

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

29 to 31 July, 1, 6 and 7 August 2002

2001-02 DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE BUDGET

In reply to **Mr WILLIAMS**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: Last year's Department of Industry and Trade budgeted expenditure was estimated at \$192 million whereas the estimated actual expenditure was \$147 million.

I have been advised that what appears arithmetically as a \$45 million underspend is in fact part accounting presentation and part timing variation. Specifically:

1. The 'Statement of Financial Performance in Budget Paper 4, Volume 1, Portfolio Statements 2002-03' at page 3.15 must be read in conjunction with the 'Statement of Cash Flows' at page 3.17 because this latter statement highlights certain expenditures that are not reflected in the former statement.

2. During 2001-02 some \$31.5 million of expenditure was of a capital nature. As reflected on page 3.23—'Commentary on Major Resource Variations'—the estimated result for 2001-02 recognises that some financial assistance activity undertaken through the 2001-02 financial year had been in the nature of loans. In accounting terms, when these activities occur they are reflected in the 'Statement of Cash Flows' as investing activities and also represented in the 'Statement of Financial Position' as increases in the asset holdings of the agency.

3. The 'Statement of Cash Flows' at page 3.18 also reflects that the 2001-02 budget expectation was for a reduction in cash holdings from some \$12.8 million to some \$3.1 million. The estimated result, however, reflects an increase in cash holdings of some \$18 million from budget. This factor merely reflects timing variances that naturally occur in some major works projects and some larger grants and subsidies payments. While the agency always attempts to cash flow payments to meet its obligations, exigencies arise from time to time that cause a mismatch between the commitments and projected cash flows.

CLAWBACK ON MITSUBISHI ASSISTANCE PACKAGE

In reply to **Dr McFETRIDGE**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: The government has announced an assistance package for Mitsubishi comprising \$40 million in cash support and up to \$10 million of in-kind support through the newly created South Australian Centre for Automotive Safety Research.

The \$40 million is in the form of a short-term loan, repayable after 10 years. The contract has provisions built in such that if certain performance hurdles are not met, interest becomes payable on the loan, and early repayment may be required. If other performance hurdles are met, the loan converts to a grant. This is a similar arrangement to that which was put in place by the previous government, except that the hurdles in place before the loan converts to a grant are considerably more onerous than those imposed by the previous government. As a result of this, the overall benefits that the state gains from the assistance package are greater than would have been obtained under the previous arrangements.

The terms of support and clawbacks have been developed to ensure compliance with the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures, which imposes strict controls on the type and quantity of government support that may be provided to major new investment projects such as this.

The contract refers only to the cash portion of the government assistance package. The in-kind support is still being negotiated, and it is likely to be several months before the full details are finalised.

PROFILES OF ELECTRICITY USE IN KEY INDUSTRY SECTORS

In reply to **Dr McFETRIDGE**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: The Department of Industry and Trade has examined electricity usage in eight South Australian industry sectors to prepare an overview of energy use typical in each sector.

This has been used as a basis for the preparation of a guide for each industry sector to identify opportunities for energy savings. The guides are aimed at assisting small to medium enterprises to implement simple measures to improve efficiency of energy use. The guides are expected to be available for public release in September 2002. I will arrange for copies to be forwarded to the committee.

The eight industry sectors of study are:

1. Automotive
2. Food and Beverage
3. Tooling
4. Foundry
5. Electronics
6. Plastics
7. Textiles
8. Heavy Engineering

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE PAYMENTS—SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: The 'Statement Cash Flows' at page 3.17 in 'Budget Paper 4, Volume 1, Portfolio Statements 2002-03' reveals in payments of supply and services that the estimated result in 2001-02 was \$29.7 million and in 2002-03 the budget is \$18.7 million. The 2001-02 budget was \$26.3 million.

The budget for supply and services has in fact been reduced for the 2002-03 year when compared to the 2001-02 budget. However, I would point out that this is quite in line with the government's requirement that all agencies make savings on their forward estimates.

In the case of the Department of Industry and Trade the savings target is some \$7.0 million. It will be achieved through a variety of measures incorporating operating efficiencies, reductions in funding available to programs aimed primarily at industry services and economic development initiatives (some \$6 million) and reductions in the level of consultancies (some \$1 million) that can be let.

REVIEW OF THE ICPC PROPERTY PORTFOLIO

In reply to **Mr WILLIAMS**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: The Department of Treasury and Finance has completed the review of the ICPC Property Portfolio and a report was submitted to me in June 2002.

I am still considering the findings and recommendations of the report and no action has been taken at this stage.

RAIL FREIGHT VOLUMES

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS**.

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: According to ABS statistics published in 2001, the current annual tonnage of rail freight from Adelaide to Melbourne is 1 067 000 tonnes. The annual rail freight from Melbourne to Adelaide is 584 000 tonnes.

In recent times, the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) has increased the capacity of the Adelaide Melbourne railway by the provision of extended loops, increasing the length of trains to 1.5 kms and increasing the maximum tonnage from 3 500 to 5 000 tonnes per train. The potential efficiency gains as a result of the recent purchase of Australian National by Langcorp Toll, may, in the short term, result in a slight decrease in the number of trains between Adelaide and Melbourne.

Asia Pacific Transport (APT) is interested in capturing landbridge freight volumes and is conducting ongoing due diligence of this opportunity. It is likely that Melbourne would be a target market for these freight flows, given the volumes of containers that Melbourne deals with relative to Adelaide, and the product mix required to support transport by rail.

Given the current volume of container movements through the port of Darwin, any landbridge effort will take some time to grow and would be commensurate with securing additional regular shipping services out of the port of Darwin. It is likely that any growth in freight volume will be incremental over time, rather than a step function increase in the current level of freight travelling through the Adelaide hills and in line with operations commencing on the Alice Springs to Darwin leg of the rail network. In the long term, ARTC's opinion is that the completion of the Adelaide Darwin railway will lead to a possible increase of 3 per cent per year in the Adelaide Melbourne train traffic.

The interstate track operator, ARTC, has continued to address the matter of wheel squeal by trialling various lubricating methods on some of the curves. In the next two to three weeks ARTC will start a rail-profiling program through the Adelaide hills, which should also assist in reducing wheel squeal on some corners of the alignment. ARTC will continue to monitor this track to minimise its impact on the adjoining environment.

INDUSTRY CLUSTERS TARGETED TO BE DEVELOPED

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS.**

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: Currently, the list of clusters developed by Business Vision 2010 includes water, environment, upper Spencer Gulf, healthy ageing, the arts, tourism, sports, defence, multimedia and spatial information. Potential or emerging clusters include aquaculture, renewable energy and education.

Other clusters, which are at the preliminary discussion stage, but where no formative action has occurred include geoscientists, legal services, conventions, Flinders Ranges tourism, food Barossa Valley, food, wine, automotive, biotechnology, electronics and IT&T.

The Centre for Innovation, Business and Manufacturing (CIBM) undertakes network (clusters) development. While some network development flows from industry itself, the principal driver is commercial opportunity. There are twenty-one (21) networks funded by CIBM. These include activity in the areas of food exports, recycling (2), organic meat, electronic invoicing and bill paying, textile clothing and footwear exporters to USA, IT collaborative training in bid presentations, furniture industry logistics and wine.

Ten (10) networks have been budgeted for in the current financial year. Because commercial opportunity is the driver, it is not possible to say what opportunities will arise that will lead to network formation during the year. Currently, discussions are being held in the areas of education, intelligent transport systems and furniture industry training.

FUNDING FOR CLUSTERS

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS.**

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: Over approximately five years—not just one year—the Department of Industry and Trade, through the Centre for Innovation, Business and Manufacturing (CIBM), together with Business Vision 2010, has assisted in the formation of 21 clusters in South Australia. CIBM particularly assists in network development (which precedes cluster formation) and facilitating collaboration. Commercial opportunity is the principal driver for these activities.

The twenty-one (21) networks funded by CIBM include activity in the areas of food exports; recycling (2); organic meat; electronic invoicing and bill-paying; exporters to USA of textiles, clothing and footwear; IT collaborative training in bid presentations; furniture industry logistics; and wine.

Because this government's policy is so strong on clusters we want to create another 10 networks in the current financial year, and the budget has been provided for this. But, since commercial opportunity is the driver, it is not possible to say what opportunities—or how many—will arise during the year that will lead to network formation. Currently, discussions are being held in the areas of education, intelligent transport systems and furniture industry training.

The target that has been set is highly ambitious—if we can create 10 new networks in the next 12 months, that is an excellent outcome—but at this stage there is no plan to reduce the funding for cluster formation.

There will, however, be reductions in the areas of networking and collaboration, which is referred to in the budget papers.

REVIEW OF INDUSTRY INVESTMENT ATTRACTION FUND

In reply to **The Hon. I.F. EVANS.**

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: Upon becoming Treasurer and Minister for Industry, Investment and Trade, I received briefings from Treasury and Finance on industry assistance policy in South Australia. I was informed that Treasury and Finance was undertaking an internal review of industry assistance policy and projects, including the IIAF.

Prior to the election, in opposition, Labor had already announced its intention to establish an Economic Development Board and to review the operations of the Department of Industry and Trade and

the Industry Investment Attraction Fund. Shortly after attaining government, Labor commenced an external review of Industry and Trade.

Since coming to office, the Labor government has established the Economic Development Board and has announced the restructuring of the Department of Industry and Trade. I believe that we are now well on the way towards establishing structures and mechanisms which will strengthen the policy framework that will guide future decisions regarding public investment in industry attraction, with particular emphasis given to projects that are of strategic economic significance to this state.

I am informed that given these circumstances, Treasury and Finance determined that its review process had been largely superseded and therefore did not progress its working draft report to finalisation nor did it provide that draft to me at the time.

MANAGING POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OF THE CHAIRMAN, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

In reply to **Dr McFETRIDGE.**

The Hon. K.O. FOLEY: The chairman of the Economic Development Board, Mr Robert Champion de Crespigny, was advised on his appointment of the government's stringent requirements with regard to managing conflicts of interest. These requirements are consistent with the government's policy commitments on honesty and transparency in government.

The chairman fully concurs with the government on this matter and has provided information on his personal and pecuniary interests, including share-holdings, to the state government. The chairman has also instituted the practice of publicly declaring, as soon as possible, any potential conflict of interest on an issue and withdrawing from discussions and deliberations on such issues where appropriate.

STAMP DUTY EXEMPTION FOR INTERGENERATIONAL TRANSFERS

In reply to **Mrs PENFOLD.**

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: The Treasurer has provided the following information:

Section 71CC of the Stamp Duties Act 1923 ('the act'), which came into operation on 30 May 1994, exempts family farm transfers from ad valorem stamp duty where transfers or conveyances of property are effected between specified categories of relatives.

The Stamp Duties (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act 1999, assented to on 18 March 1999, extended the exemption to include transfers of a family farm to nieces and nephews, and broadened the scope of the exemption to include stock, implements and other chattels held or used in conjunction with the land when transferred as part of the family farm within the family group.

The exemption has clearly been of significant benefit to the state's rural community as more of South Australia's youth have been encouraged to take up the reins of the family farm business.

Since its inception (1 June 1994 up to including 31 July 2002) 8 002 family farm transfers have received the benefit of the exemption, at a cost to revenue of \$77.4 million.

528 family farm transfers received the benefit of the exemption in 2001–2002 at a cost to revenue of \$5.6 million.

The government has also approved of the drafting of amendments to the provisions to clarify their operation where goods used for the business of primary production are transferred with the family farm. The legislation when enacted will ensure that the transfer of the goods will not attract duty regardless of the form the transaction takes.

It is the intention of the government to provide the exemption on an on-going basis, subject to any significant issues arising that would otherwise warrant its review.

MINING IN NATIONAL PARKS

In reply to **Mr VENNING.**

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: Under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972, the constitution of the Gawler Ranges National Park was proclaimed in the *Government Gazette* on 15 January 2002.

The notice in the *Government Gazette* states:

'Pursuant to section 28 (1) of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972, being of the opinion that the Crown Land described in the schedule is of national significance by reason of the wildlife and natural features of the land, and with the advice and

consent of the Executive Council, I constitute the Crown Land described in the schedule as a National Park and assign to it the name Gawler Ranges National Park.'

It is intended that, by this proclamation, certain existing and future rights of entry, prospecting, exploration and mining be preserved in relation to the land constituting the Gawler Ranges National Park.

EXTRACTIVE AREAS REHABILITATION FUND

In reply to **Hon. W.A. MATTHEW.**

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: EARF projects are completed over a two year or seasonal timeframe, this allows for the initial earth-

works and sowing/seeding in the first year and then the maintenance period 12 months later. Currently there are 71 projects being undertaken during the 2002-03 financial year, of these 19 are for the design of a progressive or final rehabilitation, 28 have commenced or are about to commence earthworks and 24 have finished the earthworks and are within the maintenance period.

The amount of royalty paid into the Extractive Areas Rehabilitation Fund for the financial year 2001-02 was \$1.031 million and it is anticipated that approximately \$1 million will be received in royalties during 2002-03.

The list below indicates the locations of all these projects. The total cost of these projects will be incurred over several years.

Tenement	Location	Lessee	Approved Amount
PM 65	Noarlunga	Christies Sands	92,005
EML 2569 & 2570	Maslin Beach	CSR Readymix	32,360
PM 163	Sellick Hill	Southern Quarries	31,054
PM 163	Sellick Hill	Southern Quarries	32,381
PM 163	Sellick Hill	Southern Quarries	3,693
PM 163	Sellick Hill	Southern Quarries	23,990
PM 196	Rowland Flat	Rocla	48,220
PM 43	Maslin Beach	Rocla	4,752
PM 43	Maslin Beach	Rocla	13,314
PM 35	Riverview	CSR	2,750
PM 35	Riverview	CSR	45,350
PM 38 & 222	Reynella	Boral	63,857
PM 48	Reynella	Boral	305,357
PM 204	Gawler	Rocla	525,940
PM 57	Houghton	D M Davis	195,708
PM 5	Eagle	Boral Resources (SA)	75,754
PM 213	Mt Schank	Mt Schank Metals P/L	14,795
EML 3243	Mt McIntyre	Boral Resources	85,007
PM 197	Victor Harbor	CSR	3,570
PM 197	Victor Harbor	CSR	24,915
EML 4633	Yankalila	M J Thorn	58,850
PM 307	Naracoorte	Henschke Industries	3,267
PM 274	Sandy Creek	J L Berrett	37,351
EML 5521	Mt Compass	A G Bennetts	21,118
PM 193	Mt Barker	Transport SA	250,000
EML 3395	Naracoorte	D G Pitt	32,967
EML 3395	Naracoorte	D G Pitt	88,973
EML 3395	Naracoorte	D G Pitt	1,980
EML 5526	Naracoorte	K Pitt	5,225
EML 4882	Victor Harbor	South Coast	6,866
PM 181	Pt Lincoln	D K Quarries	19,266
PM 125	Compton	Stafford & Earl	56,550
PM 125	Compton	Stafford & Earl	24,980
EML 5221	Victor Harbor	South Coast Sand	7,128
EML 5553	Inglewood	Inglwood Brick Co	79,691
EML 5483	Currency Creek	Goolwa Quarries	48,594
PM 301	Waterloo	H E Kruse	37,124
EML 5262	Ceduna	D R Simons	4,004
EML 4493	One Tree Hill	E W & M D Ross	56,682
EML 5544 & 5545	Black Hill	Calca Quarries	47,545
EML 5544 & 5545	Black Hill	Calca Quarries	42,286
PM 171	Balhannah	Centofanti	151,354
PM 114	Mt Gambier	DC of Grant	8,852
EML 5588	Barmera	G Parrotta	26,607
PM 110	Carey Gully	K & G Constructions	91,361
EML 5857	Millbrook	Inglewood Brick Co P/L	7,830

Tenement	Location	Lessee	Approved Amount
EML 5465	Glenshera	Unimin Aust Ltd	4,873
EML 5843	Two Wells	CSA Earthmovers	68,772
EML 5843	Two Wells	CSA Earthmovers	27,863
EML 5321	Yudnapinna	Rocla	4,800
PM (A) 243	Price	Southern Quarries	45,292
PM (A) 243	Price	Southern Quarries	91,233
EML 5406	Rosedale	Salisbury Brick	84,124
PM 119	Basket Range	Basket Range S/stone	76,878
EML 5955	Gawler	G Cundy	19,037
PM 124	Mintaro	Mintaro Slate	15,290
PM 124	Mintaro	Mintaro Slate	106,257
EML 5630	Ceduna	Boral	99,335
EML 5798	Rowland Flat	S & M Coleman	14,668
EML 4658	Goolwa	Traeger	10,450
PM 61 & 303	McLaren Vale	McLaren Vale Quarries	98,585
EML 4382	Renmark	Scherer Contractors	68,128
EML 5880	Gawler	J E & J Auger	14,737
PM 245	Monarto	R A Harvey	24,698
PM 180	Tarlee	G Tilley	44,103
EML 6030	Kangaroo Island	C J Beckwith	27,937
PM 131	Cockatoo Valley	Sloans Sands Pty Ltd	6,990
PM 172	Verdun	Littlehampton Brick	10,333
EML 5087	Springton	K G Dewell	2,530

The average number of rehabilitation projects approved over the past 5 years is 50 per year, currently 11 projects have been approved for the 2002-03 financial year and these are included in the figures mentioned above.

OVINE JOHNE'S DISEASE

In reply to **Dr McFETRIDGE**.

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: The South Australian sheep industry, as represented under the Livestock Act 1997 by the SA Sheep Advisory Group, has agreed to provide assistance to owners of infected flocks who wish to undertake vaccination as a control tool.

The Sheep Industry Fund will pay the costs of the vaccine for these flocks. All other costs of vaccinating are to be met by the producer.

This expenditure is budgeted in the OJD Project of Food and Fibre, Animal Health, which is funded by the Biosecurity Fund, but will be recovered from the Sheep Industry Fund in the same year.

The new strategy which involves wide access to vaccination as a tool for prevention and control is not intended to eradicate OJD from Kangaroo Island, but promises more cost-effective control than the strategy used prior to national registration of the vaccine.

Whether the strategy actually delivers the sought control will depend jointly on the voluntary uptake of the opportunity by Kangaroo Island sheep farmers and the efficacy of the vaccine in reducing shedding and spread of disease in relatively low-prevalence areas. However, if the vaccine does deliver control approaching the national expectations, it will free Animal Health and sheep industry resources on Kangaroo Island from the activities and expenses of the former strategy which was focussed on destocking. This will enable better management of events of incident response and compliance.

It is expected that, rather than incident response/compliance issues suffering as implied in the question, the new strategy will in fact enhance incident response/compliance capability.

PIRSA OFFICE IN KADINA

In reply to **Mr VENNING**.

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: The Kadina Office is owned by the Department of Administrative and Information Services (DAIS) and managed by the Real Estate Management Division (REM) of that agency.

The site consists of a house converted to office accommodation.

The site is leased by the Department of Primary Industries and Resources (PIRSA) through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreement.

Rural Solutions SA and fisheries compliance staff of PIRSA, together with the Department of Human Services, occupy the site.

REM have advised PIRSA that they have no knowledge of any plans to relocate to the new dry land farming museum, and has not been approached in relation to a possible sale of the existing site.

PIRSA currently has a commitment to occupy this site until 30 June 2005.

PIRSA is not aware of any plans to relocate to the dry land farm museum and has not considered any other possible relocation.

As any office development may be of strategic interest to government, (ie there could be occupancy opportunities for other Agencies), it would be recommended that the proponents work through the government's leasing office, Real Estate Management in DAIS.

COST SAVINGS FOR REMOTE AREA ENERGY SUPPLY (RAES)

In reply to **Hon. W.A. MATTHEW**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The savings of approximately \$400 000 will be met by a combination of reduced costs and increased revenues.

The reduced costs will be through, for example, savings made through the new contracts with service providers for the South Australian government sites and pressure on owner operators to keep costs down.

Revenues will increase owing to the continuation of the tariff policy of remote tariffs being linked to the grid-based tariffs. The grid-based tariffs have recently increased, and there will be a flow on of these to maintain the nexus for small to medium users. The RAES consumers are currently being subsidized approximately 60 per cent of the costs of production.

Energy efficiency programs are continuing in the remote areas to help electricity users minimise their costs and our subsidies. For example, there is a current program (funded externally from the RAES funding) of providing efficient lights at reduced cost.

The remote area energy supply scheme has a budget this year of \$5.4 million. This appropriation is used for the provision of a reliable and quality electricity supply to 13 remote 'off grid' communities in South Australia where the supply of such electricity is not commercially viable.

BUDGET ALLOCATIONS FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

In reply to **Mr GOLDSWORTHY**.

The Hon. P.F. CONLON: The 2002-03 budget allocations remote area energy efficiency grants, energy research, development and commercialisation and energy efficiency advice to business are as follows:

- Remote area energy efficiency grants: \$140 000
 - Energy research, development and commercialisation: \$319 000
 - Energy efficiency advice to business \$100 000
- Of the figures listed above, all is state money.

PARTNERSHIP SA GUIDELINES

In reply to **Mrs PENFOLD**.

The Hon P.F. CONLON: The Deputy Premier has provided the following:

The Partnership SA guidelines outline the government's policy on public private partnerships in South Australia and describe a methodology for implementing partnership arrangements with the private sector in the development of infrastructure.

The Eyre Peninsula desalination plants are discussed in the recently released Eyre Peninsula master plan discussion paper.

The Public Private Partnerships Unit in Treasury and Finance held preliminary discussions with SA Water which outlined the following projects as possible options for improving water supply to the Peninsula:

- A 120 km pipeline extension connecting the existing Morgan/Whyalla and Port Lincoln/Cowell lines;
- A desalination/water purification plant to allow increased usage of the existing aquifer; and
- A 60 km spur connection that connects the existing Port Lincoln/Ceduna line to Streaky Bay. (This project is already under construction with an estimated capital cost of \$7 million.)

There may be the potential for PPP/BOOT delivery of these projects once a decision has been taken on the preferred option. SA Water has undertaken to evaluate these projects as potential PPPs in accordance with established protocol.

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN**.

The Hon. P.L. WHITE: The Regional Council of Wangka Wilurra incorporates South Australia's far west coast and Eyre Peninsula and includes the coastal centre of Ceduna and extends easterly to Port Lincoln. Within that area there are four sites, which support Aboriginal students. The current year 10 male Aboriginal enrolment figures are:

Yalata	3
Port Lincoln	7
Oak Valley	0
Ceduna	4

A further nine male Aboriginal students are enrolled in years 11 and 12. The ATSC web site indicates 'In the Wangka Wilurra Region, 39 per cent of indigenous students continued to year 12 compared with the state average of 32 per cent. This figure indicates that efforts to support Indigenous students of the region throughout their primary and secondary schooling are having a positive impact.'

Special and culturally appropriate programs are supported in these communities in a number of ways:

- The employment of Aboriginal education workers in sites.
- The support of Aboriginal education teachers.
- Support from Aboriginal education, Enfield and from the district office in Port Lincoln, which includes:
 - curriculum support-culturally appropriate materials developed, training and development for teachers and Aboriginal education workers
 - the case management approach which employs a social worker and two Aboriginal workers to support students to action education pathway plans and improve pathway outcomes for Aboriginal students in Ceduna
 - partnerships with communities to inform students about pathways and options for futures based in Pt Lincoln.

These programs are culturally appropriate. They are developed in close consultation with local communities. Programs involve Aboriginal education, local service providers, and other agencies.

\$1.357 million of state recurrent funding is directly targeted to the outcomes of Aboriginal students in schools.

The increased school leaving age and associated initiatives are designed to increase retention of students at risk of leaving school early. It is envisaged that this will assist to increase educational participation of Aboriginal students. The government has committed up to \$28 million over the next four financial years to introduce alternative education programs and extra teachers.

APPOINTMENT OF STAFF

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN**.

The Hon. P. L. WHITE:

Principals will need to forward detailed documentation to the superintendent, human resources, that clearly demonstrates that the appointment of a male or female teacher is genuinely necessary to enable male or female students to fully participate in specific areas of the curriculum. For example, it may be necessary from time to time to appoint either a male or female physical education teacher in a secondary school, to ensure that both male and female students are able to attend intrastate and interstate sporting competitions, and to avoid situations whereby a teacher would be responsible for supervising students of the opposite gender in shower areas or change rooms.

In order to establish the necessity for such an appointment, principals will need to include in the documentation information relating to the current staff and student profile of the school as well as the particular programs that require the appointment of a person of a particular gender. Staff from human resources will be available to advise and assist principals in this process.

The guidelines are clearly outlined within the circular issued to all schools, by the executive director, Human Resources, on 22 July 2002. Any application for a section 34(2) appointment must first be discussed by the principal with the school's personnel advisory committee which consists of elected representatives from the staff. Detailed documentation to support the request will then be forwarded to the superintendent, human resources, who will assess the specific circumstances within the context of the school's staffing and student profile. Where necessary advice will be sought from the Crown Solicitor's Office to ensure that any section 34(2) appointment is fully compliant with the provisions of the Equal Opportunity Act.

Principals and other staff members are able to seek advice from human resources regarding the appropriate use of section 34(2). Information regarding the use of section 34(2) has already been incorporated into existing training sessions which are attended on a regular basis by principals and other school based employees. District superintendents have recently been fully briefed with regard to this matter.

On 9 August 2002 the Commissioner for Equal Opportunity wrote to the *Advertiser* stating that 'the Equal Opportunity Act has always contained the ability for employers to employ people from a particular group if they are able to demonstrate that there is a genuine occupational requirement that this occur.' The commissioner emphasised that there have been no changes to the relevant sex discrimination provisions of the Equal Opportunity Act since its inception in 1984 and that the department and Brighton secondary school were simply using the existing laws to claim an exemption.

The circular dated 22 July 2002 issued to DECS schools sets out internal procedures to be followed if schools wish to appoint a staff member of a particular sex on the ground that it is a genuine occupational requirement that the person be of that sex.

The circular only applies to employment within the Department of Education and Children's Services. Any exemptions within the Equal Opportunity Act pertain to particular circumstances and cannot be broadly applied to a different set of conditions. Where sporting and community organisations are the employer and wish to rely on the provisions of section 34(2) of the act they would need to make submissions based on their specific needs and circumstances.

ISOLATED CHILDREN'S PARENTS ASSOCIATION

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN**.

The Hon. P.L. WHITE: In respect of the Isolated Children's Parents Association and its query about the consolidation of directorates proposed under the restructure within the Department of Education and Children's Services, I have recently written to the association in relation to this matter.

I was able to reassure the association that whatever form the completed restructure of the department may take, program develop-

ment and implementation relating to quality education delivery for rural and remote students will not suffer.

The Isolated Children's Parents Association will be able to have direct access to personnel and, recognising the positive relationship with the former Country Services Directorate, the association has been encouraged to develop a positive relationship with any new country services head.

OPEN ACCESS STUDY

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN**.

The Hon. P.L. WHITE: There has been no change to the funding arrangements for host schools of students enrolled in open access subjects.

Students are still counted as 1.0 enrolment for staffing purposes.

Schools continue to reimburse 2.5 TRT days to the department per subject per student enrolled at the Open Access College (OAC)

Tier 2 OAC allocations are still provided to eligible schools within their total global budget amount. This allocation is included in the resource profile of these schools.

The global budget continues to provide an additional nominal amount (\$245 per FTE) for OAC students to repay the base school for use of facilities.

TEACHERS FOR COUNTRY SCHOOLS

In reply to **Ms CHAPMAN**.

The Hon. P.L. WHITE: 155 extra teaching positions have already been allocated to schools based on agreed enrolment projections for 2003. Five positions have been held in reserve to allow for variations when enrolments are finalised early next year.

Schools classed as category 1 and 2 on the index of disadvantage will receive up to four extra teachers next year to reduce their junior primary class sizes. Those schools will now be staffed on a 18:1 student-teacher ratio for years reception to year 2. Schools in category three will be staffed on a 21:1 ratio.

Of the 155 positions allocated in my announcement of 30 August, the full-time equivalent of 73 extra junior primary teachers will be placed in country schools from the start of 2003, based on enrolments as projected at the time of announcement.

Of the 101 schools to receive extra teachers, 48 are country schools. A further 35 country schools in categories one to three of the index already have the staffing levels to achieve class sizes of 18 or 21, depending on their level of disadvantage, in reception, year 1 and year 2.

AUDIT OF SERVICES AND FACILITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

In reply to **Hon. R.B. SUCH**.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: The Office for Youth and the Department of Human Services (DHS) have a wide range of information on services for young people that are funded by the government.

The Office for Youth has a schedule of evaluation for each of its programs. The statistics used for the evaluation usually include a summary of the distribution of funds across the state for the individual programs. By collating this information, at any point in time it is possible to audit the areas of the State which are accessing the Office for Youth's services and grants.

Some individual programs set targets for grant or program distribution. For example, the active8 Premier's Youth Challenge monitors program distribution according to criteria such as metropolitan/rural, Indigenous/non-Indigenous, government/non-government. This program also has a rural/equity fund, which allows particular programs to seek extra funding on the grounds of rurality or disadvantage.

Most Office for Youth databases offer the opportunity to audit at relatively short notice the distribution of grants according to geographical location, electorate, or postcode. The Office of Youth audit includes a budget and activity summary of the Active8 program (Active8—weekly statistics) and a summary of the broader programs (Youth Programs—Program Overview).

DHS undertakes an audit of programs and services for children and young people every two years, the most recent of which was completed in December 2001. This audit represents information on those government and non-government services that are funded by that department. It includes a description of programs which have a child and/or youth focus across health, mental health, community

services, Aboriginal services, country and disability, policy/corporate services and Family and Youth Services.

There is no consolidated work on all youth services across the State. Given the wide range of youth programs and the range of funding sources, for example, charitable donations, Local governments, commonwealth and state governments, such an audit would be a considerable undertaking.

There are several initiatives being considered within DHS that will have some impact on the distribution of resources to young people's programs. These include:

- A draft Youth Services Framework, currently the subject of consultation with young people and key stakeholders. It addresses, amongst other things, the accessibility of services to young people, particularly those who are marginalised.
- A review of the Family and Community Development program is being considered, which will prioritise information on some youth services and a possible framework for redistribution of resources.
- The evaluation of some aspects of the Youth Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) services, particularly in the inner-city area. This will ensure that SAAP funds are being spent in the most effective manner possible.
- Youth services funded by DHS must sign service agreements that provide client numbers and program activity. However, given that services are spread across mental health, drug and alcohol services, and Child and Youth Health, there is, at present, no coordinated database. This issue is currently being addressed.
- The Office for Youth is now part of DHS. This will improve coordination across the youth sector.

In 2001 DHS produced an Audit of Programs and Services, updated in early 2002. Initially produced for internal purposes, the document may still contain inaccuracies and require further revision before being finalised.

OFFICE FOR THE STATUS OF WOMEN

In reply to **Hon. R.B. SUCH**.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: The Office for the Status of Women (OSW) has not been allocated a quota for Targeted Voluntary Separation Packages (TVSPs) within the TVSP scheme released on 12 August 2002. At this stage it is not expected there will be any staff reductions in OSW as a result of this scheme.

The government is committed to maintaining the Office for the Status of Women's outreach services.

The Whyalla Outreach Service continues to run for two days per month with an increasing number of women using the service. The Whyalla Women's Internet Access Program is now being run in conjunction with Networks for You in Whyalla. The Women's Information Service will be at the Whyalla Show the weekend of 17 and 18 August 2002.

The Port Augusta Outreach Service is currently running one day per month. The Women's Information Service in conjunction with the Flinders and Far North Division of General Practice is organising a Women's day in Port Augusta on 26 September 2002 with guest speakers, information displays, showbags, opportunities for women to network and find out more about services available to them.

The Women's Information Service also attended the Rural Women's Gathering at Tanunda on 2, 3 and 4 August 2002.

The position of manager, Women's Information Service is currently being advertised. The incoming manager will participate in the decision making process in relation to existing and future outreach services.

Any savings will be made from the OSW budget. Other government departments, as part of their work and family initiatives will be asked to contribute to the costs of the Vacation Care program in Roma Mitchell House. This will account for the 'savings' rather than a reduction in the program.

As stated above, full cost recovery of the Vacation Care program will be made through the contributions of other government departments and will operate on a user-pays basis. The program is a work and family initiative for government employees of Roma Mitchell House and in July 1999 was extended to all government employees.

The Office for the Status of Women (OSW) employed a temporary Aboriginal Project Officer for the period 12 February 2002 to 13 September 2002. The Project Officer was responsible for coordinating local women's gatherings across South Australia and developed an action plan that was presented to the National

Indigenous Women's Gatherings and at the June 2002 Commonwealth/State Ministers Conference on the Status of Women.

OSW is currently preparing a newsletter for distribution to Aboriginal women and groups to report on the outcomes of the gatherings and ministerial council meeting.

A Premier's Council for Women is also being established. Aboriginal women will be appointed to the council to ensure Aboriginal women's issues and concerns are considered as an integral part of the work of the council.

Approximately 200 women attended gatherings held in Point Pearce, Port Augusta, Whyalla, Port Lincoln, the Riverland, Noarlunga, Elizabeth, Taoundi College Elders Group, Grannies Group, Pitjantjatjara Lands (Turnkey Bore and Balfours) and Coober Pedy. A further 80 women participated in an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Council Regional Women's Forum held in Tumbly Bay.

Approximately 30 young women attended a workshop held at Gepps Cross Girls High School, with the assistance from the Deputy Principal. Young women from Windsor Gardens, Ross Smith and Le Fevre also attended.

A copy of the newsletter reporting the outcomes of the gatherings and ministerial council meeting will be provided to Aboriginal women and groups and can be made available to members of parliament.

OFFICE FOR THE STATUS OF WOMEN

In reply to **Mrs REDMOND**.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: The changes in dollar amounts between years are based on data that is collected on a 'snapshot' day each year. A component of the collection is to count the number of clients on the day receiving an accommodation service.

The number of clients counted is then divided by the total actual funds spent on that service type. This formula is used to give an indicative cost per accommodation place provided.

The National Disability Administrators have recognised the shortfalls of the 'snapshot' day methodology. In response to this, a national minimum data set redevelopment project was commissioned. The project objective is to implement, across all jurisdictions, a data collection process spanning the full year, to commence in January 2003. The project also addresses data transmission strategies in an effort to increase the quality of returns.

In addition to the quality of the current data returns being poor, the 'snapshot' day counting guidelines do not adequately cater for occasions of absenteeism/vacancies that may occur on the day. The cost per place is higher in a year when there is significant absenteeism/vacancies on the day, and vice versa on a day when absenteeism/vacancies are low. However the manner in which these occasions are treated is inconsistent across the collection.

Significant numbers of government accommodation places are provided from large institutional type settings, thus the figures are more accurate as absenteeism/vacancies are either fewer, or are accounted for, on the snapshot date.

It is estimated that in 2001-2002 the figure for non-government absenteeism/vacancies was excessive, thereby over inflating the cost per place. The target figure for non-government places, where the flow through is greater, attempts to account for this.

Successful implementation of the redeveloped data set will significantly increase the accuracy of the data used for cost calculations.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES, REGIONAL FORUMS

In reply to **Mrs REDMOND**.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: The forum held in Ceduna in June to address Indigenous family violence was for the Ceduna and Koonibba Aboriginal communities, as well as for the Homelands groups.

The Weena Mooga Gu Gudba, who have been working for a long time in the indigenous family violence area, convened the local group that planned the Ceduna/Koonibba forum.

The organisers were fully aware of the barriers to Aboriginal people's participation and therefore every effort was made to assist Aboriginal people from Koonibba and the Homelands to get to the forum. Transport was arranged, and lunch was provided.

The Department of Human Services (DHS) is very aware of the distances between these communities, the need for each community to discuss its own issues and the diversity of responses required. The

Aboriginal Services Division within DHS follows strict cultural protocols before visiting any Aboriginal community.

Negotiations are currently underway with Elders and local community people for the regional forums to be held at Oak Valley, Port Lincoln and Yalata. Planning the regional forums in these communities will occur via extensive and sensitive consultation through local advisory structures to determine the format the forums will take. The people in each of these communities are different, and diverse strategies are needed to address and respond to domestic and family violence.

FLEURIEU VOLUNTEER RESOURCE CENTRE

In reply to **Mr MEIER**.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: Funding to the Fleurieu Volunteer Resource Centre has previously been provided under the Family and Community Development Program. In 2001-02 \$13 000 was provided to the centre under this program.

The funding allocation for 2002-03 under the Family and Community Development Program is yet to be determined. Once a decision has been made it will be communicated to the Fleurieu Volunteer Resource Centre.

OFFENDER BED DAYS

In reply to **Mrs REDMOND**.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: Due to a technical breakdown it was not possible to fully report against Output 5.4 regarding young offenders in custody for the 2001-02 financial year. This information is now available and indicates that during 2001-02 there were 10 260 remand bed days and 12 853 detention bed days.

All other information remains as originally reported.

Given the uncontrollable nature of the variables associated with young people offending and being placed in secure care it is difficult to predict the numbers of young people who will be in secure care for 2002-03. Therefore the above data forms an estimate of how many young people will be in remand or detention for that period. These figures do not, however, form a target.

OFFICE FOR YOUTH

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: The funding formula per participant for the Active8 program has not changed since its inception. All participants still attract a grant of \$800 over the course of a two-year program.

In the first year of the program initial start up costs included costs such as the \$4 000 grant to each of the service providers joining the program. Similarly, in the first year of the program, the production of handbooks and promotional material meant that any additional funds could be directed to program activities in the second year. The additional programs are identical to the programs that were on offer in the first year, although there was an increased emphasis on engaging 15-19 year olds who were not involved in formal education.

Two initiatives that exemplify the increased participation in community initiatives are the youth advisory committees and youth network grants. To date 55 youth advisory committees, including five indigenous specific committees, have been funded, involving up to 1000 young people across South Australia. 23 youth networks have also been funded across the state, with grants of up to \$4 000 in the first year and \$2 000 for two subsequent years. These initiatives, along with a range of other initiatives, seek to heighten the engagement of young people in the communities in which they live.

The Office for Youth does not offer any programs exclusively for rural areas. However, the office monitors the level of expenditure in rural communities to ensure that these communities access fair and reasonable levels of funding within budget allocations.

Examples of the levels of funding allocated to rural communities through Office for Youth programs include:

- of the 102 Active8 Premier's Youth Challenge programs approved, 33 (32 per cent) are in country areas, with these programs hosting a total of 926 (31 per cent) participants.
- 12 organisations across SA have received funds between \$3 500 and \$20 000 for youth in the community grants. Six of these organisations are from regional areas namely, Mount Gambier, Wudinna, Goolwa, Berri, Waikerie and Mount Barker.

- In the first year of the program, 55 youth advisory committees have been established or strengthened. 33 of these youth committees are in rural and regional areas (60 per cent).
- 23 youth networks were funded in 2002 through Office of Youth grants, 11 (48 per cent) of these being in rural and regional areas.
- 27 councils from rural and regional areas were awarded funding to conduct National Youth Week activities in their area in 2002.
- 7 of the 14 councils participating in the South Australian Youth Legislature Program are from regional areas.
- The SAYit forum was run in February 2002 for young people and local government employees who work with young people; 29 out of 57 workers who attended the forum (50 per cent) and 48 out of the 91 (52 per cent) young attendees were from regional areas.
- From the September 2001 to May 2002, 9 of the 35 Youth Leadership Grants were awarded to young people living in regional and rural areas.

No specific allocation is made by the Office for Youth to regional and rural areas. Rather, fair and equitable access to available funding, normally set at least at a per capita proportion, is used as a benchmark in monitoring program implementation.

It is intended that the Office for Youth will continue to support National Youth Week during 2003. At this stage no new programs have been initiated.

The Active for Life strategy is the responsibility of the Minister for Education and Children's Services and the country athletes awards are the responsibility of the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. The honourable member's question on these activities has been referred to the respective ministers.

SUBSIDIES IN COUNTRY AND METROPOLITAN REGIONS

In reply to **Hon. M.R. BUCKBY**.

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: The Passenger Transport Board (PTB) has budgeted \$7.763 million for expenditure on regional public passenger services (output 2.5) for 2002-03.

Of this, \$4.027 million is reimbursed by the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Department of Education and Children's Services (DECS) for regional concession bus fares.

The budgeted value of payments to bus contractors, including bus and depot leases is \$132.7 million for 2002-03. This amount is contained within output 2.4 Metropolitan Public Passenger Services in volume 2 of Budget Paper 4, page 9.29.

Transport SA has budgeted \$9.67 million for the purchase of new buses for the metropolitan service in 2002-03. This appears on page 40 of Budget Paper 5 Capital Investment Statement 2002-03.

\$92.4 million in total has been allocated in the forward estimates for the bus replacement program over the next five years to 2007-08.

FUTURE BUS PURCHASES

In reply to **Hon. M.R. BUCKBY**.

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: Transport SA (TSA) has a current bus replacement contract with the bus manufacturer MAN to replace buses at the rate of approximately one per week, with 50 buses remaining to be delivered in 2002-03. Funding of \$9.67 million was allocated in the forward estimates by the previous government and this funding is sufficient for the conclusion of the MAN contract in the 2002-03 financial year.

No funding was allocated by the previous government in any future years for any bus purchases beyond 2002-03, even though the

Passenger Transport Act 1994 regulated age limit of 25 years will necessitate further bus purchases from the 2004-05 financial year.

The Rann ALP Government has announced a total of \$92.4 million to be spent on modern, air-conditioned, accessible buses planned to be delivered by the end of June 2008.

FUNDING FOR THE OFFICE FOR RACING

In reply to **Hon. D.C. KOTZ**.

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: Total funding for the Office for Racing for the 2002-03 year is \$451 000.

In relation to other support areas which attract government funding, I have been advised that the Department of Treasury, through the Motor Sport Board, allocated \$20 000 in the 2001-02 financial year to the SA Jockey Club as compensation for disruption caused through the Clipsal 500 event.

Grants or other commitments provided to the racing industry for the 2001-02 year totalled \$650 000 that was allocated from the management and development program administered by the Office for Recreation and Sport. These funds were allocated to Thoroughbred Racing SA Ltd (\$480 000), Harness Racing SA Ltd (\$115 000), and Greyhound Racing SA Ltd (\$55 000).

It is my intention to approve funding for 2002-03 for the three codes from the management and development program at the same level as for 2001-02.

ELLISTON—LOCK ROAD

In reply to **Hon. M.R. BUCKBY**.

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: It is estimated that \$1.228 million will be available for the Elliston-Lock Road in 2002-03 under the sealing of unsealed rural arterial roads program.

EYRE HIGHWAY, CEDUNA TO PENONG

In reply to **Hon. M.R. BUCKBY**.

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: As part of the May 2002 federal budget announcement, the federal government announced funding of \$3.2 million for the project for the 2002-03 financial year. Notional funding has also been announced for the 2003-04 year which will see the completion of the project.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TRANSPORT SUBSIDY SCHEME

In reply to **Hon. M.R. BUCKBY**.

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: The South Australian Transport Subsidy Scheme (SATSS) was introduced in 1987 to provide subsidised and accessible taxi services to people who are unable to use the public transport system due to a severe and permanent physical disability that limits their mobility. Blindness or vision impairment on its own does not allow for membership of the scheme.

During 2000 the Passenger Transport Board completed an assessment of the South Australian Transport Subsidy Scheme with the assistance of Disability Services of the Department of Human Services. The report examined a number of issues including the possible inclusion of people with vision impairment. I am considering this report.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL RAILWAY LAND

In reply to **Dr McFETRIDGE**.

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: The table below lists the location of all non-operational Australian National Railway land earmarked for disposal in 2002-2003.

AusBulk Locations (all sites to be sold at market rate to AusBulk)

Alawoona	Kimba	Saddleworth	Eudunda
Apamurra	Kyancutta	Tarlee	Frances
Balaklava	Lameroo	Tooolie	Galga
Buckleboo	Lock	Ungarra	Gurrai
Burra	Loxton	Waddikee	Hallett
Cummins	Minnipa	Wanbi	Kulkami
Cungena	Murdinga	Warrambo	Naracoorte
Darke Peak	Nunjikompita	Wharminda	Peebinga

Edillilie	Owen	Wirrulla	Waikerie
Farrell Flat	Parilla	Wudinna	Port Lincoln
Geranium	Peake	Yaninee	Thevenard
Hamley Bridge	Penong	Yeelanna	Wallaroo
Kapinnie	Pinnaroo	Brinkworth	
Kapunda	Poochera	Bute	
Karoonda	Roseworthy	Cambrai	
Kielpa	Rudall	Copeville	
Other locations (to be sold, subject to Ministerial approval and Cabinet Circular 114 process)			
Mile End	Murray Bridge		
Kingston	Port Wakefield		
Port Augusta	Islington North		
Stirling North	Islington South		
Port Pirie	Waikerie		

The total budgeted income for the sale of the properties listed above is \$11,100,000. This does not include any allowance for disposal costs such as land remediation and sale process costs. The net income will depend on these costs which, in the case of remediation costs, are difficult to determine at this stage.

PROJECTED OUTPUT REVENUE

In reply to **Hon. M.R. BUCKBY.**

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: The question relates to revenue derived from Output 2.4: Metropolitan Public Passenger Services. Revenue from this output is comprised of: increased fare revenue from Adelaide's public transport services as a result of increased fares (\$1.392 million) and a projected increase in patronage (\$6.378 million); concession reimbursement paid to the Passenger Transport Board by other government agencies (\$1.952 million); and revenue from other sources (\$1.050 million).

BUS ROUTES IN THE MURRAY-MALLEE

In reply to **Mr VENNING.**

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: In May 2001 the Passenger Transport Board (PTB) commenced the Murray Mallee integrated transport study in order to facilitate integrated passenger transport networks in the region. The study also was designed to serve as a model for a coordinated approach to passenger transport in other areas of regional SA.

The Murray Mallee region was identified in the Commonwealth Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia as having poor accessibility and a lack of support services.

The study used community consultation to identify the transport needs of the region and develop strategies to address these needs. A total of 16 community consultation forums were held and included broad representation from elderly, youth, people with disabilities, aboriginal groups, women, students, transport providers and health providers.

A diverse range of travel needs was identified, including access to: medical and professional services; education and training; social interaction; leisure and entertainment; sport; and religious and cultural events.

The three key user groups that emerged as most in need of more responsive transport services are elderly, youth and aboriginal groups. These groups were highlighted as the most vulnerable in terms of increasing isolation and depression due to an inability to access essential services and participate in their community. These services and activities are generally located in major service centres such as Adelaide, Murray Bridge, Berri and Nuriootpa. Although Adelaide was an important destination for medical and specialist services, travel patterns generally focussed on access to regional centres and between local towns.

Proposed Transport Services

To address these transport needs a total of 33 services are proposed for the region. These routes reflect the key areas where users are located and where they need to travel. Services along these routes include:

- stand-alone services providing access between towns;
- feeder services into existing passenger transport services; or
- part of a combination of new and existing services providing

access to major service centres such as Adelaide, Berri and the Barossa Valley.

Services are likely to operate on an initial frequency of weekly, fortnightly or monthly depending on the route and the demand for service. Scheduling of services will be monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure services are responsive to the community's needs.

The proposed services will provide return links between the town of origin (e.g. Meningie, Coonalpyn, Tintinara, Karoonda, Swan Reach, Mannum, Cambrai, Pinnaroo and Lameroo and surrounding areas) and the nearest service centre (e.g. Murray Bridge, Berri, Loxton, Nuriootpa and Adelaide).

A further three flexible transport services are proposed for each council area to address specific needs and activities that cannot be accommodated by fixed routes and times. The times and locations of these activities will differ from week to week and therefore require services that can adapt to changing needs as required. These services will operate on a minimum frequency, generally once a week per activity and will be based on a booking system.

In line with the key principles of the study to get the most efficient services, an open tender process will be undertaken with successful tenderers contracted to the PTB. These operators will then be supported through negotiated payments and reimbursements for concession fares. Once the tender process has been completed and the services established, the exact services will be known. At this stage they are proposed services.

As the majority of the proposed services are new, past patronage data is not available. However, the detailed consultation processes undertaken throughout the study confirmed a demand from the community for regular and responsive transport services in the region.

The size of vehicle that will be required will depend on expected patronage and the degree to which the service will be integrated. In many cases, vehicles to be used will have a seating capacity of up to 12 passengers, as these vehicles are suited to hospital work, sporting club activities, etc. This will reduce the initial capital costs for prospective operators and enable greater flexibility in terms of refining services as required.

Large passenger vehicle services will have a five-year term, and small passenger vehicle services will have a three year term, in keeping with depreciation rates on that size of vehicle. Funding for the implementation of the Murray Mallee integrated transport plan is available within the PTB's recurrent budget allocation. The PTB has allocated a total of \$520 000 per annum for the implementation of integrated passenger transport systems across regional South Australia, the first stage of which is the Murray Mallee integrated transport plan.

OUTPUT VARIANCES

In reply to **Hon. D.C. KOTZ.**

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: I refer to a question asked by the Hon. D.C. Kotz during Estimates Committee B on 1 August 2002

in relation to the three output areas that are part of the responsibility of recreation and sport, that is, output classes 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4.

It is possible that the answer given in relation to the question may be misunderstood and, therefore, I now provide some additional information and clarification in relation to output 2.4 and the reduction in expenditure of \$2.792 million.

In relation to output class 2.4, the reduction in expenditure of \$2.792 million arises from:

Removal of funding for Adelaide Oval facility development is \$500 000.

The transfer of community sporting infrastructure grants of \$1.9 million to output class 2.2, recreation and sport participation.

Offsetting the above is a new initiative funding for salt damp rectification at the superdrome of \$600 000; secondly, new initiative funding of \$345 000 to alleviate office cost pressures from operating deficits at the Adelaide Superdrome and Santos Stadium and the charging of commercial rents for entry and use of the Adelaide Aquatic Centre; and, thirdly, a reduction in the output costs of the program by the removal of allocated corporate overheads from the Department for Environment and Heritage.

The balance of the variance relates to Grant Funding carryover not re-occurring in 2002-03 in addition to savings required by the government.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS REVIEW

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS.**

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: No additional staff have been engaged by Workplace Services to support the Industrial Relations Review. Support has been provided by existing staff who are funded from Workplace Services existing recurrent budget.

I am advised that officers who will provide some assistance to the review during its course include:

2001-2002	Budget Line
1 x Executive B	WBD8213N
1 x Executive B	WWS8213N
1 x ASO7	WBD8213N
1 x ASO6	WBD8213N
2 x ASO4	WBD8213N
1 x ASO3	WBD8213N
1 x ASO5	WBD8213N
1 x Grad (ASO2)	WBD8213N

I am advised that the approximate cost of this assistance is \$12 500.

2002-2003	Budget Line
1 x Executive B	WBD8213N
1 x Executive B	WWS8213N
2 x ASO7	WBD8213N
1 x ASO6	WBD8213N
2 x ASO4	WBD8213N
1 x ASO3	WBD8213N
1 x Grad (ASO2)	WBD8213N

I am advised that the approximate cost of this assistance is \$24 000.

Mr Steven's contract states that he must produce progress reports to me as Minister for Industrial Relations on the work undertaken for the review. He has been given a short time-frame of five months (May 2002-October 2002) to produce a report to me that makes recommendations about improvements to the current system of industrial relations in South Australia.

Mr Stevens contract requires that it be performed to the highest professional standards. The review's terms of reference require Mr Stevens to develop recommendations in the interests of the South Australian community, having regard to the concerns of the key stakeholders.

South Australian taxpayers will benefit from the review. The review is the first comprehensive independent examination of the industrial relations system in South Australia since the Cawthorne report. Much has changed in the world of work in recent years. South Australians will benefit from an industrial relations system that is more attuned to those changes. The review will make a significant contribution to developing reforms to take account of changes in the world of work.

Mr Steven's extensive experience as a member of the South Australian Industrial Relations Commission, and the extremely high regard in which he is held within all of the stakeholder community, gives me great confidence that he will perform the tasks required impeccably, and deliver a significant benefit to the South Australian community.

COMMISSIONER STEVENS

In reply to **Hon. I.F. EVANS.**

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT:

Terms and conditions.

Mr Stevens is engaged to review the industrial relations system in South Australia, to consult with stakeholders, to develop an issues paper, and to provide a report to the Minister for Industrial Relations that includes recommendations based on the findings of that review.

Further terms and conditions include:

- that in providing the services, the contractor is required to be aware of and be consistent with government policy objectives in equal employment opportunity and anti-discrimination legislation. Equal opportunity considerations also include equity of service, appropriate representation and behaviour in service provision;
- that all intellectual property rights (including copyright, trade marks, patents, design and any other right including the right to registration of any of the foregoing) in any document, matter or thing prepared or written under or in accordance with this contract will vest in the minister;
- that Mr Stevens fee is based on an hourly rate of \$105.00 per hour;
- that Mr Stevens will maintain in force at his own expense during the term of the contract:
 - Public liability insurance in his name for not less than \$5 million for any one event or such other amount as the minister may reasonably require; and
 - Professional indemnity insurance in his name for not less than \$1 million for any one event or such other amount as the minister may reasonably require.

The final report outlining recommendations is due by 15 October 2002.

Contract Expiry: Mr Stevens contract expires on 30 November 2002.

Travel Expenses: The travel budget for the review is \$5 000.

Mr STEVENS' CONTRACT

In reply to **Mr GOLDSWORTHY.**

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: Mr Stevens' contract does not provide for an extension.

COMMONWEALTH GRANTS

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL.**

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: The grant revenue of \$62.248 million for 2002-03 as reported in the Statement of Financial Performance for Transport SA (Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, Page 9.39) includes \$61.279 million relating to the following commonwealth grants—

· Australian Land Transport Development Fund grant for the construction of National Highways	\$27.520 million
· Australian Land Transport Development Fund grant for the maintenance of National Highways	\$19.400 million
· Roads Of National Importance funding for the construction of Stage 1 of the Port River Expressway	\$6.000 million
· Funds for the Federal Blackspot Program allocated to arterial and local roads based on priorities determined by the State Black Spot Consultative Panel appointed by the Federal Minister. The Panel has representatives from all levels of Government	\$3.490 million
· Interstate Road Transport Act funds to be applied to the maintenance of arterial roads used by heavy vehicles	\$3.869 million
· Roads to Recovery funds to be applied to outback roads	\$1.000 million
Total Commonwealth Grants	\$61.279 million

The balance of \$0.969m is a State subsidy to collect the Emergency Services Levy.

KOOLUNGA TO BRINKWORTH ROAD

In reply to **Hon. R.G. KERIN**.

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: In June 2001, both the Koolunga to Brinkworth Road and Dublin Road were originally identified as priority roads for funding under the Regional Roads Program. These roads received funding of \$357 000 and \$305 000 respectively under this program in 2001-02 and were notionally allocated funding of \$450 000 and \$622 000 respectively for 2002-03.

The Regional Roads Program has been retained by this government with reduced funding of \$700 000. Two roads, viz Bratten Way (\$300 000) and the Wallaroo heavy vehicle bypass (\$400 000), considered by Transport SA to have the highest priority, will be funded in 2002-03 under this program. I understand that the Local Roads Advisory Committee has recommended that the Koolunga to Brinkworth Road be allocated \$300 000 under the Special Local Roads Program, and the Dublin Road be allocated \$330 000 under the Roads to Recovery Program in 2002-03.

Part of the Regional Roads Program funds have been reallocated to enable the government to increase and accelerate its focus on a safety-driven roads investment strategy which is expected to also provide significant benefits to regional South Australia.

REGIONAL ROADS

In reply to **Hon. G.M. GUNN**.

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: The effective reduction is from \$4.9 million to \$2.8 million. The \$8.45 million is overstated because it includes \$2.6 million which was actually spent by the previous government in 2001-02 and \$1.0 million which was subsequently moved by the government to an outer year.

The balance of the reduction is \$1.8 million which is the result of deferring sealing of the Lucindale-Mount Burr road and Morgan-Blanchetown road. These roads carry very low traffic volumes (less than 100 vehicles per day of through traffic) and there are parallel roads available. Sealing these roads is therefore very difficult to justify on purely economic grounds and is a very low priority compared to the safety and other improvement needs on the more heavily trafficked arterial roads across the state.

No agreement with Northern Areas Council will be broken in relation to the Booleroo Centre to Jamestown Road. Council has been advised that it can expect \$430 000 to be available this financial year to continue sealing work on this road. Current estimates indicate that sufficient funds will also be available next financial year (2003-04) to enable council to complete the sealing of this road.

An alternative pay back arrangement with the Goyder Council will not be necessary as council has already been fully re-imbursed for their work on the sealing of the Burra-Eudunda Road.

ROAD CONTRACTORS

In reply to **Hon. G.M. GUNN**.

The Hon. M.J. WRIGHT: The carting of goods to 4.6 metres high has legal controls due to issues of vehicle stability and roadway height clearances.

Load height limits are set nationally and are based upon engineering practices and experiences in the field. These standards provide a balance between the needs of the transport industry and community road safety.

Cartage of loads to 4.6 metres high are permitted when a drop-deck trailer is used because, in this case, the vehicle is more stable.

Transport SA has reviewed the policy regarding the cartage of hay to 4.6 metres high for the duration of drought declared zones in New South Wales. The outcome of this review has allowed cartage of hay to 4.6 metres on drop deck trailers only.

A number of permits have already been issued for this purpose and are usually processed within 24 hours of application.

IT COUNCIL FUNDING

In reply to **Dr McFETRIDGE**.

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: The precise sum of money allocated to the IT Council for 2002-03 is \$200 000 plus \$20 000 GST.

FUNDING FOR TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR REGIONAL AREAS

In reply to **Mrs PENFOLD**.

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: The Regional Training 2002 Program builds on the previous successful Regional Training programs run in a number of regions across the state. It has now been expanded to cover the whole state (16 regions in all) and runs under a 'brokerage' model where a key regional organisation (e.g. regional development board, local council) brokers the delivery of accredited training with local Registered Training Organisations (RTOs). The only stipulation is that the brokering organisation has to be legally incorporated.

The program operates on a 12-month calendar year basis under a funding agreement between the Minister for Employment, Training and Further Education and the 'broker' organisation. In turn, the broker is required to sub-contract the RTOs to deliver the training by developing a similar funding agreement between the broker and the RTO, which replicates the conditions in the ministerial funding agreement. The training must be in priority training areas identified broadly in the state training plan and targeting skill shortages identified at the regional level.

The program provides accredited training delivered by RTOs and encourages collaboration between schools and VET providers (TAFE and non-TAFE) at the regional level. It also provides for flexibility between full certificate completions and completion of selected accredited modules (the latter resulting in a statement of attainment). The target group for the program is regional unemployed people. However up to 25 per cent of the program can be used to provide up-skilling for existing workers.

In 2002, up to 800 places will be funded under the program. Budget allocations per region for 2002 are as follows:

Region	2002 Budget
Whyalla Region	\$108 000
Limestone Coast (South East) Region	\$105 840
Murraylands Region	\$108 000
Adelaide Hills Region	\$108 000
Western Metropolitan Region	\$227 200
Southern Metropolitan Region	\$243 200
Northern Metropolitan Region	\$235 752
Inner Metropolitan Region	\$126 000
Barossa/Mid North Region	\$108 000
Eyre Region	\$ 80 000
Port Augusta Region	\$ 80 000
Port Pirie Region	\$ 80 000
Kangaroo Island Region	\$ 80 000
Riverland Region	\$ 80 000
Yorke Peninsula Region	\$ 80 000
Fleurieu Region	\$ 80 000
Total	\$1 929 992

In addition to the regional training program, regional South Australia is also serviced by the network of eight TAFE institutes, particularly the Spencer, Onkaparinga, Murray and South-East institutes. These four have a total of \$21.5 million in their purchase agreements for the funding of direct training delivery and will generate in excess of 3.2 million accredited hours of training in 2002. Apprenticeship and traineeship training is also a significant component of these regionally based Institutes, expending up to \$5.9 million in return for a projected 784 252 accredited hours of training in 2002. Most of the training is of course delivered to part-time students seeking to improve their skills and enhance their lives, but for interest the total of recognised training delivered is equivalent to 7000 full-time students.

ORGANISATIONS WHICH RECEIVE FUNDING

In reply to **Hon. M.R. BUCKBY**.

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: The attached table is a breakdown of organisations which receive funding from the Office of Employment. The organisations have been classified according to the employment program from which they are funded.

Organisation	Amount
Regional Employment Strategy	
14 Regional Development Boards and the City of Onkaparinga Group Training Companies (projected funding)	Total funding \$1.98 million. Individual Regional Development Board allocations are being finalised. Total funding \$1.8 million (\$900,000 State/\$900,000 Commonwealth)
· Career Employment Group	\$251,250
· Engineering Employers Association	\$121,850
· Group Training Employment	\$83,388
· Hospitality	\$137,850
· Master Builders Association	\$103,675
· Maxima	\$343,825
· Motor Trades Association	\$117,100
· PEER	\$234,375
· Statewide Group Training	\$353,013
· Trainee & Apprentice Placement Services	\$75,213
· Workskill	\$ 7,650
DOME (Don't Overlook Mature Expertise)	\$170,000
Human Resource Advisory Service	
Business Enterprise Centres SA Inc	\$60,000
Business SA	\$60,000
Youth Employment Program	\$2 million will be allocated to organisations for youth employment projects in 2002-03. The number of organisations to be funded and the amount of funding for each will be determined following development of a program funding model.
The following organisations were funded in 2001-02 with some funding to be paid in 2002-03	
· YMCA	\$92,200
· Goreta Aboriginal Corp.	\$123,500
· City of Onkaparinga	\$150,000
· Australian Refugee Assoc.	\$140,000
· Multicultural Youth Network	\$114,980
· Gully Corp Tea Tree Gully	\$55,500
· RivSkills	\$14,805
· City of Charles Sturt	\$70,000
· Employment Directions	\$93,550
· HETA	\$51,095
· Murraylands Regional Development Board	\$237,300
· Yorke District Council	\$80,000
· City of Playford	\$224,750
· Mission Australia	\$120,000
· Barossa Riverland Mid North Areas Consultative Comm.	\$84,600
· Adelaide City Council	\$142,100
Community Employment Assistance Program	Total 2002-03 funding is \$1.278 million. It is expected that between 20 and 25 organisations will be funded through this program in 2002-03. Submissions are being called for.
In 2001-02 the following organisations were funded, with some funding to be paid in 2002-03:	
· Australia Wide Consultancies	\$36,450
· Statewide	\$25,000
· All Staff Training Consultants	\$18,370
· English Language Services	\$28,000
· Australian Refugee Association	\$63,846
· Pathways Training	\$52,980
· LM Training Consultants	\$21,219
· SA Career Consultants	\$15,000
· MJP Employment Services (Minda Inc)	\$7,000
· New Day Ministries	\$92,000
· Mission SA—Christies Beach	\$26,700
· Mission SA—Smithfield	\$26,710
· Wirrenada Adaptive Vocational Education	\$21,130

Organisation	Amount
· Mission Australia—Port Augusta	\$21,050
· VAT—Whyalla	\$15,990
· Yorke Peninsula Employment	\$12,300
· Carers' Training Centre Pty Ltd	\$8,950
· Kaylene Kranz and Associates	\$41,586
· L Green and Associates	\$37,500
· Direct Personnel	\$22,650
· Australian Retailers Association	\$22,690
· Quality Training Company	\$55,000
· Eastside	\$27,240
· Southern Success BEC	\$90,000
· Workskills Inc.	\$40,750

Working Towns

The following organisations were funded in 2001-02 with some funding to be paid in 2002-03.

Total 2002-03 funding is \$600,000. It is expected that 50 to 60 organisations will receive funding of between \$5,000 and \$20,000 for Working Towns projects in 2002-03.

· Macclesfield Tourist Promotion Association	\$10,000
· Torrens Valley Tourist Association	\$5,000
· Adelaide Hills Wine Region Inc	\$20,000
· Hahndorf Business and Tourism Assoc Inc.	\$15,000
· Nuriootpa Regional Community Assoc Inc.	\$9,500
· Light Regional Council (on behalf of the Roseworthy Township)	\$10,500
· Willunga Farmers Market Inc.	\$8,000
· Hackham Business Association Inc.	\$7,390
· Prospect Road Mainstreet Assoc Inc.	\$8,000
· Reynell Business and Tourism Assoc	\$8,000
· Corporation of the Town of Gawler (on behalf of Town Centre Traders)	\$20,000
· Lonsdale Business Association Inc.	\$10,000
· Go West Inc.	\$20,000
· Port Lincoln Chamber of Commerce & Tourism	\$12,000
· Cummins and District Enterprise Committee	\$17,000
· Gawler Ranges Marketing and Development Committee	\$20,000
· Eyre Peninsula Local Govt Association (Joint Project with Whyalla Economic Development Board)	\$5,000
· Franklin Harbour Community Development Group	\$6,000
· Eyre Regional Development Board (on behalf of 10 participating Councils)	\$12,000
· Victor Harbor Business Association	\$10,000
· Strathalbyn District Commerce Assoc	\$12,000
· Milang and Clayton Traders Association	\$8,000
· Yankalilla Area Commerce & Community Association	\$10,000
· Advance Kingscote	\$20,000
· Naracoorte Tourism	\$16,500
· Eudunda Business and Tourism Assoc	\$15,000
· Watervale Residents Association (Sponsored by Clare and Gilbert Valley Council)	\$16,000
· Auburn Community Development Committee	\$20,000
· Clare and Gilbert Valley Council	\$20,000
· Southern Mallee District Council	\$10,000
· Cadell Community & Tourist Association	\$5,000
· Murray Bridge Business and Tourism Inc.	\$8,000
· Coorong District Council	\$17,000
· Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association Inc	\$4,000
· District Council of Coober Pedy	\$10,000
· Woomera Board	\$4,000
· Penong & Districts Progress Association Inc	\$4,000
· Coorabie & Districts Progress Association Inc.	\$4,000
· Flinders Ranges Council	\$10,000
· Yunta District Hall Inc	\$4,000

Organisation	Amount
· Iron Knob Progress Association	\$4,000
· Roxby Central Traders Association Inc.	\$15,000
· Kaltijiti Arts & Crafts Inc	\$15,000
· Flinders Ranges Tourism Association	\$15,000
· Port Augusta Focus Inc	\$20,000
· Northern Areas Council	\$4,000
· Iron Knob Progress Association	\$4,000
· Roxby Central Traders Association Inc.	\$15,000
· Kaltijiti Arts & Crafts Inc	\$15,000
· Flinders Ranges Tourism Association	\$15,000
· Port Augusta Focus Inc	\$20,000
· Northern Areas Council	\$17,150
· Gladstone Community Development and Tourism Association Inc.	\$5,712
· Port Pirie Chamber of Commerce	\$11,425
· Booleroo Centre Business Association	\$5,712
· Waikerie Community Progress Association Inc	\$6,675
· Renmark/Paringa Get Up and Go Inc.	\$7,500
· Whyalla Chamber of Commerce	\$20,000
· Eyre Peninsula Local Govt Association	\$10,000
· Port Rickaby Progress Association Inc.	\$3,000
· Yorketown Progress Association	\$3,000
· Two Wells and Environs Strategic Planning Committee Inc.	\$20,000
· Maitland Progress Association	\$5,000
· Balgowan Progress Association	\$3,000

COURSES AND TRAINING PACKAGES

In reply to **Hon. M.R. BUCKBY:**

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: Training packages are developed by National Industry Training Advisory Boards (ITABs) and endorsed by the National Training Quality Council (NTQC). The nationally agreed development and review processes require a review of a training package to commence 18 months after endorsement with the aim that reviewed training packages are endorsed three years after initial endorsement.

In 2001-2002, 28 training packages were approved for implementation in South Australia. These approvals comprised new training packages, reviewed training packages and additions to existing training packages.

In 2002-2003 it is estimated that 40 training packages will be approved for implementation in South Australia. These are anticipated to comprise nine new training packages, 10 reviewed training packages, and 21 additions to existing training packages.

Details of these 40 training packages are listed in the attached table.

New	Reviewed	Additions
Community Pharmacy	Correctional Services	Asset Security—Use of Firearms and Defensive Tactics
Conservation and Land Management	Hospitality	Business Services—Governance
Film, Television, Radio & Multimedia	Plastics, Rubber, Cablemaking	Civil Construction—Road Marking
Funeral Services	Pulp and Paper	Finance—Conveyancing
Health	Retail	Business Services— E-Business
Maritime	Tourism	Information Technology—E-Business
Property Development and Management	Transport and Distribution	Local Government—Operational Works
Business Services	Water Industry	Public Safety—Fire
Aeroskills	Gas Industry	Public Safety—SES
	Wholesale	Seafood
		Automotive—Heavy Engineering
		Electricity Generation
		Electricity Transmission
		Financial Services—Accounting
		Financial Services ASIC Standards
		Financial Services—Desktop Audit
		Financial Services—Financial Planning
		Sport—Golf, Rugby, AFL
		Retail—Baking
		Financial Services—General Insurance
		Property Development—Spatial
9	10	21

YOUTH GRADUATE INDUCTION PROGRAM

In reply to **Hon. M.R. BUCKBY**.

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: A structured graduate induction and development program is in place using the certificate 4 in government of the public sector training package. It has been developed and coordinated to provide a pathway for new graduates to obtain the necessary competencies for working effectively in the public sector environment. The program commenced in February 2002 and will be completed in December 2003.

Some 385 graduates over all portfolios had commenced the program as at the end of July 2002.

FARMBIS PROGRAM FUNDING

In reply to **Hon. M.R. BUCKBY**.

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: The Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries has provided the following information:

The previous Liberal Government announced a state-commonwealth joint funded \$24 million FarmBis program over the three years to June 2004, however, what was not stated in announcing a program of that level was that the final year of state funding for the program had not been provided for in the budget forward estimates. It is this funding shortfall for the third year of the program by the previous government which has resulted in the majority of the FarmBis budget reduction. This action has necessitated the overall budget for the FarmBis program being reduced to \$14 million over the three years.

To maximise the FarmBis outcomes within the budgetary constraints the state planning group for the program has recently revised the level of grants made to participants from 75 per cent to 50 per cent of the eligible costs of training.

OFFICE OF INNOVATION

In reply to **Mr HAMILTON-SMITH**.

The Hon. J.D. LOMAX-SMITH: Innovation, science and technology are seen as the key drivers of economic growth in the modern knowledge based economy. With that in mind, a newly created department will bring together the core innovation, science and technology policy and program functions which were vested in at least four different departments under the previous administration. This will include the Office of Innovation (with resources previously located in the Department of Premier and Cabinet and the Department of Industry and Trade); Bio Innovation SA (previously located in the Department of Primary Industries and Resources); and both the Playford Centre and the Information Economy Policy Office (previously located in the Department of Administrative and Information Services). Co-locating these key elements of the government's innovation and science policy and program arms under a single minister and administrative unit will reduce duplication and ensure a greater level of collaboration and consistency across government. It will also remove ongoing uncertainty within the state's innovation community as to where ministerial and administrative responsibility for these critical areas lie within government.

The government has also created the Premier's Science and Research Council, with high level representation from the university and research sector as well as industry to ensure that it is provided with the best quality advice on all aspects of innovation and science. Close liaison will be maintained between the Premier's Science and Research Council and the Economic Development Board to ensure that the development of the state's innovation and science base is a key component of the State's economic development strategy.

The administrative structure for the science and information economy area of the new department is currently being finalised. Details on the transfer of staff, funding and resources into this new structure will be made available when this matter is resolved.

BUILDING ASSET SERVICES

In reply to **Hon. D.C. KOTZ**.

The Hon. J.W. WEATHERILL:

1. The variance explanation is in relation to the performance measure of the number of residential tenancies managed detailed on page 10.20 of budget paper 4, volume 2. The number of residential tenancies managed is anticipated to decline by 235 from a 2001-02 estimated result of 2 735 to 2 500. The variance states that there is a greater number of permanent placements in regional centres rather than short term placements.

This is in relation to placements of staff by client agencies such as SAPOL and education. As agencies place employees in longer term placements the need to turn over accommodation for employees will reduce. For example, if a teacher has gained a full year posting, DAIS will only be required to manage 1 tenancy, whereas if 2 teachers are placed in the same position for 6 months each DAIS will be required to manage 2 tenancies.

Consequently the longer term placement by agencies of employees in country areas is reducing the number of new tenancies DAIS is required to manage.

CAPITAL CITY FORUM

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. J.W. WEATHERILL: Ms Kate Brennan, chief executive officer, Adelaide Festival Centre Trust is the chair of the Capital City Forum.

ADELAIDE CEMETERIES AUTHORITY

In reply to **Hon. M.R. BUCKBY**.

The Hon. J.W. WEATHERILL: Ministerial control of the Adelaide Cemeteries Authority comes under part 2 of the Public Corporations Act 1993, a copy of this section is attached. Under this section and, in particular, clause (4) and (5), the minister may give direction in writing to the corporation, as detailed.

Notification of Fees

The Adelaide Cemeteries Authority, under its legislation, is not required to advise the minister of fees or any changes in fees.

Cremation

Cremations represent a significant part of the authority's business and in the last financial year represented 1466 services out of a total of 2 446 provided by the authority. The current fee is in line with those in the market place who provide similar facilities. In addition the authority has to compete with private operators who do not have the same operating conditions as the Authority.

The board was concerned that a price increase may result in a loss of demand for this service as clients may choose to use other service providers. This was not an acceptable outcome for the board, given the financial position of the Adelaide Cemeteries Authority.

West Terrace Cemetery fees

The fees for West Terrace Cemetery have not been varied since 1996.

Burial fees at West Terrace Cemetery have been increased to bring them into line with the industry and also with the other cemeteries under the control of the authority.

Exhumation at West Terrace Cemetery is difficult due to the layout and structure of the cemetery. Sites mostly require manual labour, have full monumentation, and sealed with concrete slabs, which makes access difficult.

Exhumation fees were considered in light of this most difficult and unpleasant task. This fee has been applied to all sites under the control of the authority.

In 2001-02 there were no exhumations carried out at West Terrace Cemetery.

However, section 6(1)(b) of the Public Corporations Act provides the minister with a general power of direction and control. The original advice from the authority did not include any explanation for the increases. My department has now sought that advice and will be providing me with a briefing shortly.

OUTPUT REVENUE FALL

In reply to **Hon. M.R. BUCKBY**.

The Hon. J.W. WEATHERILL:

1. The fall in output revenue in 2002-03 for Output 3.1 'Urban and Regional Development Strategies' by \$1.898 million is due to a higher level of planning regulatory fees received as a result of the level of development activity in the economy as well as a recoup of expenditure for targeted voluntary separation packages in 2001-02 not expected in 2002-03.

2. The original scope of the North Terrace Redevelopment—Stage 1 was to have involved the area between Kintore Avenue/Gawler Place and Frome Road/Frome Street. The present reduced scope of work will now only involve the area between Kintore Avenue/Gawler Place and the Pulteney St./North Tce intersection.

Consequently the extent of upgraded/ renewed underground infrastructure will be reduced to match the reduced scope of work.

The scope of renewal and upgrading of underground services within this reduced project area is intended to be as originally proposed.

The proposed works to underground infrastructure between Pulteney Street and Frome Road will now be deferred to a later stage as a result of the reduction in the scope of the Stage 1 works.

3. The reduction in expenditure on information and advice to the public, industry and government agencies in 2002-03 relates to the transfer of the environmental information functions of Planning SA to the Department of Environment and Heritage. These functions include spatial information analysis and mapping related to vegetation surveys, biodiversity analysis, support for coastal and marine management, salinity and water quality, management and maintenance of environmental databases as well as some whole of government mapping function.

4. The Development Act provides a process for assessing applications under the 'major development' provisions. This process includes consultation with the community and with state agencies with an interest in the development. Given the wide diversity of applications assessed as 'major' there are no fixed time limits under the act governing assessment of applications. For this reason Planning SA establishes a timeframe at the time an application is lodged, and this is agreed with the proponent.

The budget papers refer to timelines for assessing development applications. In the case of major developments, the timelines are as agreed at the time the process commences. The estimated result for the year 2001-02 reports that 83 per cent of applications met the agreed timeframe. During that year six major developments were assessed. Five of these were completed within the agreed timeframe. The 83 per cent figure represents five out of six assessments. The only one outside the agreed timeframe was the assessment for the Honeymoon Uranium Project. The assessment was delayed due to additional information requests by the Commonwealth Environment Minister. The state assessment was delayed pending completion of the commonwealth assessment as the assessment process was conducted jointly between the two levels of government.

The target for 2002-03 is 90 per cent. While 100 per cent is aimed for, it is recognised that there will always be some unforeseen delays (such as occurred with the Honeymoon project). For this reason the target is 90 per cent.

STEDS PROGRAM

In reply to **Mr BRINDAL**.

The Hon. J.W. WEATHERILL:

1. As per budget paper 3, page 5.12, \$4 million has been budgeted for 2002-03 for the STEDS program.

2. The entire \$4 million for 2001-02 has been provided to the Local Government Association for the STEDS program.

3. As I understand it the previous government never agreed to an acceleration of the program, but a review to see if acceleration was possible. The previous government approved an increase of funding to \$4 million from \$3.05 million for 2001-02 and 2002-03, which has subsequently been confirmed by this government in the current budget. The previous government and the Local Government Association agreed that a review of the scheme was required to investigate if alternative methods of funding would enable the lengthy waiting time to be drastically decreased. The current government has not changed this policy. The review of the STEDS program by the Local Government Association is currently underway and is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

4. As part of the review being undertaken by the Local Government Association local councils are currently being consulted and kept informed of the progress of the review.

5. The Local Government Association is responsible for STEDS in accordance with the 1994 agreement. The present funding arrangement is on the basis that the review will consider methods for accelerating the implementation of STEDS.

6. As previously stated, the Local Government Association administers the program, as such, and any questions relating to specific projects under the STEDS program should be directed towards the Local Government Association.