

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

18 to 20 and 25 to 27 June 1996

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

Minister for Education and Children's Services

NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN YEARS 12 AND 13

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: Data released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics refers to 'apparent retention rates', however use of these rates should always be qualified, since they do not take into account a number of factors, such as part time students, migration or repeating students. While it is true that the 'apparent retention rates' do show a fall in South Australia's retention rate from 81.7 per cent in 1994 to 71.4 per cent in 1995, these figures do not take into account 3 220 part time students. South Australia has the highest number of part time students of any Australian mainland state. The number of part time students has increased significantly over the past five years from 1 300 part time students in 1990, to the current figure of 3 220.

The ABS figures also do not take into account changes in the number of students who repeat year 12. Lower University cut off points in 1995, meant that only 701 students repeated Year 12 in 1995 compared to 1427 repeats in 1994. A similar situation occurred in 1996, with very low cut-off scores.

I am advised that the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS) believe that there has also been an increase in TAFE enrolment rates, but the TAFE figures are not available on a central basis to allow comparison.

The 15-19 age group employment figures provided by the Member were selective and misleading. Retention rates for 1994 and 1995 are calculated on the basis of enrolments in about July/August of this year. A comparison of 1994 and 1995 shows an extra 700 young people in employment in August 1995 and an extra 3000 young people in employment in July 1995. In fact, for 9 out of 12 months in 1995, youth employment was higher than for the corresponding month in 1994. The month of December used by the Member was one of the only 3 months when a small reduction was recorded

OFFICE STAFFING

In reply to Ms WHITE.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:

Name	Position	Salary
Halsey, John	Chief of Staff	76 300
Boomer, Catherine	Media Adviser	52 700
Duddy, Richard	Ministerial Adviser	52 700
Lambert, Ann	Personal Secretary	34 647
Jones, Warren	Policy Adviser	56 235
Tainsh, Mark	Policy Adviser	52 719
Chadwick, Diane	Senior Administrative Officer	39 784
Verner, Jennifer	Administrative Officer	30 867
Gillard, Marianne	Administrative Officer (0.6)	18 520
Marrone, Talia	Administrative Officer	29 842
Duff, Ann	Administrative Officer (0.4)	11 937
Gordon, Lee	Receptionist	25 742
Farquhar, Nikki	Parliamentary Clerk	25 742
Vacant	Administrative Support Officer	
Vacant	Correspondence Officer	

EDUCATION CENTRE

In reply to Mr BRINDAL.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: The funding of the construction of the Education Centre (both the old and new buildings), including fitout was from a Public Building Department, Capital Works allocation and Treasury allocated notional debt servicing costs to the Education Department expenditure line each year. The Title is in the name of the Minister for Public Works. It has never been 'owned' by the Department for Education and Children's Services.

The Education Centre is one of the many owned and leased assets throughout the State which are included in the commercial entity—Commercial Properties SA.

QUALITY ASSURANCE IN PRE-SCHOOLS

In reply to Mr De LAINE.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: 217 preschools out of 410 preschools (53 per cent) have indicated their participation in the implementation of the quality assurance framework for 1996, 171 (55 per cent) are stand alone preschools and 46 (47 per cent) are preschools on schools sites (Child Parent Centres).

All preschools have been provided with a learning manual 'Quality Matters' and at least one day's training for all staff in stand alone preschools. Principals and Child Parent Centre staff have been invited to training days.

All Regional Coordinators have been trained and are supporting staff in centres. Children's Services' Country Region has also developed, with the Quality Assurance Unit, a quality assurance mentor program for rural services.

The quality assurance framework will be applied in all preschools during 1997. Other Children's Services' programs, for example family day care, are also applying the quality assurance framework in 1996-1997.

ASBESTOS REMOVAL FROM SCHOOLS

In reply to Ms WHITE.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: The 1995-96 Programmed Maintenance/Minor Works Program within the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS) identified \$1.2 million for the survey of sites and the removal of hazardous material. The survey of hazardous materials within DECS sites is in the 4th year of a 5 year program and approximately 180 new sites are surveyed each year. Removal of hazardous materials identified in these reports is carried out as soon as practicable.

The program is to manage the identified hazardous materials within DECS sites and ensure that staff and students are not placed at risk. Each site has a register of identified hazardous material and this enables the situation to be monitored and advises tradespersons of potential danger.

I am advised the Asbestos Management Unit within Services SA has identified the following potential projects for direct funding from their sources, either totally or partially, during the 1996-97 financial year:

- Keller Road Primary School (Roof)
- Risdon Park Primary School (Roof)
- Nuriootpa Primary School (Roof)
- The first draft of the Hazardous Material component of the 1996-97 DECS Programmed Maintenance/Minor Work Program identifies the following work to be undertaken:
 - 700 re-surveys (legislative requirement)
 - 80 new surveys of schools
 - 100 new surveys of Children's Services sites
 - Removal of hazardous material
 - Roof replacements identified during surveys

If direct funding is not available from the Asbestos Management Unit, the 1996-97 DECS Programmed Maintenance/Minor Works expenditure for hazardous material would be \$1 384 000 (an increase of \$184 000 over the budget for 1995-96). This figure may increase if significant problems are identified during the re-survey or new surveys conducted in 1996-97. It is not possible to identify sites, other than those noted by the Asbestos Management Unit, which will have significant removal of hazardous material. Legislation requires that new surveys of all current sites must be completed by the end of 1997 and Services SA are investigating that all DECS sites will meet this requirement.

I have been advised the 'Deep 6' asbestos roof at Salisbury Downs Primary School was inspected in August, 1995 and in February, 1996. Both inspections advised that the condition of the roof was 'medium' and recommended some minor maintenance which was carried out and further assessment during the next annual inspection, due August, 1996.

I understand representatives of the school community contacted DECS in May, 1996 regarding fibres found in the gutter and an officer from the Asbestos Management Unit visited the school as a matter of urgency. Three (3) samples of gutter debris were tested and found to contain between 1 and 7 per cent Chrysotile asbestos fibre. The report recommended that the roofs should be washed and gutters cleaned by a fully licensed asbestos removal contractor and this work was carried out.

Following the receipt of a letter from the school community, further assessment was sought from a Senior Inspector within the Asbestos Management 1 Unit. This assessment again indicated that the roof condition was 'medium' and did not recommend removal of the roof. The recommendation was for the roof to be monitored,

its condition re-assessed at the time of the annual inspection and that approved warning signs be fixed to the buildings at locations where access can be made to the roof. The report further recommended that the DECS asset management plan for the school include the replacement of the asbestos roofs within the next 3 years.

It is proposed that the replacement of the asbestos roofs at Salisbury Downs Primary School be considered for inclusion in the 1996-97 Programmed Maintenance/Minor Works Program.

BASIC SKILLS TEST—FIGURES

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: In 1995, 10 666 Year 5 and 10 274 Year 3 students did the Basic Skills Test.

The percentages referred to in the question by the Member are based upon these figures. Specifically, in response to the Member's request for the actual number of students in each band of the Basic Skills Test, I provide the following:

Year 3 Literacy:	Band 1	1 702 students (17 per cent of all students)
	Band 2	2 284 students (22 per cent of all students)
Year 3 Numeracy:	Band 1	1 454 students (14 per cent of all students)
	Band 2	1 979 students (19 per cent of all students)
Year 5 Literacy:	Band 1:	1 401 students (13 per cent of all students)
	Band 2:	2 241 students (21 per cent of all students)
Year 5 Numeracy:	Band 1:	1 337 students (13 per cent of all students)
	Band 2:	2 351 students (22 per cent of all students)

Additionally we now know that in Year 3 there were 967 students, representing 9 per cent of all Year 3 students who did the test, who were in both Skill Band 1 for Literacy and Skill Band 1 for Numeracy. In Year 5, there were 862 students, representing 8 per cent of all Year 5 students who did the test, who were in both Skill Band 1 for Literacy and Skill Band 1 for Numeracy.

SCHOOL CARD

In reply to Ms WHITE.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: The actual cost for 93 915 approved School Card Students in 1996 (as at June) is \$11 379 million.

The budget for 1996 was based on 95 000 students at an estimated cost of \$11.5 million.

The final number of approved School Card students for 1996 will not be known until the end of 1996.

HOUSING SUBSIDY OF TEACHERS IN COUNTRY LOCATIONS

In reply to Mr BRINDAL.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: The implementation of market based rental, reflecting general market levels and dwelling attributes has proceeded since April 1995. Market rates are determined by the Valuer General with rents established on an annual basis.

Increased rentals for teachers resulting from the policy change will be capped during a four year agreement to a maximum of \$10 per week or until the concessional market is reached.

Some concessions are provided to recognise locational circumstances including remote and depot housing, specific high market locations and smaller country locations with a population of less than 3 000. Concessions vary according to category, for example, 20 per cent concession for remote housing. Other variations occur because of specific circumstances, such as the Anangu Lands which enjoys a significantly higher subsidy, and Mintabie, where there is a 50 per cent concession due to the lack of community electricity supply.

Fringe benefits tax is payable on all rental subsidies but it should be noted that, with the concessional exceptions already mentioned, DECS employees in country locations pay a significantly higher percentage of the rental cost than police.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW

In reply to Ms WHITE.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: The Chief Executive conducted performance reviews of each of the named Directors in 1995. The criteria related to areas within each Director's field of responsibility. Included were key result areas for the Department, divisional priorities and special objectives. Each of the Directors demonstrated a high level of achievement and hence satisfied all performance criteria.

I conducted a review of the Chief Executive's performance in 1995. The criteria concentrated on the key result areas agreed between the Chief Executive and myself. All expected outcomes were met.

The performance review process for the Chief Executive and Directors will commence shortly in accordance with our planning and review cycle for 1996.

There is no bonus factor included in the contract of any of these officers and therefore no bonuses were paid or withheld.

DISTRIBUTION OF MALTESERS

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: The cost of sending a fax to every principal, was incorporated into the total price charged to the company distributing the chocolates to schools. The Distribution Centre distributes material on a commercial fee for service basis and generates a modest profit from this activity that is paid directly to schools.

The distribution of chocolates was undertaken on a commercial basis, where the distribution centre received a fee for the work. This transaction by itself does not meet the definition of sponsorship in the national code of practice for sponsorship and promotion in school education agreed to by the previous Government, as the code specifically precludes commercial arrangements.

The receipt of the chocolates by Principals does not constitute sponsorship as the code requires that the provision of goods be negotiated. Clearly Principals did not negotiate the provision in any way.

The transaction meets the definition of a promotion according to the national code and it did meet all of the principles of the code.

EDS CONTRACT

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: The 'penalties' referred to in the DECSpress article are the general costs which could arise if a school breached its obligations under the contract and in doing so created a breakdown or problem which EDS then had to resolve. In such a case, EDS could be legally entitled to charge the school for resolving the problem, over and above the agreed monthly charges it makes on DECS for providing on-going maintenance services to current service levels as described in the contract.

For schools (and units of agencies) such penalties are not prescribed sums. The word "penalty" was not well chosen; the word "costs" would have been better. The intention was to alert schools and units that they may incur unforeseen costs by undertaking tasks which were not their responsibility and prerogative under the contract and in doing so generate system problems. The contract prescribes that EDS performs certain (in-scope) tasks (eg providing and installing hubs and file servers, changing the operating software on file servers, connecting new desktops to the file server) and that DECS staff perform other (out-of-scope) tasks (eg providing and installing cabling, providing applications software, preparing desktop PCs prior to connection to the file server).

In normal circumstances, a breakdown would be remedied by EDS within the times agreed to and would not generate additional charges beyond the monthly agency fee. However, if users undertake tasks not agreed to be part of their responsibilities and a problem or breakdown results, they may be held accountable for the costs of remedying that problem.

SCHOOL CARD

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: Eligibility criteria for the 1996 scheme remained largely unchanged from the 1995 Scheme. However an eligibility period was introduced so that available assistance was targeted to those in need at the time school fees are payable. As I have indicated, the hardship provisions remain unchanged and special consideration is still given where unusual circumstances are causing severe financial hardship. To date there are 125 approvals under this category.

Given its introduction in 1996 the administrative cut off date of March 15 has been applied with discretion and sensitivity to circumstances. For example, 4 000 applications received after this cut off have been approved and included in the total, but not classified as hardship. Obviously the cut off will need to be more rigorously enforced in future years.

The issues relating to transience are being further examined by a Departmental working party, which includes Principals. However, new student enrolments, including re-entry students who have not been enrolled elsewhere and who meet other eligibility requirements, would be approved under the continuous enrolment provisions of the school card scheme.

With the EDSAS data package, student information only has to be entered once. Each year it is a very simple and quick procedure to allocate the students to their new year level and class. Only new students to the school need to be entered in full. Once students are identified as School Card recipients, the system automatically updates the records accordingly thereafter.

As the school card system is now automated in the EDSAS package the need for each school to keep school cards becomes unnecessary. It is however noted that some schools still prefer to keep the manual school card system in conjunction with current new practices and it is for this reason that the school card is still available. Schools can obtain the school card, at no cost, through the DECS Distribution Centre and do not need to go through State Supply.

TRANSPORT COSTS

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: DECS school bus contract rates are adjusted quarterly by a rise and fall index based on movements in the CPI and Federal Transport Award. DECS employed school bus driver rates of pay have been increased in accordance with a determination by the Commissioner for Public Employment having regard to the State Wage Case November 1994 and this pay increase has off set some of the savings achieved by the school transport review and rationalisation strategy. However it is expected that the full effect of school transport reviews which have been undertaken and the effect of reviews that are in progress or are to be commenced will reduce the overall cost of school transport including the prices of individual school transport contracts.

DECS Transport Review Group is implementing an optimal mix of private and public operated school bus services based on an economic analysis of departmental school buses. This has identified a number of department operated bus services that would be better provided by contract buses and conversely a number of contract services that should be replaced by department operated buses. Where implemented, the optimal mix of services should achieve school transport savings for Government. Since mid 1994, DECS school transport review and rationalisation strategy has approved school bus changes to bring services within policy and improve efficiency, and this has achieved savings of \$1.07 million.

The number of required bus services to cater for eligible students has been reduced by amalgamating routes and changing bus loading sizes to ensure viable and cost-efficient outcomes. Forty six (46) services operated by department owned buses have been withdrawn and services operated by private bus owners under contract to the Department have increased by five (5).

SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP GUIDELINES

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: The guidelines for industry-school partnerships, and all school sponsorship are in the National Code of Practice for Sponsorship and Promotion in School Education.

These common and agreed national goals for schooling in Australia were endorsed in 1992 and the brochure was prepared for distribution to schools in 1993.

SALE OF SURPLUS KINDERGARTEN PROPERTIES

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: Once a decision has been made to close a registered children's services centre, usually on the basis of under utilisation and lack of viability, the disposal of assets is, in the first instance, followed according to the centre's constitution.

In such cases, the moveable assets become the property of the Minister, and it has been practice to distribute those assets (furniture, equipment, etc.) to other children's services with the same or

similar objects in the community, subject of course to any agreements or commitments (e.g. leasing of photocopiers etc.).

The property itself, if on Crown land, is also the Minister's property to be disposed of. If there is seen to be no useful function served by the facility, and no outstanding arrangements with the community's use of the facility for other children's services, the property may be sold.

If however, the land is owned by another body, such as local government or a community organisation, the original agreement established for the use of the land and facility applies. In the past this has also meant consideration of the terms of an original request for the use of the land. In this instance, advice is sought from Crown Law as to the legality of any action to be taken. The use of the land owned by the Crown has been preferred in recent years for the establishment of children's services facilities.

CLOSURE AND AMALGAMATIONS OF PRESCHOOLS

In reply to **Mr De LAINE**.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: In 1995-96 the McKay Memorial Children's Centre was relocated to the Penola Primary School site. In 1996-97 two country preschools are being considered for relocation to school sites. These centres are Melrose Kindergarten and McArthur Park Kindergarten. The McArthur Park relocation is only at the discussion stage.

The Blakeview Preschool opened in October 1995 and is collocated with the Blakeview Primary, Craigmore High, and Trinity College Campuses.

The amalgamation of the Koolangara Kindergarten and Bevan Crescent Child Parent Centre occurred in 1995, and the centre is now known as the Whyalla Stuart Early Childhood Centre.

OPERATING COSTS OF PRESCHOOLS

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: The amount of the centre operating grant to preschools is not a fixed amount. Similarly, the amount of funds that a centre spends on the total operation of a centre in a year will vary from centre to centre and is dependent on the funds raised by the parents at the centre, and how the parents choose to spend those funds. Accordingly, the amount of operating costs that a centre is required to raise and the percentage of the grant to this total operating cost, will vary from centre to centre. However, the Department for Education and Children's Services has analysed the financial returns of a representative number of centres and based on this sample, the percentage of the centre operating grant to total centre expenditure ranges from 10.3 per cent to 26 per cent.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMPONENT OF PRESCHOOL SERVICES

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: The figure of \$1.408 million in the Program Estimates and Information 1996/97 Paper is the estimate for grants to Catholic Education Office Preschools and Affiliate Preschools. The figure of \$1.114 million is the estimated amount for the centre operating grants for DECS preschools. Included in the \$1.114 million is an estimated component of \$0.135 million for social justice.

NUMBER OF SEMINARS ON WORK BASED CHILD CARE

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: Although there were plans made last year to hold seminars with interested persons regarding the establishment of work-based child care centres, these did not occur. The main reason for this is that the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS) has responded on an individual basis to those people who are interested in setting up child care centres on a demand basis.

NUMBER OF CHILD CARE PLACES AT DETAFE INSTITUTES

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: There is a total of 14 licensed DETAFE child care centres, providing 117 places for children under the age

of 2 years, and 329 places for those over the age of 2 years. The centres are located at the following Institutes:

Adelaide
Western Adelaide
Murray
Douglas Mawson
Onkaparinga
Para
Regency
Spencer
Torrens Valley

STUDY OF LANGUAGES AND CULTURE

In reply to Mr SCALZI.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: In reply to the question regarding the study of languages being best achieved when it is in conjunction with the study of culture, and whether the Government has any plans to promote this concept, I provide the following points:

- The Government of South Australia has a clear plan and commitment to the study of languages within a cultural context in all education and care services in this State. This plan and commitment by the Government is evident through a range of policies and plans recently developed where multicultural perspectives and cultural understandings are embedded in all areas of learning, especially in languages education.
- The establishment of the *Declaration of Principles for a Multicultural South Australia* 1995, and the release of the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS) *Multiculturalism in Schooling and Children's Services* (MISCS) policy, 1995 as well as the accompanying MISCS policy *Implementation Plan to the year 2000*, are all umbrella documents for the State languages policy. These documents have provided the Government of South Australia with a renewed vision and plan to expand the commitment to the teaching of languages in a cultural framework within our culturally and linguistically diverse society. All of these documents clearly affirm the inextricable link between language and culture.

The following examples of achievements demonstrate this Government's plan and commitment to the promotion of languages education in a cultural context.

Department for Education and Children's Services—DECS

- The Principle Curriculum Officer and Culturally Inclusive Education Manager are members of the Multicultural Education Coordinating Committee (MECC), and through this committee work closely with all education sectors in strengthening the links between languages and cultures.
- The Culturally Inclusive Education Team work collaboratively with all curriculum officers in all learning areas including Languages Other Than English (LOTE) and English as a Second Language (ESL) to support the development of cultural perspectives in curriculum projects. Two current curriculum projects *Cultural Understanding* and *The Development of Teaching and Learning Strategies in Culturally Inclusive Education* aim to ensure that cultural perspectives are incorporated in all learning areas including LOTE and ESL.

- In recent years there has been an expanded provision of culturally inclusive ESL programs for students from non English speaking backgrounds. The ESL Curriculum Statement for South Australian Schools promotes the teaching and learning of English by acknowledging and incorporating the cultural and linguistic background of ESL learners.

- A document called *Development of Sociocultural Understandings in Languages other than English* is currently being developed. This project has been tendered out to Professor Anne Paulwels and her team at the University of New England and is being developed in consultation with key stake holders in South Australia. There is a growing interest in this project at a national level, which seeks to provide teachers with practical guidelines on how to program and teach sociocultural understandings with languages programs.

- R-7 curriculum frameworks currently under development in French, Modern Greek, Persian and Polish, and recently completed curriculum frameworks in Spanish, German, Khmer and Vietnamese draw strong links between language and culture, by focusing on both the communication goal and the sociocultural goal, as defined in the Australian Languages Levels (ALL) guidelines.

- A document and video which focuses on language renewal and reclamation programs for indigenous languages, and makes very strong links between language and culture. In terms of indigenous languages which are undergoing reviewal and/or reclamation, the cultural element is extremely significant, particularly given the degree of language loss in different situations.

- Curriculum officers provide advisory support for teachers in linking the study of language with the study of culture, through the development of support materials in the following languages; Aboriginal languages, French, German, Modern Greek, Italian, Spanish, Indonesian, Japanese, Chinese and Vietnamese.

- The rechange of name for these positions also reflects this strong link. Where they were previously called adviser, they now have the title: 'Curriculum Officer: Language and Studies', which serves to emphasise that their role is not restricted to the pure linguistic issues, but also encompasses the 'cultural' issues.

- Members of the LOTE team and Culturally Inclusive Education (CIE) team work closely with the Manager of the Asia Education Program, and with the Aboriginal Education Team to ensure that cultural perspectives are reflected in studies of Asia and Aboriginal programs through the development of curriculum materials and training and development.

Multicultural Education Coordinating Committee

- School Grants Program

Schools taking part are drawn from all systems, State, Catholic and Independent. Priority is given to projects in Culturally Inclusive Education in all subject areas, including LOTE. Language projects are expected to go beyond the usual classroom activities, ensuring that the target language is linked to the culture associated with that language.

Over 80 per cent of the total grants approved in the past four years have been allocated to LOTE.

School Grants Program 1993-1996

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Total number approved for funding	168	107	107	79
Number of LOTE programs	127	85	126	66
Total number of schools benefiting	155	193	145	146
Total assistance available	\$34 000	\$34 000	\$34 000	\$35 000

- School participation in community festivals
The aim of these festival grants is to promote the sharing of cultures in South Australia's culturally diverse communities. Community festivals provide a vehicle for cross cultural interaction between community groups and schools for their mutual benefit.
Activities include special projects centred on language and culture. Language studies are placed in a unique cultural context through the linking with other community activities eg theatre, poetry, drama and musical performances. Participating in community festivals has proved particularly valuable for students in those schools where the language of the community is being taught, as it offers students the opportunity to take part in the

- living manifestation of the culture associated with that language.
- Cultural Understanding Working Party
The aim of this working party is to support the developmental work in cultural understanding as a curriculum perspective in all curriculum areas including LOTE. A major project informing the work of this working party is the DECS *Cultural Understanding* Project—a collaborative project between the Curriculum Division and the Ridley Grove Cluster Schools.
Languages and culture are complementary to each other and that is why MECC supports not only the teaching/learning of languages but also the development of culturally inclusive programs in South Australian education and care.
- Juncture Points in Languages Education

MECC has to date organised four forums for Principals and educational professionals from the three systems of education in South Australia to address key issues in languages education. One of these main issues reviewed and investigated the latest developments in the teaching of languages and culture from a state, national and world perspective. Over 200 principals and key educational professionals have participated in these languages education forums. MECC is currently organising a forum to invite senior executives from all systems of education, including Chief Executives, District Superintendents of Education and representatives of Principals Associations and Parent Organisations to further address the language—culture nexus.

Cultural Diversity Expo and conference

Planned for Term 2, 1997, the Expo will draw together the expertise and resources from all education systems to examine and promote the concept of languages education in the context of study of culture.

Multicultural materials

A series of papers designed for the use of teachers, parents, school councils and all those student members of the school and university communities who wish to deepen their understanding of Australia as a culturally diverse society and education in and for a multicultural society. Of particular relevance is *'Australian Diversity—Language: a Bridge or a Barrier'*, which examines language as a core value of culture and issues including the study of languages/culture through bilingual approaches.

TERMS OF REFERENCE—REVIEW OF SACE

In reply to Ms WHITE.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: The following are the terms of reference for the research and operational projects of the SACE Improvement Strategy.

RESEARCH PROJECT—SACE COMPLETION

Terms of Reference

To determine the SACE completion trends since the introduction of the SACE.

To identify the factors that inhibit students from achieving the SACE.

To identify the factors that influence students not to complete SACE studies.

To make recommendations for improvement which do not result in a compromise of the quality and standard of the SACE.

Likely Tasks

To analyse the SSABSA database to determine the profile of students who start SACE studies but who do not complete the SACE.

To interview samples of students, as well as counsellors, teachers, and parents, if possible, to determine the factors that influence student decisions.

To analyse the information gathered and to make recommendations for action.

Timeframe for the Reference Group

The project will start immediately; the first report will be presented by October 1996.

OPERATIONAL PROJECT—ARTICULATION BETWEEN STAGE 1 AND STAGE 2

Term of Reference

To review problems with Stage 1 and Stage 2 articulation and provide recommendations on ways in which better articulation may be achieved and increased accessibility to Stage 2 may be achieved.

Likely Tasks

To review the current broad-field framework role and structure.

To propose a model for curriculum (re)development that will promote a diversity of needs and rationalise the numbers of subjects at Stage 1 and Stage 2.

To recommend strategies for improving articulation across levels as well as across categories.

Timeframe for the Reference Group

The project will start immediately and is scheduled for completion by September 1996.

OPERATIONAL PROJECT—VET IN THE SACE

Terms of Reference

To determine the most appropriate framework for the inclusion of VET curriculum in the SACE, based upon the outcomes of the various projects currently in operation.

To determine the criteria for the inclusion of VET modules in the SACE under the recommended model(s).

To determine the most appropriate way of reporting student achievement in the VET curriculum on the SACE Record of Achievement.

Likely Tasks

To prepare a theoretical and pedagogical position for SSABSA in relation to the role of VET within Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the SACE.

To develop models for the inclusion of the VET modules in the SACE.

To develop guidelines for curriculum writers and accreditation processes for the recommended model of incorporating VET in the SACE.

Timeframe for the Reference Group

The project will start in July 1996; the first report will be presented in October 1996.

OPERATIONAL PROJECT—KEY COMPETENCIES IN THE SACE

Term of Reference

To determine the most appropriate framework for the inclusion of the Key Competencies in the SACE.

Likely Tasks

To determine a refined view of the Key Competencies to be used as the basis for inclusion in SSABSA curriculum documents.

To develop a set of guidelines for curriculum writers which will facilitate the explicit incorporation of Key Competencies in SSABSA curriculum documents.

To develop a section for the accreditation criteria which will address the inclusion of Key Competencies.

To identify the assessment and reporting implications of this model. (These implications will form the basis of the work of the Key Competencies project in the next cycle of the SACE Improvement Strategy.)

Timeframe for the Reference Group

The project will start in late June 1996; a report is expected in September 1996.

OPERATIONAL PROJECT—LANGUAGES AND THE NAFLASSL FRAMEWORK

Term of Reference

To critically review the current SSABSA languages other than English syllabuses with a view to determining ways in which the syllabuses may be structured to encourage students to study a language other than English at the senior secondary level.

Likely Tasks

To conduct an evaluation of the NAFLASSL framework as it applies to SSABSA languages.

To make recommendations about improvements that could be made to the framework.

To recommend a redevelopment schedule for languages.

Note: This project will enable SSABSA to feed the findings into the design of the national evaluation of the NAFLASSL framework which is scheduled for 1999.

Timeframe for the Reference Group

This project will start in July 1996; the evaluation is scheduled for completion by December 1996.

OPERATIONAL PROJECT—MODERATION

Terms of Reference

To review the current moderation models and to make recommendations about consistent requirements across all areas which also achieve consistency across the State.

To examine the impact of the moderation models used by SSABSA.

To make recommendations about moderation models that maintain quality and use resources efficiently and effectively.

Likely Tasks

To identify current moderation models, requirements, procedures, and costs.

To recommend moderation models that maintain quality, validity, and reliability, have consistency in demand across subjects, and have a regard to current budget allocations.

Timeframe for the Reference Group

This project will not start before the beginning of Term 3; a report is expected in October 1996.

NORWOOD MORIALTA HIGH SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP SCHEME

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: I am advised that a sponsorship scheme at Norwood Morialta High School has been developed in response to School Council initiatives.

Most, if not all state schools undertake fundraising activities at some stage. I understand that the fundraising committee of Norwood Morialta High School concluded that a considerable amount of energy was being spent on a number of small fundraising activities, and that these activities were often not cost effective. As a consequence, the school engaged a fundraising firm to do a feasibility study on the prospects of raising significant amounts of money over a period of years by bequests and direct donation. The results of that study did not provide a structure or an end result that was worth pursuing.

The School Council believed that it should be possible to have low key and appropriate forms of advertising, for example, on a well designed honour board, on a small area of a school bus, in the school newsletter, acknowledgment in the Yearbook, and acknowledgment on a special notice board placed appropriately in the school.

The fundraising committee then took the initiative to propose a limited form of sponsorship to raise funds for specific school projects. The scheme was approved by Norwood Morialta High School Council, and has the following guidelines:

- The purposes of schooling and the integrity of both the Department for Education and Children's Services and the school will be maintained without compromise. Sponsorship will provide advertising opportunities and recognition, but will not entitle members to influence school policy or governance.
- Specific companies will be approached by one or two members of the School Council. This process will be gradual and sensitive to school community values.
- The school would provide a plaque and certificates of membership which could be displayed in the office of sponsors.
- The program would be publicised as 'Corporate/Business Membership—an opportunity to support school development through advertising'. There will be three levels of membership, gold for donations of \$1 000 or more, silver for donations of \$750-\$1 000, bronze for donations of \$500-\$750.
- Membership will be for one year at a time.

This fundraising activity has the same purpose and integrity as fundraising schemes in any school, and reflects a respectful and healthy relationship between the school and the business sector.

I am further advised that this particular scheme is in its infancy and so far has raised less than \$5 000. The school estimates that it is likely to raise somewhere in the vicinity of \$10 000-\$15 000 in the short term.

Fundraising over recent years at this school, which has a student population of 1 611, has averaged \$5 000 a year, that is 0.77 per cent of the total school's budget, including Government grants, but excluding salaries. If the school's estimates of fundraising through corporate/business membership are accurate, the fundraising could reach 1.5 per cent of the total school budget this year.

Minister for Transport, Minister for the Arts and Minister for the Status of Women

ADELAIDE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT RUNWAY EXTENSION—ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

In reply to **Mr De LAINE**.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW: Copies of the Adelaide International Airport Runway Extension Environmental Impact Statement have been forwarded to Mr Murray De Laine and the Honourable Terry Cameron.

BICYCLE INITIATIVES

In reply to **Mr ROSSI**.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW: In my earlier response I indicated that funding for bicycle initiatives would be increased by \$1 million to \$2.5 million in the 1996-97 financial year. However, this increase in line with the Government Cycling Policy, was from \$1.2 million in 1994-95 to \$2.5 million in the 1995-96 financial year. This \$2.5 million figure has again been allocated for 1996-97.

This funding does not account for expenditure to incorporate bicycle facilities as part of major new road projects such as the Southern Expressway; or major upgrading such as Main North Road.

BERRI BRIDGE

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW: The final proposal submitted to the Government by Built Environs Pty Ltd included a contribution of \$100 000 from the District Council of Berri, District Council of Loxton and Local Business. The nominal sharing of that contribution is District Council of Berri \$50 000, District Council of Loxton \$25 000 and Local Business \$25 000.

REGISTRATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR FARM TRACTORS AND SELF PROPELLED FARM IMPLEMENTS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW: The member's question raises a number of issues regarding the registration arrangements for farm tractors and self propelled farm implements which will apply from 1 July 1996. In particular:

- The detailed registration requirements for tractors and self propelled farm implements from 1 July 1996;
- The costs for registration and Compulsory Third Party Insurance (CTP);
- The transitional provisions available to allow the new arrangements to be effected progressively; and
- The boundary arrangements between existing Public Liability Insurance Policies and the new CTP requirements.

Registration Arrangements for Farm Tractors from 1 July 1996

The existing exemption allowing farm tractors and self propelled farm equipment to operate unregistered and without CTP within 40 km of a farm is to be repealed. Transitional arrangements will allow the exemption to continue until 30 September 1996, as detailed below.

In lieu of this exemption farm tractors and self propelled farm equipment will be required to be conditionally registered and covered by CTP. This new arrangement will be available from 1 July 1996.

The CTP cover provided will only apply while the equipment is operated on a road, within the meaning of the Motor Vehicles Act. I note that the definition of road within the Act is quite broad, namely:

'road' means—

(a) road, street or thoroughfare;

and

(b) any other place commonly used by the public or to which the public are permitted to have access;

Costs for Conditional Registration and CTP insurance for Farm Tractors

The following costs will apply for the registration and insurance of farm tractors and self propelled equipment from 1 July 1996:

· Registration Charge	Nil
· Administrative Fee	
New Registration	\$20
Registration Renewal	\$5
Number Plate(s)	\$20
· Compulsory Third Party Insurance	\$21 annually
· Total (typical annual)	\$26

Tractor registration is available in quarterly increments up to three years, allowing further reduction in the annual costs, for example:

Three Year renewal \$5 + \$(3x21) \$68

Transitional Provisions for period 1 July to 30 September 1996

In order to provide a reasonable period to farmers to effect the registration of their equipment the existing exemptions will continue until 30 September 1996. In addition, as a further concession and incentive to assist in the initial implementation of the new arrangements, the following arrangements will apply to farmers' tractors and self propelled farm machines which are not currently registered:

· Registration Charge	Nil
· Administrative Fee	
New Registration	\$5
Number Plate(s)	Nil
· Compulsory Third Party Insurance	\$21 annually
· Total (typical three years)	\$68
· Total (one year)	\$26

I seek the assistance of honourable members in ensuring that their constituents are aware of the generous savings available to those who effect registration within the moratorium period. The initial registration administrative fee of \$20 has been reduced to \$5 and the \$20 number plate fee waived, a saving of \$35.

Compulsory Third Party and Public Liability Insurance Policies

In order to assist in the clarification of this point, I note that the new provisions of Section 12 of the Motor Vehicles Act read:

Exemption of farmers' tractors and implements

12(1) An unregistered trailer or farm implement may be towed on roads by a tractor or farm implement that is conditionally registered under section 25.

(2) An unregistered farm implement may be towed on roads by a registered motor vehicle the registered owner of which is a primary producer.

(3) When a trailer or farm implement is on a road and being towed, or is on a road and connected to a vehicle for towing, as authorised under this section the policy of insurance in force under Part IV in relation to the towing vehicle is to be taken to extend in coverage so that it is also in force and applies in relation to the trailer or farm implement and its owner and driver and any passenger in or on it.

and the definitions in Part IV, Third Party Insurance, include *inter alia*, at s.99 (1):

'policy of insurance' means a policy of insurance that complies with this Part.

(4) For the purposes of this Part of the fourth schedule, death or bodily injury will be regarded as being caused by or arising out of the use of a motor vehicle conditionally registered under section 25 that is a tractor or farm implement only if it is caused by or arises out of the use of the vehicle (as referred to in subsection (3)) on a road.

The important differences are:

- Conditionally registered, farm tractors and self propelled machinery will only enjoy CTP insurance cover while on a road;
- Any farm implement may be towed without registration by any vehicle registered to primary producer; and
- Any farm implement or goods carrying trailer may be towed without registration by a conditionally registered farm tractor or self propelled farm implement.

Public Liability policies have traditionally excluded registered vehicles in order to prevent conflict between the CTP and Public Liability policy providers in the event of a claim.

This issue has been the subject of extensive consultation with the Insurance Council of Australia (ICA). ICA and its member companies are aware of the new registration requirements. Several companies have already modified their Public Liability policies to ensure that public liability cover operates for conditionally registered tractors and self propelled farm implements in those off-road circumstances where they are excluded from CTP cover.

Other insurance companies are examining the situation and expected to follow suit in the near future.

Owners should check with their Public Liability insurer whether the recent CTP changes require an adjustment to their Public Liability insurance policies. I have requested the Department of Transport to distribute an information sheet to this effect to all owners who conditionally register affected tractors and self propelled farm implements.

BUS DRIVING HOURS

In reply to **Mrs GERAGHTY**.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:

1. The issue of national uniform regulation of Bus Driving Hours is likely to be resolved when issues linked with truck driving hours are resolved. I understand the National Road Transport Commission will forward voting papers relating to truck driving hours to all Territory, State and Commonwealth Ministers of Transport, in August 1996.

2. I do not have evidence of an increasing level of non-compliance. Hours of driving requirements are enforced by both Department of Transport Inspectors and Police Officers, and in both cases I have been advised that the total number of log books examined and reports issued has not changed substantially in the last 2 years.

3. The detection records for buses are not recorded separately to other heavy vehicles. The following figures are total figures:

Police reports	600 average per year
Department of Transport reports	470 in 1994-95
Department of Transport reports	666 in 1995-96

In addition there have been the following warnings by Department of Transport, Road Transport Inspectors:

588 in 1994-95
683 in 1995-96

It should be noted that most Department of Transport reports originate from Checking Stations which are fixed sites while the police target individual vehicles.

4. There has been some reduction in Road Transport Inspectorial staff, however, statistics indicate that there has been an increase in the number of heavy vehicles checked, warned, and reported.

If the member considers that a particular operator is not complying with the hours of driving legislation, I will ask that officers of the Department of Transport conduct further inquiries upon receipt of detailed information including time, date, place and circumstances of the non-compliance.

REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW: Monitoring the contractor's performance is an important part of the management process. Service contractors are required to submit monthly reports on their operations. These reports provide data by time period and/or route for service quality categories such as the number of scheduled trips, the number of scheduled trips missed and late trips. The reports also include key performance indicators, results of fare evasion audits and customer service information such as complaints and commendations.

The Passenger Transport Board prescribes the manner and format of these reports to ensure consistency so that it is possible to compare contractors' performance.

The information provided is verified and supplemented through audits and survey data, and data sourced from the Crouzet ticketing system.

STATE THEATRE COMPANY

In reply to **Hon. M.D. RANN**.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:

1. There were 48 000 tickets sold by the State Theatre Company in 1994-95.

2. The 11 156 figure stated as complimentary tickets is somewhat misleading as 2 760 of these tickets were provided to private sponsors, who more than pay for these tickets through their negotiated sponsorship, and as such cannot be regarded as free tickets.

Based on 1994-95 figures, the State Theatre issued as complimentary tickets (excluding tickets to sponsors) 9 per cent of available seating at 169 performances. Tickets provided to the media, which is 2 656 or 23.8 per cent of the stated 11 156 complimentary tickets, assists in providing cheaper advertising and enables the production to have publicity that does not involve direct payment.

3. In 1995-96 45 561 tickets were sold. This 1995-96 figure does not include ticket sales of productions toured to regional South Australia and interstate. The number of tickets sold in 1994-95 was 48 000.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM

In reply to **Hon. M.D. RANN**.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:

Organisation	Amount \$	Funded Project
Commonwealth Grant Funds Received—1995-96		
Aboriginal & Torres Strait Island Commission	50 731	Extension Program
Aust. Institute of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander	34 261	Strehlow Biography

Organisation	Amount \$	Funded Project
Commonwealth Grant Funds Received—1995-96		
Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service	11 000	Dolphin Entanglement Research
Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service	3 200	Endangered Species
Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service	16 260	Fossil Ant Survey
Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service	57 500	Pygmy Blue Tongue Lizard Research
Australian National Parks & Wildlife Service	5 000	Revision of Campontotus
Department of Communication & the Arts	110 000	Secret Sacred
Department of Communication & the Arts	21 000	Skeletal Remains
Department of Employment, Education & Training	21 753	Sulphides Research
Department of Employment, Education & Training	21 120	Herpetological Systematics—Molecular Perspective
Total Received 1995-96	351 825	
Commonwealth Grant Funds Projected—1995-96		
Department of Communication & the Arts	148 000	Skeletal Remains
Other Anthropology Grants	100 000	Applications in process
Natural Science Grants	50 000	Applications in process
Total Projected 1996-97	298 000	

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

In reply to **Ms HURLEY**.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW: The Women's Information Service has consulted with the EDS regarding an upgrade in information technology for the provision of services. It has not led to staffing changes.

The Office for the Status of Women has not consulted with the EDS regarding its information technology and there have been no staffing changes.

ARTS FUNDING, TANDANYA

In reply to **Hon. M.D. RANN**.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW: In my response to the honourable member I stated that there has been a cut of \$50 000 to Tandanya. However, I advise that this figure should have been \$15 000.

ROUNDING OF VEHICLE REGISTRATION CHARGES

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW: A small number of clients have raised the matter of the rounding of registration fees for registration periods of less than 12 months. However, a greater number of inquiries have been received because the individual fees and charges listed on the new format registration renewal notices do not add exactly to the amount shown in the total column where rounding has occurred. As acknowledged by the member for Spence during Estimates, the intention is to make clear the financial implications for vehicle owners who choose to register for short periods.

It is acknowledged that some owners have been confused because the component of the total fee that relates to rounding has not been declared on the renewal notice. Accordingly, it is intended to combine the registration charge, the surcharge if applicable and any rounding of the fee on future vehicle registration renewal notices.

Components of the various fees paid by vehicle owners will still be transparent. As explained during Estimates, calculations for predicted revenue increases do take account of revenue gained through rounding. Care is taken to ensure any additional total revenue raised through CPI increases does not exceed the CPI rate for the vehicle fleet as a whole. This approach may result in small variations above or below the current CPI rate for some individual vehicle owners.

FORMER DEPARTMENTAL EMPLOYEES EMPLOYED BY CONTRACTORS

In reply to **Mr CLARKE**.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW: In response to the question asked of the Minister for Industry, Manufacturing, Small Business

and Regional Development by the member alleging that former Department of Transport employees now employed by contractors live in Adelaide and not in the rural communities as they used to, I provide the following information.

It is assumed that the member is referring to road maintenance contracts in which successful contractors are encouraged to employ excess departmental employees.

To date, only one of these contractors has commenced work in the rural areas of the State, the company being Robert Portbury Constructions, operating in the Mid North of the State. Portbury employed three former departmental employees, two from Woomera who now live in Bute and one from Crystal Brook who has always lived in Port Pirie.

In addition, Portbury recruited another person (not previously from the department) from Blanchetown who now lives in Bute during the week and returns to Blanchetown on the weekends.

It should be noted that Portbury also won a metropolitan based contract (Salisbury area). It is understood that Portbury recruited a country based person (although not a former departmental employee) to work on this contract.

Attorney-General and Minister for Consumer Affairs

TRANSFER OF COURTS ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITY EQUIPMENT TO EDS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The Courts Administration Authority's assets were transferred to EDS in accordance with the SA Government/EDS Contract.

The assets constituted mainframe system devices. Courts Administration Authority retained ownership of personal computers, network printers and some midrange systems which are due to be phased out shortly.

The price paid by EDS for the transferred assets is the market value plus a negotiated premium. The process for determining market value included independent valuation of the assets by the Government and EDS.

Throughout this process, independent consultants were used by Government to ensure that the prices paid by EDS compensate the Government adequately for the assets transferred.

Accordingly, the Government obtained the highest prices available for its assets consistent with the overall benefits available to it under the contract.

Generally, the following applies to the proceeds from the sale of the assets:

- Proceeds from the sale of the assets within non-commercial (cash based) agencies will be returned to the Consolidated Account.
- Commercial sector and non commercial sector (accrual) agencies

will be paid the written down book value of the assets.
As the Courts Administration Authority was a cash based agency at transfer date, the proceeds from the sale of assets were returned to the Consolidated Account.

COURTS ADMINISTRATION AUTHORITY EDS ARRANGEMENTS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The savings expected for the provision of IT infrastructure that has been transferred to EDS are expected to be in the order of 1 per cent to 2 per cent during the first year. The actual savings achieved will depend on:

- the mix of technology platforms being used (e.g. Mainframe, Midrange, WAN etc.)
- the volumes of services procured
- the level of service required for the services procured.

The level of savings in the first year reflects the need to establish the operating arrangements and commence the consolidation of the IT infrastructure. Consolidation provides greater savings in subsequent years.

Courts Administration Authority has been operating on a cash accounting basis, therefore, both depreciation and cost of capital expenses in the past were not recognised. The EDS contract reflects all attributable costs and provisions have been made to adjust agencies' budgets, once the value of the adjustments has been confirmed.

The contract allows for the post transfer verification of baseline costs and work is progressing to finalise these costs.

Overall savings of at least \$100 million across Government are expected over nine years, compared to the Government's IT spending in 1993-94.

POLICE COMPLAINTS AUTHORITY STAFFING

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The Authority currently has a staffing level of 12.8, of whom 7 hold legal qualifications.

During the last 12 months there have 3 resignations, 2 temporary reassignments to other Government Departments, and 2 staff members on parental leave. As a result it was necessary to appoint 6 new staff members. Of those, 2 staff members have been seconded from the Crown and 4 are on temporary assignments.

The only expected changes in the coming financial year are those occurring as a result of staff returning to work after being on parental leave and staff returning from temporary assignments. Those changes will of course determine the employment of those people acting/working in their capacity.

EX-GRATIA PAYMENTS—CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: Manual statistics in relation to *ex-gratia* payments have only been kept since September 1995 and it is not possible to record all of the details with respect to individual requests. However, since that date there have been 34 requests for *ex-gratia* payments with the vast majority (29) being in relation to sexual offences. In most cases the reason for the request has been the age of the claimant and the inability to prove the commission of an offence. There have, however, been requests which are inappropriate in that the claimant has not suffered any injury, physically or mentally, and seeks only to recover financial loss.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT BUDGET

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The decrease of \$742 000 in Attorney-General's Department's current outlays between the revised 1995-96 estimate and the 1996-97 estimate is explained by the following major variations between the two financial years' estimates:

	\$'000
Hindmarsh Island Bridge Royal Commission payments	-2 300
Garibaldi Coronial Inquiry and Prosecution payments	-266
Office of Consumer and Business Affairs 1994-95 carry overs	-288
State Business Names 1994-95 carry overs	-400

Other areas 1994-95 carry overs	-261
Office of Liquor Licensing Commission savings	-330
Increase legal services for IT Outsourcing	525
Increase legal services, Business Competition Industrial Unit	957
Increase in Accrual Accounting payments	282
Upgrade of Departmental computing	650
Increase in prosecution services	110
Increase in accommodation rental charges	383
Increase in legal services	123
Increase in grant payments to Community Legal Centres	73
TOTAL	-742

HUTT RIVER PROVINCE TITLES

In reply to **Mrs KOTZ**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: Persons representing the self-styled 'Principality of Hutt River Province' have been advertising titles for sale. As with other advertisements the situation is one of *caveat emptor*—'buyer beware'—until it is shown that there was a false or misleading representation made or that the contract was struck away from the place of business.

The so-called principality is an 18 000 acre farm run by a proprietary limited company known as Knights of the Unicorn (ACN 064 200 111), which is registered in Queensland. Its directors are Tammy Leanne Hircoe and Kevin Richard Gale, also known as 'Prince Kevin'. I note the recent report of the passing of Mr Gale, and that the company is now managed by a gentleman referring to himself as 'Lord Peter Regensburg'.

The principal activity of the company is the marketing and sale of souvenirs, including domestic and international promotion of 'Royal Awards', 'Hutt River Province Passports' and other items such as stamps, coins and driver's licences. The company has a home page on the Internet, through which applications can be made for titles. In the past, it has also offered subscriptions to its newspaper, *The Royal Herald*, through which nominations for its 'Citizen of the Year' could be made, entitling the nominee to a 'Certificate of Meritorious Achievement'.

The Attorney-General's Office of the Commonwealth Government has issued the following statement:

The self-styled 'Hutt River Province' and its residents remain subject to the Commonwealth and the laws of Australia. The Australian Government does not recognise, legally or otherwise, the existence of self-styled 'provinces' or 'kingdoms' within Australia such as the so-called 'Hutt River Province'. For the purpose both of Australian law and international law, 'Hutt River Province' is part of the territory of Australia (and also part of the territory of the State of Western Australia).

The Australian Trade Practices Commission [now the Australian Competition & Consumer Commission] has received numerous letters from U[nited] S[tates] residents wanting advice on the authenticity of the 'principality' and its various 'awards' or requesting assistance to seek refunds of money paid, usually because of non-supply. The Commission has written to the corporation and, in most cases, the complaints have been resolved, but offers of 'royal awards' should be treated in the same context as similar goods and services.

In other words, consumers should think carefully about any purchases they make, and whether their money will be well spent. Our system of exchange is predicated on a presumption that a majority of consumers will make informed and rational decisions as to their purchases. However, should a company or individual make false or misleading representations about any of its merchandising, or fail to supply it on demand, it may be liable under both the Commonwealth Trade Practices Act 1974 and this State's Fair Trading Act 1987.

PROVISION FOR POTENTIAL COMPENSATION CLAIMS AGAINST THE STATE PURSUANT TO NATIVE TITLE LEGISLATION

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The State remains of the view that grants of pastoral leases prior to 1 January 1994 extinguished native title at common law. However, since the Federal Court's decision in *NT v Lane* that does not prevent native title claimants pursuing deter-

minations of native title over pastoral leases. In the unlikely event that a determination were made that the grant of the pastoral lease did not extinguish native title at common law, and the claimants could establish the other elements required for a determination of native title, then native title will be deemed to have been extinguished in the case of a grant of a pastoral lease before 1 January 1994 pursuant to the Native Title (South Australia) Act 1994, and the native title holders may claim compensation from the State.

However, the Commonwealth entered into an agreement with the State pursuant to section 200 of the Native Title Act 1993 (Cth) to provide financial assistance to the State, on the basis that the State introduced its complementary legislation validating past acts prior to 1 January 1995. This agreement is publicly accessible, is to be reviewed before 31 December 1998, and expires on 31 December 1999.

The Commonwealth has agreed to fund 75 per cent of the compensation costs arising from the validation of past acts by the State under the Native Title (South Australia) Act 1994.

The Commonwealth has also agreed to fund 75 per cent of compensation costs arising under the Racial Discrimination Act 1975 (Cth) in relation to pre-1994 impairment or extinguishment of native title.

Further, the Commonwealth has agreed to fund 50 per cent of the State's liabilities incurred in relation to non-claimant application compensation.

The actual costs to be funded by the Commonwealth will be 75 per cent of compensation payments paid to native title holders, and other legal and other costs for which the State becomes liable pursuant to an order of a court or tribunal.

The State is obliged to inform the Commonwealth of the details of the compensation sought and the procedures and timeframe at the commencement of the compensation procedures, and upon completion to confirm details of the determination or settlement. The State must also provide the Commonwealth with annual forward estimates of compensation costs as far as possible.

The Commonwealth will not contribute to non-monetary compensation orders, other than land and physical assets where prior notice and valuations have been provided to the Commonwealth.

Finally, the Commonwealth has also agreed to meet 50 per cent of the costs of establishing and administering the State's recognised body, and its alternative right to negotiate provisions. The costs which the Commonwealth has agreed to meet to establish and administer the new functions of the Environment and Resources Development Court include:

- (a) remuneration of staff, members and judges;
- (b) processing claim applications (including any inquiries into land tenure and traditional association of claimants etc), mediation, hearings and determinations;
- (c) accommodation and operational expenses;
- (d) office and computer equipment.

The Commonwealth will not contribute towards the State's general land administration costs, or policy and legal advice. The Commonwealth may require specific compliance and efficiency audits to be conducted, in addition to agreed annual performance information to assess efficiency and effectiveness of the arrangements. The State must provide annual audit reports to the Commonwealth.

HINDMARSH ISLAND BRIDGE ROYAL COMMISSION LAWYERS' FEES

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The Commonwealth Hindmarsh Island Report is being prepared by Justice Matthews (the Reporter). The expenditure of the State Government is mainly that incurred by the Crown Solicitor's Office. The initial representation was prepared by the Assistant Crown Solicitor of the Advising section. For the purposes of making further representations to the Commonwealth Report, a solicitor employed within the Crown Solicitor's Office was assigned to that task for approximately nine weeks and outside counsel was retained for much of that time at a total cost of approximately \$33 000.

Comments were invited from the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and the Minister for Transport when the initial representation was prepared. More recently, the Commonwealth Reporter has on three occasions requested specific information from the State Government. The queries were referred to the Departments possessing the relevant information and the preparation of an answer would not have required a great deal of resources. In addition, the State Government

was required to pay to the Commonwealth Report the copying costs for some representations and the transcript of oral submissions totalling approximately \$1 500.

As to the Hindmarsh Island Bridge Royal Commission, the Government considers that it has met its legal obligations to pay lawyer's fees in connection with the Commission. One firm of solicitors rendered an account some months ago and the Crown Solicitor considered that the Government was not obliged to pay the amount claimed. The Crown Solicitor has corresponded with the firm concerned but the matter is not finalised.

SHORTFALL IN RECEIPTS IF ELECTORAL COMMISSIONER CONDUCTS ELECTIONS FOR ORGANISATIONS ON A FULL COST RECOVERY BASIS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: There are two reasons for expenditure exceeding receipts in the 1995-96 financial year in the program 'Conduct of Elections for Associations and other Bodies'. Firstly, the Electoral Office incurs costs in the conduct of elections and recoups them at the conclusion of the elections. For example, work is being performed for three organisations which commenced prior to 30 June 1996. An election for the Julia Farr Centre was concluded in the last ten days but the costs have yet to be recovered. Secondly, the staff allocation of 0.5 FTE includes non-chargeable time—providing quotes, giving advice to organisations and candidates etc. The FTE time recouped is about 0.45, but the full 0.5 salary cost is allocated to the program.

OPERATION FLINDERS

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The Agreement between agencies of the South Australian Government and Operation Flinders Foundation Inc has been drafted following extensive consultation with agencies and Operation Flinders Foundation Inc. It is a funding and administrative agreement for 1995-96 and covers a significant level of support from the Government, both in-kind and financial. In view of the fact that the Agreement was being negotiated during 1995-96, the Government has provided all agreed in-kind support and financial resourcing to Operation Flinders Foundation, so that the program could continue as planned during 1995-96.

The draft Agreement was provided to the Minister for Emergency Services, who has carriage of the Agreement. My understanding is that agencies were requested to provide comments on the draft. On 25 June 1996 I was informed that some substantive issues have been raised, including:

- duty of care and insurance provisions
- the Minister responsible on behalf of the Government of South Australia.

These matters are now being pursued with the Agreement undergoing some revisions, and it is anticipated that it will be forwarded to the Minister for Emergency Services in the near future.

INCREASE IN TAXES, FEES AND FINES

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The increase in taxes, fees and fines between the revised 1995-96 estimate of \$5 159 000 and the 1996-97 estimate of \$5 401 000 is due mainly to the 4.4 per cent CPI increase to charge rates and variations to the forecast changes in activity within the different industries.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT BUDGET

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The variation in the movement in cash and other financing from the 1995-96 initial estimate of \$136 000 to the 1995-96 revised estimate of \$4 013 000 is due to:

- (1) carry over of \$2 978 000 unspent funds from 1994-95 to 1995-96 relating to various programs;
- (2) additional funding request of \$500 000 for the Hindmarsh Island Bridge Royal Commission, which at the time of preparing the estimates was not approved and has since been approved; and
- (3) an estimated shortfall in receipts of \$399 000 unable to be collected by the department in 1995-96 due to changes in industry activities.

The variation in the movement in cash and other financing from the 1995-96 revised estimate of \$4 013 000 to the 1996-97 estimate of \$490 000 is due to:

- (1) reversal of points (1) and (2) above totalling \$3 478 000; and
- (2) net impact of payments over receipts of \$45 000 in 1996-97 to be funded by the Attorney-General's Department.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION APPLICATION BY LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The conduct of the case on behalf of SA Water in relation to the Freedom of Information Act application by the Leader of the Opposition has been entirely undertaken by the Crown Solicitor's Office within its annual retainer arrangement for the provision of legal services to that agency. There was therefore no actual increased expense incurred by SA Water through its legal representation in the application.

74.05 hours have been actually spent by officers of the Crown Solicitor's Office in preparing the case and attending at Court. The Crown Solicitor's Office, when calculating its retainer for SA Water, calculates it at the rate of \$100.00 per hour. The notional cost of representing SA Water in this matter is therefore \$7405.00, to date.

PROSECUTION FOR EXHIBITING PORNOGRAPHIC MATERIAL

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The consent of the Attorney-General is required before proceedings can be commenced for a breach of Section 33 of the Summary Offences Act. This consent is obtained by the relevant police officer at the time laying the Complaint or Information. My consent was not sought by the police prior to the commencement of proceedings in this matter. The police then had the conduct of these proceedings until the Committal Unit, at the request of the Defence, called for the file. By the time the file was delivered to the Committal Unit, over five months had elapsed since the offence occurred. The failure to obtain my consent was not noted until the trial was commenced. Accordingly, the prosecutor had no option but to withdraw the prosecution. It was not possible to lay a further Complaint in relation to the matter at the time the Committal Unit discovered the mistake because the statutory time limit of six months had passed.

FUNDING FOR DIETRICH APPLICATIONS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: There has only been one matter in which the executive government has agreed to provide funding to the Legal Services Commission if the funding cap is exceeded. There has been no call on the executive government in respect of this matter to date. As the matter is before the Courts at present, I am not able to provide any further details. There are others where applications have been made but refused or withdrawn or where applications are possible.

PROSECUTION SERVICES

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The Director of Public Prosecutions has sought to establish a clear delineation in terms of the work performed by solicitors and prosecutors in the office. The new management structure seeks to streamline the handling of matters within the office, to clarify the various areas of responsibility and to establish a structure where the decision making process is responsible and consistent. The structure is on trial for a short period before any final decisions are made as to its suitability.

INFORMATION GIVEN TO DEFENCE COUNSEL IN PROSECUTIONS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The decision to define the range of information to be given to an accused beyond the minimum obligations of disclosure set out in various Acts and in case law was taken simply in order to facilitate the efficient disposition of a trial. At present, the defence is not required to identify issues that are relevant to its case until the trial commences. It is difficult in these circumstances for the prosecution to make any final determination

as to relevant issues, given its lack of knowledge about the defence case, as to whether there is any need to produce further material. If these issues are only identified at trial and further material is sought, there is a danger that the trial will have to be adjourned or even taken out of the trial list. It is hoped that defence counsel will co-operate by providing the DPP with information as to issues relevant to its case at the pre-trial stage and as a consequence the prosecution will be in a position to provide the additional material sought without necessitating delay.

CONSULTANCIES

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: The following consultancies have been let by the Attorney-General's Department which includes the Office of Business and Consumer Affairs in the past year.

ADMINISTRATION BRANCH—CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION

Consultancy 1

BRSS Pty Ltd

Purpose: To develop project plan for implementation of fixed assets in the Attorney-General's Department

Cost: \$ 500.00

Outcomes: A project plan has been produced for agency use

Consultancy 2

Lee Green Consulting Pty Ltd

Purpose: Assist with the implementation of Asset Register

Cost: \$ 2 303.25

Outcome: Asset Register in the process of being implemented

Consultancy 3

Security House of SA

Purpose: Valuation of Safes for Asset Register

Cost: \$ 300.00

Outcome: Safes valued

POLICE COMPLAINTS AUTHORITY/OMBUDSMAN'S OFFICE

Consultancy 4

Woods Bagot Pty Ltd

Purpose: Negotiations regarding lease and fit out arrangements for the proposed re-location of Police Complaints Authority, State Ombudsman's Office and Commonwealth Ombudsman's Office to the Bank SA Building were made through Services SA. Services SA then engaged the services of Woods Bagot Pty Ltd to provide fit-out and design related services.

Cost: Ombudsman's Office—\$5 006.00

Police Complaint Authority—\$3 894.00

Outcome: Approval for the move to the Bank SA Building was not forthcoming.

OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

Consultancy 5

Mr K Boyce

Purpose: To amend the complaints registration computer system to properly provide for the recording of health complaints and to provide other improvements to the computer program.

Cost: \$1400

Outcome: Amended computer program has been in use since December 1995.

CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION

Consultancy 6

South Australian Employers Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Purpose: To facilitate a Corporate Services Division Planning Session in order to review progress since the amalgamation of the Department of Public and Consumer Affairs and the Attorney-General's Department.

Cost: \$2500.00

Outcome: The development of recommendations for the organisation/structure of the Corporate Services Division.

PUBLIC TRUSTEE OFFICE

Consultancy 7

William M Mercer

Purpose: To develop an investment strategy for Public Trustee Office following amendments to the Trustee Act.

Cost: \$102 175.00

- Outcome: New investment structure implemented and a financial management model for estates has been developed as part of this project.
- Consultancy 8
System Dynamics
Purpose: Business information systems and project
Cost: \$2 390.00
Outcome: Suitable software identified and installed.
Ongoing work on statistical extraction.
- Consultancy 9
Petersen, Flanagan Anthony
Purpose: Capital Gains Tax Policy and Training Consultancy
Cost: \$11 950.00
Outcome: Training conducted and policy manual delivered.
- Consultancy 10
Arthur Andersen
Purpose: Taxation advice on new investment structure.
Cost: \$30 800.00
Outcome: Position analysed and report delivered.
- Consultancy 11
Knox & Hargrave
Purpose: Consultancy advice on Capital Gains Tax and superannuation
Cost: \$795.00
Outcome: Advice received with respect to an estate administration.
- Consultancy 12
Australian Gilt Securities
Purpose: Corporate fund benchmarking and performance measurement
Cost: \$14 400.00
Outcome: Quarterly reporting of performance of the Common Funds.
- Consultancy 13
KPMG Services
Purpose: Review internal controls.
Cost: \$10 700.00
Outcome: Report received and recommendations implemented.
- Consultancy 14
KPMG Services
Purpose: Preparation of risk analysis and audit plan
Cost: \$10 418.00
Outcome: Completed and now in use.
- Consultancy 15
KPMG Services
Purpose: Policy and procedure manuals
Cost: \$13 000.00
Outcome: Project in progress. KPMG acting as project manager.
- Consultancy 16
Richard Ellis
Purpose: Rental review
Cost: \$200.00
Outcome: Current rental valuation of 25 Franklin St received.
- Consultancy 17
Morgan Banks
Purpose: Search, screening and selection—Investment positions
Cost: \$23 135.60
Outcome: Both positions filled with suitable candidates.
- Consultancy 18
Totalspace Design
Purpose: Consultancy re alterations to accommodation
Cost: \$4 876.25
Outcome: Design work provided and alteration made consistent with recommendations.
- Consultancy 19
Mellor Olsson
Purpose: Consultancy re will matters
Cost: \$770.00
Outcome: Ongoing will advice on technical issues.
- Consultancy 20
Quoin Technology P/L
Purpose: Policy and Procedure Manual Project
Cost: \$4 218.80
- Outcome: Advice and assistance with computer software.
- Consultancy 21
DST International
Purpose: Consultancy, advice and support re new investment system
Cost: \$19 403.10
Outcome: Assistance with implementation of investment system software.
- Consultancy 22
Wunderman Cato Johnson
Purpose: Marketing survey
Cost: \$44 550.00
Outcome: Market research conducted a strategic marketing plan developed.
- OFFICE OF CONSUMER AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS
Consultancy 23
Ernst & Young
Purpose: A review of the organisation structure of the Births, Deaths and marriages Registration Office.
Cost: \$22 000.00
Outcome: New organisation structure recommended and now being implemented.
- Consultancy 24
Peter Alexander and Associates
Purpose: Review of Country Operations
Cost: \$10 000.00
Outcome: Recommendations currently under consideration
- Consultancy 25
Woods Bagot Pty Ltd
Purpose: Prepare, design and tender documentation for fitout of new accommodation for the Residential Tenancies Tribunal.
Cost: \$40 000.00
Outcome: Office designs prepared and accepted, project proceeding.
- Consultancy 26
Aspect Computing Pty Ltd
Purpose: Prepare user requirements definition and develop a computerised Bonds Management System.
Cost: \$180 960.00
Outcome: User requirements definition prepared and project proceeding.
- Consultancy 27
Pollak Partners Pty Ltd
Purpose: To develop criteria and manage user acceptance testing of the Bonds Management System.
Cost: \$12 000.00
Outcome: Acceptance test criteria prepared, acceptance testing about to commence.
- Consultancy 28
University of South Australia
Purpose: Middle Management Leadership Program
Cost: \$60 000.00
Outcome: Improved middle management and leadership skills.
- Consultancy 29
Oz>Train Pty Ltd
Purpose: Review of Best Practice Team Program
Cost: \$2 750.00
Outcome: Guidelines developed for future best practice team training and continuous improvement initiatives.
- Consultancy 30
Department of Technical and Further Education
Purpose: Design and delivery of agency specific training in respect of consumer legislation and conciliation and investigation techniques. It is planned to offer the OCBA specific subjects to staff on a regular basis (semester based) against a determined need. Costs incurred are done so as each module is completed. There is no completion date.
Cost: \$6000.00
Outcome: Training and development of staff in interpretation of consumer legislation, and conciliation and investigation skills.
- Consultancy 31
Applied Learning Pty Ltd
Purpose: The provision of CD ROM training packages for computer-based self-paced Learning Centre. This is a Service

Agreement arrangement, to be renewed annually. As such there is no completion date.

Cost: \$18 000.00

Outcome: Provision of quality, cost effective, in-house training for staff in key competencies.

FINANCE SECTION

Consultancy 32

Price Waterhouse

Purpose: To provide assistance to the Department in the accrual accounting planning project.

Cost: \$19 425.00

Outcome: A comprehensive report was completed which will assist the Department to implement accrual accounting including the whole of Government software, MASTER-PIECE 2000.

Consultancy 33

Price Waterhouse

Purpose: To provide assistance in the implementation of accrual accounting. Involves the implementation of the project plan previously discussed.

Cost: \$24 445.30 to date.

Outcome: Ongoing, but with a sunset date of December 1997. When completed, the Department will have an accrual based accounting system in line with SA Government mandates.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCE, CROWN SOLICITOR'S OFFICE—OFFICE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Consultancy 34

Stephen Trenowden

Purpose: Legal practitioner engaged to provide legal services with respect to the contracting out activities of the Department of Information Industry.

Cost: \$329 562.00

Outcome: Contracts signed with EDS, ISSC and AAPT.

Consultancy 35

Bernie Walrut

Purpose: Legal practitioner engaged to provide legal services with respect to the contracting out activities of the Department of Information Industry.

Cost: \$167 825.00

Outcome: Contracts signed with EDS, ISSC and AAPT.

Consultancy 36

Paul Tanty

Purpose: Legal practitioner engaged to provide legal services with respect to the contracting out activities of the Department of Information Industry.

Cost: \$36 960.00

Outcome: Contracts signed with EDS, ISSC and AAPT.

Consultancy 37

Tony Curtis

Purpose: Undertake land title searches in connection with the proposed Government network contract project being undertaken by the Department of Information Industry.

Cost: \$37 982.50

Outcome: The services provided were instrumental in the issuing of a request for proposal for the establishment of a spatial information business and in the collection of information required for the preparation of a request for proposal for the provision of a Government telecommunications and mobile radio network.

OFFICE OF THE LIQUOR LICENSING COMMISSIONER

Consultancy 38

DSTO Communications Division

Purpose: Initial evaluation of the Gaming Security System 1994-95

Cost: \$73 989.00

Outcome: Ongoing evaluation.

Consultancy 39

Interpreting and Translating for Court

Purpose: Court hearing

Cost: \$185.00

Outcome: Hearing completed satisfactorily

Consultancy 40

Software Quality Engineering

Purpose: Review of Gaming Monitoring System

Cost: \$4 000.00

Outcome: Review completed with the Auditor General and OLLC Office

Consultancy 41

Techsearch

Purpose: Evaluation of Games and equipment for Gaming Machines

Cost: \$1 780.00

Outcome: Evaluation of equipment for Gaming Machines

A summary of the above costs of consultants for the Attorney-General's Department is provided below:

Summary of Cost of Consultants for the Attorney-General's Department—1995-96

Section/Division	Total Cost of Consultancies
Administration Branch	3 103.25
Finance Section	43 870.30
Corporate Services Division	2 500.00
Police Complaints Authority	3 894.00
Office of the Ombudsman	6 406.00
Crown Solicitor's Office	
Office of Information Technology	572 329.50
Public Trustee Office	293 781.75
Office of the Liquor Licensing Commissioner	79 954.00
Office of Consumer and Business Affairs	351 710.00
Total for the Department	1 357 548.80

Minister for Employment, Training and Further Education and Minister for Youth Affairs

MODULE LOAD COMPLETIONS

In reply to Ms WHITE.

The Hon. R.B. SUCH: The 1993, 1994 and 1995 DETAFE PMD for MLC is shown below:

	1993 MLC (millions)	1994 MLC (millions)	1995 MLC (millions)
Adelaide	2.303	2.411	2.585
Croydon	1.425	1.005	-
Douglas Mawson	1.277	1.183	1.193
Murray	0.608	0.422	0.569
Onkaparinga	1.571	1.452	1.532
Para	0.839	0.927	1.013
Regency	1.554	1.893	1.509
South-East	0.533	0.514	0.537
Spencer	1.325	1.255	1.411
Torrens Valley	1.260	1.286	1.299
Western Adelaide	-	-	1.281
Totals*	12.695	12.348	12.929

*Figures rounded to three decimal points (and hence some totals may vary slightly).

Ms White is correct in that the MLC in 1993 and 1994 were 12.695 million and 12.345 million respectively. However, Ms White has not quoted correct figures in her following statements for Douglas Mawson (Adelaide figures are quoted) or Croydon. The Port Adelaide MLC was 0.394 million in 1995 and 0.303 million in 1993 (the 1994 MLC is not readily available for Port Adelaide).

The two major points being made by Ms White are:

(1) The MLC decreased in 1993 to 1994; have they decreased in 1995?

The 1995 PMD indicates 1995 MLC increased to 12.929 million; i.e., by 0.583 million or 4.7 per cent when compared to 1994.

(2) Some (five) institutes are decreasing in their outputs!

An inspection of the above table indicates:

- Douglas Mawson fell between 1993 and 1994 but stabilised in 1995.
- The Croydon campus MLC fell by approximately 11 per cent in 1994 and 1995.
- Murray, Onkaparinga and Spencer fell between 1993 and 1994 but regained ground in 1995.

The transfer of courses and headquarters to Port Adelaide and the establishment of the skill centres had significant effects on the Croydon campus educational output.

DETAFFE AND EDS—SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

In reply to Ms WHITE.

The Hon. R.B. SUCH: Ms White has asked if there is a service agreement between the department and EDS, and, if so, would the

Minister be willing to provide the details.

The South Australian Government has entered into contractual arrangements with EDS to provide, over a period of nine years, a whole-of-government information technology infrastructure.

The contract with EDS makes provision for each agency to prepare and agree with EDS an Agency Service Level Agreement (ASLA). From an agency's perspective, this is the most important document that an agency has in its dealings with EDS.

The ASLA identifies the IT infrastructure services that EDS is to perform for the agency and sets out the levels at which EDS is to perform those services. The levels of service stated in the ASLA are those that the agency was actually provided by its own internal IT resources immediately prior to transfer of the IT services to EDS. EDS is contracted to supply those services from the transfer date at a level no less than was being provided before the transfer date.

The ASLA is a comprehensive document that sets out the nature and level for each service within the agency, e.g., for each Local Area Network service (LAN), for each midrange computer service, for each mainframe service, and so on. For each of these services, the agency defines, for example, the times during which the service is available, the percentage availability of the service during those times, the average response times at the desk top device, the level of access security implemented, and responsiveness to problems reported to the help desk.

These levels are to be progressively improved over the period of the contract.

1996 DIVERSE TRAINING MARKET FUNDING PROGRAM

In reply to Ms WHITE.

The Hon. R.B. SUCH: At the Estimates Committee on 25 June 1996, I agreed to provide brief information on mechanisms for distributing Diverse Training Market Funding Program funds including a list of criteria used in deciding funding.

The Diverse Training Market Funding Program (DTMFP) is part of a nationally-agreed strategy to expand training effort through encouraging diversity of provision in areas where the training is relevant to industry needs and the State's strategic priorities. The DTMFP is one of a range of initiatives under a broad diverse training market strategy which disburses public funds for training through competitive mechanisms.

The DTMFP is a competitive tendering process in which TAFE Institutes and other registered training providers compete for the same money, and the funds are awarded on a merit basis.

The funds support the upskilling of the existing workforce as well as equipping those people wishing to enter or re-enter the workforce with skills matched to recognised industry needs.

A number of essential and desirable criteria are used for selecting successful applicants. The essential criteria are:

- the training provider must be registered under national protocols;
- the course/training programs must be accredited under national protocols;
- the proposed training must be consistent with State Training Profile industry macro level priorities, and state priorities.

Desirable criteria include:

- addressing State Training Profile regional priorities;
- addressing State Training Profile target group priorities;
- access and equity in selection and training;
- capacity for positive employment outcomes;
- capacity for positive further education and training outcomes; and
- cost per student hour.

The programs which are funded range across all regional areas of the State and are targeted to seven major industry sectors. Innovative training programs support export growth industries (such as the wine sector), emerging industries (such as information technology), assist small business development across a range of sectors, and improve South Australia's efficiency and competitiveness.

The DTMFP also makes provision for participation by people from disadvantaged groups, for example people with disabilities, aboriginal people, people from non-English speaking backgrounds, women and rural and isolated people. Many of these participants will be undertaking structured and accredited training for the first time.

NATIONAL SYSTEM OF ACCREDITATION

In reply to Ms WHITE.

The Hon. R.B. SUCH: The honourable member's question raises a number of issues which concern the operation of an effective and efficient vocational education and training system in this country. These issues are presently under examination at state and national levels, in particular under the Federal Government's proposed Modern Australian Apprenticeship and Traineeship System (MAATS). An officials working party from the State, Territory and Commonwealth governments is examining proposals to streamline regulatory arrangements in the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector. The accreditation of courses is one of the regulatory controls being examined and I expect proposals to come forward from the officials working party to be considered by the Ministerial Council (MINCO) in August/September.

As I stated in my reply to the honourable member on 25 June, I support the proposition for streamlining regulatory arrangements, however this must be done in a manner which does not affect the integrity of the national VET system established over the last few years. The Vocational Education, Employment and Training (VEET) Act in South Australia empowers the Accreditation and Registration Council (ARC), with my consent, to delegate one or more of its functions (such as course accreditation) to a committee or to any other person or body. In respect of its accreditation function the Council has adopted a set of principles, agreed at MINCO in May 1995, for the delegation of its authority for accreditation. To date this authority has not been delegated to persons other than the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Council.

Under current Council policies proponents may manage the process of assessing their course(s) and make recommendations on its accreditation but the Council has, for the present, retained its authority to accredit. This decision has been taken for a number of reasons but principally to ensure that the relatively new Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) will provide a basis for nationally consistent standards of qualifications.

In conclusion, I support the streamlining of regulatory controls in the VET system but only in a manner which will not affect the integrity of the system or the value of vocational qualifications in the community. The facility to delegate accreditation is available under legislation and in the policies of the ARC but until the Council and I are satisfied that this will enhance rather than detract from the existing arrangements, the status quo will continue.

TAFE QUALIFICATIONS/PARCHMENTS

In reply to Mrs GERAGHTY.

The Hon. R.B. SUCH: Inquiries regarding this issue have been directed to each of the ten Institutes. These inquiries reveal that none of the Institutes are charging students for collection of their certificates from the front counter if they are unable to attend the graduation ceremony.

However, charges are currently being made at some Institutes for the re-issue of certificates and these vary from \$5 to \$25 at the current time. This only occurs if a student loses their certificate. The procedure for this is outlined in the attached copy of *Administrative Instructions* issued 16/5/96 of the DETAFE policy on the issuing of qualifications and parchments which indicates the cost of a replacement parchment as \$50 (p.7).

The only other costs identified were the costs of forwarding the parchment by certified mail which is, in some instances, charged to the student or the cost of attending a graduation ceremony if payment for a meal is involved.

COMPUTER TOOLS—DATA BASE IMPLEMENTATION

In reply to Mrs GERAGHTY.

The Hon. R.B. SUCH:

Background

Adelaide Institute offered two classes of *SQL Server* during Semester 1, 1996. 20 students were enrolled in each class. Problems were experienced during the Semester with the computer network which caused some frustration to students undertaking this particular course. Ten problems were logged by the Computer Help Desk (which is available to staff and students from 8.45 a.m. until 9.00 p.m.).

Situation

The problem seems to have its roots in two processes that took place early in 1996. The first of these results from the installation of new computer technology and upgrading old systems. The programs required for the *SQL Server* course were

located on an old server. The second process was the transfer of management of the computer network to EDS on 17 April.

The transfer of the programs from one system to another resulted in difficulties of access to both staff and students. In the transfer and management of the responsibilities from the Adelaide Institute to EDS, it would seem that the process did not immediately pick up the difficulties with *SQL Server*, given that the problem then fell within their area of responsibility.

Resolution

In order to resolve this situation, a new file server is currently being installed by EDS. This will enable the Adelaide Institute to standardise the set of applications being delivered to students. The task however, is large and complex but should be completed by the beginning of Semester 2.

Allowances were made for those students who were unable to achieve all of the learning outcomes to ensure that they were not disadvantaged by the assessment process.

MAINTENANCE OF TAFE FACILITIES

In reply to Ms WHITE.

The Hon. R.B. SUCH: The department allocated approximately \$1.2 million to Institutes for breakdown maintenance in 1995-96. In addition, the department paid Services SA \$912 000 in 1995-96 for prevention maintenance. A breakdown of this expenditure by Institute is provided in the following table:

Institute	Breakdown Maintenance \$	Preventative Maintenance \$
Adelaide	174 254	100 568
Douglas Mawson	62 250	89 876
Murray	49 455	24 466
Onkaparinga	128 571	134 738
Para	87 662	92 596
Regency	347 819	133 196
South East	21 318	16 775
Spencer	112 054	106 313
Torrens Valley	135 290	87 636
Western Adelaide	112 751	125 554
Total	1 231 424	911 718

KICKSTART FOR YOUTH PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

In reply to Ms WHITE.

The Hon R.B. SUCH: The Kickstart for Youth performance indicators are specifically designed to ensure encouragement for the recruitment of participants from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Equity weightings are built into the performance measures in recognition of the greater difficulties faced by certain groups in accessing programs and achieving measurable outcomes.

Overall regional targets can only be achieved by ensuring participation of young people from equity groups.

Equity weightings are applied at the following levels.

Equity weighting of 2

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants
- NESB (That is a language other than English is spoken at home)
- People with a disability (including a learning disability)
- Unemployed youth 15-19 years

Equity weighting of 1

- Sole supporting parent
- Groups facing special disadvantage
 - Youth in secure care
 - History of offending behaviour
 - Geographically isolated (access to training)
- Long term unemployed (18 months or more)

Several weightings can be applied to a participant. For example, if the participant is an Aboriginal with a learning disability and is unemployed 18 months or more and aged 15-19 they would attract an equity weighting of 7 points.

An employment or training outcome for a participant with a high equity weighting contributes significantly to the achievement of the overall outcomes for the region.

Without participants who attract equity ratings regions would be unable to achieve their set Performance Indicators.

ABORIGINAL EMPLOYMENT IN THE STATE PUBLIC SECTOR

In reply to Mr CLARKE.

The Hon.R.B. SUCH: The number of Aboriginal people employed within the State Public Sector as at:

June 1995 was 0.71 per cent—733

June 1993 was 0.71 per cent—783

The total number of State employees has dropped by 6.6 per cent between 1992 and 1995 whilst the percentage of Aboriginal employees has remained the same over the period of 1993 to 1995.

The Aboriginal Employment & Education Development Branch offer a number of services to Aboriginal people which include:

Recruitment into the State Public Sector at the base grade level.

Targets for the 1996-97 financial year are estimated at 40 Management Development training for existing State Public Sector employees. This program enables Aboriginal people to compete for promotional positions which then enables AEEDB to backfill their position with an Aboriginal person.

Targets for the 1996-97 are estimated at 17

Career Development offers pre employment programs to people seeking base grade employment within the State Public Sector.

Targets for 1996-97 are estimated at 80.

Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources, Minister for Family and Community Services and Minister for the Ageing

WEST BEACH LANDFILL—PATAWALONGA

In reply to Mrs GERAGHTY.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: In association with the Patawalonga Lake clean up, the adjacent disused West Beach landfill is to be rehabilitated. Consultant Kinhill Engineers Pty Ltd undertook a preliminary survey of the landfill site in early 1995. The report indicated that leachate present in the landfill, is relatively uncontaminated and is not migrating to nearby waterways.

The landfill was capped with clay in 1984 and covered with fill for the purpose of reducing the potential for leachate from leaving the site.

A management plan for the further rehabilitation of the site is presently being developed and must be endorsed by the EPA prior to the rehabilitation proceeding. This will include reference to the management of methane which has the potential to be generated from any landfill site.

With regard to mushrooms, preliminary discussions with the SA Health Commission have indicated that as the landfill site was capped with clay and fill in 1984, there is no significant risk of contamination to mushrooms from rubbish formerly deposited at the site.

NATIVE VEGETATION—APPLICATIONS— APPROVALS

In reply to Ms HURLEY.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: In 1995-96 158 applications were lodged with the Native Vegetation Council. This figure includes applications carried forward from 1994-95.

The 158 applications can be categorised as follows:

deferred	9
withdrawn	3
refused	7
consented	5
consented with conditions	122
requests to vary conditions	12

Twenty-five applications were for broadacre clearance. Preliminary determination of the area approved for clearance was 653 hectares. This includes areas that had been previously cleared and have regrown (262 hectares in one application was sparse regrowth) but does not include areas subject to woodcutting, brushcutting or burning applications. These do regenerate. An area of 14.7 hectares was for a rabbit control trial. Four hundred and twenty eight hectares of vegetation were permanently protected as part of the condition for this clearance approval.

Fifty-seven applications were for isolated tree clearance, although some tree clearance applications have not been finalised due to further discussion occurring with the landholders. Preliminary determination of area approved for isolated tree clearance is 1 264 hectares, although the exact area per tree is difficult to calculate. Preliminary determination will result in over 610 hectares being set aside for permanent conservation to offset the removal of the isolated trees.

ALLOCATION OF MONIES FOR FENCING AND FERAL ANIMAL CONTROL IN AREAS NOW UNDER REHABILITATION OR MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS WITH LANDOWNERS

In reply to Ms HURLEY.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: In 1996-97, \$1.12 million will be transferred to the Native Vegetation Fund to bring the fund to a total of \$1.46 million. The fund provides the mechanism for funding financial assistance to land holders on signing heritage agreements as well as assisting the ongoing management of these areas and research into the conservation of native vegetation.

It is expected that \$763 000 will be paid as financial assistance to landholders who will sign heritage agreements this year.

Approximately \$500 000 will be available for the Native Vegetation Council to allocate to management and research projects. These funds can be directed to a range of activities, including fencing and pest control. The precise allocation is at the discretion of the council.

GRANTS FOR SENIORS—SENIORS WEEK FUNDING

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: The Grants for Seniors Program has a financial commitment of \$196 000 per annum. In the 1994-95 financial year \$6 000 was unspent and this amount was transferred to the 1995-96 financial year. Therefore the total available funds for 1995-96 was \$202 000. No programs will be affected by cuts this financial year as the program's financial commitment remains at \$196 000.

The Council on the Ageing SA sought an advance payment for Seniors Week 1996 because of reduction in funding support from various sources for event sponsorship; cost increases and to ensure that preparations for the Seniors Week could proceed at an earlier interval. Consequently special arrangements were made to pay COTA(SA) \$45 000 in the 1995-96 financial year which would normally have been paid in 1996-97.

CHILD ABUSE—NUMBER OF SOCIAL WORKERS

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: There are difficulties with providing the exact information requested, i.e. base grade social workers in district centres, on 30 June in the years 1993, 1994, 1995 and 1996. These include changes in pay systems over that time, and difficulties in establishing comparable records. We can, however, provide with confidence the statistics on the number of base grade social workers in the field as at 30 June in the requested years. These positions include those in district centres, crisis care, placement teams, court services, and family information services and adoptions. These numbers are as follows:

	30/6/93	30/6/94	30/6/95	30/6/96
Base grade social workers in field services, full time equivalent	253.2	242.4	234.0	253.7
Total Staff	1 208.6	1 199.9	1 070.0	1091.1

It should be noted that the figures for 1996 are still being reconciled with computerised pay records for inclusion in the annual report. It may be that when this is completed, there is a minor variation in the figure for 1996. If this does occur, the new figure will be tabled.

It should also be recalled that over this period the roles and responsibilities of the department in juvenile justice have changed significantly. The introduction of the Young Offender Act in 1994 brought with it a reduced role for district centre social workers, and increased responsibilities were assumed by the police, Attorney-Generals, and the Youth Court.

The figures make it clear that the savings in staff salaries in Family and Community Services have been achieved through reductions in central office and administrative staffing levels.

CHILD ABUSE—PREVENTION—WORKING PARTY—CONTINUUM OF SERVICES

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Effective protective intervention must indeed be located within a continuum of services. At one end of this continuum are services which support families; at the other end are services in which the State assumes responsibility for the care of children. In between these two extremes are a range of services which provide increasingly targeted levels of support and intervention.

Most families fulfil their responsibilities of care with support from informal networks and universal services. Some families, however, require additional assistance. Under the Family and Community Development program, 130 agencies are funded to provide support for vulnerable families, for a total outlay of \$4 364 000. The major objective of these services is to enable families to provide a caring and protective environment for their children.

Low income support services are provided through the Family and Community Development program, as well as through district centres. Given the relationship between child abuse and poverty, it

is extremely important that these crucial services are recognised as part of the continuum of services directed towards the protection and care of children.

Services specifically targeted to families experiencing major difficulties and at risk of breakdown are purchased through the Early Intervention and Substitute Care Program, to a cost of \$701 000 in 1996-97. These include respite care, intensive family preservation, counselling and reunification services, and are directed towards addressing issues in families which are impacting upon the care and well-being of children.

Social workers in FACS' 19 district centres work directly with the most vulnerable families and children, undertaking protective intervention, casework, placement and support of children in care. Placement services amounting to \$2 339 000 are also purchased from the non-government sector for out of home care.

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

In reply to Ms WHITE.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: The Federal Government's Morris Report into Youth Homelessness has 129 recommendations, the majority of which concern Commonwealth functions and activities. These are, of course outside of the scope of my department's mandate, nor is it the responsibility of this Government to assume responsibility for the report and its recommendations. The Federal Government has not at this stage made its position on the report clear. Many recommendations that are bilateral in nature will not be pursued until such time as the Commonwealth adopts a position and initiates discussions.

However, there are 10 recommendations that we believe to be useful and within our powers to effect. Indeed, many of these have already been implemented.

Recommendations 22-26 have already been addressed, resulting in restructured youth services that contain a mix of service options, are accessible to local communities, and staffed by people who are adequately trained and in receipt of the new CASH Award payment.

With regard to Rec. 52, South Australia already has a level of payment based on the Institute of Family Studies calculations. We also have in place a workable system of payments to relatives who care for children (Rec. 53). The State does not, however, have

responsibility for income support, and any responsibility for the financial support of families who care for children in private agreements rests with the Commonwealth.

Rec. 72 refers to the need to monitor the Protocol on the Care of Young People. This monitoring is taking place, and a recent evaluation of the protocol has shown that there has been an improvement in the coordination of financial support and assessment for young people.

We are also implementing strategies that are in line with Recs 109 and 110 (re. gay and lesbian homeless youth) and will provide these young people with a greater level of protection from sexual harassment.

CLEAN UP OF THE PATAWALONGA—TIMING OF WORKERS CLEANING TRASH RACKS ETC.—HURLEY

In reply to Ms HURLEY.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: The collection of litter from the banks of the Patawalonga on 26 June 1996 was organised by Glenelg Council. I am advised that the council has in fact been using Correctional Services crews, when they have been available, to clean up the banks of the Patawalonga for more than 10 years. In recent times graffiti removal has also been carried out under this program. The current arrangement is for Correctional Services crews to be available to the council on Wednesdays. On the day in question, after completing graffiti removal tasks, the council did arrange for approximately half a day to be spent cleaning the banks of the Patawalonga. Approximately 10 workers were involved. There is no precise data on the amount of litter removed.

The Patawalonga and Torrens Catchment Water Management Boards also have contracts for Correctional Services crews to work on the catchment water clean ups for both the river and creek systems. The work of these crews has been an important component of the program to clean up the catchment. The Correctional Services crews work only on Fridays and Saturdays for the catchment boards.

With the ongoing installation of further gross pollutant traps, it is expected that more of the rubbish will progressively be caught in the upstream trash racks. Nevertheless, there will be an ongoing need from time to time to physically remove litter from the banks of the Patawalonga and the streams feeding the Basin, as is the case with any stream system.

Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Correctional Services and Minister for State Government Services

GOVERNMENT FUNDED MOBILE PHONES

In reply to Mr QUIRKE.

The Hon. W.A. MATTHEW: The following details of mobile telephones used by agencies within my portfolio:

Department for Correctional Services	
Community Corrections	50
Prisons	35
Central Office	31
Total	116
Department for State Government Services	
Central Linen	3
Forensic Science	2
Fleet SA	13
Document Management	10
Supply SA	16
Real Estate Management	11
Resources Management	19
Building Management	49
Building Maintenance	166
Total	289
SA Metropolitan Fire Service	
Support Services	9
Operations	39
Total	48
SA Country Fire Service	
Operations	21
Volunteer Human Relations	1
Central Office	7
Fire Prevention/Safety	3
Total	32

SA Ambulance Service	
Operations—Ambulance Stations	20
Operations—District Officers/Managers	19
Operations Support	19
Executive Management	6
Total	64
State Emergency Service SA	
State Headquarters (Central Office)	3
Training and Development Officers	3
Divisional Officers	10
SES Units	14
Total	30
Minister's Office	

A total of five telephones are allocated to me and my staff.

PASSPORTS OBTAINED BY PRISONERS

In reply to Mr QUIRKE.

The Hon. W.A. MATTHEW: The Chief Executive Officer of the Department for Correctional Services has advised that the department has knowledge of only one prisoner inquiring about a passport, and the application was not proceeded with.

Despite this, the issue of prisoners ability to apply for passports has been followed up, and I can now advise the following:

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade have advised that:

- there is no legislative provision to prevent a prisoner from making an application for a passport;
- unless a court has ordered that a person is not to be issued with a passport, or has withdrawn an individual's passport (this information is recorded nationally with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade), there is no checking mechanism to determine whether an applicant has a criminal record, or is in prison.

Whilst it is not illegal, for a prisoner to apply for a passport, all prison general managers have been advised that, should staff become aware that a prisoner intends to apply for a passport, that prisoner must be informed that he/she must seek approval from the Parole Board to travel outside the State of South Australia, prior to their release on parole. In addition, Commonwealth sentenced prisoners must seek similar approval from the Commonwealth Attorney-general. General managers will also be required to ensure that the parole officer is advised so that formal approval to travel may be obtained, if required.

GOVERNMENT CREDIT CARDS

In reply to Mr QUIRKE.

The Hon. W.A. MATTHEW: All staff using corporate credit cards must comply with the requirements of Treasurer's instruction 336.

The following cards are allocated to agencies responsible to me: Department for Correctional Services

The Chief Executive Officer has the only Government credit card in use in the department.

SA Metropolitan Fire Service

No SAMFS staff member has use of a Government credit card.

SA Ambulance Service

There are 26 credit cards currently issued to SA Ambulance Service employees.

The criteria for the issue of credit cards is that they are either to a director of the organisation, and/or to an employee required to undertake country travel as part of their employment. The allocation of credit cards and expenditure is approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

SA Country Fire Service

Currently two cards are issued to purchasing officers. No other cards are issued.

The majority of transactions are related to travel and accommodation which is to be expected for an organisation that spans the State.

State Emergency Service SA

No SES staff member has use of a Government credit card.

Department for State Government Services (Services SA)

I originally provided information to the Estimates Committee in relation to Services SA which stated the department had 96 credit cards allocated to van drivers, seven credit cards assigned for payment of sundry computer equipment and supplies, and nine executive credit cards including one card holder who is assigned a credit card for overseas travel from the Export Initiative Unit.

I am now informed that this information is incomplete as it omitted a significant number of van drivers and sundry purchase cards.

The following is therefore a complete list of credit cards used in Services SA:

- . nine executives,
- . 168 building maintenance cards used for the purchase of building trade supplies including carpentry, plumbing, engineering, flooring, and sundry equipment, and
- . 13 administration employees are assigned credit cards for the payment of sundry computer equipment and supplies.

Following structural changes to this agency, a review of the number of credit cards used is presently underway.

KAROONDA AMBULANCE SERVICE

In reply to **Mr LEWIS**.

The Hon. W.A. MATTHEW: In 1981, when the various St John Ambulance service providers across South Australia amalgamated into one statewide ambulance service, the Karoonda branch remained outside that new entity, as a non amalgamated branch.

However, during 1991-92, the Karoonda branch built its current ambulance station and amalgamated with statewide service.

The Karoonda branch is now a member branch of the SA Ambulance Service and able to contribute to, and use all the services provided by the Statewide Ambulance Service.

The development of the S.A.A.S. and C.F.S. facilities at Karoonda, pre-dates the collocation policies of the present Government. If at some future time, the Karoonda community were to seek to redevelop those facilities, they may at that time be able to take advantage of this Government's collocation strategies.

HUNGER STRIKES

In reply to **Mr QUIRKE**.

The Hon. W.A. MATTHEW: On the day of the Estimates Committee hearing, two (2) prisoners at Yatala Labour Prison were on hunger strikes. The two prisoners commenced their hunger strikes on 26 June 1996. They advised management of the prison that they were off their hunger strike on 28 June 1996.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATIONS

In reply to **Mr LEWIS**.

The Hon. W.A. MATTHEW: I refer to your question concerning the current incarceration rate by security rating per 100 000 population.

The Department of Correctional Services had 1 476 prisoners in custody on 30 June 1996. This represents an overall incarceration rate of 130.1 per 100 000 of the South Australian adult population. The population figures were taken from the ABS Estimated Residential Population, catalogue number 3201.0.

The breakdown of this rate by security rating is high security 27.5, medium security 43.3 and low security 59.3.

We do not anticipate any major change of direction in the security rating breakdown of this rate in the future.

SALES TAX ON VEHICLES

In reply to **Mr QUIRKE**.

The Hon. W.A. MATTHEW: There is a maximum of 518 vehicles which fall within the definition of salary remuneration under

the proposed sales tax amendments. This figure includes not only Government departments but statutory authorities and health units. However, some of these vehicles will still remain exempt from sales tax because the officer belongs to an exempt group, e.g. hospitals. This information is now being sought and will result in a decrease from the figure of 518 vehicles.

STATE FLEET TVSPs

In reply to **Mr QUIRKE**.

The Hon. W.A. MATTHEW:

No targeted voluntary separation packages (TVSPs) have been offered during 1995-96 for the Fleet SA management team. However, during that period, TVSPs have been offered and accepted by one acting workshop supervisor, one mechanic, one storeperson, one lubrication attendant, one clerical officer, and two chauffeurs. One TVSP for a chauffeur was accepted in conjunction with a workers compensation settlement.

The total cost of these TVSPs is \$227 459.01. None of the TVSPs was related to, or as a result of, the sale and leaseback of fleet vehicles to the Commonwealth Bank.

Fleet management has not been transferred to the bank. A review of fleet management is underway at present, and will be completed during 1996-97.

CENTRAL LINEN TVSPs

In reply to **Mr QUIRKE**.

The Hon. W.A. MATTHEW: In regards to targeted voluntary separation packages taken within Central Linen, one TVSP was taken within the year 1 July 1995 to 30 June 1996.

The total cost of this TVSP was \$7 710.98.

The future options for Central Linen are currently under review in conjunction with the Asset Management Task Force. The scoping exercise now under way will identify economic and financial benefits of options for sale or retention of the business within Government, and this will be resolved during 1996-97.

GOVERNMENT FUNDED VEHICLES

In reply to **Mr QUIRKE**.

The Hon. W.A. MATTHEW: I have interpreted the honourable member's question as referring to those vehicles which are allocated to officers as part of their salary package. The following vehicles are allocated within agencies for which I am responsible.

Department for Correctional Services	
Full private use	3
Home to office use	6
Department for State Government Services	
Full private use	9
Home to office use	7 (includes 1 officer on secondment from OCPE)
SA Metropolitan Fire Service	
Full private use	3
SA Country Fire Service	
Full private use	2
Home to office use	4
SA Ambulance Service	
Full Private use	13 (includes after hours on-call duty)
State Emergency Service SA	
No cars issued as part of a salary package.	