

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 29 October 2015

Parliamentary Procedure

SPEAKER, ABSENCE

The CLERK: I advise the house of the absence of the Speaker. The Deputy Speaker will take the chair.

At 10:30 the Deputy Speaker took the chair and read prayers.

VISITORS

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before those young people leave, I am not sure which school group is leaving us—

The Hon. S.W. Key: Mitcham.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Mitcham. They are guests of the member for Waite. Thank you so much for joining us in parliament today. We are sorry you have to leave so early, but we hope you have enjoyed your time here and that you come back again and see us very soon.

SITTINGS AND BUSINESS

The Hon. T.R. KENYON: I am going to move that Order of the Day No. 3 be postponed and taken into consideration after Orders of the Day No. 6 and No. 9.

Mr GARDNER: Is such a procedural motion capable of being debated?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: We are just checking what is going on. I will not do anything to disadvantage you, I promise. I just need some advice about what is happening.

Mr GARDNER: The convention is that members in private members' bills time have their matters adjourned by consent only, and that has been the situation for the whole time that I have been here and, I believe, for much longer than that. This would be highly unusual if it were to proceed, and it is opposed.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you could just give us a moment to get some advice from the table. So, we are adjourning?

The Hon. T.R. Kenyon: No. We have agreed to it.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Marine parks is at No. 3 and the member for Finniss is going to speak to us.

Bills

MARINE PARKS (SANCTUARY ZONES) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 15 October 2015.)

Mr PENGILLY (Finniss) (10:35): Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. I am glad we have cleared up where we are going here this morning. Thank you for the opportunity to rise in support of this bill. We have been through this before, and we have the opportunity now, by going through it again, to fix a dreadful wrong in South Australia. I am fed up with some of the stuff that has come out of the government on this. I am fed up with the spin job that has been put out there. The reality is that fishing people in regional towns are hurting, businesses are hurting, and it is simply not good enough.

You only have to look at the Port Wakefield situation. Part of Mr Bart Butson's family have had to move and go to the West Coast to fish because simply they cannot fish around Port Wakefield anymore. Down at Cape Jervis, where a good proportion of professional fishers operate, they are ringing me on a weekly basis saying that their lives, businesses and families are falling apart because they are simply not able to catch the fish that they were catching.

If you go over to Kangaroo Island, it is even worse, and I will give you an example. On the long weekend, in Kingscote, the Caltex service station which was alongside the fish shop had 200 people looking for fish and chips, according to the staff in there, and they could not get it because the fish and chip shop has shut. Jobs have gone. The fish and chip shop in Kingscote simply cannot get the fish that were being provided by the local fishermen. The fish are not available anymore. The tommy ruffs and fish like that which the net fishermen were catching are not there. The price of whiting is just too high for a lot of working families to buy for fish and chips. It is just unrealistic. It just does not work.

It has been a very sad 12 months for a lot of people. I do not know what is going to happen this year with the rock lobster industry. We have lost boats from the Island fishery. The licences for rock lobster fishing boats have been sold out to other northern zone fishing people. We have lost boats and we have lost jobs—that is simply the reality of it. It is pretty straightforward. Jobs have gone from that area. Jobs may have gone to the West Coast, where they do not have the same imposition to the extent there is around the Island but, if the government set out to knock fishing businesses around, scale fishing jobs, net fishermen and rock lobster fishermen, they have done a good job because it has knocked it around. It is simply unrealistic for the government not to approach this.

There was then this report that was brought out not long ago, in which the minister in another place said that this was not having any economic impact. I do not know what day they got up, but the fact is this has had an enormous impact. I am only talking about my electorate. Others in this place will talk about the impact on their electorates, such as the West Coast, Yorke Peninsula, not so much the South-East, of course. The number of sanctuary zones have had a hideous effect on my electorate. Let me say again that we have never, ever been opposed to marine parks. We actually—

Mr Goldsworthy: It was our idea.

Mr PENGILLY: It was our idea from day one. The government picked it up and we went along with it. I do not want to go over all the history of the consultation or non-consultation, or what did or did not happen. It was a sad indictment on what is a terrible government and it has now had a dramatic effect after 12 months in place.

This was never, ever meant to be about fishing; it was about the marine environment. We supported the marine environment side of it, but both the recreational and professional fishermen were hoodwinked, and we now have this catastrophic mess which we are endeavouring, once again, to bring into the chamber and have something done about so that people can get back into their businesses, we can crank up businesses again, people can earn a living and the tourism industry can expand again. We may even have a fish and chip shop in Kingscote again.

It is ludicrous for the government to spend money on tourism promotion when you cannot even get a feed of fish and chips. It is absolutely ridiculous. It is all very well to push the attractions of \$1,800 a night top end accommodation which is fantastic, but mum, dad and the kids who want to go for a holiday and go out for a feed of fish and chips at night on KI cannot get one in Kingscote. Hello! What on earth are they on about?

The fact of the matter is that we have to put up this bill again and see if we can get some sense out of the government. I do not know what is going on behind the scenes in the government. You would not know. There seems to be about two people running this government and that is about it. The arrogance is completely supreme. It is a government out of control as far as arrogance goes.

Meanwhile, good people are hurting. Good people cannot feed their families. Good people cannot buy fish and chips in some places, and it is inexcusable. Those on the other side should hang their head in shame at the outcome of what happened 12 months ago. You do have the chance to fix it up by the removal of some of these zones. You do have the chance to fix it up and I would urge

members on the government's side to get onto their executive, their ministers, and urge them to bring some common sense back into this debate and do something about it.

Pick up some of the ideas that we have come up with that are quite workable. You know as well as I do that the opposition supports much of the legislation that comes into this place. We debate it sensibly, we put up amendments, we win a few and we lose a few. But the marine park sanctuary zones are an opportunity for the government to set to rights something they have completely made a mess of, to put things back into perspective and to get people back into work. I urge the house to support this bill and fix up what is a dreadful wrong.

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (10:42): I am very pleased to be supporting the member for Goyder's bill, the Marine Parks (Sanctuary Zones) Amendment Bill. This is something that the government has been opposing for over a year now. I note that there are two Independent ministers in the government and it is important that they take very seriously this debate, particularly the Minister for Regional Development who, prior to the election, identified this as a specific issue, that he would work hard to be on the side of what this bill seeks to achieve.

However, last year, when he could have made a difference, prior to the by-elections, he chose to ignore what he had told the people of his electorate before the election and opposed the bill. That was a great shame. I hope that he will reconsider. Even though the numbers are different in the house, he must reconsider. It is incumbent on him to do so, given that he has said that he is an Independent and not just going to do whatever he is told by the government. That is on him.

We have people in Port Wakefield, on KI, fishing communities and fishing families who are suffering as a result of the government's measures, and I am pleased that a number of them have taken the opportunity to visit North Terrace this morning and lend their support to the opposition bill. I think that we are unlikely to have a vote on this matter this morning but, when that vote comes, the member for Frome will know that his community wants him to support this bill. It is incumbent upon him to do so because of what he said before the election, and he will be held to account. I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Speirs.

CLASSIFICATION (PUBLICATIONS, FILMS AND COMPUTER GAMES) (PUBLICATIONS - PARENTAL GUIDANCE) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 4 June 2015).

The Hon. T.R. KENYON (Newland) (10:45): On behalf of the Attorney-General, I move:

That all words after the word 'be' be left out and the words 'withdrawn and referred to the Social Development Committee for its report and recommendation' be inserted in lieu thereof.

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (10:45): The government shares the concern of parents and others about the influence the media has on young people; however, this bill is not an appropriate or practical way to address those concerns. The bill is intended to provide the South Australian Classification Council with power to determine consumer advice for publications that it classifies as 'unrestricted'.

The consumer advice may include PG (parental guidance recommended for children under 15) or M (mature, not recommended for children under 15). The National Classification Board, when classifying a publication as 'unrestricted' may already determine consumer advice of M—mature consumer advice, as defined by the Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) (Markings and Consumer Advice) Determination 2014.

'Publication' is defined very widely in the act. It means 'any written or pictorial matter that is not a film or computer game or an advertisement for a publication, film or computer game.' I know that the intention is to target specific publications, but that is not the effect of the bill. It will apply to all publications. 'Publication' is defined very widely. It means 'any written or pictorial matter' except a

film, computer game or an advertisement for a publication, film or computer game. 'Publish' includes 'sell, offer for sale, let on hire, exhibit, display, distribute and demonstrate'.

The current South Australian classification scheme, including compliance monitoring, is not designed to manage a large-scale classification process. The council operates on an ad hoc basis and has no dedicated administrative support. It met once in the 2011-12 reporting year, at a cost of \$1,275, and it did not meet at all in the 2013-14 reporting period.

During the 2011-12 reporting period, the council considered three greeting cards, following a complaint from a member of the public, and declined to classify the greeting cards because they did not exceed the guidelines. Apart from the probable impact on the council, South Australian retailers would bear the responsibility for marking each and every magazine offered for sale every week with the determined marking, and police would be responsible for monitoring compliance with that requirement. This is just not practical.

The fact that the member for Adelaide has raised the issue of classifying girls' magazines, and that it has again grabbed some media attention, is not a bad thing. As a former teacher of what are fondly referred to as 'tweenagers' as well as young teenagers, I know the importance of age-appropriate material.

I was a member of the 2008 Senate committee that was set up to examine the strategies to prevent and/or reduce the sexualisation of children in the media, and the effectiveness of different approaches in ameliorating its effects. It concluded that it did not believe that the National Classification Board should be given the responsibility for classifying girls' magazines, nor did it agree with an age-appropriate rating, given that teenagers and tweens will not all mature at the same rate. It did, however, recommend that publishers consider providing reader advice based on the existing classifications and consumer advice on magazine covers indicating the presence of material that may be inappropriate for children.

During the inquiry, publishers took on board the issues raised about magazine covers, body image, photoshopping and content, and I have continued to follow it with interest. Generally, there has been significant improvement with publications, addressing concerns raised through the Senate inquiry. The member observed this herself, saying:

...when I was comparing the magazines from the bill in 2010 to the magazines now, there has been a vast and dramatic improvement, which I am very pleased about. There is less touching up of photos and I have not seen any sealed sections in there that there used to be, so I do commend the magazine companies for their improvement...

The recommendation that publishers consider providing reader advice when there is the presence of material that may be inappropriate for children was and continues to remain sound. This is if and when a girls' magazine contains the material that may be inappropriate.

Renewed interest by the media, the parliament and members of the public ensures publishers continue to self-monitor their output. The government, however, does not think the bill before us today is an appropriate or practical way to address the concerns raised and therefore recommends that the issue be referred to the parliament's Social Development Committee.

Ms SANDERSON (Adelaide) (10:50): I would like to thank the member for Torrens for her ongoing work. We have met many times on this very important issue, and I would also like to acknowledge her work as part of the Senate inquiry into the sexualisation of children. I note that, whilst changing this bill is not the ideal way of going about this important issue, I think it does raise awareness, and the fact that we are actually talking about it in parliament and that there has been media coverage is part of the point. I do acknowledge that after the Senate inquiry there have been very important changes made to magazines.

The idea that I had was really to inform many parents and caregivers who have expressed to me that they are unsure as to what magazines are appropriate for what age children. From speaking to many schoolchildren—I do lots of tours of Parliament House—there was pretty well consensus about having some indication on a magazine, whether it was just an age recommendation or something preferably of a voluntary nature by the magazine producers and distributors, so that parents, children and caregivers could actually make an informed decision. It was never about restricting trade or trying to stop things from being out there, but letting parents make that decision as to what is appropriate for their child. As we know, children develop at all different ages, and what

might be appropriate for one person's 11 year old might not be appropriate for another's 13 year old, so the idea was really to just have a recommendation.

I am very pleased that the magazines have less airbrushing so that they are more realistic. We do know that body image and self-esteem is greatly affected by the visual images that children see, whether it be on television, the internet or magazines. I welcome the idea of this going to the Social Development Committee so that we can look into this and investigate it further and see if there are better ways to achieve a similar outcome. I thank the member for Torrens for her ongoing work and interest in this topic and I support the recommendation for the amendment.

Motion carried; bill withdrawn.

FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS (PARENTAGE PRESUMPTIONS) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 15 October 2015.)

Mr KNOLL (Schubert) (10:53): I rise to continue my remarks, and I am fairly certain that this will be only a speech in two parts, rather than the four we got to last year. Just to reiterate, I do not believe that the clause we are seeking to amend today is in and of itself discriminatory, because I do understand it applies to all couples where there is a non-biological couple involved, but where heterosexual couples have options where homosexual couples do not relates to the ability to get married and the ability to have a child biologically and naturally and therefore have both parents in both of those scenarios go onto the birth certificate.

In this place, as much as we like to try to fix the problems of the world, we also need to be mindful of the fact that in fixing a problem we do not create others, and I have significant questions which I will put on the record so that, hopefully, they can be answered in a reply speech by either the member for Unley or through the committee stage. On that basis, I will not be opposing the second reading but will certainly have formed a fairly definite view, I think, through the third reading.

The questions I have are around how this will be administered and interpreted by Births, Deaths and Marriages. How will this marriage-like relationship be interpreted? What are the standards by which that will be judged? I have not a concern but a question about whether or not this applies where the father is known, not where we are talking about an anonymous sperm donation. I am keen to understand whether this confers all rights and responsibilities on the non-biological parent or if there is still a differentiation between the two.

Here is where my real concern comes from. The reason the three-year rule is in place is to use time as a way to show commitment to a relationship. I stated last time that this is something I would love for all couples, for time to be used as a way to cement the permanency of a relationship. How do the changes we are seeking to make here apply when a biological parent (the mother) conceives with one non-biological parent, that is, consent is given and they make the decision to have a child together, and then there is a change where the non-biological parent decides, 'This is not for me,' and the biological parent has the child and goes through to birth? What happens in that process? Obviously, they make a decision at the beginning of the process to do it but what happens when that relationship breaks down before the child is born?

In that instance, will only the biological parent then be on the birth certificate? Is there some sort of binding contract, if you will, on the non-biological parent to have to remain on that certificate? Where, for instance, a couple gets married, has a child and gets divorced before the child is born, there are obviously rights and responsibilities conferred upon the father, or the non-custodial parent. Does that happen in this instance? At what point does the responsibility of the non-biological parent start? Is that at the point of consenting to go through an assisted reproductive procedure or is it only after birth?

Is there a case, for instance, where one non-biological parent could consent to the assisted reproductive procedure but then a second non-biological parent can end up being on the certificate as relationships change? We need to be careful and mindful of the unintended consequences of

legislation that we put forth and, hopefully, through the course of this debate, I can have those questions answered.

It is interesting to note that these issues of deep conscience that we grapple with are only here because of the evolution of the human race and scientific advancement. These problems that we grapple with would not have been problems two or three generations ago because the options available to us now were not available then. We have evolved as a human race based on the concept of a nuclear family and we are currently grappling with what that family now looks like in the modern context with all of the scientific advancement and how we can make sure that the best elements of the family nucleus survive these changes, that we can do things to strengthen that bond and structure within our society.

I do not think we as a society are ready for the breakdown of the family unit. We rely upon it very much to be the bedrock—that we have loving parents who take care of their children in a way that the state cannot—and we need to make sure that we are very much mindful of that. In the end, I will be attempting to make a decision on what I believe to be in the best interests of the child in this instance. Obviously, we have two competing thoughts on that but, in the end, I will be seeking to do what I think is best to keep the family unit as strong as it can be and advance that as a concept in modern society and ensure that children have rights to the best upbringing possible.

The Hon. J.R. RAU (Enfield—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice Reform, Minister for Planning, Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Child Protection Reform) (10:59): I just wanted to say a few words about this proposal, and in so doing I just flag the fact that I have put on notice a couple of amendments in relation to this proposal. I will speak briefly to those as well to probably make as clear as I can my position in relation to this.

Can I start off by saying that I have great sympathy for any people in the community who feel that their position of guardianship of children, by whatever name, is in some way made more complicated because of a lack of recognition or formalities. And, indeed, the problem that has been suggested to me on occasions is the problem of people not being able to access a child in respect of whom they have a guardianship or parental arrangement because of the fact of their name not being on a certificate or some other document, for instance, and I have great sympathy for that, and I think that is something that we should be doing something about to make sure that people in those circumstances are not in a position of disadvantage.

To summarise my position, Madam Deputy Speaker, I do not really have an issue so much with the matter of making sure people in these arrangements are not disadvantaged vis-a-vis anybody else. I really have an issue with the method by which this is sought to be achieved. If I can just put it this way, and I have to do this, I guess, in a way as the minister who is responsible for the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages. I just want to make my position on that clear.

I see the register as being a registry of certain facts, publicly known facts, and in many respects it is if not a conclusive legal repository of information it certainly creates some legal presumptions, or it is an aid to proof. Now, if we just go through those very quickly. In respect of deaths, the register says that whoever it was died on a particular date. That is a fact. It is backed up by a certificate of a medical practitioner. It is not something about which there can be any argument.

This becomes difficult, however, if people wish to add different things on, for example: who is the spouse? This can and does vary over time. There are complications about whether a person is married but no longer living in that relationship, living in another relationship, questions of children, adoption and all these things all get quite complicated. But the fundamental issue for that certificate is that, at a particular point in time, that person was declared by a legally qualified medical practitioner to be dead, and that then is on the public record. It is relatively clear.

With respect to marriage, again, whatever might be said about the definition of marriage from time to time it is undoubtedly the case that, at a particular point in time, an event occurs which is recorded on the register, namely that A and B have gone through a process at the end of which they are married. Again, an objective and easily ascertainable matter.

As to birth, again, the incidence of birth itself: this child was born at a particular day at a particular time—an objective fact. When we move beyond that it depends on how you see the

register. I think there are very good reasons for seeing the register in respect of birth at the very least as being primarily, and importantly I would say, a record of genealogical connections.

So, historically, of course, the mother of any infant is always known, so that aspect of the thing has been always clear, and there has always been an educated guess as to who the father of the infant was, with varying degrees of accuracy over time; but at least it was an educated guess or at least everyone's assumption at the time the certificate was recorded.

I think there is a very important aspect here of a child's right to know what their actual genetic history is, not just from the point of view of having a connection or not with people that they may not currently have a connection with, but it also has very important implications for things like medical management of that person. It would be important for a person to know they were related to a person who had a history of diabetes, or whatever it might be; that is an important thing.

From my point of view and from the point of view as the minister administering the register, or at least overseeing the register, I do not see that this is a place to record other relationships. However, I do note that in this context adoption has been traditionally put on this register, and that in itself has caused problems, because people who have been adopted have to spend a lot of time to find out who the original birth parents were because they might need to know, for a whole bunch of very important reasons.

The amendments that I will be moving are of minimal position, so far as I am concerned. The first is the practical issue of when this could ever possibly be done, and we are just changing the date to make it clear that the date upon which this could be done, at the absolute minimum, would not be before 1 July. The second amendment is to deal with the fact that as amended in the Legislative Council, this now has retrospective effect and the complication of the registrar being potentially obliged to make a determination of matters which are retrospective, I think, is difficult. I also would draw this fact to the attention of the chamber: that is, for us to legislate what is demonstrably a scientific impossibility into legal verity cannot of itself be a good idea.

However, I have a suggestion of how to deal with these things, and my suggestion is this: I believe what we lack in this state and what would be very valuable, and valuable beyond this particular context in broader contexts—and I am talking here about domestic co-dependency, punitive spouses, whatever it might be—would be if we were to establish a voluntary (and I emphasise the word voluntary) register of domestic co-dependency, punitive spouses, etc. Having had somebody voluntarily place their details on that registry, it could be made to have the same sort of presumptive validity that comes from a certificate of marriage or something else of that nature.

This would be very, very useful for many people—the people we are talking about in this particular amendment, but also many other people who wind up in court arguing about things like what is going to happen when a will is read and there is an argument about whether somebody was a punitive spouse or a domestic co-dependent, and there is no easy independent way of ascertaining that. Would it not be helpful if these people could voluntarily submit that fact onto a register which would then be at least presumptive proof from the point of view of a court in any future disputation? That is basically my position on it.

As I said, I am moving these two amendments which from my point of view are in order to make it as manageable as possible from the point of view of the registrar. I come back to where I started, that I do think if there are situations where people are disadvantaged by reason of the fact that there is no public record of their relationship with a child, that is not something I support. My only issue is whether the solution to that problem lies in this particular public record, and I make the point I would be very sympathetic with us creating a specific public record which could assist people in those circumstances.

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (11:08): I was not planning on speaking, but the Attorney-General has said something which I am actually quite troubled by, so I do want to put on the record my views, because I think his argument conflates by talking about the genealogical need for health reasons of an adoptive child to be able to identify their genealogical history as being somehow an argument against this bill. It actually troubles me deeply.

My sister was in this situation, and for many, many years, she had to work very hard to track down her genealogical details to deal with a health condition. In doing so, she discovered her genealogical brother. The troubles that the Attorney-General alludes to, the challenges that he alludes to, are so utterly irrelevant to this bill as to be worthy of my concerns being raised, and I do not think that it is appropriate for those matters to be conflated into this matter any more than completely non sequitur victims being drafted into the argument for something completely unrelated in any circumstance.

The fact is that when the Attorney says that a birth certificate must be no more than a measure of objective fact and a record of known genealogical questions, he is denying that right now there are a number of circumstances in which that is not the case. The Attorney alluded to adoption indeed, and this is something on which the Attorney and I have some history. I come to these questions with a simple test of whether something is worthy of support. What is the impact going to be on people in our community? Is this going to be something that creates problems? Is this going to be something that assists people to live better lives, freer of government intrusion on their lives?

When it comes to birth certificates, birth certificates are something that government requires us and companies, as a result of government relations, require us to produce in relation to a whole manner of events. The history that the Attorney and I have is in relation particularly to those of overseas-born adoptees. Three or four years ago, I moved in this place and I sought changes through the regulations that were ultimately successful for adoptees from China, a country that did not produce a birth certificate in a manner that was capable of being accepted by any of our institutions, should in fact those adoptees be able to have their birth certificates produced in South Australia, so that those children would not be disadvantaged in a way similar to the children who are the subject of this bill.

The government opposed that bill, but solved the situation through a regulatory amendment which provided that adoptees from countries that did not produce what would be considered a birth certificate were able to be provided with a birth certificate, in the same way that our legislation allows for any adoptee to have their birth certificate altered so that their adoptive parents are registered on the birth certificate without any question about their genealogical history being answered. The birth certificates in South Australia, where it is the standard course of events, are a record of that nature, but the fact is that these exceptions already exist. A birth certificate is not the device by which the Attorney's concerns about being able to trace genealogies can be answered.

When the Attorney uses the argument that a child has a right to know what their genetic history is and the right to find that out on the birth certificate, his alternative to the measures proposed in this bill does not provide any more assistance of that nature than this bill will provide for. The alternative that is faced is that in the small number of cases that are going to be adjusted by the outcome of this bill, rather than having just the mother listed, you will have the mother and the mother's partner listed.

For all of the purposes that are dealt with, the principle of whether the mother and the mother's partner should both be listed is actually one that this parliament has considered before. It considered it several years ago when parentage presumption was first considered, and it was passed considerably overwhelmingly—I am not even sure that there was a division at the time. This bill does not argue on the principle of that case. This bill is a technical amendment to say whether we should be in line with the national definition or if we should continue with the anachronistic definition that limits it for a small number of children in South Australia. Frankly, my view on the matter is that it should be judged on no more than what is going to impact best on the lives of those children to whom this bill relates.

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (11:13): To begin, given some of the issues that have been raised today, I would like to be very clear for the house what the issue is that this bill seeks to address. Currently, couples who conceive by IVF are subject to a three-year cohabitation rule, which in practice means that the parent who is not the parent giving birth cannot appear on the birth certificate of their child if they have not cohabited with the other parent for three years prior to the birth. Couples who do not conceive by IVF are not subject to the same provision.

This bill will ensure that all couples are subject to the same requirements for obtaining a birth certificate and that every child has a birth certificate which names both of their parents, which in turn,

importantly, enables both parents to consent to travel and medical procedures and enables a child to be able to access other rights either parent has—that is, a right to a UK passport, etc.

I am incredibly proud to speak in favour of this bill today because it is about equality and fairness, and those two principles should be at the heart of every decision that we consider and make in this place. During the course of this year, I have got to know Sally Amazon and Elise Duffield, two exemplary people who are parents to a beautiful baby boy, Tadgh, who I hope is enjoying his time in our gallery today. Tadgh is now over a year old and both his parents are not acknowledged on his birth certificate.

Sally and Elise were understandably surprised when they went to register Tadgh's birth, fittingly on Mother's Day last year, and had their forms returned requesting proof that they had lived together for three years before his conception. Sally and Elise are a couple: they have a child, a shared mortgage and, in every way, a shared life. They are deeply committed to each other and their son and yet they have been caught up in what can only be described as an antiquated relic of our law.

The cohabitation rule is archaic; it affects only those who conceive by IVF and it is unfair in practice. It is disheartening that these two women, who have such a lovely relationship and beautiful son, have been caught up in this issue. This quirk of law has allowed Tadgh to pass his first birthday without Sally being recognised as his parent. What we wish for all children in our community are loving parents committed to their children's wellbeing, safety and happiness. As parliamentarians, we should do what we can to support such relationships and such good examples of family life.

In doing so, I pay tribute to the work of Elise and Sally throughout the growing community discussion about this bill. As every parent would, they have told their personal story about the impact of an unfair law to get the best outcome for their son. They have articulated that a loving and supportive family is the best outcome for all children and that the gender of parents is irrelevant when a child is cared for and wanted.

Sally and Elise have emerged at the forefront of the fight for parenting rights in the LGBTIQ community, and their growing influence in this sphere has been inspiring to watch. Their ongoing advocacy saw this bill highly supported and passed through the upper house earlier this year, with many speeches in favour and only one voice opposed when a vote was called. I pay tribute to their courage and determination to speak up and out for fairness for their son and also to address discrimination which does and will impact many other families.

Sally and Elise have done some extraordinary campaigning around this bill, including bringing a case to the Human Rights Commission, where their claim was accepted as discrimination. While the rule that we are talking about today technically also applies to heterosexual couples, there is no automatic assumption in relation to heterosexual parents that a child was conceived via a fertilisation procedure unless they offer up further information at their own initiative. The existing rule is therefore not applied equally in practice to all couples. It is an unintentional slight that exists because of an overlap of the assisted reproductive technology bill and one which we have the opportunity to correct today.

In every other state in Australia, this rule does not apply. Had Sally and Elise and Tadgh lived in any other part of our nation, Sally and Elise could have registered their son in the same way that any parent is able to register their child. It is a particular quirk of South Australian law that we have a responsibility but also an opportunity to rectify here today. As one of my parliamentary colleagues and a long-term friend said yesterday, 'The reason that we usually do not allow things to be retrospective is that they will negatively affect good people.' But in cases like this it is essential that we try to make up for the wrongdoings of the past. This law must be retrospective. We must right a wrong: that is the whole point. If, in law, we fix something that discriminates, we must fix it for all when it discriminates against all.

It is essential for children like Tadgh that both his parents be given the legal rights of parentage which we have, as a society, decided are available to same-sex couples, not just for the day-to-day inconveniences they may face with issues through being able to show that Sally is his mother but for incredibly serious issues, such as one of his parents being able to consent to medical

treatment. Sally is also a UK citizen and, unlike many other parents, would be unable to pass on her citizenship to Tadgh.

At the end of the day, there are many elements of our laws that still discriminate against couples like Sally and Elise. We must change all of them and, together, we will change all of them. I would be proud to vote for all of the changes that will come next year from the SA Law Reform Institute review, just as I am proud to help change this small piece of legislation today.

Equality must be something that we seek out in all of our laws. We must not be complacent, we must not think that just because something is small or affects a small number of people that it is not worthy of our time. Equality is an ongoing and continuous struggle that we must always keep at the forefront of our mind and our heart. Another couple who emailed me their story had this to say:

I have been with my partner for over 5 years but due to circumstances outside of our control and our desire to be as 'traditional' as possible we did not start to live together until after our wedding ceremony. We have spent over a year trying to conceive our child together before finally becoming successful and are now expecting a beautiful baby boy. My partner has been by my side every step of the way throughout this journey and is now eagerly awaiting the arrival of our son. However, due to the current rules...she will not be recognised as his legal parent in any way. This child would not have been possible without her and she is every bit of his parent that I will be, irrelevant of biology.

The way things are currently structured is unfair and discriminatory and if we lived in another state this would not have been an issue. We have attempted to structure our wills in a way to protect her and our son as much as we can but with the laws the way they currently are there is only so much we can do. Our son deserves to have both of his parents present on his birth certificate. He deserves the right to have his family and parenting recognised and know that he is the same as other children and just as loved and wanted by my partner as by myself. My partner deserves the right to be recognised for her role in his life and the right to legally call him her son. Listing myself as a single mother on his birth certificate is not only false but devastating for my partner and our child. It denies her the rights afforded to other parents and denies him the protections he rightfully deserves should something ever happen to me....

Having a baby is stressful enough by itself without the added worries of not being able to have his birth certificate reflect the truth of his family and the protection the recognition provides. We have been waiting and praying for this change for years and to pull it away when it is so close for 'convenience' is just cruel and dragging out finally righting an unfair law unnecessarily.

These laws affect real people in our community. Another woman who contacted me talked about the issues that affect her family. She said:

Our daughter is 10 this year and still has no legal relationship to her own mother other than through a parenting order. When she turns 18 if this amendment has not been made there will be no legal recognition of her family structure at all.

Our state has a proud history of leading the way in introducing and amending legislation to fight inequality. I want to do what I can to continue this proud history. This legislation forms part of an ongoing series that will continue until we have true equality for all of our citizens. I hope that I will always be able to contribute to this fight. We have come so far, but it is easy to see how far we have to go and how easy it would be to slip backwards. I look forward to seeing the finish line.

This is a matter of conscience for our party today, but I will strongly and proudly advocate for this legislation and vote yes because equality is not a matter of conscience. I look forward to the day when we have struck discrimination from all of our laws and our hearts. I thank all of those who have supported this bill. It is good work that we are doing today, work that will help our fellow community members, work that we are here for. I hope that this bill is another step in paving the road to true equality and eliminating the vestiges of discrimination that have gone before. I commend this bill to you.

The Hon. T.R. KENYON (Newland) (11:23): I rise to make a few brief comments. Some of the conscience issues that come before this house are, to my mind, relatively simple. I do not really take a lot of time to mull over them because I am so clear about them and I know what I believe and what I do not. This one presents a number of technical issues that really have made me think a lot harder. I thank the member for Morialta and the member for Reynell for the contribution they have just made. I do not think I am speaking too far out of school when I say that sometimes a lot of the debate in this chamber goes unlistened to, but it has not this time—for me, at least, because I have been carefully considering these things.

I can see why it is important to people who are effectively parenting a child to be able to do practical things like travel with that child. Indeed, it is unfair that they cannot. I know quite a number

of children being brought up in same-sex relationships, and you would have to say that they are being brought up in a loving environment that generally cares for their welfare. As far as any of us who are parents can make good decisions for our children all the time, that is being done, and there is a genuine attempt to do that.

Insofar as the law should permit people to operate in the same way, right across the whole spectrum in an equal way, that should be done. We have already permitted people in families not in traditional marriages to have children—and even if we did not it would still happen from time to time anyway—so allowing them some technical things like wills and travel rights, citizenship rights to be transferred, and all those things, are not necessarily things I would actually oppose in any forceful way.

This bill, the one before us, the presumed parentage bill, that other speakers have spoken on, and the experience of people in my electorate who were brought up through donated embryos, and others, have opened my eyes to the difficulties they face in trying to trace their parenthood; who they are, where they came from, who was involved in their conception and all those issues. I will just flag now that I have an amendment I will be moving in the committee stage of the bill that requires that in addition to the parents at the time in the relationship, who may be recorded on the birth certificate, the biological involvement is recorded as well. In this case I suppose it would be the donating father who would be recorded—if known of course, you cannot record something you do not know. If known, the donor sperm would be recorded so that the child has the opportunity at a later time to come back and work out their history, their make up, where they are from and for what purpose.

Where I do disagree with the member for Morialta and agree with the Attorney-General is that the birth certificate is not just the property of the individual involved and their parents; it is also the property of society, and it is recorded by society for a number of purposes. One of them is as a public record of the existence of people and their history. My amendment seeks to keep that as full a history as possible of that individual person and it seeks to allow the child, at a later point, to come back to see the full history of who they are.

I think that is important. It is a decision they may choose to make or not at a later point, and some children may not care, some people may not care where they come from. I have to say that my wife is a lot more interested in her genealogy than I am. I know all my cousins and my uncles and aunties, but I cannot go back much further my grandparents, and I have to say that I am not really inclined to. However, some people are and I think it is important that they are able to do that should they want to at some point.

For some people, one of my constituents in particular, there is a deep I would not say crisis of identity but a deep yearning to understand their full identity, the full background of where they came from, and that is an important thing. I seek leave to conclude my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Torrens.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The member for Torrens is entitled to be heard in silence. If I could ask members of the gallery to take their conversations outside, that would be really appreciated, thank you. Member for Torrens.

Motions

WORLD DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD TRAFFIC VICTIMS

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (11:30): I move:

That this house—

- (a) recognises that 15 November 2015 is World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims;
- (b) remembers those who have tragically lost their lives on South Australian roads; and
- (c) calls on everyone to work together towards zero fatalities on our state's roads.

I would like to recognise that Sunday 15 November is the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims. The world day of remembrance, supported by the World Health Organisation and the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration, gives road users a chance to reflect on the trauma caused by road crashes and the impact on the victims and their families. Worldwide, over 1.2 million people are killed and a further 20 to 50 million injured each year. Over 3,400 men, women and children are killed every day on the world's roads while walking, cycling or driving. They will never return home. Road crashes affect people across all corners of the world, across Australia and across South Australia. About 100 people are killed in crashes on South Australian roads each year. Another 700 people are seriously injured.

Mr PENGILLY: Point of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Your point of order is that the noise level is too high, member for Finnis. I have asked the people in the gallery to clear the gallery. You are more than welcome to continue your discussions outside but we just need to continue with business. Thank you for your cooperation. Member for Reynell, we have asked you to cooperate with the chair. Please take your conversations outside or resume your seat. I apologise, member for Torrens. Please continue.

Ms WORTLEY: The trauma for families affected by these tragedies is immeasurable. I know what it is like to lose a loved one to a road accident. I can vividly recall the day my little sister was hit by a car and the year she was in a coma before dying at the age of 11 from her injuries. I know the impact it had on our family. It is generational. South Australia's Road Safety Strategy 2020, Towards Zero Together is motivated by the belief that no person should die on our roads. This strategy sets the direction for reducing serious casualties during the decade by at least 30 per cent to less than 80 fatalities and less than 800 serious injuries per year by 2020. This is the minimum improvement, and we will strive to do better.

Since the early 1970s, when nearly 400 people were killed and 4,000 people were seriously injured on South Australian roads each year, there has been a substantial decline in the number of casualties. This has been achieved despite an increase in the number of people and vehicles on our roads. South Australia has also made significant improvements between 2002-2012, reducing the road toll by one third from 154 deaths and 1,538 serious injuries in 2002 down to a record low of 94 fatalities and 761 serious injuries in 2012. While the last two years have recorded a slight increase in road fatalities, the number of serious injuries has continued to fall, registering in 2014 the lowest serious injury total on record.

The World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims provides an opportunity to remember those involved in crashes and is also an opportunity to reflect on the importance of road safety. The government is committed to road safety. There is a lot we are doing and a lot more that can be done. All levels of government are responsible for delivering safe transport infrastructure, and it is the responsibility of individuals to treat our roads and others with the respect they deserve. The responsibility is a shared one.

We all have a responsibility to other road users to be safe, not sorry. We have a responsibility to our families and friends to make it home safely and to ensure all other road users are safe around us. I urge everyone to take the time to think about the importance of acting responsibly—drivers, passengers, motorcyclists, cyclists and pedestrians. On Sunday 15 November I will be remembering the victims of road safety accidents and I wish everybody safety on our roads.

Mr WINGARD (Mitchell) (11:35): I rise too in support of this motion that recognises that 15 November 2015 is World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, remembers those who have tragically lost their lives on South Australian roads, and calls on everyone to work together towards zero fatalities on our state roads.

Thirty years ago my best friend's sister passed away in a car accident; she was a beautiful person by the name of Sally Barton. It is a great time to remember those people who have died on our roads and how tragic it is and the impact that it has on our community. Sally died not far from where I currently live and I go past the point quite regularly and think of her all the time. I remember the fallout and the devastation in the local community. We all went to Brighton High School together and many young people were left shattered by this incident. I was a young person in my early teens

and, as I said, the impact on me has been very great for that 30 years. It is with me every time I get in my car and drive, and people have to be aware that they need to be safe on our roads.

I know that lots of people have a very similar story and it is with that story that I very much support the Road Trauma Support Team of South Australia and the World Remembrance Day for Road Traffic Victims, as was pointed out by the member for Torrens, on 15 November 2015—and I, too, will be there in support of all people who have lost someone in a road traffic accident.

I and a lot of my friends grew up in the country and, sadly, we have far too many incidents, accidents and deaths on our country roads, and a lot of rural members in our party would most likely know someone in their lifetime who has been killed on our roads. In fact, I would suggest that almost every person in the house would know someone who has been killed on our roads, which is not a good thing.

We very much support reducing the road toll with Towards Zero Together. If we have a look back at the road toll, as was also mentioned by the member for Torrens, unfortunately in the past few years in South Australia, it has started to rise. If we look back over the history from 2010, we had 97 deaths on the road; in 2011, 88 deaths; in 2012, it was down to 74; in 2013, though, it kicked back up to 82; and in 2014, it was at 80. The average over the 2010 to 2014 period was 84 deaths on our state roads. At the moment in South Australia we are sitting at 88; in fact, there have been 18 deaths in the month of October and the month is not yet finished, although it is nearing an end. That number is way too high. Last year, there were just nine in October. Those figures, I think, are quite chilling. We must be very much aware of this and do all we can to reduce our road toll.

No doubt it is about attitude and I very much support people be friendlier and more patient on the roads, sharing the roads and being supportive of one another. Personally, I have a thing that I do when I am driving on the road in the city and the country—in fact, it probably comes from living in the country when I was growing up. My dad was a stock agent travelling the rural roads and he had a wonderful thing where he would always raise his finger to acknowledge a passing car. My parents split up so I spent a lot more time in the city and, when I would go to see Dad and see him do this, I would ask, 'Did you know that person?' He said, 'No, just waving to say hello.' It was courtesy on the roads and, again, it comes very much from my country upbringing. I find now that when I drive in the city, people are always in a hurry, which I understand, but if we all work together I think we can all get places a whole lot better.

I notice when I drive in the city and someone needs to get across into the lane to maybe get across to turn right, or move into a different lane, they put on their indicator and they move into that lane. I think it is always courteous to let the person in, give them a wave and help them out in the hope that when you need to change lanes someone then lets you in, making it all flow a lot easier.

I do not like it when you see people close the gap between their car and the next and not let people in. I think that frustration really does not help and creates a poor attitude on the roads. Across South Australia, we perhaps do not have the best reputation for sharing the roads like that when cars want to merge, and I think it is something that, as a state and as people, we should really look at and work on.

Another issue that is very pertinent and I think should be mentioned at this point is the road maintenance backlog. We know the CCF put South Australia's road maintenance backlog at \$1 billion. I talked previously about driving on country roads and I have done a lot of driving in my responsibilities as shadow transport minister and also the shadow minister for road safety. I have been up in the Mallee on the Mallee Highway seeing the member for Chaffey, visiting him and having a good tour around that region, and I had a good look at the roads there.

I do want to comment on the condition of a particular highway—and there were some areas admittedly where some verge work was being done, which I commend the government for, but I think a lot more could be done by slightly widening the road and giving a better lip surface to the road, which makes the roads a heck of a lot safer. That is something that I think the government should continue to work on. I noticed on my trip to the West Coast when driving to Port Lincoln, once I got to Port Augusta and I called in and saw the member for Stuart, that there were no overtaking lanes from Port Augusta to Whyalla, and then from Whyalla to Port Lincoln. You could tell that that was causing a lot of frustration for drivers on the road when there were trucks and whatnot. I am a big

supporter of overtaking lanes and I think that funds and money spent in increasing our overtaking lanes is very important.

I am also happy to listen to the experts; I think that is important. We should listen to the experts to see what we can do to make our roads as safe as possible. It is human behaviour, but it is also the roads that we travel on, and if we let our roads deteriorate to a point where they are not safe then that can also add to the problem and that is something that we must be very aware of.

The member for Torrens pointed out that the road traffic fatalities over the years have reduced and that is great. A lot of great work has been done on people's awareness of drink-driving, zero tolerance to drink-driving, and the police work and technology has advanced in being able to detect people who are drink and drug driving. I commend SAPOL for the work that they do in that area, and the good campaigns that have been run about drink-driving have really helped to bring those numbers down.

Seatbelts is the other one, when you look back over time. I had a very good meeting with the department and they took me through the history. I cannot stress the importance of wearing seatbelts enough, and to hear of people in this day and age driving their cars and not wearing a seatbelt is immensely frustrating. We know that it was a lot more commonplace many years ago, but now with the awareness of the advantage and the safety measures that come from wearing a seatbelt it is just paramount, and it is so important that message is continued to be pushed out there. It is great to hear that our young people are picking up the message too but we have to keep on pushing that message.

I mentioned the MAC (Motor Accident Commission) that the government is currently selling off. I look back at the great advertising work they have done and the campaigns they have run. As an independent body they have done a very good job in pushing the advertising out there. I keep a very close eye on the moves the government is making to sell that off to make sure that that advertising campaign and that advertising push is still very prevalent in the community and people are getting that message all the time, because you have to keep delivering the message.

I also look at vehicle technology and see the great help that that has been—and we have looked at the figures already—and again the serious injury numbers are coming down in South Australia. Vehicle technology is just wonderful—from ABS to cruise control. The safety components and the advances in the area have been fantastic, and they are also a very big help.

I do reiterate that being friendly and helpful on the roads is a very important aspect, and it is something that I would like to see worked into our community more, pushed into our community more so that people take that little second longer to think about it and to potentially help someone else on the road, give them a chance, be patient and let people get to their destination safely so we can bring down that road toll number. I finish by reverting back to my friend's sister, Sally, who passed away, as I said, 30 years ago. It is something that is etched in my memory and will be forever. I hope that, as we work towards bringing the road toll down towards zero, potentially my kids and their kids will not grow up, like we probably all have, with the memory of someone who has died on the road remaining with us for a long, long time. I was just a young teenager, but it impacted me greatly and has stayed with me for a very long time.

If we work together that can be done, but I do commend the Road Trauma Support Team of South Australia with World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims on 15 November. I will be there thinking of Sally, and I hope everyone can take some time to think of people who have died on our roads and what we can do to make our roads safer.

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (11:45): I would like to make a contribution and to recognise World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims, and mourn the mostly avoidable fatalities that happen on our roads. Sadly, a lot of South Australian roads are regional roads, and that seems to be where the majority of accidents happen. Sadly the bad accidents are fatalities and are, in many cases, incidents that touch someone's life, with the mourning of the death of a friend or a family member or someone you know, or an identity, and it really makes you reflect. As the member for Mitchell referred to, there is a common reflection on accidents and it is sad, and I guess it gives you a period of time to reflect when driving on things that you might do now that you would not have done before, knowing that potentially that accident was avoidable.

I would like to note that the World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims is observed on the third Sunday of November each year, and will take place on 15 November this year. It was established by the United Nations in 2005, and this day was dedicated to remembering the many millions of deaths as a result of road crashes, and the impact on families and communities, as well as to paying tribute to the dedicated emergency crews, police and medical professionals who deal daily with the traumatic aftermath of a road death or injury.

As a community volunteer, as a person who has witnessed road death, it is a very horrific situation to deal with. I have had family who have died, good friends who have died, and it is something that is installed in your memory for the rest of your life. It is something that does make you reflect and want to be a better driver. You want to be surrounded with a safer environment on the road. It is not just the roads and the obstructions on the sides of the roads, but it is the oncoming traffic and in many cases it is the other driver. But what it is all about is just remembering the pain and suffering associated with what occurred with those road traffic victims.

Here in South Australia from 2010 to 2012 there were 172 fatal crashes and 1,059 crashes resulting in serious injuries on regional roads in South Australia. Many of these accidents could have been avoided. A lot of factors go into these crashes, sometimes fatigue, sometimes the condition of the road, and sometimes obstructions, barriers or trees, anything that gets in the way. Obviously a lot of it is human error, the saddest way to see accidents happen.

A recent YouTube clip, taken around the corner from my home in the Riverland, showed an incident where an oncoming driver fell asleep, crossed the white line, and, luckily for the oncoming driver, pushed him off the road, hit the Armco and flipped over. But he survived. He was one of the very, very lucky ones to do that.

The state's backlog of road maintenance is a concern. The RAA survey last year forecast that seven out of the 10 high-risk routes were in regional areas. Not only are regional areas disadvantaged by having to travel long distances, in many cases on roads that are not fit for the speed limit, but we have a government that is hell-bent on saying that if we reduce the speed limits on our roads, we are going to reduce the road toll.

Let me tell you that it is not just about reducing the speed limit: it is about educating our youth, in particular. It is even about educating our more senior drivers. As a middle-aged driver, I would like to think that if I went out and had a driving test today, I would pass it, but I can assure you that there are many people who would not pass a driving test. I do have a solution-based approach that I will put forward in a moment.

I drive many kilometres a year in my role representing the Riverland and the Mallee. I drive on regional roads and I spend a lot of time on the metropolitan roads here in Adelaide. The behaviour I see on our roads is questionable at times, but a lot of it is not just the fault of the drivers. There is a lack of shoulders and a lack of signage on our roads. Drivers are dealing with motorists who are speeding and with oncoming traffic which, particularly in regional situations, is heavy vehicle traffic in a lot of instances.

My electorate of Chaffey is home to an interstate federal highway. We have many vehicles particularly on the Sturt Highway and also on the Dukes Highway. The Sturt Highway takes more than 10,000 vehicles a day, but 33 per cent of those are trucks, heavy vehicles laden with freight, either coming to or going out of South Australia. We have a cocktail mix of heavy vehicles and passenger cars that are heading north or south. That is always fraught with danger, particularly with uneducated drivers who get onto our regional roads and try to overtake trucks in the wrong sections.

Our state government needs to take a more proactive approach. Rather than focusing on speed limits, they need to focus on the backlog of road maintenance. They need to look at the simple solutions and, yes, it is expensive, but a life is priceless. Helping to prolong life and reduce accidents is about doing the simple things: sealing shoulders, putting more signage on our roads and educating drivers, particularly our young drivers.

In the Riverland at the moment, there is an initiative in which a group of businesspeople is looking at developing a motorsport complex. Entwined in that motorsport complex is something that

is very dear to my heart—a driver training facility, which will enable us to put our youth through an education program to better educate them.

Remember that in the electorate of Chaffey, in any of the regional electorates or even in any of the city-based electorates, at some point in time our young drivers will get onto country roads and experience 110 kilometres an hour. They will experience trucks coming at them and wide loads; they will experience the unexpected when they are on those roads, and I am afraid of that.

I have three children; one is a competent driver. He attended a driver training facility and he said that it is one of the best initiatives that he has undertaken. It has given him the edge when it comes to that unexpected situation, prepared him for when those situations arise. When those situations arise, you are always unprepared or unaware that something is about to happen, whether it is having to deal with an oncoming car that is overtaking, a truck coming at you at 110 km/h or having to pass a cyclist.

The government has made light of what the Liberal Party is trying to achieve, which is to understand the complexities about passing a cyclist. When we pass a cyclist on a double white line, what is coming the other way? I notice that the Minister for Transport made light of the member for Dunstan's cautious approach to this new law. Let me tell you: overtaking cyclists on double white lines when you have got oncoming traffic is a very dangerous situation, particularly in the Adelaide Hills when you are not only dealing with a double white line, you are dealing with oncoming traffic, you are dealing with a bend and you are dealing with low speed limits. How prepared are we for that type of situation?

In the small amount of time I have got left, there are potentially a couple of solutions that I would like to put on the table. Every person in South Australia is horrified when a truck comes down the Mount Barker Road on the Southern Expressway and runs out of brakes. It does not matter whether or not you are doing 60 km/h. When you have got no brakes, you have got no brakes. When you have got an engine brake that is not working, you have got no brakes.

Why are we looking at spending many millions of dollars on putting trucks down the Mount Barker Road, down through Portrush Road to the Port? Why are we not looking at alternatives? Why are we not looking at getting trucks off that South Eastern Freeway, at the Halfway House Road at Murray Bridge, sending them over to the Sturt Highway, putting in the Truro bypass and sending all that heavy transport down to the Port where it is inevitably going to be heading?

The numbers of trucks are increasing. We see the rail in South Australia has almost come to a halt, so we are going to see many more thousands of trucks on our roads heading into Adelaide. It is not just about not dealing with the road condition in the regional centres. Those trucks are headed for the Port, they are headed for the airport and they are headed for the logistical centres in Adelaide. What we need to do is divert those heavy vehicles out of the Hills and put them on the flat country, onto the Sturt Highway, to make our roads even safer. We need to educate our young. We need to have the driver training facilities to make our young safer on the roads.

Time expired.

Mr PENGILLY (Finniss) (11:56): I will not take up too much of the house's time on this matter but, along with others, I am supportive of the motion and, along with others who have spoken here today and probably others who are not in the house, deaths on roads have directly affected my family. My nephew was killed a few short years ago on his way home. He was T-boned. He was the passenger in the car when he was killed. His brother drove past and did not even know that his brother had just been killed—it was pretty horrendous.

Only today, we have a funeral in Mildura for a lad who was killed on Kangaroo Island a week or so ago. They have impacts but, for the life of me, I do not know why the message does not get through to some about, as someone said earlier, seatbelts and things like that. I do not want to go into it too much, but the tragic irony is that seatbelts would have made a big difference.

Let me just quote some figures here from last year. The average from 2010 to 2014 in metropolitan Adelaide was 32 road deaths in the city and 52 in the country. This year, there have been 37 in metropolitan Adelaide, which is up five, and country is down one, at this stage.

As the member for Chaffey said, country driving is completely different to city driving. Driving around at 60 km/h or 50 km/h in the city, people are still getting killed, but out in the country, where we have got to get from A to B at 110, 100 or whatever the case may be, I stand amazed at the driving behaviour of some of the drivers who are out there. They just do not understand.

I am a very regular user, obviously, of the Southern Expressway and the Adelaide to Victor road, which is always held up as a bad place for accidents. I shake my head on the Southern Expressway. If you happen to be driving down there at about half past four or 5 o'clock on a weekday at 100 km/h, there are people tailgating, pulling in and out and having absolutely no idea of what happens. The human body is not designed to pull up quickly from 100 km/h, and that is the reality.

We can make cars as safe as we possibly can with airbags, seatbelts and the whole lot, but I very rarely see a police car, an unmarked car or a highway patrol car on the Southern Expressway at that time of the day. For the life of me, I do not know why they are not there.

Some of these people are just complete fools. Your judgement does not allow you that two or three seconds gap if you are sitting less than a car length behind the car in front of you if it is doing 100 km/hr. How there are not more accidents there, I do not know, but the message just does not seem to be getting through. I am using it as an example; I am not talking about me. I sit on cruise control on 100 km/hr and it seems to me that most of the cars on the road pass me. Some of them have to be doing 115 or 120 and they are just getting away with it.

Driver education is terrific. Our three children are all grown adults now, but I still worry all the time about them being out on the roads. You do what you can to get them through their teenage years and learn to drive. Our kids all learnt to drive in the paddock from the time they were about four years old, I might add, which is—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Four?

Mr PENGILLY: Four or five, yes, sitting on their father's knee, driving the ute around the paddock—not very fast, Madam Deputy Speaker, I might add. In the bush, they learn to drive early. They have to learn to drive early if they are on a farm particularly because they are out there helping you. That is just the way things are. Fortunately, our children survived their teenage years. You are listening to someone who is lucky to be here after some of the stupid, foolish things he did in motor cars in his youth, I can assure you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is on the record.

Mr PENGILLY: I do not draw back from it. I was a passenger in a car that rolled at 112 miles per hour. I was in the passenger seat and I survived. There were three of us. The driver blacked out and I survived. I should not be here because of that accident, but I did have a seatbelt on.

We have to keep at driver education. We are never going to have a zero road toll. It is a fine thing to aim for, but it is just not going to happen. If you look at the long-term statistics, we have come down a long way from where we were 15 or 20 years ago, that is for sure, but it still happens. With the weekend coming up, heaven knows what the lead story will be on the news on Saturday, Sunday or Monday morning. It is frightening. Most of us have family out there driving around and you just live on a wing and a prayer all the time, I am afraid. But I am very happy to support the motion. With those few words, I will resume my seat.

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (12:02): It is significant that 15 November 2015 is World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims as it provides a focus for remembering those who have tragically lost their lives on South Australian roads. Families who have lost a loved one as a road traffic victim do not need a focus day: they remember every day. It impacts on their families and future generations. Of course, we also remember the victims and injuries that they have received. In closing, I would like to call on everyone to work together towards zero fatalities on our state roads.

Motion carried.

WEAR ORANGE WEDNESDAY

Ms VLAHOS (Taylor) (12:03): By leave, I move my motion in an amended form:

That this house—

- (a) recognises the State Emergency Service (SES) Wear Orange Wednesday, or WOW Day, occurring on 18 November 2015;
- (b) values the work that the SES do on behalf of our community; and
- (c) encourages everyone to show support to our SES volunteers by wearing orange.

I would like to raise with the house the matter of Wear Orange Wednesday on Wednesday 18 November 2015 or Wear Orange to Work Day (WOW Day). Last year, I participated in this and several people in the parliament joined in the social media campaign. I urge all South Australians on this day to wear orange to show their support for the wonderful work that is being undertaken on our behalf by the state's 1,660 State Emergency Service volunteers. This is a great opportunity to celebrate the great work done by SES volunteers. I know how much we value their service.

Certainly, in my electorate in outer Adelaide, I have hosted the Edinburgh SES team at parliament for their Christmas break-up and they are never far from my thoughts whenever the seasons change and an emergency incident occurs or when I see things come up on my Twitter feed that I know they will be attending on our behalf. This is a great opportunity for us to celebrate their valued service.

The SES is spread across 67 units around the state, and last financial year they responded to more than 5,200 incidents. This represents an estimated 72,000 hours of volunteer work—a remarkable contribution to our community. SES volunteers are called out in all types of weather, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to fallen trees, to floods, to road crashes, to rescues and to all manner of emergencies. The SES has also provided critical support to other agencies, such as the CFS, the MFS and SA Police. I note that during the Sampson Flat fire many SES units were called upon to help provide critical support to the community that was needed more broadly at that time.

SES volunteers have an enormous enthusiasm for what they do in helping people when it is most needed. Not only do our SES volunteers respond to rescues, they commit many hours to skills maintenance and training to ensure they can carry out the wide range of skills and tasks that are required of them. I have seen the men and women at the Edinburgh SES unit practising patient retrieval and other skills on a weekly basis.

The SES also supports people beyond our local communities. The SES sent 64 personnel to New South Wales in April and May this year to assist with the local New South Wales emergency services agencies following storms and flash flooding in the Hunter Valley/Newcastle area. Earlier this year, the Minister for Emergency Services and the SES Chief Officer launched the new SES book, *In Times of Need*. Not only does this book provide a greater understanding of the SES history but there is also a great sense of pride in this lovely state organisation. Minister Piccolo and I have copies of this book available for you and your electorate offices upon request.

SES volunteers are extremely worthy of our support, and I hope to see as many people as possible, including those in the parliament, wearing orange on Wednesday 18 November, as I will be. Please place your support behind these fantastic people and spread the word. I remember last year seeing minister Piccolo and the Premier wearing orange ties in this place, and it would be fantastic to see the whole chamber filled with orange ties this year to support our SES volunteers and to show them that we value their contribution, which is truly awe-inspiring—indeed, in fact, 'WOW for orange'.

Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett) (12:07): I rise to support this motion, as I imagine every member in this place will, to wear orange on Wednesday 18 November this year. While I do not have an SES tie—and that is a big hint to Chief Officer Chris Beattie to give me an SES tie, which I would like to wear on the day—I do have a couple of ties that have orange in them. We will see what else we can do to make sure that we recognise the real 'wow' factor that is around our SES volunteers.

Being in the CFS, I work with the SES at the coalface, attending accidents and incidents in the middle of the night, sawing up trees. It is amazing to see the dedication of our SES volunteers in South Australia. There are around 1,600 volunteers, and I think the member for Taylor said that they attended over 5,000 incidents and spent over 70,000 hours at those incidents. I actually find that figure quite low.

Given the number of incidents that I go to with the CFS and either Mount Barker or Strathalbyn SES, also being co-respondents, I would have thought those hours would be much higher than that. If you add on the number of hours of training and the number of hours these volunteers put into public relations, I think you could triple that, if not increase it even further. To value our volunteers by recognising them on Wear Orange Wednesday is something that we all should do.

There are about 40,000 SES volunteers across Australia, and they go to floods, storms, and road crash rescue, which is a very important part. I had just visited the Murray Bridge SES a few days before the tragic accident on Swanport Bridge. I know, from my personal involvement with road crash rescues through the CFS, that it is never a pleasant experience, but that one was particularly grisly and I really felt for those people I had been speaking to a few days before that incident.

As a kid, I used to see the police cadets out there all the time at crime scenes and doing searches for lost people, but now it is all the volunteers through the SES. God bless them, they do it willingly, they do it freely and they do it 24 hours a day, seven days a week if required. They develop skills in swift water rescue for times of flood, and it is very dangerous working in swift water trying to rescue somebody who is probably panicking and wants to grab onto you so that you are as likely to drown as they are if things are not handled properly. The skill and determination they show is just fantastic.

Of course, how often do we see, even in our Adelaide Hills, people taking what you would think is a relatively minor fall of two or three metres down a slope and then having to be rescued because of some injury or other adverse event. Who is there to do it? The SES are there with their equipment and training. They get people out of that precarious position, off to safety and then return them for further treatment if they require it.

We should also remember that this is Bushfire Action Week. As the member for Taylor said, Sampson Flat was an example of where the CFS and SES worked with many other agencies, but particularly the SES are always there doing the logistics. I remember going up to the oval at Littlehampton during the Sampson Flat bushfire and the SES volunteers were there setting up the tent city. It was a stinking hot day. There was only a relatively small group of them, but they were there. They had been there a long time setting up this tent city, doing it quite willingly and more than happy to do it. I know that they would have been there 24 hours a day, seven days a week, helping out with the whole process and logistics of handling that emergency. In that case, it was Sampson Flat, but we know that in other cases it is floods, storms and all those sorts of incidents that they are very well trained to handle.

I think that all of us in this place will try to do what we can, not only on 18 November but all year round, to support our SES units and to make sure that we do recognise their fantastic efforts, their enthusiasm and their dedication to serve the people of South Australia through the SES. Can I just say, on behalf of everybody on this side, that we do really appreciate them, as does everyone in this place. It is one of those areas where we can be completely apolitical and just get out there and support our SES volunteers, particularly on 18 November, Wear Orange Wednesday.

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (12:12): I too rise to support the motion to recognise Wear Orange Wednesday, or WOW Day, on 18 November. Like the member for Morphett, as a CFS volunteer I am very proud to be part of that establishment. It is one of the community volunteering exercises I do with pride, as with all my volunteering, but this does come with a difference—that is, there are times when you put your life on the line for others. There are times when you do have to make decisions to help others, to save others and to make your community a better, safer place. I think the idea of recognising our emergency service volunteers and organisations with WOW Day is just a great initiative.

Obviously, the State Emergency Service has a great history. They are a very proud group of people, and they have been, I guess, a little compromised with the government's decision to increase the emergency services levy, as well as the double hit, where they are paying huge increases in that levy as well as giving up their time to be a good community person, as does the business that employs those volunteers to allow them to go out to help when in an emergency situation.

Our volunteer base is often taken for granted and I think this initiative to recognise those volunteers and organisations is a great initiative. Today, that is why I have stood up to make a small

contribution and recognise some of the work that they do. As I have said in a previous contribution regarding road safety remembrance day, some of the situations they have to put themselves in and some of those emergency callouts they have to attend to deal with road crashes and emergency situations such as storms, fire, flood and all the unforeseen situations can sometimes cause an everlasting effect to be etched into their brain. Whether it is assisting to get people out of cars after an accident, pulling large trees off houses, putting tarpaulins over roofs, dealing with sandbags when we have a flood and dealing with storms that often impact our lives, those emergency services are there to help. They are there to resurrect what was and to help rebuild what we have.

Obviously, I would like to acknowledge the good work of all our emergency services but, in particular, in the Riverland and Mallee. The six units in the Riverland operations and the support units are headed up by the good work of Danny Wood. I called the branch that I am a member of at Monash to speak to Dave de Grancy and ask him a couple of questions, but he is giving up his time and is in the emergency room at headquarters in Berri. That is the sort of thing that these volunteers do. They give their time for the betterment of their community to keep their community safe but, if the community has undergone a trauma, they are there to help pick up the pieces and rebuild.

Obviously, 112 members in the Riverland is a great accolade for the community—representing a very large area but, again, they are prepared to put themselves out to make sure that they get to where the emergency is. I note that we had 12 road crash rescue calls in the year to date and 43 emergency callouts, and each unit is training constantly to keep up-to-date in order to be able to perform those emergency duties. I work hard at this job and, sadly, it does not allow me to get to the training nights very often and it does not allow me to get to the training mornings on a Sunday very often, but I make sure that, in any capacity that I can help, I am there to be part of that team and part of the volunteer base that helps my community—as is every volunteer, and we will be paying homage to the emergency services on 18 November.

I would urge everyone to get a piece of orange clothing, whether it is a tie, shirt, socks or jocks. Whatever it is, get it on and make sure that you stand up and acknowledge the emergency services on Wear Orange Wednesday Day.

An honourable member: Jocks on the outside?

Mr WHETSTONE: Well, I haven't got orange bras, but I'm sure someone might have, and they can get them on.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think you need my protection, member for Chaffey.

Mr WHETSTONE: It is all about being a part of it. It is all about acknowledging the great work that they do. I urge every community member and every person in this house to get some orange on. I was an orange grower for a lot of years. We can always buy an orange, put that piece of orange in your mouth and give us a big orange smile, and that is a good way of being part of the day. For those of you who have not tried it, try it. Cut an orange into quarters and, when you bite it, leave it in your mouth and get someone to take a photo. Put it up on social media. It just shows that you are a part of the day. I commend the motion to the house and look forward to 18 November.

Ms VLAHOS (Taylor) (12:19): I would like to thank all the members who have spoken on this motion today to support Wear Orange Wednesday on 18 November and supporting our state emergency services volunteers. I know that when I was a new member in this place a little over five years ago I got to meet the Edinburgh crew under John Lawrence who had just arrived as their CO, and they made me feel so welcome. I know the work they have done over many, many years, and I see their work regularly on Facebook as well.

They are magnificent people and they put themselves in the way of harm, as the member for Morphett said earlier. They do place themselves in the way of harm often and sometimes multiple times over their long volunteering hours that they give. I would also ask the members here to remember that it is not only our veterans' community but also members of the emergency services who come in contact with post-traumatic stress disorder by being volunteers.

Indeed, a world-leading study was just released yesterday outlining the impacts of this on their lives and setting up a criteria of guidelines to help assist all of our first responders as they care

for our community and give so many much of their time out of their work hours and time away from their family to protect us, protect our property and to rescue those in need.

Please, on the 18th wear orange, join in the celebration of their contribution to our community in recognising what they do for us. I commend the motion to the house.

Motion carried.

SPINAL CORD INJURY AWARENESS WEEK

Ms DIGANCE (Elder) (12:21): I move:

That this house—

- (a) recognises Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week from 8 to 15 November 2015;
- (b) acknowledges the role that Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week plays in the education of spinal cord injuries and what can be done to prevent one; and
- (c) praises organisations for their support of people living with spinal cord injuries, their families and carers.

I would like, first of all, to acknowledge Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week, which is from 8 to 15 November. I would also like to acknowledge the sad and unfortunate contribution road crashes make to the number of Australians who have suffered spinal cord injuries and thank the organisations assisting those South Australians who live day-to-day with spinal cord injuries.

About 100 people are killed in crashes on South Australian roads each year and another 700 people are seriously injured. I think it is opportune to just mention my support for what the government is now championing in the way of updates to the cycling laws, and I think these are extremely timely. I for one support the safe use of roads, and I believe that, as all South Australians, we can embrace and safely use these roads and footpaths together shared between cars, cyclists and pedestrians.

I think that at the heart of Adelaideans' values is that civil society is underpinned by care for all, and I urge all of us to ensure that we are caring of others and ourselves, and we need to embrace these new laws. While much attention is given to fatalities, serious crashes can often result in permanent injury to the victim and have substantial impacts on families and friends, as well as on the community in general.

I have seen first-hand those horrific situations. I have seen them both as a volunteer ambulance officer being first to the scene, sorting through who to deal with first and how to triage a situation and as a registered nurse in an emergency service of a major South Australian hospital. It is not just about the suffering of those victims, it is about their loved ones, not only at the time of that accident but also continuing with the ongoing trauma which can extend over many, many years of pain, of rehabilitation and care.

Families can be changed in a split second, in an instance. I have also experienced this on a personal note through an amazing family member. I have seen him, from when he was a young man involved in a vehicle accident, endure the trials and tribulations that he has been challenged with over the many years.

Amazingly, just a couple of Saturday nights ago, I was at a retirement village function and I saw who I believed was someone I had cared for many years ago. He is now a man in his 60s, and I got talking to him, and rightly so. He was a fellow I had looked after as a young trainee nurse back when I was 17 or 18 years of age at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital in the rehabilitation centre.

At that stage, this man was in his early 20s. He could not walk, he could not talk, he could not feed himself, dress himself, or shower himself. His dignity had been totally stripped away in an instant due to a motorbike accident. He had a tracheostomy, and he was only just at that point breathing on his own. He was lucky to be alive. As he talked, what stuck in his mind was not the fact that he had this terrible accident or the fact that he had actually been through years of rehabilitation to the extent where he had some sense of ability to care for himself, but it was, in fact, the terrible music that we apparently used to play to him when he was rehabilitating—*The Dark Side of the Moon*

by Pink Floyd. We thought that would be something he would like, and after all these years he was able to tell me that he absolutely hated it!

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Or learnt to.

Ms DIGANCE: Or learnt to, yes. Most spinal cord injuries are permanent and life changing, as we are all aware. Historically, the most common age group to have a spinal cord injury is in young people aged between 15 and 24. For these people, the simplest tasks—things that we take for granted—become the greatest challenges, as I have just illustrated.

For the unfortunate victims of spinal injuries, the state government provides support through the National Disability Agreement and the Paraplegic and Quadriplegic Association of South Australia. Each year, the state government contributes over \$87,000 to subsidise individual family or group-counselling services and close to \$100,000 to help finance assistance provided by registered nurses who assist those suffering spinal cord injuries and learn new skills to help them manage everyday tasks, such as nutrition and general wellbeing, exercise and fitness, and skincare, including recognition of early warning signs and appropriate care and management of pressure sores and ulcers.

As part of Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week, the Paraplegic and Quadriplegic Association of South Australia will host a seminar at the Klemzig Community Hall on 11 November and will also place a public awareness stand at the Adelaide Central Market on 13 November. I urge all who are able to visit this stall and to attend this community meeting. The association is also conducting a schools poster competition in which students are asked to design a poster reflecting, 'What does wheelchair friendly mean to you?' As we go about our own lives, immersed in our own business, I think it is appropriate that we take some time out to think about how it is for those who are in other situations, such as those who are in wheelchairs.

Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week gives road users a chance to reflect on the trauma caused by road crashes and the impact on the victims and their families. It provides us all with an opportunity to reflect on the importance of road safety. We all have a responsibility to our families, our friends and others to make sure we return home safely and to ensure all other road users are also safe around us. I urge everyone to take the time to think about the importance of acting responsibly on our roads. Drivers, passengers, motorcyclists, cyclists and pedestrians—road safety is the responsibility of everyone.

Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett) (12:28): I rise to support the motion moved by the member for Elder and I know that everyone in this place wishes all of their constituents, all the people of South Australia, a safe and fulfilling life, not restricted by what can be absolutely devastating limitations and injuries caused through spinal injury.

I encourage people in this place: next time you go to eat a T-bone steak or a lamb chop, the bit of bone you will see in the steak or chop is a part of the backbone—unless it is a shoulder chop, obviously. Just inside, there is a little C-shaped hollow that usually has some soft white material in there, and that is a bit of the spinal cord. Just have a look how soft that spinal tissue is. You remember, that is in your back. That is protected in a tube of bone and these discs between your vertebrae; that is in there. You just see how soft it is and you just imagine how easy it is for it to be damaged.

That is what happens in some of the most simple accidents we see around the place. It does not always have to be a horrific car crash or a fall off the roof of a house. It can be as simple as a fall from a metre or so above, or even a bad trip in some cases. When you are coming down the back stairs in this place, they are very narrow, so be very careful, because if you fall or slip, you could be Christopher Reeve mark 2. We all remember Christopher Reeve, the Superman. He certainly was not a superman other than in the fictional movies.

I urge everybody in this place to be very careful with their own backs, but also to encourage everybody else to be aware of their personal safety to protect their back. While there is a huge area of investigation and development in repair and rehabilitation of spinal injuries, if you inflict a severe injury on your spinal cord you are in deep trouble. Depending on where that injury is, you may be a paraplegic or a quadriplegic, you may end up being able to use your arms to help move yourself around the place, or you may be like Christopher Reeve having 24/7 care. It is absolutely vital.

We look forward to stem cell therapy being a part of a way of getting nerves to grow back, because nerves are particularly difficult to grow back and particularly slow to grow back. I cannot emphasise this enough to everybody here, to be so careful, not just with your own back but also everybody around you—and talk to your constituents about it. Make sure that we do recognise these weeks of awareness to their fullest. Put a poster up in your office if you can get one; I am sure they have them around the place. Certainly, make sure that you put it on your Facebook sites and your webpages to make sure that everybody is thinking about it. You do not have to be totally fixated, but just be aware of the consequences of your actions, because in many cases there is no going back.

This motion is a very important one. One of the groups that sometimes gets forgotten in these motions—and I am not saying that in any disparaging way here—are the people who look after people with severe injuries like spinal injuries. The 24/7 care that we saw with Christopher Reeve is going on every day. It is going on not far from here, in our hospitals and in homes.

I went to the annual general meeting of Carers SA on Tuesday morning to help them celebrate their 25th birthday. I thank Carers SA for what they are doing in South Australia, supporting the many carers. They are not volunteers these people; they are not volunteers, but they do care very willingly for the people they are caring for. I thank Carers SA for supporting the many carers we have in South Australia who are looking after people with all sorts of disabilities. In many cases, it is spinal injury that has caused these particular situations.

This is a very important motion. I hope that we all get behind this motion. I hope that during the week of 8 to 15 November we make sure that we are out there, aware, encouraging the awareness of spinal injury and all taking care of our own backs. Watch your back—not just politically, but I mean physically.

The Hon. P. CAICA (Colton) (12:33): I will be very brief. I want to congratulate the member for Elder for bringing this motion to the house. I, too, want to recognise Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week, which goes from 8 to 15 November. There is a link with the preceding motion as well, where we look at remembering those who have tragically lost their lives on South Australian roads, but at the same time we have to recognise the many thousands of South Australians who have suffered horrific injuries as a result of motor vehicle accidents, many of whom have done irreparable damage to their spinal cord and now require the constant care that they get from their families and carers. In saying that, I too praise the organisations for their support of people living with spinal cord injuries, their families and carers.

The member for Morphett said it is not just motor vehicle accidents and, of course, that is the truth. I recall, when I was in the fire brigade, going to many motor vehicle accidents and seeing the devastating effect of those accidents on the people involved in them but also the impact it had on their families and friends.

There are other activities: jetty jumping, for example. As a youngster I jumped off the Henley jetty, and my sons have jumped off the Henley jetty, but we have seen people who have suffered spinal cord injuries as a result of jetty jumping. Usually it is people who are probably less familiar with the beach, because there is nothing wrong with jumping off the jetty at high tide, but you do not do it at low tide because it is a recipe for disaster. I have seen lifesavers having to rescue a lot of people in situations like that where people have jumped off the jetty and done horrific damage to themselves.

The point is that it can happen anywhere. We saw the tragic circumstance of the rugby league player recently in Queensland, and the trauma that he went through and is continuing to go through. He is a shining example of a person who has suffered an injury. I know that Australia will watch with interest as to how he manages his life and what inroads are being made with respect to research that will eventually make those people who have spinal cord injuries live better lives than otherwise would be the case without that particular research.

It can happen anywhere at any time. My friend and colleague the member for Ashford has just mentioned Neil Sachse. We remember that incident all those years ago and the work that Neil, through his foundation, is doing with respect to spinal cord injury and research. I thank him and congratulate him and other organisations that are raising money for that badly needed research.

It can happen at any time, and I cannot think of anything worse. I look at my kids who are 24 and 27 now. We all do things that we look back and reflect upon and say, 'Gee, I was lucky.' I just shiver when I think about those types of injuries is happening to anyone but particularly when I think of my children.

It can happen at any time in any form of activity really. To that extent this very motion is about raising the awareness of spinal injury but, at the same time, acknowledging the role that this week plays in education about spinal cord injuries and what can be done to prevent them. I urge everyone here—we all have a role; I think it is a collective responsibility—to make sure that we play our part as leaders of the community but also linking with organisations within our electorates to help raise the awareness of spinal injury and to reduce the incidence of it and to do what we can to assist in the ongoing call for funds for research into these particular injuries. I commend the motion to the house and I thank the member for Elder for bringing it to the house's attention.

Mr WINGARD (Mitchell) (12:38): I rise in support of the motion to recognise Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week from 8 to 15 November 2015 as a national campaign that aims to create a more inclusive and accessible community for everyone. It is raising awareness about what it means to have a spinal cord injury and that people who have a spinal cord injury are involved in all aspects of life and are contributing to the community in so many different ways.

I would like to take this opportunity to read a Facebook post put up by some family friends of mine about their daughter who suffered a spinal cord injury: 30 years ago she found herself in a wheelchair. Her mother writes that she was dragged from the back seat of a rolled car at 17 by a young ambulance attendant on a country road and taken to Hampstead Centre. She spent 10 years in a revolutionary, scientific, functional electro-stimulation program with Dr Miranda Jelbart, and Dr Ruth Marshall, to get paras to walk again.

She founded the Spinal Research Fund of Australia with her mum, dad, some of her dad's wise mates and younger brother, Josh, raising over \$2 million to find a cure. She represented her country 17 times in international sport in two disciplines—swimming and basketball—a world record in there somewhere for swimming. In her finest hour she gave birth to twin boys, Jeremy and Travis, who I know are the pride of her life.

I read that out on behalf of Dawn and Dennis Ferrett and their daughter, Melissa. I too support the motion to recognise Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week, and Melissa, at this moment and the great things she has done since the accident that put her in a wheelchair.

Ms COOK (Fisher) (12:39): I rise today to support the member for Elder's motion. I am very pleased to be able to speak on this motion in relation to spinal cord injury on behalf of the many patients I have looked after over the years who have unfortunately come to grief through many ways and suffered spinal cord injury.

Spinal cord injury is one of those things that happens out of tragedy and unexpected circumstances and often is not recognised immediately either at the point of injury. It is something that, both as a nurse within a hospital and as a St John Ambulance volunteer and also as a retrieval nurse, I have had drilled into me over the years how very, very careful we have to be when assessing patients in respect to their injuries and how very careful we have to be in regard to moving them.

I listened with interest to the description given by the member for Morphett in relation to the spinal cord and how delicate it is. In fact, as a student nurse I observed some spinal surgery and watched the delicate nature of the work doctors have to undertake within the spinal cord. It gives you a great appreciation for their steadiness and how adept of hand they have to be in order to handle such a delicate piece of body tissue.

As a retrieval nurse going out into the field, often the experiences that you have leave a lasting impression. I will quickly refer to several patients who I have looked after early in their trauma caused by motor vehicle accidents out in the country. One day, it was extremely hot (probably 40°C in Adelaide) and, as part of the retrieval team, I was dispatched in the Rescue Helicopter down to the South-East, somewhere between Keith and the next town along, the name of which escapes me at the moment, I am afraid.

We were dispatched to this motor vehicle accident on this hot day. It is always with a degree of anxiety that you travel down there in the Rescue Helicopter and try to put your ducks in a row, so to speak, within your head in order to be able to prepare yourself for what you might face. A scene which confronts you, which relates back to the previous motion as well regarding road trauma, is often a scene of chaos, with many things attributing to that in terms of the number of vehicles, the number of emergency services workers who attend and the number of people who may be affected.

On this one particular day, I arrived at the scene and there was one vehicle off to the side. Unfortunately, this vehicle was covered with a tarpaulin and, as an emergency worker, you know what that means: there is deeper tragedy hidden within that vehicle. On the road itself was another car which was upturned and almost unrecognisable and very, very silent. As yet, the jaws of life had not started to operate and, even in the presence of some 20 emergency service workers, there was very little being said.

As I approached with the doctor on landing, we walked up to that vehicle and there was a young woman still strapped in her seat in the upturned vehicle, pinned between what used to be a steering wheel and driver's foot well and her chair. She was not going anywhere; she was unable to move. Really early in the piece, just by looking into her eyes, I could tell that she actually knew what she was facing and the type of journey she was going on. In a way that many patients do, she reassured us that she was okay. She said, 'It's okay. I know I can't feel my legs but I know that it's because I'm currently pinned.' She almost tried to bring a bit of a sense of humour to the subject. I remember her nodding, saying one thing but actually what she was meaning was quite the opposite.

So as we very carefully assisted her on the side of the road, by giving her fluids and attending to a few other things, we worked through in our minds how we were going to actually get her out of this car, from an upside-down position in a vehicle that was no longer giving us any space and on a road that was some 40° from the external environment—as you can imagine, on the hot bitumen it was more like 50 to 60° as we were standing there. Again, the emergency service workers provided enormous relief with tarpaulins and shelters as well as ice and iced-water towels, etc., to give us some sense of comfort. It took us a good hour to release the woman from the car, with her all the time trying to be positive about her future.

As everyone can imagine, I could talk all day about this particular experience. The whole time we were talking to her she had the sense that she still had a future. She would remain very positive, and she was very confident that there would be some resolution to her injuries and there was some sense that the health system and we would look after her. We got her back to the hospital, to cut that story short, and she did survive and she did have a complete injury in her spinal chord which meant that there was essentially no hope of her getting movement or sensation back in her lower limbs. We left her in the care of the emergency department and she moved on to long term care within the high dependency unit and then the rehabilitation centre.

Those types of beginnings to tragedy, and the jetty jumping and the other accidents that can happen in a split second, actually begin the journey of bravery and challenges for people within the spinal injury system, and I absolutely take off my hat to all the victims and sufferers of spinal chord injury I have come across in my life. They absolutely do see the world in a positive way and achieve amazing things. We talked about Neil Sachse before, another inspiration in terms of where they can end up against adversity in terms of their sporting achievements, academic achievements and family life.

I am very grateful that we, as a community, can provide some opportunities for people with spinal cord injury, and it is with great pleasure that I stand here today and acknowledge the challenging start to journeys which can end up becoming quite inspirational and positive. I commend the motion.

The Hon. J.M. RANKINE (Wright) (12:48): I want to speak very briefly about this motion, and commend the member for Elder for bringing this to the house. Spinal injury is something that can happen to any of us at any time. It is one of those split-second, life-changing moments that can occur in any of our lives, and that is whether it is an injury that we may suffer ourselves or a loved one being injured.

Too often we see young people hurt in this way, an injury sustained as a result of youthful exuberance, whether that is riding a motorbike, a car accident, diving off the jetty or from involvement in sport, and we have seen very prominent sports stars who have been hurt during their sporting career. Certainly, as a parent and as a mother of sons I was particularly anxious to get my boys through their teenage years and early 20s safely. I think it is fair to say that each time they backed a car out of our driveway my heart was in my mouth until I heard the vehicle return.

Too often our young people, young men in particular, are badly injured in car accidents. I think that is one of the things I am pleased about is that when I was Minister for Road Safety we brought into play new rules in relation to learner and P-plate drivers to keep young people safe. We have reduced speed limits on many country roads, and we know there are much higher deaths of young people in the country, but young men in particular are injured badly. I am pleased to say that I think we are seeing a reduction in both the injuries and the road deaths of young people as a result of the introduction of these particular measures that were brought in in relation to licences.

It is a huge challenge for someone who has been injured to come to terms with that injury and what it might mean for their life and it is a huge challenge for those people who are providing the care and love for that person. It is an enormous obstacle just trying to deal with day-to-day issues, those things that we take for granted. Again, as Minister for Housing, we had a major redevelopment at Woodville West and I was very proud that that development was the first age accredited development in South Australia.

Within that development we have some apartment buildings and some of those apartments were provided for people with a disability so that we could provide support and services for those people without actually being in their home, so electronically providing support for people. There was some pushback in the initial stages in relation to that, with people saying, 'Well, you know, you don't want to have too many people in wheelchairs in the one building.' I said, 'Well, in fact, what we need to realise is that whether you're in a wheelchair or you're able to walk normally, you're just a normal person. You want to do exactly the same things.' In numbers comes normality. We did not want people in that area being the odd one out, if you like, so it is really important that we are able to provide housing developments and support services that very much allow people to get on with those day-to-day activities.

We have seen amazing medical advances. The sorts of surgery that our medical people can undertake now and get amazing results from is just astonishing and they continue to provide, I think, real hope for those who have suffered spinal cord injuries. There are amazing role models for people, particularly, I think, young people, who give them the very powerful message that there is life after injury, but not just life after injury, quality life after injury, and that is really important. What is vital and what this Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week is all about is educating people and preventing those injuries from occurring in the first place.

It is really important that our young ones understand the fragility of their spines. The consequences, potentially, of foolish and enthusiastic actions, not meant in any way to cause harm but which can actually bring about a life-changing event. I think it is fair to say that young ones do think they are invincible. I took great comfort from an article I read some years ago about brain development. Those of us who have had teenagers, and I describe myself as the survivor of two teenage sons, but there are occasions where one of them will walk in the house and it is like an alien has arrived in your house and then maybe two or three years later the little person that you had originally arrives back in the house.

What this article explained was that it is not just puberty. We often say, 'Oh well, it's puberty. It's hormones.' It is not just that. Their brain goes through a rewiring process, and they become much like a two year old. If you say to a two year old standing on a table, 'Jump off,' they will jump off.

Teenagers do not have a sense of their vulnerability and they can understand that something is dangerous but they will do it anyway and then they do not understand why they did it. I will not regale my personal stories but suffice to say if my father had any idea of half of the things I did as a teenager, the poor old soul would roll over in his grave—travelling in cars at ridiculous speeds, doing all sorts of silly things like that, with a sense of invulnerability, that a 21 year old was old and that you are here forever and nothing can really hurt you.

It is really important that our young ones understand the fragility, that our workers understand how to care for themselves also while they are working. In saying that, I want to pay tribute to all those who are working so hard to support those who have suffered a spinal cord injury, whether they are people working in our health services, families and friends who support them, helping them to get on with their lives and those who are working so hard—and many people have mentioned Neil Sachse—to raise funds to ensure that our medical experts have the funding they need to continue with much needed research into this area.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (12:56): I would like to make a few comments. I do so from my ministerial roles as Minister for Disabilities and Minister for Road Safety but also as a local member. I would like to reflect on the heartache and suffering of people who have actually incurred a spinal cord injury and their families who often become their carers for quite a bit of their life.

I fully support this motion to recognise Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Week. Anything we can do to raise funds or anything we can do to raise awareness about the injury and impact it has on people's lives would be very helpful. As the member for Wright has said, it will help people to ensure they take more care and help young people understand that they are very vulnerable.

From a road safety point of view, while we quite rightly often concentrate on the loss of life and the unnecessary loss of life in many cases, there are many more people who are injured seriously and in a lot of cases have a spinal cord injury whose lives are changed forever. While cars have become safer and, therefore, people are more protected when they are on the road, we need to also ensure that we understand the message about speed on the roads. The more speed we have, the reality is we all make mistakes on the road, but our ability to recover from that or stop a major injury occurring is reduced. That is why I talk about reducing speed on our roads because we are trying to ensure that what could be a life threatening crash could become a lesser one and one that could result in major injury could become a minor one.

The other thing is that these injuries change the lives, not only of the people who are the victims of the spinal injury but also those around them, and they change them for a long time. That is why I am very supportive of the new cycling laws which are designed, in essence, to say that cyclists are very vulnerable on our roads and that, while there are cyclists who are very annoying on the roads and do the wrong thing on our roads, the reality is that when you compare a cyclist and a motor vehicle they cannot compete with cars. That is why we need to make sure that the new cycling laws increase awareness of people's vulnerability when they are on the roads. Therefore, I support those laws that increase awareness.

What I have noticed is that even though there is some controversy around the new laws regarding cycling, what it has meant is that people actually now think about it and talk about it. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Sitting suspended from 13:00 to 14:00.

Parliamentary Procedure

ANSWERS TABLED

The SPEAKER: I direct that the written answers to questions be distributed and printed in *Hansard*.

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: I welcome to parliament today students from Mitcham Primary School, who are guests of the member for Waite, and students from Warradale Primary School, who are guests of the member for Elder. I welcome a distinguished former member of the house, and minister and roommate of mine, the Hon. Terry Hemmings.

The Hon. S.E. Close interjecting:

The SPEAKER: A constituent in Port Adelaide, I am told also by the member for Port Adelaide.

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Attorney-General (Hon. J.R. Rau)—

Crime and Public Integrity Policy Committee's Report: Annual Review into Public Integrity and the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption, Response to the Recommendations of the Listening and Surveillance Devices Act 1972—Annual Report 2014-15

By the Minister for Industrial Relations (Hon. J.R. Rau)—

ReturnToWork SA—Erratum Annual Report 2014-15

By the Minister for Health (Hon. J.J. Snelling)—

Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency—Annual Report 2014-15
Controlled Substances Advisory Council—Annual Report 2014-15
Food Act 2001—Annual Report 2014-15
Health and Community Services Complaints Commissioner—Annual Report 2014-15
Health Performance Council—Annual Report 2014-15
Safe Drinking Water Act 2011—Annual Report 2014-15
South Australian Medical Education and Training Health Advisory Council—Annual Report 2014-15

By the Minister for Disabilities (Hon. A. Piccolo)—

Principal Community Visitor—South Australian Disability Accommodation Services—Annual Report 2014-15

By the Minister for Police (Hon. A. Piccolo)—

Hydroponics Industry Control Act 2009—Annual Report 2014-15
Ministerial Directions to the Commissioner of Police dated 14 October 15
South Australia Police—Annual Report 2014-15

By the Minister for Defence Industries (Hon. M.L.J. Hamilton-Smith)—

Defence SA—Annual Report 2014-15

By the Minister for Ageing (Hon. Z.L. Bettison)—

Retirement Villages Act 1987—Annual Report 2014-15

By the Minister for Education and Child Development (Hon. S.E. Close)—

Guardian for Children and Young People, Office of the—Annual Report 2014-15
Teachers Registration Board of South Australia—Annual Report 2014-15

Ministerial Statement

MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:03): I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: Over the past few months, this government has made transforming our mental health system a priority. Reducing the length of stay for mental health patients in our emergency departments is a personal priority of mine, and I am pleased to report that progress is being made towards our targets. There is, however, still a long way to go, and I expect everyone in our local health networks to continue their hard work towards meeting their agreed targets.

The state government is also creating more direct admission pathways into our hospitals, has created clinician-led mental health units in our local health networks, and we are continuing to invest in mental health infrastructure. We have created a short-stay unit at the Flinders Medical Centre, announced the establishment of a new Centre for Excellence for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder for veterans' mental health and are continuing to establish suicide prevention networks around the state.

There is, however, much more work to be done and I am pleased to announce that today marks the first day of the South Australian Mental Health Commission. We have spent significant time investigating commissions around the country and can report to the house that the South Australian commission will be established as an independent administrative unit, independent from SA Health and advising me directly as minister responsible.

Our commission has been established in a similar way to the Liberal government's commission in Western Australia and will lead the development of the next state mental health plan, undertake policy development to improve mental health service delivery and, most importantly, will work closely with the mental health sector and community.

I am also pleased to tell the house today that Dr Stephen Christley, SA's former chief public health officer, has kindly agreed to be South Australia's Interim Mental Health Commissioner so that the commission can begin its work without delay. Dr Christley has worked previously in the community health sector and spent 12 years as a CEO in the New South Wales health system. He has a wealth of knowledge in the public health sector and has worked closely with the government and non-government sector in this state to contribute to the health and wellbeing of South Australians.

Longer term, we will be advertising and undertaking an extensive search for an ongoing commissioner and we will be looking around the country for the best and brightest to help lead the commission over the next few years. I encourage anyone who has an interest in leading such an important area in our state to apply.

Mental health problems and mental illness are among the greatest causes of disability, diminished quality of life and reduced productivity in our society. The Mental Health Commission helps to fulfil the \$9 million state government election pledge to improve the mental health of South Australians, and I am sure Dr Christley will do an excellent job as interim commissioner.

MURDER INVESTIGATION

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:06): I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: In the past months, people all around this state and, indeed, the country have been shocked to learn about the horrific discovery of Khandalyce Pearce, whose remains were found inside a suitcase near Wynarka. Of course, we now know that her mother, Karlie Pearce-Stevenson, also met a tragic end.

Foremost, I would like to extend the government's condolences to their families and friends. I stand today to put on the record the South Australian community's respect and admiration for the dedication in the way the police have progressed the investigation. I also thank Forensic Science SA for their expertise in assisting police and I thank interstate police for their cooperation.

This is such a tragic set of circumstances, which has touched us all. We are very proud of the efforts of the police and the very sensitive way they are conducting this investigation. This is still

an active investigation, and if anyone has any information that can help the police, please call Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Parliamentary Committees

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Ms DIGANCE (Elder) (14:09): I bring up the 15th report of the committee, entitled Subordinate Legislation.

Report received.

Ms DIGANCE: I bring up the 16th report of the committee, entitled Subordinate Legislation.

Report received and read.

Question Time

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:11): My question is to the Minister for Education and Child Development. Can the minister inform the house how children on the APY lands who are at risk of abuse are being proactively monitored now that the reporting framework for the Mullighan inquiry has come to an end?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:11): I can return to the house or offer a detailed briefing to the leader on the ways in which that is continuing to occur. At present, there has been, as I understand it, no diminution in the resources, despite the end of that time period. Indeed, I understand that there was, relatively recently, a very productive meeting with the leadership of the Anangu about ways in which some of those protocols will be reviewed and established, but I am, as I say, happy to have a more detailed briefing by people who have more expertise than I.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:12): A supplementary, sir: who has the leadership and responsibility for the ongoing monitoring of child sexual abuse issues on the APY lands?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:12): As I understand it, there is a task force that oversees that. There is a responsibility, absolutely, with the Department for Education and Child Development, but that responsibility also sits within the leadership of the Anangu on the APY lands, and also with Aboriginal Affairs.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:12): Is the minister aware of the recommendation in the fifth annual report handed down in November 2013 regarding the ongoing management being the responsibility of a steering committee—the APY Lands Steering Committee? If so, can the minister advise of the ongoing role of that steering committee, who is a member of that steering committee and what work they are actually doing to follow up on these issues?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:13): I appreciate the clarification there. When I said 'task force', 'steering committee' was in fact the expression that I was reaching for. I can't give you here now the membership of that committee—I can certainly provide that in due course—but that is the group that I understand recently had a productive meeting. There had been, I believe, a hiatus for a period of time due to a number of factors. That is now on track and is having productive discussions within the community.

From the time when I was on the lands a couple of months ago, I guess it is now, and spent some time with the police involved in that work as well as Families SA staff and education staff, my sense was that the engagement by the various forms of leadership within the APY communities was essential for productive change to occur and was getting closer. The work that was happening

between government workers and the Anangu themselves was improving, which is in no way to suggest complacency or contentment that things aren't going as well as we all might wish they did.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:14): For clarity, Mr Speaker, is the minister—

The SPEAKER: Is this a supplementary?

Mr MARSHALL: Yes, a supplementary, sir. Is it the minister's understanding that the APY Lands Steering Committee has the responsibility for the ongoing monitoring of child sexual abuse on the APY lands?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:14): It is my understanding that the steering committee has responsibility for the ongoing monitoring of the actions of the Mullighan report.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:14): Supplementary, sir: can the minister outline to the house how often this committee meets, and can she provide further detail regarding the recent meeting where child protection issues were covered?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:15): Yes; but as I have just indicated, I cannot do that immediately. There was a hiatus, as I understand it, but I understand that that is now ended. I can provide, on notice, the questions that you have asked with some detail.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:15): Supplementary: given that the recommendation from the final Mullighan inquiry report to parliament was handed down in 2013, can the minister confirm that in fact there were no meetings of the APY Lands Steering Committee in 2014 whatsoever?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:15): I can't confirm that, because it is reaching back prior to my involvement; but, as I said, I am aware that there was a hiatus of meetings. Whether that encompassed that entire calendar year, I absolutely could not say now, but I can return with an answer for you.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:15): Supplementary: is the minister satisfied with the APY Lands Steering Committee's oversight of this important issue?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:16): It partly depends on your standard of satisfaction. The question of whether children are as safe as I would like them to be on the APY lands—I don't think I could hand on heart say that I am. The reason for that is multiple and complex, and there are a number of agencies and individual staff located on the lands who are working extremely hard; so, too, are the Anangu and the Anangu leadership in particular.

I will never be entirely satisfied without a sense that all children are safe across all of South Australia. That sets an almost impossible bar, given that we are dealing with private homes and private individuals. But, I do not know how else to answer that question, because I think you are expecting of a task force—a steering group—a standard that requires cooperation across and into the community as well.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:17): Supplementary, sir: when did the minister first become aware of the unsatisfactory performance of the APY Lands Steering

Committee, and what action has the minister taken to correct the poor performance that she has identified in the parliament today?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:17): Mr Speaker, I try very hard to be as open and clear about exactly what I think about situations in this place. To take my answer, which is about a very, very serious issue of the way in which little children experience their lives, and to then say that I've said that a task force is unsatisfactory and that I became aware of its 'unsatisfactoriness' is a misreading of the answer that I just gave.

Members interjecting:

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:17): I am sorry the minister feels that way. A further question—

The SPEAKER: The leader should just ask questions rather than make impromptu remarks or speeches, and the member for Wright is called to order.

Mr MARSHALL: Thank you very much. My question is to the Minister for Education and Child Development. How does the minister reconcile her comments in the parliament just now that the APY Lands Steering Committee 'met recently', when the executive director of the government's Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Program, Ms Meredith Saunders, stated on radio yesterday that the committee had not met this year?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:18): Well, in that case, it may be that I have been misinformed and I will come back to the house and clarify. My understanding was that there was a meeting recently. It may be, as I said, that I have misunderstood which meeting was being referred to, and I will clarify that.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:18): Supplementary, sir: considering recent reports about endemic sexual abuse on the APY lands, and at least one case occurring on school property, is the minister concerned that no-one seems to be actively confronting this situation?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:18): By no means could it be said that no-one is actively confronting the challenges on the lands, particularly for children. There is an enormous amount of statutory child protection work occurring there, with very dedicated staff who are working very hard.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:19): Can the minister detail to the house how many mandatory notifications have been made regarding children on the APY lands in the state's north since the Mullighan inquiry ceased its annual progress report to this parliament?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:19): No, and we do not report on geographic location of notifications.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:19): Can the minister just clarify that? Is she unwilling to provide numbers to this house regarding mandatory notifications?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:19): I believe I just answered that question.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:19): Is the minister aware of a situation involving a teacher on the APY lands who was initially denied a transfer on compassionate grounds, despite the alleged sexual assault of his wife and children on the grounds of the school?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:20): I am aware that a case has been raised which is probably consistent with what you are saying, but in no way do I therefore endorse and say that what you have raised is a correct allegation or is even an allegation that has necessarily and in exactly those terms been made to you. But I believe that I know the case that you are making reference to, however accurately or inaccurately, and I am aware that work is occurring within the department on that.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:20): Perhaps the minister could outline to the house what action she has taken to prevent situations like this occurring in the future?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:20): 'Situations like this'—I was just very clear that the allegation that the leader has constructed may or may not be the allegation that has been made by someone who has raised that and may or may not in fact be the allegations that have been made to the department. So, it is an impossible question to answer when you say 'situations like this'.

APY LANDS, CHILD PROTECTION

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:21): Perhaps the minister could clarify what part of the allegation she does not support?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:21): No, I will not be clarifying.

MEDICAL CANNABIS

The Hon. S.W. KEY (Ashford) (14:21): My question is directed to the Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Can the minister update the house about South Australia's participation in clinical trials of medical cannabis?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:21): Can I thank the member for Ashford for her question and her interest in this issue. In South Australia, cannabis is a controlled drug under the Controlled Substances Act 1984. The South Australian government does not believe that cannabis is a harmless drug. Available evidence highlights long-term harmful effects of cannabis use, including increased risk of respiratory diseases associated with smoking, including cancer, dependence, decreased memory and learning abilities, and decreased motivation in areas such as study, work or concentration.

There is, however, evidence for therapeutic benefits from cannabis, including anti-spastic, analgesic, anti-emetic and anti-inflammatory actions. Many of these therapeutic uses of cannabis and products derived from cannabis are still experimental. The Australian government's Therapeutic Goods Administration regulates medicines in Australia and assesses medicines for quality, safety and efficacy. Any move to make medicinal cannabis more widely available should be done under the auspices of the TGA and based on science and not by politicians based on emotion.

Some synthetic cannabis products, such as Sativex, an oral spray, are currently included on the Australian Register of Therapeutic Goods, meaning they are available for medicinal use. Clinical trials have been conducted on the effectiveness of Sativex for conditions such as multiple sclerosis and pain relief in terminal cancers. Sativex can only be prescribed by medical practitioners under the TGA's special access scheme.

New South Wales is undertaking clinical trials of cannabis. The South Australian government supports the clinical trials and has a South Australian health observer on the expert panel. South Australia will cooperate with New South Wales in any way they ask us to support the trial. The results from that trial will be assessed by experts and they will make a determination about the use

of cannabis as a medicine. If that determination is that there are some products that have a therapeutic use and are safe and a change of legislation is required, then we will bring legislation to the house.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (14:23): My question is to the Minister for Police. When did the minister become aware of the case identified in the Police Ombudsman's report of a police officer racially abusing an Aboriginal man and saying, amongst other things, 'I'd like to tie the hose around your neck, set you on fire, and drag you around the streets attached to our car with the lights and sirens on'?

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:24): I thank the honourable member for his question. I became aware of it when a journalist from *The Advertiser* contacted my office.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (14:24): Supplementary, sir: the minister would be aware that, in the ombudsman's report, the disciplinary action taken was identified as a transfer from the officer's then current station to the Police Academy for six weeks and the undertaking of a cultural awareness course. Does the minister view that disciplinary action as satisfactory?

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:24): As the honourable member would be aware, matters dealing with police disciplinary matters or management of staff are under the purview of the commissioner, not the police minister. We do not actually manage staff day to day. It is quite clear that, for matters that go beyond the commissioner, there is an independent tribunal, as required. What I can say is I have the utmost confidence in the commissioner to deal with those matters appropriately.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (14:25): Supplementary: given that the minister identifies that this is a matter for the commissioner to deal with, the case in question having been dealt with by the previous police commissioner, will the police minister, if he has not already, seek a meeting with the new police commissioner to discuss this matter and request a review?

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:25): As I have just said, I have the utmost confidence in the police to handle those matters. As I have said to the inquiry I received, I thought the comments made by the officer were inappropriate and certainly not something I would endorse. If I was to then seek to second-guess what a commissioner should do in the future, I would be interfering with his role as a commissioner of police to handle his staff. Certainly, if there are matters that the commissioner thinks he needs to bring to my attention, he will do so.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (14:26): Supplementary: given that the ombudsman reported that the previous police ombudsman, Sarah Bolt, identified that the officer in question was entirely unsuitable to continue as a member of the police force and the current acting ombudsman identifies that there are a number of options open to the commissioner from terminating the officer's appointment to suspending the appointment, reducing salary, transferring the officer elsewhere with a reduction in rank, reducing rank or imposing a fine, and given that the minister has admitted the comments were utterly inappropriate, why won't the minister at least seek from the commissioner an undertaking to reconsider the situation, given that there are, in fact, further cases of this nature?

The SPEAKER: You are verging on debate now.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Thank you, Treasurer, for your assistance. Minister.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:27): What I would say is a couple of things. The issue of dealing with complaints from citizens regarding police has been under review by the commissioner of ICAC. He has made a number of recommendations. Clearly, the issue of dealing with complaints is one which, by the ICAC report and recommendation, we can improve.

I would reaffirm the comment I made earlier, that I do fully support our commissioners and the judgements they make. The only comment I would make, though—the only inference I can draw from your line of questioning—is that you clearly have a problem with the commissioner's dealing with that matter and perhaps you should deal with him as well.

Mr GARDNER: Supplementary question, sir.

The SPEAKER: We cannot have a fourth supplementary.

Mr GARDNER: Can I seek a new question, then?

The SPEAKER: Good.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (14:28): I will identify that in the minister's previous answer he referred to the ICAC commissioner's comments about civilians reporting concerns about police. Is the minister advising the house that this case is one that arose out of a complaint from a citizen to the police?

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:28): That is certainly my understanding where citizens have complained, and we are all eligible to complain about any public official, not only police, and people do.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (14:28): Supplementary: if, indeed, the minister discovers that this complaint that is a finding in the ombudsman's report of a disciplinary matter that has been heard by the previous commissioner was, in fact, not made by a citizen, will he assure the house that he will bring back that information at the earliest possible opportunity?

The SPEAKER: That is a hypothetical question. Can we have something else?

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (14:29): Certainly. My supplementary question is to the minister. Given the extraordinary nature of this case, will the minister take personal responsibility in reviewing the totality of the case and bring back a report to the house on what action he is going to take?

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:29): The fact remains that the matter has been independently investigated. The Police Ombudsman, as I understand it, has made a recommendation, or a finding. The course of action the member for Morialta is suggesting is that we just ignore the legal processes that we have in place and I impose my own.

Ms Chapman interjecting:

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: Well, that's exactly what he is saying. We have an established process—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: —which actually deals with police complaints, and I will reaffirm it: I have the utmost confidence in the police commissioner to deal with these matters.

The SPEAKER: Before the next supplementary, I call to order the members for Finniss, Chaffey, Stuart, Morphett and the deputy leader, and I warn the member for Finniss for the first time. The member for Morialta.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (14:30): I have a supplementary question: I refer the minister to the answer he gave two questions ago and further to the annual report of the Police Ombudsman. Given the police ombudsman's comments on page 14 paying credit, and I quote:

...to the two members of the police force who reported the behaviour which was the subject of the charge.

And further:

Without them taking that courageous step I am certain that the conduct complained of would not otherwise have been the subject of a complaint.

Will the minister now commit to reading the report and at least bringing a report back to the house given that he is taking no responsibility for this matter whatsoever?

The SPEAKER: Well, the last part is out of order, and I call the member for Morialta to order; and the minister can disregard the last part. Minister.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:31): Mr Speaker, I have nothing to add.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:31): My question is to the Minister for Police. Given that the minister has indicated that he knew nothing about this case until he had a call from the reporter from *The Advertiser*, I think were his words, that is, within the last 48 hours, I'm assuming—

The SPEAKER: Can the deputy leader get to a question.

Ms CHAPMAN: Could the minister confirm whether anyone in his office had been briefed on this case, either by the current police commissioner or the former police commissioner, subsequent to his report on this matter and action on 4 March 2015?

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:32): Could I just have that last part of the question again?

Ms CHAPMAN: Can you confirm whether anyone in your office has received advice of this case, either by the current police commissioner or former commissioner Burns, who imposed the action on this matter on 4 March 2015?

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: Thank you, Mr Speaker. To the best of my knowledge the answer is no.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:32): Will the minister make that inquiry to ascertain whether anyone in his office had been informed about the particulars of this case and the disciplinary action taken by former commissioner Burns?

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:32): I am happy to do so, but I would say quite publicly that I have the confidence in my staff to bring those matters to my attention if required.

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:33): A further question to the minister: how often did you meet with commissioner Burns up until his retirement in, I think, June this year?

The SPEAKER: The member for Chaffey is warned.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:33): Mr Speaker, I assume—

The Hon. J.J. Snelling interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Health is called to order.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: —that the member for Bragg would know given that the member for Schubert actually asked for my diary under freedom of information. So, he has a copy of my diary, so it's publicly available information.

The Hon. J.M. Rankine interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Wright is warned.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: So, I assume that he would share that with his colleague on the front bench. So the answer is—

Ms Chapman interjecting:

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: On a regular basis. We usually meet on a—

Ms Chapman interjecting:

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: No, on a fortnightly basis.

Mr van Holst Pellekaan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Stuart is warned.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:33): During these fortnightly meetings, did the commissioner—Burns that was—ever discuss with you any action he had taken in respect of any police officers in respect of their conduct?

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:33): From time to time the former commissioner would bring to my attention matters which were of a criminal nature and so reported those things. Matters of a disciplinary nature were his area and he dealt with them. Those matters which went beyond that he brought to my attention as they arose.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:34): A further question to the minister: does the minister consider that a police officer threatening a person, having a hose tied around their neck before being set on fire and dragged behind a car constituted an assault?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: Point of order, sir. This is asking the minister for a legal opinion. It should be ruled out of order.

The SPEAKER: I uphold the point of order.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:34): I will ask a supplementary, if I may. Has the minister made any inquiry as to whether the conduct I have just described constitutes criminal conduct?

The SPEAKER: I do not think the way the question has been reformulated has improved it at all. Essentially you are asking the minister to define the—

Ms CHAPMAN: It is to whether he sought advice, sir. Obviously the Crown Solicitor's Office is available to ministers to ascertain whether there is—

The SPEAKER: It would be very peculiar if the minister, having denied knowledge of it until he was contacted by *The Advertiser*, sought a legal opinion about something—

Ms CHAPMAN: There is a possibility. He could have got on the phone to the Crown Solicitor's Office straightaway and asked, 'Have we got a problem here?' Hello, Houston. Minister, could you explain—

The SPEAKER: The question, improbable as it may seem, has been asked and it will now be answered.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:35): Given that the matter was independently investigated by the Police Ombudsman, if the Police Ombudsman thought there were any matters of a criminal nature, the ombudsman would make some reference to that. Given that it has been dealt with as a disciplinary matter and that the police commissioner responded to it as a disciplinary matter, a person who has a statutory obligation and a statutory right to investigate the matter has done so. They can do a better job than I can in that regard because they have the powers to do so.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:36): A supplementary: could the minister then explain, if he is satisfied that the commissioner has acted appropriately in this matter, why the former police ombudsman, as was reported in this year's annual report, expressly conveyed her view that the police officer concerned is 'entirely unsuitable to continue as a member of the police force'?

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:36): That question requires me to get into the mind of the Police Ombudsman, which I cannot do. The member would need to ask her.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:36): My final question, if I may—

The SPEAKER: Go ahead.

Ms CHAPMAN: Is the minister satisfied, or has he made any inquiry, as to whether the conduct described by the police officer breaches the Racial Discrimination Act?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: Once again, a point of order. This is essentially asking the minister for a legal opinion.

The SPEAKER: The other thing is that I understand it is a federal act, so the South Australian police minister would hardly be responsible to the house for the enforcement of federal legislation. Does the deputy leader have a question for which the minister might be responsible to the house?

Ms CHAPMAN: I am happy to ask the question of the Attorney-General.

The SPEAKER: That would really improve it.

Ms CHAPMAN: Can the Attorney-General indicate—

The SPEAKER: Under standing orders you cannot ask for legal opinions.

Ms CHAPMAN: I appreciate that, sir. I am asking whether any advice has been sought in respect of whether the conduct does breach this legislation. I am happy to put it to the Attorney-General, having been aware of this case—

The SPEAKER: Okay, I think we have the idea. I am not sure that the Attorney is responsible to the house, but he may wish to answer the question.

The Hon. J.R. RAU (Enfield—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice Reform, Minister for Planning, Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Child Protection Reform) (14:38): No.

HEAVY VEHICLES

The SPEAKER: The member for Napier.

Mr GEE (Napier) (14:38): Thank you, sir—

Members interjecting:

Mr GEE: It must be a full moon.

The SPEAKER: The member for Napier will be seated while I call to order the member for Mount Gambier and the member for Schubert.

Mr van Holst Pellekaan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Stuart is warned for the second and final time. The member for Napier.

Mr GEE: Thank you for your protection, sir. My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Can the minister update the house on the progress of the heavy vehicle network charging trials in South Australia?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Minister Assisting the Minister for Planning, Minister Assisting the Minister for Housing and Urban Development) (14:38): I thank the member for Napier for his question and for his keen interest in transport matters in South Australia. As members would be aware, the government is progressing heavy vehicle network charging trials directly with representatives of the heavy vehicle industry. The current system of state and federally based registration fees, charges and fuel excises for vehicles is not working.

Despite paying a significant amount of money to both state and federal governments, industry is often unable to see the direct benefits to the roads and to their operations. Heavy vehicle charges and taxation should have a more direct link to improvements and upkeep of the roads on which they operate. Currently, there is no direct link between the entire revenue pool and the road funding that is provided, or indeed required, across Australia.

Revenue paid by industry through the road user charge and in fuel excise is collected by the commonwealth into general revenue. Unlike registration charges paid to the state government which are paid into the Highways Fund and hypothecated into road funding, this arrangement is not replicated federally. As flagged by the Premier in November of last year and again in his speech to the National Press Club in July of this year, we need a fairer, more equitable and, particularly, more transparent way of raising revenue for investment in roads than the current regime provides. Over the last six months, the government has been meeting with industry to discuss how the trials would work, where potential trials could take place in the state and the benefits which the trials would provide to industry.

The collaboration between the government and industry has been very productive. This collaboration has involved a number of key industry groups, such as the South Australian Road Transport Association, the South Australian Livestock and Rural Transporters Association and key industry operators. However, we know that the commonwealth is also a key player in the heavy vehicle industry and their involvement in these trials will be crucial to ensure their success.

I had the pleasure of meeting with the new commonwealth Minister for Territories, Local Government and Major Projects, the Hon. Paul Fletcher, last week in Canberra. The

discussions with Mr Fletcher were very positive and built on the infrastructure outcomes that both governments have been able to achieve for South Australia since the last state election, which has seen important projects such as the Torrens to Torrens project and the Northern Connector project, amongst others, funded. As part of these discussions I had with Mr Fletcher, the South Australian and federal governments have agreed to establish a working group to assist in the progress of these network charging trials in this state.

The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure and the commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development will work closely together as the state government continues its efforts with industry to progress these trials. The commonwealth recognises the potential of this significant transport reform and the leadership of this state with network charging. The government's view is that these trials will inform and potentially accelerate state and national road reform.

While some, including those opposite, have said that they wanted an extra tax in the form of a toll on the heavy vehicle industry, driving up costs and hitting South Australian families with increases to the price of goods and services, we know that there is a much better way, a much fairer and more transparent way, to tax the heavy vehicle industry. The government is finalising trial options with industry with a view to beginning such trials early next year. I look forward to updating the house as this reform initiative progresses.

The SPEAKER: The member for Flinders, uncharacteristically, is called to order. The member for Taylor.

JAPAN AND SOUTH KOREA TRADE MISSION

Ms VLAHOS (Taylor) (14:42): My question is to the Minister for Defence Industries. What job and investment opportunities did the minister identify during his recent trip to Japan and South Korea?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH (Waite—Minister for Investment and Trade, Minister for Defence Industries, Minister for Veterans' Affairs) (14:43): I thank the member for Taylor for her question.

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: What was that? As members would be aware, I recently led a defence and trade delegation to Japan and South Korea, something I recall the member for Chaffey asking us to do. I was accompanied by Mr Andy Keough, Chief Executive of Defence SA, Mr Matt Johnson, Executive Director, and Mr David Blackstock, General Manager of Investment, Trade and Immigration in the Department of State Development, and Mr Chris Burns, Chief Executive of the Defence Teaming Centre. Defence was the primary focus of the trip, in particular assessing the capacity and intention of the Japanese with regard to their bid to build the next generation of submarines for the Australian Navy, a task that will involve 120,000 man years of jobs and opportunity for this state, if we get it right.

It became clear in my meetings with Japan's Ministry of Defence officials and the Vice Minister for Defence, Kenji Wakamiya, that there was a strong recognition of the South Australian role in naval shipbuilding. The Japanese government understands that the South Australian government is a very important partner, should they be selected as the preferred designer and builder of Australia's future submarines, and their reception for our delegation reflected that fact.

The clear message was that they have confidence to be able to work closely with South Australia as the centre for a local build of the Soryu class submarine. We were also given a tour of naval shipbuilding yards in Kobe and I was privileged enough to have a submarine brought back to shore for our delegation to tour. The strength of the Japanese technology was indeed impressive. Their shipbuilding technology, however, is by no means further advanced than that on display at the ASC headquarters at Osborne, where Australia's Collins class submarines were built. We have the same capability, the same capacity and very similar facilities.

I am confident that the South Australian industry can work effectively with Japan's major companies to deliver a local build and the thousands of jobs that go with it. We are now in a position where South Australia has developed a strong relationship with all three bidders for the Future

Submarine. Our delegation also travelled to South Korea to meet with DSME, a Korean shipbuilding company, which is one of two potential offshore builders of Australia's ancillary supply vessels in the Sea 1654 program, to ascertain potential supply chain opportunities for South Australian companies.

With regard to trade and investment, I met with high-level contacts within the Japanese and Korean governments as well as the Australian ambassadors in both countries to discuss and gain support for the North Asia strategy. I also met with importers of key sectors and Austrade to discuss ways to improve export performance for both our countries, as well as put in place initial steps to prepare for a full business mission in late 2016, and I would encourage companies to attend.

I think that there is a high level of goodwill from both countries toward South Australia, and a willingness to work together to create jobs through further export and investment across our borders. Japan and Korea are Australia's second and third largest export markets, and Japan is the world's second largest supplier of foreign direct investment. They are vast, vibrant and highly intelligent markets and we need to sell more of our goods and services to them.

I reported to the house earlier this week that 65,000 jobs in this state depend on export activities. We have scope to grow further our export engagement with Japan and Korea and the government is determined to deliver exactly that jobs and investment outcome for South Australians.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Before the leader asks his question, I call to order the member for Davenport, I warn the member for Mount Gambier, and I warn the member for Chaffey for the second and final time. Leader.

MENTAL HEALTH PLAN

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:47): My question is to the Minister for Health. When will the government meet its 2014 election commitment to develop a new South Australian mental health plan for 2015-2020?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:47): As soon as we can. That is one of the things that the new Mental Health Commission will be doing.

MENTAL HEALTH PLAN

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:47): Will the government continue to make piecemeal, on-the-run changes to mental health services in the absence of a plan as promised in the lead-up to the 2014 election?

The SPEAKER: I rule the question out of order under standing order 97: questions not to involve argument.

Mr MARSHALL: I am happy to—

The SPEAKER: The member for Florey.

EDUCATION SYSTEM

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (14:48): My question is to the Minister for Education and Child Development. What is being done to boost the standing of public education in South Australia?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:48): I am delighted to have the opportunity to answer this question about public education. As members who have had any opportunity to hear me talk in public about education will be aware, while I am very happy to be the Minister for Education for all three sectors, for all the students in all the schools, I have a particular passion about making sure that the public education system is as strong as it can be. It is my view that in the absence of a strong state system we are imperilled as a state for the future of our society as well as our economy and I will do everything I can to make sure that both the quality of the state education system and its reputation are as high as possible.

Over the last several months, I have had the opportunity to tour many of our state schools and I have been most impressed by the quality of the work that occurs there—the teachers, the leadership, the SSOs and, of course, the students themselves. I am absolutely convinced that the SACE is one of the best high school qualifications in the country and I was very proud to go to China to be part of signing up schools there who know what a good qualification it is and who want to teach it through their education system as well.

I have also determined that I want to make sure that I am best equipped to have advice from as broad a range of people and professions as possible on making sure that our public education system not only is strong but is seen to be strong. I have therefore set up an advisory committee to assist me, chaired by Professor Alan Reid. Amongst others on that committee, I have invited Professor Leanna Read, who is South Australia's Chief Scientist, to give advice on how we can make sure that people understand how good our state education system is and also to make sure that we are maintaining our role as offering one of the best education systems in the country.

To do that, I have asked them for several pieces of advice, one of which is that, while we all accept and, in fact, embrace NAPLAN as one way of measuring a particular set of skills—which are foundation skills and utterly important; literacy and numeracy are extremely important as is the capacity to write persuasively—by no means can we allow that to be the only measure of the quality of our education system. It is absolutely crucial that not only are we teaching students critical thinking, problem solving and group work—entrepreneurialism, as was called for in the paper today—but that we are able to measure how that is going.

My sense is that we are not well equipped across the country with mechanisms for measuring those other skills that are absolutely crucial to the future of South Australia, so I have asked them to have a look at that and see what ways we can measure performance on those fronts. I'm very much looking forward to working with the advisory committee and I look forward to the quality of the advice they will be able to give me.

The SPEAKER: Supplementary, member for Unley.

EDUCATION SYSTEM

Mr PISONI (Unley) (14:51): Can the minister advise the house of Professor Reid's view on NAPLAN testing?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector) (14:51): No; I haven't had a conversation with her about NAPLAN testing, so it's impossible for me to read her mind on that.

MENTAL HEALTH BEDS

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:51): My question is to the Minister for Health. Given that KPMG advised the minister in March that South Australia did not require additional acute mental health beds and the minister advised budget estimates in July that 'we're doing some work at the moment about whether in fact we need some extra acute mental health beds', can the minister advise of the progress of this review?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:52): We will have an announcement shortly. I have to point out, though—and I will recheck the KPMG review—that I think what it would have said is that overall we had a sufficient number of mental health beds but I'm not sure whether they made a distinction between acute and subacute. I would need to double-check that. Certainly it's an issue we're having a look at at the moment, and we expect to make an announcement about that shortly.

MENTAL HEALTH BEDS

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:52): Supplementary, sir: can the minister outline to the house how consumers have been engaged in this review work with imminent announcement?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:52): I don't think it

has got to that stage yet, but certainly I've made very clear to everyone that I am dissatisfied with the fact that we still have patients waiting for an admission into an acute mental health bed for longer than 24 hours. It is something that I'm determined to bring to an end and we have made significant progress on that.

I think it would be fair to say that in the north and the south, patients having to wait longer than 24 hours has become sporadic, but it is still a significant problem at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Royal Adelaide Hospital. I'm determined to fix it, and I don't see why that would be particularly controversial with anyone, including mental health consumers.

MENTAL HEALTH BEDS

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:53): Nevertheless, I'm just wondering whether the minister—

The SPEAKER: Is this a supplementary?

Mr MARSHALL: Supplementary, sir—could address the issue of which consumer groups had been engaged in the review of the number of acute mental health beds in the South Australian system, following on from the statements he made in estimates in July this year?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:53): I'll get back to the house. I think there has been some governance framework over these projects and I'm pretty sure there's been some consumer involvement or representation on it, but I will double-check that. Again, as I said, I don't think anyone is going to have an argument with me that it is unacceptable for a mental health patient to be waiting in an emergency department for any longer than is absolutely necessary.

MENTAL HEALTH BEDS

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:54): Supplementary, sir: earlier the minister made it clear that he was creating a new short-stay unit at the Flinders Medical Centre. How many beds will be in that short-stay unit? Will this be an additional number of beds in the hospital system in South Australia and that there will not be any cuts to any mental health beds in South Australia?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:54): It's already there. The short-stay unit in the Flinders Medical Centre has been in operation for some time. From memory, I think it's either six or eight beds and, yes, they are additional mental health beds.

MENTAL HEALTH BEDS

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:54): And there are no cuts?

The SPEAKER: Will the leader ask a fresh question?

Mr MARSHALL: Supplementary to that question.

The SPEAKER: Well, it would be a fourth supplementary.

Mr MARSHALL: Can the minister assure the house that there are no planned cuts to the number of mental health beds in South Australia?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:55): What I can say is whatever we do will be an increase in the number of mental health beds. Overall, the total number of mental health beds will have to increase.

MINISTER'S REMARKS

Mr GRIFFITHS (Goyder) (14:55): My question is to the Minister for Planning. In light of the minister's description last night in this chamber, indeed, that community groups are, and I quote, 'morons', does the minister stand by that comment, or will he retract and apologise in the house for his remarks?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: Sir, just on a point of order, is this not a question on a matter which is currently before the house?

The SPEAKER: No, I don't uphold that point of order—that's a stretch. The Deputy Premier.

The Hon. J.R. RAU (Enfield—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice Reform, Minister for Planning, Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Child Protection Reform) (14:55): I thank the honourable member for his question. He was in the chamber last night and was actually the person with whom I was having a conversation at that time. He didn't seem to take any offence at that use, but I do say, on reflection, I think that was an unwise word to use, and I have indicated already that I don't think that was the appropriate word to use. But I do say this to the member for Goyder—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. J.R. RAU: Can I finish? I do say this to the member for Goyder, as he would remember the conversation and the context of the conversation: it is extremely unhelpful for people to deliberately make misleading statements in the media about the effect of legislation before this parliament. Where manifestly—

Mr PISONI: Point of order, sir: I believe that the minister is, in fact, now discussing a matter that is before the house.

The SPEAKER: If the Deputy Premier were canvassing the merits of last night's debate on the bill which is before the house, that would be out of order, so I will listen carefully to what the Deputy Premier says.

The Hon. J.R. RAU: As I was trying to explain, in the context of that conversation, I was trying to explain that it is extremely unhelpful for people to go into the public domain and make manifestly false statements about the contents of government legislation in an attempt to frighten and upset people. That is not very good, and it should be discouraged.

I am happy to refer to that behaviour in a longer form than the form I used last night, which is 'very unhelpful in saying false and misleading things in the public domain about what is in or not in a bill in order to frighten and scare and generally muckrake about a proposition rather than actually inform an accurate conversation'.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. J.R. RAU: I realise that's a longer form of words, but that was the context. I have already indicated I don't think that that is a helpful turn of phrase, and I don't intend to use it again. I will use the longer form.

The SPEAKER: I call to order the members for Adelaide, Kavel and the Treasurer. I warn the members for Schubert, Flinders, Moriata, Kavel and Adelaide, and I warn for the second and final time the members for Schubert and Adelaide. I call the member for Reynell.

INTERNATIONAL CORRECTIONS AND PRISONS CONFERENCE

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:59): My question is to the Minister for Correctional Services. Can the minister inform the house about the upcoming visit by international correctional services delegates to Adelaide?

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (14:59): I thank the honourable member for her question and, also, I acknowledge her interest in ensuring that we have a system which helps rehabilitation of our offenders.

Earlier this week, I attended the 17th International Corrections and Prisons Conference held in Melbourne. This was the first time that an Australian city has hosted the conference since it was convened in Perth in 2001. The conference is attended by more than 600 delegates from 50 nations from across the world. The conference provides a unique opportunity to gather international delegates from the criminal justice sector, and provides a forum for energetic, creative and diverse exchange of ideas and practices.

I had the opportunity to meet and discuss important issues with leading correctional administrators from Europe, North America, Asia and Africa. What became abundantly clear is that the challenges facing the correctional system in South Australia and Australia-wide are not unique to our jurisdictions. Everyone spoke of the changing dynamics of the prison population, its age, prevalence of longer sentences, and ageing infrastructure. But, with every challenge comes opportunity for innovation. It was heartening to speak to Scandinavian and North American delegates about the response to the challenges they have.

The theme of the conference was 'Managing risk in contemporary correctional systems'. The president's opening address focused on this theme, and especially the relationship between prisons and the wider community. In keeping with that message, over the course of tomorrow and Monday I have the honour of hosting international delegates to Adelaide to hold discussions with our stakeholders and the broader community about corrections and also the reform of our systems.

The following delegates will be in Adelaide for the discussions: Mr Michael Donnellan, Director of the Irish Prison Service; Mr Graham Betts-Symonds, of the Irish Prison Service Health Care; Mr Bernie Warner, formerly the secretary of corrections at Washington State; Dr Peter Johnston, Director of Research and Analysis, New Zealand Corrections and Dr Paul Crookall, previously from the Canadian Correctional Service. They will address the South Australian Department for Correctional Services, and I thank my Chief Executive and his team for their hard work in managing to secure such prominent guests.

The opposition spokesperson (member for Morialta) has also accepted an invitation to be involved in these discussions, and I thank him for his continued interest in this area. I firmly believe the experience and insights that these leading corrections professionals will share will provide valuable input into the reforms we are currently exploring for South Australia's correctional services. I look forward to our discussions and working with them.

I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight some of the successes of our system in South Australia. Traditionally, the Wednesday of the conference agenda is dedicated to presentations from the host nation. Eight presentations were given by the South Australian Department for Correctional Services. I thank Ms Annette McKee, Katie Cahill-Haslam, Bernie McGinnes, Tony Shillabeer, Graeme Pearce, Yilma Woldgabreal, Henry Pharo and Luke Williams for their presentations, which covered the management of risk in the community, the gender responsive management of women, the management of electronic monitoring in remote communities, and evidence-based approaches for screening on admission to prison.

I am advised that the presentations were well received and provided a wonderful opportunity to the South Australian department to demonstrate to our international colleagues some of the great work that occurs here.

STARCLUB CLUB DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Ms COOK (Fisher) (15:02): My question is to the Minister for Recreation and Sport. Minister, could you advise us how the state government is promoting good governance within our community sporting clubs?

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson—Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Minister for Forests, Minister for Tourism, Minister for Recreation and Sport, Minister for Racing) (15:03): I thank the member for Fisher for the question, and I acknowledge the hard work that she does with sporting groups within her electorate. I know you are held in high esteem by the those people who run clubs throughout the area and that you are a regular attendee at sporting events across so many different sports. So, thank you for the contribution that you make.

I am sure all members in this place have very good relationships with the sporting organisations in their electorates. It is a terrific way for the local community to come together in a safe and healthy sort of way. The government, in 2010, initiated the Starclub Club Development Program which aims to guide clubs along a path to success, and it has been well supported by clubs across South Australia, with more than 2,500 registrations.

The highest level of Starclub you can get is Recognition. We have had 21 regional clubs recently attain that Recognition level. I must congratulate those clubs down in the South-East,

because out of the 21 across the state, 10 of them come from the South-East, including the Glencoe Netball Club. I played a bit of footy for the Glencoe Footy Club—about 10 minutes—in the Mini Colts; 1976, round 1—

Mr Williams interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: I was never asked back, but I do know the netball club and the footy club well. I guess they are a symbol of something that is repeated in so many communities right around this great state, where the community does come together; it is a focal point. So many great volunteer hours are done there as well. The member for MacKillop has asked me to mention his team, the Mount Burr Mozzies, in the Mid South Eastern League. They won another flag this year. They have actually won more flags than Glencoe now, so I think you are about three ahead, member for MacKillop.

Mr Williams interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: They are green and gold. Ours are maroon and gold. Anyway, I digress. We also must congratulate the Rivoli Bay Sailing Club, Naracoorte Bowls Club and the Naracoorte and District Basketball Association, but to name a few. Other clubs around the state which have recently given recognition include Henley Sharks Water Polo. I know the member for Colton is a big fan of the Henley Sharks. I guess with a name like sharks you probably don't want to play water polo against them, so maybe they won a few forfeits. We have had the Risdon Hockey Club, Boolaroo Community Gym—the member for Stuart is a big fan of the Boolaroo team up there—and the Marion Tennis Club. Congratulations to all of those clubs.

The Starclub process has focused on continuous improvement where recreation and sport clubs meet a minimum of 15 out of 25 key criteria in five categories. They are: good management, quality coaching and officiating, valuing volunteers, providing positive and welcoming clubs, and providing safe environments for all. They are very important things that we need to have in all of our clubs. Ongoing club development is important for improving the way clubs and associations are governed and managed. It is the basis for building long-term club sustainability, developing volunteers and ensuring overall club success on and off the field.

Since 2012, the Starclub Field Officer Program has closely aligned with the Starclub development program. The Starclub Field Officer Program is a partnership between the Office for Recreation and Sport and regional councils, and is an excellent example of how state and local governments work collaboratively to achieve strong results for regional communities. Together, these complementary programs deliver significant outcomes for clubs and associations in regional communities. A number of larger sporting organisations, such as the South Australian Cricket Association and Golf SA, have integrated the Starclub program into their own state club development programs. It is terrific to work with all these sporting organisations.

SPORTS VOUCHERS

Ms COOK (Fisher) (15:07): Supplementary, sir: would the minister please be able to describe for us how the school sporting vouchers have assisted with this participation at—

Ms REDMOND: Point of order, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Point of order?

Ms REDMOND: Speaker Lewis ruled that the use of 'please' was out of order.

The SPEAKER: Could the member for Fisher, in order to maintain the right tone between the backbench and the ministry, reformulate her question?

Ms COOK: I humbly apologise for that. Would the minister explain to the house how the school sporting vouchers have supported this community participation?

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson—Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Minister for Forests, Minister for Tourism, Minister for Recreation and Sport, Minister for Racing) (15:07): I thank the member for her question. I know that in the lead-up to the last election, Premier Weatherill and I went out and announced a \$50 sports voucher for every primary school student in South Australia. It was something that was greeted with great enthusiasm by parents right

throughout the state, because what we know is that, in a tightening economy when things in the home budget get tight and money gets scarce, sometimes the first thing to go is the spending on sport and in particular children's sport.

There is no greater time to get kids involved than at a very young age. Those primary school years are very important. What we did was we came up with a scheme where the clubs actually register with the government and then we have all their details on file, and then as junior members—

Dr McFetridge interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: —join their sporting club, they fill in the form—excuse me, Mr Speaker, this gentleman over here keeps interrupting. I just seek your protection from the member; there is some noise out there.

The SPEAKER: The member for Morphett has already been called to order.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Thank you, sir. We have had all these sporting clubs who have registered, and I think we announced that during the by-election in Fisher at the Happy Valley Cricket Club. It went down very well with the students we met there and, of course, their parents. By having people in clubs, particularly at that young age, not only are they learning great skills around sport (they are improving their coordination) but they are also learning leadership skills. They are learning how to deal with success and to deal with failure as well. We see it as an important part of the sporting world.

We have made the promise that every primary school student—it does not matter what your income or what school you go to—in South Australia is eligible and we have been handing out thousands of these vouchers. What we are seeing is that, in many cases, it is directing people to join a club, and that is terrific as well because there is that sense of community that people get from going to a club. The kids join up to play basketball, football, netball, tennis, or whatever sport it is. That drags the parents along as well, then the parents find that they have somewhere to go and mix with other people in their community. It really is about strengthening communities.

I guess that happens more often than not in regional South Australia but in many of our suburban places I think sometimes we lose that sense of community. While this is about getting kids active and helping their parents ease the burden on their finances with this \$50 one-off voucher per year, there are many more benefits that go well above just that simple act of going out and having a game of footy or netball or joining a local swimming team. I thank the member for Fisher again for her question and congratulate her on her great advocacy for sporting clubs in her electorate.

Personal Explanation

MINISTER FOR POLICE

Mr KNOLL (Schubert) (15:11): Mr Speaker, I seek to make a personal explanation.

The SPEAKER: Does the member claim to have been misrepresented?

Mr KNOLL: Yes, I do.

Leave granted.

Mr KNOLL: In question time today, the Minister for Police stated that I had access to his diary via FOI. At this stage, that FOI is deemed to have been refused and I look forward to the minister rectifying that situation.

Parliamentary Procedure

QUESTIONS

The SPEAKER (15:12): During question time, I ruled out some questions on the ground that they were questions seeking opinions or legal opinion. I want to quote *House of Representatives Practice* on that so we are clear. At page 559, *House of Representatives Practice* says:

Questions may not ask Ministers for an expression of opinion, including a legal opinion, for comment, or for justification of statements made by them.

Legal opinions, such as the interpretation of a statute, or of an international document, or of a Minister's own powers, should not be sought in questions. Ministers may be asked, however, by what statutory authority they have acted in a particular instance, and the Prime Minister may be asked to define a Minister's responsibilities. Speaker Morrison of the UK House of Commons explained the basis for not permitting questions seeking an expression of opinion on a question of law [thus]:

'A Question asking a Minister to interpret the domestic law offends against the rule of Ministerial responsibility, since such interpretation is not the responsibility of a Minister...But it also offends against the rule that a Question may not ask for a Minister's opinion. The interpretation of written words is a matter of opinion.'

Grievance Debate

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ECONOMY

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (15:13): South Australia is a great state but it is being let down by a very bad government. Adelaide is a great place to live. It is one of the most liveable cities in the world. I love Adelaide and our regions are second to none, but our economy in South Australia has virtually ground to a halt after 14 punishing years by the hopeless ineptitude of the state Labor government.

This month, we have had the punishing situation that we have had to sit through these incredibly bad national employment statistics. South Australia's trend unemployment rate is sitting at a national high of 8 per cent. Let me tell you that the second highest in the nation is 6.5 per cent and the national average is 6.3 per cent. Let me tell you also: Tasmania is improving all the time. It is lowering its unemployment. Tasmania is down at 6.2. We are the worst in the nation because we have got a government that is not concentrating on creating long-term, sustainable jobs for South Australia. That was this month.

This week CommSec brought down its State of the States report, another terrible report card for this tired, out of touch, arrogant Labor government in South Australia. We are now ranked seventh, but not only are we ranked seventh but Tasmania, which is currently in eighth, is now being predicted to overtake South Australia.

This government will not be satisfied until we are absolutely bottom of the barrel. It should be shameful to this government. This government should be concentrating every single effort on trying to improve our situation, yet what is it doing? Absolutely nothing. It is sitting on its hands. It is running up the white flag, waiting until we hit double digit unemployment in this state. Today the Sensis Business Index comes out. This index looks at the way that SMEs rate their state governments. Where is South Australia? Are they first? Are they second, third, fourth, fifth? Last again.

South Australia ranks the lowest in the nation again. You see the pattern, Mr Speaker. After 14 years of inept government, now with the ICAC report being handed down and two counts of maladministration against this government where it sold off a very, very valuable piece of South Australian industrial land, completely without going out to market and condemned by virtually everybody for the maladministration this government has presided over, and look where South Australia is.

ABS statistics are very important to consider, and when we look at the rate of start-up in South Australia, we have the lowest rate of start-up of new business on the mainland of Australia. This is a shameful situation. It is evidenced by the ABS statistics which came out in March this year and confirmed again in April of this year for the last financial year. How are we going to grow our economy? How are we going to grow our economy, sir, if we are not focused on starting new businesses in South Australia?

So, it was quite interesting yesterday. When we raised this question with the minister he did not even know about this statistic. In fact, he spent a lot of question time arguing about it—not just question time but later in the parliament. Interestingly this morning, the Premier decided that he would come out and challenge what the Leader of the Opposition had said in this place. He thought that we had got it wrong. He thought that I had misled the parliament. So, he had the opportunity to come into this parliament at 10.30 this morning and move that motion. Did he come in?

Honourable members: No!

Mr MARSHALL: Did he come in and say that the Leader of the Opposition had got it wrong? The government has had all day to correct this situation. Did it use that opportunity? No, because it knows that we have got it right. The government consulted the statistics. We have not started the number of businesses that we need to in South Australia because this is a lazy, tired government which does not understand the start-up community.

Let me just look at some of the failed policies of this government. The Business Enterprise Centre funding, closed; Youth Entrepreneurship Scheme, closed; the Small Business Month—first of all it scaled it down to Small Business Week, then it got rid of it completely. Also, the Small Business Emergency Helpline, the Small Business Investment Development Program, Family Business Manager and then the big daddy of them all, Innovation SA. This was going to be the saviour to create new businesses in South Australia—within 18 months of it opening the government announced that it was going to close it.

This government does not have a cohesive strategy to back small business in South Australia, to back start-ups in this state, and that is why unequivocally South Australia is falling behind because we do not have a government which is doing the hard work to create enterprise, to create opportunities and to create long-term sustainable jobs for South Australians.

Time expired.

AUSTRALIAN NURSING AND MIDWIFERY DELEGATES' CONFERENCE

Ms COOK (Fisher) (15:18): The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) was formed in 1924 and known as the Australian Nursing Federation until 2013 when the inclusion in the title of 'midwifery' was made in order to better reflect its membership base. The ANMF is one of the fastest-growing unions in Australia run by nurses and midwives to advance the industrial, political and professional status of members.

Underpinning the union's work is a belief that high-quality, affordable and excessive health care is the right of every Australian. Members do this work in every healthcare setting—hospital, nursing home, GP clinic, community health practice in rural and remote Australia and also in large hospitals and big cities. Last week, on 22 and 23 October, at the Intercontinental Hotel, Adelaide, the ANMF South Australian branch hosted 130 delegates from all states representing nurses, midwives and nurse assistants in nursing at its 12th Biennial National Delegates Conference.

This is one of the ANMF'S peak decision-making forums where 50 resolutions were debated, with issues in four areas: industrial, professional, political and social justice. The theme for this conference was 'We will not be silenced: the power of nurses and midwives'.

Along with the Hon. Gail Gago, it was my privilege to host the welcome reception here in Parliament House on behalf of minister Jack Snelling. Of course, Gail is a former ANMF branch secretary, who was succeeded by Lee Thomas, the current federal secretary. We have a very proud tradition in the SA branch of nurturing community leaders.

Highlights of the conference included the welcome to country by Uncle Frank Wanganeen, and the opening of the conference that was done by the Hon. Jack Snelling, the health minister. He talked about issues such as the power for change, Transforming Health, cuts to funding by the federal government, the quality of our healthcare system, clinical advisory groups, increased quality of care without cost-cutting, and the damage enforced on our health budget by the federal government.

Lee Thomas talked about the fact that the ANMF is actually the largest union in Australia, with nearly 250,000 members. The current local and federal campaigns on which the ANMF is working are: 'Patients before profits, protect our penalty rates'; RNs 24/7 in aged care; the Robin Hood tax; the end of violence in the workplace; and, of course, domestic violence, campaigning with Rosie Batty. It also takes some credit for defeating the GP co-payment—for now.

Current issues discussed were: the attack on penalty rates, which would mean a drop in pay for most nurses; poor staffing and skills mix in aged care; paid parental leave; the 'Stop Passing the Buck' campaign for graduate nurses (the federal office also has a working group looking into issues and surveying employers to get the real answers); and the new reconciliation action plan.

Tony Mitchelmore spoke about key campaigning issues and talked about swing voters, which are really on the increase and which we, as members of political parties, understand. They did a focus group exercise and found some very interesting results, with one funny quote from the focus group about the change from Abbott to Turnbull, along the lines of 'same excrement, different shovel'.

Wendy Harmer spoke. She had the conference in stitches about the book she had on various ways of nagging, and said that it was going to help in the next political campaign. She also warned that an adolescent boy and a menopausal woman were never meant to share a house, which I think many of us can relate to. Rosie Batty then gave us goosebumps talking about domestic violence, about 1800RESPECT, and about her campaign Never Alone, which now has 40,000 members (ANMF is a founding partner).

Attendees had dinner together and then there was a night of dancing, and on day 2 the conference heard from the Hon. Mark Butler. Mark was the minister for ageing, and he talked about his book *Advanced Australia: Politics of Ageing* and increased his sales at that conference. He spoke about the growing number of baby boomers, and they talked about health issues and shared funny stories. The conference also heard from the new federal senator Robert Sims, from the Greens, who talked about their health policies and how they feared more cuts from the Liberal government. It is also noted that no federal Liberal politicians attended—again—even though they were invited, and that was very disappointing.

One of the key issues they are now campaigning about is the Border Force Act. Delegates were moved to tears by a presentation and photos from a lawyer and doctor reporting on conditions and on the physical and mental health of children on Nauru in detention. They say they will never be silenced. The Hon. Nick Champion, a federal Labor member spoke, as well as Ged Kearney from the ACTU, who was quoted on radio as saying, 'The day they play the rugby grand final on Tuesday morning is the day we will discuss changing penalty rates.'

Time expired.

CYCLING REGULATIONS

Mr DULUK (Davenport) (15:23): I rise today to add my voice to the weight of community concern with regard to the new cycling rules. I strongly support road safety, as does everyone on this side of the house, and I want to work with the government to make sure that our roads are as safe as possible for all road users; however, this government does not share my willingness for collaboration. It has purposely removed any opportunity for non-government participation in this debate.

The government has moved these changes through regulation. That means that new rules will not be considered by parliament, the people's house. There will be no opportunity for the minister to answer questions, no opportunity for debate, no opportunity for amendment, and no opportunity for parliament to vote on the changes. The irony is that this government, led by the Premier, who recently launched 'Reforming Democracy: Deciding, Designing and Delivering Together', continues to put the message of democratic reform and bringing people into the decision-making process. In his message at the start of the Reforming Democracy policy document the Premier states:

I have long held the view that people should have more opportunity to be involved in the decisions that affect their lives.

It is a fundamental part of our democracy—how we ensure fairness and how we allow opportunity and diversity to flourish.

Yet, too many people feel locked out of government decision-making processes.

Well, Premier, you are not wrong. People do feel locked out of the decision-making process, including me and everyone on this side of the house. My constituents, the people of Davenport, are also feeling locked out by this process. I have been inundated with phone calls, emails and visits from constituents venting their concerns about the process with regard to these regulations. Some support it, some do not support it, but everyone is disappointed with the process. In a representative democracy it is reprehensible that the government has removed the opportunity for parliament to debate on such consequential and contentious reforms.

It is the role of all members of parliament to present, debate and amend legislation. It should not be the arbitrary process of the government of the day. Perhaps the Premier's push to bring people into democracy should start with engaging the parliament. The new rules themselves reflect the incompetence of this government. The government spent 10 months working on ways to share the roads safely, but instead of making improvements it has caused widespread confusion. The most vulnerable are now the pedestrians who will have to share footpaths with cyclists.

Road safety is the responsibility of every road user. The majority of cyclists and motorists are overwhelmingly compliant with road rules and most display courtesy to each other on the road. We must also acknowledge that whilst there are good drivers and good cyclists, there are also bad drivers and bad cyclists. It is why it is so important that legislators strike a balance that all road users and the broader community agree on.

Of course, we do need to talk about the real issues, and road safety is certainly a real issue. Whilst I acknowledge the importance of road safety, these changes have been yet another attempt by this government to distract South Australians from the real issues. It is a means to turn their attention away from the real issues. The issue of job losses. The issue of business closures. The issue of loss of confidence and hope by many South Australians and, indeed, by many young South Australians.

With unemployment at 8 per cent, we have the highest unemployment in the nation. There are 69,700 South Australians who are unemployed today. That is almost 70,000 people without work who are looking for work. Over 3,000 jobs have been lost in this state since Labor promised 100,000 new jobs back in 2010. Every week there is a new story of job losses: Santos, Leigh Creek, Port Augusta, the list goes on. South Australia's unemployment rate is careering upwards into double digit levels. This, to me, is the most important issue that we should be debating as a parliament.

Youth unemployment has already doubled and young people are bearing the brunt of the carnage with youth unemployment reaching 15.3 per cent at the moment. There are countless South Australians who are not even looking for employment anymore; they have given up. They have given up looking for work and given up on this government delivering any real outcomes for them. The percentage of South Australians in the workforce has fallen to just 57.3 per cent of the population, the lowest figure since 2003.

Immediate action is needed from this government, not distractions and smoke and mirrors. Stop diverting attention by talking about bike laws and time zone changes and confusing motorists. Let us get on with the business of fixing South Australia and talking about the real issues of today, which are jobs, jobs and jobs.

DIWALI 2015

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (15:28): The lighted candle, the victory of light over darkness or good over evil, is a symbol of Diwali or Deepavali, Indian religious festivals celebrated by Hindus, Jains and Sikhs. Celebrated over a five-day period from the 13th day of the dark half of the Hindu month, Asvina, to the second day of the light half of Karttika, the name is derived from the Sanskrit term dipavali, or row of lights. This festival is observed with particular enthusiasm by members of the merchant communities and it honours Laksmi, the goddess of wealth.

Laksmi symbolises wealth and prosperity (both material and spiritual) and her blessings are invoked for a good year ahead. Those who worship Laksmi receive the benefit of her benevolent mood and are blessed with mental, physical and material wellbeing. Laksmi is also the Hindu goddess of light, wisdom, fortune, fertility, generosity and courage and the embodiment of beauty, grace and charm. Laksmi brings good luck to her devotees.

During the Diwali festival, small earthenware lamps filled with oil are lighted and placed in rows along the parapets of temples and houses and set adrift on rivers and streams. This is said to be in commemoration of the return of Rama to Ajodhya. Merchants perform religious ceremonies and open new accounts. It is generally a time for visiting, exchanging gifts, cleaning and decorating houses, feasting, cooking special meals and wearing new clothes. Gambling is encouraged in this season as a way of ensuring good luck for the coming year. For corporate India, Diwali is an occasion

to splurge and indulge. It is a time to build relationships by pampering employees, business partners and clients.

For most Indians this is the biggest festival of the year and a day when they want to be with their families and perform prayers together in their homes. Deepavali is an official holiday in India. In South Australia, many different community groups celebrate Diwali. These celebrations have been well supported by the Multicultural South Australian Grants program with grants awarded to 13 different community groups to contribute towards the cost of these celebrations in recent years.

Tens of thousands of Indian-born people living in Australia have already begun the celebrations for this year's festival of lights which officially begins on 10 November. Both festivals have their own regional names for each day of the festival, signifying spirituality, prosperity and family bonds. Recognition of our multicultural groups, who each contribute to the tapestry of South Australia, is vitally important. The Indian community in South Australia makes a significant social, intellectual, economic, sporting and spiritual contribution to our state.

With cultural awareness a sign of an enlightened society, it is important that these cultural festivals are being held and that each year more of the South Australian public are in attendance. For the past three years I have had the pleasure of attending some very special Diwali celebrations with members of our South Australian Indian community, some as the member for Torrens and some I have been honoured to attend as the chief guest.

The South Australian Labor government is pleased with our cultural diversity and has invested an extra \$8 million over the next four years to ensure that we celebrate, build and strengthen that cultural diversity. I look forward to attending many more Indian festivals and celebrations and take this opportunity to wish our South Australian Indian community a very happy Diwali 2015.

REGIONAL CAPABILITY COMMUNITY FUND

Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (15:32): I rise today to talk about the government's Regional Capability Community firefighting fund and the fact that the minister announced with much fanfare that the government was going to support regional firefighting by awarding grants to landowners to achieve a greater firefighting capacity within their own farms.

Just reading the literature around this, the Minister for Emergency Services announced not too long ago that in the first of a four-year program, more than 1,000 applications were received. Sadly from the perspective of my electorate, just 32 grants were awarded to boost front-line emergency services, and I can tell you that I have been contacted by a number of constituents expressing their disappointment.

I must give my congratulations to those who were successful and understand that that will significantly increase their capacity to deal with an emergency—an emergency which could arise any day now given that we have reached the fire danger season. I have one particular email here which I would like to refer to, and it is from a CFS captain, as it happens, within my electorate. That captain applied for a grant through the Regional Capability Community Fund for a farm firefighting unit. This particular gentleman is away a lot during fires, usually taking a farm unit as well as fulfilling his role as a CFS captain.

This gentleman decided that he wanted to leave a new unit at the property for his workers and family to utilise during a fire event. His brother applied for the same. His brother got the grant but this particular gentleman did not and he is unhappy about that. He actually said that he is ready to pull the pin on the whole CFS, which is pretty extreme. I have to say that I too am listed as a CFS volunteer and have been active as a CFS volunteer for most of my adult life. We do not make these suggestions lightly, but this particular fellow spends a lot of time as a volunteer and, as a rural property owner, his emergency services levy charge has increased as well. He simply wants to know why he was refused, given his 28 years of service.

I also received an email from his mother, as it happens. This is just one particular family of a number from whom I have received correspondence, but this young man's mother is concerned about his health. She feels that this rejection is an insult to someone who has given 28 years of his life to firefighting and who, in all those years, has not claimed one cent from the government. Even when he damaged a ute fighting a fire, they paid for their own repairs.

This lady goes on to say that her husband also joined in the early 1980s and was seldom home in fire season. To add insult to injury—and this will strike a chord right across my electorate, the regional areas and even metropolitan South Australia—their emergency services levy has gone up from \$146 to nearly \$700, which is an extraordinary increase.

What I wish to highlight in this grievance today is not the individual cases of people being rejected, but the fact that the government has offered funding to farmers and landowners to improve their firefighting capacity, yet there seems to be very little in the way of grants coming forward. A very limited number of applications have been awarded. The minister quite rightly says that responding quickly stops a small fire becoming a big fire. Never has a truer word been said, but of course we have to build into our communities the capacity to do that.

There are reduced CFS numbers, and it is not a reflection on the CFS: it is simply a reflection on the number of people who are living in rural areas. There are fewer and fewer people living in our regional areas, often becoming more and more productive but with a reduced capacity to support the emergency services as volunteers. I think the government needs to look closely, despite their rhetoric, at how they are supporting these organisations and these people.

ELDER ELECTORATE

Ms DIGANCE (Elder) (15:37): On Saturday a fortnight ago, my electorate was abuzz with events, two of which I would like to mention today: the opening of the Oaklands Recreation Plaza and the Rajah Street Backyard Blitz. In conjunction with the Marion mayor, I opened the Oaklands Recreation Plaza. To witness this project come to life was evidence of the importance of the shared vision and the relationship between local government, state government and the local community.

The Oaklands Recreation Plaza project is part of the wider transformation of the former driver training and development centre. Already, we have seen this site changed into a well-used wetland reserve and public open space. The grant has enabled the design and construction of a vibrant youth recreation plaza to create a high-quality multi-use space, providing recreational facilities for a range of users, particularly skateboarders and BMX riders.

This park provides an important meeting place for young people and their friends as they gather to express themselves physically and socially through interaction with their peers and others. It provides opportunities through a range of sports—skating, BMX, skateboarding and scooter use—to achieve physical fitness, to attract young people outdoors and for them to accrue a sense of belonging by enabling them to watch and be with like-minded people.

The extensive consultation in the development of the plaza saw the input of so many local people as ideas were gathered and community input sought. This place is therefore rightly a space for local people in my electorate to be proud of and to know it is their space and their park for them all to enjoy.

The other event that I wish to mention took place on the same day just across the bridge in the community of Rajah Street. It was a dynamic, much-anticipated project that had affectionately become known as the Rajah Street Backyard Blitz. Rajah Street is an area in my electorate with a demographic that is doing it tough; however, the people are resilient and optimistic and always welcoming. The Rajah Street Community House, ably managed by Jean and Colleen, has offered community meals every Wednesday evening, rain or shine, over many years. The mood is always that of one extended family, and I love being a part of it.

Not so long ago, the Rajah Reserve, just out the front of the community house, was fortunate enough to attract the attention of Roger Rasheed and his foundation. Roger Rasheed Foundation saw the investment in the reserve to transform it with grass, a barbecue, running track and multipurpose courts. This reserve is central to 410 households of the area and, with ongoing interest from Roger Rasheed himself, has seen programs for youth, being a variety of tennis and other sporting activity and athletics. It is now commonplace to see a very full program during the school holiday period.

With this positive increased activity in the community, the issue of a backyard upgrade of the community house was becoming more pressing. Jean, Colleen and I had been talking for some time of how we might achieve this, with the hope of seeing a facelift with fruit trees, a vegetable and herb

patch and an outdoor patio area for the community to share. Fortunately, earlier this year, I met Josh, an energetic, passionate young man who was championing a charity organisation known as Big Sunday. As soon as I met Josh and we discussed what he and his volunteers could offer, I instantly thought of the great wish of Jean and Colleen. So, with just one meeting, Josh, Jean and Colleen were hatching plans of transformation.

Big Sunday is ordinary, everyday people combining together to contribute back to those in our community, supporting those who may be marginalised through isolation, poverty, disability or sickness. Big Sunday acts to provide hope through practical service with its mantra of 'Bringing ordinary, everyday people together to contribute to our Community'.

Josh tells me that, on Big Sunday weekends, there are involvement opportunities for every passion, talent, skill and age. Projects are scheduled throughout the weekend and can last anywhere from one hour to a full day. These projects vary, dependent on a handyman being available. Elderly people in nursing homes are visited, animal shelters are assisted and social inclusion opportunities are provided for various people in various groups. Wherever there is a need, there is an opportunity.

The Rajah Street Backyard Blitz saw a team of around 60 people, including locals, sanding, painting, gardening and transforming the backyard, as well as transforming the front yard. Delightedly, we saw the whole interior of the house being painted. I would like to thank all those involved in my electorate who show the passion to make things happen, supporting the dynamic community of which I am a member. Thankyou to you all. I enjoy working with all of you.

Bills

JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSIONER BILL

Final Stages

Consideration in committee of the Legislative Council's amendments.

(Continued from 9 September 2015.)

Amendments Nos 1 to 10:

The Hon. J.R. RAU: I move:

That the Legislative Council's amendments Nos 1 to 10 be agreed to.

I am rising to address the Judicial Conduct Commissioner Amendment Bill which has returned from the Legislative Council. It might be of relevance for members to know—and I think it should be noted here—this is my understanding of the procedure as it occurred in the Legislative Council: I believe when the matter was before the Legislative Council, Mr McLachlan said, on the record, that they would accept the bill without amendment, and then a short time later Mr Wade moved an amendment—I am not quite sure on whose behalf—and that is amendment No. 11. I will deal with that in a moment, but I just indicate that amendments Nos 1 through to 10 are acceptable—

Ms Chapman: They're yours.

The Hon. J.R. RAU: Yes, and they are very good amendments too, if I might say so. I do want to make a point, though, about amendment No. 11, which is the one which was apparently unexpectedly moved by Mr Wade in the other place. Amendment No. 11 is, in the context of this bill, an anomaly. One could even say it is parasitic, in that it bears no relationship to the host but is a completely different species which has attached itself to the host.

I would draw the attention of members to our standing orders, and in particular standing order 250, which talks about amendments to bills. In particular, it mentions that it is convenient, conventional and indeed proper—and conversely, not convenient or proper to attach to a bill the subject of which is, say, carrots, an amendment about oranges.

This bill is about the judicial conduct commissioner. The amendment that has been attached in some sort of random fashion to this—as I said, it is sort of like a parasitic addition to it—is an amendment which has absolutely nothing to do with the bill. It is an amendment which is actually attempting to meddle with the composition of the Statutory Officers Committee.

The amendment, which appears to have some particular focus on me, at least presently, has the effect of saying that the attorney of the day cannot be a member of the Statutory Officers Committee—not that that has anything to do with judicial conduct; not even remotely. I am wondering, actually, whether or not it is in order for the Legislative Council to forward to the House of Assembly a bill containing an amendment which could not be made in the House of Assembly were that amendment to have been made here, because it would have been out of order under standing order 250. So, it might be that there is some question as to whether or not this has validity. It certainly, as I said, has nothing to do with the substance of the bill.

Just for the record, I have made some inquiries about the composition of the Statutory Officers Committee. Before my time, the current Speaker, who occupied my present role at that time, was a member of that committee. I believe that the Hon. Mr Lawson, before him, who also was attorney-general, occupied a position on that committee. I am 99 per cent certain that the Hon. Trevor Griffin, before him, was a member of that committee, and so on. I have not gone back to the 1800s, but I am fairly clear that there has been a lengthy established tradition of the attorney of the day being a member of that committee.

What has actually changed between the time of the Hon. Trevor Griffin and the present day in terms of the propriety of the attorney of the day being a member of the committee I do not know. I am not aware of anything, other than perhaps that the Attorney is no longer Trevor Griffin and it is me. It does seem to be a fairly particular amendment with a very particular object in mind.

I am completely happy with the first 10 amendments. I can indicate that if amendment 11 is, despite its completely random and unrelated nature, in any way in order, I am not going to hold this legislation up on account of that, because that would put me in a position not totally dissimilar to the mover of the amendment. However, I would ask if it is a legitimate question as to whether it is orderly for the Legislative Council to move an amendment to a bill about carrots a proposition about oranges.

The CHAIR: Or parsnips.

The Hon. J.R. RAU: Or parsnips for that matter. I would invite you, Madam Chair, if you want, to check out the Welsh word for carrot—anyway, that is another point. I just would like some guidance as to whether, if such a thing were moved in this house, it would be orderly, and if it would not be, is it appropriate or orderly or proper for an amendment which could not be made in this place to this bill be made elsewhere and whether it be proper for what is, by our standing orders, an improper amendment to be in effect approved by this house, given that our standing orders make, in my opinion, the position reasonably clear as to what is or is not appropriate.

That is not to say that if the Hon. Mr Wade wants to have another go at this he could not move a private member's bill, or if the Parliamentary Committees Act were open he could possibly do that. I am not arguing about that. He would be perfectly entitled to do that. But I make the point that the relationship between the Statutory Officers Committee and the Judicial Conduct Commissioner Bill is no greater than the relationship between the Statutory Officers Committee and the pig marketing act.

Motion carried.

Amendment No. 11:

Ms CHAPMAN: Madam Chair, if in fact the Attorney has asked you to give some learned consideration as to whether amendment 11 from another place is valid before we progress it, then I would like the opportunity to present some arguments to you. I am happy to do that today. I appreciate there are five minutes left before 4 o'clock when the house has determined that it will commence Auditor-General's matters. I am happy to start on that. If that is what I understand the Attorney is asking you to do, to go away and give some consideration to the validity of this amendment—

The CHAIR: As you know, we do have to stop at 4 o'clock, so if you want to speak until 4 o'clock that's fine.

Ms CHAPMAN: Is that your understanding, Madam Chair, that you have been asked to give some determination—

The CHAIR: It is my understanding, and I am going to get myself some advice.

Ms CHAPMAN: Excellent. Let me put the position in short. First, the Attorney-General presents that this may be struck down as being invalid pursuant to standing order 250. I invite you to read that standing order, which I suggest makes it perfectly permissible. Secondly, it is asserted that this is so different that it is something like some appendage that is parasitic. Given all the bills I have read of the Attorney's, in which there have been consequential orders to multiple other acts, I would describe those, in comparison, as blood-sucking ticks.

Nevertheless, the Attorney insists that it is invalid. If the validity of that, on the basis of consequential amendments to other legislation, including the composition of the committee that is being asked to determine the recommendation for the appointment of the independent judicial commissioner, I would be surprised—in fact, I would be utterly astounded—if that escaped the attention of the Clerk in the other place, someone of some 40 years-plus—

Mr Gardner: 50 years.

Ms CHAPMAN: —50 years-plus experience in that place. Nevertheless, you can give it due consideration. The third argument suggests that, on the basis that it is inconsistent, there is no relevance as to the composition of the Statutory Officers Committee and the exclusion by this amendment of the minister of the Crown being eligible to sit on it.

Let me say this. This committee now determines office-bearing positions that did not exist at the time of the predecessors (that is, the previous attorneys)—myriad historical appointments that were outlined by the Attorney. Therefore, we are in a new paradigm and we do have a new role. This committee does have a very significant role in the appointment of personnel, and it has already been determined that the minister (namely, the Attorney, in this case) should not be a member of that committee. He should not be a member of a committee advising himself to appoint persons. Finally, can I say that—

The Hon. J.R. Rau interjecting:

Ms CHAPMAN: You can carry on about appointing by the Governor and everything else. The reality is that judges are appointed by the cabinet's recommendation, by the Governor, submitted by the Attorney-General. The other statutory officers follow the same procedure and they are subject to a panel for recommendation to the Attorney. That committee, comprised of members of the parliament, are in that process, and they are in it for good reason. For exactly the same reasons, a future judicial conduct commissioner should be in exactly the same position. The absurdity of the Attorney suggesting that somehow or other in this instance he should be on this committee which will then give advice to himself, is absolutely laughable.

I would be asking you, first, Madam Chair, to accept this amendment, which has passed the test of the Clerk of the Legislative Council and which has been monitored by parliamentary counsel all the way through without challenge. The government has a choice. If they want a judicial conduct commissioner (which, in principle, for obvious reasons that we have outlined, we support), fine, but do not come in here and start bleating about the process that should be applicable to an appointment and then turn around and say, 'Well, we want the bill to go through, anyway, after putting you to all this work.'

We support the amendments, including the first 10, which of course were drafted by the Attorney. We are happy to accept those, dealing with pre-trial and civil matters. We have accepted that. If he wants to get on and have the process initiated so that we can have a judicial conduct commissioner, he should swallow his pride, get over the fact that he has had a really crappy week and support the amendments and accept the amendments.

Progress reported; committee to sit again.

Sitting extended beyond 17:00 on motion of Hon. J.R. Rau.

Auditor-General's Report

AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

In committee.

(Continued from 28 October 2015.)

The CHAIR: While the assembled masses are assembling, would the member for Stuart like to give us the reference and I will open to the appropriate page and be ready to go.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: The first reference is Volume 2, page 19.

The CHAIR: Defence SA. The clock is about to start. I remind members that the committee is in its normal session, so questions have to be asked by members on their feet and, minister, all questions have to be answered on your feet and directly referenced to the Auditor-General's Report. Thank you, member for Stuart.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Minister, you have the reference, Volume 2, page 19. In the context of having had two chiefs of staff, three CEOs and two acting CEOs in your time as minister, do you think it was good value for taxpayers to have spent \$111,000 on two trips to take your former Defence SA CEO overseas when he resigned in June 2015?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: I note that the opposition is making a feature of asking questions about travel, and I welcome that. We are happy to answer them. Of course, there are some really important other issues, this being a key project for jobs going forward into the future, but I will explain the logic. A decision was made that, after many, many years in the position, CEO Fletcher would step aside and move on to the commercial sector, and he is now working actually with a defence industry company.

Prior to that decision he advised me that I should accompany him on a trip to visit the key defence primes, both in the US and in Europe, because we had thousands of jobs and millions of dollars' worth of projects in the mill. It was then determined that there would be a new CEO identified, Mr Jackman, who accompanied us for part of that trip. In effect we got the benefit of a handover from the outgoing CEO to a new minister and, at the same time, a handover from the outgoing CEO to the new CEO.

Basically, the relationship that Mr Fletcher had developed over many years with senior defence people and companies like Boeing, Northrop Grumman, Rheinmetall, and General Dynamics were such that it needed to be a very close one on one. I can also add that it has been the practice in Defence SA, at least once a year, to do a global tour to update on key developments with our primes, particularly Lockheed Martin, who are doing the Joint Strike Fighter F-35. We have several companies in Adelaide that are part of that process: LAND 400, but also P-8 Poseidon and the Triton. So it was consistent with practice over many years to do that trip; it is just that on this occasion there was a handover of CEOs. We took them both along and subsequently there was a fairly smooth transition.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: What happened on your trip in May 2015 that led your then CEO to resign on 11 June 2015, after coming back from an overseas trip which cost \$57,000?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: You are talking about Mr Fletcher—or are you talking about Mr Jackman? You are talking about the trip in May this year which was predominately to visit DCNS in France, TKMS in Kiel and defence companies in London. Can I just add that it is always a good idea, when you are in opposition, to make sure you have your facts right before you rush off to *The Advertiser*, because I did read in *The Advertiser* a big expose from members opposite that the Minister for Defence Industries had gone to Italy and had gone to Scandinavia, this information being put together from the media releases and other information. There was just one little problem—

Members interjecting:

The CHAIR: Order!

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: —I had not been to Italy and I had not been to Scandinavia. The story was completely wrong, which is why it is always a very good idea to check your facts before you rush off to *The Advertiser*. I am surprised that *The Advertiser* wrote such—

Mr van Holst Pellekaan interjecting:

The CHAIR: Order!

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: —an inaccurate story. However, that is what happens when you rely on the opposition to give you misinformation.

The purpose of the visit was to ensure that we visited the German and French submarine bidders, and also that we talk to BAE, who are crucial to our shipbuilding future, particularly with their Type 26 potential offering for the frigate program. We also needed to visit companies—I did not go but my staff did, in Defence SA—to ensure that we checked in with SAAB and various other key defence companies in, I think, Sweden. Then they went to Italy and talked to one of the potential bidders for the surface ship program.

We as a state government really need to be on our game with those bids because thousands and thousands of jobs in South Australia are at stake if we get it wrong. We are a key player. We own the infrastructure, we own the shipyard, we own a lot of what will be required to make this possible. We are a key participant in the national debate, and that is why we needed to be there. That was why the trip was important.

You raise the issue of Mr Jackman. Mr Jackman is a great contributor. He has chosen to go to another very important job which the government wanted him to do. My understanding is that he is doing a fantastic job there, and the fact is that these were decisions that were made across government to best use the skill set we have available to us. The benefit is that we now have both Mr Jackman and Mr Keough performing very important roles across government and doing a very good job.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Are you saying that it was the government's decision to take your former CEO on a \$57,000 trip to introduce him to all these key players, and that it was the government's decision, immediately after he returned, to shift him to another department?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: No, it was not wholly the government's decision. I think you will find that Mr Jackman had other plans as well and other interests. There are, from time to time, movements in senior positions; issues arise. In mid-June 2015, it was Mr Jackman who advised us that he had accepted other employment as the chief executive of SAFECOM because there was an important job there that needed to be done by someone with his skill set. My understanding is that he is doing a brilliant job helping us in that role. That is just the way it is. Senior executives move and we do not base those decisions on whether or not people were involved in overseas trips.

I would like to make the point that, in the 18 years I have been in parliament no-one has ever come into my office and complained about overseas travel. Do you know why? It sort of resonates with some in the media and it resonates with some because it feeds into that grumpy, 'We are unhappy with the political class because, by golly by gosh, they occasionally go on important overseas trips.' What the public really want to know about is: have we got a job for them? Do you know what, with 65,000 jobs linked to trade and exports and 120,000 man years of work linked to the submarine project, did we go overseas to make sure we won those submarine jobs for South Australia? You betcha, and every dollar was a dollar well spent.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Same page, moving to the number and dollar amount of consultants paid and payable. Does Defence SA have a contract with Essential Media, and, if so, what is the value of the contract for 2014-15 and what services do they provide to the government?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: I thank the member for his question. Contractors and advice, of course, are crucially important to what government does. I think the expenditure levels were \$131,120 in 2014-15 actual and \$189,000 budget for 2015-16. We had a consultancy of \$359,000 to US-based Fletcher Rowley in 2013-14, \$68,496 for naval shipbuilding advocacy and strategic advice, which I think is the matter to which the member refers, \$40,624 for the Land 400 project economic benefit analysis, and there was \$22,000 for an air warfare destroyer economic impact analysis.

With regard to the specifics of the question the member asked, I am pretty sure, and I am sure my advisers will correct me if I am wrong, the government has no relationship with Essential Media. I think what we have done is we have assisted the Defence Teaming Centre (the industry body) to enable them to conduct an advocacy campaign for jobs. I think it is correct to say that they have an arrangement with Essential Media, not us. That is their choice. They are running the

campaign. It is not a government campaign. We have assisted them. They are not the only group we assist. We give money to Food SA and we give money, from time to time, to Business SA.

Sometimes we give money to industry groups for advocacy and for other purposes, and this is an example of that, but I think I am correct in saying that we have no financial or contractual arrangement with Essential Media. We have simply given some money to the industry body, which is sticking up for its members, sticking up for its workers and trying to lock in jobs for South Australia, which is, I hope, what we are all here to do.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Along with giving the DTC that money, did any requirement on how it is spent accompany the money?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: I am pretty sure I can answer unequivocally no to that. In fact, my understanding is that the Defence Teaming Centre made it very clear, in agreeing to accept some financial assistance, that they would do it their way, they would do it the way they wanted to do it and they would not be told how to run the advocacy campaign or take any instructions from the government.

The reason for that is that the Defence Teaming Centre is a non-partisan entity that represents its members and it did not want it to appear that it was being influenced in any way by politicians, by the government or the opposition. They wanted to paddle their own canoe in the advocacy campaign. They have shaped it. They have run it. They have done it all themselves and I think they have done a very good job. I would like to commend Chris Burns and all of the DTC, including the board, who I am sure would have insisted to Mr Burns, as a board, that it be done in exactly that way to ensure the independence of the industry body from the arm of government.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Same book, page 20, looking at Grants and subsidies—Defence Teaming Centre. Has the Auditor-General investigated the use of public funds for the Australian Made Defence campaign?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: That is a question that you would have to ask the Auditor-General. I have no idea.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Nobody in Defence SA has been asked questions by the Auditor-General about the Australian made campaign?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: I am advised, no. No-one has been asked any questions about that, but feel free to contact the Auditor-General and ask him. He is very thorough, and a very good Auditor-General. I am sure there is no stone unturned, and we would be more than happy to answer any questions on any subject in this portfolio.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Can you confirm that the Australian made campaign complies with the government's own communication guidelines?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: The government is not running the industry body's advocacy campaign. We are running our own separate advocacy campaign and I have been very active in the media and in parliament. We had a large meeting right here in this chamber of key stakeholders from all around the country when we had a summit. We participated in a further summit organised by RUSI here in Adelaide. I went off to the ASPI conference in Canberra and advocated. The government is running its own advocacy campaign.

Can I just make a point, and this is a very important point for state Liberals and for Liberals everywhere: if you think it is cute to run off to a federal minister and tell that federal minister that you would really like them not to talk to the state Labor government because they are an illegitimate government or we would really like you not to talk—

Mr van Holst Pellekaan interjecting:

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: Well, let me finish—not to talk to particular ministers, then the only avenue open is to publicly advocate, is to have a talk through the megaphone, is to get out there and make sure that you lead this debate and this argument in the public sphere. So the answer to the member's question is that the government has been running its own advocacy campaign, which of course complies with whatever requirements or constraints that are on the

government; and the industry and the union movement have been running their own advocacy campaign and, of course, the guidelines for the way they run their advocacy campaigns are up to them.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Are you saying that if the government contributes taxpayers' funds to an industry body (or a union movement for that matter) to use megaphone diplomacy, as you put it, on your behalf, that you do not believe that they need to comply with the government's own communication guidelines?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: Madam Chair, through you, the question that the member has just asked is loaded with comment and opinion. Almost all of the question was subjective and plainly wrong.

Mr van Holst Pellekaan interjecting:

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: The member made a number of assertions that were just wrong. They are not running anything on anyone's behalf; they are running their own campaign.

The CHAIR: Order! Can we move on to the next question and try to keep it centred on the Auditor-General's Report?

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Given the campaign is still alive, and according to the 2015-16 budget the funding ceased at the end of the financial year, can the minister confirm that additional funding has been allocated for the continuation of this campaign and, if so, when and how much?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: I am here to answer questions about the Auditor-General's Report which of course is looking at the past year. If the member wants to ask me questions about what is planned going forward, he is welcome to do so in question time, and I would be more than happy to answer it, but I do not think that we should take up the time of today's committee hearing dealing with what might be done next year, when we are here to discuss the Auditor-General's Report on events of last year. I am more than happy to answer the question but I suggest that it might be better for question time.

The CHAIR: We are moving on to trade and I understand the member for Chaffey has questions. What page are you on?

Mr WHETSTONE: I refer to Volume 5, page 240, Supplies and services, which shows that \$676,000 was paid to trade organisations relating to activities promoting South Australia in 2015. Can you provide some detail on what the trade organisations received and what that funding was used for; that is, what activities were promoted?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: My advice is that I cannot give you detail on that particular budget line now, but I am happy to take the question on notice and get back to you. Part of the reason for that is that the Auditor-General's Report is on DSD as a whole, while I am only responsible for one small part of DSD—that section of it that is responsible for globally integrating the economy.

I think that budget line might have to do with consultancies outside my area, for example, in the arts, culture, Aboriginal affairs, TAFE and other areas that do come under DSD. I can tell you that there was an increased investment in trade and immigration grants, mainly relating to the Hewlett-Packard Innovation and Collaboration Centre. That was around \$5.5 million, but I would have to get back to you, I am afraid, to provide a further breakdown.

Mr WHETSTONE: Referring to the same page, how much of the \$13.5 million paid to consultants in DSD for 2015 was directly for investment and trade-related services, considering that you stated that your preference was not to appoint consultants?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: While my staff are having a look at that, I might cut to part of the answer. First of all, the member is quite right: it is my preference, where practicable, to minimise the use of consultants. My philosophical view is that we have very capable, very well-paid and very intelligent capabilities among the staff we have in DSD.

I have found them to be outstanding, if I may say so while they are here. Their advice is consistently sound and I would rather have them do the research themselves than engage pricey consultants—and there are a lot of them who approach government—where I can. Having said that, from time to time, you do need to get help. We did get help with the South East Asia Strategy and we might be able to get to the figure on that.

We also get help from special advisers, which I might cut to because you might consider them to be consultants, but actually they are special advisers. You would be aware that we have Sean Keenihan, who is pivotal to assisting us with China and also chair of the Tourism Commission—a terrific capability. He is engaged on a \$100,000 per annum retainer, and I think the member is aware of that. Dr Alfred Huang we also use on China. He is very well connected both here and in China. He is paid \$1,000 a day for up to 40 days' work over a 12-month period.

We have recently brought on Air Chief Marshal Angus Houston on \$70,000 per annum to help us with our engagement. He has already been with us in India and South-East Asia. Sir Angus is very well connected in South-East Asia in particular, and is very helpful.

Karlene Maywald, the member may be aware, has come on board as a strategic adviser on water opportunities. It is a one-year appointment commencing on 8 July 2015 at a remuneration level of \$100,000 per annum. I think that is split. We split that between my agency and DEWNR because her assistance and experience goes beyond trade into the water area.

We have Mr P.K. Chin, former board member of ElectraNet—a very prominent person in South-East Asia who has come on board as an inter-regional senior adviser for South-East Asia. That was executed as a two-year contract until 13 August 2017 at \$60,000 per annum. You would be aware that we have Brian Hayes, who has also helped us enormously with India. I think his contract is \$110,000 per annum.

We are always reviewing these things. I would like to see those special advisers and consultants minimised. I am always looking at ways to do that, and I think we have pegged a number of them down. I think Mr Hayes took a big drop, I think Mr Keenihan took a drop, and I think we have been reasonably modest with the others, too, consistent with other board positions, but these people do provide valuable help.

We had some help from the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies for \$23,100 when we were doing research and work looking at time zones, and that report was tabled and made public. That is an organ of the Adelaide University, and I would rather use the universities than one of the big consulting companies where possible.

There have been some other consultants that we have used from time to time. Out of my agency, I think that is pretty much it, but I will ask my agency and, if there are any other consultancies from my investment and trade function in economic priority No. 9, I will provide them separately after today's session.

Mr WHETSTONE: Minister, while you are looking for that information, are you able to also tell the house just exactly what role, what capacity, these consultants are working in—the extra related expenses? I know you have told me what they are costing the taxpayer, but just exactly how many hours do they put in? Just what is the charter of that contract, and what are the other related expenses for those consultants to undertake their role?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: Yes, I am more than happy to do that. I was expecting questions on overseas travel, so I might segue that in because, obviously, there is a requirement for these people to travel. To give you an idea, Mr Keenihan has accompanied me and previous ministers on trips to China on a regular basis. My estimation would be he probably does three or four trips a year with us. Those trips invariably are of a week or longer. He is a highly paid person in his own right, being a senior partner in a law firm. I think, if we were paying him an hourly rate, it would be much, much more.

Mr Keenihan, as an example, was a student in China during the Tiananmen Square issues, is a fluent Chinese speaker, is probably one of the most capable Chinese interlocutors you will find anywhere in the country. He is the current deputy chair of the Australia China Business Council. This is one of the most senior people of this calibre you could get.

With Brian Hayes QC on India, I do not know what the hourly rate for a QC is, but it is easy to pay \$1,000 an hour. Mr Hayes, again, has probably been on three or four trips to India a year. These people do it not for the money, they do it for the passion. While they are away, they are losing business in their own businesses. They are not there logging hours for their own businesses. I would say they probably do it at a loss, but they do it because they love the state, they love our relationship with China and India, and they want to help.

There are some added costs to do with their travel and accommodation, but can I say the value we get for money, having a South Australian who speaks the language fluently and understands the culture—the only other way you can work in some of these countries is to hire locals, at perhaps a greater expense, who do not really understand South Australia. So, it is a really good way to do business.

The other thing is that, when you do not need them, you are not encumbered with the cost of having them. You could easily hire somebody with all of these skills for \$200,000, \$300,000 or \$400,000 a year and have them full time, but you would only be using them as needed. So, we narrow it down to those periods where we do need to use them.

Of course, then there is constant meetings with me and with the department, and the constant seeking of advice from these people. They help us write strategies; they are presently reviewing the India and China strategies. For the hours they put in, frankly I think if they were billing us on an hourly rate, we would probably be paying twice as much.

Mr WHETSTONE: You will come back with those extra costs, minister?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: Which costs?

Mr WHETSTONE: You will come back with the additional costs to their contract salary?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: Travel costs? Yes.

Mr WHETSTONE: Travel expenses, entertainment, accommodation—

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: I think the only additional cost, just to be clear, would be travel, and I am happy to cut to that right now if you wish. In my portfolios, there is travel, and that includes these special advisers who frequently come with us. You will find, if you review the figures—and I would be happy to provide them to you, although I think the Auditor-General has done that—that nearly all of the trips in my portfolio are pretty work related. You will find there are very few, if any, conventions, seminars or anything like that: it is all either conducting a trade mission or doing a reconnaissance to set up a trade mission to take businesses back to create jobs.

You will find the destinations are places like Mumbai, Jaipur and Delhi, Beijing, Shanghai, Qingdao and Hong Kong, and various destinations in South-East Asia. You will find that nearly all of our travel is very much work related. We are invariably accompanied by businesses. We are invariably trying to help farmers, wine producers and aquaculture people, manufacturers and service providers to sell their things overseas. So, all of our travel is related to that.

I noticed an article in the paper about one of the staff in my agency having a business class ticket to China. I just fiddled around on my calculator and worked out that the cost of that business class fare, based on 65,000 people's jobs depending on trade, equated to 10¢ per job. I think the South Australian people got good value for money, particularly the 65,000 people putting a meal on the table every night based on the fact that their job depends on selling our goods and services overseas.

Mr WHETSTONE: I refer to page 243, Volume 5. Minister, what were the total residual costs relating to the Shanghai office closure, including the cost to appoint a Chinese legal firm to deal with the licensing requirements, and why has there been a reduction in operating expenses in the Jinan office?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: Let me just start with the last question first. There has probably been a reduction in operating expenses in the Jinan office because we are doing an absolutely splendid job tailoring our cloth to meet the requirement, but I will give my officers time to get to the bottom of that. I just want to make some points. Overseas trade office expenses decreased by \$177,000 from \$959,000 in 2013-14 to \$782,000 in 2014-15, so we have got it down.

We are of the view, following the Hartley review, that these trade offices can chew up an enormous amount of money which then does not go to small businesses. Let me give you a comparison. The Liberal government in Western Australia spends \$7 million a year—seven million—on overseas offices. It is almost as much as my entire budget.

Mr WHETSTONE: Have you seen their trade figures?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: If you take copper, iron ore and commodities out of their trade figures, which the state government cannot influence, you will find their trade figures pretty poor. I will tell you that they have 41 people posted overseas. One of their offices has 13 employees. They have eight in London. I would love to have \$7 million a year, and if the opposition would like to support a budget request for \$7 million for me to set up offices all around the world, I am sure my CEO and my staff would be delighted to submit it. Let's pass it with unanimous delight.

You just tell me where the \$7 million is going to come from and I will set up offices all around the globe—the more the merrier. But I would say this: through our export partnership program, I have companies queued up wanting packets of \$20,000 or \$30,000 to help grow their businesses, and I would rather help those small businesses grow their businesses than chew up enormous amounts of money like \$7 million a year on overseas trade offices full of public servants who, whilst they might try very hard, will not necessarily give us the results.

On the question raised by the member about looking at trade figures, I have this bit of advice about trade figures. Cut the commodities out, because I can tell you, regardless of whether you have a Liberal or Labor government, you will have zero influence on what happens at BHP, with our miners, with our oil and gas exporters and with our bulk wheat producers. You will not influence it. The area to look at is SMEs. Food and wine—do you know what has happened there? It has gone up over 10 per cent in South Australia; it is rocketing away. Why? Because the state government, along with our food producers in partnership, are doing a fantastic job getting results and getting companies overseas to sell.

You cannot just look at the bulk figures and make a conclusion that trade is going up or trade is going down. You have to segment that information, and that is when you get to the reality of what is really going on on the ground, as you would in the conduct of any business. You have to analyse the figures stage by stage, step by step, commodity by commodity.

Mr WHETSTONE: Can we come back to the question? I asked a question and we got a rant about what good work the state government has done. We do not talk about the good work the SMEs have done. What I would like is an answer to the costs relating to the Shanghai office closures and the appointment of a Chinese legal firm.

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH: Actually, I have been given some information by my CE. The Shanghai office was closed on 30 June 2013. Deregistration of the offices is in its final stages, involving bank account closure and final audits. A contract for the key commercial representative in China, Ken Xu, expired in June 2011. I understand \$15,810 was provided for accounting for final legal fees in regard to the deregistration of business licences, i.e. tax agent fees.

Two staff members remained supporting the deputy representative in China, who was located in Jinan. Staff termination payments were negotiated with the assistance of Shanghai-based lawyers King & Wood Mallesons. One staff member was on maternity leave in October 2013 and this required a sensitive approach. Her contract was to expire in December 2014. One staff member remained until December 2013 to assist lawyers King & Wood Mallesons with post-closure tasks. When you close these things up, there is a lot of red tape and a lot of process to go through. I hope I have given you some useful information on how that was expensed.

The CHAIR: Time really has expired and we thank the minister and his advisers and ask the Minister for Regional Development to move up and get his advisers in place as quickly as possible so that we make our half hour work as quickly as it can. Member for Goyder, you are going to be in charge of questions here. If you give us the page number, we will get ready.

Mr GRIFFITHS: Part A: Executive summary, pages 43 and 44—local government first. Given that the minister and I both value local government significantly, it is rather frustrating for me

to find very scant reference indeed in the Auditor-General's Report, but it is because the Auditor does not audit councils, so I can understand that. The auditor does note on page 44:

In September 2015 I presented our first local government sector report, 'Examination of the local government indemnity schemes: September 2015'.

I know that was presented to the parliament on, I think, 7 or 8 September and it refers to the activities of part of the local government sector. Has the minister been briefed on the outcomes from that report?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: I have been consulted, or advised, and the Office of Local Government is actioning this. The Auditor-General has stated that all completed examinations for the local government sector will be separately reported to parliament, which it will. The first such report covered the Local Government Association's indemnity schemes and was tabled in parliament, as you said, on 8 September. It is very important to note that both these indemnity schemes (that is the mutual liability scheme and the workers compensation scheme) are recognised under the Local Government Act 1999: that is as you understand it. They are not subject to the direction or control of the Minister for Local Government: they are managed by the LGA.

Mr GRIFFITHS: Managed by the LGA but not subject to your control.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: I understand that the Auditor-General has made a number of recommendations to the Local Government Association and that the LGA's response to those was included in the report tabled in parliament on 8 September. I have been also advised that the LGA have accepted all of the recommendations arising from the examination, and the LGA have informed me that they are committed to ensuring that good governance and practices for the schemes are in place, and adhered to, and that the value of the money is maintained in relation to the management and the administration of the schemes for member councils. I certainly welcome the additional scrutiny of the schemes provided by the Auditor-General, given that they have a very successful track record over many years and are highly regarded in the local government sector.

Mr GRIFFITHS: Well said, minister, and I understand the sentiment behind that, but the reason for my question was to determine whether you had been briefed, either formally or informally, and had discussed it with the Local Government Association. I have received from Mr Matt Pinnegar, in, I believe, only his first week as CEO of the LGA, details of an email that he forwarded to all the councils where he sets the scene for the adoption of the recommendations, as you have just mentioned. I understand that but, from your place as a person who meets with the LGA often, are you happy with the outcomes from this and do you believe that the recommendations of the Auditor-General are being adopted and will result in the level of improvement and requirements that are expected?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: Certainly I am very comfortable with the conversation with the LGA. I meet regularly with both the president and also the new CEO. I am very comfortable with the recommendations in the report and I am very comfortable that the LGA will finalise and comply with those reports.

I have meetings on a regular basis with the new chief executive of the LGA. I also have meetings with the president on separate occasions to talk about other issues. I have full confidence in the new CEO of the Local Government Association and look forward to a close and transparent working relationship. Any measure that enhances the accountability of the schemes and public confidence in them (and you would agree with me) is to be welcomed by the LGA.

Mr GRIFFITHS: Just in finishing off the LGA section, or the local government section, because there is not much reference to it. The minister in response then refers to the regularity of the meeting he holds. As part of that I am questioning the period in which it might have occurred, Chair, so I understand that you might want to rule on this one. With respect to the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Bill and the issues raised by the Local Government Association, has that organisation been part of the discussions also with the minister?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: Madam Chair, it is not under my portfolio: it is under another minister's responsibility, and I would assume that the member would have asked the relevant minister under the previous examinations.

The CHAIR: The member for Goyder has another question?

Mr GRIFFITHS: I was being cheeky, but as part of my contribution to the second reading I hoped that the minister would talk about the importance of that bill but he chose not to make a contribution.

The CHAIR: We are running out of time.

Mr GRIFFITHS: I am happy to go to regional development now.

The CHAIR: Regional development. What page are we on?

Mr GRIFFITHS: I have appendix to the Annual Report, Volume 4 at page 254. I start off with an easy one. Can the minister confirm the total value of the dollars that were available to regional development grants for the 2014-15-year?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: Can I just clarify: did the member say 'grant' or 'grants and subsidies'?

Mr GRIFFITHS: Minister, as you made quite a few statements on the level of dollars that were to be made available for regional development in the 2014-15 year, I would just like confirmation of what that level of dollars was, because you talked about it in total. I am prepared to accept that it be grants and subsidies for regional development, yes.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: The initial budget, according to the agency statements (Volume 4) in the 2014-15 budget was \$32.92 million revised down to \$9.264 million.

Mr GRIFFITHS: I am not sure of your statement 'revised down'. You talked about the original budget for 2014-15, so the 'revised down' is the actual expenditure that occurred in that period, is it?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: Sorry, I misunderstood. No, the \$9.264 million is the revised down because some of the grant application moneys would not have been paid out in that financial year, it would be in the next financial year's.

Mr GRIFFITHS: Chair, if I can refer back to the first figure, then, of \$32 million. That was in the budget figures for 2014-15. If I look on page 254, the Regional Development Australia Major Grant Program expenditure during the year is \$2.768 million, the Regional Development Fund is \$2.232 million and the Job Accelerator Fund is \$200,000, which is \$5.2 million. Why has only \$5.2 million seemingly been spent on what was originally a \$32 million budget allocation?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: The \$9.26 million is made up of Regional Development Australia funds of \$2.768 million—these are the actuals—the Regional Development Fund of \$2.232 million, the Job Accelerator Fund is \$200,000, the Riverland Sustainable Futures Fund is \$1.881 million, the Upper Spencer Gulf Outback and Enterprise Zone Fund is \$170,000, and the Save the River Murray Fund is \$1.798 million. That should add up to the \$9.26 million.

Mr GRIFFITHS: Okay, we have to go into a bit more detail because I quoted three of those figures already, minister. You have talked many times about the importance of regional development opportunities to be fostered, and my concern, therefore, is based around the timing of the expenditure. You have talked about the amount of dollars that have gone out, but why is it that from an original \$32 million allocation just over \$9 million was actually spent in the 2014-15 year? That is the answer I need to hear, as to the time limits of the disposal of funds to project opportunities.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: As the member would be aware, you do not pay out the grants straightaway. Once approved, the successful grant recipients are required to enter into a funding deed on terms and conditions acceptable to me as the Minister for Regional Development. Claims for payment are made on a reimbursable basis against agreed project milestones throughout the contract period. The requirement to claim progress payments only after the recipient has spent the full amount of each milestone reduces the risk of having to recover public funds should the guarantee or the grantee default on their contract.

Grants offered on a reimbursable basis often involve a requirement to carry over the budget for committed grant funding across a number of years until the contract expires—and that happens quite often. Carryover amounts may also vary according to unpredicted project budget fluctuations

and any changes to project management time lines of grant recipients. For grants committed under the Regional Development Fund in 2014-15, milestone payments, are profiled across several years until 2022.

Mr GRIFFITHS: Until 2022, minister? Therefore, from the evidence provided, there is the probability that the full expenditure of the funds allocated in the 2014-15 year will not occur until out into the ether, probably after you and I are long gone from here. If that is the case—and I respect that this might have to be on notice—what are the time line details of the contracts that are entered into and the dollar value attached to the future year expenditure to fully acquit the funds out to 2022?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: It is very involved the way it is. I am happy to take that on notice and bring it back to the member, and to fully explain the progress and where they are. It is committing, contracts, milestones, construction and payment at the end, so it can go over two or three or five or six years.

Mr GRIFFITHS: I will eventually go to a different area, fractionally. Minister, I think you and I are actually very similar personalities, where if we make the decision that we want to spend money we like to see it go out quickly. That is the point I make about the frustration, that is just it. Sadly, we are from a region where, collectively, there is a much higher level of unemployment (8 per cent and above) than we would like to see and the need exists for the outcomes to be achieved now. From my point of view, it is the appropriateness of the timeliness of the expenditure of the money. If in a review of the applications that have been received, and I am not saying that you take money away from people who you have already authorised it to and give it to others, but was that part of the consideration given to the grant application on the basis that it was oversubscribed to ensure that there was a timeliness in the delivery of it, the opportunity it created and the employment outcomes that came from it?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: Everybody wants to get the money out there as quick as we can. There are certain projects out there that will take a period of time to construct and go through. No matter who we are, whether it is government or whether it is councils, we are dealing with public money. We need to ensure that the recipients finally have the milestones and the job creation opportunities out there and make certain they do everything right. I make no apologies for making certain that before we actually commit or pay the cheque out that all the milestones have been met. I will use Sundrop Farms: it is a three to four-year period, so you are not going to be able to pay that commitment out fully until such time as the project is up and running and the milestones have been met. I would hope the member would appreciate that.

Mr GRIFFITHS: I do, minister, and Sundrop Farms is a great project, having been briefed by the operators of it. I still come back to the question I posed at the very end of that last one: as part of the review by the department and the recommendations they made to you, was the timeline for the expenditure of the funds and the outcomes from the expenditure of those funds part of the criteria of the assessment of who was supported and who was not?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: The recent round that we have just gone out with, most of those projects were shovel ready, the projects there, they will commence. The jobs will not result until after the construction period is over, the final jobs, the number of FTEs. The jobs in the final outcome, the jobs being created, will be the final payment. That is certainly due diligence and to make certain we do everything the best we can to ensure that we are using taxpayers' money correctly. Also, we do not pay money out until such time as the KPIs and the milestones are achieved.

Mr GRIFFITHS: If I can clarify: I think at the very start you talked about the round that has just gone out. I think that was the phrase you used at the very start. Is that a round that relates to funding from the 2015-16 year or is it still carryover from the 2014-15 year?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: Round 2, which is the year 2015-16. We have not announced all of the recipients at this particular point though.

Mr GRIFFITHS: Minister, if I could just ask for some of the factors that are involved in the \$10 million Jobs Accelerator Fund and what the outcomes are, preferably within the 2014-15 year, even though it was not until, I believe, late November when the guidelines attached to it were released, and there are four different components of it. What are the outcomes that are able to be reported against what might go beyond—and I respect they will if only \$200,000 has been spent in

a practical way in 2014-15 out of a \$10 million fund? What are the time lines attached to the remainder of the \$9.8 million in that fund?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: The Jobs Accelerator Fund that the member is asking about, which is the \$10 million, has been made up to be used as follows: to accelerate the impact of the Regional Development Fund by adding a further \$2.6 million to the Regional Development Fund in round 1, so we transferred \$2.6 million out of that into the RDF round 1; we established a \$4 million loan scheme that supplements the assistance available through the Regional Development Fund. That is through a loan when they may not be able to get a grant. There is a project out there that we have offered \$2 million, but we have not expended that at this stage because it has not progressed, it has not got to the stage where they are looking for other funding.

Also to facilitate Indigenous economic development in the north-west pastoral region with an initiative of \$1.4 million over two years to employ Aboriginal pastoral workers. I must admit I have spoken to those guys up there at Andamooka Station, Purple Downs and Roxby Downs Station and they are doing a really good job, and these people are going to learn and have an opportunity to put some of those areas back to productive areas.

Also to provide funding for 57 regional local governing authorities towards the employment of a young trainee for two years, as I mentioned, through regional governing authorities. The Regional Youth Traineeship Program is being delivered on behalf of the state government by the Local Government Association of South Australia. We received 57 expressions of interest for the traineeships and a recruitment process is currently underway at the moment.

The purpose of the Regions Loans Scheme is to improve business operations through expansion of new market developments. The scheme aims to support infrastructure or capital expenditure resulting in economic growth, investment and employment outcomes. So far \$2 million of the Regions Loans Scheme has been offered, as I said a bit earlier, but it has not been taken up at this stage.

Indigenous economic development in the north-west pastoral region will build capacity to help leverage the investment in employment and training by other partners including the Indigenous Land Corporation, Native Title Services and BHP Billiton. The focus for the initiative is currently on the Kokatha Pastoral Development Project and the APY Pastoral Enterprise. This project is helping realise commercial opportunities for some three million hectares of pastoral land in the north-west of South Australia under Indigenous ownership.

As I said earlier, seven people have already been employed and ongoing recruitment for another 16 is underway. The initiative is providing funding and skills to help Indigenous landowners bring back the land to a productive area. The first Regional Development Fund was heavily oversubscribed so it was decided to fund other worthwhile projects under the fund and therefore accelerate its impact.

The 2014 RDF is supporting 40 projects, which will lead to the creation of 653 new jobs in regional South Australia and generate investment of more than \$334 million. The funding for that has been totally committed. The purpose of the \$2 million Regional Youth Traineeship Program is to assist regional local government authorities to offer entry-level employment to a young person from regional South Australia, with a view to providing them with an opportunity for an employment pathway. The regional local government authorities comprise regional councils, the Outback Communities Authority, the Aboriginal community councils, the APY and Maralinga Tjarutja.

The program is aimed at young people between the ages of 17 and 24 who are unemployed or do not have a full-time job and living in the regions to enter the workforce full time with a two-year traineeship in local government or governance. The Regional Youth Traineeship Program offers up to \$14,500 per year to 57 regional local governing authorities across the state towards the cost of providing entry-level employment for a trainee for two years. Participating regional local governing authorities will contribute the remaining funding.

The program is being managed, as I said earlier, by the Local Government Association of South Australia on behalf of the state government, and the program design and implementation are such that funding has been carried out for maximum impact.

As for the Jobs Accelerator Fund, it is spread over four discrete projects, each with project partners. It was considered most effective for the funding to be spread over more than one year. I have said in this place before that we may have taken a bit of time to get the whole lot out, but we wanted to make certain we did the best we could. I make no apologies if it took a bit longer than normal.

Mr GRIFFITHS: I am seeking clarification, then. Given that it is 11 months since the guidelines were available on the \$10 million Jobs Accelerator Fund, can you confirm how many people were employed as at 30 June 2015 and how many people are employed in a physical way as of today from those funds?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: I do not have that information readily available, but I am certainly happy to take that on notice and bring that back. I am very happy with the way the funds have been going and with the involvement and interest from all of regional South Australia in creating opportunities to assist these businesses to provide employment opportunities not only for their own regions but in other regions all over South Australia. I will bring that information back in a more detailed form for the member.

Mr WILLIAMS: I refer the committee to Volume 4, page 254. Minister, this question about the Regional Development Fund is in several parts, and I have been listening to your answers to the previous questions. Is it still a criterion that applications for a grant from the Regional Development Fund should demonstrate that they will create new jobs?

With regard to the press release you put out on the 20th of this month, saying that there will be a major expansion by Treasury Wine Estates at Nuriootpa which will create 30 new jobs, are you aware, and has your agency been aware, that Treasury Wine Estates instituted 11 redundancies at their Wynns Coonawarra winery in my electorate as of last Friday?

Are you also aware that there were redundancies—and I am pretty sure the figure is 23—as a result of the closing by Treasury Wine Estates of the Ryecroft winery at McLaren Vale in the member for Mawson's electorate, meaning that the expansion of Treasury Wine Estates' Wolf Blass winery and packaging facility actually sees a reduction in their employees in South Australia?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: I cannot see where the member is coming from. I understand he asked a question in this house on Tuesday. I do not see that relating directly to the Auditor-General's Report. I understand he asked the Treasurer a question in this house on Tuesday whilst I was at Brian Hurn's funeral. I do not see that I can answer that here.

Mr WILLIAMS: Madam Chair, let me clarify: I did ask the Treasurer a question pertaining to this. At that stage, I did not have the numbers, but since then I have ascertained that there have been 11 redundancies at the Wynns Coonawarra winery as of last Friday and I am pretty certain that 23 redundancies have occurred at the Ryecroft winery at McLaren Vale.

So, there have been a net 34 redundancies as a direct result of Treasury Wine Estates consolidating their activities to the Wolf Blass winery; yet, minister, you put out a press release on the 20th of this month saying that a major expansion of Treasury Wine Estates' Wolf Blass winery and packaging facility in Nuriootpa will create 30 new jobs.

That is 30 new jobs at Wolf Blass, but there has been, on my information, a loss of 34 jobs at other sites of the same company in South Australia as a direct result of that expansion. My question to the Treasurer was about what due diligence was done before you hand out these largesses of taxpayers' money to what you say is one of the world's largest publicly listed wine companies.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: I will respond to that by saying I still do not see where it comes into this, but I will say in this house that this project had the endorsement of the member for Schubert, and Mr Pasin—

Mr Griffiths: Barker.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: —as the federal member for Barker. From my information, the member for Schubert has thoroughly endorsed this, and I am led to believe that he said on ABC, 'This is a great coup for South Australia,' but I certainly do not believe this is part of the Auditor-General's Report.

The CHAIR: Thank you very much. I must ask us to move on to the next examination because we are over time today. I thank the minister and his advisers for their assistance with the questions from my left. We will get the Minister for Transport's advisers in as quickly as we can.

Again, I remind members that the committee is in its normal session, so any questions have to be asked by members on their feet—and all questions will be answered in the same way, of course—and must be directly referenced to the Auditor-General's Report. As the Minister for Transport comes in, deputy leader, you are going to lead off. If you can just tell the table, we will find the right page and then we will be ready.

Ms CHAPMAN: Yes, thank you. I indicate in the first instance that I am going to be referring to Part B: Agency audit reports, Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, which commences at page 312. The second aspect I am looking at is page 27, of what is called Part A: Executive summary.

The CHAIR: Let's start off with a question because our time has already started and we do not want you to miss out.

Ms CHAPMAN: Pages 96 to 99 are the section within the Courts Administration Authority but, specifically at page 99, it refers to the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure's aspects of the Courts Administration Authority, so I will just refer to that. I will start with page 99 of Part B: Agency audit reports. It is within the CAA reference but, as I say, it is placed in two other main sections in the act. What is written here, minister, at the top of the page is:

The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure also incurred expenses. It received \$2.8 million for the procurement process and funding to acquire the intellectual property. The final amount spent was not confirmed at the time of this Report.

As is explained on the preceding pages, whilst there had been some involvement of the Courts Administration Authority, in particular its staff, adding up to a cost of some \$341,000, and your department gave them \$70,000—that is all explained on page 98. Essentially, your department was responsible for having the money allocated and undertaking the responsibility for the procurement process of the development of this higher courts building process. In relation to the \$2.8 million, can you tell the committee, firstly, how much of that has been spent?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Thank you, deputy leader. I do not have in front of me the excerpt that you are referring to, but based on what you say, I have a note here which indicates to me total project expenditure actuals, including procurement-related costs, of \$3.135 million. These costs include internal salaries and professional services. I think your specific question was about how much of that has actually been expensed, rather than allocated for the purpose I just mentioned. I will have to come back to you with that advice.

Ms CHAPMAN: I take it the \$3.135 million is a combination of the \$341,000 that was in the budget for the Courts Administration Authority and the rest of it is your \$2.8 million. It says in the Auditor-General's Report that that was received, I assume from some sort of consolidated revenue account to your department. As you know, this project was discontinued in March this year. Is there anyone here who can tell us how much of that was spent? At 30 June, there must be some record of a balance sitting somewhere, because I am assuming that it has not all been spent.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Deputy leader, I am advised that that has all been spent—that \$3.135 million. I should just perhaps note that the two figures that you have given, when added together, sum to a slightly different figure than the one I have here in front of me. So, can I perhaps just say I understand that to be the case. Whether the figure I have provided is representative of those two figures that you have mentioned from the courts section of the Auditor-General's Report, I think I might just need to double-check that and come back.

Ms CHAPMAN: I think it is \$3,000 out.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Well, that's right; it is a minor amount, but it is worth checking.

Ms CHAPMAN: Of that money, if it has all been spent, how much was used to acquire the intellectual property from the bidder, Activate 408?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I can confirm that a payment was made to the preferred but unsuccessful consortium, if I can put it like that. I do not have in front of me what that payment was, or indeed whether it was included as part of that total figure which I provided earlier. So, perhaps in checking what I previously undertook to check, can I come back in that same piece of advice and provide that to you.

Ms CHAPMAN: If the minister has not had the opportunity to read the Deputy Premier's contribution to this committee—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: No, he handballed it to me.

Ms CHAPMAN: In fairness, the Premier handballed it to him on a number of matters. He took up what he thought was appropriate, and then he has of course sent a number of matters to you. I think, in fairness, in the Courts Precinct Authority, as distinct from some of the other projects, this is one that is fairly within your department. Members of his staff were involved to the value of a few hundred thousand dollars, but essentially your department was responsible for the procurement process and all of that detailing down to get to the preferred bidder.

What the Attorney explained—and of course you will want to have a look at what he did say—is that, having gone through that process, it was quite reasonable for the preferred bidder, having got to that stage and expended money, that it would have some reasonable expectation of recovering some of those costs.

What I asked the Attorney was not only how much was paid for the intellectual property (because that is how it is described as a payment to them) which of course he has flicked to you—and I note that you will get that information—but he also went on to say that he was not aware of whether that payment for the intellectual property was either a condition of them not pursuing other cost-recovery expectations when a project is cancelled by the government, or indeed in any compensatory form. I would ask you to inquire as to whether that was, I suppose, in consideration of not pursuing any compensation or any other seeking of an ex gratia payment similar to what occurred when the government announced a very significant prison project in the Murray Bridge area.

People, in good faith, put submissions forward; it was not progressed ultimately. We do not need to go into the merits of that, but obviously those who had come to the table in good faith had considered it money well spent. I think the government put on the table something like \$10 million—I am not sure how it was divided between bidders, but it was in some recognition of exactly what the Deputy Premier was talking about. If you could come back to the committee with the amount paid for the intellectual property, whether that was in full consideration of any expected entitlement or benefit for that.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Thank you, deputy leader, and I am happy to take that back and seek that advice. Perhaps if I can provide some general comments about my understanding of how this works usually. My understanding is that, when we go out to procure significant works such as this courts precinct, or if it is indeed a major infrastructure project that might be transport related, a road project, etc., as a matter of course, the government will make it very clear within the terms of engaging with that procurement process that the state has the right to stop, cancel or not proceed with the project or the procurement process (or indeed both) at any point in time. There is no formal right of a proponent for one of these projects to expect to receive compensation.

But you have quite rightly pointed out that—I think it was in 2008 perhaps—the government announced it was not going to proceed with the correctional facilities PPP at that point in time the compensation was made. There is a practice which is entered into by government, including this one as well as other governments, that depending on the procurement model, we will seek to go out for an expression of interest, shortlist very quickly, preferably down to two, and work very collaboratively and in a great amount of detail with those two shortlisted proponents, and the one that is not successful we will quite often pay some level of compensation for the bidding costs and the effort that they have gone into, acknowledging that they have been unsuccessful.

Whether that has been the case here, my uncertainty about being able to confirm a figure is—because you have outlined that there was \$300,000 provided from the Courts Administration Authority for staffing costs, for example. There would be at least something commensurate, if not more than that, in terms of staffing and associated costs from the department. But, given that the two

figures that comprise that \$3.1 million-odd figure for it to be reconciled are so different between DPTI and the Courts Administration Authority, I am not sure whether part of that \$3.1 million figure contains any part of that purchasing of intellectual property.

Further, I should also say that what I will endeavour to come back to you with is perhaps a slightly more detailed explanation about whether all that the proponent was seeking, if indeed they were seeking anything at all, was just a payment for the intellectual property, rather than trying to come up with another way to obviate a claim for further compensation. I will endeavour to provide that to you.

Ms CHAPMAN: Perhaps when you are having a look at that, minister, it does suggest at the top of page 99 that the \$2.8 million for the procurement process and funding to acquire the intellectual property—I suppose it is unclear as to whether that is inclusive or exclusive. I am happy for you to identify if in fact it was a separate payment.

I also draw to your attention page 98, where it says at about point 8, 'Legal advice confirmed the State had, in the RFP, reserved broad powers to change or terminate the State's requirements', which of course you have referred to. It goes on to say, 'Acquisition of the intellectual property would enable the State to modify or develop this design and construct a facility as the State considers appropriate.'

Again, the Attorney was not able to explain exactly why intellectual property of this project was going to be acquired, or be necessary to acquire, other than the fact that, as I said, the Deputy Premier alluded to the fact that it was reasonable that there would be some recovery of cost, etc. I am interested in knowing if there are any other projects where the government has acquired the intellectual property at a time when it has called the shots, namely, at this stage, temporarily terminated or suspended the progressing of the project.

Of course, one can think of the whole of the Gawler electrification project. We have been through the detail about some losses in that exercise, but really it appears on the face of the documentation that there was not any determination to acquire intellectual property with that. You may say that it is a straight track and it is being upgraded and electrification, electrification.

I just make the point that this is the first time I have seen a situation where, on the government's determination to abort or suspend a project, they have then acquired the intellectual property. I can understand that it might be a condition of any payment *ex gratia*, but it is a little unusual. If there are any other projects, I would appreciate it if the committee could be advised of them and the amounts paid.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Perhaps I can provide some context about the courts project and the desirability of acquiring the intellectual property. You—and, perhaps to a lesser extent, me—would appreciate the need for some investment in improving our court facilities. What the project tried to achieve, amongst other things, was to have some new facilities which would provide new criminal court facilities and, I also understand some civil court facilities, but I stand to be corrected.

I understand that criminal court facilities are vastly more complex to procure and to build, given that, unlike civil court facilities, you need to have things like holding cells, separate entrances far away from the public for the accused and the recently convicted, I guess, as well, separate elevators, and so on and so forth.

Given that we have not embarked on a project like this for many years, and given how complex these are compared with, say, a civil court (and I do not want to offend architects here), which I understand to be slightly different but not much different from a well-functioning commercial office building, there was a desire there. When it comes to the other projects, I mentioned earlier that when we procure in a way where we quickly short-list in the process down to two preferred bidders and then work for a long period of time with those two bidders, quite often we will make compensation available to the non-successful bidder, and that is in recognition of how we have chosen to procure that particular project. Perhaps I can come back to you with a few more details on that.

Of course, we examined the Gawler issue at this time last year. I would imagine that that is a slightly less complex project, given that it is upgrading an existing track rather than having to design

a new route, etc., and that we will be retaining the benefit of a large proportion of the works already done and written off in the last year's report.

Mr WHETSTONE: On Volume 3, page 516, my question relates to the abolition of the Motor Accident Commission. Given that there will no longer be intermittent dividends from MAC, has any work been done to identify new sources of revenue for the Highways Fund? If so, what are they and will motorists be the ones to pay?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I thank the member. I should make it clear that, regarding the future operations of the MAC, it is of course a matter for the Treasurer. I do not believe at this point in time that we are abolishing the Motor Accident Commission. I think there is a change to the writing of compulsory third-party insurance arrangements, so that is an important distinction to make.

In terms of sources of revenue into the Highways Fund, there are, of course, ongoing sources of revenue into the Highways Fund. For those who were paying particular attention to the response I gave to the question I was asked in question time, there are sources of revenue into the Highways Fund, which will continue for some time. Obviously, some of the revenues which are raised from people who use the roads—light vehicles, heavy vehicles, etc.—are, I am told, hypothecated into the Highways Fund for expenditures which are road related. There will be ongoing revenues, and then those revenues are then hypothecated for the benefit of those people paying those revenues.

Mr WINGARD: Are you forecasting new funds to be taken from motorists to be paid into the Highways Fund as well, given the changes to MAC?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Each year, we anticipate that the vehicle fleet, whether they are light vehicles or heavy vehicles, for the foreseeable future, will continue to pay the existing motor vehicle taxes, such as registration costs, into the Highways Fund, which will then also provide a revenue source for the Highways Fund.

I should make it clear that there has been a substantial injection into the Highways Fund from the dividends from some of the excess assets which were contained within the portfolio of assets that the Motor Accident Commission had. I understand that figure to be in the order of about \$850 million, which is a significant amount of money. But, you need to consider that in less than 18 months we have secured funding agreements to co-fund the Torrens to Torrens project, the Darlington project and the Northern Connector project.

Just from those three projects, which I think roughly total about \$2.5 billion, the rough funding breakdown is about \$1.75 billion from the commonwealth for the various funding shares that change from 50:50 for Torrens to Torrens to 80:20 for the other two projects, and then about \$750 million from the state. Then, of course, in the recent state budget we have allocated a further \$40 million for shoulder sealing in the regions and an additional \$70 million over the forward estimates for improved maintenance to the road network, which gets you to slightly more than that \$850 million figure that I mentioned earlier.

There will be ongoing revenues from those sources which are already in existence at the moment, as well as significant expenditures on roads which are at least equivalent to if not greater than the dividend that has come out of the Motor Accident Commission.

Mr WINGARD: Page 89 of Volume 4, the Community Road Safety Fund. The Community Road Safety Fund appropriation to the end of June 2015 was \$81.021 million. What is the appropriation estimated to be at the end of this financial year?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: The Community Road Safety Fund, I am advised, is utilised for the purposes of road safety, and I am sorry, I only have figures for the 2014-15 year. Can I come back to you with those?

Mr WINGARD: Yes, thank you. Over the page, Gawler modernisation project, Volume 4, page 90 of the report, under the heading Commonwealth Funding Received for Specific Projects, it indicates that \$2,000 in interest was generated from the Gawler modernisation funds. As last year's Auditor-General's Report states, the federal funding for the suspended project was repaid in 2013. Why is the fund still generating interest? Does the state have any funds set aside for the project?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: There has been a group of receipts into the fund, which I understand are related to projects including the accelerated Sturt Highway package. Perhaps what I could do is provide a more fulsome description of the balance of that account, what those funds were received for, and that reconciliation of interest.

Mr WINGARD: Thank you, it is just around the fact that it is the Gawler modernisation project and the fact that money has gone back, and how it is still generating interest; that would be great. With reference to the Auditor-General's Report, Part B, page 318, Invoice payments review, how many invoices were double paid?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: The question was how many duplicate invoices?

Mr WINGARD: Yes, how many invoices were double paid?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I will endeavour to provide a figure. That may not be possible. I am just advised that the way in which this was audited was that a sample of transactions was audited, and the results from that sample may well have been extrapolated to be representative across the whole. Whether there is a figure from that extrapolation or not, I do not know, and, secondly, I do not know how accurate it would be. It would depend on how representative the sample is and whether we could make a determination if that is indeed representative. I will endeavour to come back to you, but I guess in general it is fair to say that having highlighted this issue this year—but I think also in a previous report—I am advised that there have been further efforts and increased controls placed on this by the department.

Also, just to come back to your previous question about the Gawler line, can I make it clear that from the advice that I have there are receipts from, I think, the commonwealth for a number of projects, of which the Gawler line at one time was one of those projects, so if interest is being accrued it is not that there is still money for the Gawler line; it is that there are multiple projects which were funded sitting in that account. Again, I will come back with a further, more fulsome response on that.

Mr WINGARD: Thank you. Just in relation to that last question, if we can find out how many invoices were double paid, as I asked, but also what is the value of the duplicate invoices paid and what is the amount of money that has been recovered, if any?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Again, the restrictions on us being able to accurately identify how many invoices there were, given that only a sample was taken, might also prevent us from attaching a dollar value to the sum of those duplicate invoices, but we will endeavour to do that.

Mr WINGARD: Thank you. Part B still, pages 318 and 319, Management of purchase cards. Management of purchase cards has been brought up by the Auditor-General in the last two reports. What are you doing to overcome the risks of the cards being used for the purchase of non work-related expenses; poor procurement practices; inappropriate use of public funds; financial reporting errors; and the non-compliance of the Treasurer's Instruction that the maximum transaction value should not exceed \$10,000; and what is the department's current policy?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I am advised that the department has a purchase card policy which has been reviewed and is close to being finalised and reissued amongst the department. There has been a review consistent with the significant restructure of the department of who is issued with or who has access to a purchase card. Given the significant number of people who have left the department over the past 12 or so months, and also the significant number of roles and responsibilities which have changed, that is another reason the review of who is issued with a purchase card has been undertaken.

I am advised that there are regular reviews of transactions to ensure compliance, and I understand that a draft entertainment expenses policy has been prepared. I also understand that the internal audit in the department's risk and assurance section performs annual reviews of purchase card use and transactions. That is an effort that the department undertakes itself, separate from the oversight that the Auditor-General conducts. These reviews use a sophisticated data analytics tool known as ACL (nothing to do with the knee) to identify anomalies and non-compliance with procedures for further investigation.

Mr WINGARD: I refer to page 321 and government office accommodation. Can the minister provide figures for the total stock of office space leased by the government and the amount of space which is currently being utilised?

The CHAIR: Bearing in mind the time, you might have to put the answer on notice if you do not have it with you.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I am sure I will have to provide part of the answer on notice. Yes, we can provide some information about that. It is fair to say that as the department responsible and minister responsible for approving many, if not all, these leases I am certainly aware that in the last 12 months, in particular, there has been a significant number of new leases that have been entered into, which includes a large number of office relocations, particularly within the CBD. Of course, there are also government efforts that occur in the greater metropolitan area as well as in the regions.

I think one of the figures you are interested in relates to how much space there is in total, but also how much space the government is leasing or controls in some other way and is unoccupied. Given that significant movement of offices is occurring, including many departments relocating and consolidating, there is a shrinking of floor space, for example, but while those moves are occurring there is obviously some vacant office space. I am not quite sure the form in which I can provide a snapshot point in time perspective of that, but I will endeavour to take that on notice and provide that to you.

The CHAIR: I thank the minister and his advisers.

Progress reported; committee to sit again.

Bills

JUDICIAL CONDUCT COMMISSIONER BILL

Final Stages

Consideration in committee of the Legislative Council's amendments (resumed on motion.)

Amendment No. 11:

The Hon. J.R. RAU: In the interests of harmony and an ecumenical approach to these things, I move:

That the Legislative Council's amendment No. 11 be agreed to.

The CHAIR: Do we have any discussion, bearing in mind how little time we have?

Mr GARDNER: Yes; given that the Attorney has taken up a great deal of my time I look forward to commenting on this matter.

The CHAIR: That is hardly what I meant.

Members interjecting:

The CHAIR: Order! We have been very generous with committees this afternoon so we hope you will be generous with us.

Mr GARDNER: Indeed; the Attorney delayed one bill last night until 10.30 for the second reading to start, and he has delayed the next bill until now—

The CHAIR: Order! Let us get on with it.

Mr GARDNER: I take the opportunity to identify that his objections to amendment No. 11 before, for all his talk of camaraderie now, were of course entirely spurious, and we are pleased that he is willing to identify that now.

Motion carried.

COMMUNITY BASED SENTENCES (INTERSTATE TRANSFER) BILL*Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 15 October 2015.)

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (17:46): The Community Based Sentences (Interstate Transfer) Bill was introduced by the minister on 15 October 2015. It is legislation that was endorsed by ministerial councils as national model legislation in 2010. After seeing the Attorney-General's performance over the last three days, I am starting to understand why it has taken five years to get here. The bill seeks to facilitate the transfer of community-based sentences, such as suspended sentences and supervised bonds but not parole between states.

National model legislation currently operates in relation to prison transfers and parole transfers and has for some time. This legislation extends the principle to community-based sentences. Ministerial councils for corrections and attorneys-general considered it—corrections, five years ago; attorneys-general, four years ago—and I assume that it has been in cabinet ever since awaiting the Attorney-General's due consideration. I do not get the sense that he likes it when other ministers get to move bills in this chamber. It has been passed by all jurisdiction except South Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory. This year, by Christmas, with any luck, now that the Attorney has left the room, we might be able to do the same here in South Australia.

Offenders in the community may benefit from the transfer of offenders and continued enforcement of the sentences between states. The minister, in his second reading, identified some critically important reasons why that is useful for the community. Proximity to improved family and community support, potentially to escape domestic violence or the prospect of increased choice of employment or study opportunities, and allowing a transfer to a new area in which the offender has good support increases the probability of the offender fulfilling the order, being positively reintegrated into the community, and desisting from further offending. Everything we do in this area has to have key in mind what is going to be the ultimate community safety outcome, and this bill will contribute to that.

An offender wishing to transfer interstate must apply through their home jurisdiction to have their sentence served in a new state. Relevant records and assessments are submitted through the department, if accepted, and then the sentence is registered in the new state and supervised as if the sentence had been imposed in the new state. States have discretion to refuse a transfer. The offender retains rights relating to appeal or request for amendment of sentence in their original jurisdiction.

Some community-based sentences, it should be noted, may not have a substantially similar sentence type in other states. In those cases, the transfer remains unavailable. It must be an order that substantially corresponds to that order available in the new state. This legislation is enacted in most other states. It is sensible, albeit a touch late. The opposition thoroughly supports it.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (17:48): I thank the honourable member for his contribution to this bill. The involvement of South Australia in the scheme highlights the contribution this state is making to the corrective services framework nationally by the framing of a cohesive national approach to corrective services provision and enforcement.

The hallmarks of this bill are common sense and practicality. It is anticipated that the legislation will have a positive impact on compliance with community-based sentences because it will assist offenders in serving their sentences, and breaches of community-based sentences would be more readily brought before a court. Having an offender in a settled situation is of obvious benefit.

The process is in line with contemporary correctional practice as it allows an offender to transfer to a new area in which the offender has good support or opportunities, as the member opposite has mentioned. This increases the probability of the offender fulfilling the order, being positively reintegrated back into the community and being diverted from returning to the prison

system. Permitting transfers in such circumstances may increase the offender's chance of successfully serving a sentence, being positively reintegrated into the community and being diverted from the prison system. They are all positive aspects of this legislation.

The second reading explanation indicated quite clearly that an offender who is transferred to a new jurisdiction will be managed as if the court in that new jurisdiction had imposed the sentence. Part of the application for registration of a sentence in this state includes a statement by the interstate authority that the offender understands and agrees to be bound by the requirements of the law of South Australia, that any breach of sentence may result in the offender being resentenced in South Australia and that the consequence of such a breach may be different from the consequence of a breach in the sentencing state or territory.

The legislation also has provisions for orders having multiple components, as is often the case in South Australia, providing that some components will need to be completed in the sending jurisdiction prior to any transfer taking place. Importantly, any reparation components of a community-based sentence must be completed prior to any transfer. This means that any community service components or fines will need to be completed in the community they offended against prior to being able to transfer.

This is very practical legislation that makes it much more effective for those offenders who are transferred interstate to comply and to serve out their sentence in a way that facilitates their return to the community and also increases community safety. Once again, I thank the member for his contribution to the debate.

Bill read a second time.

Third Reading

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety) (17:51): I move:

That this bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS REGULATION (ARTISTIC PERFORMANCES) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 23 September 2015.)

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (17:52): It is a good time to be discussing the Tobacco Products Regulation (Artistic Performances) Amendment Bill. I note the generosity of the leader of government business to the Attorney-General, allowing him to indulge himself beforehand. Nevertheless, I think we can finish this in the last five minutes before the house rises. Under section 46(1) of the Tobacco Products Regulation Act 1997, smoking is banned in enclosed public spaces, workplaces and shared areas. Exemptions can be granted by the Governor under section 71 of the act.

This bill amends the Tobacco Products Regulation Act to enable the minister to exempt artistic performances. The current process is administratively protracted as exemptions can only be granted by the Governor. The bill would simplify the procedures by enabling the minister to grant the exemptions, thereby reducing the administrative burden on cabinet and the Governor, producing more flexible and timely responses to applications and reducing the risk of disruption to artistic productions.

The current process for applicants will remain unchanged. The amendment is minor. It offers a simplification of administrative process. It is sensible. The minister's second reading explanation states that the relevant minister is the Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, whereas the act is committed to the Minister for Health, but the opposition is very pleased to support the bill. I am sure the shadow minister for health, who operates in the other place, will provide an even more fulsome summation of the opposition's position than that, but in short, in brief, with a couple of minutes to go, the opposition supports the bill.

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (17:54): I thank the opposition for their support for the bill. It is sensible and I do not know why it was not done earlier.

Bill read a second time.

Third Reading

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (17:54): I move:

That this bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

STATUTES AMENDMENT (INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL) BILL

Final Stages

The Legislative Council agreed to the bill without any amendment.

LONG SERVICE LEAVE (CALCULATION OF AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS) AMENDMENT BILL

Final Stages

The Legislative Council agreed to the bill without any amendment.

LIQUOR LICENSING (PROHIBITION OF CERTAIN LIQUOR) AMENDMENT BILL

Final Stages

The Legislative Council agreed to the bill without any amendment.

At 17:56 the house adjourned until Tuesday 17 November 2015 at 11:00.

*Answers to Questions***COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM**

44 Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett) (30 July 2015). For the Community Benefit SA, Family and Community Development Programs and the Aboriginal Youth Programs—

1. Provide a list of all the organisations that have received grant funding through each of these programs.
2. How much has each organisation received from each fund?
3. Which organisations have provided a copy of their annual report and financial statements showing how government grant money has been expended?

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—Minister for Communities and Social Inclusion, Minister for Social Housing, Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Minister for Ageing, Minister for Youth, Minister for Volunteers): I have been advised:

1. A list of all organisations is provided in the tables below:

Table 1—Aboriginal Youth Program Funding (Aboriginal Youth Development Programs (AYDP) and Aboriginal Youth Advisory Committees (AYAC))

Organisation	2014-15 Funding AYAC & AYDP inclusive (\$)
Anglican Community Care Inc – Berri	82,190
District Council of Coober Pedy	58,037
Koonibba Aboriginal Community Council Inc.	82,189
Kura Yerlo Inc.	11,535
Plaza Youth Centre Inc.	60,764
Pt Augusta Youth Centre Inc.	44,112
Ngarrindjeri Land Progress Association Inc.	44,132
Raukkan Community Council Inc.	44,112
Relationships Australia SA	96,455
Ron Johnston	22,809
Country Health SA	5,851
Davenport Community Council	82,606
Kurruru	50,000
TOTAL	684,792

Table 2—Family and Community Development

Agency	2014-15 Funding (\$)
Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement Inc	91,865
Anglican Community Care Inc	265,612
Anglican Community Care Inc	22,045
Anglican Community Care Inc	40,750
Anglican Community Care Inc	58,112
Anglican Community Care Inc	61,600
Anglicare SA	907,169
Anglicare SA	119,196
Australian Refugee Association Inc	31,926
Australian South East Asian Women's Assoc.	31,930
Bowden Brompton Community Group Inc	73,898
Camden Community Centre Inc	17,633
Catholic Diocese of Port Pirie Inc	113,564
Catholic Diocese of Pt Pirie Inc	93,651
Centacare Catholic Family Services	36,623

Agency	2014-15 Funding (\$)
Centacare Catholic Family Services	74,144
Centacare Catholic Family Services	421,649
Centacare Catholic Family Services	51,976
Centacare Catholic Family Services	225,391
Charles Sturt, City of	101,783
Child and Family Welfare Association of SA Inc (CAFW SA)	61,674
Community & Neighbourhood Houses & Centres Assoc Inc	219,529
Community Access & Services SA	69,521
Community Food SA Inc	78,428
Community House Pt Lincoln Inc	78,506
District Council of Coober Pedy	38,200
Eastwood Community Centre Inc	17,917
Gawler Neighbourhood House Inc	34,466
Goodwood Community Services Inc	45,421
Holdfast Bay Community Inc	19,248
Junction Community Centre Inc	31,150
Junction Community Centre Inc	83,644
Kura Yerlo Centre Inc	26,851
Lifeline Country to Coast SA Incorporated	67,207
Lifeline South East (SA) Inc	30,190
Lifeline South East (SA) Inc	31,274
Lutheran Church in Australia (SA District) Inc	137,790
Lutheran Church of Australia (SA District) Inc	43,510
Lutheran Church of Australia (SA District) Inc	80,540
Marion, Corporation of the City of	26,851
Mid Murray Community Support Service Inc	13,740
Midway Road Community House (Inc)	69,068
Migrant Resource Centre of SA Inc	31,926
Mission SA (Australia) Ltd	156,052
Mission SA (Australia) Ltd	17,511
Mount Barker Community Centre	17,633
Multicultural Communities Council of SA Inc	34,589
Multicultural Youth South Australia	146,563
Multicultural Youth South Australia	105,113
Murray Bridge Community Centre Inc	40,332
North East Community House Incorporated	72,419
Northern Area Community & Youth Services Inc	221,381
Northern Area Community & Youth Services Inc	68,329
Northern Metropolitan Aboriginal Council Inc	69,621
Onkaparinga, City of	296,059
Overseas Chinese Association Inc	25,447
Peterborough, District Council of	17,301
Playford, City of	26,087
Plaza Youth Centre Incorporated	160,062
Port Augusta Youth Centre Inc	30,276
SA Council of Social Service Inc	376,907
Salisbury City Council	160,722
Southern Junction Community Services Inc	87,403

Agency	2014-15 Funding (\$)
SPARK Resource Centre Inc	142,238
Survivors of Torture	40,462
Tailem Bend Community Centre Inc	13,740
Tea Tree Gully, Corporation of City of	82,844
The Hut Community Centre Inc	13,740
Time for Kids Inc	78,630
Uniting Communities	140,414
Uniting Communities	72,136
UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide Inc	194,129
UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide Inc	159,945
UnitingCare Wesley Adelaide Inc	134,808
UnitingCare Wesley Bowden Inc	203,740
UnitingCare Wesley Bowden Inc	188,780
UnitingCare Wesley Bowden Inc	140,414
UnitingCare Wesley Bowden Inc	79,763
UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide Inc	135,996
UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide Inc	178,892
UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide Inc	274,286
UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide Inc	55,056
UnitingCare Wesley Port Adelaide Inc	56,646
UnitingCare Wesley Port Pirie Inc	45,421
UnitingCare Wesley Port Pirie Inc	17,511
UnitingCare Wesley Port Pirie Inc	232,193
UnitingCare Wesley Port Pirie Inc	27,725
UnitingCare Wesley Port Pirie Inc	93,651
Unley, Corporation of the City of	34,219
Victim Support Services Inc	30,992
Victor Harbor, City of	34,589
Vietnamese Women's Association SA Inc	31,299
Volunteering SA Inc.	207,362
West Coast Youth & Community Support Inc	75,000
West Torrens, City of	26,851
Whyalla Counselling Service Inc	158,637
Women's Community Centre (SA) Inc	74,551
Young Women's Christian Association of Adelaide Inc	67,077
Young Women's Christian Association of Adelaide Incorporated	153,057
Youth Affairs Council of SA Inc	92,332
TOTAL	10,096,099

Table 3—Community Benefit South Australia—One off funding

Organisation Name	Funding received in 2014-15
ABERFOYLE COMMUNITY CENTRE INC	1,490
CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES	6,500
CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES	19,970
ACT FOR KIDS	8,750
ACT FOR KIDS	45,600
FEAST ADEL. LESBIAN & GAY	18,100
ADELAIDE MEDICAL STUDENTS SOC.	3,770

Organisation Name	Funding received in 2014-15
ANDAMOOKA PROG&OPAL MINERS ASN	20,000
ASPERLUTELY AUTSOME	7,360
ASPERLUTELY AUTSOME	2,000
ASPERLUTELY AUTSOME	16,500
ASTHMA FOUNDATION OF SA	30,827
AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR SOCIAL	20,260
AVEO—THE BRAES RESIDENTS	1,100
BALAKLAVA TOWN HALL MANAGEMENT	12,000
BAPTIST CARE (SA) INC	33,200
BAPTIST CARE (SA) INC	23,660
BAPTIST CARE (SA) INC	8,210
BARMERA BOWLING CLUB INC	5,490
BAROSSA LOWER NORTH FUTURES INC	17,470
BHUTANESE AUSTRALIAN ASSOC. OF	8,390
BIG SUNDAY ADELAIDE INC	100,000
BLINMAN PROGRESS ASSOC. INC	5,430
BLUE LIGHT (SA) INC	8,810
BUND DER BAYERN INC	900
ALLAN CAMPBELL & WCH HOUSE INC	2,050
CARESHIP COORONG LTD	5,500
CATHOLIC CHURCH ENDOWMENT SOC.	11,605
CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN SA	1,350
COMMUNITY FOOD SA INC	19,610
COMMUNITY CENTRES SA INC	49,670
COMMON GROUND ADELAIDE LTD	8,000
CONSERVATION COUNCIL OF SA	99,589
CORA BARCLAY CENTRE FOR DEAF &	9,970
CORA BARCLAY CENTRE FOR DEAF &	8,490
COROMANDEL COMMUNITY CTR INC	2,520
DEAF SPORTS & RECREATION ASSOC	12,220
D FACES OF YOUTH ARTS INC	23,150
EATING DISORDERS ASSOC SA INC	5,950
EATING DISORDERS ASSOC SA INC	15,420
ECHUNGA RETURNED & SERVICE	4,150
ELIZABETH SOUTH COMM. CTR INC	10,590
EMU COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S	4,640
ENCOUNTER CENTRE INC	5,500
EPILEPSY ASSOCIATION OF SA	50,000
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN ZION	10,000
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH	40,250
JULIA FARR HOUSING ASS INC.	50,000
JULIA FARR ASSOCIATION INC	12,500
FOODBANK OF SA INC	79,780
FRIENDS OF THE BAROSSA	39,920
THE FRIENDS OF THE AUST ARID	2,740
FRIENDS OF WINDAMERE INC	8,910
GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL	31,700
GROW	4,510
GIRL GUIDES STH AUSTRALIA INC	41,780
HACKHAM WEST COMMUNITY CENTRE	12,810

Organisation Name	Funding received in 2014-15
HANDS ON SA	9,090
HARE KRISHNA FOOD FOR LIFE INC	45,000
HEALTHY CITIES ONKAPARINGA INC	760
THE HUT COMMUNITY CENTRE INC	27,800
INCLUSIVE DIRECTIONS INC.	40,000
INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY ASSOC.	15,900
INTERCHANGE INC	30,000
INTERCHANGE INC	11,240
IWANTJA ARTS & CRAFTS	19,870
JUNCTION AUSTRALIA	50,000
JUSTICENET SA INC.	75,000
KAPUNDA HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC	750
KEITH & TINTINARA DIST. SHOW	7,000
KINGOONIA & AREA PROGRESS ASSOC	6,030
KLEMZIG JNR & COE BRASS BAND	3,320
KORNAR WINMIL YUNTI CORP	26,270
LEFEVRE CHILDCARE CENTRE INC	7,480
LEIGH CREEK PROGRESS ASSOC	50,000
THE LEUKAEMIA FOUNDATION OF	35,470
LIFESTYLES ASSIS & ACCOM SVS	22,270
LINCOLN COMMUNITY CARE INC	39,640
LOCHIEL PROGRESS ASSOC INC.	10,230
LOLLY JAR CIRCUS INC	2,280
MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE	8,120
MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE	50,000
MILANG PROGRESS ASSOCIATION	4,300
MINDA INCORPORATED	5,250
MT MCKENZIE HALL	21,600
MULTICULTURAL YOUTH SOUTH	40,860
NATIONAL ABORIGINAL CULTURAL	7,810
NATIONAL ABORIGINAL CULTURAL	9,010
NATIONAL ABORIGINAL CULTURAL	9,840
NATIONAL DISABILITY SERV. LTD	6,420
NETWORK SA RESOURCE ADV. & MANAG	9,960
NGAPALA ARTS ASSOCIATION INC	10,710
(WC) NOARLUNGA COMMUNITY	8,560
NORTHERN VOLUNTEERING SA INC	49,970
NORTHERN REFUGEE UNITED SOCIAL	17,630
NORTHERN ADEL MEDICARE LOCAL	10,030
NOVITA CHILDRENS SERVICES INC	62,789
OODNADATTA PROGRESS ASSOC. INC	15,000
ORANA INC	10,010
ORANA INC	6,844
ORANA INC	7,070
OZ HARVEST LIMITED	30,100
OZ HARVEST LIMITED	68,000
PARKINSON'S SA INC.	32,160
PARKINSON'S SA INC.	17,940
PARRAKIE WAR MEMORIAL HALL INC	5,700
PARRAKIE WAR MEMORIAL HALL INC	16,350

Organisation Name	Funding received in 2014-15
PENONG & DISTRICTS PROGRESS	4,200
THE PINES COMMUNITY ASSOC INC	6,160
PLAYFORD COMMUNITY FUND INC	19,000
PORT AUGUSTA YOUTH CENTRE INC	38,900
PORT PIRIE REGIONAL ABORIGINAL	16,000
PORT PIRIE REGIONAL ABORIGINAL	13,450
THE PORT MACDONNELL & DISTRICT	25,000
THE MOUNT BARKER PRESBYTERIAN	15,530
RE-ENGAGE YOUTH SERVICES INC	35,000
THE REPAT FOUNDATION	2,680
RESTLESS DANCE COMPANY INC	50,000
RIDING FOR THE DISABLED	50,000
RIVERLAND YOUTH THEATRE	6,970
ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND OF	5,000
ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND OF	100,000
RSPCA (SA) INC	39,360
RSPCA (SA) INC	45,094
SALISBURY EAST N/HOOD CTRE INC	2,580
SALISBURY EAST N/HOOD CTRE INC	15,000
SALISBURY RSL SUB BRANCH INC	3,000
SALWA	460
SCOUTS AUSTRALIA (SA BRANCH)	3,160
SCOUTS AUSTRALIA (SA BRANCH)	4,790
SCOUTS AUSTRALIA (SA BRANCH)	7,830
SEAFORD ECUMENICAL MISSION INC	7,590
SECONDBITE	48,000
SHELTER SA	11,140
SHINE SA INC	23,880
SOMALI BANTU COMMUNITY ASSOC.	3,280
STH COMMUNITY JUSTICE CTRE INC	19,870
SOUTHERN VOLUNTEERING (SA) INC	4,910
SPARK RESOURCE CENTRE INC	12,290
SPASTIC CENTRES OF SA INC.	9,610
SPINAL CORD INJURIES AUSTRALIA	37,880
ST ELIAS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX	10,000
ST JOHN AMBULANCE AUST SA INC	6,150
ST KILDA PROGRESS ASSOC. INC.	4,600
SURF LIFE SAVING SA	10,000
TAUONDI INCORPORATED	38,370
THERAPEUTIC DOG SERVICES INC	7,660
TIME FOR KIDS INC	25,630
TIME FOR KIDS INC	80,000
TOGETHER SA INC	50,000
TOWNSEND HOUSE INC	30,400
TUTTI ENSEMBLE INC	16,500
UNITED WAY SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC	39,470
UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA	900
UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA	50,000
UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA	45,540
UNITY HOUSING CO INC	7,000

Organisation Name	Funding received in 2014-15
UNITY HOUSING CO INC	1,460
UNITY HOUSING CO INC	3,870
UNITING CHURCH IN UNLEY &	9,930
WALKER FLAT & DISTRICT	5,180
WALKER FLAT & DISTRICT	6,980
WEC NYIN AUSTRALIA INC	4,920
WELFARE RIGHTS CENTRE (SA) INC	24,620
WEST COAST YOUTH & COMMUNITY	9,055
WEST COAST YOUTH & COMMUNITY	80,000
WHALERS PENINSULA COMM. ASSOC.	3,710
WISE EMPLOYMENT LTD	33,590
RIVERLAND WOOD WORKERS INC	13,300
WORKSKIL AUSTRALIA INC.	6,160
ABORIGINAL SOBRIETY GROUP INC	1,200
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS	39,940
AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS	9,870
AUSTRALIAN REFUGEE ASSOCIATION	29,300
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORT PIRIE	10,000
CENTRAL EASTERN DOMESTIC	50,000
COMMUNITY ACCOMMODATION &	37,860
MISSION SA	7,950
MISSION SA	13,100
MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES	49,250
MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES	40,890
NGAANYATJARRA PITJANTJATJARA	13,180
PORT LINCOLN ABORIGINAL HEALTH	10,000
RIDING FOR THE DISABLED	29,350
ST JOHNS YOUTH SERVICES INC	21,580
VICTIM SUPPORT SERVICE INC	40,000
PLAZA YOUTH CENTRE INC	32,610
THE FLINDERS RANGES COUNCIL	2,500
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MALLALA	32,170
DISTRICT COUNCIL OF COOBER PEDY	16,490
TOTAL	3,987,943

Table 4—Special Community Youth Grant—Two year funding to 31 December 2015, plus one year to 31 December 2016 (satisfactory reporting must be met for one year extension), funds allocated from Community Benefit SA.

Organisation Name	Funded (\$)
Aboriginal Family Support	100,810
Anglican Community Care Incorporated	145,415
Australian Red Cross	160,665
Bicycle SA	98,018
Ceduna Koonibba Aboriginal Health Service	175,367
Migrant Resource Centre	157,682
Mission Australia	155,415
Northern Area Community & Youth Services	90,004
Prison Fellowship	173,230
Re-Engage Youth Services Incorporated	155,350
Junction Australia	159,310

Organisation Name	Funded (\$)
West Coast Youth and Community Support	123,500
Woodcroft Morphett Vale Neighbourhood	27,600
TOTAL	1,722,366

1. Information about how much funding each organisation has received is shown in the tables provided.

2. In accordance with Treasurer's instruction 15, all organisations funded through the Family and Community Development Program, Aboriginal Youth Programs and Community Benefit SA are required to complete financial acquittal reports, but are not obliged to provide annual reports.

For the 2014-15 Family and Community Development and Aboriginal Youth Programs, financial acquittals were due on 31 July 2015. A number of organisations have requested an extension. As at 7 August 2015, it was estimated that 50 per cent of the Family and Community Development acquittal reports had been received. Two of the fifteen organisations funded through Aboriginal Program Fund have submitted acquittal reports.

Community Benefit SA grant recipients are required to complete a financial acquittal at the conclusion of their 12-month funding term, which varies for each individual organisation.

STATE DISASTER RECOVERY AND RELIEF FUNDING

45 Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett) (30 July 2015).

How many families received assistance through state disaster recovery and relief funding (excluding any federal financial assistance provided)?

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—Minister for Communities and Social Inclusion, Minister for Social Housing, Minister for Multicultural Affairs, Minister for Ageing, Minister for Youth, Minister for Volunteers): I have been advised:

From 3 January 2015 to 29 January 2015, the state government provided emergency grants to 1,175 families.

FARAH 4 KIDZ

In reply to **Mr PISONI (Unley)** (5 May 2015).

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector): I have been advised:

My office forwarded Mr Pisoni's letter of 9 March 2015 and its attachments to the Early Childhood Registrar of the Education and Early Childhood Services Registration and Standards Board.

The matter was referred to the Education and Early Childhood Services Registration and Standards Board's Corporate Services unit. I am advised that the investigation was conducted immediately and in accordance with the public sector guidelines for handling complaints including allegations of misconduct.

The Education and Early Childhood Services Registration and Standards Board has since advised that its internal investigation into the matter has now been finalised. I have subsequently met with the former employee to discuss their individual concern.

I am also advised that Farah 4 Kidz has voluntarily surrendered their service approval following investigations undertaken by the board.

CHILD PROTECTION

In reply to **Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition)** (7 May 2015).

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector): I have been advised:

1. On 16 July 2015, the royal commission was granted an extension to report on or before 31 May 2016.

2. In 2002-03, Robyn Layton QC undertook a major review of child protection in South Australia, recommending a Commissioner for Children and Young People.

In response to the Layton report, the South Australian government established three separate mechanisms for advocacy, review and monitoring of children's interests: the Guardian for Children and Young People; the Council for the Care of Children; and the Child Death and Serious Injury Review Committee.

In addition, the Child Development and Wellbeing Bill 2014 was introduced into Parliament by then Minister for Education and Child Development, the Hon Jennifer Rankine MP, on 19 June 2014.

The bill was debated in the House of Assembly on 16 and 25 September 2014 and passed with one amendment. The bill was introduced into the Legislative Council on 14 October 2014.

Until the outcome of the Child Protection Systems Royal Commission is known the bill will not be progressed.

CHILD PROTECTION

In reply to **Ms SANDERSON (Adelaide)** (2 June 2015).

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector): I have been advised:

As is normal practice when incidents of this nature occur, an internal review will proceed pending the outcome of the investigation by SAPOL, and will be conducted by the department's Incident Management Division.

FOSTER CARE

In reply to **Ms SANDERSON (Adelaide)** (30 July 2015).

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector): I have been advised:

Preference is given to placing children in family based care (foster care) if it is available and appropriate to their needs. Out of hours, particularly late at night, this may not be immediately possible. In this event an alternative form of accommodation will be sought. This may be residential care if suitable and available.

ABORIGINAL CHILDREN AND FAMILY CENTRES

In reply to **Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett)** (9 September 2015).

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector): I have been advised:

There are four Aboriginal Children and Family Centres which have been constructed: Ernabella Children and Family Centre located in Ernabella, Gabmididi Manoo Children and Family Centre located in Whyalla, Ngura Yadurirn Children and Family Centre located in Ceduna and Taikurrendi Children and Family Centre located in Christies Beach.

44 Indigenous families access the Ernabella Centre, 57 Indigenous families access the Gabmididi Manoo Centre, 140 Indigenous families access the Ngura Yadurirn Centre and 140 Indigenous families access the Taikurrendi Centre.

YALATA ANANGU SCHOOL

In reply to **Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett)** (9 September 2015).

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for the Public Sector): I have been advised:

The redevelopment of Yalata Anangu School was approved in the 2008-09 state budget with funding of \$2.01 million. The two staged redevelopment included a new administration building and the upgrade of the general learning areas. Construction commenced in October 2010 and the new administration block was completed in September 2011 within budget.

During the capital works project, the demolition of an existing four classroom timber transportable and the construction of a new four classroom block was delivered under the Building the Education Revolution program. The project scope was adjusted accordingly and the remaining primary and secondary general learning areas were completed on 28 September 2012. The adjusted project scope also included construction of security fencing.