

## ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

17 to 19 and 24 to 26 June 1997

## REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

## Minister for Education and Children's Services

## NEW PROJECTS

In reply to Ms WHITE.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The 12 new projects listed are at various stages ranging from feasibility to near final design of development generally consistent with the proposed commencement dates. Given that some projects are not scheduled to commence until May 1998 this is to be expected.

Current assessment indicates that the nominated time frames for commencement of each project are expected to be met in all but one project. The delay in that project was due to the need to take a greater than usual time in the appointment of the Primary Consultants.

It needs to be appreciated that throughout the project development phases there can be many factors which may have a bearing on meeting of time frames. With project commencements being spaced out over the financial year it also follows that the project development will vary between projects at any point in time.

The need to undertake extensive consultation with locations often means that the project development can only proceed to certain stages prior to formal announcements. It would be ideal to have all such projects developed to a stage where they are ready to proceed but practicalities of operation may inhibit that outcome.

## COUNTRY TEACHERS

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** There are a variety of options for country teachers to access training and development. Their schools may provide training or arrange for programs to be delivered by others. It is also common in country areas for sites to cluster for their training and development and pool both human and financial resources to maximise their use.

The Orphanage Teachers Centre has recently signed an agreement with Council of Education Associations of South Australia (CEASA) to ensure that a significant proportion of CEASA programs are delivered in country locations. This program is based on a model of teachers working with teachers and covers a wide range of curriculum areas. In addition, officers of the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS) are available to work with staff in country sites.

Individual teachers may be undertaking Training and Further Education (TAFE) or University courses either at a local campus or via distance methodologies.

In relation the issue of training and development and a per capita grant for country schools, I provide the following information. Training and development funds for the state are distributed via a formula that ensures half of the total available funds are allocated to country sites. This weighted distribution provides country schools with supplementary funding for training and development expenses. Whilst the formula uses the full time equivalent staff numbers for calculating purposes, the use of funds at the local site will be determined by the training and development committee in a way that best meets the achievement of local priorities. Other aspects of the formula take into account the changeover of staff at any site and its distance from Adelaide. Remote schools receive an additional weighting as staff are often required to be out of the school for more than a day to attend training in a large centre.

Training takes place all over the state. Much is happening at the local level and the use of distant technologies, such as virtual conferences, enhances the opportunities for country personnel to access training and development programs.

## CHILD CARE CENTRE REGULATIONS

In reply to Mr LEGGETT.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The review of the Child Care Centre Regulations commenced in 1993. As a result of the consultation process, serious concerns were raised in relation to major changes to the staff:child ratios and space requirements although the majority of the other changes to the regulations were supported.

Further work was undertaken relating to the cost implications for parents and service providers about the changes to staffing and space requirements. The Coopers and Lybrand study indicated that the

average cost increase would be \$16 per week per child. The majority of this cost was attributed to the increased staffing requirements of the National Child Care Centre Standards.

Following consultation with the Child Care Industry Reference Group, it was agreed to postpone progression of the new national staffing ratios. The Child Care Industry Reference Group consists of representatives from peak organisations of the child care sector in South Australia.

Given the time lapse since the first community consultation, it was agreed that a second consultation was required on the remaining changes to the regulations. This consultation has been concluded and the results analysed. The Executive Director, Children's Services, DECS, is currently preparing a submission to Cabinet proposing the new regulations be drafted.

It is anticipated that for some existing centres there will be a saving of up to \$4 000 per annum for an average sized centre. This saving results from the changes to the child:staff ratios for mixed age groups and clearly offsets the added operational cost of \$300 for a licence renewal. For existing centres there is a requirement to upgrade safety electrical switches and install self closing mechanisms on gates. For the minority of centres where these installations are not already in place it is estimated that there will be a one off cost of \$450. The Executive Director, Children's Services, is of the view that, at the very least, there will be a nil cost impact for consumers and at best a saving for consumers.

For new developers the changes to the facility requirements will result in an overall cost increase estimated to be \$1 000 for an average centre. The added expense of providing additional play space, advertising and cost of a licence will be offset by savings in other areas.

The increased capital cost is negligible given that the building costs associated with establishing a new child care centre can be in the order of \$500 000—\$900 000.

## DECStech 2001

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The breakdown of expenditure for DECStech 2001 in 1996-97 between computers, training, cabling and other expenses and the budget for 1997-98 is as follows:

	1996-97	1997-98
	\$m	\$m
Computers	9.10	4.10
Training	3.13	2.43
Cabling/Network Rollout	1.70	4.66
Other Costs	1.07	3.81
Total	15.0	15.0

## ABORIGINAL CHILDREN

In reply to Mr De LAINE.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The following information is provided regarding the number of staff within Anangu Education Services, the unit of the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS) responsible for schools in the Pitjantjatjara lands.

The Manager of Anangu Education Services (AES) is responsible for all education services and infrastructure provisions relating to Anangu students and communities. This includes the eight schools and other homeland sites on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara lands, the Ernabella area support office, the AES hostel site in Adelaide and the Wiltja program located at Woodville High School. The semi autonomous devolved nature of the responsibility is exercised in conjunction with the Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Education Committee who were granted 'operational control of schooling' by the South Australian Government in 1992. Hence this responsibility also includes an extensive support and training responsibility for this group of traditional Aboriginal decision makers as well as maintenance of a strong accountability process.

The need for the position of Manager AES, and the establishment of AES was recognised by the South Australian Government in 1992 following the release of the Tri-State Report 'Improving Aboriginal Student Learning Outcomes Through Co-operative Education Services'. This was a major, joint project of the South Australia, Western Australia, Northern Territory and the Commonwealth Governments, teacher unions and Anangu communities of the centre of Australia. The project recognised the major obstacles to successful service delivery in this area. It also recognised the most depressed levels of educational outcomes for students anywhere in Australia. As a result, numerous recommendations to governments on how to

successfully improve the educational service provisions and educational outcomes for these students.

Delivery of services in this area requires specific expertise in dealing with a multiplicity of unique cross cultural demands. An example of this is the Coordinating Principal position. Most principals are very inexperienced, usually in their first appointment, do not stay long and frequently do not have the intimate knowledge of community and cultural matters, which is essential for success of schooling. Instant attention to urgent problems in these communities and schools is required. The expertise of an experienced educator is the solution. This structure has been recognised in the Western Australia Anangu communities and a similar appointment has been made by that government.

Another example is the development of curriculum and associated materials which must be allied to the learning priorities of Anangu students eg. skills for self determination. There has been an extraordinary degree of development in this area by this small team of people in conjunction with teachers in the field.

AES personnel are responsible for the majority of services normally undertaken centrally by DECS including for example, staffing of schools, financial management, facilities management, recruitment, induction and training of new teachers, in-service of community members. It should be noted that some of these support positions are ones which have been created by the principals from fractional allocations to each school so that expertise is provided across their system. The main requirement by AES has been to maintain as much flexibility in staffing levels as possible.

I am advised Ms Thomas undertakes occasional project contracts defined by AES officers such as the production of videos and desk top publishing. These short terms contract projects are essential for the work of AES because of the requirement for highly visual development materials to assist educational development on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara lands. Ms Thomas is paid for work from Commonwealth funds on the same basis as any other person/organisation providing a required service for AES. For example, Ms Thomas has recently produced a training and development video for teachers and communities as part of the 'Skills for Self Determination' curriculum of Anangu schools. The service contract was defined, with specific outcomes identified, and a price negotiated. One of the conditions or expected processes within her contract is extensive consultation with teachers and community members, and the Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Education Committee. The same procedures with appropriate audit process of accounting, are undertaken by the AES Management Services Officer, and apply to all service requirements of AES.

AES is providing a unique service at the request of Anangu communities, and recently received an Equal Opportunity Commission Award for organisations.

#### MARLA PRIMARY SCHOOL

In reply to **Mr CLARKE**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Marla Primary School was cleaned by Prestige Consolidated Services until 10 November 1995, at which time they withdrew from the cleaning contract of their own accord. Due to the geographical location of Marla, and insufficient time for calling tenders for the cleaning, it was necessary to place an 'Emergency' cleaning contractor at the school. Tempo, who currently hold several cleaning contracts in the northern area of the state, were offered the temporary contract as of 13 November 1995. The contract will run on a month-to-month basis until such time as tenders are called.

All cleaning contracts are paid at a rate per square metre and it is the contractor's responsibility to determine the productivity rate ie the amount of labour to be allocated to cleaning each night, dependent on the school site. Whilst there is no set productivity rate, the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS), considers it reasonable for a school operating under an Industrial/Emergency cleaning contract, to be cleaned at a rate of approximately 300-350 m<sup>2</sup> per hour. The minimum working hours for any cleaning contract is two hours.

The total cleaning area for this school site is 526 m<sup>2</sup>. The school is currently receiving two hours cleaning per night which indicates the current productivity rate for Marla Primary School is 263 m<sup>2</sup> per hour. Therefore, I am advised two hours cleaning per night is adequate and allows for additional cleaning to be carried out where necessary. The previous contractor, Prestige Consolidated Services, chose to allocate two and a half hours to clean the Marla Primary School site.

The concerns raised about the standard of the cleaning will be investigated and monitored by the Cleaning Strategy Unit, DECS.

Submissions for paving and a solid roof covering to provide UV protection have been forwarded by Marla Primary School for inclusion in the 1997-98 Programmed Maintenance/Minor Works (PMMW) Program. These submissions will be considered, taking into account statewide priorities, during the formulation of the 1997-98 PMMW Program.

The District Property Officer responsible for the site will be visiting Marla Primary School during August 1997 to assess the situation and discuss the use of alternative funding sources.

#### NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS PLANNING COMMITTEE

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The names of the members of the newly-established Planning Committee for Non-Government Schools are as follows:

Name of member	Member nominated by:
Robert Lean	Minister for Education and Children's Services
Catherine Clark	Minister for Education and Children's Services
Mary Jackson	Minister for Education and Children's Services
Anne Mation	Minister for Education and Children's Services
Barbara Medlin	Minister for Education and Children's Services
Judith Roberts	Minister for Education and Children's Services
John Dayman	Independent Schools Board
Ken Hinkly	South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools
Neville Highett	Department for Education and Children's Services
Stuart Moseley	Department of Housing and Urban Development
Frank Pender	Executive Officer

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUDGET GRANTS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS.**

Expenditure to 31 May 1997	\$
Ethnic Schools Association	8 000
Whyalla Saturday Club	1 000
Isolated Children's Parent Conference	1 280
Italian Didactic Centre of South Australia	1 000
Institute for Learning Difficulties	5 000
1997 SSABSA Merit Ceremony	15 000
Learning Assistance Program	5 000
Student of the Year Award	5 000
Federation of Parent and Friends Association of South Australian Catholic Schools	9 300
South Australian Association of State School Organisations	56 800
South Australian Association of School Parents Clubs	38 550
Women's Studies Resource Centre	20 650
Independent Schools Parents Council of South Australia	5 200
Australian Council for Education Research	69 300
Ministerial Council on Education, Employment, Training & Youth Affairs	52 350
Australian Children's Television Foundation	38 200
Family Life Movement	91 279
Townsend House	33 327
Festival Centre	46 500
Speld	55 000
PIE Grants	45 500

#### PRESCHOOL FEES

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The level of preschool fees and any increases set by management committees are not regularly reported to DECS. However, from a sample of 132 preschool centres from

across the state the vast majority (96) did not increase fees at all. In fact only 36 centres (27.2 per cent) increased their fees over the last year. The average increase for these centres was \$5.90 per term. The average fee from across the sample of centres for 1997 was \$36.83 per term.

In centres where an increased fee has been imposed, the reasons for the increase have included the following:

- increased cost of utilities
- increased general running costs
- inflation
- increased cost of consumable materials
- non-payment of fees by parents
- Council increased rent
- to bring into line with fees of other centres
- to reduce demand for fundraising
- to cover additional expenses
- declining enrolments

### TEACHER SUPPLY AND DEMAND TO 2003

In reply to Ms WHITE.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** It is acknowledged that a reduction in the 'retention rate' would reduce the demand for teachers and hence reduce the level of teacher shortage. There are no official estimates of retention rates due to the many assumptions that need to be made about the variables affecting retention rates.

The document 'Teacher Supply and Demand to 2003', commissioned by the Australian Council of Deans of Education (ACDE), provides estimates of teacher supply and demand for each of the states and territories of Australia. However, some of the assumptions underlying the demand projections are not supported by the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS) and therefore while the general thrust of the document is supported, the actual numbers are yet to be endorsed.

Notwithstanding the above, it must be stated that what is not in dispute is the likelihood of an increasing demand for teachers over the coming period to the year 2003. What is not uniquely determined at this point in time is the level of that demand and, more importantly, the level of supply to meet this demand.

The extent of this demand is dependent on the following parameters:

- student enrolments (size of starting cohorts and progression ratios through the year levels).
- resourcing policies with respect to class sizes, contact time and support services.
- the proportion of part-time staff.

Similarly, the supply measure is dependent on:

- the complement of the separation rate (resignations and retirements; age profile of work force). The most significant source of supply comes from teachers who continue from one year to the next.
- the availability of teaching expertise from other areas; people who have previously taught, people with appropriate qualifications but who have not taught, graduates from teacher education courses, people who do not have appropriate qualifications but who can be retrained within cost constraints.

The ACDE document does not separate the Government and non-Government sectors, therefore, it is a difficult task to isolate the potential teacher supply into two components; one for the Government sector, and the other for the non-Government sector. For this reason, specific shortage estimates have not been prepared.

A working group to report on supply and demand of teachers, consisting of representatives from all states and territories, is to be convened in Melbourne in July. It is hoped that some of these issues will be resolved at this meeting, and in subsequent discussions.

### DARE PROGRAM

In reply to Mr CLARKE.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** There has been no formal representation to the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS) concerning the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program.

DARE is the most well known drug education program in the United States and has been adopted by roughly half the school

districts across America. It has also begun to be used in British classrooms and so is perhaps becoming the most popular drug education package in the world.

Despite this success, it is only one of several major school based drug education programs and there is little research evidence demonstrating its effectiveness.

A number of evaluations undertaken in the early 1990s agree that the DARE program's effects on drug use have been relatively modest. They show that while there is some success in increasing knowledge and skills, there is little effect on behaviour and attitude change.

The Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy (MCDS), in its review of the National Campaign Against Drug Abuse in 1992, recommended that principles for formal school drug education be developed.

In accordance with this recommendation, Principles for Drug Education in Schools were developed nationally and most states use them as part of their strategic plans for drug education. In general these principles support a skills based, harm minimisation approach to drug education which is intended to be part of an integrated, whole school health promoting strategy. This should be accompanied by a school policy which supports and reinforces the curriculum and involves parents, teachers, and the wider community, as well as the students themselves.

There are fifteen principles some of which are:

- drug education is best taught in the context of the health and physical education learning area
- drug education should be conducted by the teacher of health and physical education
- drug education messages across the school environment should be consistent and coherent.

As regards South Australian initiatives within schools I am advised as follows:

Within government schools, drug education is part of a comprehensive Health and Physical Education Curriculum. Teachers are provided with support in the form of curriculum materials and training. Schools are supported by the Drug and Alcohol Services Council (DASC) which provides training and development for teachers, student councillors and information to parent groups on request. Other government agencies include Life Education for Children which provides support for schools in Drug Education programs.

The Anti-Cancer Foundation, National Heart Foundation and the DASC have been funded by Living Health to develop a resource material to be used by teachers in Years 6, 7, 8. The focus is on tobacco education. The foundations areas of learning provides the framework for programming and planning for preschool children, and drug education programs are planned within this framework. The nationally developed Health and Physical Education Curriculum Statement and Profile provides DECS with a framework for planning and programming drug education from Reception to Year 10.

The South Australian Certificate of Education provides the framework for teachers to plan drug education programs for students in Years 11 and 12. The Health Education Interagency Advisory Committee, a cross agency advisory group, has a supporting committee, Drug Education Link Group, to advise on consistent approaches to drug education across government and non government agencies.

South Australian police and DECS have signed a Memorandum of Understanding curriculum focus to describe how police can work in classrooms with students. Currently, an action plan is being developed to support the implementation of this protocol and is in the final stages of completion. In relation to the police involvement in drug education in schools, the emphasis is on police being invited into the classroom as guest speakers to talk about drugs in relation to the law.

State and Commonwealth Governments have a commitment to minimise the harm associated with drug use. School education is a critical strategy in this work and school programs focus on education issues which are most relevant to students, and which have the potential to cause the most harm.

### TANUNDA PRIMARY SCHOOL

In reply to Mr VENNING.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Services SA have advised that preliminary site works and fencing commenced on 23 June 1997, with construction work anticipated to commence on 19 August 1997 and be completed on 17 April 1998.

**MARREE ABORIGINAL SCHOOL**

In reply to **Mr CLARKE**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The replacement of the concrete pavers is being considered during the formulation of the 1997-98 Programmed Maintenance Minor Works Program.

The Department of State Aboriginal Affairs has been requested to assess the condition of the Child Parent Centre roof and provide a report as to whether replacement is required. It was agreed that interim repairs would be undertaken to the galvanised iron roof, and this was arranged at the local level and funded by the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS).

The toilet cisterns in the Child Parent Centre were replaced in March 1997, which, again, was undertaken at the local level and funded by DECS. The Principal indicated that ongoing maintenance of the toilets is required due to the quality of bore water supplied to the town.

**PRESCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAM**

In reply to **Mr LEGGETT**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** In relation to the numbers of children in preschools receiving additional support because of disability or developmental delay, and the services and programs in place for these children, I have been provided with the following information. Preschool Support Program

The Preschool Support Program provides additional personnel to both preschools and child parent centres which have children with disabilities.

In the year April 1996-April 1997 I am advised the following children received preschool support. (These figures do not differentiate between those who have been receiving support for subsequent terms during the past year.)

Term 2, 1996	370
Term 3, 1996	400
Term 4, 1996	335
Term 1, 1997	430

Early Childhood Support Team

Preliminary data suggests during the year April 1996-April 1997 (Term 2, 1996-Term 1, 1997 inclusive), 1650 children were referred for service to the Department for Education and Children's Services' Early Childhood Support Services by early childhood service providers.

During Term 1, 1997, the following approximate numbers of children received some form of service. Current data collection methods do not differentiate between those who have been referred to more than one discipline.

Discipline	No. of children receiving support in term 1, 1997
Psychology	180
Speech Pathology	790
Special Education	730
Social Work	180

**ENTERPRISE AGREEMENT**

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The budgeted figures for the 1996-97 financial year for aspects of the Enterprise Agreement are as follows:

	\$
Review of Aboriginal Workers structure	269 000
Review of the Early Childhood Workers Structure	63 000
Special Education	2 500 000
Training and Support for EDSAS	500 000
Flexible Initiatives Resourcing	8 000 000

**SACE STUDENTS**

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** I am advised that the number of students who were enrolled in the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) and were attending the Department for Education Children's Services' (DECS) schools part-time during 1996 was 3 190.

It is not known how many of these students were involved in part-time work as DECS, as a system, does not collect information about whether full or part-time students are involved in part-time work. Individual schools may record this information as part of a student profile.

**CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES**

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:**

Expansion of State resources for children with disabilities during the last financial year include the following.

The pre-school support program provides extra personnel to both pre-schools and child parent centres which have children with disabilities. This program has received a further \$150 000 as a result of the Enterprise Agreement. The 1996-7 state budget made a further \$200 000 available to children with disabilities. This has provided 1.5 additional special education teachers and \$115 000 additional funds to the pre-school support program.

The Bilingual Assistants Program received a further \$100 000 under the Enterprise Agreement. This program provides bilingual assistants to work with children from non-English speaking backgrounds. Bilingual assistants provide a major resource to special education teachers to assist in the identification of children from non-English speaking backgrounds who have disabilities or developmental delay.

In relation to the new Commonwealth program to increase access for students and children with disabilities to childcare, I provide the following information.

The last Federal budget announced a Special Needs Subsidy Scheme (SNSS). The scheme helps Commonwealth funded childcare services which are eligible for childcare assistance provide for children with ongoing high support needs, particularly children with a disability.

The scheme complements Supplementary Program Support (SUPS) which has been helping children with special needs access childcare since 1983. Both schemes aim to ensure that families of children with additional needs can participate in the work force and the general community through the provision of suitable childcare opportunities for their children.

The scheme is targeted to:

- children with disabilities
  - children undergoing assessment for a disability or developmental delay
  - refugee children who have been subjected to torture or trauma.
- SNSS assistance is available to all mainstream children's care services directly funded by the Commonwealth and eligible to receive Commonwealth childcare assistance. Such services include:
- community-based long day care
  - private and employer-sponsored long day care
  - family day care
  - outside school hours care (including vacation care)
  - formula funded occasional care
  - multi-functional centres, including, multi-functional aboriginal children's services.

There is a limit to the amount of hours which are subsidised. For Long Day Care, Outside School Hours Care, Occasional Care and the multi-functional centres the limit is five hours per day. For vacation care there is a limit of eight hours per day. For Family Day Care, the limit is five hours per week.

The SNSS program is managed by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services.

Indications are that funds available to South Australia could be up to \$800 000, out of a total of \$10 million to be allocated each year for the next three years.

**CONSULTANCY**

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The consultant, Alan Miller Consulting, indicated that time had been scheduled to undertake further consultancy if required by either the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS), or the Joint Principals Association. Both parties mutually agreed that a further consultancy was not required.

**SCHOOL SUPPORT GRANT**

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The School Support grant is an annual grant which provides assistance to schools to meet the cost of administrative and curriculum materials, equipment, repairs, maintenance and replacement of equipment, cleaning materials and equipment, postage, audit fees, freight, bottled gas, facsimile call charges and grounds upkeep.

The total Support Grant for 1997 was \$18.6 million. The total support grant to schools in 1998 (including the 2 per cent increase announced in the 1997-98 budget) will be \$19 million. The 1998 base and per capita allocations will be:

	Base (\$)	Per Capita (\$)
Primary	2 570.00	50.70
Secondary	13 000.00	123.60
Area	11 420.00	(Primary) 50.70 (Secondary) 123.60
Severely Multiply Disabled	0	163.20
Centre for Hearing Impaired	2 100.00	126.00

Other grants apply to different schools based on specific criteria and therefore it is not possible to project the 1998 figures pertaining to them at this stage.

### SCHOOL SALES

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Officers from the Department for Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) have advised that not all disposals are facilitated through agents and that the following is occurring in relation to the properties mentioned:

Aberfoyle Park HS	An agent was not appointed as DENR is undertaking direct negotiations with the adjoining owners (Aberfoyle Hub Shopping Centre).
Glenunga HS	An agent has recently been appointed and marketing of the property will commence shortly.
Hindmarsh PS	This property has proceeded to auction on a previous occasion and is now awaiting a decision on the future use of the site in the context of the Hindmarsh Stadium Redevelopment and other potential use by DECS.
West Lakes PS	DENR are undertaking negotiations direct with Local Government.
Norwood PS	A large area of the site was sold by DENR, by direct negotiation, to the Adelaide Central School of Art. An agent has been appointed for the small section of the site not included in that sale.

### NURIOOTPA HIGH SCHOOL

In reply to **Mr VENNING**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Stage 1 of this project was completed in 1993 and consisted of six classrooms and a science laboratory wing.

Stage 2 of this project, with a budget allocation of \$1.2 million, is designed to provide Nuriootpa High School with a new art block consisting of general art areas and a ceramics facility, general learning classrooms consistent with Department for Education and Children's Services' (DECS) entitlement guidelines, plus general support facilities.

The current estimated indicative cost of constructing the new facilities, as provided by Services SA, has suggested that the \$1.2 million will cover the expenditure to construct all the briefed floor areas and the project can be fully implemented within the budget and the time frame indicated.

### FEDERAL FUNDING

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The level of Commonwealth funding as a result of the Enrolment Benchmark Adjustments (EBA) has not as yet been determined. Final resolution of how much the adjustment might involve will not be known until some time after August 1997 when the census is completed. I am therefore unable to indicate the impact of cuts to specific purpose payments by the Commonwealth Government.

### STAFF AND SALARY LEVELS

In reply to **Ms HURLEY**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** At the time of the question there was a changeover in staff as questions were just finishing on the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS) Budget Lines

and about to start on the Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia (SSABSA).

The DECS staff who were about to leave were:

DECS STAFF on the floor of the Chamber	SALARY
Mr Denis Ralph, Chief Executive	\$150 499
Mr Christopher Charlesworth, Acting Executive Director Schools	\$91 020
Mr Bronte Treloar, Director Corporate Services	\$79 643
Mr Kevin Richardson, Director Executive Services	\$102 914
DECS staff observing at the time of the question and their salaries were:	
DECS STAFF	SALARY
Mr James Dellit, Executive Director Curriculum	\$91 020
Mr Neville Highett, Director Planning and Accountability	\$104 560
Mr Rene Boss, Assistant Director Finance	\$64 854
Ms Christine Kingston, Professional Assistant to the Chief Executive	\$68 265
Mr Alan Young, District Superintendent	\$74 370

SSABSA staff who had just arrived were:

SSABSA STAFF	SALARY
Dr Janet Keightly, Chief Executive	\$85 417
Mr Mostyn Coleman, Manager, Assessment Operations	\$59 381
Mr Antonio Mercurio, Manager, Curriculum Development	\$59 381
Mr Graham Bengier, Manager, Information Services	\$59 381
Mr David Whatmore, Manager, Business Services	\$55 229

Ministerial staff observing at the time of the

question were:

MINISTERIAL STAFF	SALARY
Mr John Halsey, Chief of Staff	\$80 174
Mr Richard Duddy, Ministerial Adviser	\$56 759

I am advised that all staff who were in the House at the time of question (about 9.30 p.m.) were working extended hours to assist the Committee and were not being paid overtime.

### PRESCHOOL CENTRES

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Preschools are funded by DECS through Centre Operating Grants. The Fixed Grant is a contribution to the cost of utilities including telephone, electricity, water rates and gas. Preschools are also provided with a Variable Grant and Needs Based Grant which is a contribution towards the cost of consumable materials and is based on child attendance, with a loading for centres in isolated or high needs areas.

From the preschool audited financial statements for the 1996 calendar year, the estimated cost of preschool utilities is \$550 000.\*

\*Note: not all preschools have provided an audited financial statement therefore an average figure has been used for these preschools and the total figure is therefore an estimate.

### LYNDHURST SCHOOL BUS

In reply to **Mr CLARKE**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The Department for Education and Children's Services has examined the possibility of providing an out-of-policy air conditioned school bus on the Lyndhurst run.

The Lyndhurst school bus service travels between Leigh Creek Area School, Copley, and Lyndhurst, and a departmental owned large passenger capacity bus is assigned to cater for some 34 student passengers. The majority of passengers (23) live at Copley, 6 kilometres from school, and have a relatively short bus travel time (10 minutes) per trip. The other passengers live north of Copley at Lyndhurst, 40 kilometres from school, and have 30 minutes bus travel time per trip. This area does experience high temperatures at certain times of the year.

In reviewing air conditioning for school buses, the department commissioned reports from reputable bus manufacturers, and bus air conditioner companies. The companies have advised that there are key problems associated with the fitting of air conditioning in existing school buses, and the cost for one large passenger school bus is \$60 000. In addition, there are costs to run bus air conditioning, and costs to access accredited air conditioner service/repair facilities. Also, due to the nature of the school bus operation, the companies advise that the pull-down time with a fully loaded vehicle, over a short run duration, would mean that even the best of air conditioner units would just be starting to stabilise the environment when the run is over.

The Lyndhurst/Copley/Leigh Creek school bus run and conditions are not dissimilar to those in other school areas across the state, where some bus runs are much longer in distance and time of travel.

After due consideration it was decided not to provide an air conditioned large passenger school bus on the Lyndhurst/Leigh Creek Area School run.

### CAPITAL WORKS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The major committed projects where work has commenced or contracts have been signed have a total value of \$67 million. The cash flow is:

	Planned to 30/6/97	Estimate 1997-98	Estimate 1998-99	Estimate 1999-00 and Beyond	Total
Work in Progress	26.3	35.2	4.7	0.5	66.7

Significant major projects that are in progress are listed on pages 20 to 22 of the Capital Works Program budget document (Financial Information Paper Number 2).

### IRON KNOB PRIMARY SCHOOL

In reply to **Hon. FRANK BLEVINS**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** School closures and amalgamations are not wholly governed by cost factors. One of the key purposes behind school restructure is to maximise curriculum options for students. There have been two examples within the last year where school communities have sought to close their school to enable their children to attend a larger school, where the students will benefit through greater contact with peers, access to specialised curriculum resources and an increase in curriculum choice. These two communities, Hallett and Yacka, had school enrolments similar to that of Iron Knob.

There are financial savings involved in such closures, the exact figure being dependant on where the students enrol. I am advised that a number of parents have indicated a preference for their students to attend Hincks Avenue Primary School. If all the students enrol at Hincks Avenue Primary School then there would be a combined saving in excess of \$244 535 in the first year. This is comprised of a utilities saving of \$57 883, salaries component of \$76 944, a backlog maintenance figure of \$87 201 and a first year maintenance cost of \$22 507. It should be noted that the \$87 201 backlog maintenance figure would not be an annual saving but a 'one-off' saving.

### SCHOOL FEES

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The total amount of school fees (Materials and Services Charge) that parents will pay for the school financial year 1 November 1996-31 October 1997 has not yet been collated. The total amount of Materials and Services charges paid by parents for the school financial year 1 November 1995-31 October 1996 was \$18.1 million.

Whilst it is not possible to estimate the total amount of Materials and Services Charge for the current year, attached is a copy of the level of fees charged by individual schools, up to a maximum of \$150 for primary and \$200 for secondary students.

### EDSAS TRAINING

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Arrangements for required training have been in place with a metropolitan training provider since early 1995. In addition, skilled Department for Education and Children's Services' (DECS) staff, referred to as District Support Officers, have been placed in each metropolitan and country district to provide training at both the district and school level for appropriate personnel.

Staff have received guidelines regarding the type of training available from the metropolitan training provider and DECS' training staff.

The method of allocating funds made available for training in accordance with the DECS Enterprise Agreement is being determined in consultation with the relevant unions.

### FINDON PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** I am advised that students from Findon Primary School have enrolled at the following schools:

Kidman Park Primary School	40
Woodville Primary School	40
Flinders Park Primary School	15
Seaton Park Primary School	13
Grange Primary School	6
Kilkenny Primary School	2
Croydon Park Primary School	2

This makes a total of 129 students out of 168 who were enrolled at July 1996. The remaining students have either enrolled at independent schools or moved with their families outside the district.

### NEW SCHOOLS

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Seaford Rise and Greenwith Primary Schools opened in January 1994. Since that time, the following schools have opened:

Woodend Primary School	January 1995
Seaford 6-12 School	January 1996
Craigmore Primary School	January 1997
Hewett Primary School	January 1997

### PRESCHOOL AMALGAMATIONS AND CLOSURES

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** During the 1996-97 financial year preschool services at Bute and Kulpara amalgamated following a request from the parents at Kulpara. With the closure of Croydon Primary School the preschool (child-parent centre) on site will close at the end of 1997.

Ongoing consideration will be given to closures, amalgamations and relocations and will be dependent on factors such as utilisation of services, availability of preschool services in the area, community needs, and availability of appropriate facilities.

### AGRICULTURAL STUDIES

In reply to **Mr VENNING**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Support for Agricultural Studies is provided by the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS) and the Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia (SSABSA) in a number of forms.

- Curriculum development:
  - Agricultural Studies is part of the Studies of Society and Environment, Science and Technology learning areas.
  - New South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) Stage 2 Agricultural syllabuses were accredited in 1996. The four programs—Agricultural and Horticultural Principles; Agricultural and Horticultural Practice; Agricultural and Horticultural Management; and Agricultural and Horticultural Studies provide a flexible and current curriculum to meet the needs of schools and industry.

The syllabuses were introduced to teachers through a number of professional development days in 1996.

The syllabuses fit within curriculum initiatives such as Vocational Education Training (VET) programs. In particular the Agricultural and Horticultural Principles syllabus provides advice on embedding VET in school programs.

- Workplacement in SACE programs are within the *Ready, Set, Go* initiative:

The program provides each school with approximately \$25 000 to develop and implement VET programs to meet the needs of schools, students and local industry. Within this program a number of rural schools are developing agricultural and horticultural related VET modules.

### READY, SET, GO PROGRAM

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The *Ready, Set, Go* program will provide students with more relevant curriculum which is likely to motivate students to complete their schooling. The incorporation of

workplace learning and national vocational and education curriculum will support flexible pathways to their future. The career education component of *Ready, Set, Go* will provide opportunities for greater access to relevant career skills and information which will support career decision making processes.

- *Work placement programs within the South Australian Certificate of Education:* One hundred and sixty two programs planned 1996-1999 accommodating approximately 5 975 students. Thirty-five programs (involving 525 students) will commence in Semester 2, 1997.
- *Community Service Placement Programs:* 23 programs (approximately 15 students each) are to be funded from round one funding for delivery in 1997/8. Funding for a further 70 programs is available in round three for delivery in 1998/9 (accommodating some additional 1 050 students).
- *Students at Risk Programs:* Five new cluster school programs are to be funded from round one funding for delivery in 1997 for 75 students and expansion over the program life in 1998/9 to additional schools and students. A further program for students in isolated areas is anticipated, pending funding.

Retention rates are very complex and there are a number of retention rates research programs in progress. For example, the newly established three year research project, *Students Completing Schooling Project*, funded by the Australian Research Council, will support an understanding of the Australia wide concern about the fall in student retention in the post-compulsory years since a peak in 1992. In addition to the factors affecting retention rates already listed by me, the latest Federal Government changes relating to youth benefits and Jobs Pathways Program initiatives will also impact on students' decisions to stay at school.

#### DISADVANTAGED AREA SUBSIDY

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The Commonwealth has provided the following list of country centres which will continue to receive operational subsidies, now known as 'disadvantaged area subsidy' (DAS).

Strathalbyn Children's Centre  
Goolwa Children's Centre  
Yankalilla Children's Centre  
Kangaroo Island Children's Centre  
Torren's Valley Children's Centre  
Carol Murray Children's Centre  
Balaklava Community Children's Centre  
Berri Community Children's Centre  
Coober Pedy Children's Centre  
Gladys Smith Child Parent Centre  
Ceduna Child Care Centre  
Murray Bridge Child Care Centre  
Naracoorte Child Care Centre  
McKay Children's Centre  
Port Pirie and Districts Children's Centre  
Southern Fleurieu Child Care Centre  
Aldinga Community Child Care Centre  
Minya Bunhii (Ceduna)  
Port Lincoln Children's Centre

#### NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOL

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Neither the South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools nor the Independent Schools Board has as yet conducted its final meeting for the year to determine its '1998 Block Grant Authority' recommendations to the Commonwealth Minister. Those recommendations are not due to be forwarded to the Commonwealth Minister until 30 September 1997. Those schools which have been invited to proceed to the final stages of submission are presently completing the requirements for final consideration.

The Independent Schools Board is scheduled to meet on 10 September 1997 to finalise its recommendations. The South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools will meet for that purpose on 16 September 1997.

Officers from DECS have no direct involvement in the development or processing of Block Grant Authority applications from schools in either the Catholic or non-Catholic sector, or in the outcome of the BGA deliberations and subsequent recommendations to the Commonwealth Minister.

#### OPEN SPACE POLICY

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon R.I. LUCAS:** In relation to properties sold by the Department for Education and Children's Services, the following are the major sales in financial terms that were planned to be finalised during 1996-97.

	Revised Estimate (\$ million)
Norwood HS	2.6
West Lakes HS	0.7
Nailsworth HS	2.8
Portion of Plympton HS site	2.0
Seaton North PS	1.2
Other	0.7
Total	10.0

Actual results for the end of financial year are yet to be finalised by the Department for Education and Children's Services.

#### COWELL AREA SCHOOL

In reply to **Mr VENNING**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The selection process is currently underway for the position of Coordinator of the Aquaculture program at Cowell Area School.

The position was advertised on 5 June 1997 with a closing date for applications on 19 June 1997. Interviews for the position will be held early in term 3 and the successful nominee will take up the Coordinator position as soon as possible.

Ceduna Area School offers Aquaculture at SACE Stage 1 (Year 11 level) and has done so for the past two years (1996, 1997). The teacher of this subject is also on the State Planning Committee for the Extended Subject Framework.

Port Lincoln High School offers a course called Fishing Industries Pathways at Stages 1 and 2 of the SACE (Years 11 and 12). This course began in 1996.

As SACE Stage 1 courses are developed from Extended Subject Frameworks provided by SSABSA, the Aquaculture Course content may vary slightly from school to school. This means, each school has the scope to focus on the needs of their students and local situations while still addressing the specified framework objectives and requirements.

#### FREMONT-ELIZABETH CITY HIGH SCHOOL

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon R.I. LUCAS:** The redevelopment work for Fremont-Elizabeth City High School was determined prior to the announcement of the DECStech 2001 project and, as such, no allowance was made in the construction works for that provision.

Projects announced after the determination of DECStech 2001 are having the cabling required included with the project works. All other locations are expected to be accommodated through the ongoing DECStech 2001 roll out program, which is based upon meeting the requirements of the DECStech 2001 project for all locations within a five year period.

#### CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon R.I. LUCAS:** The total cost of all major projects underway or planned for commencement during 1997-98 is \$99 million. Details of the planned cash flow are:

	Planned to 30/6/97	Estimate 1997-98	Estimate 1998-99 (\$ million)	Estimate 1999-00 and beyond	Total
Work in Progress	26.3	35.2	4.7	0.5	6.7
New Works					
1997-98	0.8	16.3	11.7	3.3	32.1
Total	27.1	51.5	16.4	3.8	98.8

#### SCHOOLS, SOFTWARE VIRUS PROTECTION

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Officers from the Information Technology and Telecommunications Branch have recently completed negotiations for a licence for McAfee virus scanning software

to be preloaded on computers used for administration purposes in schools, pre-schools and DECS administrative sites.

Updated versions of the McAfee virus scanning software will be available to users of these computers through the DECS web site or on floppy disk.

At present schools are responsible for purchasing virus scanning software for computers purchased or rented for curriculum purposes. The provision of virus scanning software for curriculum computers is under investigation.

#### ANTI-RACISM CURRICULUM

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** In relation to the anti-racism curriculum documents, I have been provided with the following information as to its distribution, and the cost of its development.

Production costs for the Anti Racism Curriculum are as follows:

	\$
Percentage of writer salary plus on costs	24 313
Percentage of Reference group salary plus on costs	4 846
Trial schools, TRT days	1 440
Packaging for document	3 464
Printing quote (1000 copies)	4 600
Total	38 663

Distribution costs are unknown at this stage.

#### DEPARTMENTAL EMPLOYEES

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Breakdown of 530 increase in FTEs by employee type from 1996-97 revised outcome to 1997-98 estimate, as provided in Program Estimates and Information 1997-98.

	Ancillary	Public Sector	Employee	Teacher	Total
1996-97 Revised	2 841.0	1 032.7	13 027.6	16 901.3	
1997-98 Estimate	3 058.8	1 068.5	3 303.7	17 431.0	
Increase	217.8	35.8	276.1	529.7	

#### MUSIC EDUCATION

In reply to **Mr VENNING**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The budget for the instrumental and vocal music program remains unchanged. There are 84.3 full time equivalent teachers employed by the program.

In 1997, the allocation to Kapunda High School is 8 x 30 minute lessons per week and the allocation to Nuriootpa High School is 8 x 30 minute lessons per week.

There may be slight adjustments to these programs according to need and enrolments across the entire program in 1998. However it is anticipated that the instrumental and vocal music teaching allocations to Kapunda and Nuriootpa High Schools will essentially be the same as for 1997.

#### SCHOOL STAFFING

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Breakdown of 1 456 decrease in FTEs by employee type from 1993-94 actual to 1996-97 revised outcome, as provided in Program Estimates and Information 1997-98. This analysis refers to the average FTE employees over the whole year.

	Ancillary	Public Sector	Employee	Teacher	Total
1993-94 Actual	3 115.6	1 050.0	14 191.9	18 357.5	
1996-97 Revised	2 841.0	1 032.7	13 027.3	16 901.0	
Decrease	(274.6)	(17.3)	(1 164.6)	(1 456.5)	

If the actual FTEs employed at 30 June 1997 is compared to actual FTEs at 30 June 1994 it shows:

	Ancillary	Public Sector	Employee	Teacher	Total
1993-94 Actual	3 556.6	1 033.4	14 153.9	18 743.9	
1996-97 Actual	3 337.9	1 084.3	13 377.5	17 799.7	
Decrease	(218.7)	50.9	(776.4)	(944.2)	

#### Attorney-General and Minister for Consumer Affairs

##### ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT STAFF

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon K.T. GRIFFIN:**

1. —

Classification	Salary \$	Title
PSM Act—ASO-5	42,366	Manager, Admin Services
Ministerial Contract: Ms L. M. Stapylton	80,174	Chief of Staff
Ministerial Contract: Ms L. M. Brett	59,174	Press Secretary
Ministerial Contract: Ms P. Huntley	39,726	Executive Assistant
Trainee	17,685	Trainee
PSM Act—ASO-3	32,936	Parliamentary Clerk
PSM Act—ASO-3	31,911	Admin Services Officer
PSM Act—ASO-2	26,786	Secretary to Chief of Staff
PSM Act—ASO-1	18,140	Receptionist
PSM Act—ASO-1	22,122	Clerical Officer
PSM Act ASO-1	25,362	Clerical Officer
PSM Act—ASO-2	27,811	Receptionist
Trainee	\$17,685	Trainee

2. There are 46 officers in the Attorney-General's Department that have a salary or combined salary package exceeding \$90 000 and they hold the following positions:

Chief Executive  
Ombudsman  
Parliamentary Counsel  
Police Complaints Authority  
Director, Public Prosecutions  
Solicitor-General  
Crown Solicitor  
Crown Counsel  
Chief Commercial Counsel  
Commercial Counsel  
Deputy Crown Solicitor  
Assistant Crown Solicitors (5)

Senior Managing Solicitors (19)  
Deputy Chief Executive  
Commissioner for Consumer Affairs  
Deputy Commissioner for Consumer Affairs—Policy & Legal  
Deputy Parliamentary Counsel  
Director Policy & Research  
Assistant Director, Public Prosecutions  
Commissioner for Equal Opportunity  
Public Trustee  
Liquor Licensing Commissioner  
Snr Assistants Parliamentary Counsel (2)

3. There are 80 officers in the Minister's department who are on contract of service. The majority of these hold solicitor positions in the range MLS2 and MLS1 (managing solicitors level 2 and level 1), and LEC5 to LEC 1 (solicitors grade 1-5).



4. The following clause is included in TEC contracts between the executive and the Chief Executive.

'All executives on TEC contracts are subject to 12 monthly performance reviews'.

An agreed performance criteria is developed by a schedule to the contract.

5. The Department is currently implementing performance management and development throughout all divisions. The type of performance measures undertaken depends on specific employment arrangements.

Employees in ongoing positions will participate in performance appraisal discussions as part of the performance management and development process.

At this stage, failure to perform will result in performance

counselling in the first instance and may lead to formal, written performance management.

6. The Department does not pay performance bonuses to any of its employees.

#### BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON.**

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:** Following are the Boards, Committees and Councils for which I have responsibility, setting out the roles and functions of each board, committee or council; membership; expiry dates; remuneration; by whom members are appointed and upon whose recommendation or nomination the appointments are made. Remuneration was increased by 10 per cent from 1 July 1996.

COMMITTEE: SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CLASSIFICATION COUNCIL

ROLE & FUNCTION: To consider the classification to be assigned to any publication referred by the Minister to the Council for its consideration.

ENABLING ACT: Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Act 1995

Name	Position	Nominated By	Appointed By	Expiry Date	Fee
Burden, Mary (Nona) Veronica	Chairperson	Attorney-General	Governor	1/3/98	\$144/session
Childs, Garry	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	1/11/98	\$121/session
Eaton, John	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	21/9/98	\$121/session

COMMITTEE: CLASSIFICATION OF THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES BOARD

ROLE & FUNCTION: To consider the classification to be assigned to a theatrical performance.

ENABLING ACT: Classification of Theatrical Performances Act 1978

Name	Position	Nominated By	Appointed By	Expiry Date	Fee
Burden, Mary (Nona) Veronica	Chairperson	Attorney-General	Governor	1/3/98	\$144/session
Childs, Garry	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	1/11/98	\$121/session
Eaton, John	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	21/9/98	\$121/session

COMMITTEE: JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ROLE & FUNCTION: To monitor and evaluate the administration of the Act including the giving of formal cautions by police officers.

To cause such data and statistics in relation to the administration of juvenile justice as it thinks fit, or as the Attorney-General may direct, to be collected.

Perform any other functions assigned by the Act.

Advise the Minister on other issues relevant to the administration of juvenile justice.

Perform such other functions as may be assigned, by regulation, to the Advisory Committee.

ENABLING ACT: Young Offenders Act 1993

Name	Position	Nominated By	Appointed By	Expiry Date	Fee
Worthington, Terrence Anthony	Presiding Member	Attorney-General	Governor	30/6/98	-
Hedges, Madeleine	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	30/6/98	-
Power, Valmai	Member	Minister for Aboriginal Affairs	Governor	30/6/98	-
Rowett, Geoffrey David	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	30/6/98	-
Steuart, Margaret	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	30/6/98	-
Faehrman, Bruce Theodore	Deputy Member (Rowett)	Attorney-General	Governor	30/6/98	-
Tidswell, Grant	Deputy Member (Hedges)	Attorney-General	Governor	30/6/98	-
Young, Richard	Deputy Member (Power)	Minister for Aboriginal Affairs	Governor	30/6/98	-

COMMITTEE: LEGAL PRACTITIONERS CONDUCT BOARD  
 ROLE & FUNCTION: To investigate suspected unprofessional conduct by legal practitioners of the Board's own motion, or at the direction of the Attorney-General or the Society.  
 To receive, consider and investigate complaints of unprofessional conduct or overcharging by legal practitioners.  
 Where the subject matter of a complaint is, in the opinion of the Board, capable of resolution by conciliation to attempt to resolve the matter by conciliation.  
 Where, in the opinion of the Board, a complaint of unprofessional conduct has substance but may be adequately dealt with by admonishing the legal practitioner against whom the complaint was made to admonish the legal practitioner accordingly.  
 To lay charges of unprofessional conduct before the Tribunal.  
 ENABLING ACT: Legal Practitioners Act 1981

Name	Position	Nominated By	Appointed By	Expiry Date	Fee
Dunstone, Julia Susan	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	23/4/2000	\$8,196 pa
Hewitt, Marjorie	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	23/4/2000	\$8,196 pa
Howard, David Geoffrey Winton	Member	Law Society of SA	Governor	23/4/2000	-
Linn, Dr Jeanette	Member	Law Society of SA	Governor	23/4/2000	\$8,196 pa
Lucy, Jeffrey J	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	23/4/2000	\$8,196 pa
Petraccaro, Dominic	Member	Law Society of SA	Governor	23/4/2000	-
Withers, Brian	Presiding Member	Law Society of SA/Attorney-General	Governor	23/4/2000	\$10,966 pa
Browne, Michael Holgate	Deputy Member (Lucy)	Attorney-General	Governor	23/4/2000	\$8,196 pa
Lindquist, Roderic Jason	Deputy Member (Howard)	Law Society of SA	Governor	23/4/2000	-
Mount, Michael Jaunay	Deputy Member (Linn)	Law Society of SA	Governor	23/4/2000	\$8,196 pa
Muecke, Geoffrey Louis	Deputy Member (Dunstone)	Attorney-General	Governor	23/4/2000	\$8,196 pa
Sullivan, Katherine	Deputy Member (Petraccaro)	Law Society of SA	Governor	23/4/2000	\$8,196 pa

COMMITTEE: LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
 ROLE & FUNCTION: Establish an office to be called the 'Legal Services Office'.  
 Provide, or arrange for the provision of, legal assistance in accordance with the Act.  
 Determine the criteria upon which legal assistance is to be granted in pursuance of the Act.  
 Conduct research with a view to ascertaining the needs of the community for legal assistance, and the most effective means of meeting those needs.  
 Establish such local offices and other facilities as the Commission considers necessary or desirable.  
 Initiate and carry out educational programs to promote an understanding by the public (and especially those sections of the public who may have special needs) of their rights, powers, privileges and duties under the laws of the Commonwealth or the State.  
 Inform the public by advertisement or other means of the services provided by the Commission and the conditions upon which those services are provided.  
 Co-operate and make reciprocal arrangements with persons administering schemes of legal assistance in other States and Territories of the Commonwealth or elsewhere.  
 Co-operate with any body established by the Commonwealth for the purpose of the administration of legal aid and provide it with such statistical and other information as it may reasonably require.  
 Where it is practicable and appropriate to do so, make use of the services of interpreters, marriage guidance counsellors and social workers for the benefit of assisted persons.  
 Encourage and permit law students to participate, so far as the Commission considers practicable and proper to do so, on a voluntary basis and under professional supervision, in the provision of legal assistance by the Commission.  
 Make grants to any person or body of persons carrying out work that will in the opinion of the Commission advance the objects of the Act.  
 Perform such other functions as the Attorney-General may direct.  
 ENABLING ACT: Legal Services Commission Act 1977

Name	Position	Nominated By	Appointed By	Expiry Date	Fee
Browne, Margaret Kaye	Member	Commonwealth Attorney-General	Governor	30/9/99	-
Butler, Christine Mary	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	28/6/98	\$8,196 pa
Cardone, Rosemary	Member	Law Society of SA	Governor	14/7/99	\$8,196 pa
Hartnett, James Michael	Member			30/6/97	-
Jardine, Joan Cynthia	Deputy Member (Browne & King)	Commonwealth Attorney-General	Governor	30/9/99	\$8,196 pa
King, John Beresford	Member	Commonwealth Attorney-General	Governor	3/7/99	\$8,196 pa
Kourakis, Christopher John	Member	Law Society of SA	Governor	14/7/99	\$8,196 pa

**COMMITTEE:** LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
**ROLE & FUNCTION:** Establish an office to be called the 'Legal Services Office'.  
 Provide, or arrange for the provision of, legal assistance in accordance with the Act.  
 Determine the criteria upon which legal assistance is to be granted in pursuance of the Act.  
 Conduct research with a view to ascertaining the needs of the community for legal assistance, and the most effective means of meeting those needs.  
 Establish such local offices and other facilities as the Commission considers necessary or desirable.  
 Initiate and carry out educational programs to promote an understanding by the public (and especially those sections of the public who may have special needs) of their rights, powers, privileges and duties under the laws of the Commonwealth or the State.  
 Inform the public by advertisement or other means of the services provided by the Commission and the conditions upon which those services are provided.  
 Co-operate and make reciprocal arrangements with persons administering schemes of legal assistance in other States and Territories of the Commonwealth or elsewhere.  
 Co-operate with any body established by the Commonwealth for the purpose of the administration of legal aid and provide it with such statistical and other information as it may reasonably require.  
 Where it is practicable and appropriate to do so, make use of the services of interpreters, marriage guidance counsellors and social workers for the benefit of assisted persons.  
 Encourage and permit law students to participate, so far as the Commission considers practicable and proper to do so, on a voluntary basis and under professional supervision, in the provision of legal assistance by the Commission.  
 Make grants to any person or body of persons carrying out work that will in the opinion of the Commission advance the objects of the Act.  
 Perform such other functions as the Attorney-General may direct.

**ENABLING ACT:** Legal Services Commission Act 1977

Name	Position	Nominated By	Appointed By	Expiry Date	Fee
McCulloch, Deborah Elizabeth Jane	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	25/9/99	\$8,196 pa
O'Neill, Peter	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	28/6/98	-
Withers, Brian	Chairman	Attorney-General	Governor	9/7/97	\$10,966 pa

**COMMITTEE:** SOUTH AUSTRALIAN OFFICE OF FINANCIAL SUPERVISION  
**ROLE & FUNCTION:** South Australian Office of Financial Supervision is the State Supervisory Authority for the purposes of the financial institutions legislation and is to carry out the functions conferred on it by the financial institutions legislation and the South Australian Office of Financial Supervision Act 1992.

**ENABLING ACT:** South Australian Office of Financial Supervision Act 1992

Name	Position	Nominated By	Appointed By	Expiry Date	Fee
Bishop, John Neil	Member	Minister	Governor	30/6/98	\$11,982
Flavel, Kevin George	Acting Member	Minister	Governor	30/6/98	-
Griffiths, Adrian John	Member	Minister	Governor	30/6/98	-
Kennedy, Robert Michael	Deputy Presiding Minister Member		Governor	30/6/98	\$11,982 pa
Lynch, Kevin Patrick	Presiding Mem- ber	Minister	Governor	30/6/98	\$16,972 pa
Orr, Hillary Elizabeth	Acting Member (Rowett)	Minister	Governor	30/6/98	\$998/session
Slater, Billie Pamela	Member	Minister	Governor	30/6/98	-

**COMMITTEE:** TRADE STANDARDS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
**ROLE & FUNCTION:** To advise and counsel the Minister, either at the request of the Minister or upon its own motion, on any matter connected with administration of the Act, the prescription of standards the declaration of goods to be dangerous goods, or the declaration of services to be dangerous services.

**ENABLING ACT:** Trade Standards Act 1979

Name	Position	Nominated By	Appointed By	Expiry Date	Fee
Fotheringham, Brian James	Member	Minister for Health	Governor	28/8/99	-
Gilmore, Hugh James	Chairperson	Minister for Consumer Affairs	Governor	28/8/99	-
Hutchinson, Jean Caren	Member	Minister for Consumer Affairs	Governor	28/8/99	\$73/session
King, Elizabeth	Deputy Member (Fotheringham)	Minister for Health	Governor	28/8/99	-
Leaver, Gilbert Ronald	Member	SA Employers Chamber of Commerce	Governor	28/8/99	\$73/session
Schultz, Wendy	Deputy Chair- person (Gilmore)	Minister for Consumer Affairs	Governor	28/8/99	-
Shetliffe, David Reginald	Member	Retail Traders Association	Governor	28/8/99	\$73/session

COMMITTEE: TRAINING CENTRE REVIEW BOARD  
 ROLE & FUNCTION:  
 ENABLING ACT: Young Offenders Act 1993

Name	Position	Nominated By	Appointed By	Expiry date	Fee
Barbour, Carlene Rose	Member	Minister for Aboriginal Affairs	Governor	19/1/98	-
Barr, Susan Hamilton	Member	Minister for Family & Community Services	Governor	19/1/98	-
Brown, Graham Douglas	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	19/1/98	\$4,225
Cardone, Rosemary	Deputy Member (Fotheringham)	Attorney-General	Governor	19/1/98	\$144/session
Dalton, Anne Elizabeth	Deputy Member (Barr)	Minister for Family & Community Services	Governor	19/1/98	-
Faehrman, Bruce Theodore	Member	Minister for Police	Governor	18/1/98	-
Jennings, Judge Barry	Chairperson				-
Kean, Teo Koh	Deputy Member	Minister for Family & Community Services	Governor	19/1/98	-
Mead, Christine Ann	Member	Attorney-General	Governor	19/1/98	\$4,225
Morey, Alexander Richardson	Deputy Member	Minister for Police	Governor	18/1/98	\$144/session
Robinson, Judge Anne					\$4,225
Robinson, Karen Lorraine	Deputy Member	Minister for Police	Governor	18/1/98	-
Rowett, Geoffrey David	Member	Minister for Police	Governor	18/1/98	-
Tongerie, George	Member	Minister for Aboriginal Affairs	19/1/98	-	-
Welch, Rodney Reginald	Deputy Member (Tongerie)	Minister for Aboriginal Affairs	Governor	19/1/98	-
Wells, Geoffrey Charles	Member	Minister for Family & Community Services	Governor	18/1/98	-
Young, Richard	Deputy Member (Barbour)	Minister for Aboriginal Affairs	Governor	19/1/98	-

### OUTSOURCING

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON.**

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:**

1. No functions have been outsourced since June 1996.
2. No savings are anticipated in the 1997 financial year.
3. Not applicable.

### PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON.**

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:**

1. Each of the 12 Divisions of the Department is required to provide strategic plans for consideration by the Minister prior to confirmation. The strategic plans are required to have outcomes which are measurable and achievable.
2. The indicators are set and endorsed by the Board of Management of the Department and vary considerably depending on the activity which is being measured. For instance, in the human resource system, the activity is to provide timely and correct staffing information to all Divisions/Units on a monthly basis. Performance is based on data which is provided to line managers within one pay period after the end of each month. All performance measures are monitored by branch managers and Divisional Heads who again are accountable to the Chief Executive for achieving results through their TEC contracts.
3. The Minister reviews all major strategic plans and is given regular feedback as to their status when he meets with Divisional Heads on a monthly or quarterly basis. Parliamentary Estimates are also an accountability mechanism used by the Minister to ensure a Division's performance.

### ELECTORAL ENROLMENT

In reply to **Mrs GERAGHTY.**

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:** Members have been advised to forward all mail returned from electors within their electorates to the State Electoral Office.

After verifying that the person is still enrolled at the address shown, the returned letters are forwarded to the Australian Electoral Commission for the Registrars to initiate objection proceedings and have the electors removed from the roll.

If a new enrolment card is not received from an address at which electors have been removed by objection, the periodic vacant habitation review should come into effect.

A copy of the Australian Electoral Commission's 11-page policy relating to returned mail is available from the State Electoral Office.

### FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON.**

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:** The Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Office has a policy of making available whatever databases can be released, consistent with privacy principles, for sale to individuals, libraries and other organisations, rather than providing a direct family history or genealogical research service.

Indexes to the registers for birth registrations 1842 to 1922, death registrations 1842 to 1970, and marriage registrations 1842 to 1937 have been progressively released since the early 1980s, in microfiche format. The honourable member's constituent should be able to access these at the nearest public library, free of charge.

The South Australian Genealogy and Heraldry Society have undertaken a massive project to re-index the early register entries, under an agreement with me and with the cooperation of the Registrar. These will be far more informative and reliable than the original indexes. The new index to birth registrations 1842 to 1906 was recently released in book and microfiche format, and will soon be available on CD-ROM. New indexes to death registrations 1842 to 1915 and marriage registrations 1842 to 1916 will follow. These should also find their way into the public library system.

After the district registries of births, deaths and marriages were closed a few years ago, their register books and indexes for the years set out earlier in this reply were placed in selected public libraries within the former district boundaries. Details of the location and accessibility of these registers are available from the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Office on request. Generally, researchers

are able to search and take notes from these old registers, but not make copies.

I should add that any serious family historian would be well advised to consider membership of the South Australian Genealogy and Heraldry Society, which has an impressive library and other resources and an excellent reputation.

#### ELECTORAL ROLL REVIEW

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:** A review of those habitations which have been identified as having no-one enrolled (where there has been someone previously enrolled) was conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission in 1994, during the Electoral Roll Review of 1995 and in the period May to June 1997.

As part of the 1995 Electoral Roll Review, visits were conducted where appropriate.

At other times, when not part of a programmed Electoral Review, if information from the mail out of vacant habitations is insufficient, then a follow up visit would occur.

#### ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT BUDGET

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:**

1. The extent of cuts made to the Attorney-General's Department's budget for 1997-98 are summarised as follows:

Inflation reduction of 1.25 per cent	\$107 000
Efficiency Dividend on goods and services	\$ 86 000

These cuts have been absorbed by the Department without any downsizing of staff or reducing programs and services.

2. There are no staff reduction targets for the Attorney-General's Department for 1997-98 or for the next three years.

3. A total of eight (8) Attorney-General's Department employees have accepted separation packages since January 1996.

The classification levels for these eight employees are:

1 @ ASO7  
2 @ ASO6  
3 @ ASO3  
1 @ ASO2  
1 @ ASO1

In relation to classifications denied access to the scheme, one (1) separation package application was denied at the ASO2 level, as the employee possesses keyboard skills. These skills have been identified as required skills throughout the Public Service.

#### ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT, FEES AND CHARGES

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:**

1. The Attorney-General's Department's fees and charges increased from 1 July 1996 and will increase again from 1 July 1997.

2. The fees and charges increases were part of the annual adjustments in State Government fees and charges. These fees and charges were published in the South Australian Government Gazette. On the 13 May 1997, The Hon Stephen Baker issued a media release on the annual fee adjustments.

3. The attached table summarises the fees and charges increases for 1996-97 and 1997-98 for each Act administered by the Attorney-General's Department.

The majority of these increases in fees and charges are in line with CPI increases for the 12 months to December 1995 and 1996 respectively. There are some variances due to rounding up or down and also where fees and charges have not been adjusted for CPI increases in previous years.

Acts	1996/97		1997/98	
	Estimated Revenue Increase	No. of Fees that Increased	Estimated Revenue Increase	No. of Fees that Increased
Associations Incorporation Act 1985	4,960	13	1,585	9
Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1995	80,348	9	1,150	1
Building Work Contractors Act 1995	0	0	35,321	16
Business Names Act 1996	134,856	8	31,500	3
Commercial Tribunal Act 1982	0	11	0	0
Consumer Credit Act 1972	0	8	0	0
Consumer Transactions Act 1972	13	8	0	3
Conveyancers Act 1994	3,400	3	1,228	3
Cooperatives Act 1983	0	0	75	18
Cremation Act 1891	6,020	1	0	0
Fair Trading Act 1987	144	32	0	30
Fees Regulation Act 1927	400	2	0	0
Gaming Machines Act 1992	9,588	23	2,113	20
Goods Securities Act 1986	1	1	0	0
Land Agents Act 1994	15,222	3	4,402	3
Landlord and Tenant Act 1936	0	1	0	0
Liquor Licensing Act 1991	30,096	17	4,308	13
Plumbers, Gas Fitters and Electricians Act 1995	48,635	8	8,069	7
Secondhand Vehicle Dealers Act 1995	9,401	7	2,730	6
Security and Investigations Agents Act 1995	0	0	9,150	7
Sexual Reassignment Act 1988	0	0	0	0
Trade Measurement Administration Act 1993	13,190	98	4,061	53
Travel Agents Act 1986	4,108	7	1,614	7
Criminal Injuries Compensation Act 1978	300,000	4	0	0

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON.**

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:**

1. (a) There are currently 12 Local Area Network Systems, 2 Unix Midrange Systems, 6 external connections and 800 Personal Computers operating across the Attorney-General's Department.
  - (b) The following functions are carried out using the abovementioned systems across the Attorney-General's Department:
    - Complaint Handling Systems
      - police complaints
      - government complaints
    - Licensing Systems
      - Business Names
      - Occupations
      - Liquor, gaming and casino
    - Registration Systems
      - Births, deaths and marriages
      - Tenancies bonds management
      - Justices of the Peace
    - Records Management Systems
      - Parliamentary Bills
      - Ministerial correspondence
      - Criminal Court management
      - Legislation and other related legal research aids
      - Departmental Files
    - Financial Systems
      - Departmental budgets, accounts payable and receivable
      - Asset management
      - Debt recovery
      - Billing
    - Human Resource Systems
      - Payroll
      - Human resource reporting
    - Office suite of products including word processing, spreadsheets and presentation packages to assist in the development of legal and professional documents.
  2. There are currently 7 staff engaged within a central IT Branch responsible for the provision of helpdesk services and maintaining and operating Departmental systems.
  3. The cost of operating the Department's systems in 1996-97 was \$1.4 million.
- The estimated cost for 1997-98 is expected at \$2.4 million as a result of the implementation of new and improved business occupational and liquor licensing systems.

### ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT, ASSET SALES

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON.**

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:**

1. The Attorney-General's Department does not have a program of asset sales.
  2. During 1996-97 the Attorney-General's Department sold assets to the value of \$248 600 to EDS.
- The assets included all hardware, software and furniture which were considered in scope for the EDS contract.
- The following individual assets were sold to EDS for an amount in excess of \$20 000. These amounts are included in the total amount of \$248 600.

Asset Sold	Amount \$
Computer: Sun SPARC Server 20 + WYSE 12" Monochrome Monitor	46 832.80
File Server: Compaq Proliant 1500 + 14" Monitor + Battery Box	61 000.00

3. No assets will be sold in 1997/98 as part of a program of asset sales.

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

### SOUTHERN EXPRESSWAY

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON.**

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** I have sought confirmation from the Chief Executive of the Department of Transport regarding the capacity for the road network at Darlington to cater for the expected

traffic demand as a result of the Southern Expressway. The processes used in determining future travel demand take account of the latest population and employment projections from the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Employers' Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Whilst there may be an initial 'settling down' period following the opening of the Southern Expressway as people get used to its operation, analysis indicates that the recent improvements at Darlington will provide adequate capacity to cater for the expected traffic volumes.

### WOMBAT CROSSINGS

In reply to **Ms STEVENS.**

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** In relation to TransAdelaide buses travelling over wombat crossings, a meeting was held on 3 July 1997 between TransAdelaide, Serco, the Passenger Transport Board and the Department of Transport to discuss wombat crossings being erected on regular bus routes throughout the Adelaide metropolitan area. A position was reached by both TransAdelaide and Serco that they are committed to providing as comfortable a ride for passengers as possible. At this present time, wombat crossings do not add to the comfort of passengers or employees, therefore wombat crossings are not seen as the best option for controlling traffic. Agreement was reached by all parties that in the future, as and when the design of the suspension on buses improves, the position in relation to wombat crossings will be reviewed. It was considered that a pedestrian crossing controlled by traffic lights would, in this case, be the best option.

### ELIZABETH AND PORT ADELAIDE REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OFFICES

In reply to **Ms STEVENS** and **Mr De LAINE.**

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** As mentioned in my earlier reply, the Department of Transport (DoT) is introducing a number of initiatives to alleviate the service delivery delays being experienced by Registration and Licensing clients during times of peak demand.

An improved telephone system was introduced on 23 June 1997. The system allows for additional operators to handle inquiries, whilst also providing statistical information that will assist in the efficient management of this service.

DoT has requested the Department of Treasury and Finance to call tenders for the supply, installation, maintenance and associated staff training, of an electronic payment system for all Registration and Licensing offices. This facility is likely to be made available to the public in October 1997. Once a credit card payment option is made available, it is proposed to introduce a pay by phone service for registration renewal payments.

DoT is also progressing an investigation of electronic commerce opportunities that will enable a range of transactions to be processed remotely from Registration and Licensing offices. Although electronic commerce facilities may not be introduced until 1998, their introduction will result in a significant reduction in the demands currently being placed on Registration and Licensing's service delivery resources.

I have asked the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to pay particular attention to the impact of these initiatives on the Elizabeth and Port Adelaide Registration and Licensing offices. Once a post implementation review has been undertaken, I will provide you with information as to the relative success of each initiative as they affect the Elizabeth and Port Adelaide offices.

### ALICE SPRINGS TO DARWIN RAILWAY LINE

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON.**

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** Over the development of this project, studies have been undertaken by both Government and private sector organisations alike to determine the viability of the railway. As the project has progressed, some of the data used in these studies has become progressively outdated and hence these reports are no longer being used by either the Northern Territory or South Australian Governments.

In 1996, the Northern Territory Government, in conjunction with the South Australian Development Council, engaged the services of Booz Allen Hamilton to undertake a viability study of the Alice Springs to Darwin rail link. This is the current report being used by both Governments. I have contacted Northern Territory officials to ascertain whether a copy of this study can be made available to the

Opposition. At this point in time, they do not wish to release the full report as it contains commercially sensitive material. However, I was advised that a copy of the Summary Report can be provided to the Opposition.

The South Australian Government has made the commitment of \$100 million (in 1996 dollars, or the equivalent at the time the expenditure is actually made) towards the construction of the railway.

In addition, the State has agreed to meet the costs associated with the appointment of two Directors to the AustralAsia Railway Corporation and the incidental costs incurred by State Government Agencies in the work undertaken on the project to date and in the near future.

#### RAILWAY STATION UPGRADING

In reply to **Mrs PENFOLD**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The funding allocated to upgrade rail infrastructure facilities during the previous two financial years was \$1.6 million. Of this amount a total of \$434 000 was spent on upgrading facilities on the Belair Line. This represents an investment of 27 per cent of funds available during this two year period.

The metropolitan system has 85 railway stations. The upgrading objective in recent years has been to address, on a priority basis, issues affecting the safety and security of customers, such as platform surface renewals, lighting, pedestrian crossings and subway closures. This approach, given the continuing pressure on funding, will continue in the near future. TransAdelaide's overall aim is to provide facilities that are attractive and safe and will encourage customers to return and thus increase patronage.

The Icon Shelter Project is a joint venture by TransAdelaide and the University of South Australia's Industrial Design Department. Final year Industrial Design students have been engaged in creating a limited number of icon shelters at designated stations throughout the rail network.

Icon designs were developed for Hallett Cove, Glanville, Smithfield, Grange and Coromandel and a final selection made for the best design.

Hallett Cove was determined to be the best creation and is planned for construction in mid July 1997. The remaining shelters are proposed for construction in the 1997-98 financial year.

The Icon shelter program for 1997-98 may include further involvement with the University of South Australia or others with a view to designing a generic shelter for more universal use over the system. At this stage, discussions have been of a preliminary nature only but this could be a development that will provide a more cost-effective model solution to shelter installations in the future.

#### REGISTRATION AND LICENSING, TELEPHONE SERVICE

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** In regard to the telephone service for Registration and Licensing, Adelaide Office I advise that earlier this year a bank of eight work stations was increased to 10 to address operational difficulties. However, the requirement to staff the public counters meant that staffing all ten telephone work stations sometimes proved to be difficult during peak counter periods.

From 23 June, 1997 the Telephone Service area has been relocated. Registration and Licensing now has a dedicated Telephone Service area comprising fifteen upgraded work stations which replace the previous ten work stations in the Adelaide Branch. The new Telephone Service area is now staffed independently to Adelaide Branch and operators are now rostered according to telephone traffic demands. Up to fifteen work stations will now be operational between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. depending on demand.

In addition, on 4 July 1997 an Automatic Call Distributor (ACD) was installed in the telephone area. With the creation of a new position, Manager Telephone Services, telephone call volumes and service delivery standards are now being monitored closely, in order to ensure staffing levels are optimised to meet clients requirements.

#### HIRE CARS AND TAXIS

In reply to **Mr MEIER**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** It must be stated from the outset that there are distinct differences between the operations of small passenger vehicles (hire cars) and taxis. These differences have been debated over some time as a result of many hire car operators

offering services which are similar to those provided by the taxi industry. In an effort to counter any consumer confusion and to address the concerns of the taxi industry, a number of amendments were introduced to the Passenger Transport (General) Regulations in November 1996. The amendments came into effect on 18 November 1996 and were developed in consultation with the Taxi Industry Advisory Panel, the Bus Industry Advisory Panel (incorporating the Small Passenger Vehicle industry), the Licensed Chauffeured Vehicle Association and small passenger vehicle operators.

Essentially the amendments addressed concerns that hire car operators were plying for hire and holding themselves out as being able to provide a taxi service. In response to this the amended regulations provided for the removal of endorsed establishments, the removal of all roof signs on small passenger vehicles, the prohibition of the use of the word 'Taxi' in advertising and signage, the requirement to have one registered booking office approved by the Passenger Transport Board (PTB) and the requirement to display 'Not for Hire' signs. These amendments specifically addressed concerns relating to the types of services being provided by the taxi and small passenger vehicle industries and to assist operators and the public to have a clear understanding of the differences between taxis and hire cars.

It is also essential that standards for small passenger vehicles be improved. The Passenger Vehicle Review Committee, who have the delegated authority of the PTB is addressing this issue through the establishment and implementation of minimum criteria for vehicles operating within the small passenger vehicle industry. Considerable work in this area has already been done. This Committee is responsible for considering applications for Operator Accreditation and for approval to operate vehicles beyond the prescribed age limits for public passenger vehicles.

As there is specific consumer demand for vintage or other particular vehicles in public passenger transport, the PTB has permitted such vehicles to operate under the current age limit policy. However, PTB's policy in this area does specify that vehicles over 15 years of age must be maintained in a fully restored or as new condition, must be vintage vehicles, classic or enthusiast's vehicles or integral to the applicant's business. This enables the hirer to fully appreciate the benefits of a vehicle of this vintage and avoids exploitation of the age limit criteria by operators who may seek to use an inexpensive older vehicle to provide a general public passenger transport service (ie. taxi type work). In cases where vehicles are involved in taxi type work approval cannot be granted beyond the eight year age limit.

While the Registration and Licensing Office maintain all data regarding accreditations and approved vehicles, the PTB indicates that there are currently approximately 700 vehicles registered as small passenger vehicles. The small passenger vehicle category encompasses all vehicles with a seating capacity of 12 seats or less, and includes limousines, vehicles which are classed as vintage, veteran and classic, four wheel drives, motorcycles, country vehicles, novelty transport services (eg. Fiat Bambinos and Trikes) and vehicles which provide similar services to taxis.

The Adelaide Taxi Industry Baseline Study is currently the subject of consultation with the taxi industry—and will be released publicly by the end of the month.

#### TRANSIT POLICE

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Minister for Police has advised that the following number of police from the Transit Police Division were involved in policing the transit system during the following financial years.

Financial Year	Number of Police
1994-95	70.0
1995-96	67.8
1996-97	70.8

#### TRANSADELAIDE PATRONAGE

In reply to **Mrs PENFOLD** and **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** TransAdelaide's reported patronage has declined since 1993-94 but this is largely due to the transfer of services to other contractors. Prior to 1995-96, TransAdelaide was the sole provider of public transport in Adelaide.

Taking this into account, TransAdelaide's true performance with respect to patronage is not reflected in these figures.

Total boardings for the financial year to May 1997 was 47.334 million, compared to 47.971 million in 1995-96, a reduction of 0.637 million, with one month to go to the end of the financial year.

Meanwhile, May 1997 produced the third consecutive positive year-on-year comparison. Increases across all modes and most bus contract areas over the last three months suggest service initiatives and a stronger focus on patronage data collection are having a positive effect.

Patronage on non-ticketed services, which include the City Loop, Beeline and premium services, such as Footy Express, are not included in the above figures. But the services are monitored by TransAdelaide and the Passenger Transport Board—and recent figures indicate around 200 000 boardings per month.

### SUNDAY TRAIN SERVICES

In reply to **Mrs PENFOLD**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The four month trial of additional Sunday trains on Gawler, Noarlunga and Outer Harbor lines finished on Sunday 4 May 1997. TransAdelaide is now evaluating the information gained from the trial to assist in developing future 'summer' services—on the same basis as TransAdelaide operates extra tram services each summer.

The average Sunday patronage prior to the trial was 6 754 validations increasing to 7 567 validations (a 12 per cent increase) during the trial.

The Adelaide City Council's strategy to provide discounted car parking such as 'Dollar Days' has a detrimental effect on rail patronage for Sunday services.

### 'DIAL AND RIDE' BUS

In reply to **Mrs PENFOLD**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** TransAdelaide's Morphettville Depot turned 20 years old this year. To celebrate, employees at Morphettville Depot organised an Open Day. The day was a resounding success with an estimated 4000 people taking the opportunity to see the depot and take part in the activities that were provided.

A unique aspect of the Open Day was the trial of a 'Dial & Ride' bus service. Passengers living in the Morphettville area were invited to telephone TransAdelaide Morphettville to arrange for a bus to pick them up at their desired stop and take them to the depot to attend the Open Day.

Incoming calls were received on the customer inquiry line. Requests were logged and customers were advised that, on the Open Day, a TransAdelaide employee would ring them back and advise of a pick up time and location.

Approximately 170 visitors took advantage of the service, with more visitors taking advantage of the service to ride home.

Feedback from customers and employees involved will be used, with a view to determine if the concept can be applied in the provision of regular public transport services.

### AUSTRICS

In reply to **Mrs PENFOLD**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** In October 1996, Austrics finalised a Licence Agreement with National Bus Company Pty Ltd (NBC) in Victoria to use the Austrics timetabling, scheduling and rostering software. NBC have a fleet of approximately 270 vehicles and operate from depots in North Fitzroy and Doncaster in Victoria.

The agreement with NBC was followed by successful negotiations with Westbus Pty Ltd in May 1997, a company associated with NBC and operating in New South Wales. Westbus Pty Ltd operate from five major depots and have a fleet size in excess of 400 vehicles. Westbus Pty Ltd is the first reference site for Austrics in New South Wales.

Westbus Pty Ltd is a major success for Austrics as they will be an integral contributor of transport services for the 2000 Olympic Games and will use our software extensively for providing transport to and from the various sporting venues.

An Agreement with Australian Transit Enterprises (ATE) to use the Austrics software in Western Australia, Victoria and Queensland was recently finalised, while an Agreement with Hong Kong Tramways Limited to use the software in Hong Kong is expected to be finalised by the end of August 1997.

These Agreements are significant achievements as they provide further new reference sites and ensure the continual development and enhancement of the software.

Austrics demonstrated its software at Comdex Japan '97 in April 1997, and Exporail (Asia) '97 in May 1997. Significant interest and feedback has been obtained from both presentations. Negotiations are currently progressing with two prime contacts to distribute the Austrics Software in the Japanese and Korean markets.

In February 1997, Austrics scored a major achievement by finalising an Agreement with the French multi-national company, CGEA. This Agreement enables CGEA to market, distribute and support the Austrics suite of software modules throughout Europe. The Agreement is for an initial period of five years.

CGEA has already signalled its intention of actively pursuing the European market on behalf of Austrics by—

- Responding to, and winning a tender in the Italian city of Napoli (June, 1997);
- Negotiating a Licence Agreement to enable the Austrics software to be used for CGEA's smaller transport networks (networks of less than 50 vehicles) from its Head Office location of Nanterre, Paris;
- Responding to a tender in Athens for the installation of the Austrics software;
- Promoting and demonstrating the Austrics software in Geneva and Lausanne;
- Promoting and demonstrating the Austrics software at the recent UITP transport conference held in the German city of Stuttgart. CGEA obtained approximately 25 new major contacts resulting from presentations at the UITP Conference.

In addition, CGEA has interests in a number of bus and rail transport networks in many countries including France, Portugal, Germany and the United Kingdom and discussions have commenced to install the Austrics software into each of these networks. Connex, CGEA's subsidiary in the United Kingdom which operates part of the former British Rail network, is the first of CGEA's rail networks to evaluate the performance of the Austrics software.

The Agreement with CGEA is expected to generate substantial revenue for the State and has the potential to open new markets in countries outside the Territory of the Agreement, including the lucrative Asia Pacific region.

Austrics finalised the development, customisation and installation of the scheduling software for Sistem Transit Aliran Ringan Sdn. Bhd (STAR Rail) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

STAR Rail services will be used to provide rail services for the 1998 Commonwealth Games and again, Austrics will derive substantial exposure from the performance of STAR Rail during the Games events.

### PORT RIVER BRIDGE

In reply to **Mr FOLEY**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** I provide the following information in response to the question asked of the Premier during Estimates on 17 June 1997.

The Government certainly recognises the need for improvements to existing road and rail freight infrastructure serving the Port of Adelaide area. Given the importance of this area to the economic development of the State, high priority is being given to addressing these issues and at the same time reducing heavy vehicle impacts on the historic Port Centre.

Investigations are progressing expeditiously in determining which of the many options available is the most appropriate. Options for a new river crossing will not only require new bridge or causeway structures but substantial lengths of new road and rail construction to link the crossing with existing National Highway and rail freight lines east of Gillman and will be a major cost in State terms (certainly many times more costly than the Berri bridge proposal). These investigations, therefore, need to be particularly thorough before any commitments can be made. Thus detailed consideration is being given to a wide range of issues including costs and economic viability, possible impacts on adjacent property, port waterfront redevelopment proposals and the Port Centre's tourism industry as well as on commercial shipping and boating and freight transport movement and trends.

All the issues are being addressed in a major study by consultants which is due to be completed in September this year. The study is being undertaken with the aid of funds from the Commonwealth Government's Building Better Cities Program.



Consultation with key stakeholders, including State and Commonwealth Government agencies representing road, rail and shipping interests, Local Government and industry representatives is a necessary part of the study process and will ensure an acceptable outcome to the wide range of interested parties.

A liaison group comprising of representatives from the Department of Transport, the Port Waterfront Redevelopment Project, the City of Port Adelaide Enfield, Economic Development Authority and the study consultants is monitoring the progress of the study.

The study will result in a clearly defined proposal for implementation and provide the Government with a sound basis on which to pursue various avenues for funding for implementation at the earliest possible opportunity. Discussions have been held between State and Commonwealth Government officers about the possibility of Federal funding under the Commonwealth Government's Roads of National Importance category.

### SOUTHERN EXPRESSWAY ROAD BRIDGE

In reply to Ms HURLEY.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** I provide the following information in response to the question asked of the Minister for Housing and Urban Development during Estimates on 18 June 1997.

The public exhibition of the Environmental Assessment Report for Stage 1 of the Southern Expressway in November/December 1995, proposed a pedestrian/cycle underpass to the Southern Expressway in the vicinity of Adams Road.

In the ensuing months ongoing community consultation and bushfires, which threatened the homes of O'Halloran Hill, highlighted the need to maintain emergency heavy vehicular access to the Glenthorne property which would otherwise be severed by construction of the Southern Expressway. A similar policy was already in place in the O'Halloran Hill Recreation Park where the provision of a vehicular underpass was incorporated. Typically access across the Expressway for emergency purposes is now provided at least every two kilometres.

In negotiations for the purchase of a section of the Glenthorne property for the construction of the Southern Expressway, the CSIRO required provision of vehicular access to the west of its property so as not to inhibit possible future uses of the Glenthorne site.

Consequently, it was decided to provide the access as part of the initial construction of the Southern Expressway as this would meet all of the above requirements in the most cost effective way for the community as a whole with no ongoing liability to the Government.

Later, in May 1997, the public exhibition of the Landscape Master Plan showed the bridge in its current location indicating access across the Southern Expressway and into the Glenthorne Estate.

The bridge will cost an estimated \$750 000 and is being paid for by the South Australian Government. This cost was taken into account in deciding the final alignment of the Expressway through the Glenthorne property. This alignment represents a substantial overall project saving estimated at a present day value of \$4 million.

The Glenthorne bridge provides for community, recreational and emergency vehicle access across the Expressway to link with the cycle and pedestrian paths in the road corridor. The location of the bridge maintains consistent access across the Expressway at least every two kilometres.

### WOMEN IN THE WORK FORCE

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The number of women in the work force is growing. The South Australian Government has introduced measures which are designed to provide women with opportunities to participate fully in all aspects of our society. These include legislation which ensures the recognition of family responsibilities and which provides equal pay for men and women for work of equal value. There is a commitment to support women's access to employment opportunities through a 50 per cent overall target of women in appropriate labour market programs.

There are growing examples of work and family initiatives, including in my own transport portfolio—a Department of Transport, on site, user pays, 'Vacation Care Program' which offers vacation care with a qualified childcare worker from 8.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. during the school holidays.

### WOMEN'S INFORMATION SERVICE

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Women's Information Service (WIS) has been a leader in providing services to all women, regardless of their cultural background, race or language. This has been part of the charter of WIS and continues to be so. The Service has always had staff and volunteers from indigenous and non-English speaking backgrounds.

Links have been formed with 20 community groups providing radio programs in languages other than English on 5EBI FM. WIS provides translated one to two minute information segments for those communities recently arrived in Australia, including Vietnamese, Croatian, Cambodian, Chinese, and Bosnian. WIS also provides information in English to more established communities such as the Greek, Italian and Polish for broadcasting on their radio programs. There has been cooperation with other ethnic specialist services to provide information through open days and special information days.

The Office for the Status of Women has received an additional \$386 000 for 1997-98 and this provides \$100 000 for the WIS relocation and \$62 000 for rent.

Computers will continue to be made available by WIS for members of the public to use. The WIS Internet Public Access program is geared for women who have never used the Internet before or who can not afford access elsewhere and for women who want a friendly, safe environment in which to learn. Currently there are two computers available and there is a four week waiting list. It is planned to increase the number of computers available to the public in the new shopfront—to five.

### GOVERNMENT BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Government has been pursuing a goal of 50 per cent representation of women on Government boards and committees by the year 2000. A number of initiatives have been put in place by the Office for the Status of Women (OSW), including maintaining a register of skilled women, and an executive search to seek out women who do not put their names forward.

The Executive Search initiative has been instrumental in achieving 30.5 per cent representation of women on Government boards and committees, the highest of any of the States.

The Executive Search has proved that there are skilled women suitable for appointment to Government boards. South Australia has led the way with the Executive Search initiative and the Federal Government has recently announced that it will pilot an executive search in selected departments. This has come about as a result of the South Australian success.

OSW commissioned Jane Jeffreys Consulting to undertake an executive search in 1995 and in 1996.

The cost of the executive searches was \$10 000 and \$5 000 respectively.

Within a year 70 per cent of the first Executive Search women had been appointed to boards and committees. These appointments have led to a positive 'flow-on' effect with these women being appointed to other boards both in Government and the private sector. Four of the women have been appointed to Chair their respective boards.

A third Executive Search will be conducted in 1997 and an Information Kit for new women board members is being prepared.

### SEX DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** Ms Moira Scollay, who is the Privacy Commissioner of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, is also acting as the Sex Discrimination Commissioner and performing all associated duties.

### WOMEN'S STATEMENT

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Women's Statement is an annual document reporting on Government initiatives for women, demonstrating progress in both a qualitative and quantitative manner.

All Government departments and agencies are invited to provide information of their initiatives. An excellent working relationship has been developed to ensure that each agency is able to showcase their initiatives for women, both as customers and employees.

The Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment provides statistical information about employment of women in the public sector and the Department of the Premier and Cabinet provides information on women on Government boards and committees.

The 1997-98 Women's Statement will be released in October 1997.

#### OFFICE FOR THE STATUS OF WOMEN

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Office for the Status of Women (OSW) has been provided with additional funds, of which \$100 000 is allocated for the Women's Advisory Council (WAC) to allow for an additional full-time Executive Officer, a part-time Administrative Officer, sitting fees and budget for the activities of the Council and its Standing Committees. Previously, the budget for WAC came from within the OSW budget.

#### WOMEN'S STATEMENT

In reply to Mrs PENFOLD.

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The Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment provides statistical information about the employment of women in the public sector and the Department of Premier and Cabinet provides information on women on Government boards and committees.

#### WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

In reply to Mrs PENFOLD.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** In 1996 the Women's Advisory Council (WAC) published two major reports, 'Consultations with Rural Women in South Australia' and 'Women in Small Business in targeted rural regions of South Australia'.

The 'Consultations with Rural Women in South Australia' report produced a number of recommendations covering health, community care, transport, employment, education and training, domestic violence and access to information.

The Council has forwarded the recommendations to the relevant Government agencies and is monitoring their implementation. WAC is preparing a progress report on the status of these recommendations to the Minister for the Status of Women.

The 'Women in Small Business in targeted rural regions of South Australia' report was funded by a grant from the Economic Development Authority and the recommendations are being addressed in the Regional Development Policy Review.

Arising from this Report the State Government is now subsidising specialist training courses for up to 600 women in a 'Women and Small Business Management Program'. The program will be run in four regions, initially including the South East (Mount Gambier), the Riverland (Berr), and the Mid North (Whyalla).

#### WOMEN, BUSINESS PLAN

In reply to Mrs PENFOLD.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** *Investing in the Future* signals a new positive direction for the women's portfolio, one which encourages the active participation of women in shaping the future of South Australia.

*Investing in the Future* refers to all areas of women's lives—safety at home and on the streets, careers, education and training, cultural life, environment, financial security and family life.

The theme is a positive re-enforcement of what women can achieve in both the public and private spheres of their life in South Australia.

A Business Plan also signals a closer working arrangement between the Women's Advisory Council, the Women's Information Service and the Office for the Status of Women in a coordinating role.

The Business Plan outlines the key areas of work for the coming year—

- Increasing the participation of women in decision making, including initiatives which identify how women can contribute to the development of our urban environment;

- Strategies to increase the appointment of women to boards and committees;
- Providing accessible women's information services which utilise information technology and best practice customer services;
- Promoting women's financial independence; and
- Acting as a channel of communication between women in the community and Government.

The Government is providing additional funds for these initiatives which will be of benefit to women generally in South Australia.

#### GOVERNMENT BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

In reply to Mrs PENFOLD.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** As at Tuesday 17 June 1997, the percentage of women on Government Boards and Committees was 30.51 per cent. This figure is the highest of any State and represents a 5 per cent increase since 1993. This is a remarkable achievement when we consider that the private sector has only 4 per cent representation of women and that figure has not altered over the last ten years or so.

The Office for the Status of Women (OSW) is proving that there are many skilled and excellent candidates who will add value to boards. The register of women, maintained by OSW, has currently over 450 names. Executive search, which complements the Register, provides additional women candidates with the necessary skills, backgrounds and qualifications for contribution to the Government's category one and two boards. Executive search has been a successful initiative in promoting women to boards and committees.

Increasing the representation of women in decision making positions is a priority area for the Government and OSW.

#### ACCOMMODATION FOR HOMELESS WOMEN

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The proposal submitted by OARS is being considered by the Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) and the Department of Correctional Services. The Department of Correctional Services has advised that it does not consider it is responsible for provision of housing for homeless women, nor would it be able to achieve this objective without significant Federal Government funding.

FACS have advised that the joint Commonwealth/State funded Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) already funds services for single adult women and women with children and families. These shelters are available for women leaving prison and are in fact designed for any person who is homeless or at risk of homelessness. FACS officers are holding discussions with OARS and the Adelaide Women's Prison Group to identify improvements through existing SAAP services.

FACS considers it a matter of priority that the nature and problems of all homeless women are addressed appropriately and effectively. This is being achieved through—

- the implementation of the Domestic Violence review; and
- an analysis of the national data collection on SAAP clients and services to ascertain the nature and needs of clients and the responses by SAAP services.

#### WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL—DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Chair of the Violence Against Women Standing Committee of the Women's Advisory Council attends the Ministerial Forum on the Prevention of Domestic Violence.

As a result of this the Council arranged a forum to discuss the definition of domestic violence with women's groups and experts in the area of service provision to victims of domestic violence. The forum arrived at a description and definition of domestic violence which was consequently submitted to the Minister for the Status of Women.

The work defined—

- the principles underlying the concepts of domestic violence;
- the types of behaviour which comprise violence;
- the women who are abused;
- the perpetrators;
- the places where domestic violence occurs;
- the results of the violence; and
- the common misunderstandings about domestic violence.

This work was presented to the Manager of the Domestic Violence Unit in the Office for Families and Children and considered in their work of refining a definition of domestic violence. This definition will be submitted to the Ministerial Forum on the Prevention of Domestic Violence at the August meeting.

#### WOMEN, EXECUTIVE SEARCHES

In reply to **Ms GREIG**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Office for the Status of Women commissioned Jane Jeffreys Consulting to undertake an Executive Search in 1995 and in 1996. A total of 38 women's names have been provided together with a summary page on each woman containing an overview of her career, her special competencies, areas of interest, contact address and phone number.

The cost of the executive searches was \$10 000 in 1995 and \$5 000 in 1996.

Within a year 70 per cent of the first Executive Search women had been appointed to boards and committees. These appointments have led to a positive 'flow-on' effect with these women being appointed to other boards both in Government and the private sector. Four of the women have been appointed to Chair their respective boards.

A third Executive Search will be conducted in 1997 and an Information Kit for new women Board members is being prepared.

As a result of the success of the executive search initiative, the Commonwealth Government has announced it will pilot executive search in selected Commonwealth departments.

#### GOVERNMENT BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

In reply to **Ms GREIG**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** Recommendation No. 5: the committee recommends that the Office for the Status of Women publish a portfolio gender profile of Government boards and committees on an annual basis.

The Office for the Status of Women has initiated the annual publication of a gender profile of Government boards and committees in the Women's Statement 1996.

The figures on the proportion of women on Government boards and committees, by portfolio are provided through the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. The Office for the Status of Women will continue to work in conjunction with the Department to publish these annually in the Women's Statement.

Recommendation No. 6: the Committee recommends the continued use of the Women's Register maintained by the Office for the Status of Women as one strategy to increase the representation of women on Government Boards.

The Office for the Status of Women will continue to maintain and update the Women's Register which now contains over 450 names. Improvements have been made to the data base which will enable better information to be kept and more accurate reports to be made on the number of women who are nominated to boards and committees.

Recommendation No. 7: the Committee recommends the Office for the Status of Women co-ordinate regular executive search initiatives to identify women potentially suitable for appointment to South Australian Government boards, paying careful attention to the search criteria used.

The Office for the Status of Women will continue to use executive searches to seek out women who do not put their names forward for inclusion on the Women's Register. The Executive Search initiative has provided names of very skilled women from the private sector who have added value to the Government boards to which they are appointed.

The Executive Search has certainly proved that there are plenty of women suitable for appointment to Government Boards in South Australia. South Australia has led the way with the Executive Search initiative and the Federal Government has recently announced that it will pilot an executive search in selected departments. This has come about as a result of the South Australian success.

Recommendation No. 8: the Committee recommends that the Department of Premier and Cabinet—Government boards and committees guidelines for agencies and board directors—be amended to require early consultation with the Office for the Status of Women in relation to forthcoming Government board appointments.

The Office for the Status of Women will continue to work closely with the Department of the Premier and Cabinet to identify other

strategies for earlier consultation in relation to forthcoming Government board appointments.

#### WOMEN'S INFORMATION SERVICE

In reply to **Ms GREIG**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The opening hours of the Women's Information Service (WIS) are being changed to allow staff to be deployed at the hours of greatest demand and need. The new opening hours will be from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

This is a change from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday to Friday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays.

The new opening hours will allow staff to be more accessible and visible to not only women who visit the shopfront but will reach a wider audience, especially young women. The success of the WIS information stalls and showbags at the Big Day Out rock concerts highlights the need for WIS to use a variety of strategies to reach women.

After hours crisis calls will be referred to Crisis Care or Life-line—both services offer relevant support to women in crisis or simply wanting someone to talk to.

In reply to **Ms GREIG**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Women's Information Service (WIS) has been located at 122 Kintore Avenue for almost two decades (1978). It has outgrown the space in the Institute Building which no longer meets occupational health and safety requirements or the requirements for information technology.

The Review of WIS in 1995 and subsequent submissions identified best practice in customer service and recommended an increase in face-to-face contact as the future direction for the Service.

The new shopfront will mean WIS can offer information services together with innovative technology in an accessible and visible location in the Station Arcade.

\$100 000 has been allocated for the relocation of WIS and additional funding of \$62 000 is also provided for rent.

The Service will offer an expanded range of information on education and training, finance, superannuation and small business expertise. It will provide women with the chance to use IT to find their own information, 'surf the net', or speak personally about their needs.

The new location is ideal as it is more accessible by train and bus and will be open to meet the needs of women travelling to and from the City for work, business and shopping. The telephone service will continue and any woman in South Australia will be able to receive information over the phone. The toll free line will continue to be available for country callers.

#### OFFICE FOR THE STATUS OF WOMEN

In reply to **Ms GREIG**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** There has been an increase in the Budget for the Office for the Status of Women (OSW) of some \$386 000 which will be allocated as follows—

\$100 000 for the Women's Advisory Council to ensure its work will continue to add value to the Government in its consideration of policies and programs which affect women's lives.

The funds will allow for the employment of a full-time Executive Officer and part-time (0.5) Administrative Assistant and will also cover sitting fees and budget for the activities of the Council and its Standing Committees.

\$100 000 for the relocation of the Women's Information Service to a shopfront in the Station Arcade. The new shopfront will offer innovative technology and customer services in a highly accessible location. Additional funding of \$62 000 is also provided for rent.

When staff are not involved in direct customer service they will be located on the 12th floor of Roma Mitchell House and a further \$40 000 is allocated towards refurbishment to provide office accommodation and a conference room. The conference room will be made available to women's groups and will provide a permanent meeting place for the Women's Advisory Council and Older Women's Advisory Committee.

The remaining funds will be allocated to support the work and initiatives of OSW, including the production of the Women's Statement and a newsletter for women, a women's arts space and improvements to information technology.

### WOMEN'S ADVISORY COUNCIL—REPORTS

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Women's Advisory Council has prepared and released two reports over the past 12 months, namely 'Consultations with Rural Women in South Australia' and 'Women in Small Business in Targeted Rural Regions of South Australia'. Copies of these reports have been forwarded to the member.

### NOARLUNGA TAFE THEATRE

In reply to Hon. M.D. RANN.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Minister for Employment, Training and Further Education has provided the following information regarding the Noarlunga TAFE Theatre.

1. Adelaide Commercial Theatres Pty Ltd advises that 25 professional performances were held between 1 July 1996 and 30 June 1997.

2. No, but the average annual number of professional performances during the first two year's operation by Adelaide Commercial Theatres represents an increase on the average annual number of professional performances during the last three years of Government operation.

3. Yes.

4. Yes.

5. Adelaide Commercial Theatres Pty Ltd has use of the Theatre for a five year period commencing 3 July 1995, with a further five year option at ACT's request.

6. ACT is to maintain the leased area, the Minister's assets and the fixtures and fittings in a good and substantial state of repair. ACT is responsible for repair and replacement of all assets, fixtures and fittings within the leased area except for damage or loss caused by acts of God or structural defects.

7. No.

8. Following completion of the agreement an assessment of the standard of the furnishings and equipment will be undertaken, to determine their suitability for the projected use at that time and appropriate work will be undertaken. The Department for Employment, Training and Further Education would also include the areas concerned into the Life Cycle Costing planning process which is operational for the Noarlunga Campus at the completion of the agreement.

9. I am advised that the fly tower is checked prior to every season or single performance where flying is required and that all rigging is checked and signed off by licensed riggers.

10. No.

11. ACT has responsibility for the safe operation of the equipment within the theatre.

12. Liability would be determined depending on the circumstances of the accident. Liability caused by unsafe operation of the fly system may lie with Adelaide Commercial Theatres as the occupier of the theatre, however for an accident caused by improper original installation, liability may lie with the Minister.

### BUS REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

In reply to Mr De LAINE.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The contract for 307 MAN buses is to replace 307 Volvo B59 buses which are now approaching 20 years of age.

The Volvo B59's were a vehicle designed to operate only in the inner City area and not in high speed or hills type areas. Therefore the distribution of the new MAN buses is largely predetermined by limitations. The Passenger Transport Board does, however, have some influence over the distribution through their control of the service contracts with TransAdelaide and Serco.

There is currently 199 new fully air-conditioned buses in operation. The following table shows the distribution of these fully air-conditioned MAN buses.

Depot	New Bus Type			
	SL202 Diesel	NL202 Diesel	HOCL Midi Diesel	SL202 Gas
TransAdelaide				
Mile End		6	5	
Morphettville			11	100
Pt Adelaide	7	4	15	
Womma Road	17			
Lonsdale			3	

St Agnes	1			
Serco				
Elizabeth		14	16	
	25	24	50	100

The natural gas buses operate on many of the routes serviced by Morphettville Depot.

The cost of a new MAN low floor natural gas bus fitted with wheelchair ramps is \$340 000.

The operating costs for gas compared to diesel buses at Morphettville is very much identical except for fuel costs. Diesel cost averages approximately 29¢/km compared to natural gas which averages approximately 12¢/km.

The compressed natural gas buses have a limitation of range compared to diesel due to limited storage capacity for the gas cylinders compared to the storage capacity on a diesel bus. There are some service runs, early start and late finish, where there is insufficient storage on a gas bus to complete this working without being refuelled at some stage during the day. Diesel buses can complete these service runs without refuelling and therefore there is some advantage to retain diesel buses. Further, although it is not expected that the life of a gas engine will be less than that for a diesel, it is not yet confirmed.

It is therefore considered prudent at this time to still have some diesel buses while the life of a gas engine is determined in practice.

### BLACKWOOD BUS SERVICES

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** On 12 January 1997, significant changes were made to Shepherds Hill Road bus services. Service frequency between Blackwood and the City was decreased, and partly replaced by a significantly improved cross-suburban link, between Blackwood and Marion Shopping Centre via Flinders University. This change affected routes 728, 729, 738 and 739.

To assess the impact of these route changes, a detailed analysis of patronage on the above routes was undertaken. Total boardings by month, as an annual comparison are illustrated in Table 1. It should be noted that the 1996 data was adjusted for industrial action and day-type differences<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Total Boardings by Month—For Blackwood Services 728, 729, 738 and 739.

Month	Total Boardings		Per Cent Change
	1996*	1997	
Jan	10 061	9 513	-5.4 per cent
Feb	15 105	13 553	-10.3 per cent
Mar	15 564	16 052	+3.1 per cent
Apr	13 075	15 009	+14.8 per cent
May	16 514	18 597	+12.6 per cent
Total	70 319	72 724	+3.3 per cent

\* Data in 1996 adjusted for daytype factors and industrial action. Table 1 illustrates that there was an initial decrease in total boardings following implementation of the service changes. This was to the order of a—5.4 per cent decrease in January, and—10.3 per cent decrease in February. It should be noted that the extremely hot weather in 1997 had a negative impact on February patronage on all services in the metropolitan area.

The month of March recorded a turnaround in the declining patronage, with a +3.1 per cent increase in total boardings. This positive trend has continued for the months of April (+14.8 per cent), and May (+12.6 per cent). On balance, on a calendar year-to-date basis (January to May), patronage for routes 728, 729, 738 & 739 has shown a +3.3 per cent increase.

### WOMEN BUS DRIVERS

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** TransAdelaide employs 987 operators in various bus operator classifications. Of these, 76 are women who represent 7.7 per cent of the total number of operators.

The recruitment of bus operators is conducted by external recruitment agencies and an emphasis is placed on the desire for 'women and men' to apply.

TransAdelaide's recruitment policy is designed to attract the most suitable applicant. The introduction of part-time work was part of a deliberate strategy to increase the number of women in the public transport industry.

TransAdelaide has undertaken minimal recruitment of operators in the past twelve months due to lower numbers required and low turnover.

### PASSENGER SERVICE ASSISTANTS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** I refer to the member's question regarding the criteria TransAdelaide uses when allocating Passenger Service Assistants (PSA's) among the various services, times of day and lines.

While the release of specific rostering methods of PSA's would not be appropriate, the general method is as follows—

Daytime—a train consisting of four or more railcars.

Night-time—a train consisting of three or more railcars.

Rostering—on a random basis to ensure maximum customer service benefit.

Special cases—in response to customer complaints or concerns and special events.

### FARE EVASION

In reply to **Mr De LAINE**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** TransAdelaide Field Supervisory staff perform ticket inspections on bus, tram and train services as part of their rostered duties. These checks are generally performed on a random basis. However, when specific instances of fare evasion are brought to TransAdelaide's attention the service or services will be targeted. In addition, spasmodic barrier checks are performed at the Adelaide Station.

In addition, TransAdelaide also works closely with the Transit Division of the Police Department to reduce fare evasion and poor behaviour on its services. Generally these operations are initiated to address specific problems and are undertaken in the form of saturation checks (blitzes) on specific services.

When these blitzes are undertaken, TransAdelaide's policy is not to advertise this information, unless it is believed that benefit may be gained by advertising the details of specific exercises.

### TRAVEL CONCESSIONS

In reply to **Mr De LAINE**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Passenger Transport Board (PTB) administers the Government's public transport concession policy which provides a range of fare concessions to transport disadvantaged groups in the community. In 1997-98 concessions amounting to an estimated \$26.899 million will be made available to groups including pensioners, seniors, unemployed and students.

The Department for Family and Community Services (FACS) funds public transport concessions under its Low Income Support Program and issues a Transport Concession Card which is recognised by the PTB to obtain concession fares on public transport.

As FACS is responsible for both funding transport concessions and for determining the eligibility criteria of the Transport Concession Card, any proposal to broaden the availability of concessions to trainees will need to be considered by the Minister for Family and Community Services.

### STUDENT TRANSPORT CONCESSIONS

In reply to **Mr De LAINE**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Passenger Transport Board (PTB) has conducted an extensive review regarding the introduction of a period of grace for concession card offences. The review considered all the factors involved in introducing a period of grace, including the additional administrative responsibility on the Prosecutions Unit of the PTB and the regulatory and operational effect. The review also discussed alternatives to a period of grace. Consultation was held with Service Contractors, the South Australian Police Department's Transit Police Division and the Crown Solicitor's Office.

The concept of a period of grace was introduced in 1988—but discontinued in 1989 due to offenders not availing themselves of the opportunity to present their concession card for verification and the follow-up administrative effort required by Prosecutions Unit staff.

The PTB review recommended that minor changes to administrative practices be implemented, rather than a period of grace. Consideration is now being given to the proposed new administrative practices, including the option of giving adult and juvenile concession card offenders two written warnings before an Expiation Notice is issued. It is suggested that this would give offenders ample time to familiarise themselves and comply with the Regulations and Conditions of Travel.

In fairness to all passengers who pay, the Government considers that the PTB and its Service Contractors must work to reduce both fare evasion and incidences of customers travelling on the wrong fare.

### SOUTHERN O-BAHN

In reply to **Mr De LAINE**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** At this time no study has been commissioned on the viability or otherwise of a Southern O-Bahn.

### CITY LOOP AND BEELINE SERVICES

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The City Loop service was introduced by this Government last year to provide a free east-west bus service in the City. It complements the Beeline service which has been operating successfully for some years. Now the Government, through the Passenger Transport Board is keen to upgrade the service, including the marketing of both routes.

There will be no change to the frequency or route of the services—which will also continue to operate as a free, local and accessible transport service. Meanwhile, Sponsorship is being negotiated.

### DAY TRIPPER TICKETS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** Market research has been carried out by the Passenger Transport Board's (PTB) Information Centre about the weekend and public holiday use of Day Tripper tickets to travel with up to two children free-of-charge. Findings from this 14 April to 21 June study show that 226 of the 1009 Day Tripper ticket buyers (22 per cent) planned to travel on public transport on a weekend or public holiday using their Day Tripper ticket. Three hundred and eight Day Tripper buyers planned to take children with them when they used their Day Tripper ticket on a weekend or public holiday. Seventy three of those Day Trippers (24 per cent) would take advantage of the opportunity to take children free-of-charge. Of those, 59 per cent planned to take one child free-of-charge, and 41 per cent planned to take two children free-of-charge.

The PTB has not conducted specific market research on public transport use travelling to or from special events.

### ACCESSIBLE TAXI SERVICES

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** An advertisement indicating that expressions of interest are being sought in relation to the operation of a centralised booking service for accessible taxis in metropolitan Adelaide appeared in the Advertiser on Saturday 14 June 1997. A document, Invitation To Submit Expressions Of Interest To Coordinate Accessible Taxi Services in Metropolitan Adelaide, is currently available to explain the process to interested parties. The closing date for the expressions of interest process is 3 p.m. Monday 7 July 1997. The stages of the process will then be to short list applicants eligible for a restricted request for tender/proposal. The evaluation of the tenders/proposals received will result in the award of preferred Service Provider Status leading to finalisation and execution of the contract documentation. At this stage it is expected that the process will be completed by October 1997.

While the process to determine a new operator for accessible taxi services is under way an interim agreement has been reached with the Board of Specialised Transport Systems Pty Ltd trading as Access Cabs to maintain the provision of existing services. Clients of the accessible taxi services have also been notified of the impending changes through letters to key organisations representing people with disabilities and the directors of nursing homes in metropolitan Adelaide. Further it is proposed to provide details of the changes to all Transport Subsidy Scheme M50 users.

Clients, advocacy agencies, nursing homes, hostels and the broader community have been kept informed of the Government's strategy and initiatives through a combination of direct information mail outs, media releases and the radio. Articles have been provided to key human service agencies for dissemination to the broader community in addition to a local magazine with national readership.

### PASSENGER NUMBERS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** Based upon passenger surveys carried out several years ago it was estimated that between 0 per cent and 10 per cent of passengers arriving in the City on through-City bus routes would be affected by a break in through-linking. To minimise the number affected, the Passenger Transport Board designed the new City bus routes with considerable overlap—thus for example, buses from the western suburbs run through the City to the Adelaide Hospital. It is now estimated that the daily number of passengers disadvantaged by discontinuation of through-linking would be of the order of 200. To put this in context, Serco carry approximately 12 000 passengers each day on their Inner North bus routes.

Patronage on Serco bus routes in the Inner North area for February 1997 to May 1997 has increased by approximately 1.5 per cent when compared with the same period in 1996.

### CENTRALISED BOOKING SERVICE

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Board of Access Cabs which currently operate the accessible taxi centralised booking service has advised that it can no longer meet the terms of its negotiated contract with the previous Government (due to expire on 30 June 1998). As a result the Government is currently in the process of calling for expressions of interest to operate a centralised booking service for accessible cabs in metropolitan Adelaide. The process will be seeking a range of information including capacity to operate a centralised booking service with enhanced radio room procedures for the booking and dispatch of accessible taxis. This move is intended to enable the delivery of improved responsive services which will also result in reduced waiting times for taxi customers with disabilities. This initiative complements the recent tender of 15 general taxi licences with special accessible conditions.

Section 29 of the Passenger Transport Act 1994, deals with accreditation of centralised booking services (Section 29 of the Motor Vehicles Act has been repealed). All centralised booking services for taxis operating in the Adelaide metropolitan area have been accredited under Section 29, since 1 February 1997.

The Taxi Industry Advisory Panel consists of representatives from all areas of the taxi industry and includes centralised booking service operators. Centralised booking service operators have a clear line of communication to taxi vehicle operators and drivers and often represent the public perception of taxi services. Consequently, it is appropriate they be involved in the operations of the Taxi Industry Advisory Panel. On the same basis some of these individuals are also involved in the Passenger Transport Industry Committee which has representatives from all areas of the passenger transport industry.

Small passenger vehicle or hire car/blue plate operators are not required to be accredited as centralised booking services as the Passenger Transport Act only requires accreditation for taxi services bookings.

### BIKES ON TRAINS

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** Yes. Currently bikes are carried on trains under a concession ticket. The precise number of bikes carried on trains is not available and therefore the revenue collected cannot be determined. However, it is estimated that up to 5 per cent of passengers carry a bike on a train at some time during any one year.

### SERCO—CONTRACT CONDITIONS

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** Serco Australia Pty Ltd is operating bus services in the Outer North and Inner North contract areas under Service Contracts with the Passenger Transport Board (PTB), a Bus Hire Agreement with the Department of Transport (DoT), and a Depot Lease Agreement with DoT. The contracts include contract conditions (legal) and service specifications or service requirements.

If the contractor breaches a contract condition a default notice is issued. No default notices have been issued by either PTB or DoT to date for either the Outer or Inner North contracts.

The service specifications cover matters such as the timeliness of services, cleanliness of buses, mechanical maintenance of buses etc. Although there have been small variations in these type of

service performance matters, to date, Serco have essentially satisfied the service standards specified in the contracts.

### SERCO—ACCESS FOR THE DISABLED

In reply to **Ms STEVENS**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** I have been advised that Serco do not keep specific records on the number of people with disabilities carried on its service. However it receives 2-3 inquiries per week for additional fully accessible vehicles to be placed on specific routes at specific times. These requests are met wherever possible taking into account the timing of the request and other operational matters.

Serco currently has 30 fully accessible buses with a further 54 to be delivered by September 1998.

### KING WILLIAM STREET/NORTH TERRACE TRAMLINE

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** At this time no detailed engineering study, including service relocation costs, has been undertaken—while the cost of new tram cars will depend on the size and type of tram car to be purchased. Accordingly the following figures must be considered with caution.

In 1993 some preliminary work for the former State Transport Authority by a Melbourne Tramway Consultant, estimated that the cost of extending the tram track, left into North Terrace, was \$8.5 million. A further \$14 million was estimated as the cost for additional trams required to allow for the additional running time and anticipated increase in patronage—making an estimated total project cost of \$22.5 million.

The above costs do not include the cost of replacing the existing trams which will be required eventually to maintain the existing service, whether it is extended or not.

The same consultancy estimated that if the line was constructed to Barton Terrace, North Adelaide via King William Road and O'Connell Street, the total cost for track work would be \$15 million, while a cost of approximately \$25 million would be involved in the purchase of new trams, making a total cost of approximately \$40 million.

### TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT VEHICLES HIRE

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON**.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The outsourcing of the Department of Transport's (DoT) plant and light vehicle fleet was completed on 9 May 1997, with the fleet being sold to AH Plant Hire (AHP). DoT hired a quantity of these items back, with ramp-down arrangements over a five year period. All plant and light vehicles on hire to DoT from the commencement of the contract until returned to AHP through the ramp-down provisions are registered in the name of the Commissioner of Highways and carry blue Government number plates. When an item is returned to AHP, it will be deregistered and then re-registered by AHP in its name only, and consequently, will receive a normal issue black number plate.

The use of blue number plates has been possible as the Motor Vehicles Act allows the 'owner' to include either the registered owner of the plant or light vehicle or the registered user which includes a 'person/entity' who takes a vehicle on hire. In DoT's case, the latter has been used, as Government utilised plant and light vehicles have traditionally been 'Blue Plated', which distinguishes them from private vehicles when they are being used in the public eye.

The registration of ownership by DoT and subsequent 'Blue Plating' has advantages such as:

- It clearly identifies the items of plant and light vehicles on full-time hire to DoT and which are therefore included in the contractual requirements of the hire back arrangements.
- The administrative benefit, where, in the case of a notice of infringement or a parking or speeding offence, the documentation goes directly to the registered owner, not the hire company.
- It limits the opportunity for use of the items in non-Government related activities, especially outside of normal working hours.

The registration fee is the same, regardless of whether it is paid by the registered owner or registered user (ie. if either 'blue' or 'private' plates).

### ADELAIDE AIRPORT

In reply to **Mr ATKINSON.**

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Economic Development Authority is working with the Commonwealth, the Federal Airports Corporation (FAC) and the two domestic airlines, Qantas and Ansett to progress the terminal integration project. The FAC has now completed the first phase of its study into this facility and found the State's proposal to be the best means of adding value to the airport prior to sale. Both Qantas and Ansett have shown positive support for the proposed terminal upgrading and integration.

The current objective of the SA Government is to marshal the support of all parties to move the project to a stage of certainty within the time frame necessitated by the leasing process announced by the Commonwealth Government. As part of this effort the SA Government has indicated a preparedness to contribute to the cost of the terminal. Decisions by all parties, including the new lessee, will determine the precise funding arrangements and timing.

### AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL STUDIES

In reply to **Mr De LAINE.**

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The two main studies of Australian National that have been undertaken are—

- AN Commercial Viability Study, by Booz-Allen Hamilton, March 1997; and
- Future Opportunities for the Business Units of Australian National Railways, by Nicholas Clark and Associates, December 1996.

Neither of these studies have been released for reasons of commercial confidentiality. The results of the studies have been used as an input to the State's marketing of AN and will be used as an input to South Australia's assessment of bidders.

An investment document entitled 'Rail Investment in Australia, The Case for South Australia, November 1996' was also produced by the EDA and has been distributed to bidders for AN.

### AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL EMPLOYEES

In reply to **Mr De LAINE.**

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** In my earlier response on this issue I indicated that I would seek specific work force numbers in South Australia. I have been advised that as at 27 June 1997 Australian National employed 1552 people in South Australia—and 1785 in total in Australia.

### SOUTHERN EXPRESSWAY AND MOUNT BARKER ROAD

In reply to **Mr MEIER.**

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The expenditure on upgrading the Mount Barker Road from inception to date has been \$16.5 million. Expenditure on the Southern Expressway from inception to date has been \$26.8 million.

Works that have been carried out are as follows—

- Southern Expressway—Stage 1 (Darlington to Reynella)
  - The removal of black clay near Majors Road commenced in December 1995 and was completed in April 1996.
  - The construction of the Majors Road Bridge commenced in June 1996 and has reached practical completion.
  - Major earthworks are substantially complete for Stage 1. Design work is continuing for the Traffic Management System.
  - Lander Road Bridge is substantially complete.
  - Tenders have been called for the Panalatinga Road Intersection.
- Southern Expressway—Stage 2 (Reynella to Onkaparinga River)
  - Survey of the corridor boundary is complete.
  - Land acquisition negotiations are in progress for the remaining parcels of land required.
- Adelaide—Crafers Highway (Mount Barker Road upgrade).
  - Pilot Tunnel completed September 1996.
  - Advanced earthworks at Devils Elbow completed November 1996.
  - Construction is in progress for the Crafers Diversion Roads and at Union Quarry.
  - Detailed design work and documentation is in progress for Glen Osmond Intersection.
  - Tenders are being evaluated for the Main Construction Contract. There have been many contractors and consultants employed on these projects. Some of the firms with local employees include—

Southern Expressway—  
Consultants

Acer Wargon Chapman  
BC Tonkin & Associates  
Coffey Partners Int'l  
Connell Wagner/Dare  
Sutton Clark  
Golder & Associates  
Maunsell Pty Ltd  
O'Reilly Consulting  
Rust PPK Pty Ltd

Adelaide Crafers Highway—  
Consultants

Bassett Consulting Engineers  
BC Tonkin & Associates  
Currie & Brown  
Hassell Pty Ltd  
Maunsell Pty Ltd

The Southern Expressway is estimated to create approximately 1 000 construction jobs for Stage 1 and a similar number for Stage 2 in 1998 and 1999.

The Adelaide—Crafers Highway is estimated to create 1 300 to 1 500 construction jobs. To encourage heavy operators to use engine brakes and not exhaust brakes, signs will be installed in four locations around the Glen Osmond Intersection in approximately three weeks. The four locations are Mount Barker Road (south of the Old Toll Gate, near 'Union Quarry' corner); and on the down track of Cross Road, Glen Osmond Road and Portrush Road.

The proposed sign will read 'Avoid Using Exhaust Brakes in Urban Areas' with a large truck symbol above the wording.

After installation, the Department of Transport will continue to monitor the sites to determine the effectiveness of the signs.

### ELIZABETH RAILWAY STATION

In reply to **Ms STEVENS.**

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** Elizabeth City Council, in developing its plan for expansion of the Elizabeth town centre, included the relocation of the Elizabeth Station as an integral feature of the development. The cost of the relocation was to be borne by funds sourced through the Better Cities Program.

TransAdelaide has been involved in the planning for the station relocation which offered the opportunity to improve the facilities and services for its customers. Upgrading of the existing station has been limited in view of the potential relocation.

The first stage of the relocation, involving a new paved area for the proposed interchange has been completed. However, it appears that the Elizabeth Council have now run into some difficulties in securing funding to complete the redevelopment.

TransAdelaide's position with regard to the relocation has been that it should not occur until it is clear that the expansion of the town centre to the new station site will take place. I am conscious of a similar situation at Modbury Interchange which was poorly located on the premise that Tea Tree Plaza Centre would expand to the interchange within two years. That was 1989 and this still has not occurred. Relocation of the station further from the current retail focus would inconvenience those travelling by train to the city centre and lead to criticism of TransAdelaide.

At this stage, it is understood that Elizabeth Council are attempting to secure the funding required to progress the development. In the interim, TransAdelaide will continue to maintain the existing facility in the best interests of its customers.

### Minister for Employment, Training and Further Education, Minister for Youth Affairs and Minister for Correctional Services

#### TAFE SA, ANNUAL HOURS CURRICULUM

In reply to **Ms WHITE.**

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** The SA VET sector 'Maintenance of Effort' target for 1996 was 14 914 000 annual hours curriculum (AHCs).

The SA VET sector 'Maintenance of Effort' actual result for 1996 was 14 935 455 annual hours curriculum (AHCs). Of this actual result total, TAFE SA delivered 13 456 786 annual hours curriculum in 1996.

Contractors

Lorenzin Constructions Pty Ltd  
LR & M Construction Pty Ltd  
Macmahon Contractors Pty Ltd

York Civil Pty Ltd  
CSR Construction Materials  
Just Parks & Gardens

Contractors

Macmahon Contractors Pty Ltd  
TCM Nominees Pty Ltd  
York Civil Pty Ltd

In addition TAFE SA produced 2 998 390 AHCs (comprising 1 693 587 AHCs under 'Fee for Service' activity and 1 304 803 AHCs under specific funding arrangements).

Therefore TAFE SA in total delivered 13 456 786 + 2 998 390 = 16 455 176 AHCs in 1996.

### EMPLOYMENT DIVISION

In reply to **Mr CLARKE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** In the 1996-97 financial year, the Employment Division had a total state budget of \$7 811 000.

Of this amount, \$2 117 000 was allocated to salaries; \$380 000 to operating costs; and \$5 314 000 to program delivery.

A total of 11 654 people have been assisted in a variety of programs including Kickstart, Kickstart for Youth, Group Training and Focus on the Future during this period.

Evaluation and measurement of outcomes are built into all programs. These include the return of evaluation proforma by participants in all Kickstart and Kickstart for Youth programs which are collated and analysed for informing on individual activities and future directions.

The Kickstart model of operation has also been formally reviewed. The consultant's report is currently being considered.

All new programs established under the Youth Employment Statement and Employment Partnership are to be reviewed annually. This was a requirement of Government approval. The first review will occur at the end of 1997.

Key performance indicators vary from program to program depending on the nature of the activity.

In the case of Kickstart and Kickstart for Youth the key indicators are how many people gain employment or go on to further training as a result of undertaking the program.

In Job Shop and Dome, indicators relate to placement of people in employment for a specified period of time. Funding is tied to the achievement of these outcomes.

In all programs, employment is the key outcome requirement.

### UNEMPLOYMENT

In reply to **Mr CLARKE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** According to advice received from both the Office of the Premier and the Department for Treasury and Finance, the Premier's announcement of a target of reducing South Australia's unemployment rate to the national average within two years was not predicated on any specific assumptions about either the labour force participation rate or future levels of the State's population. [The State's population level, in turn, is influenced by rates of natural increase (births minus deaths) and net migration (both interstate and international).]

Indeed, it is important to recognise that the Premier's announcement of a 'target' for the unemployment rate should be distinguished from either a 'prediction' or a 'forecast', which may entail specific assumptions about the aggregates which influence the unemployment rate.

Nevertheless, while South Australia is likely to continue to experience lower than average population growth rates over the remainder of this decade, theoretically this means that it is possible to reduce the State's unemployment rate to the national average with lower than average employment growth rates. This assumes, of course, that the difference between the National and State labour force participation rates remains relatively constant.

### HOME DETENTION REVIEW

In reply to **Mrs GERAGHTY**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** The Home Detention Best Practice Review of October 1996 made 34 recommendations. These recommendations fall into three main categories—Policy, Operational and Information Management.

**Policy**

Policy recommendations are designed to improve the effectiveness of the Home Detention Scheme with the main thrust being the implementation of Case Management principles.

The implementation of these recommendations is well underway with Case Management now occurring in most regions.

**Operational**

Operational recommendations are designed to improve efficiency by:

- Increased use of technology;
- Home Detention staff multiskilling;
- Improved inter agency communication and support;
- Ensuring communication systems support Case Management principles.

The implementation of these recommendations has begun with more effective use of Technology, multiskilling and improved interagency contact.

**Information Management**

These recommendations are designed to improve the flow of information both inter and intra department, including improvements to the Justice Information System, improved performance measures and performance information to Courts, in particular the Magistrate's Court.

Changes to the Justice Information System have recently been requested, Performance Indicators have been established, and Court User Groups have been developed in most Community Correctional Offices.

There are a number of recommendations with which the Department and I agree and these have been or are being implemented. However there are some recommendations concerning policy about which I remain unconvinced and these are the subject of ongoing discussions with the Department.

The review is a departmental internal paper produced to further develop and refine policy. As such it would not normally be released as a public document. Notwithstanding, I would be more than pleased to arrange a thorough briefing on the subject for you should you desire.

The number of offenders on Home Detention is expected to increase consistent with the projected increase in prisoner numbers. Estimating future numbers is difficult when significant and increasing numbers are now entering the scheme, through the Courts, on Home Detention Bail.

Successful completion of Home Detention by offenders is influenced by a range of factors including policy, the offender's support system and departmental work practices (ie Case Management). Effective implementation of Case Management will increase the successful completion rate of the Home Detention Scheme, however increased referrals from the Courts could reduce this impact.

In addition, when considering successful completion rates as a performance measure, one must keep in mind that the Department's first priority in administering a Community Based Order is the protection of the community. For this reason, Home Detention staff are expected to err on the side of caution and return an offender to prison wherever community safety may be at risk.

The estimates below are based on past completion rate trends and therefore do not reflect the impact of Case Management and other work practice changes proposed in the Review.

	1995-1996		1996-1997		1997-1998	
	Number	Complete	Number	Expected to Complete	Number	Expected to Complete
Pre Release	344	80.8%	359	79.2%	376	79.4
Bail	82	63.4%	131	N/A <sup>1</sup>	198	N/A <sup>1</sup>
Totals	426	72.1%	490	N/A <sup>1</sup>	198	N/A <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The Department is unable to calculate completion rates for bail as there is insufficient data to perform a reasonable regression analysis. Manual data collected in the annual report is not useable for this purpose as individuals do not necessarily start and finish Home Detention within the same financial year.



### CONSULTANTS, POLLING, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND ADVERTISING EXPENDITURE

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:**

Employment, Training and Further Education

In regard to the honourable member's request for the amount of spending by the Department for Employment, Training and Further Education in 1996-97 on specific items, I provide the following information:

Consultants, \$385 311; Polling, \$18 937; Public Relations, \$627 337; and Advertising, \$1 712 019.

Correctional Services

There has not been any expenditure incurred relating to Public Relations or Polling in the Department for Correctional Services during the 1996-97 financial year.

However, the Department has spent \$212 000 on Consultancy Services during this period. Of this amount, \$19 000 was incurred by the Justice Information System Services.

In addition to the Consultancies, there has been \$11 500 expended in Advertising of various positions throughout the year.

### EMPLOYMENT

In reply to **Mr CLARKE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** The 1½ per cent employment growth forecasted for the 1997-98 financial year equates to approximately an additional 10 000 jobs for South Australia.

### TAFE SA BUDGET

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** In response to the honourable member's question with respect to the components of the TAFE SA budget, I advise that the following figures are estimates only as the Vocational Education and Training sector is currently undergoing significant change, particularly with the implementation of user choice in 1998 and the ongoing devolution of functions to Institutes.

- Expenditure on Student Services is estimated to be in the order of \$4.6 million per annum.
- Expenditure on Learning Resource Centres and Learning Support is estimated to be in the order of \$6.25 million per annum.
- Expenditure on Administration and Executive Services at Institutes is estimated to be in the order of \$21.4 million per annum.
- Expenditure on Maintenance is estimated to be in the order of \$2.2 million per annum.

### OPEN TRAINING MARKET

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** The Open Training Market Funding Program has been established by the Department for Employment, Training and Further Education using funds distributed through the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA). The Program is part of a nationally agreed strategy to provide additional training over and above that which is planned and funded through State funds.

The Open Training Market Funding Program enables public and private training providers to access additional funds to expand the delivery of vocational education and training in accordance with State and Nationally agreed priorities.

Training which can be funded under the Program must take the form of accredited courses (which lead to formal qualifications), recognised short courses or recognised training programs. All courses/training programs funded must be accredited or recognised by the Accreditation and Registration Council in South Australia.

The training funded under this program can be delivered by either public or private providers who are registered and approved to deliver a particular course or training program. However as all courses and training programs must be additional to that which is already planned and funded, there is no direct substitution of existing programs between private providers and public sector providers.

### VET PLACES

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** Given the evolving nature of the VET sector in South Australia it is not currently possible to obtain accurate data on unmet demand in relation to VET training places.

### OPEN TRAINING MARKET

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** The average cost per student hour of the Open Training Market funded programs in 1997, provided by non-TAFE providers is \$5.10.

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** The proportion of the 1997 Open Training Market funds that went to TAFE SA is 32 per cent.

The average cost per student hour of the Open Training Market funded programs in 1997, provided by TAFE SA is \$5.47.

### TAFE SA BUDGET

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** In response to the honourable member's question with respect to what proportion of the TAFE SA budget is allocated to program delivery, I advise that it is in the order of 60 per cent.

With respect to the proportion of the TAFE SA budget for maintaining institute infrastructure, I advise that it is in the order of 1 per cent.

### GROUP CORPORATE SERVICES

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** In response to the honourable member's question with respect to what proportion of Group Corporate Services is allocated to TAFE SA, I provide the following information.

I advise that the Group Corporate Services Division services are provided for the whole of the department and cover financial services such as budgetary and management reporting, accounts payable, payroll services, financial policy and systems development, human resources, physical resources, public relations and legislation and delegations.

No specific allocation is made to TAFE SA of the Group Corporate Services costs, however it is estimated that at least 80 per cent of the Group Corporate Services activity would relate to TAFE SA.

### DETAFE BUDGET

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** I refer to the honourable member's question requesting a detailed breakdown of the DETAFE budget by organisation structure.

I provide the following information with respect to the estimated dispersion of the 1997-98 DETAFE Recurrent Budget. The figures exclude a total \$16.3 million for book adjustments, for transport concessions to students (\$4.5 million), the costs of my office (\$0.8 million) and Inter Agency Support Services not paid for (\$11.0 million), from the figure of \$292.8 million referred to by the honourable member from page 472 of Program Estimates and Information 1997-98 paper.

	\$ Millions	%
TAFE SA	206.0	74.5
Open Training Market/User Choice	17.5	6.3
Group Corporate Services	13.5	4.9
Employment Division	8.7	3.1
Vocational Education and Training Division	8.3	3.0
Corporate Information Management Branch	4.8	1.7
Aboriginal Employment Education		
Development Branch	6.8	2.5
Youth SA	1.4	0.5
Other Departmental Units	3.3	1.2
Infrastructure Maintenance/Rent	4.0	1.6
Other	2.2	0.7
Total	\$276.5	100

I further advise the honourable member that the anticipated final allocation to TAFE SA after dispersion of the Open Training Market, User Choice and Aboriginal Program training funds, maintenance funds and the appropriate allocation of departmental overheads will be in the order of \$235 million or 85 per cent of recurrent resources available.

### GRADUATE RECRUITMENT

In reply to **Mr CLARKE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** One hundred and fifty graduate placements are to be offered under the recruitment initiative.

Graduate recruitment into advertised vacancies has occurred in the usual way during the past 18 months. However, there has been no special, centrally subsidised graduate intake during that period of the nature of the new recruitment initiative for the 1997-98 financial year.

#### INDUSTRY TRAINING ADVISORY BOARD

In reply to **Mrs GERAGHTY**.

**The Hon D.C. KOTZ:** The answer to the question—is the funding to ITABs paid up front or in arrears?—is that it is usually made available in two up front instalments in July and January of each financial year once each ITAB has accepted the terms and conditions of the Performance Agreement covering the allocation.

Funds for each financial year, State and Commonwealth, are released to each ITAB after a Performance Agreement has been entered into with me by the Chair of that ITAB. It is a condition of the ANTA funding that it is only provided to ITABs under a Performance Agreement. This Agreement cannot be completed without confirmation of the Commonwealth funding.

In the 1996-97 financial year the ITABs were provided with 50 per cent of their annual allocation as soon as possible in the financial year, subject to their acceptance of the terms and conditions of that year's Performance Agreement. The second 50 per cent was provided early in January 1997, once the second instalment of Commonwealth funds was received by the State Government.

Similar arrangements for funding are in train for the 1997-98 financial year. Negotiations are currently underway between my Department and the ITABs on the development of the 1997-98 Performance Agreements which will include strengthened and more rigorous accountability measures.

Arrangements have been made to ensure that ITABs receive continual funding whilst the Performance Agreements are being finalised so that they can continue their valuable work.

#### YOUTH RECRUITMENT PROGRAM

In reply to **Mr CLARKE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** The \$3 million allocation will provide for a subsidy to Government agencies of \$5 000 per annum for non-graduates and \$6 500 per annum for graduates. The balance of the salaries for the recruits will be met by participating agencies from their allocated budgets. It is anticipated that the residual \$275 000 will be needed for advertising, testing, selection and other administrative and monitoring costs of the program.

In reply to **Mr CLARKE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** The recruitment program will be managed as a rolling intake of graduates and non-graduates, with the young people commencing their employment at various times during the 1997-98 financial year.

The first recruits are likely to commence in September 1997, after relevant selection processes have been completed.

#### YOUTH INITIATIVES

In reply to **Ms WHITE**.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** The development of exciting, challenging and worthwhile initiatives has been a hallmark of this government. Since 1994 we have been actively developing initiatives in four strategic areas to achieve exciting outcomes for young South Australians. These strategic areas span the coordination of youth issues, youth participation, youth celebration and youth sector development.

##### 1. Coordination of Youth Services

###### Information Technology and Young People

Portable Technology Project—In conjunction with the ACE Unit an investigation to allow greater access and understanding to I.T. is being explored.

###### Youth Development Officers in Police Stations

Places a Youth Development Officer at the point of cautioning by police to divert young people from the juvenile justice system.

###### Evaluation of National Homeless Youth Protocol

Youth SA has participated in a national evaluation of the homeless youth protocol for under 15-year-olds through the Income Support Sub-Committee of the Administrators Forum attached to the Ministers' Council on Health and Community Services.

Response to the Morris Report on Aspects of Youth Homelessness

Youth SA has cooperated with other state agencies to inform the Youth Bureau in DEETYA prior to the release of its response to Morris tabled in Federal Parliament in December 1995. Youth SA assisted in the facilitation of the South Australian community sector response.

###### Youth Message

Development of a poster indicating a commitment by government agencies to certain principles and standards of service delivery for young people.

###### Central Youth Services Map—Fast Track

Pilot project in 1996. 'Fold out' map of selected youth services in Adelaide City, including brief information about how to access assistance. Collaboration between Central Workers with Youth Action Network, Youth SA, Adelaide City Council, DEFACS, DSS.

###### Youth Projects with DEET (now DEETYA)

On behalf of DEET, Youth SA undertook a number of projects that were completed as joint Commonwealth and state issues, including work targeting geographically isolated regions.

##### 2. Youth Sector Development

Quality assurance rating scheme development for the youth sector

Youth SA is investigating the development of a quality assurance rating (or endorsement) scheme for the SA youth sector.

###### Youth sector training—COPE

The Youth Portfolio funds COPE to provide practical training courses and workshops for youth workers and youth service managers.

###### Youth Sector Training Needs Analysis

Research for development of COPE's youth sector training calendar, aimed at meeting youth sector training needs. In conjunction with COPE.

###### Ethnic youth workers in local government

Moneys are made available as seeding grant funding for local government municipalities to employ Ethnic Youth Development Officers. Implemented in conjunction with the Local Government Association, and the multicultural community.

##### 3. Youth Participation

###### Ministerial Council of Young South Australians (MCYSA)

The Ministerial Council of Young South Australians (MCYSA), will meet on a quarterly basis and will inform the Minister for Youth Affairs on major issues and areas of concern relating to young South Australians.

###### Young people on management boards and committees

A pilot project where young people are recruited as youth advisers or members on the boards, management committees or some other directive function of a government or government-funded agency.

###### Youth Parliament

South Australia's inaugural Youth Parliament took place in 1995. The Youth Parliament program embodies a youth participation model and hands on training in parliamentary process.

Youth Register  
Comprises a list of young people who wish to be considered for representation on agency boards/committees as youth advisers or in some other youth participation role. The resumes of registrants comprise part of the register.

###### Youth Forums

The Minister for Youth Affairs holds public forums with young people in metropolitan and regional locations.

###### Youthsay

Youthsay is a scheme implemented by the Minister for Youth Affairs to enable the South Australian government to consult with, and seek feedback from, young South Australians.

##### 4. Youth Celebration

###### Youth Media Awards

Recognising the role of the media in raising community awareness of young people and youth issues, the Youth Media Awards are presented for the best examples of journalism.

###### SA Youth Week

The Government is committed to promoting the contributions of young people to the state, and celebrating their skills and achievements. Youth Celebration is attained through a range of activities with Local Councils.

###### Youth Music Awards

A metropolitan wide event facilitated by Rotary to showcase the music and performance skills of young South Australians.

#### Y-Space

Y-Space was Youth SA's component of the X-Site presentation by DECS and DETAFE at the Royal Adelaide Show that provided a environment for young people and their families and peers to understand interactive multimedia and provide direct advice to the Minister for Youth Affairs through a purpose designed website.

#### Youth Leadership Grants

Grants of up to \$500 are available to individuals, youth groups and incorporated associations who work for young people, to provide assistance for innovative personal development projects which benefit young people aged 12 to 25 years.

However, the most recent concept initiated by my predecessor, and that I have encouraged and further developed for young people is the establishment of a Youth Week. This has been established in conjunction with the Local Government Association to provide the opportunity for the community to focus on the positive contribution young people make and can make to society. South Australia's Youth Week will commence on 20 September 1997 and will provide young people with an opportunity to express their views and act on issues that impact on them. Young people aged 12 to 24 will participate in a range of activities that focus on the issues and concerns of young people at a local level. It will also provide the opportunity for Councils to work with young people and better understand the issues and concerns that are important to them.

To establish Youth Week activities, Councils will be matching state government funds. A broad range of local Councils in co-operation with young people have responded with excellent and innovative activities for that special week in September.

I hope that we all consider the needs and efforts of our young citizens throughout the year in our planning and consultations. I am looking forward to the energy and excitement that Youth Week will provide and am also now working with our Federal colleagues to investigate the establishment of a National Youth Week in 1998.

Also at a national level, at the recent Youth Minister's Forum of the Ministerial Council of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs, I have agreed to place concerted effort in two priority areas until 2001:

- promotion of the positive achievements and positive images of youth
- encouragement of an understanding of the importance of education and training

I will continue to work with young people and the youth sector to develop further initiatives in these areas. I look forward to initiating further opportunities for the young people of South Australia.

### YOUTH TRAINING SCHEME

In reply to Ms WHITE.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:**

- The remuneration of a trainee under the 1500 intake ranges from \$149.00 to \$339.00 per week, depending upon length of time out of school, school achievement, and skill level of the traineeship.
- The superannuation and WorkCover costs per trainee average 7 per cent of the national training wage cost, equating to approximately \$18.00 per week for each trainee.
- To date, 70.1 per cent of the current national training wage trainees who have completed their traineeship, have either gained ongoing employment or returned to further education.
- The 500 recruitment positions will be available to new recruits other than existing trainees. It is anticipated that existing trainees will have access to at least 500 other public sector positions becoming available during the next 12 months. Therefore, the 500 new positions will be in addition to positions for which trainees can apply within the public sector.

### YOUTH TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

In reply to Ms WHITE.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** The following specific youth training and employment programs will operate in 1997-98 through DETAFE and the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment.

The anticipated level of project funding for each of the activities is also provided. However it should be noted that these figures are yet to be finalised.

In addition, the level of project funding for Kickstart for Youth is for a six-month period only to 31/12/97. Additional Youth employment project funding will be included in any new arrangements following consideration of the recommendations of the review into the Kickstart/Kickstart for Youth program.

Employment Division

	\$
Job Shop	400 000
Regional Labour Exchange (50 per cent youth target)	150 000
Kickstart for Youth	360 000
Community at Work	300 000
Self Starter	120 000
Group Training Companies	900 000
IT Skills Advantage (Anticipated 50 per cent youth participation)	140 000
State Government Entry Level Training Scheme	200 000
Equity Initiatives	200 000
Local Government Employment Program	500 000
UpSkill SA (no project funds)	
Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment:	
SA Public Sector Youth Recruitment Program	\$3 000 000
Total	\$6 270 000

### PUBLIC SECTOR REGIONAL TRAINEESHIPS

In reply to Ms WHITE.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** At my request discussions commenced earlier this year between Commonwealth and State officials concerning the development of a new Public Sector Regional Traineeship Program.

As a corollary to these discussions I met with my Federal ministerial colleague the Hon. David Kemp at the Ministerial Council meeting on 5 May to further advance this initiative and a letter to formalise the negotiations once they had reached an advanced stage, was forwarded to both Dr Kemp and the Hon. Senator Vanstone on 11 June 1997.

### PRISON SYSTEM 2010

In reply to Ms WHITE.

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** The Prison System 2010 draft Strategy has not yet been approved and as such, the Strategy will not be released.

Current projections show the estimated population to be in the order of 3 180 prisoners.

Mobilong will be expanded and Yatala will have some upgrading.

### CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, CAPITAL BUDGET

In reply to Mrs GERAGHTY:

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:**

1. The interest received on funds held in the Special Deposit Account is directly related to the underspending in the Capital program for 1996-97.

2. Underspending in the Capital Budget during 1996-97 was reflected principally in two projects. These were the redevelopment of the Cadell Training Centre and the proposed additional accommodation at Mobilong Prison. In the case of Cadell, expenditure was delayed because the extent of the redevelopment is subject to the success of the 'Operation Challenge' program, which, once evaluated and supported for continuation, the proposed new accommodation for these prisoners will only then be constructed. The project to provide additional accommodation at Mobilong Prison was reviewed during the financial year as part of a strategy plan that proposed various scenarios of the anticipated prison system to the year 2010. The decision to proceed with an expanded Mobilong Prison has only recently been made. However, during 1996-97 20 additional cells were constructed at Mobilong by infilling former television alcoves and a porch area in each Living Unit. The unspent Capital Funds from 1996-97 have been carried over to the new financial year.

3. It is intended that the new projects listed in the 1997-98 Capital Works program will be progressed in 1997-98.

4. The expected change in balance in the Special Deposit Account as at the 30 June 1997 is \$2.93 million as reported in the Program Estimates documentation on page 492.

### CORRECTIONAL SERVICES, EMPLOYEES SECURITY CHECKS

In reply to **Mrs GERAGHTY:**

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:** An assurance can be given that all new employees to the Department for Correctional Services are required to undergo a police check prior to ongoing employment being confirmed.

Applicants for Casual Community Service Supervisor positions, which supervise offenders carrying out community service orders, are similarly subject to the following police check standards and processes:

1. An unblemished Police/Criminal Record is normally a mandatory requirement for employment of all classifications in The Department for Correctional Services, for reasons in part related to:

- professional/organisational credibility
- uncompromised security
- interaction with prisoners
- community standards and expectations.

2. Where there are extenuating circumstances and/or special consideration is deemed necessary with respect to employment of an applicant with a criminal record, the matter has been referred to the Chief Executive for approval.

3. If the person does have a police record but otherwise demonstrates superiority for the position, then the following criteria is considered:

- degree of seriousness of the conviction
- whether the conviction was recent or some years ago
- work referee checks to consider the character of the person since the conviction was recorded.

In 1995, The Department for Correctional Services undertook a review by the Commissioner Of Police of all employees of the Department to determine to what extent staff may have criminal records. Employees employed in all areas of the Department were examined in this review including Central Office, Community Correctional Centres and Institutions.

When the advice was received from the Commissioner Of Police, research was conducted on the names indicated and reports were submitted to the Minister along with action to be taken.

The Department sought advice from the Crown Solicitor's office and although no formal disciplinary action was advised in regard to those areas detailed above, the Department notified each officer by letter, that in relation to their specific offence no further action would be taken but should they be charged with an offence in the future whilst employed by the Department, disciplinary action may be taken.

### JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM

In reply to **Mrs GERAGHTY.**

**The Hon. D.C. KOTZ:**

1. The increase of 4 positions during 1996-97 is due to the following reasons:

- JIS Services has continued to meet the salary costs of a re-deployed officer who elected not to transfer to EDS in April 1996. It was anticipated that the officer would have been placed in a permanent position with little impact on the staffing head count.
- An officer transferred from the Attorney-General's Department (Office of Crime Statistics (OCS)) in September 1996. While the transfer was not included in the original staffing estimate, JIS Services agreed to assume responsibility for the position and provide the work to the OCS pursuant to a facilities management agreement whereby the OCS continue to fund the position.
- It became necessary to advertise and fill two vacant positions during the year to meet the demand for services by the JIS agencies.

2. As a result of the transfer of infrastructure services to EDS, JIS Services found it necessary to create three new positions only one of which was filled by a non-JIS/RLS employee; two Account Managers (who manage Service Level Agreements and changing demands for services) and a Production Support Analyst. It should be noted that one of the Account Managers was appointed to manage the EDS contract on behalf of the Registration and Licensing Section (RLS) of the Department of Transport. Pursuant to a facilities management agreement, an account management service is provided by JIS Services to the RLS.

3. The Department of Treasury and Finance has approved budget supplementation to JIS Services of \$1.839 million in 1997-98. The supplementation includes an adjustment for the Registration and Licensing Service provided to DOT pursuant to a facilities management agreement. The supplementation represents provision for capital funding and the financing costs of assets. Prior to the Infrastructure contract JIS was funded for capital replacement on a project basis. Under the service contract, asset replacement costs are reflected in annual budgets.

The impact of unit pricing will be determined when the JIS facility is consolidated into the Information Processing centre in 1998. The annual cost to government under interim pricing is the same. Prices are reduced at the end of each year of the contract.

4. Depreciation costs (\$1.9 million) and Finance costs (\$0.3 million) totalled \$2.2 million. Budget supplementation was \$1.839 million because there were factors such as the savings built into the contract, and the anticipated reduction in accommodation costs which reduced the level of supplementation required.

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

#### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

In reply to **Mr BROKENSHIRE.**

**The Hon. D.C. WOTTON:** I refer to the response that I provided to the Estimates Committee on 25 June 1997 in reply to a question about the contracting of community development programs.

In that reply I promised to provide the honourable member with information about the principles of the Department for Family and Community Services that underpin contracting of community development programs.

These principles are detailed in the Department's Position Paper on Contracting in Community Services which was released in 1996. I am now pleased to be able to provide the additional information that you requested. The principles are as follows:

#### Social Objectives

Contracting priorities and processes must ensure that services are accessible, appropriate, affordable and accountable.

#### Improving Outcomes

The measure of effectiveness of contracting is to achieve continually improving outcomes for service users.

#### Consumer Focus

Consumers of community services are active participants in service delivery and are integral to determining inputs and processes and to achieving outputs and outcomes.

#### Value For Money

Service outcomes should be achieved as cost efficiently as possible.

#### Accountability

All parties to contracts commit to strive for best possible performance specification and measurement standards within sensible resource limitations.

#### Quality Assurance

Contracts should identify, where possible, the expected quality and standards of service.

#### Interdependence

The relationship between the Department and community sector providers constitutes an important alliance and partnership in the pursuit of shared social objectives.

#### Consumer and Community Participation

Voluntary participation by service consumers and the wider community in the provision of services contributes to the achievement of individual and wider social development outcomes.

#### Continuity

Changes in services brought about by contracting processes need to be managed to minimise breaks in continuity of service for consumers.

#### Diversity and Flexibility

Contract priorities and processes should ensure that an adequate diversity be maintained in the provider market.

#### Collaboration

Contracting processes should allow for collaboration where the benefits of doing so are evident.

#### Contestability and Transparency

Competition between all prospective contractors should be open and fair and the selection process based on publicly available criteria.

The full document on contracting in community services is available from the Policy and Development Division of the Department for Family and Community Services.

### HACC FUNDS

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. D.C. WOTTON:** I have provided for Ms Stevens' perusal a document titled 'Home and Community Care' that refers to the organisations funded on a recurrent basis through the HACC Program in 1996-97. The figures indicate the approved budget upper limits (AUL) for the organisations and their projects

A second document titled 'Home and Community Care Recurrent 1997-98' includes the new recurrent projects approved in the 1996-97 funding round. In this list may be seen the sum of \$221 600 allocated to the Passenger Transport Board to assist with the development of transport initiatives referred to in my reply to the Committee on 25.6.97.

These figures are not made available for general public circulation as each organisation reaches individual agreements with the HACC Program about the level of funding received and the services expected of them.

Organisation Name	Approved Budget \$	Ongoing AUL
Home and Community Care		
Aboriginal Elders & Comm Care Inc	500 000	
Adelaide Central Mission	159 597	
Adelaide Central Mission	896 400	
Adelaide City Council	42 215	
Adelaide Day Centre for Homeless Persons	60 000	
Aged Care & Housing Group Inc.	56 750	
Aged Care & Housing Group Inc.	128 600	
Aged Care & Housing Group Inc.	150 000	
Aged Care and Housing Group Inc.	226 443	
Aged Care and Housing Group Inc.	281 400	
Aged Care and Housing Group Inc.	302 000	
Aged Rights Advocacy Service	114 350	
Alzheimers Association	38 000	
Alzheimers Association	367 820	
Assoc Nazionale Famiglie Degli Emigrati Inc	39 100	
Assoc of the Hungarian Aged & Invalid Persons	1 300	
Association of Ukrainians in SA	2 400	
Australian Red Cross Society	56 200	
Australian Red Cross Society	59 900	
Australian Red Cross Society	135 600	
Balaklava Soldiers Memorial Hospital	2 540	
Balaklava Soldiers Memorial Hospital	2 540	
Balaklava Soldiers Memorial Hospital	13 600	
Balaklava Soldiers Memorial Hospital	49 700	
Barmera District Council	11 584	
Barmera District Health Services Inc	7 994	
Barmera District Health Services Inc	38 200	
Barmera District Health Services Inc	55 900	
Barossa Community Services Board Inc	58 498	
Barossa Council	16 250	
Barossa Domiciliary Care Services	7 600	
Barossa Domiciliary Care Services	24 600	
Barossa Domiciliary Care Services	36 000	
Barossa Domiciliary Care Services	39 400	
Barossa Domiciliary Care Services	84 400	
Barossa Domiciliary Care Services	136 600	
Berri District Council	15 699	
Blind Welfare Association of SA	13 100	
Blyth-Snowtown District Council	3 215	
Booleroo Centre District Hospital Inc	7 792	
Bordertown Hospital	7 026	
Brighton City Council	98 074	
Brighton/Glenelg Community Centre	63 100	
Burnside City Council	159 554	
Camden Community Centre	75 350	
Campbelltown City Council	169 097	
Carer Support Network Inc	157 300	
Carers Association of S.A. Inc.	150 850	
Carers Association of SA Inc	200 000	
Carers Association of SA Inc	511 175	
Ceduna District Council		7 500
Central Eyre Hospital		12 600
Central Yorke Peninsula District Council		78 281
Children's Services Office		518 200
Clare District Hospital Inc		6 514
Cleve District Hospital Inc		2 230
Cleve District Hospital Inc		4 650
Co-Ordinating Italian Committee		17 000
Community Health Standards Council		75 000
Community Lifestyles Inc		60 000
Community Support Inc		5 863 250
Coober Pedy Hospital		42 100
Coober Pedy Hospital		65 600
Coonalpyn Downs District Council		3 407
Country Home Advocacy Project Inc		130 000
Country Home Advocacy Project Inc		483 400
Cowell Hospital		2 230
Crippled Childrens Assoc of SA		400 000
Croatian Care for the Aged Inc		3 400
Crystal Brook-Redhill District Council		6 380
Czechoslovak Club in SA Inc		2 500
Disabled Peoples' International Whyalla		3 500
Dunjiba Community Council Inc		96 500
East Torrens District Council		11 475
Eastern Domiciliary Care Services		55 300
Eastern Domiciliary Care Services		169 900
Eastern Domiciliary Care Services		182 00
Eastern Domiciliary Care Services		208 400
Eastern Domiciliary Care Services		311 400
Eastern Domiciliary Care Services		325 500
Eastern Domiciliary Care Services		362 500
Eastern Domiciliary Care Services		969 000
Eastern Domiciliary Care Services		1 050 100
Elizabeth City Council		25 498
Elizabeth City Council		120 000
Elliston District Council		3 006
Elliston Hospital		854
Enfield City Corporation		120 000
Enfield City Corporation		321 095
Eudunda District Council		2 291
Family & Community Services		10 000
Family & Community Services		15 000
Family & Community Services		60 000
Family & Community Services		95 000
Family & Community Services		100 000
Franklin Harbour District Council		3 525
Gawler Care and Share Group		16 300
Gawler Domiciliary Care Services		8 500
Gawler Domiciliary Care Services		9 400
Gawler Domiciliary Care Services		78 900
Gawler, Corporation of Town of		39 864
Glenelg City Council		92 632
Goodwood Community Services Inc		3 800
Greek Pensioners' Society		2 700
Gumeracha Hospital		17 586
Gumeracha Hospital		5 880
Gumeracha Hospital		22 600
Hallett Cove Lodge Inc		3 600
Happy Valley City Council		102 551
Henley & Grange City Council		170 035
Hindmarsh and Woodville City Council		318 145
Holiday Explorers Inc		30 100
Hungarian Caritas Society		2 500
Hungarian Fraternity for Care of Elderly		1 600
Hutchison Hospital		24 400
I D S C—Options Coordination Agency		593 750
Intellectual Disability Services Council		33 100
Intellectual Disability Services Council		66 800
Intellectual Disability Services Council		78 200
Intellectual Disability Services Council		126 900
Intellectual Disability Services Council		143 000
Interchange Inc		77 500
Italian Cultural Centre		2 400
Kangaroo Island General Hospital Inc		3 469
Kangaroo Island General Hospital Inc		9 969
Kangaroo Island General Hospital Inc		121 050

Organisation Name	Approved Budget \$ Ongoing AUL	Organisation Name	Approved Budget \$ Ongoing AUL
Kapunda Hospital	435	Naracoorte Health Service Inc	24 531
Keith Community Health Service	1 920	Naracoorte Hospital & Health Service Inc	3 650
Keith Community Health/Tatiara D C	16 100	Naracoorte Hospital & Health Service Inc	24 200
Kensington and Norwood City Council	62 730	Naracoorte Hospital & Health Service Inc	27 800
Kimba District Council	3 206	Naracoorte Hospital & Health Service Inc	62 400
Kimba Hospital	1 500	Ngampa Health Council Inc	50 000
Kimba Hospital	2 230	NgP Y Aboriginal Womens Council	150 000
Kimba Hospital	27 000	Noarlunga City Council	227 353
Kingston Hospital	3 650	Noarlunga Health Services	24 100
Kingston Hospital	4 151	Noarlunga Health Services	53 280
Kingston Hospital	18 100	Noarlunga Volunteer Transport Service	42 800
Lameroo District Council	3 360	Northern Dom Care Services-NWA HS	21 100
Lameroo District Hospital	2 976	Northern Dom Care Services-NWA HS	63 500
Lameroo District Hospital	4 300	Northern Dom Care Services-NWA HS	75 500
Lameroo District Hospital	5 800	Northern Dom Care Services-NWA HS	150 100
Latvian Relief Society	3 800	Northern Dom Care Services-NWA HS	160 800
Laura District Hospital	5 600	Northern Dom Care Services-NWA HS	198 700
Le Hunte District Council	9 690	Northern Dom Care Services-NWA HS	225 300
Lithuanian Women's Association	1 800	Northern Dom Care Services-NWA HS	284 900
Local Government Assoc. of SA	60 000	Northern Dom Care Services-NWA HS	353 500
Lower Eyre Penin. Accom. for the Disabled	10 875	Northern Dom Care Services-NWA HS	441 100
Lower Eyre Peninsula District Council	5 753	Northern Dom Care Services-NWA HS	477 800
Lower North Domiciliary Care Services	16 200	Northern Dom Care Services-NWA HS	959 400
Lower North Domiciliary Care Services	18 700	Nth Yorke Pen Regional Health Service Inc	11 700
Lower North Domiciliary Care Services	51 600	Nth Yorke Pen Regional Health Service Inc	36 200
Lower North Domiciliary Care Services	127 400	Nth Yorke Pen Regional Health Service Inc	93 300
Loxton District Council	17 426	Nth Yorke Pen Regional Health Service Inc	211 800
Loxton Domiciliary Care	28 100	Nth Yorke Pen Regional Health Service Inc	1 249 400
Loxton Domiciliary Care	108 500	Payneham City Council	54 399
Loxton Domiciliary Care	193 100	Peake District Council	2 400
Loxton Hospital	9 431	Penola War Memorial Hospital Inc	4 307
Maitland Hospital	4 692	Penola War Memorial Hospital Inc	32 750
Maltese Guild of SA Inc	4 100	Peterborough Municipality	18 100
Mannum District Council	6 000	Pika Wiya Health Service, Pt Augusta	86 500
Mannum Domiciliary Care	2 850	Pinnaroo Hospital	4 089
Mannum Domiciliary Care	34 000	Police Department of S A	109 400
Mannum Domiciliary Care	45 200	Polish Link with Seniors—Enfield Branch	2 200
Marion City Council	194 904	Polish Link with Seniors—Ottoway Branch	4 100
Marion Community Centre	5 200	Polish Link with Seniors—St. Marys Branch	2 100
Marree Arabunna Peoples Committee	31 000	Polish Link with Seniors—Westbourne Park	3 100
Meals on Wheels Inc.	1 348 400	Port Adelaide Central Mission	656 600
Meningie & Districts Hospital	2 802	Port Adelaide City Council	108 680
Meningie & Districts Hospital	19 900	Port Augusta Domiciliary Care Services	39 500
Meningie District Council	8 200	Port Augusta Domiciliary Care Services	98 200
Mid North Domiciliary Care Services	147 900	Port Augusta Domiciliary Care Services	179 200
Mid North Domiciliary Care Services	398 400	Port Augusta Domiciliary Care Services	327 700
Mid North Domiciliary Care Services	508 800	Port Augusta Hospital Inc	1 500
Mid West Aged Care Inc	93 189	Port Augusta Hospital Inc	14 000
Millicent & District Hospital Inc	19 800	Port Augusta Hospital Inc	60 750
Millicent District Council	11 332	Port Broughton District Health Services Inc	33 500
Millicent District Hospital	4 970	Port Elliott & Goolwa District Council	116 590
Millicent Domiciliary Care Services	19 900	Port Lincoln City Council	18 750
Millicent Domiciliary Care Services	27 300	Port Lincoln Domiciliary Care Services	5 600
Millicent Domiciliary Care Services	51 300	Port Lincoln Domiciliary Care Services	15 650
Millicent Domiciliary Care Services	79 150	Port Lincoln Domiciliary Care Services	115 900
Mirambeena Club	4 800	Port Lincoln Domiciliary Care Services	130 900
Mitcham City Council	195 177	Port Lincoln Domiciliary Care Services	170 700
Mount Barker District Council	79 639	Port Pirie City Council	38 352
Mt Barker Hospital	143 800	Prospect City Council	70 617
Mt Barker Hospital	590 910	Renmark and Paringa District Hospital	5 600
Mt Gambier Community Health Service	35 200	Renmark and Paringa District Hospital	59 500
Mt Gambier Community Health Service	37 000	Renmark and Paringa District Hospital	91 600
Mt Gambier Community Health Service	74 515	Renmark, Corp Town of	14 636
Mt Gambier Community Health Service	135 900	Resthaven Inc	10 000
Mt Pleasant Hospital	14 500	Resthaven Inc	277 000
Multicultural Communities Council	29 050	Ridley-Truro District Council	4 424
Munno Para City Council	14 197	Riverland Regional Health Services Inc	23 500
Munno Para Community Health Service	36 900	Riverland Regional Health Services Inc	35 700
Murat Bay Hospital	18 300	Riverland Regional Health Services Inc	44 200
Murat Bay Hospital	29 300	Riverland Regional Health Services Inc	207 900
Murray Bridge Domiciliary Care Services	5 400	Riverton District Council	2 555
Murray Bridge Domiciliary Care Services	25 800	Robertstown District Council	1 179
Murray Bridge Domiciliary Care Services	59 300	Rocky River District Council	11 684
Murray Bridge Domiciliary Care Services	145 900	Royal District Nursing Service	12 000
Murray Bridge Domiciliary Care Services	297 000	Royal District Nursing Service	84 500
Murray Bridge Rural City	72 950	Royal District Nursing Service	136 500
Naracoorte Health Service Inc	5 728	Royal District Nursing Service	263 100

Organisation Name	Approved Budget \$ Ongoing AUL
Royal District Nursing Service	13 355 100
S A Council on the Ageing	33 000
SA Health Commission	53 100
Saddleworth & Auburn Dist.Council	3 437
Salisbury Baptist Senior Adults Group	1 300
Salisbury City Corporation	30 300
Salisbury City Corporation	329 350
Seniors Information Service Inc	159 600
Serbian Australian Senior Citizens	3 000
Slovak Club of SA Inc	1 300
South Coast District Hospital	32 522
Southern Domiciliary Care Services	36 500
Southern Domiciliary Care Services	129 300
Southern Domiciliary Care Services	248 000
Southern Domiciliary Care Services	253 000
Southern Domiciliary Care Services	275 300
Southern Domiciliary Care Services	298 100
Southern Domiciliary Care Services	302 300
Southern Domiciliary Care Services	406 300
Southern Domiciliary Care Services	413 200
Southern Fleurieu Health Service	26 400
Southern Fleurieu Health Service	35 600
Southern Fleurieu Health Service	37 900
Southern Fleurieu Health Service	185 400
Southern York Penn. Health Service	3 866
St John Ambulance Australia SA Inc	149 700
St Peters Corporation	22 588
St Stephens Lutheran Church Inc	40 800
Sth Yorke Pen Com Care Group Inc	13 500
Sth Yorke Pen Domiciliary Care Services	5 600
Sth Yorke Pen Domiciliary Care Services	17 100
Stirling District Council	32 738
Strathalbyn District Council	16 335
Streaky Bay District Council	5 120
Tanunda Lutheran Home Inc	24 600
Tatiara District Council	14 010
Tatiara Domiciliary Care Services	3 650
Tatiara Domiciliary Care Services	32 100
Tatiara Domiciliary Care Services	61 100
Tatiara Domiciliary Care Services	66 700
Tea Tree Gully City Council	281 671
The Group	2 800
Thebarton Corporation	23 693
Townsend House Inc	50 000
Trinity Baptist Church	64 100
Tumby Bay District Council	10 350
Ukrainian Womens Association	1 800
Umoona Community Council Inc	96 500
Uniting Church of Aust. Frontier Services	54 700
Unley City Council	199 248
Victor Harbor District Council	16 250
Volunteer Centre of SA	51 000
Volunteer Centre of SA	56 200
Waikerie District Council	12 560
Waikerie Domiciliary Care Services	34 800
Waikerie Domiciliary Care Services	56 400
Waikerie Domiciliary Care Services	76 500
Wakefield Plains District Council	16 789
Walkerville City Council	9 271
West Coast Community Service Program	321 411
West Torrens City Council	122 326
Western Domiciliary Care Services	85 100
Western Domiciliary Care Services	177 800
Western Domiciliary Care Services	198 200
Western Domiciliary Care Services	203 100
Western Domiciliary Care Services	221 200
Western Domiciliary Care Services	240 400
Western Domiciliary Care Services	293 200
Western Domiciliary Care Services	326 200
Western Domiciliary Care Services	419 300
Western Domiciliary Care Services	1 530 800
Western Domiciliary Care Services	1 870 400
Whyalla City Council	55 075
Whyalla Domiciliary Care Services	1 420
Whyalla Domiciliary Care Services	63 100
Whyalla Domiciliary Care Services	132 700
Whyalla Domiciliary Care Services	371 100

Organisation Name	Approved Budget \$ Ongoing AUL
Willunga District Council	29 972
Yankalilla District Council	3 000
Yugoslav Centre of SA	3 000
1997 Funding Recurrent	
Home and Community Care Recurrent 1997-98	
Organisation Name	Approved AUL
Adelaide Central Mission	20 300
Aged Care and Housing Group Inc	45 000
Aged Rights Advocacy Service Inc.	151 600
Assoc of Ethnic Organisations for Aged Care Inc	75 000
Carers Link Lower North Inc	130 000
Coober Pedy Hospital Inc	39 600
Corporation of the Town of Peterborough	10 000
Crippled Children's Association	125 000
District Council of Gumeracha	6 000
Dunjiba Community Council	136 800
Guide Dogs Association of SA and NT	180 000
IDSC	2 200 000
IDSC	90 000
IDSC	950 000
IDSC	225 000
Lower Eyre Peninsula District Council	3 500
Mid-West Health and Aged Care Inc	5 800
Murray Bridge Soldiers Memorial Hospital Inc	25 400
NPY Women's Council Aboriginal Corporation	16 800
Passenger Transport Board	221 600
Riding for the Disabled (RDA)	4 000
Sports, Art and Recreation Council for the Disabled (SPARC)	90 000

#### HEATHFIELD SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS

In reply to **Mr CLARKE.**

**The Hon. D.C. WOTTON:** The future of effluent discharge from the Heathfield Sewage Treatment Works is presently being negotiated between the Environment Protection Authority and SA Water.

Many alternatives have been considered by SA Water, among them irrigation.

It is anticipated that resolution of the issue will occur by October 1997.

#### SENIORS INFORMATION SERVICE

In reply to **Ms STEVENS.**

**The Hon. D.C. WOTTON:** The Seniors Information Services is now fully funded through the HACC Program. In 1996-97 it received \$162 500 in recurrent funding.

The Seniors Information Service received additional one-off funding in 1996-97:

HACC

- a one off grant of \$7 000 for Staff Training of use of new computers
- a capital grant of \$28 000 for computer upgrade.

Office for the Ageing Grant

- a one off grant of \$15 000 for the production of information for older people seeking new interests/activities in the arts, sports and volunteering.

#### GLENELG SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS

In reply to **Mr CLARKE.**

**The Hon. D.C. WOTTON:** Draft Effluent Reuse Guidelines have reached the final stage of review. Comments received from the various interested groups will be incorporated to produce a final report by the end of August 1997. The report summarises the classes of reclaimed water and assigns acceptable uses for each classification.

Historically the Glenelg STW has supplied treated waste water to water the Glenelg golf course and various parks and recreation areas along the foreshore area. The introduction of the guidelines requires that for the continued use of treated waste water, restricted

public access to these areas be provided. If unrestricted public access is allowed, then effluent filtration will have to be provided to raise the effluent quality to the required standards.

The EPA has not allowed SA Water to downgrade the effluent quality from their works.

#### COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL CARE

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. D.C. WOTTON:** The movement of young people from and within Community Residential Care is one component of a carefully considered case plan that is developed for each individual young person in our care.

Please find attached a data sheet which demonstrates the range of placements taken up by young people when they are discharged from a Community Residential Care Unit.

Key findings for the last financial year included:

- 28 young people were reunified with their families or relatives and returned home to live.
- 16 young people were placed in supported family type placements.
- 28 young people made the transition to independent living.
- 30 young people transferred to a long term community unit.
- 7 young people were placed in a SAAP funded placement.
- 10 young people received orders to Magill Training Centre.

Twelve young people within Community Residential Care were discharged from one of our units to an Assessment Unit. The decision to do this is never entered into lightly and is always carefully considered and made by the Manager Community Residential Care or the On Call Manager with consideration to the safety of the individual young person. On these occasions, young people have been moved to reduce conflict between residents or to reduce the risk of contamination of younger or more vulnerable residents being exposed to other young people with severe or chronic behavioural problems.

#### GRANTS FOR SENIORS PROGRAM

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. D.C. WOTTON:** In relation to the number of applications made to the 'Grants for Seniors Program' and their total value I can advise as follows:

545 applications were made totalling \$587 607.

#### FINANCIAL COUNSELLING SERVICES

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. D.C. WOTTON:** As at 1 April 1997, there were 113 Financial Counselling and Support staff occupying 90.1 Full Time Equivalents positions across all 19 District Centres of FACS. These numbers have remained consistent since the 1991 Departmental restructure, when the Anti-Poverty Program was introduced.

As the Department moves to introduce tertiary training for Community Support Workers, only those with long term experience and appropriate training manage Financial Counselling files. (It should be noted that many of our staff also have existing tertiary qualifications in areas such as social work, finance administration, teaching etc.).

Additionally, since the 1991 restructure, Senior Financial Counsellors and their staff have developed and implemented a number of preventive projects which ameliorate the impact of poverty in specific target groups in their areas. Approximately \$190 000 per year is spent on a state-wide basis, with over 30 projects—new or recurrent—funded each year.

In relation to funding from the Low Income Support Program for financial counselling in the non-government sector, a statewide consultation with all government and non-government agencies was held during 1994, during which time the need for a comprehensive regional strategy resulting in a coordinated approach and a reduction in the duplication of services to low income people was identified.

The funding in this area was therefore re-configured. At this time, an overall increase in recurrent funding of approximately \$50 000 occurred.

Additionally, financial counselling is also now funded in the non-government sector through the Gamblers Rehabilitation Fund at around 25 per cent of total funding.

The Commonwealth also continues to fund their Financial Counselling Program in South Australia.

#### HACC FUNDS

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. D.C. WOTTON:** At present, it is not possible to provide detailed expenditure of HACC Program funds on post-acute Domiciliary Care Services.

In 1996, consultants KPMG were appointed by the Health Commission to undertake a detailed examination of the activity of all four metropolitan Domiciliary Care Services and the Royal District Nursing Service and to report on the distribution of various service interventions, such as post-acute care and non-clinical support. The study also reported on the quantum of services provided to both younger people with disabilities and frail, older people. Unfortunately, the findings of the study were not sufficiently accurate and a further internal study has now been undertaken to build upon the original work by KPMG. The findings of this study will be available in three to four weeks.

It should be noted that all Domiciliary Care Services provide a range of clinical (rehabilitation) and non-clinical support services to both frail older and younger persons with disabilities. However, service providers endeavour to deliver a holistic service to clients, wherever this is possible, to both avoid multiple provider contacts with one client and to reduce the overall costs of services provided. That is to say, all Domiciliary Care Services aim to ensure both effectiveness and efficiency in service delivery. Regrettably, this does tend to 'muddy the water' of discrete funds expenditure and, for this reason, it is very difficult to apportion expenditure to a particular service intervention for every client visit.

It also needs to be acknowledged that, for some years, the HACC Program has supported specific post-acute care services delivered through both Domiciliary Care Services and the Royal District Nursing Service. These services have been accepted as a legitimate component of the HACC Program in this State, although, in recent years, post-acute care has been regarded as a 'no-growth area' by the Commonwealth.

#### AGED CARE CHANGES

In reply to Ms STEVENS.

**The Hon. D.C. WOTTON:** The Office for the Ageing, in conjunction with other State Government Departments, is currently considering the recently released details relating to changes to the Commonwealth aged care program and the impact of other areas of State legislation. The Office is also talking with residential care providers and consumer groups on an ongoing basis about the impact of the changes as they become clearer.

With respect to the abolition of the Commonwealth dental program:

- The total loss to the public dental program in South Australia is \$10 million per annum. While the State Government will not be compensated for this significant loss, it will continue to maintain funding of \$26 million to the public dental health program. This is comparable to the level of State funding prior to commencement of the program.
- The Dental Service has identified a number of options to minimise the effects of the loss of the funding.
- The Health Commission employed a consultant with extensive knowledge of dental services, both interstate and overseas, and established a Steering Committee to review the options proposed by the SA Dental Service. The Steering Committee was asked also to identify other possible options to maximise the use of State resources available for dental services to improve dental health outcomes.
- The Steering Committee reported in March 1997. The report included an Interim Public Dental Health Purchasing Plan.
- The following policy principles guided the Steering Committee in considering the options for coping with the loss of the Commonwealth Dental Health Program funding:
  - Acceptability—services should be appropriate to users;
  - Accessibility—services should be physically accessible and available to those who are least able to afford care;
  - Balance—there should be an appropriate balance between health promotion, prevention and treatment;
  - Value for money—services should be cost-effective and use best practice models; and
  - Focused on need—services should be focused on the needs of the population and, in particular, on targeting those most in need.
- Options considered by the Steering Committee include:
  - changing the eligibility for public health care;



- changing access criteria for public dental health services;
- extending client contribution payments for specific treatment services;
- changing the range of public dental health services offered and/or reducing resources for low priority services/ treatments; and
- improving cost-effectiveness of service delivery
- A range of options identified by the Steering Committee is being considered.

Numbers on Waiting Lists

	Start of Financial year (1/7/96)	Projected end of year (30/6/97)
Conservative (Restorative) (Waiting time in months)	43 330 (8)	69 100 (24)
All Prosthetic (Waiting time in months)	10 523 (22)	11 500 (25)
Pensioner Denture Scheme* (Waiting time in months)	5 245 (23)	5 800 (27)

Mr A.OCKENDEN

In reply to Mr CLARKE.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: Mr Ockenden made no such statement nor indeed did he imply such a view. The Deputy Leader referred to the *Messenger* 2 April 1997 article which simply gives the approximate quantities of contaminants (in fact nitrogen and phosphorous tonnes per year) from three sources, the Glenelg Sewage Treatment Works (880 tonnes), River Torrens outlet (88 tonnes) and the Patawalonga outlet (62 tonnes).

I agree with Mr Ockenden's statement that 'sewage treatment works like Glenelg provide far greater pollutant loads to the marine environment' than the Patawalonga, regardless of where its outlet is located—it is a matter of fact.

BOLIVAR SEWERAGE PLANT

In reply to Hon. M.D. RANN.

The Hon. D.C. WOTTON: As part of their licence conditions, SA Water provide an annual monitoring report for the previous financial year each September. Data that contributes to the report is available to the EPA on request at any time from SA Water. It is required, under licence condition, that any testing is carried out by a NATA accredited laboratory and that the reports are independently audited to ensure that both methodology and results are accurate. The sampling program on which the monitoring report is based is agreed with EPA prior to commencement.

Applications for access to such monitoring information, including the parameters mentioned by the Hon. M.D. Rann, may be made to the EPA.

Minister for Industrial Affairs, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Minister for Information and Contract Services

INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS SALARIES

In reply to Mr CLARKE.

The Hon. DEAN BROWN: The budgeted salaries and on-costs expenditure for staff of the Department for Industrial Affairs' Workplace Relations Policy Division is \$609 000, being for an Average Full Time Equivalent staffing of 10.4. The information requested by the honourable member is as follows:

Position	AFTE	Classification	Estimated Salary And On-Costs 1997-98 \$
Director	1.0	Executive Level B	104 000
Assistant Director/Team Leader, Policy Development	1.0	ASO-8	75 000
Team Leader, Policy Promotion	1.0	ASO-7	60 000
Senior Employee Relations Policy Consultant	1.0	ASO-6	56 000
OHS Policy Consultant	1.0	not yet determined	53 000
OHS Policy Consultant	1.0	not yet determined	53 000
Project Officer (policy promotion)	1.0	ASO-4	44 000
Project Officer (policy development)	1.0	ASO-3 (temp)	38 000
Assistant Project Officer (policy promotion)	1.0	ASO-2	34 000
Secretary	1.0	ASO-2	32 000
Assistant Project Officer (policy development)	0.4	ASO-1	12 000
Executive Officer—Ministerial Advisory Committees (funded by WorkCover)	1.0	-	48 000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10.4</b>		<b>\$609 000</b>

The following information is provided in relation to the above:

- The Director is employed under a non-tenured contract up to and including 19 December 1999 and is paid at a Total Employment Cost lower than the department's tenured Divisional Directors.
- The Assistant Director is employed under a non-tenured contract up to and including 16 March 2002. Approval was granted by the Office of the Commissioner for Public Employment to advertise externally to the public service only after the position was advertised internally, which attracted no applicants.
- Two positions of OHS Policy Consultant have been allowed for in the Division's budget for 1997-98. However, these positions have not yet been classified or advertised. It is expected that the positions will be described at the ASO-5 or ASO-6 level.
- The position of Executive Officer (Ministerial Advisory Committees) is funded by the WorkCover Corporation and is therefore not included under the Department's AFTE figures.

WORKCOVER

In reply to Mr CLARKE.

The Hon. DEAN BROWN: Fee payments to private claims

management agents for the 1996-97 financial year have not yet been finalised due to the nature of the performance and incentive fees which are measured on results to 30 June 1997. Fees paid or payable for 1996-97 are expected to be as follows:

	\$
Service Fee	13 833 333
Performance fee	1 000 000
Incentive Fee	1 500 000
	16 333 333

On top of these fees, agents receive 5 per cent of the reduction in outstanding claims liability on claims incurred prior to 1 July 1996 as determined by the external actuary in his annual assessment.

Projected payments for 1997-98 agency fees are as follows:

	\$
Service Fee	14 112 000
Performance fee	1 000 000
Incentive Fee	1 500 000
	16 612 000

Agents are eligible to receive 5 per cent of the reduction in outstanding claims liability on claims incurred prior to 1 July 1997 as determined by the external actuary in his annual assessment.

Negotiations with the agents are still underway regarding their 1997-98 fees and therefore the above figures for 1997-98 represent estimates only.

The cost of consultancies engaged over the last twelve months is \$335 387.50. (See attached) Expenditure on market research was \$9 030 and advertising was \$27 266. These figures are prior to end-of-year accruals and adjustments.

The performance of each agent against their benchmarks for the 1996-97 financial year has not yet been finalised. In the 1995-96 performance fee evaluation, five of eight agents (ie. GIO, Mercantile, NZI, SUN, and Zurich) received a payment under the performance fee agreement with four of the five achieving the top ranking available. MMI's results are still progressing through the review and reconsideration process.

While only five of the seventeen performance measures of the 1996-97 performance fee have been assessed as yet, indications are that agents are doing well on most of the standards, although assessment has identified some areas that require attention.

Consultancies engaged by the WorkCover Corporation

Answers and Strategic Knowledge

Cost: \$3 100

Work undertaken: Access and enhancements to database information regarding employment targeting initiatives. Length of time: 12-18 months.

Is the consultancy ongoing? No.

Blake Dawson Waldron

Cost: \$4 655

Work undertaken: Compensable injury and disease and legal costs projects

Length of time: three months

Is the consultancy ongoing? No

Bowden, Gilmore & Hunn

Cost: \$2 596

Work undertaken: Achievement dynamics profiles conducted for the management team.

Length of time: seven days

Is the consultancy ongoing? No

Campbell Research and Consulting

Cost: \$25 532

Work undertaken: To undertake return to work surveys for injured workers 6-8 months after their injury. This survey is undertaken twice a year in conjunction with other Australian jurisdictions for comparative purposes.

Length of time: Twice a year.

Is the consultancy ongoing? No, the consultant is engaged for each survey.

Coded Information Limited

Cost: \$21 157.50

Work Undertaken: Write Project Charter document, construction of Project Plan, high level Project Design, development of Project Team and ongoing Project Management, evaluate PABX.

Length of time: 12-18 months

Is the consultancy ongoing? Until 31 December 1997, with the possibility of a further 6 months

Covey Leadership Centre

Cost: \$15 367

Work undertaken: Leadership workshops for Chief Executive Officer and the WorkCover Corporation Managers.

Length of time: three days

Is the consultancy ongoing? No

Davis & Dean

Cost: \$54 096

Work undertaken: Workshops and computer assimilation on organisational change and transition for WorkCover Corporation Managers and 15 Change Coordinators.

Length of time: three days

Is the consultancy ongoing? No

DMR Group Australia

Cost: \$23 350

Work undertaken: Review technical and cost structures for Data Centre and Communications operations within the Information Systems area in line with EDS proposal.

Length of time: three months

Is the consultancy ongoing? No

Ernst & Young

Cost: \$3 475

Work undertaken: Management selection and assessment.

Length of time: 10 days

Is the consultancy ongoing? No

Hadoron Pty Ltd

Cost: \$109 217

Work undertaken: Organisational structure design and development, process mapping.

Length of time: six months

Is the consultancy ongoing? No

John L Bates & Associates

Cost: \$3 035

Work undertaken: Implementation of quality system in preparation for certification to ISO 9002.

Length of time: Once per fortnight for half a day over a period of seven months. The above was also used for Internal Auditor training which was carried out over 3 days.

Is the consultancy ongoing? No.

Barbara McLennan

Cost: \$2 150

Work undertaken: Industrial conciliation

Length of time: three days

Is the consultancy ongoing? No

Organisation Consulting Resources Pty Ltd

Cost: \$32 588

Work undertaken: Managerial remuneration benchmarking and assessment, development of competency based classification structure.

Length of time: 20 days

Is the consultancy ongoing? No

South Australian Centre for Economic Studies

Cost: \$24 950

Work undertaken: Independent assessment of fee structure for claims agents. Half the costs met by Insurance Council of Australia on behalf of the Agents.

Length of time: Two months

Is the consultancy ongoing? No

SGS International Certification Services Pty Ltd

Cost: \$2 200

Work undertaken: For certification to ISO 9002

1. Review of Quality System documentation including procedures, forms and Quality Manual—1 day on site.

2. Initial on site audit—preparation of audit reports and issue of registration documents—2 days on site.

Two visits per year (each visit taking 1 day) in the first year following certification. These visits (surveillance audits) are to review the ongoing performance of the system. Normal requirement for surveillance visits is at six monthly intervals. However if the system demonstrates a consistent high level of performance, the interval between visits may be extended to one visit per year.

Is the consultancy ongoing? Yes

URCOT

Cost: \$6 000

Work undertaken: Research and support for organisational restructuring.

Length of time: one month

Is the consultancy ongoing? No

Worklife Pty Ltd

Cost: \$1 919

Work undertaken: Access to computer software regarding employment targeting initiatives.

Length of time: 12-18 months

Is the consultancy ongoing? No

#### ABORIGINAL VISITORS SCHEME

In reply to **Ms HURLEY**.

**The Hon. DEAN BROWN:** Recommendation 22 of the Muirhead Interim Report of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody recommended the establishment of an Aboriginal Visitors Scheme (AVS) in police cells.

The AVS, funded by the Department of State Aboriginal Affairs (DOSAA), is administered by the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement (ALRM).

The AVS provides visitor services to detainees being held in Police custody at seven police stations in metropolitan Adelaide and eight country centres.

An evaluation of the AVS was initiated in November 1996 to review the current operation in view of a number of changes and issues of concern, including:

- ATSI cuts and impact on host organisations running programs in country areas.

- Clarification of roles of Country Co-Ordinator in dual role as Chairperson of the Aboriginal Justice Advocacy Committee (AJAC).
- Change in police standing orders which necessitated AVS being notified on every occasion that an Aboriginal person is detained in police custody.
- Administration and management of program.

The evaluation would also seek to ascertain the best strategic alliances that could be developed between agencies providing care to Aboriginal people involved in the criminal justice system.

The consultant's report is now with the Chief Executive, DOSAA. Recommendations from this report will be taken into consideration and a working group comprising AJAC, AVS, ALRM and DOSAA will cooperate in the implementation of these recommendations.

#### STANDARD PC PANEL CONTRACT

In reply to **Mr FOLEY**.

**The Hon. DEAN BROWN:** The panel contract for PCs, known as the Standard PC Panel Contract, is a two year contract in effect from March 1996 to March 1998 with five desktop and three notebook computer vendors. There was no single unit price fixed for a standard PC as configurations vary in a range of 'low', 'middle' and 'high' end (selection based on intended use for equipment) with a maximum price for each of these configurations agreed with each of the vendors. The maximum price is considered the best available for single purchase of the particular configuration from the vendor. Further cost savings can be negotiated directly by the purchaser.

The table below shows the price range across all vendors over the past year:

	Low	Middle	High
April-June 1996	Pentium 75 \$1740-\$3075 average=\$2380	Pentium 120 \$2000-\$3400 average=\$2690	Pentium 166 \$2920-3965 average=\$3545
April-June 1997	Pentium 133 \$1700-\$2085 average=\$2185	Pentium 166 \$1990-\$2465 average=\$2189	Pentium Pro 200 \$2470-\$3970 average=\$3160

Note: 1996 high end PC configuration is the 1997 mid range PC (cost reduction \$1 360)

As advised previously, due to changes in technology and the competitiveness of the computer market, the price and standard configurations are reviewed every quarter. The contract also allows for flexibility within a three month period should there be a downward turn on price and where particular models, or components thereof, become unavailable. The contract does not bind the Government to a fixed price over a fixed term, but is responsive to changes in the computer market.

#### EDS (AUSTRALIA) PTY LTD

In reply to **Mr FOLEY**:

**The Hon. DEAN BROWN:** Attached is a copy of the letter from the Chief Executive of the Department of Information Technology Services to the Editor of The Australian concerning the Government's IT outsourcing contract with EDS.

Dear Sir, The reports in the *Australian* 'Computing costs blow away \$12 million' (30 April 1997) and *Weekend Australian* 'PS warns reputation of computer giant at risk' (3-4 May 1997) demand further explanation of the South Australian Government's IT outsourcing contract with EDS.

Contrary to what has been reported, the contract has saved millions of dollars for the Government in its first year and is on target to achieve the estimated savings of more than \$100 million over its nine year life.

Also, my reported comments on EDS's performance were not set in their proper context. In fact, more than 95 per cent of EDS's work on behalf of the Government is being delivered on time, and at the required service level and quality.

EDS provides a high quality service, as would be expected from one of the best IT services companies in the world.

As with any undertaking of this size and complexity, minor teething problems have occurred in handling the required changes to established processes.

EDS has responded very professionally and quickly to these problems and has instituted a wide range of improvements.

On the savings issue, it should be understood that the contract is on a whole-of-government basis, which means every data processing cost to the Government was factored in.

Some Government agencies that have transferred their IT operations to EDS perceive their costs have risen, but this is because some of their capital costs in the past were borne centrally by the Government and did not pass through their books.

On a whole-of-government basis, savings have already been made and will continue, as each year a price reduction over the previous year has been contracted for. Yours sincerely, Ray Dundon, Chief Executive.

#### WORKCOVER

In reply to **Mr CLARKE**.

**The Hon. DEAN BROWN:** Journey claims in 1990-91 to 1993-94 made up 4.5 per cent of the total number of claims. In recent years with claims of approximately 38 000 per year, journey claims, if still included in the Scheme, would have added another 1 600 claims, taking into account that about 0.5 per cent of claims are still categorised as 'journey claims' (ie during the course of employment).

Journey Claims represented a much greater proportion of income maintenance costs; just over 7 per cent in 1990-91 to 1993-94.

35 per cent—40 per cent of the cost of journey claims can be expected to be recovered, and therefore about 5.5 per cent of annual costs were attributed to journey claims (now about 1.5 per cent).

The removal of journey claims has reduced the Scheme costs by approximately \$15 million per annum.

Journey claims will represent just over 50 per cent of all monies recovered for injuries that occurred between 1987-88-1993-94 (recovery actions are still being pursued).

If journey claims were still a major component of the Scheme the levy rate would be approximately 0.10—0.15 percentage points higher than the current rate of 2.86 per cent, i.e., 2.96 per cent to 3.01 per cent.

In relation to non-economic lump sum payments for mental injury, it would be difficult to conduct an analysis of the situation concerning the level of payments that may have been made to claimants had the Act not been amended under the Labor Government in 1992 to exclude the entitlement of workers with compensable stress claims from receiving a lump sum under section 43 of the Act.

It is difficult to speculate how many claimants may have been entitled due to the amendments to the Third Schedule and the introduction of the 'American Medical Association Guide'.

Thirty-eight claimants with stress and associated claims for the injury years 1989-90—1992-93 received a total of \$621 000 while 27 claimants for injury years 1993-94—1996-97 have received a total of \$740 000.

The figures are inconclusive and identification of stress as an overlay or sequelae are not able to be extracted.

#### WORKERS COMPENSATION TRIBUNAL

In reply to **Mr CLARKE**.

**The Hon. DEAN BROWN:** The actuary, in his March report which was a review and not a full assessment of the scheme's claim liability, did not specify the value of the savings which could be attributed to redemptions. He looked at the total liability and not just redemptions, taking into account the other flow on effects of redemptions on other categories, such as legal expenses and lump sums.

The reduction in outstanding claims liability is not the 'savings' in redemption activity as the actual payments made need to also be taken into account. While the actuary has stated that the reduction in overall claims liability is largely due to redemption activity, he has not actually quantified the 'saving' attributed to this alone. As advised previously, I am not prepared to pay the actuary to calculate this figure. The actuary has also pointed out that the savings are greater with initial claim redemptions as the 'easier' claims are redeemed and the average savings per claim reduces as the 'harder' claims are redeemed.

The actuary's report on redemptions stated that:

- Redemption accounts in the six months have been 'significantly lower' than the actuarial equivalent value for the 'average' continuing claimant at each age and duration.
- Redeemed claims generally have a lower average weekly benefit and lower utilisation of medical payments than continuing

claims. This strongly suggests that the 'easier' claims have been redeemed, which is supported by comments from claims agents.

- (c) Redeemed claims are more likely to have received a lump sum section 43 payment than continuing claims, however, the average amount received is significantly lower, again suggesting the less severe claims have been redeemed.
- (d) The average legal fees paid on redeemed claims are higher than those on continuing claims, although this observation is clouded by the nature of legal payments in the past six months.

The actuary's report indicated that the Scheme's unfunded liability improved from a deficit of \$211.0 million as at 30 June 1996 to \$165.1 million as at 31 December 1996.

WorkCover has an agreement with each member of its legal panel to pay no more than 85 per cent of the rates contained in the fourth schedule of the Rules of the Supreme Court. The Claims Agents, who can only use the members of the Legal Panel approved by WorkCover, are at liberty to negotiate a rate lower than the 85 per cent.

Based on the 85 per cent rate, the payment for attending conciliation conferences is currently limited to \$106.73 per hour and not the \$150 or \$200 per hour as suggested.

Based on the 85 per cent rate, the payment for lawyers appearing before the full tribunal are limited to the following, and not the suggested \$3 000 per day:

\$552.50 to \$1 147.50 per day for Junior Counsel  
\$1 147.50 to \$2 125.00 per day for Senior Counsel