National, which was awarded \$40,000 to deliver the Optimal Health Program to offenders in the community under supervision and at risk of recidivism due to mental illness or social, psychological, emotional or other health factors;
- Seeds of Affinity was awarded \$20,000 to deliver the Hadau: Planting Seeds for the Future program to female prisoners at the Adelaide Women's Prison and the Adelaide Pre-release Centre; and
- the University of South Australia was awarded \$9,900 to deliver the Mobilong Prison Radio Project, where 16 prisoners undertook a series of workshops to produce an induction CD for prisoners who are new to Mobilong Prison.

In the Mobilong Prison Radio Project prisoners were taught planning and interview skills and audio recording and editing techniques to produce radio features. They used the skills they learnt to interview other prisoners, staff who work in different areas of the prison and health staff to inform the induction CD. The CD will be played in the induction unit at Mobilong Prison via the television system to assist with the smooth transition of new arrivals to the prison. Not only did this project create an excellent mechanism for inducting new prisoners, it also taught the prisoners involved in the project important group planning skills as well as interview skills and audio and editing techniques.

The government and the department are committed to innovative initiatives that reduce reoffending and strengthen community safety. Further community grants will be awarded this financial year to enhance protective factors of offenders and help reduce recidivism.

The CHAIR: Thank you, minister. I would like to thank you and your departmental advisers. The time has expired, so I declare the examination of proposed payments complete.

Sitting suspended from 12:16 to 13:18.

DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY AND FINANCE, \$70,268,000
ADMINISTERED ITEMS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY AND FINANCE,
\$1,752,379,000

Membership:

Ms Redmond substituted for Mr Tarzia.

Minister:

Hon. P. Malinauskas, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety.

Departmental Advisers:

Mr M. Jackman, Chief Executive, SAFECOM.

Mr J. Schirmer, Manager Financial Services, SAFECOM.

Mr C. Beattie, Chief Officer, South Australian State Emergency Service.

Ms S. Di Ciocco, Business Manager, South Australian State Emergency Service.

Mr G. Crossman, Chief Officer, South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service.

Ms L. Lew, Business Manager, South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service.

Mr G. Nettleton, Chief Officer, South Australian Country Fire Service.

Ms J. Best, Business Manager, South Australian Country Fire Service.

The CHAIR: Welcome back, minister. In the post-lunch session, by agreement, you are appearing as the Minister for Emergency Services from 1.15 to 2.15 and as the Minister for Road Safety from 2.15 to 2.45. Are we all agreed? I declare the proposed payments open for examination and I refer members to the Agency Statements, Volume 4. I now invite the minister to introduce his advisers.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I will start by introducing the gentlemen who are sitting in the front with me. On my right, I have Mr Chris Beattie, who is the Chief Officer of the State Emergency Service, on my left is Mr Greg Nettleton, who is the Chief Officer of the Country Fire Service, and on his left is Mr Greg Crossman, who is the Chief Officer of the Metropolitan Fire Service. Behind me, I also have Mr Malcolm Jackman, who is the Chief Executive of SAFECOM. For the sake of the record,

I understand that, in terms of the way proceedings operate, I will provide an opening statement, but I think the questions are going to be directed at the representatives of the three agencies, and we will leave questions for SAFECOM to the end. That is the proposition.

The CHAIR: Excellent. Please proceed.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Thank you, Mr Chair. I would like to start by putting on the record an acknowledgment of the outstanding work of our emergency services sector over the past 12 months. In particular, 2016 was a very busy year. It was one of the wettest, windiest and most turbulent that our state has faced in recent memory. It is perhaps no surprise that this translated into the SES's busiest year on record ever, as they worked shoulder to shoulder with our other emergency service agencies, particularly the CFS but also the MFS, SAPOL and SA Ambulance, as well as the ADF and non-government organisations and everyday South Australians.

To give just a small snapshot of what this actually meant for the State Emergency Service and the sector more broadly, we are talking about more than 16,000 callouts in the 2016-17 financial year, which is more than double the yearly average experienced over the last 10 years: 300 tonnes of sand was loaded into 300,000 sandbags and 340 interstate volunteers were brought in to assist with local efforts. Yet, in the face of it all, I can confidently say that the sector demonstrated remarkable skill, expertise and tenacity befitting what many South Australians recognise as operating amongst the world's very best in terms of emergency services.

As a state, we are fortunate that in times of need we are able to rely upon our men and women in uniform, and I am extremely proud of the sector's efforts over the last 12 months. While volunteers and paid staff from our sector often and deservedly receive recognition for their efforts, I believe it is just as important that we take time to acknowledge the valuable ongoing support that SAFECOM provides our emergency services agencies.

Whether it is through finance, volunteer support or access to the latest training modules, I think I can safely speak on behalf of the chief officers in saying that the work SAFECOM does is critical to enabling responding agencies to focus their efforts on the front line. The vital work of Surf Life Saving SA and also our volunteer Marine Rescue unit should also not be forgotten for the significant contribution they make to the safety of South Australians along our coastlines.

I feel it is important to note the fact, during a time like budget estimates, that our emergency services sector is funded solely and entirely by the emergency services levy. While all property owners make contributions to the ESL, thankfully very few will count themselves as beneficiaries of the services provided. Even though many households will never call upon our emergency services sector, in the unfortunate event that they need to, the public will remain blind to the badge on the truck or the colour of the uniform. They can safely and reasonably expect the nearest, fastest and most appropriate response at their doorstep.

As part of this year's budget some of the additional measures for our sector include \$3.1 million to the MFS and SES to improve the processes for 000 and 13 2500; \$1.5 million to the SES to ensure compliance with new national maritime laws; and \$900,000 to the MFS for new level 1 PPE, level 2 PPE, helmets and chemical protective clothing for firefighters.

Another highlight of the past financial year was delivering \$470,000 for the third round of grants under the Regional Capability Community Fund. This means we will see another \$1 million worth of equipment, such as farm firefighting units, bulk water storage and personal protective clothing delivered to individuals and organisations across the state.

All things considered, I am fortunate to have in this portfolio some of the hardest working but also humble individuals. I would like to thank the chief officers and also the chief executive for their frank advice and continued efforts over the last 12 months. Looking ahead, the sector is in capable hands and I look forward to continuing to work together with the sector to build upon the successes that we have achieved so far in recent years.

The CHAIR: Thank you, minister. Member for Schubert, do you have an opening statement at all?

Mr KNOLL: Only a brief one to acknowledge that the SES has had an extremely busy year and we are very grateful for the work they do and also grateful for the fact that the number of bushfire

incidents was significantly down for the CFS, which is also very good news because it tends to be my electorate that wants to burn down. We have been very grateful to have a year off this year. Hopefully, the lower level of incidents can continue, although we cannot be complacent that that will be the case.

Can I first move to Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, page 63. It is CFS in regard to front-line service delivery. Minister, I think you will understand what is coming, because this is a perennial that my predecessor has been asking for a number of years: do you have any further update on the transitioning of the Mount Barker CFS station to an MFS-retained station, and do you have a date on when that is likely to occur?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I can provide some basic information regarding Mount Barker. The member for Schubert is right in saying that this has been an ongoing challenge that has existed for a number of years and something that the sector generally is still grappling with. In 2013, the Mount Barker CFS raised concerns that Mount Barker requires an urban orientated emergency service.

Mr KNOLL: Sorry, that is?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: It is 2013. The South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission began a review process, and an inclusive report was prepared and delivered in 2014. The Mount Barker urban fire and rescue enhancement project, and associated trial, was approved by the SAFECOM board on 25 March 2015. MFS appliances, training and equipment were provided and maintained in situ upon completion of that trial.

The primary objective of the trial was to ascertain whether the provision of different appliances plus additional training and equipment would reduce risk to the community. The trial concluded in June 2016 and a report was prepared by the deputy chief officers of the CFS and MFS and delivered in September 2016. The report focused on the specific technical terms of reference of the trial but also identified that a change in the service delivery model for the greater Mount Barker community would, at some time into the future, need to be considered seriously.

A proposal was prepared as part of the financial year 2017-18 budget cycle for additional funding to allow for the MFS volunteer brigade to transition to the station; however, that was not provided for in this year's budget round. At this point in time, the existing arrangements in Mount Barker will need to remain in place and the CFS continues, with the Mount Barker brigade issues, solutions and requirements, to ensure current service levels can be maintained. A new urban pumper will be delivered in the first half of the financial year 2017-18, and work continues on determining a statewide fire and rescue plan which will provide greater clarity for future requirements. Based on these requirements, we will seek to pursue a strategic landholding in Mount Barker in due course.

Just a couple of other remarks I would add: I am looking forward to the opportunity to meet in coming weeks—I think, without checking my diary, it is in the next few weeks—Mr Andrew Chapman from the local CFS brigade, who I know has been a passionate local advocate on this issue for some time. I am looking forward to the opportunity to meet him face to face to canvass this issue more broadly.

It is also important to note that the outstanding work of the CFS brigade in Mount Barker continues. They are a well-resourced but also, more importantly, highly committed brigade for their local community, and the advice I have received up until this point in time demonstrates that that commitment continues, and their response times are very good.

The local community in Mount Barker—I think the state, but particularly in Mount Barker—can be particularly grateful for that CFS brigade for providing an outstanding service. They are a very well trained brigade with cutting-edge equipment and are doing an outstanding job of keeping that local community safe in a way that is consistent with community expectations on the issue.

Ms REDMOND: Can I ask a supplementary in relation to that, not just specifically about Mount Barker but about the broader Hills area and, of course, in particular around Stirling, where I know that the Stirling CFS brigade already does more than 50 per cent of its callouts as non-bushfire related.

That said, although it is considerably closer to the city, the blocks are larger, so there are fewer infilled urban structures. We are coming up (this summer) to 35 years since Ash Wednesday, and we have not had a major burn through there. The CFS component is largely volunteer, and I believe it is fantastic and we should be developing our MFS paid people in those other areas, which are necessary up in the Hills now, but keeping our CFS volunteers, who do a great job on road accidents and all sorts of things as well.

What is being put in place to ensure the capacity in the broader Hills area of those CFS brigades as we approach 35 years since Ash Wednesday? We have had some close calls with Sampson Flat and others, with winds expected to be at 110 km/h heading down from the north into that area. It could be the equivalent of Black Saturday in Melbourne.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I might invite Chief Officer Nettleton to provide some operational remarks in regard to activity in and around the Hills. Before he does that, I will provide some general commentary. You are quite right, we are approaching 35 years and the area itself has changed. There are more people living in the area now, and needs and circumstances change as well. The general answer to your question is what governments of both persuasions have been doing since then to invest more substantially in our Country Fire Service. I had the experience of being in the Hills a few months ago and had the opportunity—

Ms REDMOND: Take a picnic lunch, did you?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No, I was in the Hills for a particular event with the CFS—and I am trying to recall exactly which brigade it was, as I have seen a few—and saw a whole bunch of equipment there that was used during the Ash Wednesday incident, and it is quite remarkable to look at the resources and tools that volunteer firefighters were using during Ash Wednesday compared with what is at their disposal now. It is astronomical how much change has occurred, and that is a credit to not just this government but to others as well.

We continue to invest in the CFS with a whole range of additional technologies and equipment to make sure that they are better equipped to deal with an Ash Wednesday-like incident. More than that, there have also been substantial investments in training to be able to deal with those. The training these days is a lot more sophisticated than it was 35 years ago, as you would reasonably expect, so the combination of training, equipment and collaboration between the agencies puts the state in a strong position to be able to deal with such an event, notwithstanding the fact that every bushfire, particularly a major one, brings with it its own unique risks and characteristics. I will invite Chief Nettleton to provide some additional remarks with regard to the Hills.

Mr NETTLETON: That was at Uraidla. I am Greg Nettleton, Chief Officer, South Australian Country Fire Service. In relation to all our brigades, bushfire comprises about 30 per cent of the work our brigades do. Road crash, road vehicle-related events, is about another 30 per cent, or a bit under; structure fires—we do a fair bit of work in that space and also provide assistance to SES. The act requires CFS to combat fires and other emergencies, so it is not specific around bushfires, that is why bushfire is only but a part of the work that the Stirling brigade does.

In response to your question about increased capacity in the Hills, we do not have a plan to establish any additional brigades in the Hills. We do have a plan to upgrade the level of capability in one of the Hills brigades at Belair, but we have created a metropolitan reserve component based out at Salisbury where people who do not live near a CFS station can still volunteer, and we have used them quite successfully over the last couple of seasons to supplement resources in places like the Hills. We intend to continue to grow that, and we are looking at, potentially in the long term, establishing two of those metropolitan reserve capabilities.

Ms REDMOND: Can I ask another supplementary on that? Through the minister, could the chief officer advise how many people are volunteering? I have been trying on behalf of one of the local brigades at which we recently met to try to increase the membership locally by approaching the community at large and advising how little time it takes to be involved in comparison to the huge benefit to the community. But I do not think we have had a huge response to it. Is the Salisbury based metropolitan idea engendering some activity and some genuine involvement by people living down here who want to be involved in that way?

Mr NETTLETON: Yes, it is. It is still growing quite a strong group of people now. What we have found is we have been able to capture people who once lived in the country who now live in the metropolitan area, and because there is no CFS brigade close by, they have rejoined the CFS. A number of our outer metropolitan brigades, and that is where our strength is and that is where we draw our surge capacity from, some of those brigades are pretty much at their maximum membership. If a brigade in the Hills is at its maximum membership, people go to that metropolitan reserve brigade we have at Salisbury and they are trained up there, then when a vacancy comes up in Stirling, for instance, they will go into the Stirling brigade.

Mr KNOLL: If I could ask some more questions on this line, minister. You said here that Mount Barker would at some time need to be considered to move across, so I assume it is going to happen at some point. It is turning into quite an urban metropolis. Can I ask how much it would cost to transition to retain the MFS model? I am sure that work has been done.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Let's go back over a couple of points. The first thing is that there are a number of options that could potentially be considered when such an effort was made. I think the most important work that is being undertaken at the moment within the sector regarding this is the statewide fire and rescue plan. That plan will help inform our decisions regarding areas like Mount Barker going forward. It should be known that there is more than one model when it comes to the provision of the service from the Metropolitan Fire Service. You can have a full-time station or a retained station, so there are a number of options available. Sorry, your question was?

Mr KNOLL: How much would it cost to transition to a retained station?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: To a retained station? For the sake of accuracy, what we might do is take that question on notice and we can provide it in due course.

Mr KNOLL: Has any land been acquired in Mount Barker for such a move?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No.

Mr KNOLL: At this stage, you do not have any estimated date of when this is going to happen?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No.

Mr KNOLL: Is it likely to be before or after 2020?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am reluctant to speculate around such a date. I think that would not serve the community particularly well. There is not a specific date in mind. I mentioned earlier that strategically an acquisition is something that the MFS does and the MFS, to their great credit, tend to take a long-term view on these matters when it comes to a strategic land acquisition. They have a number of sites around the state that they have acquired in order to be strategic about the location of MFS services going forward. My advice is that this has not occurred yet in respect of Mount Barker. It would be potentially unfair to the local community to put a specified date on this at this particular point in time when we are still at such preliminary stages.

Mr KNOLL: If I can move on to Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, page 66, targets. I did a bit of a reconciliation versus last year in relation to the stations that were proposed to be built and the ones that were actually built. It seems like stations at Lock and Delamere were not built.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: For the CFS?

Mr KNOLL: Yes. In the highlights, it says that new stations have been constructed at Farrell Flat, Gawler River and a whole heap of other places, but I note from the previous year that stations at Lock and Delamere were proposed to be built in the financial year but were not.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is that both those stations have now been built and opened.

Mr KNOLL: Obviously, it just did not make the highlights. Has the Rockleigh station actually been completed?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No, it is under construction at the moment.

Mr KNOLL: And that native title claim is now out of the way?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Say that again?

Mr KNOLL: I was just saying that native title claims have now been settled.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: There have been a number of complications with the Rockleigh site. I think we were chatting earlier in a prisons context around Port Augusta Prison. Naturally, there are some things that can prohibit anticipated dates of construction or building being realised, and that was certainly the case in the case of the Rockleigh station.

Mr KNOLL: If I can move on now to looking at Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, around the investing expenditure and about the equipment upgrade program. I am working my way through this technology. How many of the CFS trucks have selective catalytic reduction or AdBlue systems attached to them? I understand that some of these systems are inbuilt and some of them are post-market additions.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: We will have to take that one on notice to get those numbers for you. Is there something you specifically want to ask?

Mr KNOLL: Sure. It is something that attaches to the exhaust system. I assume it is about reducing carbon emissions from the exhaust. There is a process that it goes through. Again, the new cabs tend to have it fitted in, and I think there are some for which this AdBlue thing is an aftermarket thing that is attached. Essentially, it heats the carbon within the exhaust to a very high temperature. What I am trying to get to the bottom of is whether or not that is a fire hazard in something sitting in a few hundred degrees at the bottom of the truck that may be sitting in a field somewhere. I want to understand if that is an issue that has been considered. Have there been any incidents as a result of this?

The Hon. S.W. KEY: But where is it in the budget?

Mr KNOLL: It is in the capital works and vehicle and equipment replacement.

The Hon. P. Caica interjecting:

The CHAIR: Order, member for Colton!

Mr PEDERICK: If he wants to go, keep him here.

The CHAIR: Keep him here.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: We will take your question on notice. What I can say, though, is that I am advised that the new trucks that are delivered to the CFS are compliant with the Euro 5 standard, which speaks to issues around emissions and so forth, and vis-a-vis fire risk potentially as well. For the sake of accuracy, we will take on notice the question that you are asking. I would also mention that if there is a specific concern that you are referring to or a question that someone has raised with you, if you are happy to provide that information to my office that would enable us then to look more accurately at the particular inquiry that you raise.

Mr PEDERICK: I would like to ask a supplementary question, thanks. In regard to that, have there been any reports from any brigades of any of these trucks fitted with these devices lighting fires with these catalytic converters?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is that, to the best of our knowledge, no.

Mr NETTLETON: Well—

Mr PEDERICK: I do not know; I am asking the question.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I know you are asking the question. I am at a bit of a loss. We have had two questions on this now. What I would suggest, if I may indulge: are you just asking a random question around do trucks spontaneously combust, or are you basing your question on the basis of—

Mr PEDERICK: No, minister—

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Just let me finish—or are you basing your question on a particular piece of advice or concern that has been raised in the sector? If it is the latter, I am more than happy to undertake that, if you provide that information to us, we will seek to get an answer through the agency as quickly as possible.

Mr PEDERICK: Just to confirm, the advice is that there may have been issues where these exhausts under these trucks have actually started fires.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: So, you need to provide that.

The CHAIR: The minister has invited you to provide that to him.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: If you are happy to provide those queries through my office, I will make every effort to get you an answer as expeditiously as possible.

The CHAIR: We will come back to the budget now with the member for Schubert.

Mr KNOLL: Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, page 78, Program summary. In the ESL hearing a couple of months back, we were advised that the likely MFS overspend on the 2016-17 budget was likely to be around \$2 million. I just want to ask what the actual overspend was? I suppose I could also ask whether Mr Jackman received the rap on the knuckles that he was expecting.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: What was that?

The CHAIR: I think the member for Schubert was being a little facetious. We can probably strike that from the record, could we not?

Mr KNOLL: It was from Mr Jackman's mouth during the hearing. He says he expects to get rapped over the knuckles.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: If I may, it is bit hard doing the questions in this order, but I am inclined to take that on notice because I am advised there are still some workers compensation numbers to be reconciled that will inform that number.

Mr KNOLL: If I can move on to Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, page 87, Statement of financial position, especially in relation to—

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Which agency?

Mr KNOLL: The MFS; sorry. It is in relation to leave balances. I want to read a couple of sentences from the annual report, which states:

The MFS workforce is also ageing and the replacement of highly trained and experienced personnel will pose significant challenges. Many of our long serving personnel have accrued significant leave balances during their careers while others are developing health issues associated with age.

It goes on to say firefighting is a 'physically demanding occupation while nearly a third of the operational workforce is approaching retirement age.' It is very much saying that we have kept our people and we like to keep our people because they are highly trained, but there is a cohort of them who are reaching retirement age and we have a bit of a baby booming balloon at the end. My first question on this line is: what is the policy around firefighters taking annual leave and long service leave? Is there a policy that they are allowed to continue to accrue or are they required to take certain amounts of leave on an annual basis?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: In respect to long service leave, that is accrued and people have to apply to take it. In respect to annual leave, you may be aware that, in the MFS, there is a very structured and regimented rostering regime, and within that is fixed into it when officers take their annual leave.

Mr KNOLL: So, there would not be significant annual leave balances that are accruing over time?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is that the answer to that question is no, but the nature of the way annual leave is rostered in means that it is necessarily being used up. It would only be in an exception or an unusual circumstance where you would have a member accruing a huge swathe of annual leave.

Mr KNOLL: That suffices for me at this stage. Do you have a breakdown of the profile of when this cohort of firefighters is likely to retire? It says here that nearly a third of the operational workforce is approaching retirement age. Do you have some greater clarity on those numbers?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I do not have an age breakdown per se at hand, but I am happy to take that on notice. It is something I have asked about myself. I just do not have it at hand, so I am happy to take that on notice.

Mr KNOLL: Also, minister, can you provide whether or not there will be a need for an increased budget allocation to cover off on that retirement? We have accrued these long service leave balances, and that will have a cash implication, as opposed to necessarily a—

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: That is all budgeted for.

Mr KNOLL: When will the enterprise bargaining agreement be finalised?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Mr Chairman, I am sure the member for Schubert is very conscious of the fact that it takes at least two parties to agree on when negotiations finalise. They will be finalised when agreement is reached.

Mr KNOLL: Is this EB agreement subject to the 1½ per cent wage increase cap?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: That is the policy of the government.

Mr KNOLL: When the policy was changed there were some agreements that were—well, not grandfathered in, but if negotiations had not started before that policy change came in—

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am loath to go into the detail in terms of an EBA negotiation that is on as we speak. You would appreciate that I do not sit at the negotiating table itself. There are established processes within government about how that operates. Furthermore, whenever EBA negotiations occur, they occur on a without prejudice basis. I am not sure how it would assist the committee if I were to speculate on the current EBA process that is underway, which I assume would be occurring on a without prejudice basis. Public commentary on my part here now, I do not think would be in the state's interest or in the interests of members of the committees.

Dr McFETRIDGE: With the indulgence of the committee, Independent members have been able to ask questions in the past. On that same reference or on the EB, minister, congratulations on extending the workers compensation cover to SAPOL. Are you doing the same thing for firefighters under the EB or is there legislation? Can you tell the committee how many Metropolitan Fire Service firefighters are now at the end of the two-year cut-off period for significant injuries and are having to dip into their long service leave and other accrued leave? What is being done about that?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I would like to thank the member for Morphett for his question because it is good one. As the committee would be aware, last year the state government committed itself to resolving what could otherwise be described as a dispute with the Police Association of South Australia regarding their workers compensation arrangements. The state government, when deciding to reach a resolution on that matter with the Police Association, was very conscious of the fact that, if the government was going to provide an additional entitlement to police officers, then it would be reasonable that that entitlement also be provided to other emergency first responders.

Of course, that includes the MFS, and not just our paid employees but our volunteers as well, who do get access to workers compensation arrangements. At that same point, the government committed itself to providing the same entitlement to our fireys, along with other agencies as well. That process is being worked through as we speak, with negotiations taking place.

When we announced that policy early last year, as a result of a cabinet decision, it was the government's intent that those entitlements be provided through industrial arrangements through respective industrial instruments, typically an enterprise bargaining agreement. That does not necessarily have to be the case. Obviously, there is a complication there in respect of volunteers, and that is something we are overcoming; where volunteers do not have enterprise bargaining agreements it has to be a different industrial instrument.

To be concise, the short answer to your question is yes. That work is in train and we are providing that entitlement to Metropolitan Fire Service personnel, notwithstanding the fact that there

are peculiarities in terms of the operational difference around the application of that entitlement for fireys in comparison to police officers.

Dr McFETRIDGE: Is there a cohort of MFS firefighters who have been caught up? Their two years is up now and they are having to draw on their long service leave and that sort of thing rather than workers compensation entitlements?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I would have to take that question on notice.

Dr McFETRIDGE: If there is can you make sure there is some form of cushion or compensation put in place so that they are not being—

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: That is certainly something that is being contemplated by the government, yes.

Mr KNOLL: I move on to Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, page 63, Frontline Service Delivery for the CFS. What is our current CFS aerial firefighting capacity? I am keen to unpack the arrangements, because they are obviously shared and there are contracts.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I have been advised that the CFS has 18 aircraft contracted for the fire danger season. In 2016-17, aircraft flew 210 hours and dropped 822,000 litres of fire suppressant, which is well below the five-year average—

Mr KNOLL: What is the five-year average?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised the five-year average is 3,689,750 litres, and this year there was only 822,000, which is, of course, a good thing. The 2017-18 budget for aircraft is \$7.6 million, and the expected expenditure for 2016-17 on aircraft is \$7.067 million.

Mr KNOLL: And \$7.6 million was for 2017-18?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes.

Mr KNOLL: And then \$7.06 million was 2016-17?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Correct.

Mr KNOLL: Do you have a breakdown of the aircraft types?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: There are 18 aircraft: 10 fixed single-engine air tankers; one high-volume helicopter (the Erickson aircrane, aka Elvis); four fixed-wing surveillance aircraft; and three rotary-wing air attack observation platforms.

Mr KNOLL: In terms of Elvis, the cost of that was pooled nationally. Can you break down that arrangement? I understand Elvis comes from the US, and he leaves the building at the end of every summer.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Being of a slightly more operational nature in terms of how it is used and where it comes from, I might invite the chief to answer that.

Mr NETTLETON: The Erickson aircrane is the aircraft we are talking about, and six aircraft come to Australia every summer. They are imported by a company from Victoria. The actual air frames could come anywhere from the US, Canada, Greece or France. The contract for Australia is for six aircraft. Two go to New South Wales, two go to Victoria, one to South Australia and one to Western Australia. The aircraft is an E model aircraft. The one named Elvis is an F model aircraft, but it does not actually come to Australia. Certainly, the aircraft we get are E models.

The Australian government, through the National Aerial Firefighting Centre, provides about \$15 million a year to cover off on aircraft for states and territories. Of that, South Australia gets about \$1.9 million. It is not specifically for the aircrane, it is for the whole fleet.

Mr KNOLL: Is the \$1.9 million figure you mentioned the cost to the CFS, or did the feds fund that?

Mr NETTLETON: It is not quite \$1.9 million, but about \$1.9 million is what comes to South Australia through the National Aerial Firefighting Centre out of the commonwealth allocation.

Mr KNOLL: So, we do not pay for the E class—not Elvis?

Mr NETTLETON: We do. We do not attribute that \$1.9 million against a specific aircraft; it is spread across the whole fleet.

Mr KNOLL: Okay, that makes sense.

The CHAIR: Member for Schubert, I want to remind you of the time. You did say there was an agreement to go to SAFECOM at some point. I want to remind you so that you are aware of it.

Mr KNOLL: Yes, sir, I will be very quick.

The CHAIR: It is up to you.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: We are happy with however you want to do it. If you do not want to do SAFECOM—

Mr KNOLL: That is okay.

The CHAIR: It is in your hands, member for Schubert. I am just reminding people of the time, that is all.

Mr KNOLL: I refer to Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, page 99, targets 2017-18, Regional Capability Community Fund (which is a CFS program). How much money is in the budget for 2017-18 for this program?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The fund was commenced in 2015-16, and the commitment was \$2 million over four years, so the fund is for \$500,000 each year. For the sake of transparency and accuracy, of that \$500,000 included in 2017-18, which is the year you asked about, \$470,000 is allocated to grant fund recipients and \$30,000 is provided to SAFECOM to administer the distribution of the fund.

Mr KNOLL: In Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, page 66, the highlights for 2016-17 show that there are 38 new trucks to be delivered this year.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Which agency?

Mr KNOLL: CFS. If there are 38 trucks in the MFS, I think Greg would get excited. What is the total cost of that truck upgrade? Can you commit to providing a schedule of where those trucks are slated to go?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Is there a brigade back home you want to know about?

Mr KNOLL: Maybe.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Every time I get asked a question about trucks by local members, there tends to be a specific brigade they have in mind.

Mr KNOLL: I did not talk about the fact that Mount Barker took Nuriootpa's truck, but that is okay.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Are you asking about the 2017-18 targets, or do you want to know about the 2016-17 outcomes?

Mr KNOLL: The upgrade for the 38 new trucks is a target for the next financial year, 2017-18.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes, 2017-18.

Mr KNOLL: What is the budget for it? Where are the trucks going to go?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: In terms of the vehicle breakdown, my advice is that there is priority planning for 39 new trucks, three quick response vehicles, three type 14 tankers, 11 type 34 tankers, six type 34P tankers, three type 34URP tankers, 11 type 44 tankers and two Hazmat vehicles.

In terms of where those trucks are going, it will come as no surprise that there is a plan that the CFS has in terms of where those trucks get rolled out. There is a schedule of trucks and there is

a high degree of consciousness across the CFS around fleet programs, timings, rollouts, the location of various trucks and so forth. We do not have the whole program in front of us but I am happy to take that question on notice and see if we can provide a bit of detail about what that rollout schedule is for those particular new trucks.

Dr McFETRIDGE: Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, the MFS reference at page 76, Program net cost of services summary, \$134.7 million. Under objective it states:

- engage with our stakeholders and effectively plan to meet community needs...
- be prepared in order to provide efficient and effective emergency services

Can the minister tell the committee if he or one of his agencies, particularly the MFS, are aware of the particular brand of aluminium panels fitted to the Royal Adelaide Hospital? For the committee's information, the supplier of the aluminium cladding for the new Royal Adelaide Hospital is Yuanda Australia Pty Ltd, the same suppliers to the Perth Children's Hospital. The particular issue in the Perth Children's Hospital is a type of cladding called Haidabond.

Minister, can you tell the committee if that is the type of panel that has been supplied to the outside of the new Royal Adelaide as it is in the Perth Children's Hospital, and are there the same concerns about the new Royal Adelaide Hospital cladding as in the Perth Children's Hospital audit report?

The CHAIR: While the minister is conferring, may I just say that the minister is not directly responsible for the cladding on the Royal Adelaide Hospital, but he may have an opinion or his officers may have an opinion on it.

Dr McFETRIDGE: It is under the 'be prepared'.

The CHAIR: They are responsible for the cladding?

Dr McFETRIDGE: No, they are being prepared to provide—

The CHAIR: I see, be prepared.

Dr McFETRIDGE: Yes, you have to be prepared.

The CHAIR: As I said, the minister can answer it. He is not directly responsible for the cladding.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The committee and the South Australian public will be pleased to know that we do have a robust process in the state when it comes to building approvals and the like. Those responsibilities do not principally rest with the MFS but, nevertheless, the MFS has a role to play in this process. Notwithstanding that, the chairman is quite right that this is not directly a responsibility, it is a planning issue. A number of years ago the MFS made some inquiries into the NRAH, and I might invite the Chief Officer of the MFS to speak to that experience to put to bed any concern around this. I know there have been queries about this in the past and we seemed to have put this information out publicly but it does not hurt to reiterate it. I will invite the chief of the MFS to provide a few remarks.

Mr CROSSMAN: Thank you, minister, and thank you very much for the question, too. The Metropolitan Fire Service built environs section within its Community Safety and Resilience Department is not responsible for the approval and compliance of particular building elements. However, it takes an interest in the conformity to building regulations national codes of construction.

Following the Lacrosse fire in Melbourne in 2015, I believe there were concerns nationally and internationally regarding the performance of cladding and particular types of cladding being used in construction within the state. The built environs section made specific contact with the private certifier of the NRAH building, with specific interest around cladding. We were able to identify that the cladding used is Alpoloc wall cladding, and there is a code mark and a certificate of conformity, so we are extremely comfortable that the cladding used on the NRAH building does conform with the national construction codes.

Dr McFETRIDGE: Is it the one known as Haidabond?

Mr CROSSMAN: No, it is not.

Dr McFETRIDGE: Perth Children's Hospital has put in place evacuation plans, I suppose I would call them—they call them management-in-use procedures—for when their external sprinkler systems are turned off. Is that the same at the new Royal Adelaide Hospital, minister, do you know or are you aware, or perhaps the chief can enlighten us?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Just so I understand your question, would you mind repeating it for us? Sorry.

Dr McFETRIDGE: The Perth Children's Hospital has aluminium cladding on the outside, and they have evacuation plans, I would call them; their audit calls them management-in-use procedures. If the sprinkler systems are turned off they have to have these in place. Is there anything like that here, if the external sprinkler systems are turned off?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Notwithstanding the chief's remarks that hopefully put to bed some of the concerns the member for Morphett raised regarding the cladding used in respect of the NRAH and it being safe in the MFS's opinion, your question goes to evacuation procedures that exist at the NRAH. That responsibility rests with the building operator, in this case SA Health, so I think your question would be best directed to the Minister for Health.

Dr McFETRIDGE: But don't the fireys want to know if people are out? They would want to know if the evacuation plans exist and are able to be implemented. I would have thought so. You would want to know people are out when you get there.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: That being an operational question, I am happy to invite the MFS chief to see if he can provide a bit more detail for you.

Mr CROSSMAN: Thank you very much, minister. Obviously, the performance and construction of the building is of huge interest to firefighters to ensure people do have time to evacuate the building if the building does go into a fire mode. We do not have jurisdiction on evacuation. That is, as the minister said, the responsibility of the building owners, and there are Australian standards around evacuation.

The fire service does involve itself with working with particular buildings and agencies to ensure that evacuations are appropriate, and there have been two officers particularly looking at the building fire safety provisions within the NRAH. The next phase of the NRAH operations will be an operational exercise with troops on the ground. We are extremely comfortable that all the plans in place with the NRAH are meeting our satisfaction.

Mr KNOLL: If I could just very quickly move over to SAFECOM, Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, page 97, program summary. We heard at the ESL hearing last year that a strategic plan for 2015 to 2025 was completed, yet I see here in the highlights for 2016-17 it says:

Developed a strategic framework for the emergency services sector to replace the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Strategic Plan 2015–2025.

Can you explain why something that was only done by the middle of last year needed to be replaced this year?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: As I suspected, the strategic plan that you referred to, which was contemplated in the context of the year 2020-25, was something that was put together when the government was in the process of analysing and contemplating a more comprehensive change strategy in respect of the emergency services sector. That was a policy that was later put to one side. That then necessitated making sure the strategic framework the sector had in operation was more consistent with current government policy, hence the more recent strategic framework you referred to being in place more recently.

Mr KNOLL: Is there an ongoing budgeted amount put aside for the developing of that framework, or has that work come to a close and those people redirected?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is that that process is now complete.

The CHAIR: As per the agreed timetable, we will now move to road safety. The minister has something to add?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I put on the record that, despite it being the busiest year on record for the State Emergency Service, they did not get one question in this place, which shows that they must have done an outstanding job.

The CHAIR: Well done. Let's get on to road safety, a subject close to my heart. There being no further questions, I declare the examination of the proposed payments referred to committee A.

DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE, \$860,577,000
ADMINISTERED ITEMS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE, \$9,208,000

Minister:

Hon. P. Malinauskas, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety.

Departmental Advisers:

Ms L. Williams, Deputy Commissioner, South Australia Police.

Mr I. Hartman, Manager, Financial Management Services Branch, South Australia Police.

Mr P. Gelston, Chief Operating Officer, Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure.

Ms F. Cartwright, Acting Manager, Safety Strategy, Safety and Policy Programs, Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure.

Mr B. Seidel, Acting Chief Finance Officer, Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure.

Mr M. Hanton, Manager, Road Safety, Communications and Engagement, Motor Accident Commission.

The CHAIR: I welcome the Minister for Road Safety to the table. I declare the proposed payments open for examination and refer members to the Agency Statements, Volume 3. I invite the minister to introduce his primary advisers.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: On my right is Mr Paul Gelston, Chief Operating Officer, DPTI; on my left is Linda Williams, Deputy Commissioner, SAPOL; and on her left is Fiona Cartwright, Manager, Safety Strategy, Safety and Policy Programs, DPTI. South Australia's Road Safety Strategy 2020, Towards Zero Together, has set a target to reduce road fatalities and serious injuries by at least 30 per cent by 2020, to fewer than 80 fatalities and 800 serious injuries respectively.

South Australia has achieved substantial reductions in the fatality rate over the last decade, from 7.5 fatalities per 100,000 of population in 2006 to 5.1 in 2016. In 2016, South Australia recorded its lowest road toll on record, with 86 fatalities, and that was 16 fewer than 102 fatalities recorded in the year prior. Notwithstanding that, 86 fatalities is still too many.

While much attention is given to fatalities, serious crashes can often result in permanent injury to the victim and have substantial impacts on their families and friends and on the community in general. Preliminary figures indicate that there were 692 serious injuries on South Australian roads for 2016. The total cost of road crashes of all severities in South Australia during 2016 was \$1.5 billion.

The decline in road trauma has been achieved despite a steadily rising population and growth in the number of motor vehicles and the number of licensed drivers. Despite these reductions, it is no time for complacency because even one death on our roads is one too many. The government remains committed to continuing to undertake a range of road safety initiatives.

The Motor Accident Commission, South Australia Police and emergency services continue to work alongside the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure and the community to play a pivotal role in raising awareness of key road safety issues, including the importance of enforcement, engineering and infrastructure initiatives, emergency services and education. I should also add that the Motor Accident Commission has a vital function in this as well.

In 2017-18, the Community Road Safety Fund will provide \$81 million to reduce fatalities and serious injuries on our roads. Shoulder sealing and audio tactile line marking will continue on rural roads, with \$10 million allocated in 2017-18 and \$40 million spent over the four-year period between 2015-16 and 2018-19. Other infrastructure works include safety improvements at railway pedestrian and level crossings as part of an initial \$12 million investment in the state government's Railway Crossing Safety Strategy.

In an Australian first, state-of-the-art technology that triggers safety measures when vehicles are detected approaching intersections will be installed at four rural intersections. Research shows that the impact of road trauma can be substantially reduced with every reduction in vehicle speed, and the Rural Intersection Active Warning System is able to reduce the speed limit when it detects vehicles approaching an intersection. Excess or inappropriate travel speed was a contributing factor in 25 per cent of fatal crashes last year. Ten safety cameras will be installed at priority locations to reduce casualty crashes.

Drug driving is also a growing road safety risk. The government is taking a low tolerance or zero tolerance approach to drug driving, with legislation currently before the parliament proposing a three-month loss of licence for first time offenders, along with increased disqualification periods for repeat offenders and a new offence of drug/high-level drink-driving with a child under the age of 16 in the car. The government has extended funding to the University of Adelaide Centre for Automotive Safety Research (CASR) for its world-renowned road safety research. The funding will allow CASR to carry out research relevant to the specific road safety needs of South Australia.

On the Right Track Remote, a driver licensing program for Aboriginal people in the APY lands and also the Maralinga lands, continues to deliver outcomes. Prior to the program's commencement, the licensing rate across all licence types, including learner's permits for Aboriginal people living in the APY and MT lands, was 17 per cent compared with 89 per cent of the state's overall population. The licensing rate for Aboriginal people on the lands has now more than doubled to approximately 36 per cent across all licence types.

Engaging with local communities around road safety issues is vital to achieving improvements in road safety outcomes. The Residents Win program provides communities with direct access to funding (\$500,000 a year over four years) enabling them to be involved in creating people-friendly streets and safer roads. In 2016-17, 18 projects were funded with a total value of \$1,410,849 through partnerships with councils and communities. This government is committed to implementing reforms, maintaining enforcement and funding research to further reduce road trauma.

Mr KNOLL: If I could start off in relation to your answer around the 10 additional safety cameras, have locations for those been decided?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that the selection process has commenced, in accordance with the criteria that the department contemplates when it comes to the locations of these devices. I am not sure if this has been stated publicly yet or not. It might be an announcement. The government has decided that five of the 10 locations will be at school safety crossings and the other five will be in the usual locations in accordance with the criteria.

Mr KNOLL: When are those cameras likely to be installed?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The objective is for this financial year.

Mr KNOLL: Will they be installed by 30 June or will they be installed this calendar year? Is there any more detail?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is this financial year. That could mean earlier, but the objective is to get it done this financial year.

Mr KNOLL: You are being very coy on dates, minister. Can I ask how much money was spent on the shoulder sealing program in 2016-17? I heard that it was \$10 million in 2017-18.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is that the allocation is \$10 million per year for four years.

Mr KNOLL: Has the money for 2017-18 been allocated?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: In terms of locations?

Mr KNOLL: Yes.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that the department does have a schedule for those shoulder sealing works for the remainder of the financial year, yes.

Mr KNOLL: Can you provide them? You do not have to read them out now.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I will have to take it on notice.

Mr KNOLL: Can I ask about the State Black Spot program and how much was spent in 2016-17?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: In 2016-17, the state government invested \$9.8 million to treat 21 blackspot locations across the state.

Mr KNOLL: What is the allocation for 2017-18?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: I am advised that in 2017-18, the state government has allocated a further \$8.5 million for blackspot funding projects. Just for a bit more information, the Australian government has also allocated an additional \$6.2 million.

Ms REDMOND: Could I ask a couple of questions in relation to the minister's introductory remarks? You mentioned that the total cost of motor vehicle accidents was \$1.5 billion. I was just wondering how that figure was arrived at? My experience with serious accidents is that it may be many, many years after an accident before a compensation package is determined because it takes so long for people to get over it and the court proceedings and so on. Is that cost simply the cost of original attendance and hospitalisation and so on, or is it some sort of overview of what the ultimate figure is, and how does it come to each year?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: It is an estimated cost figure, and it is determined by a national model that was established pretty recently, I think—in the last few years. It is based on the willingness to pay.

Ms REDMOND: Sorry, it is based on what?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Willingness to pay, it is called. It is a model that was set up in New South Wales initially. It is a national model. It is based on the community's willingness to pay to avoid death or injury due to a road crash. It reflects the monetary cost of illness, injury and death, the impacts on quality of life, sense of security from being safe and also a person's assessment of their risk to life due to using the road. It is a model that seeks to come up with a figure that reflects the community's willingness to pay in the context of a road crash. It is a very difficult—

Ms REDMOND: I may have to ask for some sort of briefing on how that works.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Sure; I am happy to take that on notice and provide that information.

The Hon. P. CAICA: On page 132 of Budget Paper 4, Activity indicators, it has, 'No. of detections as a percentage of the number of vehicles passing mobile speed cameras'. Underneath that it has, 'No. of detections as a percentage of the number of vehicles passing fixed speed cameras'. Just for my information, the point-to-point cameras that measure average speed over a distance, are they included within the fixed camera percentages?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is that they would be. They are a far smaller number in comparison just by virtue of the fact there is a far smaller number of point-to-point cameras.

They are more expensive. I think point-to-point cameras are a fantastic innovation in terms of achieving the desired outcome of people not speeding.

The Hon. P. CAICA: They certainly work for me.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: That says a lot. My advice is they are probably included within those numbers, but for the sake of accuracy we will take that on notice as well.

Mr KNOLL: Page 101, fees income: can I ask what the amount of money received from mobile speed cameras was in 2016-17? By that I mean speed cameras that are either attached to the vehicle or placed on the side of the road when the vehicle is sitting there.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Are you after the dollar figure—

Mr KNOLL: The dollar figure.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: —or the number of detections?

Mr KNOLL: I am going to ask questions around the fixed cameras, the average speed cameras and mid-block intersection cameras, so if there is a total figure for all speeding and red light fine income, I am happy to take that and also have it broken down into whatever categories you break it down into.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: This is more of a SAPOL question in other respects, so I am grateful for Mr Hartmann's advice here. Were you after the 2016-17 actuals?

Mr KNOLL: Yes.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: The 2016-17 actual for mobile speed cameras, I am advised, is \$15.3 million and for fixed cameras, it is \$26.8 million. I am advised that that would include red light. Unregistered and uninsured would be \$5.5 million. For point-to-point cameras, it is \$900,000. That might help the member for Colton, in terms of understanding how many people get caught by those. Did you want me to continue with other revenue in terms of fines?

Mr KNOLL: Yes, definitely.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: For traffic infringements, it is \$13.8 million; and for other, \$6.8 million.

Mr KNOLL: Traffic infringements are where a police officer pulls you over for speeding?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: Yes, that is my advice.

Mr KNOLL: And that is the sum of all money that goes into the CRSF?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No. The figures I have just provided are provided in the context of SAPOL's advice regarding respective fine sources, not necessarily the funds that go into the Community Road Safety Fund. That is a distinct question.

Mr KNOLL: Maybe if I ask this in a slightly different way. In 2015-16—and 2016-17, I am sure, will come out soon—the appropriation or revenue from anti-speeding devices was \$81 million. I am keen to get a breakdown of where that money comes from. It can be definitional, as in, it is these speeding fines, but not these other ones.

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: You are going to a point here that I think is worth my articulating if we are talking about this thing. My advice is that the amount of money that goes into the Community Road Safety Fund does include moneys raised from speed cameras but exceeds that amount. In terms of 2017-18, the Community Road Safety Fund will receive \$81 million, is my advice, but that number exceeds, although it includes, the amount raised by speed cameras.

It is an important distinction. I have been at pains to try to explain this to the community because I think there is a perception that money raised by speed cameras goes into general revenue and exceeds the amount that is spent on road safety when, in actual fact, it is the total opposite. My advice is that the total amount of money going to the Community Road Safety Fund exceeds the amount of money raised from speed cameras.

Mr KNOLL: That is the crux of what I am trying to get to. Clarity is good thing. Let me ask just one more question: is there any type of traffic fine infringement—whether it be speeding, red light or, as you mentioned, unregistered—that does not go into the CRSF?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: My advice is that all speeding fine revenue goes into the Community Road Safety Fund.

Mr KNOLL: So, red light cameras also go into the CRSF?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: No. To be clear, as it stands all revenue raised from speed cameras automatically goes into the Community Road Safety Fund. In respect of red light cameras, the question is somewhat superfluous in context of the fact that more money gets allocated to the Community Road Safety Fund than what is raised in any event. So, it is—

Mr KNOLL: It is another ESL, I understand. That makes sense.

Ms REDMOND: I have a couple of questions about driver training, in particular. I will just background the question by explaining that I spent 10 years on the Road Safety Advisory Council, so I am reasonably well aware of the statistics about young drivers and so on. I have also raised three children and paid for others to train them because I believed I should not pass on my bad driving habits.

There are two things I will comment on. The first is that those who set themselves up as trainers of young drivers do not seem to be adequately equipped. My personal experience in that regard is that after my children got their licences I had to teach them about reading the reflectors on the road at night, knowing to pull back a gear if you are going to pass a vehicle and sitting well back from it with a large vehicle, driving at very low speeds in car parks, all sorts of things like that. So, I am really curious about that aspect of how we determine who can set themselves up as a trainer of drivers and put them through the licensing process.

More importantly, as an overall view I would say—and it is apparent anecdotally—that kids growing up in the country are largely very competent in handling vehicles, because they usually have paddock-bashers from an early age and are quite competent about what the vehicle will do, but they do not know anything about traffic behaviour. Conversely, kids growing up in the city tend to have a good understanding of traffic behaviour because they have been driven everywhere—apparently no child can walk further than 400 metres to go to school—but very little competence when it comes to the behaviour of the vehicle. I wonder whether any thought has been given as to how to better inform each of those groups in terms of what might be done to make them safer once they do become licensed drivers.

The CHAIR: While you are conferring, minister, the omnibus questions will be read into the *Hansard*.

Mr KNOLL: I will read the omnibus questions:

1. Will the minister provide a detailed breakdown of expenditure on consultants and contractors above \$10,000 in 2016-17 for all departments and agencies reporting to the minister, listing the name of the consultant, contractor or service supplier, cost, work undertaken and method of appointment?

2. In financial year 2016-17 for all departments and agencies reporting to the minister, what underspending on projects and programs (1) was and (2) was not approved by cabinet for carryover expenditure in 2017-18?

3. For each department and agency reporting to the minister, please provide a breakdown of attraction, retention and performance allowances, as well as non-salary benefits, paid to public servants and contractors in the years 2015-16 and 2016-17.

4. For each agency for which the minister has responsibility:

(a) How many FTEs were employed to provide communication and promotion activities in 2016-17 and what was their employment expense?

- (b) How many FTEs are budgeted to provide communication and promotion activities in 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21, and what is their estimated employment expense?
 - (c) The total cost of government-paid advertising, including campaigns, across all mediums, in 2016-17, and budgeted cost for 2017-18.
5. For each agency for which the minister has responsibility:
- (a) What was the cost of electricity in 2016-17?
 - (b) What is the budgeted cost of electricity in 2017-18?
 - (c) What is the provisioned cost of electricity in 2018-19, 2019-20 and, 2020-21?
6. For each grant program or fund the minister is responsible for please provide the following information for the 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years:
- (a) Balance of the grant program or fund;
 - (b) Budgeted (or actual) expenditure from the program or fund;
 - (c) Budgeted (or actual) payments into the program or fund;
 - (d) Carryovers into or from the program or fund; and
 - (e) Details, including the value and beneficiary, of any commitments already made to be funded from the program or fund.

The CHAIR: Minister, do you have an answer to the member for Heysen's question?

The Hon. P. MALINAUSKAS: It is probably not as detailed as she would like, so I am happy to undertake to get additional information, apart from saying that I am advised and aware of the fact that there is a robust auditing process that driver trainers have to undertake in order to be able to provide that service to the community. We think it is a process that stands the community in relatively good stead, notwithstanding the concerns raised by the member for Heysen. As part of that, it should also be noted that the competency-based training programs require drivers to go through different scenarios, which may take into account the differences in the scenarios that the member refers to. However, I am more than happy to undertake to get a bit more information for the member for Heysen, if she would like that.

The CHAIR: Excellent. With that, I thank the minister for his time today, and I thank all of his advisers for all their hard work. With no further questions, I declare the examination of the proposed payments referred to committee A.

Sitting suspended from 14:46 to 14:59.

DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION, \$1,157,391,000
ADMINISTERED ITEMS FOR THE DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES AND SOCIAL
INCLUSION, \$196,289,000

Membership:

Mr Duluk substituted for Mr Knoll.

Mr Treloar substituted for Mr Pederick.

Minister:

Hon. L.A. Vlahos, Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

Departmental Advisers:

Mr T. Harrison, Chief Executive, Department for Communities and Social Inclusion.

Ms L. Boswell, Deputy Chief Executive, Department for Communities and Social Inclusion.

Mr D. Green, Director, Finance, Disability and Domiciliary Care, Financial and Business Services, Department for Communities and Social Inclusion.

Mr G. Myers, Principal Coordinator, Strategic Projects, Office of the Chief Executive, Department for Communities and Social Inclusion.

Ms N. Rogers, Director, Office of the Chief Executive, Department for Communities and Social Inclusion.

Mr N. Ashley, Executive Director, NDIS Reform, Department for Communities and Social Inclusion.

Mr G. Mitra, Executive Director, Disability SA, Department for Communities and Social Inclusion.

Ms L. Young, Executive Director, Disability and Domiciliary Care Services, Department for Communities and Social Inclusion.

The CHAIR: Welcome, minister. I have been with the same minister all day and I forgot to welcome the new minister. This is a relatively informal procedure, as you may have noticed. There is no need to stand to ask or answer questions. We have agreed to a timetable of 3pm to 3.45pm is Disability Services and 4pm to 5.30pm is mental health and substance abuse. Are we still sticking with that timetable?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Yes.

The CHAIR: Excellent, that is the agreed timetable. If the minister undertakes to supply information at a later date, it must be submitted to the committee secretary by no later than 27 October. Responses will be published during the 14 November sitting week. I propose to allow both the minister and the lead speaker for the opposition to make opening statements of about 10 minutes each, should they wish, and there will be a flexible approach to giving the call for asking questions based on about three questions per member, alternating each side—although that surely will change as we go.

Questions must be based on lines of expenditure in the budget papers and must be identifiable or referenced. There is no formal facility for the tabling of documents before the committee. However, documents can be supplied to the Chair for distribution to the committee. The incorporation of material into *Hansard* is permitted on the same basis as applies in the house, that is, that it is purely statistical and limited to one page in length. All questions are to be directed to the minister, but the minister may refer questions to advisers, if she wishes.

During the committee's examinations, the public and the media will be permitted and television cameras will be permitted to film from both the northern and southern galleries. Again, welcome minister, in your capacity as Minister for Disabilities. I declare the proposed payments open for examination and I refer members to Agency Statements, Volume 1. I now invite you, minister, to introduce your advisers and then proceed with a statement, if you wish.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Thank you. To my left is the CE of DCSI, Mr Harrison, and to my right is the Deputy CE, Ms Boswell. Daniel Green is replacing Andrew Thompson, who is ill. I have a brief opening address.

Throughout 2016 and 2017, a key focus of the Disabilities portfolio has been progressing the transition of children and young people aged birth to 17 years into the National Disability Insurance Scheme (which I will refer to throughout the day as the NDIS). Preparing for the full scheme in South Australia is a big piece of work for the team that I head. The NDIS means that more people are receiving the support they need to realise their full potential, and greater choice and control for people living with disability, their families and carers.

As at 31 March 2017, there were 11,052 NDIS participants in South Australia with an approved plan. By June 2018, we anticipate that this will have risen to around 26,000 South Australians. The NDIS will mean significant job opportunities in South Australia. The latest projections are that the South Australian disability workforce will need to approximately double, with around 6,000 new jobs.

Over the year, we have progressed a range of initiatives designed to support a robust and diverse disability sector, able to provide the jobs and services needed in the full scheme. In February 2017, the state government announced that there will be changes to the disability services provided by the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion in response to the NDIS. These include the state government supported community accommodation services staying within government and operating commercially, ensuring that people with disability requiring 24-hour care can stay in their homes with the same carers, and the transfer of some disability services to the non-government sector. Work is ongoing to support these major reforms that will affect many staff.

The 2017-18 state budget includes \$5.9 million over two years for an across-government response to meet the costs of the next stage of reform for both Disability and Domiciliary Care Services within DCSI. I understand there were questions in the Communities and Social Inclusion estimates hearings yesterday relating to the split of funding between the various parts of this package. I can advise that the package includes \$3.54 million for the Office for the Public Sector to provide centralised case management for affected DCSI employees, \$1.89 million for the Department of Treasury and Finance to coordinate market engagement and procurement processes, and \$0.515 million for DCSI for change management and communication and engagement.

I would also like to note that the devolution of the Strathmont Centre is now drawing to a conclusion, a truly landmark event in the Disabilities portfolio and stepping away from institutionalisation. All but one of the residents have moved into community accommodation, including new apartments at Lightsview that include smart technologies, and the new facility at MacDonald Park I was so pleased to open in December last year. Construction is underway for a purpose-built house for the last resident, which is expected to be completed in December 2017.

Throughout the year, we have also placed a high priority on engaging with citizens with a lived experience of disability. The disability engagement register has been upgraded and promoted widely. As at 30 June 2017, there are now 315 registered members, an increase of 211 on 30 June 2016. Numerous community consultation and information sessions have been held on topics including access and inclusion, transport, employment, legislation and the NDIS.

During June 2017, feedback was sought from the community about the draft disability inclusion bill. The bill is now being finalised, with plans to introduce it into parliament later this year. Mr Chair, 2016-17 has been a time of unprecedented reform and transition in the Disabilities portfolio in South Australia. This will intensify and continue as we move through the 2017-18 year. We now are in the midst of one of the greatest social reforms in the history of Australia, which we know will be life-changing for many South Australians. I look forward to continuing the support of people with disabilities on behalf of the state government during this time, 2017-18.

The CHAIR: Member for Davenport, do you have an opening statement?

Mr DULUK: No, I do not, Chair.

The CHAIR: Do you have any questions?

Mr DULUK: Several; thank you. Budget Paper 4, Volume 1, pages 120 to 121. From what I understand, the geographical rollout of the NDIS commenced on 1 July with the northern metro areas, Gawler and the Barossa Valley transitioning clients and participants from Disability SA to NDIS. If someone with a disability who is not an existing Disability SA client in that region that is currently being rolled out suddenly finds themselves needing support or assistance, what would your advice be to the individual and/or their family?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: In the transition, if someone is in need of immediate, urgent support, the department is still there to help people with disabilities in this state, but we would look towards helping them beginning their planning progress and talking to local coordinators so they begin their relationship with the NDIA and transitioning into the new landscape. We would certainly

walk by their side, with advice and support and services, if necessary, to help them achieve the point where they enter the NDIA.

Mr DULUK: The Liberal opposition was contacted this week by the family of a 47-year-old man with severe intellectual disabilities who was living with his father until that father passed away last Friday in the northern metro area. Since then, he has been living with his very unwell and incapacitated elderly uncle and aunt, who are not well enough to provide the care he needs. This family were told by your colleague minister Bettison's office to make him a ward of the state, and your agency Disability SA told the family to abandon him at a hospital or a police station as they had no funds to help him.

The CHAIR: Member for Davenport, this impromptu speech is out of order. Do you have a question?

Mr DULUK: Yes, I do.

The CHAIR: Well, ask the question.

Mr DULUK: Is this an appropriate response for a vulnerable individual and a grieving family who are currently outside of the provision of the rollout in the northern metro area?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I welcome the member for Davenport or the leader's office to come straight to my office and give me the information so that we can reach out to that individual and put the supports around him straightaway. That is a terribly sad incident, for that man to lose his father of long standing, but certainly the department would step up, and I would welcome you giving me that information so that we can assist in doing that.

Mr DULUK: Thank you, minister.

Ms REDMOND: Just further to that, and in a way related, some years ago in fact there was a situation in this state where—

The CHAIR: The member for Heysen—

Ms REDMOND: There is a question. There is—

The CHAIR: There may be a question, but you should ask it, if there is a question, rather than the extraneous detail.

Ms REDMOND: This is the committee stage of the budget process, and in the committee stage we generally have more flexibility in the way we put the question. I am not trying to attack the minister, I just want to—

The CHAIR: I am not trying to shut you down, I am just trying to keep things on track. So, can you refer it to a budget line, at least?

Ms REDMOND: Same budget line, pages 120 to 121 of the program for Disability SA.

The CHAIR: And you are sure there is a pertinent question at the end of this speech?

Ms REDMOND: The short version of the question is: the minister mentioned in her opening that there are 26,000 South Australians now with approved plans. Is any work being done to map in any way the disability needs on an ongoing and increasing basis with our ageing population, because relevant to the matter that the member for Davenport raised some years ago, before the minister was minister, there was a 93-year-old chap who died leaving a 73-year-old disabled son, and we did not even know that he existed because we do not have the mapping in this state. I am just wondering whether any work is being done to gather the information, because as we age there is going to be an increasing level of disability in an ageing population, and we need to have a way of predicting it in order to address it.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Thank you for your statement.

Ms REDMOND: No, it was a question about whether you are doing anything about it.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: No, what I did say was that, as of 31 March this year, there are 11,052 NDIS participants in the state, and by June 2018 it will have risen to around 26,000. The

disability NDIS reform is based around children to the age of 65, and there is a transition point at 65 where people move into minister Bettison's ageing space, but they are a commonwealth responsibility and I am happy for Ms Boswell to explain that a little bit further.

Ms BOSWELL: At the moment, the NDIS is available for people up to the age of 65. If you enter before the age of 65 you will have the option to always remain within the NDIS if you have a disability. The aging portfolio has gradually moved to the commonwealth, who are providing supports for people with disabilities over the age of 65 and have guaranteed continuity of support for people currently in our disability system over the age of 65.

A lot of work has been done by the Productivity Commission to map disability and the growth of disability across Australia, and that is what has led to the National Disability Insurance Scheme. It is viewed that there will be nearly double the number of people reaching disability support under the National Disability Insurance Scheme. A lot of work has been put into working out exactly where are those people are and where services will be required.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: In fact, we have released local government-based information about where these growth spaces are and potential workforce demands. We are continuing to roll out over 23 expos around the state to help people become aware of the opportunities to, first, work in the sector, as it almost doubles in size, but also to provide support for people living with their disabilities, their carers, family and guardians to migrate and learn information about how consumer-led choice will change their lives. It is doubling the money. We are handing over more than \$720 million, and by the time the scheme comes to full growth it will be worth \$1.5 billion to the state's economy.

Mr DULUK: Moving on to pages 126 to 130, being NDIS reform, can you provide an update on the rules relating to specialist disability accommodation in South Australia?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Certainly. Specialist disability accommodation is a new space that is allowing us to change lives. The number of people in South Australia who live with high-level supported accommodation who would be likely to be recognised for specialist disability accommodation is around 2,000, and the number of South Australians who have unmet need for supported accommodation, although it is not known how these needs will be assessed under the NDIS, is between 500 and 1,000.

Specialist disability accommodation funding is provided by the NDIS and does not have a direct impact on the South Australian budget. The funding may vary between \$4,000 to \$105,000 per person, per year. However, it is anticipated that it will only be provided to approximately 6 per cent of NDIS participants. Funding varies based on the number of residents in the home, the building type and design, standard features and other factors.

SDA funding is a new type of assistance for the capital and running costs of specialist disability service accommodation. It is separate funding for personal supports. Existing South Australian supported accommodation clients will progressively transition by regions to the NDIS from November 2017, and new participants can be assessed for SDA in line with their geographic rollout from July 2017. When an assessment is completed, the level and type of SDA approved for the individuals will support the development of new housing options, and many developers around the state are very interested in this new market opportunity.

The state government, noting ongoing uncertainty around the SDA issues, is now investing to provide more choice for people with disability. One hundred homes for people with disability are being built under the South Australian Housing Trust's 1,000 Homes in 1,000 Days initiative, and these new homes, which are supported by a contribution of Housing Trust land and approximately \$30 million in funding, may attract SDA, subject to NDIS assessments for residents. The first homes are expected to be completed in late 2017, with all homes expected to be completed by late 2018.

A grant of \$1 million from the government has enabled state-of-the-art assistive technology for at least 20 of these homes. Many people I meet who are living with assistive technology potentially would have never left their family homes and be living independently without the growth of smart technology. I have had the opportunity to visit people at the Woodville development and see how profoundly it has changed their lives.

Mr DULUK: Can a tenant in a government-owned group home choose their own service provider rather than a DCSI disability service?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: If you are referring to circumstances in media statements from interstate, there is often a misunderstanding about how the South Australian market works. Unlike other jurisdictions, the state government does not own a majority of the supported accommodation properties in South Australia. Most supported accommodation properties are owned and managed by the non-government community housing sector, and we will continue to work with the sector.

Once people have their packages, for perhaps the first year they do not make a great deal of change in the way they live or where they live, but after one year of having a package people increasingly start to move and have greater choice, control and confidence in their choices. They may move out of existing accommodation choices into new homes, choose new service providers or change the way they have traditionally arranged their affairs, from day options right through to accommodation. There is a world of choice that awaits people with disabilities once they have been given their plans.

Ms REDMOND: Minister, there is a fairly delicate issue that I would like to explore regarding supported residential facilities. You may or may not have an answer—

The Hon. S.W. Key interjecting:

Ms REDMOND: Yes.

The CHAIR: I will listen carefully.

Ms REDMOND: I appreciate what the minister just said about the fact that the government does not own and therefore does not control, other than in a regulated way, the supported residential facilities that we do have, and that they are run by the not-for-profit sector and sometimes by the commercial sector, for that matter. It has come to my attention over a number of years that there can be situations where there is an uncomfortable mix between people who are in supported residential facilities because of intellectual disability and people who are there because of mental illness. Sometimes there is a mixture of both.

The delicate matter is that on occasions I have heard from very distressed parents who have had to put an adult female child into such a facility only to find that child has subsequently been effectively raped by people in the facility. The defence is that she consented—this has happened with more than one family—when in fact the child was so naive and so young as to not be capable of consenting, and it has led to a great deal of distress, understandably.

I wonder if there is anything the government can do, or has done, to try to address that in terms of separating the facilities into perhaps all female facilities or facilities for only those with intellectual disability, or some other mechanism by which we could offer better protection, particularly to very naive young women of intellectual disability. It is through no fault of their parents, but they get to the point where they just cannot manage at home anymore.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Supported residential facilities (SRF) are different from the question that the previous member asked. We have made significant inroads with the disability justice plans and vulnerable witness support, so that people can pursue justice through the justice system and be supported with their vulnerabilities, if it is intellectual disability or whatever impedes them from giving witness statements.

We know that the SRFs are in a state of change at the moment. We are working with the supported residential facilities. People are allowed to visit them. We have the community visitor who visits these facilities. They are licensed by local government. I was only talking to the community visitor about this recently, about furthering the relationship through a memorandum of understanding between local government, environmental health protection and the community visitor to ensure that those safeguards and standards are met.

Certainly, as far as safeguards for people with disability are concerned, the government has been a long-term supporter of and very committed to promoting the rights of people with disability, ensuring they have a safe place, free of violence, abuse and neglect. The home is the most fundamental place any of us go to every day and it is sad to hear the story that you spoke about.

We have arranged a number of safeguard measures to promote human rights, increase protection and improve responses for violence, neglect and abuse, and those include the disability Community Visitor Scheme that I mentioned before; comprehensive screening for working or volunteering in the disability sector; registration of disability service providers on the disability service provider panel, and strong contractual requirements around that space about standards; robust mechanisms for reporting and investigating incidents, including the allegations of abuse; and controls over the use of restrictive practices, and there could be a variety of ways that they could take place.

I have already mentioned the enhanced access to justice for people with disabilities under the disability justice scheme. There is also the safety and quality framework, and the protection of rights and wellbeing of people with a disability, which is a strong focus of the National Disability Insurance Scheme. It is something that I have raised every time I have gone to the COAG meetings, to ensure that we have strong quality safety.

One thing I am hopeful of is that people will have more choice. In the case of the young lady whom you spoke about, she potentially will not have to live in accommodation of that sort if she is one of the 6 per cent who will get the SDA funding. She would have greater choice and flexibility about how she lives and could potentially choose not to live in an SRF, effectively a boarding house situation.

Mr DULUK: Coming back to SDAs, can a tenant who receives SDA in their plan, who is in a government-owned group home, move from that home to another one?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Yes.

Mr DULUK: Will vacancies in government-owned group homes be filled first, ahead of community or private accommodation providers, in this rollout?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: It is a matter of choice as we move forward. The heart of the NDIS is consumer choice. The consumer chooses where they go and where they live in the future.

Mr DULUK: What are the options for tenants who do not wish to live in a government group home or a congregated setting?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: All of the plans for participants in the NDIS are centred around the individual needs and how they meet their daily life goals. Again, during the planning process, accommodation needs are discussed with participants. If it is a child or someone under guardianship, that will be worked through, but if it is an adult and they are able to exercise control over those decisions, they will have choices about where they go.

Often in the planning process, people change after the first year. We know there will probably be increased demand, as people, who potentially could not move out of home, will move out for the first time, and that could be up to an additional thousand supported accommodation places around the state. The department continues to work with and encourage the non-government sector to ensure there is an increase in housing supply to meet this demand. It is a similar cohort and design as it is for an ageing community, as the member for Heysen said, with many of the things that make for aged-care housing, such as lifts and joist controls.

I visited housing in the Hunter region and around Newcastle to see some of the platinum standard building projects that are being built, which allow people to move into these spaces. That might vary from benches in kitchens, where people with wheelchairs can move around, to housing that is suitably equipped for their temperature control needs, particular conditions and bathrooms that have two-way access. You would be amazed at how lovely some of the platinum standard disability housing and aged-care housing is. People can age on site and potentially buy their own homes.

I am very interested in talking to the sector about different ways that people with disability potentially could buy their own homes for the first time and have surety about where they live and where they can contract with carers to care for them in their own homes rather than living in group settings.

Mr DULUK: Is it fair to say that current government-funded clients in group homes will have the choice of an SDA house going forward?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: If they are given SDA funding, which, as I said, is 6 per cent of NDIS participants, they will have some choices in that space. Once people transition around the state through the various zones and age groups, they will have choice and control about how and where they live their life.

Mr DULUK: I refer to program disability services covered between pages 122 and 125. In the lead-up to the NDIS, the state government has been slow to advise the community about what it will do with its own services. DCSI, from what I understand, finally advised earlier this year, in about March, that the following services will be transitioned to the non-government sector: Domiciliary Care, adult community services, ASSIST Therapy Services, Child and Youth Services, community nursing services, equipment services and the Positive Behaviour team. What are the time frames for transferring these services and when will you release more information about them?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: To start, disability service reform is a large and complex piece of work; it is not something we are going to race through. We are dealing with these business cases in a slow and steady way. Certainly, the timing will differ for each service. We are currently working through, with each service, the development of a transition plan. DCSI will engage with the non-government sector about the best way to transition affected services to the non-government sector for management.

We have taken a fair bit of analysis and time to make these decisions. Many states still have not made decisions or announcements in this space. The decision was based on analysis of strategic and policy drivers around NDIS reform and the assessment of the existing disability service market readiness and financial modelling. We know that supported accommodation services have an advantage over non-government service providers. We need to work through some of these issues and we need to work towards price points. The Productivity Commission is still talking about price points, and we make ongoing submissions and contributions to those discussions.

Mr DULUK: In terms of services that I have specifically mentioned, what is their completed due date in terms of transfer and transition?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Domiciliary Care—

Mr DULUK: Besides Domiciliary Care, which is to be completed in June 2018; the other six.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Which I was just about to say is under minister Bettison's portfolio.

Mr DULUK: And the other six?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: We are working with KPMG. In our state, because we are regional, rural and remote, the size of our country towns is very different from, say, those in New South Wales and Victoria. I am very keen to make sure that anyone who is receiving services from our department has that ongoing support. We need to make sure the markets in those places are mature enough to support the demand as it grows, with the packages rolling out and people having choice. So, we will not walk away from any of these business units until we are confident that the businesses are on the ground to support people.

We will work with KPMG to continue that work. We are beginning conversations with some of these teams now that potentially could migrate into different spaces, but we will ensure that the staff that are our responsibility at the moment are supported if they choose not to go into the non-government sector or potentially want to start their own businesses. There are many people in many of the allied health professions that are now seeing rapid growth in the therapy spaces, and for the first time they may consider moving out and starting their own businesses.

It is a slow and steady. I am not going to give you definitive answers, because we need to consult with people and we need to support people through this transition so the market grows in a steady, reasonable way, rather than just opening it up and having chaos.

Mr DULUK: Surely some of these service providers have been told a date from when they will transition.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: We are having an ongoing conversation with all of our staff about this and we have regular communication about change management in the department.

Mr DULUK: Have any indicative dates been provided to these organisations?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I have already answered that, member for Davenport; thank you for your question again, though.

Mr DULUK: My pleasure.

Ms REDMOND: Can I ask a supplementary question, minister? In response to a previous question you talked about negotiations around price points over a period. Could you just expand on what is involved in that and what the price points are?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Many people in the not-for-profit sector are saying that price points set by the NDIA are very difficult for them to transform their business, because they are going from block funding into a billable funding. That is quite a business expense for them to change the way they work their back of house. Many of these organisations in our state are not-for-profit and we are working with them to support them.

The state government provided some money for business transformation during the state government and business case development. We have also provided some money to people to go through business readiness for the transformation, and we continue to help them do that. The price point issue is something that, in discussions around that with the national Productivity Commission, the state continues to submit its views about some of the things that affect our state, particularly with regional and remote communities and the modelling.

Ms REDMOND: Is that price point issue affected again, as in answer to the previous question, by the smaller size of facilities, even in Adelaide, compared to those in other states?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Across the country, different types of services have a certain price line. In accommodation services, there is a preference for smaller numbers, which is in line with deinstitutionalisation, and there are different price points that people can achieve. The cost of running a country accommodation may very well be different from the cost in the city. There are the economies of scales for small and medium businesses compared to bigger organisations. In our state we have a larger number of not-for-profit organisations. On the eastern seaboard there are many more price takers or for-profit businesses in these spaces.

Mr TRELOAR: Sub-program 6.1: Non-Government and Individualised Funding, pages 127 and 128. Why is Disability SA running so far behind in confirming with families what their individualised funding is?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I am advised that we are not behind.

Mr HARRISON: Unless there is a particular example you can quote to us, but certainly we have a project team that is working very closely with the National Disability Insurance Agency, so we are case managing the 26,000 people who will ultimately be in the program by 30 June 2018 next year, on a case-by-case basis. Any current state-based services or funding is not withdrawn until there is a seamless changeover with the national disability insurance assessment, eligibility, planning and funding process, and that is done on a case management approach, person by person, as we track through those 26,000 people and, ultimately, up to 32,000 by 30 June 2019.

If there is a suggestion that there is a person who has slipped through the crack, we certainly need to know about that, but I am not hearing those stories and I am speaking personally at the expos, as is Ms Boswell, around the state. So, we are not hearing any of that feedback come through from the floor, that is for sure.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Certainly, we are putting extra efforts into reaching out harder to people who traditionally might not engage with the NDIS and NDIA for planning purposes. We are working strongly to make sure that those people are supported, and we are talking to their existing service providers to ensure that they are reached out to and brought into this choice-orientated change.

Mr TRELOAR: Minister, those individuals and the families know pretty much now when that transition will occur for them?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Certainly, I am happy to go through now the timetable throughout the state for when the transition will take place, member for Flinders.

Mr TRELOAR: Yes.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: It is something that we have been publicising. In fact, the 23 expos that we are running and the information campaign that you may have seen on TV and social media is about informing people about how they can get involved in the transition schedule.

We were the trial state for young people. That is well established. We have now moved into young people aged 15 to 17, and it began on 1 January this year. Adults aged 18 to 64 are entering this scheme from 1 July this year in the following geographical regions. The Barossa, Light, Lower North, and local government areas of Playford, Salisbury and Port Adelaide Enfield East commenced transition on 1 July of this year. Tea Tree Gully, Limestone Coast and Murray Mallee will commence transition on 1 October. The Fleurieu, KI, Southern Adelaide, Eyre and Western, Far North, Yorke and Mid North will commence on 1 January next year. Adelaide Hills, Eastern Adelaide and Western Adelaide will commence on 1 April next year.

Our expo schedule is aimed at rolling out and supporting people as we do that across the state, and I am happy to provide that information to you because the expos have been incredibly well attended. I know we had to run two separate sessions at the Golden Grove expo to meet demand for information, whether from jobseekers or families actually seeking information. I attended the first one at Mawson Lakes, and we have had one at Gawler.

We have also had one at Modbury, Murray Bridge, Berri, Mount Gambier, Naracoorte and Golden Grove in July, and in September we move to another round as the rollout transitions across to southern Adelaide, at Noarlunga, Clovelly Park, KI, Victor, Port Pirie, Clare and Kadina. It continues on in October to Port Augusta, Coober Pedy, Ceduna, your hometown of Port Lincoln in late November, and then Whyalla. Then there is a fourth rollout zone, which begins in January of next year, in Woodville, Magill and Mount Barker.

We are endeavouring to speak to every community as intimately as we can. Sometimes we have 80 to 180 people at these expos, and many of the service providers are there. In fact, it has provided a great opportunity for them to collaborate and look at ways in which they can provide services together. Some people may not have seen the choice of day options or supports. There are new people moving into the sector who are meeting at expos.

Push Adventures is actually a recreational sport, and they are providing people with customised holidays. That is a new business that has started. You have people who are doing fantastic things at the North Adelaide pool for people to get day therapy, which is scuba-assisted physio aquatherapy. There are so many different places where these expos provide people with an opportunity to come together, learn about job opportunities—like Cara in Port Lincoln, which you and I visited—but also for new service providers and more choice. Some of that could potentially be about accommodation in the future, too.

Mr TRELOAR: Thank you, minister, for all that information, and for your information, the aquatherapy is available in Port Lincoln, too, now.

The Hon. P. CAICA: There is a lot of water over there.

Mr TRELOAR: A lot of water. It is in the pool. It is in the safety of the pool. Minister, there are always some out-of-pocket expenses. What does the minister advise those families to do who do not have the funds in their accounts or the resources? Will Disability SA fully reimburse them for their expenses, such as paying for care workers from their own pocket in the meantime? I would actually include travel costs in that. You have mentioned country areas and out-of-pocket travel costs. As the NDIS rolls out, what are people to do in that situation?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Certainly, travel is something that many people have raised with me as I have moved around the state over the last year in this portfolio. Ms Boswell, would you like to speak about out-of-pocket expenses, and perhaps I could talk about their travel and transport subsidies.

Ms BOSWELL: I am just trying to ascertain what you mean. Is it out-of-pocket expenses for attending the expos that you are seeking or generally?

Mr TRELOAR: More generally. My interest probably, given the part of the state I come from, is around travel. I have spoken with people who need to travel 100, 150 or 200 kilometres sometimes, often regularly, to access the help and service they need.

Ms BOSWELL: The NDIS is going to bring some travel to people's individual plans and there are transport subsidies. There is currently a court case nationally about how much the NDIS should provide for transport in people's plans, particularly in regional. It was a case based in Tasmania. It is on appeal at the moment, I believe, to the High Court, so we are all awaiting the outcome of that. In the interim, however, all jurisdictions are having a working group around transport that is due to report in the next few months to the Disability Reform Council because the states all have some concerns about how that might turn out.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Transport is often raised at the Disability Reform Council, which is the min con for this space. In February, the senior officers' working group actually agreed to have a targeted working group just around transport under the NDIS. And, yes, it has been operating for about six months and we are looking at a response from that group shortly, as Ms Boswell said.

From time to time, I have asked my officers to talk to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure about individual people who have taxi vouchers and taxi issues, but I understand that we continue to advocate strongly for people because transport and the capacity to get out and engage with the community, whether it is for training or day options, is a huge part of the transition. It is something we are watching closely. I am aware that the Tasmanian government and the Queensland government have recently spoken about their taxi subsidy system, and we are working through that quite strongly currently with the Department of Transport.

Under the NDIS, there are three different support levels so that people can achieve some relief in this space. Level 1 is up to \$1,606 per year for participants who are not working or studying or attending day programs but seek to enhance their community access. Level 2 is up to \$2,472 per year for participants who are currently working or studying part time, up to 15 hours per week or participating in day programs or other recreational leisure activities to enhance their life. The top level, level 3, is up to \$3,456 per year for participants who are currently working or looking to engage with the workforce or studying at least 15 hours a week but are unable to use public transport for a variety of reasons because of their disability.

In exceptional circumstances, participants may receive higher funding if either the general or funded supports in their plans enable them to participate in employment. Employment engagement is something that many people in the disability sector really want to engage with more with the community. It is a large piece of work, but I think giving them the freedom of choices will eventually allow them to engage more. It has been referred to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) for a final decision and we are waiting to get some additional support in that space at this time.

The CHAIR: The lead speaker has expressed a desire to read the omnibus questions with the remaining time. Is that still your desire or would you like to save it until the next session?

Mr DULUK: The omnibus questions are:

1. Will the minister provide a detailed breakdown of expenditure on consultants and contractors above \$10,000 in 2016-17 for all departments and agencies reporting to the minister, listing the name of the consultant, contractor or service supplier, cost, work undertaken and method of appointment?

2. In financial year 2016-17 for all departments and agencies reporting to the minister, what underspending on projects and programs (1) was and (2) was not approved by cabinet for carryover expenditure in 2017-18?

3. For each department and agency reporting to the minister, please provide a breakdown of attraction, retention and performance allowances, as well as non-salary benefits, paid to public servants and contractors in the years 2015-16 and 2016-17.

4. For each agency for which the minister has responsibility:

- (a) How many FTEs were employed to provide communication and promotion activities in 2016-17 and what was their employment expense?
 - (b) How many FTEs are budgeted to provide communication and promotion activities in 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21, and what is their estimated employment expense?
 - (c) The total cost of government-paid advertising, including campaigns, across all mediums, in 2016-17, and budgeted cost for 2017-18.
5. For each agency for which the minister has responsibility:
 - (a) What was the cost of electricity in 2016-17?
 - (b) What is the budgeted cost of electricity in 2017-18?
 - (c) What is the provisioned cost of electricity in 2018-19, 2019-20 and, 2020-21?
6. For each grant program or fund the minister is responsible for please provide the following information for the 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 financial years:
 - (a) Balance of the grant program or fund;
 - (b) Budgeted (or actual) expenditure from the program or fund;
 - (c) Budgeted (or actual) payments into the program or fund;
 - (d) Carryovers into or from the program or fund; and
 - (e) Details, including the value and beneficiary, of any commitments already made to be funded from the program or fund.

The CHAIR: I declare the examination of the proposed payments completed. Thank you, minister, and thank you to your advisers.

Sitting suspended from 15:47 to 16:02.

DEPARTMENT FOR HEALTH AND AGEING, \$3,748,814,000
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION, \$2,011,000

Minister:

Hon. L.A. Vlahos, Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

Departmental Advisers:

Ms V. Kaminski, Chief Executive, SA Health.

Dr T. Bastiampillai, Executive Director, Mental Health Strategy, SA Health.

Dr A. Groves, Chief Psychiatrist, SA Health.

Ms S. Jacobi, Executive Director, Policy and Governance, SA Health.

Mr J. Woolcock, Chief Finance Officer, SA Health.

Ms S. Cormack, State Director, Drug and Alcohol Services South Australia.

Cmmr C. Burns, Mental Health Commissioner, SA Mental Health Commission.

Mr J.P. Legaspi, Ministerial Adviser.

The CHAIR: Welcome back, minister. You are now appearing in your capacity as Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse. I declare the proposed payments open for examination. I

refer members to the Agency Statements, Volume 3. Before we start, I invite the minister to introduce any new advisers that she has and then perhaps make an opening statement, if she likes.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I have with me Vickie Kaminski, CE of SA Health; Dr Aaron Groves, Chief Psychiatrist; and Tarun Bastiampillai, Executive Director, Mental Health Strategy.

The CHAIR: Thank you. Do you have an opening statement, minister?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I would like to start with a brief opening address. I would like to outline some of the key recent milestones in the portfolio of Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Many members may recall the amendments to the Mental Health Act became operational on 5 June this year. These changes will enhance the capacity of our mental health services and reduce red tape and provide a greater range of treatment options to suit the needs of individuals with mental illness.

More consumers than ever before will have advocacy rights through the expansion of the Community Visitor Scheme. Improved accountability will see a larger range of functions reported to parliament and to the public. Changes have also been made to simplify cross-border treatments for consumers, which will improve access to mental health services for people when they travel between states.

The matters regarding Oakden have been covered broadly in the media and in parliament. As members would be aware, in the 90 days since the release of the report, several updates have been publicly made:

- I held monthly meetings with groups of families that have had a loved one at Oakden;
- I gave four ministerial statements to the house, providing the latest updates;
- the Minister for Health made a statement on my behalf to announce the government's implementation panel;
- I have met with the chair of the panel to discuss how the government will implement all six of the recommendations of the Oakden review; and
- I also regularly meet with senior staff from SA Health to ensure all relevant actions are progressing.

The state government has provided \$14.7 million for the construction of a new older persons' mental health facility for older South Australians with severe dementia. The funding includes \$1 million to support the development of a specialised contemporary model of care and longer term service planning. This process will include a scoping study to determine the site, design and other details of this build.

In terms of staffing, as detailed in the update report released yesterday, a total of 15 staff are currently suspended pending further investigation, one staff member's employment has been terminated and another has resigned. In total, nine matters have been referred to SAPOL and 32 staff have been referred to AHPRA. I expect these numbers to fluctuate as more information comes to light throughout these investigations and as investigations are finalised.

Throughout the previous financial year, the state government has announced updates to some important parts of the portfolio, such as the South Australian Suicide Prevention Plan 2017-2021. The public consultation for this plan has now closed and feedback is now under consideration. The plan includes several areas of focus, including community suicide prevention networks, which we have been growing over the last couple of years, and improving treatment options and care planning.

The Stop the Hurt strategy that the state government undertook earlier this year involved the announcement of an investment of \$8 million over four years to reduce the use of crystal methamphetamine in South Australia. This will be done by funding initiatives that will reduce supply and increase treatment, family support and education.

The South Australian Alcohol and Other Drug Strategy 2017-2021 is the state government's new drug and alcohol strategy, aiming to reduce the number of South Australians who drink at risky

levels by 30 per cent by 2020. The strategy outlines 90 actions over the next five years to address key issues in the community; that is, alcohol misuse, methamphetamine use, and the impact of alcohol and drug problems on children.

Meanwhile, the South Australian Mental Health Commission has been consulting with a wide range of community members—more than 2,000—and sector stakeholders in its work to create the state's Mental Health Strategic Plan.

Membership:

Mr Knoll substituted for Mr Treloar.

The CHAIR: Member for Davenport, do you have an opening statement?

Mr DULUK: No, Chair.

The CHAIR: Do you have any questions?

Mr DULUK: I refer to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 29. Can the minister advise if she has received the report from SA Health on its progress in delivering the government's response to the Chief Psychiatrist's review on the Oakden Older Person's Mental Health Service?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I have just outlined that the government has made many ministerial statements about this and the terms of reference, and in fact the minutes of some of these meetings are publicly available with some of the terms of reference, but I am happy to talk about the terms of reference.

Mr DULUK: Can you advise whether you have personally received the report from SA Health?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Which report?

Mr DULUK: The one that was due on 19 July, the interim report on the update of SA Health's progress in regard to the implementation of the Chief Psychiatrist's review.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I get the minutes every two weeks from Dr Stubbs' implementation group, and we act on a regular basis and I have ongoing conversations, as I mentioned in my opening address, about the ongoing implementations of those six review points and our status and progress on those. There is not a day that goes by that my office does not actually spend a considerable amount of our time working towards achieving those six objectives.

Mr DULUK: Obviously, yesterday your department provided details of the interim report to the media, but have you personally had a chance to look at that interim report?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: As I stated before, I get two-weekly minutes from the committee overseeing the implementation of those recommendations from the review.

Mr DULUK: When do you expect to receive the final progress report? It was meant to report to you within a 90-day period.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I think the member may be confusing updates and status updates with the report he is referring to. What we have said, and I will say it again, is that the committee of implementation is beavering away. There are six separate groups under the main implementation group that Dr Stubbs is dealing with, and I am happy to talk you through those if that would be of assistance. If you just give me a second, I have to go through some of those things we have made available.

Mr DULUK: While you are doing that perhaps you could let me know if you have been speaking to any of the families of the Oakden victims at the same time in regard to the progress of the report?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Certainly. I met with a couple of them only a few days ago, and I am meeting with them on a monthly basis.

Mr DULUK: When will the minister formally publish a progress report?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: As I stated before, Dr Tom Stubbs has been appointed as the chair of the oversight committee and is tasked with the implementation of all the recommendations from the Oakden report. The government has committed the funds in the budget that I talked about before. There is a further \$1 million that is part of that, which is committed to support the development of a specialised contemporary model of care and long-term service planning for older public patients who suffer from severe forms of disabling mental illness and those with extreme behavioural and psychological manifestations from dementia.

The aim is to have the statewide model of care developed within the next six months. Once that has been established, plans will get underway to establish the requirements for the new build. Transitioning residents from Oakden to Northgate House was never budgeted for, but the actual costs have been incurred. We have only very good responses from the families of the people who are living in the two pods at Northgate. In fact, I have been told that one person who was non-verbal before is now speaking.

In relation to the people who migrated to private sector aged-care facilities, I read a report recently from one service provider who had taken a number of those people on to become new residents in their facility, which said that they did not feel the need for additional supports and that the transition had gone really smoothly.

The cost incurred with the provision of the additional clinical support to Oakden residents, the development of the project team leading up to the implementation of the commonwealth aged-care accreditation standards, the recommendations arising from the Chief Psychiatrist's review, the additional supports in safe transitioning of patients to Northgate and the refurbishment of the Northgate houses to be fit for purpose are as I will outline below.

The clinical staff, nursing and medical allied support, 491; the project team, 173; human resources legal, 134; other supplies and services, 247; and the refurbishment of Northgate, 722. So, the total is 1,767 as an expense that has been estimated for this last financial year.

Mr DULUK: Is that dollars, thousands—

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Add three zeros.

Mr DULUK: Sorry, you just said 1,767.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I thought you were following along with the Budget Papers that you asked for.

Mr DULUK: No, I am listening intently and you did not say dollars or beds and I was not sure.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I am sorry, I thought you were referring to the budget line item and that you were following in the paper.

The Hon. P. CAICA: He has not yet, so why would he?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I am being charitable. The state government has established the working groups that I mentioned before to oversee the six recommendations that are well known. The oversight committee, led by Dr Stubbs, consists of a wide range of clinical experts and senior staff from SA Health. It also has the involvement of the non-government advocacy groups, statutory office and people with lived experience with mental illness. This includes the Health Consumers Alliance, the Aged Rights Advocacy Service, the Council on the Ageing, the Public Advocate and the Principal Community Visitor.

The six core work groups that have been established under the oversight committee to implement each of the recommendations include the new model of care, the infrastructure plans, staff profile, least restrictive practice, staff culture and safety and quality. We know that the first meeting for the new model of care occurred on 7 July. As I said, I get the minutes on a fortnightly basis.

Mr DULUK: Can you please let me know what the total number of employees in Makk and McLeay was as at 30 December 2016?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I am happy to take that on notice.

Mr DULUK: I know you touched on this in your opening statement, but I am confirming that it is 32 individuals who have been referred to investigation by AHPRA?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Yes.

Mr DULUK: To confirm, how many employees have been referred to police for investigation?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I am advised there are nine who have been referred to SAPOL at this time.

Mr DULUK: How many employees have been charged by SAPOL to date?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: That is a matter for SAPOL to answer. I am not responsible for SAPOL investigations, but I make sure the department refers them and I would expect SAPOL to advise us of any changes if they occurred.

Mr DULUK: Has SAPOL advised you of any employees who have been charged?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Not to my knowledge.

Mr DULUK: At the moment, how many employees are suspended from the workplace, pending further investigation?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: As I stated before, there are 15 people pending investigation.

Mr DULUK: There are 15 pending investigation. How many of those are on paid leave?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: All of them, I am advised.

Mr DULUK: You touched on this in your opening statement as well. Why do you believe the number of staff under investigation or referred to investigation will continue to grow and fluctuate? In the background work you have been doing, why do you feel that is going to grow?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: As the investigations take place, more information comes forward and people may necessarily contribute additional information that could aid us in our investigations.

Mr DULUK: Going back to 27 June, minister Snelling let us know that there were 26 referrals to AHPRA, 18 to SAPOL and 10 people currently suspended from their workplace, pending further investigations. So, obviously, we have seen that increase to where we are today. Are there any estimates or budget provisions that you are putting in place at the moment in terms of expenditure, paid leave and provisions for further staff who will be suspended?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: As I have said all along, this is a case of the department spending whatever it requires to ensure that there are quality healthcare settings across the state and an expectation that there is a good staff culture. We will work through these areas. The fact that the government has committed significant funds to working through the new model of care, the scoping study and the build for this space, moving forward, shows our commitment to that. The fact that we expended actual resources, even though they were not budgeted for the Northgate move, shows our commitment to solving the problems at Oakden and assisting the families that have had a bad experience with a loved one there.

I have made it very clear to the department that their job is to ensure that there is a good and safe environment, good staff culture and morale growing and provision of adequate training provided in an ongoing space. The Stubbs implementation committee is working through that and they will be given the resources they need.

Mr DULUK: Do you believe the initial reviews undertaken by the department into staff were inadequate?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Which initial review are you speaking of? Which budget line item is this?

Mr DULUK: Page 29, Sub-program 1.1: System Performance and Service Delivery.

The CHAIR: Member for Davenport, asking the minister what she believes opens up a pretty broad area of discussion.

Mr DULUK: Were initial reviews of staff procedures adequate?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: What budget line item is that?

Mr DULUK: That refers to sub-program 1.1, second line, 'mental health', which I believe you are the minister responsible for. In terms of the current process going on, how many FTEs are involved in reviewing the conduct of practices of staff at Oakden?

Ms KAMINSKI: That is an interesting question that is difficult to answer because with all of the staff at Oakden right now there is a number of performance reviews in place. We have formal reviews being done by managers, we have a type of 360 performance review where we are asking all staff to keep track of how all staff are doing, and we also have some work being done with the new clinical director there.

We are helping staff learn how to provide care in a different standard and in a different way and are monitoring how successful we are with that. We also have some assistance from the Nightingale staff, who are on site and helping our existing staff learn new models of care and become more adept at it. The whole culture of the Oakden staff is slowly changing so that it is one of continual performance improvement with everybody contributing to that.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The Northgate environment is a vastly different environment compared to when Makk and McLeay closed. Even from January to the closure in June, Makk and McLeay were vastly different environments. Significant resources, time and energy will continue to be addressed to this problem until we are adequately satisfied that culture, practice and standard is meeting our expectations and protecting the frail and vulnerable in our care.

Mr DULUK: Who was responsible for completing the review of the Oakden staff? Is it SA Health or a third party?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: SA Health.

Mr DULUK: Can I quickly go back to staff under investigation. Is it nine staff who are currently being investigated by SAPOL, or has that number fluctuated and some people have been acquitted, or is it the same nine that we have been talking about of late?

The Hon. P. CAICA: Still page 29?

Mr DULUK: Absolutely. We will be on 29 for a while.

The Hon. P. CAICA: Is that right? I cannot see it.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I am advised that it is still the same nine.

Mr DULUK: We must be, because we got an answer, Paul. Minister, thank you very much. Still on page 29, how many residents were at Makk and McLeay when the facility closed?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The Chief Psychiatrist will give you that number.

Dr GROVES: I thank the honourable member for the question. I understand on 14 June, when it closed, there were 19 people, 14 of whom were transferred to the new Northgate facility and the others to mainstream residential aged-care facilities.

Mr DULUK: Thank you, Dr Groves. Perhaps this is one on notice, minister: how many residents were at Makk and McLeay at the end of each calendar month between 30 June 2016 and 31 May 2017?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I absolutely have to take that on notice.

Mr DULUK: How many different nursing homes received residents from Makk and McLeay?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I will have to ask Dr McKellar that, but a number of different nursing homes came forward. People made choices with their families and did family planning and needs assessment. Some people chose to go to nursing homes closer to their families, others had particular

nursing homes that they felt better met their family needs. I am happy to take that on notice and bring that information back to you.

Mr DULUK: Also, which nursing homes have received residents—the five? Could you please let us know what support is available to nursing homes that have received Makk and McLeay residents?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Can I go back to the question you just asked. The provision of that information may actually be a breach of privacy for those consumers.

Mr DULUK: If you can.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: If I can. What was the next question you asked?

Mr DULUK: What support is available to nursing homes that have received Makk and McLeay residents from the department?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Vickie, do you want to talk about that? That is a very good question—

Mr DULUK: Thank you.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: —and it has been very successful, as I outlined before.

Ms KAMINSKI: We did offer all the nursing home companies and individual nursing homes that took clients that we would provide ongoing assistance, so if they needed some additional nursing staff, if they needed to bring in Nightingale staff to help the patients come, then we were quite prepared to pay for that and to provide the staff as they needed. We have just had one of our receiving nursing homes write and say that it has been a very successful transfer, they feel that they no longer need the support and that things are going well for the clients that they took, and we are expecting to see that kind of gradual drop-off. What we have said is that whatever we need to make this transition work, if we have it available in-house we will supply it; if you need external specialty advice, then we will pay for that.

Mr DULUK: Is there a cap on the total amount of support or supplementary funding available that the department will give to each nursing home?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: No. I have made it very clear that people who are transitioning to the private sector are to be supported until they have settled in their new environment.

Mr DULUK: Could you let me know how that support has been calculated and provided for in the budget?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Through existing SA Health resources.

Mr DULUK: Can you confirm how much funding was provided in the financial year 2016-17 in relation to this? It would only be a month's worth but—

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I can get that number.

Mr DULUK: Has the department actually budgeted a figure for 2017-18, or is it all out of existing resources?

Ms KAMINSKI: We have a budget for Northgate, of course, and we are looking at what that budget is. What we have done, though, is take money from the existing NALHN mental health budget and we are allocating it across Northgate as we need to, and as we bring in extra resources like Nightingale we are paying for it out of that existing budget.

Mr DULUK: But, minister, not just to Northgate, but to the other nursing homes as well that have taken clients from Makk and McLeay.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I have just answered that question. We have made it clear that we will provide any information that we mentioned earlier.

Mr DULUK: No, but in budgeted terms.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Happy to get the number, as I said earlier.

Mr DULUK: Thank you very much. Does the government have a contract with each nursing home or does it relate to the individual patient, or does the contract with the nursing home relate to the patient or the placement?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Effectively, with the consumer, the resident, who is moving out of state government or SA Health's care, we helped their families transition to coming into the private aged-care sector and those families entered into those contracts. Any additional resources that those residents need to make the transition smoothly and settle into their new homes in those facilities is where the state government has supported them in that transition.

Mr DULUK: What are the terms of the agreements? Are they generic agreements for each resident going to the nursing home?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: My understanding—and I would have to speak to Dr McKellar who oversaw these individualised care transition plans, and perhaps Dr Groves might like to comment more—is they were individualised and focused on the resident's needs and the family's position about where they wished to go and how that person's needs would be best addressed. Dr Groves?

Dr GROVES: Yes, that is correct. I have nothing further to add to what the minister has said.

Mr DULUK: Thank you, Dr Groves. How many placements in nursing homes have been discontinued as the nursing home has been able to meet the needs of the residents?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I have not been advised that any of them have at this point in time.

Mr DULUK: So, at this stage, all nursing homes that are looking after residents who were previously at Makk and McLeay are still receiving ongoing government assistance?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: No, we said before that we had received notification from one of the people, one of the sites and aged-care providers, that they no longer needed those additional resources and the transition had gone smoothly for those residents who had moved across to that aged-care provider.

Mr DULUK: I refer to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 43. Unfortunately, the member for Colton is not here. How many aged-care residential licences were held at Makk and McLeay?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: There were 55 licences, I am advised.

Mr DULUK: How many of these licences were transferred to Northgate?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Zero.

Mr DULUK: Does that mean that SA Health still holds all of the licences that were previously linked to Makk and McLeay?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Correct.

Mr DULUK: To what facility are these licences currently being linked?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: They have been parked in Country Health.

Mr DULUK: And more broadly within Country Health, which particular hospitals?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: No, the licences are currently with Country Health. If you give me a few moments, I will find the correct briefing note to give you some more details.

Mr DULUK: Wonderful. And at the same time, in the longer term, what is SA Health intending to do with those licences?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The commonwealth funding of residential aged-care beds at Oakden was moved to SA Health on an offline status until such time as the SA government has finalised a statewide model of care and determined the infrastructure requirements for this new facility or facilities. While NALHN no longer operates aged-care bed licences, the commonwealth's Department of Health's regulatory processes continue, as NALHN remains the approved provider under the Aged Care Act 1997 of the commonwealth. The sanctions will naturally expire—if you are going to ask about those—on 17 September this year.

To enable a smooth transition back to the aged-care facility, NALHN is running Northgate consistent with the commonwealth government requirements, and the state government obviously continues to work in this space with the implementation of the six recommendations of the Oakden review.

Mr DULUK: Going back to page 29, how many FTEs are currently employed at the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Dr Groves will answer that question.

Dr GROVES: There are currently 11 FTEs.

Mr DULUK: Currently employed?

Dr GROVES: Yes.

Mr DULUK: Wonderful. In the Principal Community Visitor Annual Report: Mental Health Services 2015-16 it is noted that the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist had its numbers reduced from 16 to 12. Is this correct, minister?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Which budget line item does that refer to?

Mr DULUK: Page 29.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Page 29. From time to time the Chief Psychiatrist does do particular projects, I am advised. Dr Groves?

Dr GROVES: That is correct.

Mr DULUK: Just confirming that the numbers have been cut from 16 to 12?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The issue of staffing is a matter for the SA Health CE, Ms Kaminski. I have stated that a number of times. I do not get involved in individual unit staffing numbers or the contractual agreements or terms and conditions and leave arrangements. That is a matter for SA Health.

Mr DULUK: I appreciate that, but with the CE of SA Health next to you, could you ask if it is correct that the numbers have been reduced from 16 to 12?

The CHAIR: The minister is not responsible for those numbers, no matter who is sitting next to her. She is at liberty to answer.

Mr DULUK: I leave it for the minister to take it at her liberty.

The CHAIR: We have an hour left here. I am not going to shut you down at all, but the simple fact is that if it rests in SA Health, it does not matter whether the CE is sitting next to her or not.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Dr Groves will outline some further facts.

Dr GROVES: You refer to numbers that were in the community visitor's annual report. They cover a period of time in which there were restructures within the Department of Health in which some of the functions that sat with the office were actually transferred elsewhere, with those staff transferred elsewhere, so that the number of staff attached to the responsibilities that my office currently has is the same as it was when I commenced in the office in February 2015.

Mr DULUK: Thank you very much, Dr Groves, through the minister. So, just confirming that the reduction, minister, in FTEs in the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist has not had any negative impact on the ability of the office to undertake its work?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: That is why I let the Chief Psychiatrist speak about his capacity and his team's capacity to assist the people of South Australia on a daily basis. I think they do exceptional work.

Dr GROVES: Thank you, minister. The capacity for my office to undertake the work that we do is the same as when I arrived. We have, importantly, needed to implement significant amendments to legislation commencing in the middle of last year. During that period of time, the

chief executive of the department made available two additional staff for my office to undertake those responsibilities. There is a clear process within the department that if there is additional work for my office to undertake, I can put forward a case to the chief executive for consideration, and my experience has been that when I have put that forward, that has been successful.

Mr DULUK: Thank you, Dr Groves. Budget Paper 4, volume 3, page 36. When did the minister receive a copy of the Action Plan for People Living with Borderline Personality Disorder 2017-2020 from the Mental Health Commissioner?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I continue to work almost on a weekly basis on the implementation of the borderline personality disorder recommendations and review. I would have to actually go back through emails to establish the date that you are reflecting on, but I know that it is something I am very close to bringing forward to the general public in this state. In fact, I have met with people it directly impacts on this week to discuss the strategy and the space.

It is a very serious mental illness with significant morbidity and mortality, and we are very committed, and I have a longstanding commitment to supporting people with borderline personality and their families and carers. Their loved ones often have a very hard road as they support their family members through this space, and it was one of the first things we asked the South Australian Mental Health Commission to explore further as an issue.

The commission completed the state's first action plan for people living with borderline personality, and we are in the final stages of preparing a policy response from that. There are effective psychological therapies to support recovery from borderline personality disorder, and the current National Health and Medical Research Council Clinical Practice Guidelines for the management of borderline personality disorder from 2012 has determined that there is insufficient evidence to formulate evidence-based recommendations around the role of specialised services in this space.

The action plan was developed by the commissioner. He is not recommending the development of a single specialist outpatient or inpatient location at a major metropolitan hospital. The idea is that we establish a statewide personality disorder hub and a working program that is similar to the Project Air personality disorder strategy in New South Wales.

The hub will probably consist of some training, some clinical, some lived experience. We will be talking to SAPOL, the Department for Correctional Services, Department for Communities and Social Inclusion and the Department for Education and Child Development to upskill their staff on awareness of this issue and the need to develop appropriate approaches for people who engage with their services because we know that it is a critical point for people who are living with borderline personality.

SA Health will also include some ongoing training, and that is significant from what I have heard about borderline personality disorder; when I have gone to visit the Sanctuary Group, they have spoken about interaction and case management. All these things are up for consideration, and we are very close to providing a response to the community. I have given my word that I will speak to the borderline personality consumers, their carers and family first off before I make any public announcements in that space, and I have only met with them in the last couple of days to continue that dialogue.

Mr DULUK: Going back to my initial question, when you did receive a copy of the action plan? Was it this year? Was it last year? Was it before Christmas?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I will reflect on my records and come back to you.

Mr DULUK: And you said that in the not too distant future you will release the action plan. Will it be in the next six weeks, two months, three months? Do you have a figure in mind?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: It will be before the end of the year, and I will continue to have ongoing conversations with that important sector that this piece of important policy work is designed to assist and support. I have given them my word, and we will be helping them.

Mr DULUK: Has funding been allocated to implement the action plan?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: When I make my announcement, funding will be attached.

Mr DULUK: Is there any funding in the current budget?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: My understanding is that it is through existing resources.

Mr DULUK: Minister, are you concerned that it might be almost 12 months since possibly receiving the report and the action plan being in place? By the end of the year, it certainly will be 12 months. Is it a concern for you that it has taken so long to get this right?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: This is an important piece of policy. Conversations with the sector and having the right information for a poorly diagnosed and misunderstood condition are important. It is fair to say, Dr Groves, that it is a largely feminised condition. Having those conversations and working with that sector, the caregivers and the family members is an important process. Their care and concerns are something the department is very focused on and is very aware of, more than perhaps it ever has been in the past, but we will not be rushed into a response that will fail. I want to make sure that this is a successful initiative to support those families.

Ms REDMOND: Minister, perhaps we could switch to a couple of questions on substance abuse. I refer in particular to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 31, under Sub-Program 1.1: System Performance and Service Delivery. In regard to tobacco products regulations, in 2015-16, 15 expiation notices were issued, and a very low target of six was suggested for the just finished year because it was hoped that there would be more compliance and obviously there would not be a need to issue notices, but the estimated result was again at 15.

The explanation was that the number of expiation notices under the Tobacco Products Regulations had increased due to repeated noncompliance with part 4 of the act. I am wondering whether the minister can give any indication as to the particular aspects, because part 4 goes into a series of different areas of noncompliance. Smoking is banned in enclosed public spaces, workplaces and shared areas, for instance, and in certain playgrounds and so on. Can the minister give any indication as to where specifically the problem is that is leading to these ongoing problems with tobacco regulation?

The Hon. P. CAICA: That is a good question.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Certainly. I will just consult with the head of DASSA. I will have to dig a bit deeper for the individual prosecutions, but I am happy to provide that. It is something I have a longstanding passion for. We have introduced significant reforms in this space with outdoor dining. In fact, when someone wrote to my office this year complaining about a particular site and how the dining area was dealt with, we had that investigated.

When we introduced the outdoor dining reform, we did an extensive public education campaign and we also worked with the AHA, the Cancer Council and various other heart foundations around information giving, but that is an ongoing piece of work of prevention and ensuring compliance with the act. If people bring information of that nature to my office, we take it very seriously and I would expect the same of the department. We will dig deeper for the member for Heysen and bring back that information for her, and that would be an absolute pleasure.

Ms REDMOND: Could I further ask how it is policed in regard to one of my particular bugbears, that is, the prohibition of smoking in a motor vehicle if a child is present. My experience is that if a person is likely to be caught doing it then they are doing it regularly. That is in an enclosed space.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Very toxic.

Ms REDMOND: It is extremely toxic to young children. Some of these other places, like pubs and so on, concern adults who are making their own choices. What puzzles me is whilst I can understand, for instance, compliance officers going into a public place, do they have any authority to book someone or is that a police responsibility? If it is, how is that issue going to be addressed?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Simone Cormack, who is the head of DASSA in our state, will address that question. It does require a degree of cooperation with SAPOL and observation.

Ms CORMACK: Authorised officers under the act include staff from SA Health and also include police.

Ms REDMOND: But are they specifically tasking our police force? For instance, the police are doing a lot about using mobile phones whilst driving and so on, but I have yet to see or hear of anyone actually being fined for this infringement, which I take very seriously.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I am happy to inquire of the police what recommendations for operational priorities have been given and whether they are policing this part of the act. I am sure that there would be times when the police observe things, as you have outlined, and I am happy to seek advice from my colleague in the upper house about this matter.

The Hon. P. CAICA: You mentioned that the authorised officers are police and departmental people. Are there authorised officers from councils or are they being considered in the future? I say that in the context of the outstanding success of the ban on smoking in Henley Square.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Councils can apply to have authorised officers, but it depends on each local government as to whether they choose to participate. Obviously, the Henley Square reform is great for family-friendly dining and recreation. Many people feel quite ill if they are not smokers and they experience cigarette smoke, so having that council move into that space and seek our support to make that a smoke-free area is something that we would love to see more local government sections of the community do.

Mr DULUK: Can we move to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 51. What was the budget for CAMHS in the last financial year, 2016-17?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I am advised that for CAMHS, which does provide a variety of different services around the state, the 2017-18 budget expenditure was \$35.339 million, less revenue. Excluding appropriations, it was \$3.179 million, operating recurrent is \$32.160 million and investment capital at this point is zero. These are estimated results to a certain extent.

Mr DULUK: Do you have what the 2016-17 budget was for CAMHS as well?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The estimated results for those areas are \$35.994 million, in line with what I spoke about before, \$3.176 million, \$32.818 million and zero for capital investment. What we do know about the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service is that it is a statewide service providing therapy and group programs—you would understand that—and consultation liaison from infants and children to adolescents and also perinatal women.

There are 19 community sites across South Australia, including 14 in the non-metro locations. CAMHS also covers over 30 regular outreach sites in non-metropolitan locations. It is very diverse in staff profile and locations. People have to commute sometimes to support the people whom they need to work with. These teams often house multidisciplinary teams to provide individual and group interventions as they are needed.

The inpatient service is also provided to individuals with acute mental health issues, and this includes the paediatric Boylan Ward at the Women's and Children's Hospital and Helen Mayo House, both of which I have had the opportunity to visit to provide support with, in particular Helen Mayo House at Glenside for women with mental health issues in the perinatal period.

Mr DULUK: How many FTEs were employed by CAMHS at 30 June 2017?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The 2016-17 year estimated result is 274.03.

Mr DULUK: Has the new CAMHS model of care, developed more than three years ago, been implemented?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The reform of community CAMHS is ongoing. We are having ongoing conversations. In fact, there has been ongoing work in the last month in this space. The proposed service restructure is cost neutral and aims to make the best use of the existing CAMHS resources for the delivery of a contemporary and quality mental health service across the state. The continuity of high-quality care for young people with mental health issues is the most important priority, and we will continue to use any future service models that are appropriate to achieve that goal.

We know that in the last month we continue to have conversations with workforce, unions and providers around this space, and we have announced the closure of the Enfield site. The

Department for Education has been off that site for a long time. In fact, we are getting positive feedback from many families who are no longer having to commute into Enfield and who are able to get the support they need in their local areas.

Mr DULUK: In relation to CAMHS, how many offices have closed in the last 12 months, or are scheduled to close by June next year?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Offices?

Mr DULUK: Correct.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: As in physical locations?

Mr DULUK: Yes.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I would have to go back to the head of that unit and ask that specifically. What we might be doing is just flexing the location. It may be in the same zone, but it will be based around need. Where the concentration of support is needed, we may potentially be moving it. So, it is not closure; it is maybe redirecting the services to the priority needs of our population in the state.

Ms REDMOND: As a supplementary to your previous answer about CAMHS and the care of children with mental health disorders, my understanding might be out of date—and I am happy to be corrected—but it was the case that our system was basically coping with children going into hospital and having a diagnosis, but once there was a diagnosis of a mental health problem there was no capacity for our system to keep them in care while that was treated.

I assume, given that mental health disorders with adults sometimes involves having inpatient requirements, that the same would apply to children, but I may be wrong. Is there a capacity for our system to have children with diagnosed mental health disorders accommodated on an inpatient basis for treatment?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: There are 12 beds at the Boylan Ward at the Women's and Children's Hospital for acutely unwell young people. The goal of treatment at the Boylan Ward, when I visited, is that young people are better off in the community with family support and the appropriate medical triage wrapped around them. They may come in for a short amount of time, but we then try to make sure that they have support around them—sufficient outpatient support and community liaison support—for them to have ongoing care in the community so they can resume their lives.

Only this morning, I spoke to over 900 educators, nurses and clinicians at the NextGen conference about mental health and wellbeing for young people in our state. The most concerning thing that we know from our learnings from our Mental Health Commission strategic planning exercise of investing in the over 268,000 young South Australians is that many of them (up to 45 per cent) will have an episode in that first period of time up until they are 24 or 25 years of age. That is a really important strategic action plan that I am very keen to see supported through the Mental Health Commission.

We need to get the right interventions up early. I know that primary healthcare networks in this state are very interested in Adelaide and country areas. I have worked with headspace at Edinburgh North and various other sites around the state, with the commonwealth government's support, and I have also worked with Orygen and people in other states. Youth mental health is something that we are very concerned about and actively working to improve in those early years, but also the state where neurophysiology is still being wired for young men up to 30 and young people under the age of 18. I am happy to take an extra question on that, Isobel.

Mr DULUK: I refer to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 35. Is the Mental Health Commission funded through the forward estimates?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The commissioner is aware of the funding for this space. Once we have the strategic plan in place, we will also need to do a review of the commission. It started operating at full capacity—

Mr DULUK: Just a yes or no answer—

The CHAIR: No, no, hang on, member for Davenport, the minister is allowed to contextualise.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Actually, I am the minister, and I will give you the answer to the question, thank you very much. It is an opportunity for me to explain what the commission does for you, because I think sometimes you do not understand that.

The CHAIR: Order! The most important thing coming out of that is that, when we talk over each other, Hansard cannot record any of what we are saying, so all of it is superfluous. I would like you to recognise that the minister can contextualise her answer as she wishes.

Mr Duluk interjecting:

The CHAIR: You can repeat your question, yes.

Mr DULUK: Is the Mental Health Commission funded through the forward estimates?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: We know that the budget for this year is in the budget estimate papers and that there will be a strategic plan coming out very shortly, in October—I am hoping—and we will be doing an ongoing review of the needs there. There are number of action plans that will come out of the strategic mental health plan, the implementation of which I imagine the commission would need to oversee.

Mr DULUK: I will take that as a no.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: That is not what I said.

Mr DULUK: No, that is true. Will the government funding for the commission be ongoing once the mental health plan is completed, at this stage, to your knowledge?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Once we have reviewed the strategic plan, the action plans, and considered the most appropriate way forward, I am sure there will be a need for the Mental Health Commission.

Mr DULUK: Wonderful; thank you very much. Will the mental health plan be released directly to the public, or will the approval of the minister or cabinet be required before it is released?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: As you might not be aware, having not been in government for a long time, many important decisions do need to go through the department and then up to cabinet for approval and release. In fact, the Oakden report went to cabinet because it was such a significant document and the whole of government should have been aware and supported the recommendations. The strategic mental health plan of our state is a very significant government document and will go to cabinet.

Mr DULUK: Is the Mental Health Commissioner independent of government?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The Mental Health Commissioner, Commissioner Burns, who is sitting beside me, is the equivalent of a CE in SA Health. He acts in an independent way to conduct his business unit, as do all of the other people who are within SA Health. He reports to me on a monthly basis and we have regular meetings. Where necessary, I cooperate with his team with community engagement. I have visited the lived experience group who were assisting, and I would advise the commissioner to talk about some of the other work he has been doing lately with community engagement. Over 2,000 people have participated in giving us their thoughts, and it is an ongoing piece of work.

Cmmr BURNS: To guide the development of the strategic plan, we have formed a project steering group, which includes representation from the primary health networks in terms of commonwealth funding, from the non-government organisations and from those with lived experience. Importantly, because we are taking a whole-of-government approach to the development of the plan, we have representation on that steering group from other government agencies such as Corrections, Police, Education, Communities and Social Inclusion, Treasury and Finance and the Premier's office. That is to give it that whole-of-government perspective.

Subordinate to that, there are two reference groups that also provide guidance on the development of the plan. Most importantly, we have formed a community advisory committee, which

is a group of people who have volunteered with a range of clinical and lived experience to provide us with their advice of their experiences. Indeed, we have a subgroup of that called a youth advisory group so that we have a group of youths who are telling us what their experiences and expectations are. We have that true whole-of-government and whole-of-community perspective advising us on the development of the plan.

Mr DULUK: Minister, through you, if I can speak to the Mental Health Commissioner, does he believe he has funding beyond the forward estimates to complete his role?

The CHAIR: Hang on; no, you cannot ask the minister what the Mental Health Commissioner believes.

Mr DULUK: Minister, when do you expect the final report to be publicly released?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Which final report?

Mr DULUK: The one that the Mental Health Commissioner is currently completing?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I outlined that in the answer I gave before. It is in the coming months.

Mr DULUK: Wonderful; thank you. I note that in the Chief Psychiatrist's report on Oakden he considered the Stepping Up report to be the 'the only State-wide Mental Health Plan...under the National Mental Health Strategy'. That plan concluded in 2012. Does the minister consider the lack of a plan for the last five years has impaired the development of the mental health sector?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The Stepping Up report was a very important social inclusion document in this state. We know that there were Stepping Up recommendations in the disability portfolio that I am involved in as well. There is a high degree of comorbidity and mortality associated with the two sectors. Psychosocial disability is one thing that we are working through with the NDIS at the federal scoping level at the moment, and there are high-level conversations about that. SA Health continues to work in the intersectoral space with those matters.

For a lot of our time in the last couple of years, we have obviously been reforming CAMHS and continuing to do that to make sure it meets the needs of our contemporary population in this state. We have also been undertaking significant work in the growth of suicide prevention networks across the state that are community led. They are fantastic opportunities for local members to become involved in significant community building opportunities in our state. It is about wellbeing. We have also been doing significant work to reduce emergency department waiting times and have made significant inroads in that area.

We continue to look at how we can reform our community mental health services on the ground as well as a hospital delivery because having the right mix of beds and support, post discharge, are things that do not stay static. Plans are guidelines, they are necessary, but we know that this all of life and all of community journey in the strategic mental health plan that the commissioner is working on is a significant step forward for this state.

Mr DULUK: Going back to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 29. Have you been asked to provide a statement to Commissioner Lander?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: As you would know, anything that Commissioner Lander investigates are matters for Commissioner Lander to deal with, and I am not going to answer that question.

Mr KNOLL: Can I add a supplementary there?

The CHAIR: You cannot add a supplementary to the question since she has refused to answer.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: And what budget line?

The CHAIR: Supplementary questions are out of order anyway, so if you have a question, ask the question.

Mr DULUK: Page 29, program 1.1.

Mr KNOLL: Can I ask a question?

The CHAIR: You can ask a question, yes.

Mr KNOLL: Thank you. It has been made pretty clear that the parliament and parliamentary privilege has a higher standing than the independent corruption commissioner, so there is an opportunity for you to be able to correct the record here. I think this a matter of public interest. It is a matter that has been very widely canvassed, and so there is an opportunity for you to clear the air here and I would invite you to do so.

The CHAIR: No, this is a speech. This is not a question.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: As the minister, my goal is to work on ensuring that everyone who had contact with Oakden is supported. If they had unsatisfactory experiences in Oakden, those people who were residents at the time have been moved to Northgate or other facilities, as I have stated. We are getting on with fixing the problems. We are cooperating with all inquiries that may be occurring at a variety of levels, whether it is the federal inquiry or any other inquiries by AHPRA.

My goal is to support people who have experienced unsatisfactory care in the dementia space under the state government. I have issued a full apology to those people and their families, and we continue to support people and move forward to fix this problem.

Mr DULUK: Will the cost of Crown legal advice provided to mental health FTEs appearing before the Commissioner Lander inquiry be backdated to your department?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Ms Kaminski will answer that question.

Ms KAMINSKI: The Crown has indicated that they will be supporting all staff through all inquiries unless some particular issue arises where staff would be represented by their own lawyer.

Mr DULUK: Minister, is it fair to say that Commissioner Lander is operating his investigation more in the role of an ombudsman, in terms of his review into Oakden?

The CHAIR: The minister does not need to comment on the commissioner's role.

The Hon. P. CAICA: Or whether it is fair to say.

The CHAIR: Or whether it is fair to say anything about what the commissioner is doing. It is completely out of order.

Mr DULUK: Thank you, Chair.

The CHAIR: You are welcome.

Mr DULUK: Minister, has Commissioner Lander asked you to appear before his committee?

The CHAIR: That is out of order, too.

An honourable member interjecting:

The CHAIR: It is. I am advised that the minister can choose not to answer that question.

Mr DULUK: Still on page 29, as we know, the NDIS is moving to full implementation with future steps to include psychosocial disabilities. Can you please advise what level of funding will be transferred out of the state mental health budget as part of the resource allocation agreement under the NDIS in response to the inclusion of psychosocial disabilities?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: One of the pieces of work we are doing with intellectual disability, mental health and psychosocial is around the centre for disease at Modbury. That is a really important and much-loved part of the community. I wish somebody had asked me about that in Disabilities; I would have given you more detail about it at that time.

It is something regarding which we have been working on significantly with the community. They are very passionate about that space and are looking forward to migrating into SA Health in the coming months. I believe December is when it is due to migrate. The South Australian government is committed to ensuring people with severe mental health, who are not eligible for the scheme, are supported with the services to live quality lives in the community.

As I have stated in previous hearings today, adults 18 to 64 become eligible to access NDIS from 1 July this year. It is a geographical rollout, as I outlined earlier, but eligible people who receive services through Disability SA and have mental illness will transition to the scheme. Eligible public mental health clients receive SA Health-funded psychosocial support and will transition to the scheme from 1 July 2018.

The South Australian government has submitted information to the joint standing committee inquiry into the provision of NDIS services for people with psychosocial disability to ensure SA citizens do have adequate support and the committee's report is expected very shortly, on 10 August, I am advised.

In early 2017, SA Health also established a mental health NDIS implementation group to work in partnership with the non-government (NGO) sector to prepare for this implementation, but all existing psychosocial community contracts, on my understanding, have been extended for one year to assist us through this transition period and to reassure consumers living in the community that they have support as they need it.

Ms REDMOND: Can you just clarify, minister, though, I think the question was: is there going to be a cost to the budget for the psychosocial component that is currently under your control as minister? Because of that transfer of people to the NDIS system, is that going to mean that there is a transfer of money from the money that is in your current budget that deals with that psychosocial issue to the NDIS and how much is it?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Across government, the South Australian government has committed over \$723 million, I believe, to the NDIS rollout. That comes from a variety of different sources, and drilling it down into the particular departments has been a complicated and ongoing part of the disability service reform because we do need to negotiate with each one of those departments to ensure they are resourced. What we are discovering is that, say, in the northern suburbs, as adults move into there, there is particular unease about change. People feel nervous about that and existing block funding arrangements, and the community sector is learning how to work with the NDIS.

What we are working very strongly to ensure in the community mental health sector that we are involved in is that no-one is worse off, but we do know that we did suffer significant cuts from the federal government, with them walking away from the national partnership arrangements last year. That affected our supports in the country. It was over \$20 million that the national partnerships stepped away from.

We are endeavouring to do the very best we can for this important part of our community who are frail and vulnerable, and it is something that I advocated very strongly on at the Disability Reform Council. In fact, we took a paper there and it has now been made part of the work plan for the senior officer group. SA Health is very intent on working through these problems and it is something that I speak about almost on a fortnightly basis with peak meetings on this issue. We are working very hard to make sure that they are supported.

Mr DULUK: Budget Paper 5, page 50, Stop the Hurt Strategy. Can the minister confirm that the funding of \$8 million over four years for the Stop the Hurt strategy includes \$3.6 million to fund a 50 per cent increase in outpatient counselling appointments and at least 15 new regional, residential rehabilitation beds, as highlighted in Stop the Hurt, caused by the crystal meth news release of 15 June 2017?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Just bear with me while we do a swap about, with DASSA coming to the table. The answer is yes.

Mr DULUK: Wonderful. Is the minister confident that the \$3.6 million is sufficient to open and operate the 15 additional beds?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Ms Cormack will actively answer that question. She is in the process of preparing for the tender at the moment, I understand. I will not put words in her mouth. I will let her answer that.

Ms CORMACK: Increasing access to treatment is \$3.6 million. Currently, no decision has been made on the location of additional treatment services in regional areas. DASSA is currently undertaking a service planning and procurement process, leading to the negotiation and execution of service contracts. We intend that the new treatment services will commence operation by 31 December 2017. So, the short answer is yes, we are confident.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: That will be based on evidence about the need in those particular areas, so it is data on population and profile; socio-economic status; service demand; utilisation and the drug and alcohol and other hospitalisations that have occurred in the area; existing service provision infrastructure and footprints, including having the right clinical staff with the right degrees of qualification; supervisors to provide people if they are detoxing; quality accreditation standards that are national that need to be met; and a demonstrated clinical governance framework.

One area I am particularly passionate about—and I have written to both of the federal ministers about this—is having a national standard for people who are doing drug rehabilitation. There was a very sad story on the ABC on *Four Corners* about this and how there is a lack of standards. People's families are desperate, seeking treatment and having their superannuation ripped out of them with very little outcome for the people, preying on people who are recovering from addiction. Having a high-quality service environment is what SA Health and DASSA are aiming to address in this space.

Mr DULUK: Going back to the cost, if you could provide us on notice the estimated average daily operation cost per bed?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Which type of unit are you talking about?

Mr DULUK: In regard to the 15 additional beds.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: That may be commercial-in-confidence because we are in contract negotiations for service provision at the moment and I would hate to jeopardise getting those services on the ground.

Mr DULUK: Indeed.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I am sure you would understand that.

Mr DULUK: Very much so. I know you have not finalised the location, but will all 15 beds be located on a single site or are we looking at multiple sites?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: There is a preference for multiple sites. We are a very regional and diverse state, as you know.

Mr DULUK: Indeed. I refer you to Budget Paper 4, volume 3, page 43. When did you receive the Forensic Mental Health Service Review, dated July 2015?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I would have to go through the records again. That is an important document that has been informing SA Health about how they can work in this space for quite a while. I know it has impacted on service delivery on the ground, particularly in NALHN, and many of the recommendations have actually been undertaken. The review made 24 recommendations, including three recommendations that are a priority—

Mr DULUK: Sorry, just going back a step, when did you receive it? I think what you are about to answer is in my other questions, but if you could just let me know when you believe you received—

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I did answer that before; I said I have to go and check my records.

Mr DULUK: When did the minister release the Forensic Mental Health Service Review?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: My understanding is SA Health released that report; it is not something that I released.

Mr DULUK: For the benefit of the committee, given there are members of SA Health here, could you please provide the committee with when that release was?

The CHAIR: If the minister was not the minister responsible for its release, then no.

Mr DULUK: The minister is the responsible minister for this.

The CHAIR: I am sorry if I misunderstood what the minister said—

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I am happy to answer the question.

The CHAIR: If you are happy to answer it, but were you suggesting the Minister for Health was the responsible minister?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: No, I was not. Forensic mental health is my responsibility.

The CHAIR: Okay. I was wrong, Member for Davenport, carry on.

Mr DULUK: Not at all, sir.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I am happy to answer it. The department released the report last week. As I was saying before, the review made 24 recommendations, including three priority recommendations and eight program recommendations, four strategic recommendations and nine legislative recommendations. It was initiated by the Northern Adelaide Local Health Network as an internal review to provide advice about improving forensic mental health service provision and existing program resources in the state. It was never intended to be a public report, it was always to inform about how we conduct business internally and improve outcomes.

The review has, however, been published in line with the government's commitment to greater transparency in relation to mental health services, as outlined last week by the department. Health officials, including the Chief Psychiatrist, have accessed and used the review's findings to inform them about forensic mental health in the state, particularly at James Nash House, where a lot of that work is undertaken.

The review consideration ranges from management, culture, standards of care and forensic mental health services, but also with a particular focus on James Nash House. The review had 24 recommendations, including encompassing program strategy, relationship management, legislation issues and three priority recommendations. Significant progress has been made by NALHN and the Chief Psychiatrist's office about addressing many of these recommendations relating to operationalisation and program issues identified in the review.

Two of the three priority recommendations concerning bed capacity issues have been addressed, and work is underway to progress the third priority recommendation to review the staffing model for high security inpatient services to support a clinical approach for risk management. I know that the Birdwood Ward has been renovated to make sure that people with an intellectual disability or brain acquired injury have a special space within a forensic mental health setting. That is something we have done. We have also opened the Kenneth O'Brien Rehabilitation Centre in recent years, and seven of the recommendations were supported in principle, because they required us to work through further service delivery and legislation and financial implications.

Forensic mental health is something that is very important to this state, something on which we work with SAPOL, Correctional Services and the court system on a regular basis. We will continue to work in a friendly and cooperative manner to constantly contemporise and improve our service delivery.

Mr DULUK: Minister, can you confirm that in your statement you said it was not intended for the review to be publicly released?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: We released it in line with SA Health public transparency—

Mr DULUK: Did you say that initially it was not your intention—

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: It was an internal document that was developed by NALHN to inform service delivery, as I outlined, but in line with transparency, as with many documents, we release things. We do proactive disclosure on our travel arrangements, as you know, and on electoral office expenses, for example. It is another example of the government being transparent.

Mr DULUK: It is very important, and I suppose that transparency and that desire to release the report probably came on the back of the Principal Community Visitor's report in 2015-16, which

said that the review should be made public through parliament. Obviously, another 15 months later it did become public in parliament.

I move on to page 39 in regard to James Nash House. Has a specialist unit been established within James Nash House to accommodate people with a primary intellectual disability rather than a mental health issue?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I have spoken about Birdwood. Seven beds in Birdwood were developed into an intellectual disability and acquired brain injury unit. It is something I have been following since I was a parliamentary secretary in this space. Ten beds were also in the newly built Kenneth O'Brien Rehabilitation Centre, and the completion of the Ashton House step-down unit in 2013, which is 10 beds, added to our capacity in the forensic mental health service.

We have been working and responding to an increasing demand for forensic services through the expansion of our forensic bed based services, increasing the net forensic beds from a bed capacity of 40 to 60 over recent periods of time. Forensic services are experiencing an increase in demand; an increasing number of defendants are being found guilty by reason of mental incapacity or impairment or of being unfit to plead under section 269 of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935. A number of prisoners and people on remand also require specialist mental health treatment prior to returning to prison or to the community.

It is a complex part of the department and the people who work in that section of forensic mental health are to be praised. It is quite challenging on a day-to-day basis when they go to work, but they do their work for the best benefit of all the people they are caring for and also to keep our community safe.

Mr DULUK: How many people in James Nash House have a primary intellectual disability rather than a mental health diagnosis?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The numbers flex up and down as people come out of custodial arrangements. We would have to check that, and I am happy to pull that information from the department for you as of this date.

Mr DULUK: Is the Principal Community Visitor empowered to visit forensic mental health patients in correctional facilities?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Dr Groves will answer that.

Dr GROVES: The Principal Community Visitor is not because they are not authorised mental health facilities for the purposes of the Mental Health Act. What changed on 5 June was that James Nash House, because it holds people who are forensic patients who are the equivalent now of mental health patients, became in scope. So, James Nash House is now in scope for the Principal Community Visitor to visit and talk to all consumers who are in James Nash House, but not those who are residing in prison on a ministerial direction.

Mr DULUK: Going back to the Forensic Mental Health Service Review, why has the number of people detained in prison increased rather than decreased since the review was completed?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: That is a complex issue. Dr Groves could give a clinical view on that matter.

Dr GROVES: People who are held in prison are there on ministerial direction, they are there because there is no practical alternative for them. That represents people who have a range of problems, it includes people who were found not guilty by reason of mental incompetence due to either intellectual disability or mental illness. For a number of those people they have breached licence conditions, they are no longer in clinical need for a clinical service, which they would get in James Nash House, and in those circumstances, where they have breached what would otherwise be considered to be conditions of orders, they are then on ministerial direction to a correctional facility.

Mr DULUK: Thank you, Dr Groves. Minister, what is the longest time that a current forensic mental health patient has been detained in a correctional facility?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: As I have outlined before, the number of patients who intersect across these two spaces can vary and depends on their condition as they enter the service. It may deteriorate during their time on remand. I would have to seek advice on the numbers on this particular day, but those numbers go up and down on a regular basis.

Mr DULUK: Thank you. Just for Hansard's benefit: the longest time that a current forensic mental health patient has been detained in a correctional facility. In relation to the two patients identified in recommendation 1.1 of the Forensic Mental Health Service Review, who had been in correctional facilities for a prolonged period, how long had each of the patients been in correctional facilities for?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I will take that on notice. Actually, I believe Dr Groves can provide you with an answer.

Dr GROVES: I think it would only be appropriate for me to answer it in relation to one person who is no longer in this country. That person had been in there for six years and his circumstances are fairly well publicly known. I do not think it is appropriate for me to comment in relation to the other person.

Mr DULUK: Recommendation 2.2 of the Forensic Mental Health Service Review states that recommendations need to be developed following the release of the SA Mental Health Plan in October 2017. How is it possible for the Older Persons Mental Health Service model of care to be developed before the mental health plan but forensic mental services cannot be?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The continuum of care and the way we work on models of care with the oversight committee, they are looking at different models of care and particularly the older persons mental health space is something that is ongoing. As I have said, there are six separate groups working towards the objective of improving our service delivery and the build and design for that potential service change. We continue to take extra information as we require. It is not something that is static, member for Davenport. We take information that is relevant and timely and useful that is evidence based.

Mr DULUK: Given that, would it be fair to say that the Older Persons Mental Health Service was one of those static moments that jumped up and needed a new model of care?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: The Older Persons Mental Health Service oversight committee, which I have spoken about earlier today—contemporising practice is something that I am very committed to as the minister. I have spoken to almost all service delivery units about the need to continually improve the quality of care and not stay static in old practices. I know the CE of Health and the deputy of the department are very committed to ensuring that we provide contemporary models of care that meet the needs of all South Australians, regardless of what age groups they are in.

Ms REDMOND: Mr Chairman, may have I the call, please?

The CHAIR: Yes, please take the floor.

Ms REDMOND: Thank you. Minister, can we jump back to substance abuse. All these questions on substance abuse from the teetotalling non-smoker.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Are you a teetotaller?

Ms REDMOND: Absolute teetotaller.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: You and Frances get on well then.

Ms REDMOND: Frances and I have always got on well, and I did not even know she was a teetotaller. You mentioned this in your opening address, but I will refer to Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 31, Performance indicators. I understand the progress report on drug strategy states that we have not actually managed to achieve any improvement and that this risky alcohol consumption still rests at about 26 per cent. That figure of 26 per cent amazes me. If that is 26 per cent of our overall adult population, that is more than one in four. First of all, could you tell me how you define risky alcohol consumption? I suspect most of the people I know must be risky alcohol consumers if one in four—

The Hon. P. CAICA: Who are you looking at?

Ms REDMOND: I looked nowhere. I did have one famous event with alcohol, which is why I have been a non-consumer for a long time.

The CHAIR: Is there a question here?

Ms REDMOND: Yes, there is a question here. Minister, can you explain how you define that risky consumption? My understanding is, of course, that the younger the age at which the alcohol consumption begins, the riskier it is going to be, not just in a physical sense but also in the mental and brain development sense. What is the strategy for dealing with this consistently high figure? But first I need to understand how you define it to get it that high.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Absolutely. Ms Cormack will answer the question, but we make no apologies for having quite hard targets with alcohol use declining and also in tobacco within particular cohorts of society where the risky behaviour is more prevalent.

Ms CORMACK: The National Health and Medical Research Council publishes recommendations in relation to harms around alcohol, and we take the definition for risky alcohol use from their recommendations. Essentially, the definition that you are referring to—26 per cent of the adult population—is defined as four or more drinks on a single occasion within the last month. This is an evidence-based assessment of where it is more likely to experience short-term harms as a result of—

Ms REDMOND: Is physical harm to a person defined as what you would have in a young person consuming alcohol and damaging their brain, or harm from someone being stupid enough to get into a car after they have been drinking, or harm from falls? How do they define 'harm' in that sense?

Ms CORMACK: The analysis you are referring to is only in relation to 18 years and over, essentially. We are not looking at the specific issues around young people. There is a lot of evidence that any alcohol consumption is risky, but, statistically speaking, we are not looking at that. What we are looking at is the prediction of harm in terms of, for example, falls, injuries, violence—short-term harms.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: This information is gathered. I am an old records administrator and we used to code discharge diagnosis. When you come into the hospital they want to know the principal reason: what was the harm? For example, car accident, motor vehicle, where it occurred, what the underlying conditions and substances were and the toxicology that might be incurred. If it is a rape case, there are a whole lot of ways that the system acquires this epidemiological data, and then it forms these harm categories at a national level.

Ms CORMACK: Just to correct one thing I said: it is 15 years and over that the analysis is done on, not 18 and over.

The CHAIR: One last question.

Mr DULUK: Minister, possibly on notice, Budget Paper 4, Volume 3, page 38, how many subacute mental health beds does SA currently have? Is this more or less than the number we had 12 months ago, and how many subacute mental health beds were there in each hospital and facility as at 30 June 2016 and 2017?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: I am happy to give you that now. Just bear with me. I know that we have that number.

Mr DULUK: Very good; excellent.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: We have 146 subacute residential beds across the state at a variety of locations: Queenstown, intermediate care; Noarlunga, intermediate care; Mile End, community rehabilitation centre; Noarlunga, community rehabilitation centre; Playford, community rehabilitation centre; Whyalla, community rehabilitation service; and Glenside, supported accommodation. Northgate, Older Persons Mental Health Service, is part of that subacute and the forensic step-down at Oakden is part of the statewide NALHN.

Mr DULUK: One more?

The CHAIR: No, we are way over time.

Mr DULUK: We started late.

The CHAIR: And we are finishing about two minutes late. On behalf of the committee, I want to thank you, minister, and your advisers for coming in today and for all of your hard work. I declare the examination of the proposed payments for the South Australian Mental Health Commission completed, and the proposed payments for the Department for Health and Ageing referred to Committee A.

At 17:32 the committee adjourned to Monday 31 July 2017 at 09:00.