

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 27 July 2016

The **SPEAKER (Hon. M.J. Atkinson)** took the chair at 11:00 and read prayers.

Bills

CRIMINAL ASSETS CONFISCATION (PRESCRIBED DRUG OFFENDERS) AMENDMENT BILL

Conference

The **Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Minister for Housing and Urban Development) (11:01)**: I move:

That the sitting of the house be continued during the conference with the Legislative Council on the bill.

Motion carried.

Parliamentary Committees

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE: ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Mr ODENWALDER (Little Para) (11:02): I move:

That the report of the committee, entitled Annual Report 2015, be noted.

I am advised that this annual report is the first annual report of the committee since November 1998.

Ms Bedford: So this is going to be a long one?

Mr ODENWALDER: Yes, that's right. I will try to keep my comments brief. It is the committee's intention that annual reports for every calendar year will now continue to be presented to the parliament. I hasten to add that I am not the Chair of this committee, but the annual report provides information about the committee's inquiries and consideration of regulations referred to the committee in accordance with section 10A of the Subordinate Legislation Act. It also details the committee's inquiries into matters referred to the committee by the parliament.

In 2015, the committee inquired into and considered 259 regulations, 37 rules and 66 by-laws. The committee asked representatives of five Public Service agencies and two advisory bodies to appear before the committee to further assist its inquiries and consideration of 15 regulations. The committee's consideration of regulations tabled in parliament is assisted by delegated authorities providing the committee with supporting reports that set out matters including:

- the effect of each provision in the regulation;
- details about any consultation undertaken by the regulator before the regulation was made; and
- if the minister under which a regulation is made certifies an early commencement of the regulation, the reason or reasons for the early commencement.

The committee expresses its gratitude to delegated authorities for continuing to provide the committee with supporting reports. Without these reports, the committee would not be able to properly inquire into and consider the regulations referred to it.

The report also includes information about the early commencement of regulations, rules and by-laws. In relation to regulations, the report found that 94.6 per cent of regulations tabled in 2015 commenced earlier than the four months provided for under the act. However, the report goes on to detail the range of reasons for this early commencement and these reasons include:

- to increase fees and charges for the state budget;
- to correct an error, clarify a matter or resolve an inconsistency in a regulation;
- to pass on a benefit to those affected by the regulation;

- for health and safety reasons; or
- to coincide with or support other legislative change.

Importantly, while the number of regulations commencing earlier than the four months provided for in the act is high, further examination generally shows legitimate and acceptable reasons for the vast majority of regulations commencing early.

In relation to the committee's inquiry work, the annual report includes information on three inquiries conducted by the committee in 2015. The committee's inquiry into the Sexual Reassignment Repeal Bill 2014 was referred to the committee on 3 December 2014 and was tabled on 12 April 2016. There was also the committee's review of its report into the partial defence of provocation, which was tabled in both houses on 2 December 2015 in light of the High Court's decision in *The Queen v Lindsay*, and the review is ongoing. The committee inquired into an amendment to Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Regulations to enable de facto relationships to be recognised on the register recording the death of a person. This inquiry is ongoing and the committee is currently deliberating.

On behalf of the Chair, Gerry Kandelaars in another place, I want to thank members of the committee: the members for Heysen and Elder; and the Hon. John Darley and the Hon. Andrew McLachlan in another place. I also want to thank the committee staff for their diligence and their forbearance sometimes: Ben Cranwell, the researcher; and Matt Balfour, the committee secretary. I commend the report to the house.

Ms REDMOND (Heysen) (11:05): It is my pleasure to rise to speak briefly on this first report of the Legislative Review Committee to have been tabled since 1998. I was not aware that we had not tabled a report for that long. I have not always been on the committee, but I have spent probably half of my 14 years in this place serving on this committee and it is a committee that I have always enjoyed, at least until now. Things have changed recently.

Mr Knoll: Blaming you, Lee.

Ms REDMOND: No, Lee is not a problem. Like the member for Little Para, I do thank the other members of the committee and particularly Matt Balfour and Benjamin Cranwell, the two officers who serve the committee in the capacity of the secretary to the committee and research officer. They do an enormous amount of work and do make the job of the committee much, much easier. I am sure that we would not get nearly through the work that we actually have to do without the good work of those two officers.

The committee was founded, of course, to keep an eye on the regulations because, under the legislation passed by this parliament, most often when we pass a bill there will be a provision that contains a regulation-making power. One of the main functions of this committee is to ensure that, in the exercise of that regulation-making power, the relevant minister or department is not going beyond its remit and is staying strictly within the confines of what it is allowed to do. For instance, it is inappropriate for a regulation-making power to be used to actually make a substantive change to the law and, on occasions over previous years, attempts to do that have in fact been captured.

As mentioned by the member for Little Para, one of the things that has come to the attention of the committee is that often there is an exercise of a power to start the regulations before they are actually conferred or considered by the committee. There will be a profound lack of explanation as to why early commencement was considered necessary. By rights, what should happen is that a bill becomes an act of parliament and the act authorises the making of a regulation.

That is anticipated by the people who have drafted the legislation and sought whatever change it might be, and they normally have ample opportunity to prepare those regulations. There should not be any reason for the regulation to have to commence before it is considered by the committee. It should be submitted to us in good time but, on a number of occasions—as was pointed out, some 94.6 per cent of the time—the regulations were coming in to us having had a claim of a necessity for early commencement when in fact, in our view, it should not have been necessary.

To give one of the more outrageous examples, generally we know when New Year's Eve is going to be each year, so it does seem a bit odd that it is necessary to apply after the event for

permission to hold your fireworks or whatever it might be and get the necessary regulation or by-law in place for the holding of fireworks when you have known all year that New Year's Eve was always going to be on 31 December. The committee has been doing a fair bit of work trying to just tidy those things up.

One of the other functions this committee has is to check all the regulations in which fees that are being charged under regulations are increased. Fundamentally, if the fee increase is just to the nearest dollar, or whatever it might be, an increase of CPI, there is no problem, but if it is going to be a massive fee increase there will be a problem. Indeed, there have been occasions in the past when a fee increase has been absolutely massive, an increase of hundreds of per cent.

I remember once we had a fee increase in relation to the licence for the right to sell cigarettes. When we brought people in to talk about it, it transpired that they were actually trying to stop little corner stores being allowed to sell cigarettes, and that was not something that was allowed to be achieved by simply increasing the fees under the regulations. If you want to stop people selling cigarettes, you actually have to go about it in a different way.

We do a lot of checking to make sure that things are within power and that they make sense, and we often do call people in to give some evidence to the committee as to what it is they are trying to achieve because, quite frankly, the explanation we are receiving is not making sense to us, and sometimes it can be fairly straightforward once we do get them in there. As was indicated, there have been three major inquiries in which this committee has been involved over the past little while; one was into the partial defence of provocation, and I think both the member for Little Para and I spoke on that in this house not too long ago.

Effectively, I am pleased to say that the committee actually undertook what was quite a complex legal issue and took it very seriously, got their head around it, heard from lots of people talking about complex legal arguments, but basically came to what I thought was a fairly sensible decision. However, the effect of a High Court decision meant that that then had to come back for further consideration. Indeed, although the High Court decision then resulted in the matter coming back to the South Australian court, where it was resolved, there is now potentially an appeal and so our final recommendation in relation to that is still in abeyance.

Similarly, the inquiry into the Sexual Reassignment Repeal Bill has been a complex issue, but not in the same way. It is not a legal complexity but, rather, it is trying to deal with what can be very difficult questions and situations for people who are in the throes of dealing with, either for themselves or for family members, issues of sexual reassignment. There has been very clear evidence given, for instance, that people who are seeking sexual reassignment would prefer simply to have the need for that assessed by the medical profession, including by psychiatrists, psychologists and so on, where necessary, but that it should not be necessary to go before a magistrate and beg for the right to have their desire to change gender recognised.

There have been some quite difficult areas that this committee has been grappling with, and not the least of them is the third one: the inquiry into an amendment to the birth, deaths and marriages registration. People would be aware that that came up because of the situation where a newly married gay couple from the UK came on holiday to South Australia and, when one of the partners died here, the other partner could not have his relationship to his partner recognised on the death certificate, and so that led to the instigation of this inquiry, which hopefully will be concluded and reported on to the house fairly soon.

You can see from the range of those things, though, that we have actually been quite busy. Notwithstanding we have not reported since 1998, that is not to say that we have not been busy. This committee meets generally on a Wednesday morning of a sitting week. We consider often quite long agendas, and quite often we will start at 8.30 and not be finished until 11 o'clock, when the house starts sitting, because we are hearing from people giving evidence and considering quite difficult and complex things.

It is I think a report which is worthy of consideration by the house. I do hope that people take it home; I can guarantee it is a guaranteed cure for insomnia. If you take it home and try to read it, you will find that it will put you to sleep. Nevertheless, we do do, I think, a lot of valuable work which I hope saves the other members of the house from having to plough through every regulation

themselves because they can rest assured that the fundamentals of our regulation-making process are being taken care of by that committee. We are fairly acute in looking at and making sure that things do pass the tests of what regulations are and are not allowed to do.

Mr ODENWALDER (Little Para) (11:15): I commend the report to the house. Like the member for Heysen, I do really enjoy being on this committee. I have said in this place before in relation to these matters that I am not a lawyer, and I do not apologise for that, but I appreciate spending time looking at quite complex legal issues with lawyers like the member for Heysen and the Hon. Andrew McLachlan in another place. I find it a fruitful exercise. Sometimes particularly Mr McLachlan and I go on a philosophical bent about certain issues, but it is always a pleasure.

The provocation inquiry, of course, was quite complex. Quite complex legal issues were raised and, again, I learnt a lot from a legal perspective. I learnt a lot in fact about how the courts operate. The death certificates inquiry, which we are currently wrapping up, has turned us in all sorts of weird and wonderful directions. It turns out, it seems, that death certificates do not hold much legal weight at all, and essentially we are coming to the conclusion that all they do really is say that an individual has died. So, the recording of any other information is for another purpose other than a legal purpose, so we are just working our way through that. Anyway, I want to thank all the members again, and I commend the report to the house.

Motion carried.

ECONOMIC AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: INQUIRY INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT RATE CAPPING POLICIES

Mr ODENWALDER (Little Para) (11:17): I move:

That the 91st report of the committee, entitled Inquiry into Local Government Rate Capping Policies, be noted.

In May 2015, the Economic and Finance Committee commenced an inquiry into local government rate capping policies. The final report of this inquiry was tabled on 6 July this year, and I hope that members have had a chance to peruse that fine report. On behalf of the members of the committee, I would like to express my gratitude to all of those people who either provided a written submission to the inquiry or appeared before the inquiry to present oral evidence.

The inquiry received a total of 21 written submissions. In addition to those submissions, we also held a total of five public hearings, during which we heard testimony from 23 persons representing 12 different organisations, principal among these being local councils and their main representative body, the Local Government Association. I believe we heard from a good representative slice of South Australian local government. We heard from inner metropolitan councils, outer metropolitan councils and rural and remote councils.

Each council, of course, has their own demographic profile and must address those issues unique to their particular constituency, but one thing they almost without exception appear to agree on is their opposition to the introduction of a rate cap. Many arguments were presented in support of this position, but one commonly expressed argument was that having one tier of government impose rate capping provisions on another tier was a direct attack on democracy itself.

One of the inquiry's terms of reference concerned the operation of rate capping elsewhere in Australia. The Victorian government has imposed a rate cap on their local government sector, beginning this month. As part of their scheme, they have tasked their environment and planning committee with monitoring its performance and reporting every six months. In June this year (in other words, before the policy actually came into force) they recommended significant changes, in particular the mechanism by which councils can apply for exemptions to the cap.

In their report, they stated their belief that councils with a reasonable case should not be prevented from seeking an increase above the cap simply because the relevant government agency has a costly and overly onerous administrative regime. Rate pegging, as it is called there, has been a longstanding policy for 40 plus years in New South Wales.

Mr Knoll: I think they call it 'rate pegging'.

Mr ODENWALDER: Rate pegging—that's what I said.

Mr Knoll: I thought you said 'capping'.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Excuse me, no interjections.

Mr ODENWALDER: As I said, rate pegging, as it is called in New South Wales, has been a longstanding policy for more than 40 years. In 2013, the New South Wales government held a major inquiry into local government reform. The chair of that inquiry, Professor Graham Sansom, appeared before the present inquiry. His position could best be described as one of strong opposition to rate capping (or pegging).

One consequence of the policy emphasised by multiple submissions and testimonies concerned the reluctance of councils in New South Wales to exercise the option available to them for exceeding the published peg. Professor Sansom's final report highlighted that in 2011-12 only 23 out of 152 councils applied for this relief, even though figures suggested that 83 councils would need to increase their rates and annual charges by more than 5 per cent to achieve a simple break-even result. In the last two years, a total of 54 applications were made. Of these, at least 49 were approved in full, four were improved in part, and only one was rejected.

The consequence of putting off these hard decisions is a backlog of infrastructure assets maintenance, and we heard this time and time again. It is estimated by the New South Wales Treasury and Office of Local Government to be well in excess of \$7 billion in that state. As a direct consequence of the sheer weight of evidence received, the committee has, as the principal recommendation in its report, recommended that local councils retain full authority to set their own rates and that no rate cap be introduced.

One lesson well learned from the New South Wales experience is that a thorough auditing and reporting procedure is essential of any government that wishes to make informed, realistic decisions as to the future of local government. This point was made by both Professor Sansom and the Hon. Greg Crafter AO, who chaired a 2013 inquiry into local government in South Australia.

The committee agreed and has recommended that councils be subject to a thorough auditing process under the auspices of the Auditor-General, with councils required to publish the results of these audits annually. The committee has also recommended that the South Australian local government sector should engage and consult with the general community more thoroughly during the rate setting process. Finally, I would like to thank members of the committee past and present, and particularly the committee's staff, who worked so diligently on this inquiry and on the preparation of the report. I commend it to the house.

Mr KNOLL (Schubert) (11:21): I rise today to support the rate capping inquiry and this report that we have brought. I would like to highlight maybe some slightly different parts of the report than the member for Little Para has just done. This report is certainly being done in response to a Liberal Party policy that was brought forward closely before the last election and is something that we have pursued since that time in relation to wanting to cap council rates in South Australia.

I commend the member for Goyder for being the champion of this policy. As someone who has a deep understanding of local government, I think he is uniquely placed to be able to put this forward and understands almost more than the rest of us how this needs to be done. I am proud that tucked away at the back of this report, on page 50, there is a minority report co-authored by the members for Hartley and Bright and myself. I would like to thank the member for Hartley and the member for Bright, especially, for the work that they put into the minority report, which sought to actually bolster the recommendations of this report.

I would like to quote part of the evidence given to the report by the Hon. Greg Crafter AO, from his 2013 report as chair of the LGA Local Excellence Expert Panel. He says:

To make no decisions and trying to continue in the same way as today will simply set Local Government on a path of steady decline.

I think that without the recommendation outlined in the minority report, the rest of the report locks in that steady decline because it does not deal with some of the fundamental issues that we heard of. There are numerous reports out there into the financial sustainability and the workings of the local government sector, and all of them believe that reform is necessary. In the case of the Greg Crafter

report and the report as it is handed out today without the minority report attached, it does not provide any real impetus to being able to improve the situation.

It is as though we all understand that there is a problem, but nobody has the guts to stand up and find a solution to fix it. Except, there is a solution to fix it, and it comes in the form of a rate capping policy. I agree with the recommendations about the increased auditing requirements, especially the increased requirements of the Auditor-General to come in and have a look. The annual reporting of that information I think is extremely important. Probity and transparency are extremely important. They are things that I think are missing from the discourse under this current government, and I am certain they would be improved under a Marshall-led Liberal government, but they do not go far enough.

To simply say that we are going to put out a couple of reports and that is going to be good enough to affect change within the local government sector is completely wrong. The reasons I believe the local government sector has some structural issues that make this policy important are as follows: firstly, they have very low voter turnout in local government elections. There is often a lack of interest in local government elections.

Often, it only takes a few hundred votes to become a councillor in local government, and this is not representative of the wider society. I have met a lot of local government people, I have met a lot of councillors, and I think they all have great intentions and they all go in and work hard, but I do not think that the relationship between local government and the public at large is strong enough to be able to provide transparency and accountability in this instance.

The second structural reason why I think local government needs a rate capping policy is that local government does not have an adversarial system like we do in this chamber here. In this chamber, you have a government and you have an opposition. You have members of the opposition who enjoy spending hours and hours reading government reports and budgets to find places where governments have wasted money. It brings me abstract and perverse joy to find examples of government waste and, hopefully, through the highlighting of those examples, such as the \$60,000 that Health spent on flying, business class, four execs to the US in December 2014, once those examples are found out, there is pressure put upon the government to fix those issues.

In local government, the system does not provide for that opportunity. You have a number of councillors, you have a mayor and you have the staff of the council, but councils by and large in South Australia are supposed to be apolitical because they are represented by individuals with their own interests as opposed to having a party structure that provides for an adversarial system.

There are some limited examples of councillors taking an adversarial role, and I note councillor Alex Antic talking about a \$750,000 public toilet that Adelaide City Council wants to build, which I think is a lot of money. If they want to build a toilet of that magnitude at my house and build me a new house at the same time, I think they can go ahead and do that. Except for those limited examples where individuals take it upon themselves to undertake that adversarial role, there is not a structural role within local government to fill that. Again, this is a solid reason why we need a rate capping policy.

It is all well and good to talk about increased transparency and increased audit requirements, but without some sort of measure that provides impetus—and by that I mean there is an old saying that necessity is the mother of all invention—I think that a rate capping policy would put in place a structural impediment to excessive growth in council rates. What I think it would do, and this is extremely fundamental, is change the nature of the conversation.

At the moment, the conversation in local government is often around, 'How much money do we need? Therefore, how much money do we need to jack up the council rates by in order to achieve the budget that we want to spend?' A rate cap would change the nature of that conversation into, 'This is how much money we have. Let's look at the best ways to spend it.' I am extremely proud that my party has put this policy on the table. I am extremely proud to take it to the next election, but what also needs to be part of this conversation is then ways in which the state government can help local government to lower their cost structures.

There is a whole host of things that this state Labor government has done to make it harder for local government to do their job. Whether it be rubble royalties, whether it be having to collect

increased NRM levies and other burdens that the state government put onto them, or whether they are the things around dog and cat management, litter control or what we are looking at at the moment with community housing where local government has imposts put on them in relation to the transfer of Housing SA properties, there is a whole host of ways by which this state government has imposed increased costs on local government.

On this side of the house we would prefer, instead, to have a look at ways to lower the cost structure of local government. I think that putting a cap on council rates is a way to start the conversation heading in that direction. I know that those opposite do not like this policy because it highlights some of the times that they have been culprits and complicit in this. I make very specific mention, not to councillors and not to staff of a council, but to mayors within a council, the person who probably has the most influence on being able to set rates within a council.

I look at the member for Light, who is a former member of the Town of Gawler, and his time as mayor. Over the course of his time as Mayor of the Town of Gawler and at the same time as inflation ran at about 3 per cent, his increases were 6.1 per cent. I then look at the local government minister, the member for Frome, who is obviously against (I think cheekily) this policy because, again, it highlights his own hypocrisy and the fact that his council, under his time as mayor, had increases of 6.76 per cent, against an inflation average of 3.1 per cent.

The truth is that the reason the Labor Party does not like this policy is that they are addicted to spending. They like the tier of government where it is a lot easier to jack up rates in order to achieve that spending. In this place at least there is an adversarial system and they get called out on it, but in local government, because of the structures I have talked about earlier, it is much more difficult to gain traction in the public around those things.

I think this is an extremely positive idea. I do not think there is any argument that it will cause some short-term issues, but it is designed to create short-term issues because it is only through the necessity that a cap would create that we can start to talk about how to reform the local government sector, how to make the local government sector more efficient, how to make it more transparent, and how to make it deliver better services without jacking up rates through the roof, and that is exactly why we will be proud to take this policy to the next election.

With that, I commend the report in its entirety. I encourage everybody to read pages 50 to 59 and I look forward to the furthering of this debate in the public square.

Mr GRIFFITHS (Goyder) (11:31): I wish to add to the report also and acknowledge that the genesis of it comes from a motion put by the member for Unley, I believe, as a member of the committee at that stage in May 2015. The member for Unley and I liaised on the terms of reference for the report. I thought it was important that the parliament engage in the learning exercise of a review of rate capping as it exists in New South Wales, and indeed as it was proposed for Victoria and has now been introduced by legislation, and, by the insertion of the words 'any other relevant matter', allow it to be reviewed as it exists overseas. I note some references in the report to those different areas.

Can I say to you that I am rather intrigued and I want to highlight a couple of words from the Chair, the member for Little Para, when he referred to the local government industry objection being about the concern that one level of government is imposing a cost on another. Can I say to you then: why the hell, seemingly, are those words given by a government member who does not reflect upon the facts of the increases that his government proposes about NRM and solid waste levies, and the emergency services levy that some councils are responsible for also, that all of these become part of the council rates?

It is as though even though you are saying that there should not be any controls over what the maximum increase might be, you are actually contributing, by policy decisions in different portfolio areas, to what the increase has to be anyway by these additional charges. I just find that so disappointing and I find it hypocritical for those words to be in there without a really serious argument having taken place on that because they are significant impacts. The solid waste levy is \$32 million over four years. That is worthy of debate.

I get rather disappointed when some of those in the local government sector say to me that they see this as the biggest threat to local government and they intend to pursue very strident efforts, over the next two years in particular, to ensure that the Liberal policy is objected to by a large section of the community. I think the NRM levy and the solid waste levy equally have an impact upon local government and its operations and they are the ones that the argument needs to be fought about to ensure that everybody knows what they are talking about.

Local government is engaging itself in a promotion campaign at the moment, talking about 4 per cent of total taxation revenue, 16 per cent from the state government and 80 per cent from the federal government. They are getting some information out there but this is part of the debate that needs to occur.

I want to refer to a few references from the report to ensure that there is some disclosure. I appreciate that 21 people put in submissions and I appreciate that 23 people spoke as part of the five public sessions that were held, but I want to highlight a couple of points. In the executive summary in the report it states that, as part of the current provision of section 123 of the Local Government Act:

Evidence was presented that communities were not engaging with this procedure about budget setting. The Committee recommends that councils should continue to consult their local communities in relation to the setting of residential rates.

I absolutely totally agree. The idea of rate capping is to put what a maximum increase is, but not to prevent any increase above that ever being sought. It is, though, reliant upon the fact that, with the rate capping policy and the legislation in the private member's bill that I propose, where a council believes it has to go above the rate cap limit set by ESCOSA, it has to engage with the community.

I want it to be a fulsome debate. I note that the Mayor of Onkaparinga has referred to the efforts that they make, and I commend them for that, but I also note that in some council areas no feedback is received at all about the budget process. It disappoints me that some councils are not prepared to be involved in discussions with their community about cost implications. That is an absolute key area for me.

Whenever I have spoken to any local government authority or in this chamber, I have highlighted the fact that if you want to increase the cap, go to the people, engage with the people, get them to understand what the cost structure is, what you want to do with it, and why you need to go above that figure. The information then flows, the people are behind you, and as a result members of parliament are not being contacted by aggrieved citizens saying, 'Council has done this, council has done that, they are charging too much for rates.' My intention is to ensure that the information is out there in the communities.

I note also that the Chair again referred to Professor Graham Sansom, as part of his reference to IPART, which is the regulatory authority in New South Wales. The Chair said that, in Professor Sansom's opinion, IPART:

...tends to look favourably upon applications for a variation in rate revenue. In his testimony, [this being Professor Sansom] he suggested that 35 out of 36 applications in recent years had been approved.

That shows that the system works well. When the community has been engaged, the community offers its support, the approving authority reflects upon that and makes a decision that is the right one. So, again, it is another matter of engagement with the community.

I want to make sure that we do this and we get it right. For example, one of the written submissions that was received came from the Local Government Association and it referred to a provision in the act where councils, they say, already have a rate capping procedure in place where it talks about:

A council must, in declaring a general rate under the section, determine whether it will fix a maximum increase in the general rate to be charged on any rateable land within its area that constitutes a principal place of residence of a principal ratepayer...

I know of councils that have done that, but it is in the high end, and primarily it is based upon where there have been significant increases in valuation, not on a consistent level but across a wide spectrum, and some councils have put in place 15 per cent. They want to prevent any increase above

15 per cent, but that only occurs in very rare cases. Rate capping legislation proposed by the Liberal Party intends to ensure that there is equity across all councils.

So how do we improve this? That is just it. I have spoken to every council that I possibly could out of the 68 and I have had seven or eight different forums on it. I have tried to ensure that they understand what the Liberal Party proposes and some councils have given me really good feedback. For example, I note in the report a submission from the District Council of the Copper Coast where they talk about wanting a cap on red tape instead of a cap on rate increases. I absolutely agree with that, and I am sure the Treasurer would want to ensure that the regulatory requirements that are in place for businesses across all sectors are minimised so that it is easy to do business too. I think local government would like to see the same thing, Treasurer.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: I believe in no taxation without representation.

Mr GRIFFITHS: Okay.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: If they get elected, they can set the—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr GRIFFITHS: Yes, I would agree and they can, this is it, but they have to engage with the community, Treasurer. That is what we want it to be.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: It's a full reflection of the budget.

Mr GRIFFITHS: But it has to go beyond that, too. The member for Schubert reflected on the relatively low turnout figure for local government elections. It is a bit over 30 per cent—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

Mr GRIFFITHS: I am not. I am just reflecting upon—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members!

Mr GRIFFITHS: —the contribution of others and what the reality actually is.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Do not respond to interjections. Interjections are unparliamentary, and the Treasurer is going to cease interjecting.

Mr GRIFFITHS: He's alright. This debate will continue for some time, I have no doubt about that. Every time I meet with the Local Government Association they raise this point. There are some things that we do not talk about as often as we could. I encourage every council, as I encourage every member of the community, to ensure that the decisions that have been made are the best possible ones.

I reflect upon one of the submissions provided, I think in a written form, which referred to the reference between local government and how private enterprise runs. Private enterprise has success only when they ensure they are profitable. By being profitable they need to be efficient. Local government, by virtue of the fact that it receives something like \$1 billion in rate revenue per year, needs to ensure it is efficient also because then the bottom-line opportunity is represented to those who own property, those who pay rates, and that is what the focus has to be.

I am disappointed, though, with concerns about controlling the revenue side of local government, when the total focus that I have tried to have, by ensuring rate capping is in place, is on ensuring that expenditure is controlled. The basic belief that the Liberal Party and I have is the fact that efficiency of service delivery ensures that people get what they need in the widest possible spectrum. I am very strongly of the view (and I will always believe this) that no matter what form it is, any area that I have an opportunity to influence in the future, it has to ensure that it does its job as best as it can.

Local government has 700 elected members across South Australia and nearly 10,000 employees. I understand that they are absolutely dedicated, and I appreciate that they work in difficult circumstances. They are trying to provide a priority of needs across a wideranging area but they have to ensure that they have reviewed every aspect of their operations, that they are as efficient as possible and look at the opportunities that represent themselves. That could be through

service delivery in other areas. It does not mean job losses, it does not mean sackings. It means efficiency, and that translates into benefits for those who own property, and they are the people we have to be concerned about.

Mr PISONI (Unley) (11:41): I just wanted to make a few comments about my experience on the committee. I was pleased to have some firsthand experience of some of the arguments, particularly through witness presentations. I was not there for the evidence of the Mayor of Unley. I would like to congratulate him on being one of the brave members of the local government community who was prepared to consider the issues and what is important to the ratepayers of Unley and to give evidence in support of rate capping in South Australia.

His evidence was considered. It was based a lot on the processes that he has been able to bring into place in the City of Unley. In recent years, we have had very low rate increases in the City of Unley. Of course, as you know, a lot of people bought homes many years ago in the City of Unley. There was a big influx of Greek and Italian migrants after the war, and many of them bought the smaller cottages in Unley. They bought homes in particular suburbs at that time in Unley (Parkside and Goodwood, for example) which were not necessarily seen as a place to live back in the fifties and sixties.

They bought those homes, raised their families, and they still live in their homes now. Many of them bought more than one home. They were thinking of their future, their children, and they bought homes elsewhere. Of course, they have seen an increase in property values over the years, through no fault of their own. When they bought their home in the City of Unley at that time they could have bought a home in Pasadena, or in any of the developing suburbs such as Golden Grove, or in the new southern suburbs that were being built, for a very similar price.

When I go to the events that are put on by the Italian and Greek communities, in Unley in particular, the key concern they have every year is their rates. They are very conscious of the cost of living. If they are not on the pension they are on fixed incomes, or they are getting a return on property that they have purchased for their retirement. Of course, we know that return on property is very low against its value, but the rates, of course, are based on the value of the property. The motivation for the Liberal Party's policy, of course, for capping council rates was to put a discipline in place for councils, and I know that Mayor Clyne went through the importance of that in his submission to the committee.

When I was on that committee, my observations were that when there were witnesses giving evidence in favour of rate capping, certainly the government members on that committee tended to be much more aggressive towards those witnesses than they were on those who were defending the status quo or, if you like, Labor Party policy. It was particularly obvious when the ASU was giving advice. Of course, the ASU is the major union that represents council workers—predominantly white-collar council workers—and I would argue it has an enormous stake in the status quo.

In the limited questioning that I was allowed, and from some of the answers I did get back, I was able to establish that the ASU benefits enormously from having more direct employees working in local government. In other words, employees who are employed by the council, because they are fodder for union membership. Of course, the union benefits from that membership financially. If they are able to persuade those people to join, they are able to take a membership fee from them.

We know the ASU is responsible for placing members of parliament into this parliament. So, they are very much involved in our political system. The more members they have, the more power they have for the left faction and the ALP conference, and more of their own left-aligned members will be able to get into the parliament. That battle between a left and a right happens at those conferences for parliamentary seats in the pyramid of power that is the Labor Party in South Australia, and the ASU plays a very important role for the left.

I asked a number of questions about how the union benefits from the system that we have at the moment and, unfortunately, the Chair would not allow me to continue on that line of questioning. One of the questions that finally shut me down altogether was when I was simply inquiring as to whether the elected president of the ASU was paid her salary by the council that she was employed at, as a council employee, while she did her full-time work as president of the ASU.

We do not know the answer to that question because it was not allowed—I was shut down by the Chair at the time.

It defeats the purpose of a parliamentary inquiry and makes you question the majority report. It is something that I would argue is a conflict of interest for the Labor Party, that is, membership of the ASU and the effect that has on parliamentary representation for one particular faction in the Labor Party, where we are not able to ask questions about how the current system works with the ASU and the financial benefits that the ASU, and its membership, are able to attract by—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Elder has a point of order?

Ms DIGANCE: Yes, I draw your attention to standing order 128, relevance.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is difficult to see how union elections have anything to do with rate capping.

Mr PISONI: I am quoting from *Hansard*. What, the *Hansard* of the Economic—

Ms Digance: It's still irrelevant.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: It's still irrelevant.

Mr PISONI: —and Finance Committee is not relevant to the Economic and Finance Committee. Is that what you are ruling?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: All I am dealing with—

Mr PISONI: Are you ruling that?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! All I am dealing with is the fact that you are talking about a report, and I am trying to bring the relevance of the debate to the report.

Mr PISONI: This is *Hansard* from those hearings, madam. *Hansard* from those hearings.

Ms Digance interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: It's not my point of order.

Mr PISONI: It is just extraordinary, isn't it? Extraordinary. Absolutely extraordinary. There they are again, behaving—

Ms DIGANCE: I am still standing for my point of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Sit down.

Members interjecting:

Ms DIGANCE: Yes, it is still a point of order, 128.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: We will listen closely.

Mr PISONI: Of course, we know why the member for Elder is—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just keep on the debate.

Mr PISONI: We know why this is a sensitive matter, forcing young people to join the shoppies union with her McDonald's—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just remain on topic.

Mr PISONI: So she can prop herself up—

Mr PICTON: Point of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sit down.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Well, he is. If we could just remain—

An honourable member interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! If we could just keep on the topic, which is the report, which has nothing to do with the member for Elder's thinking on anything else. Let's get back to what you have to say.

An honourable member interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! We just want to hear what he has to say.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I move a point of order; that is, he impugned improper motive on the member for Elder and he should apologise and withdraw immediately.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: She is actually in the room. Sit down. She is actually in the room herself, so if she is feeling attacked, she will say so. Now we are going to listen and pay very close attention to the member for Unley in his final two minutes.

Ms DIGANCE: Madam Chair, I do feel attacked—improper motives. I would actually like an apology.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Elder has asked for an apology.

Mr PISONI: I will not do so, madam. If you want to set up a parliamentary privileges committee, I can bring witnesses forward who can talk about the way you treated them as staff. So you choose.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Sit down. Order! Everyone needs to be quiet.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! In the interest of the business of the house, we will note that you have refused to apologise to the member, and I ask you to conclude your remarks in your final 30 seconds.

Mr PISONI: Thank you, madam. I just want to touch on the comments made by Mr Crombie, who was the lead consultant for financial sustainability for the Local Government Association. We hear this argument from the Local Government Association that infrastructure has suffered in New South Wales because of the cap in New South Wales, but when I asked him how that was measured, and if there was a comparison with what happened in South Australia, this is how he finished the change—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Unfortunately, we will not be able to hear that now. Is there another speaker? Is the member for Hammond trying to draw my attention?

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (11:53): Yes, absolutely.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hard to miss, isn't it? Go, member for Hammond.

Mr PEDERICK: I rise to speak to the 91st report of the Economic and Finance Committee entitled Inquiry into Local Government Rate Capping Policies. I am a little bit intrigued with the stance of the Local Government Association. It is running a campaign against the Liberal Party because we have this proposal about rate capping. As the shadow minister and the member for Goyder has outlined, it does not mean that your rates will be capped at a certain level if the council is prepared to have a discussion with their community and put forward proposals for infrastructure builds and spending that they need to conduct within their council areas, put that to the public in a transparent way.

As has been indicated, 35 out of 36 times in another jurisdiction, that has happened. For the life of me I cannot see why the good citizens of South Australia would vote against saving money. The Local Government Association can lobby that way if it wishes. Whether it is state levies, federal taxation or council rates, people just want to see something back for what they are paying. My concern is that over the last few years especially, probably over more than a decade, councils have lost their way from their core responsibilities of roads, rates and rubbish, and I know they have expanded a lot more than this. I know they are involved in libraries and a whole range of other matters, but do we need this level of government involved in all these other matters?

I look at rubbish, and in my local council area we have the three bin system which is great. We have the waste bin, the recycling bin and we even have a green bin, but if you want those bins to be picked up you have to be privileged to be on the route to get them picked up in the Coorong council area. There were bin banks put in originally, and that was fine for the people who got onto them, but at another place of abode when I was renting a farmhouse just down from the farm I could not negotiate that for years to get involved in the bin bank, so I was rather disappointed.

However, with this rubbish collection, you pay for that now with a separate rubbish fee, so that is not even linked to rates at all. That takes that out from the rate argument, and that is fine because we want the ability to have these bins and we want the ability to have them picked up. Considering what councils' core issues are, I think this is reflected in some of the feedback I get from local councils, because councils are going into issues about how much money they are spending on art programs or other issues like that.

One that really intrigued me the other day to do with a council up here in Adelaide towards the Hills came up in a conversation at a dinner I was having with a footy club president who was talking to me about how the social inclusion officer from the council was offended with their football club because it was an all-male football club. I said, 'Yes, generally men play football. Don't you run the netball alongside like we do in the country?' He said, 'No, this is just a football club.'

In our football club at Peake, and right through the Mallee league, we have girls who can play up to the age of 16. I have mentioned a name in this place before of a player who is currently in Queensland playing in the under 15 women's side, Abbie Ballard. She was best on ground for her first game the other day. They did not go so well but she was best, as she should be. She is a little rocket.

I was intrigued to think that a council close to the city has a social inclusion officer. I question why you would be doing that. Why would you be doing that at local government level and giving heat to a local football club about how they manage their sport because it is essentially for men? What the president of this football club said to this social inclusion officer was, 'So, what do you want me to do? Do you want me to shut down the club, and all these kids in all these teams who play in the mornings, we will put them back on the streets and you work it out after that?' I think they suddenly had a rethink.

This is what I am saying: people look for value for money for their rates. In country electorates, especially with dirt roads and gravel roads and considering the maintenance of those roads, it is a key function that people want their rate money spent on. I have had people in some council areas come to me and say, 'We are on the end of the council area and we want to move into another one because we are not getting enough service on our roads.' I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Parliamentary Procedure

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENSION

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Treasurer, Minister for Finance, Minister for State Development, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy) (12:00): I move:

That standing and sessional orders be and remain so far suspended as to provide that Government Business has precedence over Private Members Business, Bills and Other Motions, on Thursday 4 August, and Private Members Business, Bills and Other Motions, set down for that day to be set down for consideration on Thursday 22 September.

Motion carried.

Bills

APPROPRIATION BILL 2016

Appropriation Grievances

Adjourned debate on motion to note grievances.

(Continued from 26 July 2016.)

Mr WILLIAMS (MacKillop) (12:01): Unfortunately, I was unable to contribute to the debate that was held yesterday because I was paired out last evening. Notwithstanding that, there are a few comments I would like to make about the budget and I will utilise the shorter time that I have available in this grievance debate to address a few matters of concern to me and my constituents.

I think the key to the budget and the key selling point of the Treasurer of the budget is that he has now got the budget into surplus. There is a claim—and that is all that is, a claim—that the budget has a surplus of \$258 million. The reality is that that surplus has only been able to be claimed because the government has been out selling the silver once again. There is a special dividend that has come into the budget of some \$403 million because the government has flogged off the Motor Accident Commission. If you do the sums on those two figures—it is not that difficult and I would have thought even the Treasurer could have worked it out—there is an underlying deficit in this budget of at least \$150 million.

Instead of the headline being a \$258 million surplus and the Treasurer crowing about this and saying, 'It is the first surplus that we have run for many, many years as a state and we will keep it in the black into the future,' the reality is that we have yet another deficit. The other reality is that the record of this government is that it never, never meets its budget forecasts. The reality is that it will overspend and it will probably under receive.

I suspect that, by the end of the financial year which we have just entered, the \$150 million real deficit in this budget will have blown out to probably \$200 million or \$300 million. That is the reality of what we face in South Australia. That is a fundamental argument in the government's budget and they have got it so wrong, and the people of South Australia will yet again wear the incompetence of this government by having a declining economic future, particularly relative to the rest of the nation.

There are a couple of specific matters in the budget that I want to address. One is this job creation notion to give \$10,000 to an employer who takes on a new employee and keeps them for two years or, in the case of a very small business or a start-up, \$4,000. Richard Blandy wrote in the *Adelaide Review* recently on this matter and I thought he summed it up very well. What he said was that the government claims that this will create an extra 14,000 jobs. Richard Blandy's analysis suggests that that is about 1 per cent growth in jobs over the forecast period, which is about what the budget is forecasting.

The reality is that the government is saying that, without putting this money into creating new jobs, there will be no jobs growth in South Australia whatsoever. We all know that as more school leavers come onto the jobs market, if we do not have jobs growth, unemployment continues to rise. The government has, by its own admission in this budget, declared that it is its belief that unemployment will continue to rise in South Australia. Its solution to this is to tax the people of South Australia even more to give money to a few people who are going to take on employees—they claim 14,000 jobs.

I would suggest that this is an absolute waste of money. The reality, I would suggest, is that most of those employees would be taken on anyway without the incentive and that a majority of those employees who are taken on just because of the incentive would be in jobs that are not sustainable. By definition, if you have to get a subsidy from the taxpayer to employ somebody, the job is not sustainable. Why would we go down this path? Why would we tax sustainable businesses to underpin unsustainable jobs? That is what is happening. Richard Blandy goes on to say a little bit more. He says, and I quote from InDaily:

What the wage subsidy scheme shows is that the State Government recognises that wage rates matter in terms of job creation, and that wage rates are too high in South Australia to allow enough jobs to be created to stop unemployment rising.

I think that is very damning on this government, because it is a truthful statement. By implementing this jobs creation scheme, the government has admitted that it costs too much to employ people in South Australia and it is trying to encourage people to employ more people by giving them a taxpayer subsidy. I think that is unsustainable and I think it is ridiculous, but the reality is that the government has admitted that wage rates here in South Australia are too high to achieve a growing employment.

It was not that long ago I recall the Premier saying something along the lines of he was proud that South Australia was no longer a low-cost jurisdiction and that people were being paid more in South Australia. It has come back to bite him and his government. South Australia historically was a low-cost jurisdiction. We were a manufacturing-based economy and we had to be a low-cost jurisdiction because of our geographic location. We had to transport those goods that we manufactured to the marketplace, whether it be overseas or on the eastern seaboard.

We had to maintain a cost lower than the other states to be able to maintain that as a sustainable economy. That has by and large gone now, and we are wearing the consequences of that. That is why this South Australian economy is struggling. That is why, for well over 10 years, on every economic metric, South Australia has been going backwards relative to the rest of the nation.

The one that really stands out is the exports of goods and services out of this state. It is a little lower than 7 per cent of the nation's population, but our level of exports has dropped, relative to what it was 15 or 20 years ago, to about half when you compare it with the other states. The economy has been going steadily backwards for the whole term of this government. I would love to say a lot more about that, but there are a couple of other matters I want to touch on.

The solid waste levy, and the member for Goyder mentioned this in the last debate, is a serious impost on local government, but it is also a serious impost on every household and business in South Australia. What are we getting from it? I will tell you. The budget states:

The government is taking a leadership role in global climate change, including the commitment to achieve a Carbon Neutral Adelaide.

It says that this will be paid for by the solid waste levy. This government has proven to be spectacularly unsuccessful in everything it has done in this area to date, and I talk principally about its embracing of green energy: wind farms and rooftop solar. We have seen in the last few weeks the result of the nonsensical thinking of this government.

The reality is that the windmills that are churning in South Australia have done absolutely nothing to reduce our emissions. We know that the thermal power generators have to remain on stand-by for when the wind stops blowing. They are still burning coal and gas, so there are no savings in the emissions, and all we have managed to do in the meantime is waste—I am not sure of the exact amount, but it probably getting towards \$5 billion—in infrastructure build, building new wind farms and rooftop solar panels to achieve no benefit for the environment.

In the meantime, it is basically destroying our economy by driving up the price of electricity. Yet, the Minister for Energy and Treasurer argues that they are still doing good work in this area. The proof is on the table, yet this government wants to continue down this nonsensical path of taxing South Australians to waste money on schemes which do not work.

A couple of things in my electorate were not mentioned in the budget, and I am very disappointed about this. One is the Penola bypass. The federal government offered \$9 million to complete the bypass. This government has built half a bypass. How can you have a bypass that only goes halfway around a town? That is a really interesting question, but that is what this government has done. The federal government offered \$9 million and the state knocked that back, and we still have half a bypass at Penola. There is nothing in the budget about the government coming to the party to finish that.

I am continually talking to the Keith and District Hospital board and I understand they are in what they hope are good-faith negotiations with the Minister for Health. I say to the Minister for Health: for goodness' sake, find the money and ensure that the Keith and District Hospital stays and continues to provide an essential service for that community and members of the public who travel through the South-East of the state.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member's time has expired.

Mr WILLIAMS: That is most disappointing, Madam Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I know. We can hang on for another instalment in grievances this afternoon.

Mr WINGARD (Mitchell) (12:11): I rise today to speak about a positive that came out of the state budget. It is something the member for Bright and I have been championing for a long time, and I would like to acknowledge the Minister for Recreation and Sport for jumping on board with this project. I am talking about the BMX track that is flagged for O'Halloran Hill. The state government is putting \$2 million towards this project, while the Onkaparinga and Marion councils are putting forward \$1.5 million.

This is a great initiative and one that the member for Bright and I have been championing pretty much from the time we got into parliament. Potentially, the member for Bright was very interested in this project before that as well. I met with the Minister for Recreation and Sport for a quick discussion and said we should get together and do something. To his credit, he eventually did, and he brought in the members for Reynell and Fisher to get them involved as well.

That was a real positive, and I think to see it in the budget was great for our community. I worked very closely with a few people to help progress this, and I would like to commend them in the house on this occasion. One is Trevor Wigg, Chairman of the Cove BMX Club. He worked tirelessly behind the scenes to get this proposal up and to make it happen. I also want to thank Craig Fox, President of the Happy Valley BMX Club and Brent Barrett, President of BMXSA. They were very quick to jump on board when the proposal was put to them.

I also know that Marion councillor Janet Byram did an outstanding job. I spoke to her about this project when she was running for local council, and told her how important this project would be for the community and the great uplift that it would have. She was outstanding. This is a really positive project, and it has great potential. The site at O'Halloran Hill is outstanding, and it jumped out at me and the member for Bright as we pursued this project, because it sits on the former office site for the Southern Expressway.

Some would argue it could have been benefited by an on-off ramp when the duplication was done, and the people of Sheidow Park and Trott Park would potentially agree with me. It could have really facilitated and made it far more accessible for people in the north and the south, but that will have to be worked around because that was not done. The site, as I said, was really good. The minister made the appropriate calls to free up the site so that this BMX track can be built there.

I want to have a look at the potential upsides. This is where I think we and the government need to move exceptionally quickly. There are not many sites in Australia that are set up for international BMX. I was never very good at BMX. Some of my kids' friends are exceptionally good at BMX, and it was explained to me that you need to have a ramp of a certain height to be of an international standard. A lot of the tracks around Adelaide do not have a start ramp of that height, so we are looking at an eight-metre start ramp, I think. Most of them are around five metres, so the great thing about the proposal here is that it has an eight-metre start ramp which makes it an international track that can host international events.

I mentioned the member for Fisher having been involved with this. I think the Happy Valley club sits in her electorate, and the Cove club sits on the fringe of my electorate, in the electorate of the member for Bright. I heard the member for Fisher speaking yesterday, and I just want to give her a little gee-up and pump-up because she mentioned having national events at this new track. I concur with her, and we do want to see national events, but I want this government and I want the people opposite to start thinking a little bit bigger. An opportunity is being missed here, and I want the government and the member for Fisher to join with us and push the minister to start looking at international events.

The thing about this track, as we said, was that the proposal all along was to make it an international venue so we can draw in international events. If you have a look at the calendar for BMX racing around the world, it is very exciting. We will see these competitors compete at the Olympics coming up in Rio. Sam Willoughby, funnily enough, is from Trott Park. He was a Brighton Secondary School student. He won silver at the last Olympics and is a big chance, we hope, to win gold in Rio. So, fundamentally, this track will be built in his backyard.

What I think we need to do, and what I will call on the government to do, is start thinking bigger than just national competitions and look to the international competitions. There is the UCI BMX Supercross World Cup, and there are chances for us to potentially have an event there in

2018, if we can fast-track and get this track built. The UCI World Championships have not actually been formally declared yet for 2018.

We know the minister is often in Europe at the Tour de France, and then we have UCI officials coming out here. He often spruiks in the chamber about UCI officials coming out here for the Tour Down Under. I am saying to the minister: get involved with these people, get engaged with these people and let's get the world championships here as soon as possible. To have them here in 2018 would be absolutely outstanding. That would bring those Olympic athletes here to Adelaide in the not too distant future.

We have the money there for the track, so let's get it built. We have the contacts there with people in the UCI. Let's get the world championships here to South Australia to this new track up at O'Halloran Hill. It would be fantastic. It will bring in tourist dollars, it will bring in employment, it will bring in jobs for local people and it will put us on the world stage to a new, potentially younger audience that follows BMX.

This is an exciting proposition, but we cannot sit on our hands. We cannot say, 'There is the money. The track will get built. It will roll out some day, and we will worry about that when it is finished.' We need to be more proactive, rather than just looking at national events. Again, I agree with the member for Fisher on that, but let's go bigger and hit international events as well.

We have a chance as well for the Oceania Championships—another UCI event—potentially in 2018, so I call on the minister to start attacking these bigger events and think bigger than just the local or national events. If we are going to build this facility and we have \$3.5 million there, I want to make sure that that money is spent as wisely as possible so we can get our biggest bang for buck and make sure this venue is world class, world standard and really puts South Australia on the map. From what I am told, that is what we should get for the money we are going to spend, so I hope the minister can deliver on that because it is an exciting project.

I mentioned it is at O'Halloran Hill on Majors Road. This precinct is coming along fantastically in my electorate. I am very excited to see this venture go ahead. We have a driving range there as well. Riding for the Disabled have had some problems for a number of years. A wonderful big complex was built for them there, but they have not been able to get inside the complex because of a fire hazard they have not been able to remedy, and they have not yet put a floor in there.

The shed has been sitting there for a couple of years, but people may not be aware that that has not happened so, again, I call on the minister to help fast-track that because this great facility has been sitting there, and the Riding for the Disabled people are still doing it out in the weather, taking the kids on the horses. Working with the horses is great therapy and a proven winner for young and mature age people there who have a disability but, unfortunately, it has not rolled over to operating within the big, expansive shed facility they have there, which is a little bit disappointing.

Along Majors Road as well we have the archers club, which is a great little venue. It is tucked in there; it is almost a little secret. I did get a tour; I went for a walk. I did not actually shoot a round but I went with a couple of experienced archers from the club. They have held a number of events there, including the Police and Fire Games.

When the police and fire men and women from around the world came to where this is located on O'Halloran Hill, they saw the beautiful views over the city. Not a lot of people get to see this but it is outstanding, and the people from around the world were fascinated by how wonderful and how picturesque the views were. This archery club is not big and it is not very well known, but it has, arguably, one of the best locations in the world, where people can go and meet on weekends and, as I say, shoot their rounds of archery. It is a great club which has had a lot of success.

There is a pistol club just along the way and there is also a model aeroplane club just off Majors Road. So, there are some wonderful facilities along this strip. I mentioned the golf driving range as well, which is down at the other end of Majors Road, closer to South Road, on the corner there, and that is a great facility too, and it has a baseball batting cage as well. So, the potential for Majors Road is outstanding. As to the BMX, I commend the minister for jumping on board with our proposal and getting involved with this, and all the people who have pushed this along. It is outstanding.

I implore the minister to fast-track international events. We need to start thinking bigger. The problem, I think, with this government at the moment is they are thinking too small and not thinking about the potential for big events. We are building a track, let us make sure we build it ready for international events and let us earmark them and get them up and running. Let us get them locked in, let us get them ready to go, because jobs can be created and it will be a great venture for the people of Adelaide, South Australia and in particular the electorate of Mitchell.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Of course, Tea Tree Gully BMX has an Olympian in Anthony Dean, who is also watching the international BMX track with great interest, as are all of us in the Florey and north-eastern areas.

Mr Wingard: We could move him down south.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, we could try to get the funding transferred to the north-east. Let us talk about that. Member for Kavel.

Mr GOLDSWORTHY (Kavel) (12:22): Thank you, Deputy Speaker. A very interesting addition to the member for Mitchell's contribution, no doubt.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I know you would be interested in BMX in the north-east, would you not, member for Kavel?

Mr GOLDSWORTHY: Maybe.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Maybe? I did not mean personally. That is a thought picture.

Mr GOLDSWORTHY: I am pleased to make a contribution to this part of the debate in relation to the Appropriation Bill. Perhaps recapping on what I covered yesterday, I was highlighting that the government has not really produced a surplus, as they claim. Without the sale assets of the Motor Accident Commission the budget would be in deficit, as has been highlighted by quite a number of members on this side of the house. So, as I described yesterday, it is really a book-entry surplus that the Treasurer has produced.

I also talked about the hypocrisy of Labor governments over a number of years in relation to how they have managed the power generating capacity of South Australia and how—back before they had formed government, back in the Liberal government days of the late 1990s, early 2000s—they vehemently opposed the construction of the Pelican Point power station. I highlighted the fact that they held rallies out the front of Parliament House, trying to convince the public that dolphins would die from the overheated water being put out into the Port River and so on. It never eventuated. What a complete bunch of nonsense.

Then we see the recent form of the Treasurer, the Minister for Energy, going to the company that owns Pelican Point to basically plead with them to crank up their capacity to meet a deficiency in the market and in the generating and power supply capacity of the state in relation to the recent storm events. I also talked about the turmoil that Transforming Health is in, in relation to the massive over capacity in the Lyell McEwin Hospital as a consequence of downgrading the services at Modbury.

In the time I have now I want to talk about some issues more specific to the electorate, particularly in relation to the provision of health services. I think it is pretty well recognised that Mount Barker township and the surrounding area—the area that was rezoned a number of years ago by, again, a Labor government without any valuable consultation with the local community—is the fastest growing inland community in Australia. Obviously, with that growth there are challenges and demands, and it is something I have raised with health ministers in the past, and I have also written a letter to the current health minister about the provision of services at the Mount Barker hospital.

A particular issue was raised in the recent federal election campaign by the newly elected member for Mayo in relation to the provision of an on-site doctor during the evening and early morning hours; so basically having a 24-hour around-the-clock doctor on site. The NXT candidate campaigned locally on that issue, and now that person is the newly elected member for Mayo, and they raised that as an issue in the campaign.

I want to remind the house that as the local member I have raised this issue a number of times and written letters to previous ministers for health. I have written another letter to the Minister

for Health in relation to that and other issues concerning the Mount Barker hospital, particularly in relation to a current review that is being undertaken concerning services provided by the Mount Barker hospital, really wanting to know more specific detail about that review and what they expect the outcomes to be.

I make the point that claims are being made that it might only be a couple of hundred thousand dollars to have a doctor placed at the Mount Barker hospital around the clock, but what we really need to turn our mind to, as that district grows and as that town develops, is that the government and successive governments (and, hopefully, that will be a Liberal government after the next election) have to focus on how we want the Mount Barker hospital to be and what services it will provide into the future.

I want some thought process put in to looking at what it will cost and what the threshold population will be in that district for a fully operational accident and emergency department to be put into the hospital because that is basically where the community is going. My sense is that the community in that part of the Hills is looking for a fully operational accident and emergency unit in the hospital, so I think we have to turn our mind to the fact that that is what the community is looking for and then do some work on what the thresholds and triggers will be in terms of population levels and issues such as that for the establishment of a functioning A&E unit in the Mount Barker hospital.

That might be several years away, it might be 10 years away, we do not know, but we have to start thinking about it and looking at it and start planning for it. When that land is all developed, there will be a population of around 30,000-plus in that part of the Adelaide Hills, and it is too much to expect people who live there to travel to the city, as they do, for a certain level of A&E care. That is what happens now: if somebody presents at the hospital at, say, at 2 o'clock in the morning, a senior nurse, an RN, will triage the patient and triage the condition.

If they see fit, if they think it is applicable, there is always a local doctor rostered who can be called in to the hospital. There is a night-time roster, and a doctor can be called in to the hospital to treat the patient. If it is out of the area that the hospital can manage, they can either place them in an ambulance to take them to the city or they can travel to the city by their own means. As the district expands and development occurs, we need to turn our mind to the level of services, infrastructure and facilities that are to be provided to meet satisfactorily the requirements of the community pushing into the future.

We are seeing some necessary acknowledgement from the government in terms of a new interchange on the freeway being constructed at Mount Barker. It is very pleasing.

Ms Redmond: And you can thank the federal government.

Mr GOLDSWORTHY: And I will get to that, as the member for Heysen stated, because it is fundamental to the construction of that interchange. If it were not for the hard work and commitment of the previous member for Mayo, Jamie Briggs, in making strong representation to the federal Liberal government for a commitment of \$16 million to the total project value of \$27 million, that project would not have proceeded.

The feds put in \$16 million, the state put in \$8 million and the council put in \$3 million. It is a \$27 million project, and the works are about to be completed and a fully operational interchange is about to come online. If it were not for Jamie Briggs, the previous member for Mayo, and obviously the strong work that I attribute to the state Liberal opposition and me, as the local member advocating for more than a decade and supporting what Jamie was doing, that freeway and interchange would not be being built now. The new member for Mayo can talk about what she wants to talk about, but if it were not for Briggs that interchange would not be built.

Time expired.

Mr PISONI (Unley) (12:32): I will use this grievance debate to touch on a few issues. First of all, there was disappointing news about Sophie, a constituent of my colleague the member for Bright, who, with other colleagues, was doing the Certificate III in Racing (Trackrider) at Morphettville. This is a course that is being run in conjunction with TAFE at the Morphettville campus with the cooperation of the South Australian Jockey Club and Thoroughbred Racing South Australia.

Sophie paid her fees and did her first semester. She expected to return on 19 July, at the start of the second semester, but she received a letter on 5 July saying that the course was no longer going to continue. She was unsure whether that meant continue after she was finished or discontinue immediately. She rang the campus to be told that it was effective immediately and that it was a decision made by the executive of TAFE SA.

There was some media interest in this on Saturday. TAFE SA took about five hours to respond in writing to the media. The minister said it had nothing to do with her, that it was a TAFE issue. However, the minister recently signed off on track racing being funded for up to 10 students in 2016. So, we saw that the funding was available for this course, but TAFE in all its wisdom decided that it was going to immediately stop the course.

We said that those students who had been disrupted should be able to continue the course and that if that was not the case they should be refunded because their course is worthless to them because nobody else is funded to do that course in South Australia. If there were someone else who was not getting WorkReady funding for that course, it would cost them a lot more to do it. Refunding the money they had paid so far would help them to achieve that or, alternatively, they may have to have done it interstate.

I was surprised when I spoke to Sophie on Tuesday, after TAFE had said in their media statement that those students who had started the course would be able to finish the course, when she initiated a call to TAFE before getting a return call at the end of the day telling her that she was to come in on Thursday, that is, tomorrow. The other students would also come in. My understanding is that they were individual meetings, they were not meeting the students together. Sophie was told that she would be asked to complete a formal completion form in order for the situation to progress.

It certainly does not sound to me as though TAFE has honoured the commitment they made to the media on Saturday, that those students who had started the course would be able to finish the course by the end of the year. What was also interesting was that they said that they were going to tell students that they could continue when they returned for the new semester. What they failed to tell the media was that the semester started last week, not this week. That is why no students turned up last week—because they received a letter telling them that the course was closed effective immediately. I will be interested in the outcome of the meeting that Sophie and her fellow students are having with TAFE SA tomorrow and to see where that ends up.

I would like to touch on a couple of issues in my electorate. Those who have been in this place for the period I have been here would know that at virtually every budget I raise the issue of traffic on Unley Road and how there was a plan to ease the peak hour traffic in particular. That was very well consulted on back in 2001, and also funded and ready to go to cabinet, but at the change of government it was all thrown out the window. The government said they had other priorities, and so that never happened.

In that time, we have seen a lot more traffic on Unley Road. RAA surveys have shown that that stretch of Unley Road is taking longer now to get from Mitcham down to Greenhill Road. The travel time is getting longer and longer every year. We are also having the debate about the tram down Unley Road. We really will not know what is happening with any proposal for the tram, other than the extension to East Terrace that was announced as part of the budget measures. There is an AdeLINK consultation process or study that the government has funded to the extent of \$4 million, which I suspect will give us some idea as to where that proposed tram through the suburbs is to go.

The priority as to where it will start, the cost and the time, we do not have any of that yet. I think that until we actually have that on the table we will not know just how serious the government is about reinstating a tram network in metropolitan Adelaide. We did hear, before the election of course, a significant promise in the 30-year transport plan to do that. But then we learned a couple of years after the election that there had not even been a study done, and that is what the \$4 million was for. We notice that \$3.5 million is being spent in the 2016-17 year and that another \$500,000 is being spent in the 2017-18 year, so obviously we are still a long way off from that study.

I have called for that to be released publicly when it is complete because it is a publicly funded, taxpayer-funded document. It should be out there for public consultation, it should be out there for public comment. We would be very pleased to see that. I also just want to touch on the

Glenside redevelopment in my electorate. Again, we know that Fullarton Road, Glen Osmond Road and Greenhill Road are some of the busiest roads that we have in metropolitan Adelaide. The traffic is continuing to grow.

As part of the development, we will see an extra set of traffic lights to enter and exit the development which is now the entry into the South Australian Film Corporation's studios which have been relocated to the former mental health facility's heritage building. I think at last count that meant we had about five sets of traffic lights within about a one-kilometre length of road on Fullarton Road. The density of that facility is causing some concern with local residents, as well as the fact that despite the claims by the minister that there is plenty of open space, the open space is no longer public open space.

We know that public open space is much more accessible than open space that is part of a development. I am not sure that anybody would feel comfortable using public space within a private housing development. In effect, it is a loss of public space in the inner suburbs. In my electorate of Unley at 12.2 kilometres, it is geographically the smallest of all the electorates in South Australia. There are two reasons for that: one is the density of the housing in Unley, but the major reason is because we have a very small amount of open space.

The Unley council and the Burnside council do a terrific job with the open space we have, and in Unley in particular we will grab any open space, whether it be alongside a creek bed or a street that has been closed off to reduce through traffic on metropolitan streets. We will see that planted out, seats installed and made into an area that can be used as public space, but they are obviously very small public spaces. Having more trees, of course, is very important. We love trees in Unley, we love our street trees, we love our park trees and we are obviously very disappointed with the number of century-old trees we will lose as part of the Glenside development.

Ms REDMOND (Heysen) (12:42): I am pleased to have the opportunity to make a contribution in the final throes of this debate on the Appropriation Bill. In particular, I mentioned yesterday in my second reading contribution that I would not go into the detail of the Lands Titles Office, and I am taking the opportunity today to do that very thing.

As I assume all members of parliament did last week, I received a letter from the Public Service Association inviting me to a public rally and forum because they are so upset about this government having broken its promise of a clear no privatisation policy ahead of the 2014 state election, and they are now going to sell the Lands Titles Office. The Treasurer re-words that by saying that what they are doing is outsourcing the data aspect, but indeed the data is all that is left of the Lands Titles Office.

If I can just indulge in a bit of an explanation of how the system works and why it might be important, as members go out into the corridor adjacent to this chamber you will see that there is a wonderful portrait by Andrew MacCormack. He has done a lot of portraits around this chamber, including of Sir Henry Ayers and various other people, and there is a portrait of Robert Richard Torrens who was important to this state because of the development of the land title system which we know around the world as the Torrens title system.

As it happens, I have done conveyancing since I was a teenager because I started work on the Crown Solicitor's Office in Sydney when I was 18. In Sydney, they still use the Old System, and Old System title was cumbersome to say the least. Old System title started with The King giving a grant of land. I will use A, B and C to explain this. The King gave a grant of land to A, so A then had his title because he held a document that was the land grant from The King. If A then sold it to B by a bill of sale then B established his title by having the land grant from The King to A followed by the bill of sale from A to B. If B then died and his estate passed it to his son C, the next person in line had to show that he had the land grant from The King to A, the bill of sale from A to B and the probate and will taking it from B down to C and so on it went.

As you can imagine, Deputy Speaker, over hundreds of years that became quite cumbersome. Eventually an abstract of title or a summary of the title was developed but, effectively, all those documents had to be in order to give you good title to your land. My theory is that perhaps this did not matter so much back in the old country, as it were, but once we came to South Australia one of the things about the founding of this colony—where of course many people came for religious

freedom and we were the paradise of dissent for the dissenters from Britain and various parts of Germany and so on—was that, in addition to religious freedom, there was the ability for very ordinary settlers to own property, which had not been a widespread thing in the 1820s and so on.

The idea of having a good land title system was one of considerable attraction, so Robert Torrens came up with this scheme whereby, rather than having this whole chain of successive documents, all of which had to be correct, in order, perfect and unchallengeable to give you good title, how would it be if the government actually kept a record or register of all these interests in land? Everyone who got good title would simply register it and, once it was registered, that person had a good title as against all the world and they were secure in that knowledge. That was known as indefeasibility of title.

We founded this system here where the government basically guaranteed that once your transfer from A to B or B to C was registered with the government the title issued by the government gave you the good and secure title as against all the world. That system was so successful that it was adopted not only throughout the rest of the Australian states but in many of the Western democracies that now use the system developed by Robert Torrens giving indefeasibility of title.

Over the last few years in particular, the system has become somewhat odd, inasmuch as until now the government had a registered title but they would issue to the ordinary person what was called the duplicate certificate of title. I do not own my property; it is with the bank, so my title is with the bank with the mortgage, but if you own your land you would hold the certificate of title, but what you held was actually the duplicate of the original document held by the Registrar-General. You could not do anything with that duplicate; it was handed over if you were selling, but it could not be used to prove title. What proved the title was what was registered with the government.

More recently, though, because of the advance of computers and the use of computing in settlements and by banks in particular, rather than going down to the Lands Titles Office settlement room, which is what I did hundreds of times to transfer property—you would hand over the cheque, get the title, the transfer and all that, take it in, queue up and lodge it—now what happens is the press of a button and the money gets transferred. It is no longer bank cheques and all that sort of stuff. I have not been in it for a number of years, so I have not actually experienced that, but I understand that is the way it happens now.

Another issue is that, because of that development, we are no longer going to have duplicate certificates of title issued. So, even if you own your block of land without a mortgage to the bank, you will not have a duplicate certificate of title to look at it and say, 'This is the bit of land that I own.' What is left now of the system is simply the data input and the holding of the data and the government has decided to sell that.

The Lands Titles Office, as far as I know, has run forever on a fee-for-service basis. It has not been there to make a profit for the government: it has been there simply to provide the service by which all these transactions, done largely by conveyancers in this state, and I was one of the solicitors who used to regularly do conveyancing. All these transactions are now being done by computer, but the whole of the computerisation is now going to be sent off to private commercial ownership.

Apart from the historical nicety—and I have explained the reason for my emotional attachment to Robert Torrens and his portrait in the corridor—the reality is that what the government is doing is entrusting to a third party in the commercial sector the management, control and security of our land titles. I, for one, ever since 2001 and the 9/11 experience, have always been quite dubious about the fact that we are spending all this time, energy and money on security in airports, because it seems to me that terrorists are not going to attack at airports or on planes anymore.

The next attack I think is much more likely to be a cyber attack or an attack on our water supply or something other than they have done before. They will come out of left field, as they did on 9/11, with something completely unexpected. That is the nature of terrorism. To therefore hand over to a private company this aspect seems to me to be a very risky thing to do, and it is certainly a concern expressed by the PSA, who are holding a rally about this on Friday. Probably more important than that even is the fact that there is a significant cost-of-living issue here.

A private company is not going to take over the management of something that at the moment is done for no profit and do it not to make a profit. The nature of private companies is that they are there to make a profit. Furthermore, if they are paying \$300 million, let's say, for the purchase of this business of running this data input and security of our title and so on, it seems to me that they are going to have to make at least 10 per cent, or possibly 20 or 30 per cent, profit to make it worthwhile, because if you can make 5 or 10 per cent putting it in interest bearing deposit, why would you not just do that rather than running anything?

They are going to have to make money out of it, and that means that every person in this state involved in the transacting of business in relation to land tenure is going to be paying a whole lot more. Indeed, the experience of overseas in this circumstance, according to the PSA's letter, is that, when this happens, there is also a huge increase in the cost of insurance to ensure the security of your title.

I believe that this is a really bad thing for this government to do. It is not only a breach of faith with the promise that was made prior to the 2014 election of no more privatisations but it puts at risk the security of all the people in this state who hold title to land, and that is a vast number of people. I think it unreasonably imposes unnecessary and unreasonable costs on those people.

The Hon. S.W. KEY (Ashford) (12:52): Can I just say that I have to endorse everything the member for Heysen said. I also for a whole lot of reasons (probably different ones) do not support privatisation, contracting out, semi-privatisation or any other term that we might come up with, either in the commonwealth public sector or the state public sector. I am really concerned, and I have been for a number of different colour governments, but also certainly with our own government, that this is something that we should not do, in my view. My view is a well-known fact in Labor circles, so I do not think it will come as a surprise to anyone in particular.

What I would like to spend time speaking about today is the excellent meeting that the Occupational Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Committee had last week with you, Deputy Speaker, and also with the Hon. Kelly Vincent MLC, with former senator and Labor minister the Hon. Susan Ryan AO, Age and Disability Discrimination Commissioner, from the Australian Human Rights Commission.

Because of her tight schedule, we managed to secure her for lunch last week and talk to her about the excellent report—I might say it is a huge report—called 'Willing to work: national inquiry into employment discrimination against older Australians and Australians with disability'. When I say that it is a big report, I actually have a photocopy of it in the chamber so that I can hopefully get through the whole report at some stage, but it is quite big.

Looking at the main data that has come out of that report, it is really interesting to note the profile that has been painted by the report. According to the report:

People aged 55 years and over make up roughly a quarter of the population, but only 16% of the total workforce.

We know from the 2015 Intergenerational Report that:

This age cohort is the fastest growing in Australia, and will remain so for the foreseeable future...

The report also states that labour force participation declines with age, and:

In November 2015, 73.8% of Australians aged 55-59 years were participating in the labour force, with 56.5% of 60-64 year olds and 12.7% of those aged 65 years and over in the labour force.

Older people face longer periods of unemployment. According to the report:

In November 2015, the average duration of unemployment for mature-age people was 68 weeks, compared with 30 weeks for 15-24 year olds and 49 weeks for 25-54 year olds.

One of the reasons Commissioner Susan Ryan is also the Disability Discrimination Commissioner is that the former disability discrimination commissioner's contract finished, as I understand it. I think the federal government made a decision that they could save costs in the Australian Human Rights Commission without that particular role.

I am very pleased to hear that there will be a new disability discrimination commissioner appointed shortly. While we are very sad to see that Susan Ryan will be retiring from her role, I think, this week, the Hon. Dr Kay Patterson, former Liberal federal member of parliament and minister will be taking up that role. I had the honour of working with Dr Kay Patterson, as did the former member for Elizabeth, the Hon. Lea Stephens. I must say I think we formed a very good working group for good on a national basis.

While I am very sad that Susan Ryan, who is someone I have always admired in the political arena, is retiring, I think she probably deserves to have some downtime and some time to herself. She tells us that she is reaching her mid-70s and thinks it is about time that she got to do the sorts of things she wanted to do. You could not tell from her energy or attitude that she was at that age, but she always maintains that you really do need to have your head right, and that is part of the way in which you cope with the advancing years. I am taking this as advice.

The reason we were so interested to meet with Commissioner Ryan was that one of the long-term areas of interest and work of the Parliamentary Committee on Occupational Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation is looking at issues for older workers. A number of issues have been brought to our attention with regard to being an older worker in the workplace. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Sitting suspended from 12:58 to 14:00.

Parliamentary Procedure

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

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

Inquiry into the Environment Protection Authority's Management of Contamination at Clovelly Park and Mitchell Park—Government Response
Torrens University Australia—Annual Report 2015

Parliamentary Committees

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

Ms COOK (Fisher) (14:01): I bring up the 28th report of the committee, entitled Subordinate Legislation.

Report received.

Question Time

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:02): My question is to the Minister for Health. Does the minister stand by his statement made in the house yesterday that it is, and I quote, 'not correct' that the vast majority of clinical trials will not be able to be housed at the new Royal Adelaide Hospital, even in light of statements to the contrary made by senior clinicians earlier today?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:02): Yes, of course I do.

Mr Williams interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for MacKillop is called to order.

Mr Williams: Thank you, sir.

The SPEAKER: It's the least I can do. The member for Giles.

MINING AND PETROLEUM SERVICES CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (14:02): My question is to the Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy. How is the Mining and Petroleum Services Centre of Excellence contributing to unlocking the full potential of our mineral, energy and renewable assets?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Treasurer, Minister for Finance, Minister for State Development, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy) (14:03): I would like to thank the honourable member for his question and his continued interest in the resources sector and the objectives outlined under our economic priorities. One of those objectives is to establish South Australia as a mining services hub for the nation, and the Mining and Petroleum Services Centre of Excellence is playing a key role in this area.

As part of the Mining Industry Participation Office, the centre's mission is to establish South Australia as a nationally recognised hub for minerals and energy supply-chain capability. The government has made a five-year, \$10 million commitment to the Mining and Petroleum Services Centre of Excellence to provide innovation seed funding to develop the state's strategic capabilities. The centre of excellence aims to:

- develop South Australia's reputation as a centre of excellence;
- link the resources sector to homegrown applied research;
- link local services companies to resource companies;
- support the development of innovative solutions and industry-wide challenges; and
- increase the competitiveness and reduce costs for the resources sector.

We also want to assist South Australia to unlock its mineral energy potential. We are already experiencing the benefits of this ongoing program. The current round of funding closed on 19 July, and I am informed that some very interesting applications and innovative ideas have been put forward that are under consideration. Companies that have already collaborated with the centre include BHP Billiton, Santos, OZ Minerals, Beach Energy and IMPTEC, just to name a few.

The Centre of Excellence also works with academic institutions such as the University of South Australia and TAFE. IMPTEC's superfine crusher technology is a great example of how industry and government can collaborate to significantly reduce costs and improve productivity for the global resource industry. The state government's \$136,000 contribution to the project builds on the \$1.14 million of industry funding, with the aim of manufacturing the superfine crusher in Adelaide for global distribution.

The centre is also working with Centrex Metals on its molten salt mineral processing technology, the Oxley Potash Project. Centrex is investigating the use of molten salt roasting technology to transform potassium feldspar into potash fertiliser. A three-year research program will be run at UniSA, expanding on the unique high-temperature molten salt capabilities at the Barbara Hardy Institute. The facility at Mawson Lakes is the only one of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere and its activities currently focus on solar thermal energy.

The research widens that focus to incorporate the uptake of molten salt technologies for the resources sector, with the potential to benefit South Australia's strong mineral processing and smelting technology base. The development of molten salts mineral processing capabilities at UniSA will potentially create a global centre for further developing molten salt extraction applications to mineral projects right here in South Australia. New equipment designs, particularly around molten salt transfer systems and materials engineering, will also directly benefit our solar industry.

The research being carried out on this technology at Mawson Lakes provides opportunities to complement the South Australian government's Low Carbon Investment Plan. The South Australian government, through the Centre for Excellence, is providing \$28,000 to stage 1 of this project, with Centrex Metals providing \$100,000 in cash and in-kind support. UniSA is providing \$24,000 and a further \$105,000 in-kind support and the Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia with a further \$28,000. It is a fantastic example of industry, government and the mining sector working together.

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:07): My question is to the Minister for Health. Does the minister dispute the assertion by clinical researchers that the current plans for the new Royal Adelaide Hospital can only accommodate 15 per cent of clinical trials?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:07): Yes, I do, and I point out that the two clinicians the Leader of the Opposition is quoting have not worked in our public health system since 2014.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Stuart is called to order.

Mr Goldsworthy: That's disgraceful.

The SPEAKER: And so is the member for Kavel. The member for Elder.

SMALL BUSINESS

Ms DIGANCE (Elder) (14:08): My question is to the Minister for Small Business. What is the survival rate of small business in South Australia compared to that of other states?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH (Waite—Minister for Investment and Trade, Minister for Small Business, Minister for Defence Industries, Minister for Veterans' Affairs) (14:08): I thank the member for Elder for her question. Small businesses are the foundation of South Australia's economy and they are a driving force for employment and growth. There are over 140,000 small businesses in the state, defined as those employing less than 20 people.

Small business account for a significant share of jobs, estimated at approximately one-third of the state's workforce. According to ABS statistics, 65 per cent of small businesses operating in South Australia in June 2011 survived to June 2015. This is the highest survival rate of all mainland states in Australia, where the national average is 61.9 per cent. South Australia also has the highest survival rate of all the mainland states for start-up businesses, at 53 per cent, compared to a national average of 50 per cent.

According to the KPMG 2016 Competitive Alternatives report, South Australia ranks as having the most cost competitive business environment of the six cities surveyed in the Asia-Pacific region, including four Australian cities. This analysis takes into account a broad range of business costs including labour, facility, transportation and utility costs, as well as taxes. There are significant changes occurring in the South Australian economy. Investment in new industries and businesses to create jobs is of critical importance to the state economy.

We are committed to making South Australia the best place to do business. To that end, we are abolishing taxes that constrain business investment and expansion. Over the next decade, these tax changes will return almost \$2.5 billion to businesses and the community and result in significant savings for our state's small businesses. The government has abolished stamp duty on non-real property transactions, such as transfers of licences and business purchases; has abolished share duty on transfers of non-listed shares; is phasing out stamp duties on transfers of non-residential property in July 2018; and is continuing payroll tax relief for small business to 2019.

The new return-to-work scheme, the most significant reform to WorkCover in a generation, is expected to deliver savings to business of around \$180 million each year, improving our state's competitiveness and stimulating business investment and jobs growth. I know firsthand from our small business round table how pleased those associations are with the fact that their members are now looking at WorkCover levy rates with a one in front of it, where some, a short time ago, they had a three in front of it. It is an extraordinary reform which has perplexed this parliament for decades and which both parties tried to achieve, and only this government got the job done.

A \$10 million small business development fund has also been established to help small businesses in northern Adelaide start up to grow and create sustainable jobs, and I will be having more to say about that tomorrow. Can I say, having been a small business proprietor, that it is never easy, but on these measures South Australian businesses are doing it better than other states, and that is a testament to their resilience, to their determination and to the businesses they are running.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: I call to order the deputy leader, members for Hammond, Chaffey, Goyder and Schubert; and I warn for the first time the deputy leader and the member for Goyder. Leader.

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:12): My question is to the Minister for Health. Did the CEO of SA Health mislead the select committee on Transforming Health a fortnight ago when he said he was not aware of issues with accommodation of clinical research at the new Royal Adelaide Hospital? A report commissioned by SA Health into the accommodation requirements of research and clinical trials at the new Royal Adelaide Hospital was received on 7 May this year but the CEO of SA Health denied any knowledge of the issue only two weeks ago.

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:12): I know to be very careful about allegations the Leader of the Opposition makes in this place about things that have been or have not been said, but, no, I don't believe—he certainly would not have knowingly misled the committee.

Ms Chapman interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The deputy leader is warned for the second and the last time. The member for Florey.

DISABILITY SERVICES

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (14:13): My question as to the Minister for Consumer and Business Affairs. How is the government improving consumer protection for people with a disability?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Health and the Treasurer are called to order for—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Well, it may be a rich lode, but they will not engage in conversation across the chamber with the Leader of the Opposition. Minister.

The Hon. J.R. RAU (Enfield—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice Reform, Minister for Planning, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Child Protection Reform, Minister for the Public Sector, Minister for Consumer and Business Services, Minister for the City of Adelaide) (14:13): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, and I thank the member for her question. The Australian Bureau of Statistics estimates that there are approximately 4.2 million people living with a disability in Australia. It is important that people living with a disability have a sound understanding of their rights and obligations under the Australian consumer law and other consumer protection legislation. This applies particularly in relation to consumer transactions that are high cost, contractually complex or represent a significant long-term investment.

I am pleased to report to the house that Consumer and Business Services, in conjunction with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, have developed three new guidelines to assist these individuals in navigating the scheme. In addition to empowering consumers to understand their rights and make informed and confident purchasing decisions, the project also aims to educate businesses about their obligations to consumers.

The resources that have been developed include, 'Your consumer rights—a guide for consumers with a disability', an Easy English Guide which is designed for people with language difficulties, and a guide to competition and consumer law for businesses who often supply goods or services to consumers with a disability, and a fact sheet, including a snapshot on legal rights. These resources are hosted on the ACCC's website and are available as a printable PDF and Word document.

The ACCC website also features a screen reader or, alternatively, users can use a reader of their preference. In addition, hard copies of the guides are also being distributed to disability advocates and organisations across Australia to disseminate to their clients. Advice featured in the guides includes requesting evidence when businesses make fanciful claims about products or try to

pressure the consumer into purchasing a more expensive product, comparing offers and carefully considering whether a product or service will be suitable for a consumer's needs, taking into account their particular disability.

The guides have been developed by commonwealth, state and territory consumer protection agencies and will be an invaluable resource to consumers, traders, community organisations, carers and support networks that work with people with a disability.

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:16): My question is to the Minister for Health. When the minister publicly asserted on 29 June that clinical trials could be accommodated at the old RAH in the Eleanor Harrald Building, did he know that very few, perhaps only seven, of the 300 trials could be accommodated there and that patients in those trials would still have to be present at the new RAH as well as the old RAH?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:16): My advice is that patient-phasing trials will be able to be conducted in the new Royal Adelaide Hospital. Trials that essentially will require administrative accommodation will continue to be accommodated in the Eleanor Harrald Building for the foreseeable future.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Schubert is warned and so is the member for Kavel. The member for Ashford.

BIOXCLUSTERS

The Hon. S.W. KEY (Ashford) (14:17): My question is directed to the Minister for Health Industries. Minister, can you inform the house how the signing of a business development agreement with a major European biomedical super cluster will fast-track business results for our biomedical companies?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:17): I would like to thank the member for Ashford for the question.

Mr Knoll interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Schubert is warned for the second and final time. It would be a pity if he got a pair this week.

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: In March this year, I told the house that I had signed a memorandum of understanding between South Australia and the Piedmont region of Italy, focusing on increasing collaboration in health industries.

Mr Pisoni interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Unley is called to order.

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: The agreement helps our two jurisdictions work together to support the growth of life science companies in our regions, especially in the healthcare sector, and it will also increase collaboration on research and education and help the parties share best practices and knowledge for delivering better public health services.

I am pleased that last month at the BIO International Convention 2016 in San Francisco, the world's largest biomedical conference, Health Industry South Australia put pen to paper on a mutual business development agreement with four organisations representing life sciences and health clusters in Europe. This agreement will provide a framework for the exchange of market information and help open Europe up to our local life sciences companies even further. That in turn will help fast-track business results for companies and solve the common problem for small to medium enterprises of landing in new markets.

Along with the Piedmont region, we are formally linked to Catalonia, Bavaria and the Auvergne-Rhône Alpes region of France. Together, the four European clusters—Biocat in Catalonia, BioM in Bavaria, bioPmed in Piedmont and Lyonbiopole in the Auvergne-Rhône Alpes—form the

bioXclusters PLUS alliance. This alliance comprises more than 3,300 SMEs focusing on drug development, health care and medical technology and is supported by the European Union.

This agreement will benefit South Australian companies targeting European markets, enabling them to create networks for potential commercialisation partners and customers. It will facilitate exports, research collaboration and commercial outcomes and provide opportunities for job creation within the high-tech health sector in South Australia. Health Industries South Australia, with the help of BioSA, signed the agreement on behalf of more than 100 health industries companies and research organisations, underlining our dedication to grow the health and life sciences sector in Adelaide.

That dedication has also been shown by the more than \$3 billion that is being invested in health and life sciences infrastructure at Adelaide BioMed City, one of the largest health and life sciences clusters in the Southern Hemisphere, bringing together research, education, clinical care and business incubation and development.

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:20): My question is to the Minister for Health. Can the minister outline to the house how he will ensure the wellbeing of people undergoing clinical trials, including patients in 200 cancer trials, given that there is currently nowhere to locate these trials once the new Royal Adelaide Hospital opens?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:20): What the Leader of the Opposition just said was incorrect.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader is called to order. The leader is warned for the second and final time, and the Treasurer is warned for provoking him.

STEM EDUCATION

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (14:21): My question is to the Minister for Higher Education and Skills. Can the minister inform the house about any new initiative or partnership to support South Australian university students launch into STEM careers?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for Higher Education and Skills) (14:21): Yes, I can. As members will have detected, STEM—or occasionally, with the addition of arts, it is known as STEAM—is one of the major priorities for this government in education, right from the very early years all the way through to university or VET courses and on to careers. In fact, it is important to note that science teaching starts in earnest in primary school, which is why we have chosen to put science labs into 77 primary schools, which will not be a waste of money, as some people have suggested.

Ms Sanderson interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Adelaide is called to order.

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: Because it is essential that students from reception, year 1, year 2, year 3, year 4, year 5, year 6 also get science education. It is not a waste to invest in those years, irrespective of where year 7 ends up. The member has asked a question specifically at the other end of our education system, which is around what happens with universities.

Just today, I was in a meeting with an organisation that is about developing a platform for showing students pathways from studying science subjects in upper secondary through into university and what careers they can get and understanding what skills are required to build to those careers. We know that students are interested in science. What we want them to do is appreciate how gaining a deep knowledge of those subject areas will lead to good employment for the rest of their lives. To do that, it is best if we have partnerships with businesses, companies and institutions that employ people who have science expertise and STEM expertise.

I was very pleased to be involved in a launch with Lockheed Martin recently, who have agreed to contribute \$62,000 over the next two years to give training to eight students not only to

support them in their studies but to support them to come into Lockheed Martin to be mentored and to have work experience so that the line between what they are learning at university and what their future career will be becomes blurred, which is exactly what we need to be doing in education. There needs to be a blurring of the lines between work and post-school study, post-school study and secondary, secondary and primary.

The launch was attended by four students from one of the schools I know that is very dear to the member's heart, The Heights. The four students were Ish, Alexandra, Tom and Ragat, and it was very good of them to turn up to the launch because it was not only a weekend but it was the first weekend of the school holidays. Nonetheless, they climbed into their school uniforms and showed up and were taken on by the people working at Lockheed Martin to show them the kind of simulation technology that they have at Lockheed Martin, the submarine technology, in particular, that we know is going to be a huge part of our future.

What we need to make sure is that we realise from the idea, the concept of the submarine project, the reality of what that means for students today, because for them to be successful in working directly on the submarines and all the allied industries that are going to benefit from having the submarines, they need to be studying now to be ready for that. They need to be studying whether they are in Year 3 or whether they are in university. They need to be studying now. This government has invested in that—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Treasurer is warned for the second and final time.

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: This government has backed our commitment to a very substantial—

Mr Gardner interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Morialta is called to order.

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: —commitment financially, and I am delighted that we have been able to partner with many organisations but in this case in particular with Lockheed Martin.

CHEMOTHERAPY TREATMENT ERROR

Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:25): My question is to the Minister for Health. What action has the minister taken on the failure of Professor Bardy to advise him that a victim of chemotherapy dosing errors had died, given in particular that this failure had led the minister to repeatedly misinform the public in August 2015 on this matter?

Mr Wingard interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Mitchell is called to order.

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:25): Disciplinary matters are obviously entirely in the realm of the department, not me.

Mr Gardner interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Morialta is warned.

REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (14:26): My question is to the Minister for Health. How is the government supporting health care in our regions?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:26): The member for Giles, of course—

Mr van Holst Pellekaan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Stuart is warned.

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: —is a very strong advocate for health care in the regions, and I thank him for the question. Country Health has about 70 sites across South Australia and provides an incredible service supporting the healthcare needs of regional patients. Last month I was able to address the annual Health Advisory Council (HAC) conference here in Adelaide. Members of the HACs play an important role in the support they provide with their hospitals and health services. At the conference I was—

Mr Bell interjecting:

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: Sorry?

Mr Bell: HACs are a toothless tiger.

The SPEAKER: The member for Mount Gambier is called to order.

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: I am surprised the member for Mount Gambier would attack the good work that is done by people who give of their time to serve on our health advisory councils, but nonetheless he is entitled to his opinion. It is not one I share.

At the conference I was able to inform the members that as of the start of this month, the Patient Assistance Transport Scheme (PATS) now has an online portal which allows patients to apply for their subsidies and receive support online. I was also able to announce a community paramedicine pilot program which has been launched by the South Australian Ambulance Service. This pilot will see five community paramedic positions: two in Ceduna, two in the Limestone Coast and one on Kangaroo Island. They will work in their communities to help low acuity patients receive the most appropriate care.

While these announcements happened in the city, it is always better to get out into our regions to meet the practitioners, staff and volunteers who run our health services on the ground. So, following on from the trip that I took earlier in the year to Leigh Creek, Marree, Oodnadatta and Coober Pedy, two weeks ago I visited the Riverton, Balaklava, Snowtown, Clare and Crystal Brook hospitals and health services where I heard first-hand of their hard work and dedication to their local communities. While I was visiting the hospitals, I was also able to meet members of the Balaklava, Riverton, Lower North, and Southern Flinders HACs. It was great to have some of the HAC members join me on the tours where they were able to point out where community donations had helped to improve their hospitals, and of course talk me through their concerns.

Mr Gardner interjecting:

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

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: Last week, I also visited the beautiful town of Port Broughton with the local member and Minister for Regional Development where I joined with him to launch the Butterfly Household Model of Care for dementia patients at Barunga Village. The Butterfly Household Model of Care is a groundbreaking approach to dementia care that focuses on the emotions of people living with dementia. Barunga Village is one of the three aged care homes selected in Australia to launch and implement this global model. It is exciting to see our regions being so innovative and dedicated to providing the best care for the sick and elderly.

I finish by acknowledging the hard work of all our country health staff, health practitioners and volunteers who provide such important care in their communities and give them an assurance that the government is committed to always providing safe and appropriate health care as close to the homes of our regional patients as possible.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: I would like to welcome to parliament students who undertake their education through home schooling, who are guests of the member for Newland.

*Question Time***CHEMOTHERAPY TREATMENT ERROR**

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:29): My question is to the Minister for Health. Considering the minister indicated to the house yesterday that he was unaware of the death of Johanna Pinxteren when he spoke publicly about the chemotherapy dosing errors on 3 August last year, on what date was he first informed of her death?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:30): I would have to check my records.

Mr Pisoni interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Unley is warned.

WESTERN FRONT CENTENARY

The Hon. P. CAICA (Colton) (14:30): My question is to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs. Can the minister tell the house how South Australia commemorated the 100th anniversary of South Australia's involvement on the western front during World War I?

The Hon. M.L.J. HAMILTON-SMITH (Waite—Minister for Investment and Trade, Minister for Small Business, Minister for Defence Industries, Minister for Veterans' Affairs) (14:30): I thank the member for Colton for the question. The centenary of ANZAC offers all of us an opportunity to reflect on the courage, service and sacrifice of all Australians, and particularly South Australians, during periods of conflict over the last century. I recently had the opportunity, together with the shadow minister for veterans' affairs and His Excellency the Governor of South Australia, to attend commemorative services of Australia's involvement on the western front, specifically at Fromelles in northern France.

We also had the opportunity to view the annual Bastille Day celebrations, where the colours of South Australia's 10th/27th Battalion were amongst those that led the parade at the invitation of the French government. This was particularly poignant as it acknowledged the 179,455 Australian battle casualties on the western front between March 1916 and November 1918. The battle of Fromelles resulted in what has been termed by the Australian War Memorial as 'the worst night in Australia's military history'. In one 24-hour period, 5,533 young Australian men became casualties, with more than 2,000 killed. Of those killed, 1,299 would be declared missing with no known grave. The Governor and I attended at Menin Gate in commemoration of that on the evening before the Fromelles battle ceremony.

Designed as a feint to keep the Germans from moving their reserves to the Somme, Fromelles was Australia's first major action on the western front on 19 July, having withdrawn from Gallipoli the previous December. The losses incurred at Fromelles made this battle the most expensive in terms of lives lost over a 24-hour period in Australia's war history. It must be remembered, however, that there were heavy losses throughout the war and there were other days that were almost as terrible.

There would also be battles that would go on much longer, with the numbers of dead reaching an even higher level. At Pozieres, just a few days later on 23 July 1916, for example, there were many more Australian deaths and the battle lasted almost seven weeks. The high proportion of those men killed whose bodies were neither recovered or could not be later identified added to the tragedy of Fromelles. It also brought about a unique memorial on the western front called VC Corner. The memorial stands over 410 Australian graves in a cemetery bearing no headstones; each man was lost in the battle. Their names, with almost a thousand others, are on the memorial's wall and each one of these 1,299 names represent an Australian lost or unidentified after the fighting.

Approximately 6,000 South Australians did not return from the First World War. Some discharged from the AIF while overseas, but most were killed in action or died of wounds or disease and we remain forever in their debt. Their service and sacrifice must not be forgotten by the South Australian government, the South Australian community and South Australians everywhere, along with our fellow Australians.

ELECTRICITY PRICES

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart) (14:33): My question is to the Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy. What are the details of the commercial arrangements the minister entered into with ENGIE to have the Pelican Point power station returned to operation, and can the minister advise the house whether Alinta Energy requested financial support from the government to help keep the Port Augusta power station operating?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Treasurer, Minister for Finance, Minister for State Development, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy) (14:34): There were two questions there; I will answer the last one first. I don't publicly debate or disclose confidential negotiations or discussions companies have with me because they come to me on the basis of it remaining confidential and I honour that. In terms of there being a commercial arrangement in place for Pelican Point, there was none.

RIVER MURRAY SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (14:34): My question is to the Minister for Regional Development. How is the South Australian River Murray region being supported to strengthen and diversify their economy?

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome—Minister for Regional Development, Minister for Local Government) (14:34): When the Murray-Darling Basin Plan was adopted in 2012, Premier Weatherill negotiated a one-off funding opportunity worth \$265 million for our state: the South Australian River Murray Sustainability program, or SARMS, as it has become known. We know that a strong economy is a diverse one, so we must focus our attention on the whole economic ecosystem to support vibrant and productive communities in good years and drought years.

To this end, the SARMS Regional Development and Innovation Fund was established to support non-irrigation projects that boost regional development, employment, diversification and innovation in the South Australian River Murray region. The \$12.5 million RDIF is a competitive grant program that is funded by the Australian government and delivered by the South Australian government through the Department of Primary Industries and Regions SA. This fund is now fully committed, with 14 projects contracted.

Supported projects will contribute to the creation of over 1,000 jobs during construction and over 1,000 long-term operational jobs in the region and will leverage over \$25 million in direct coinvestment, bringing significant economic benefits to the broader region. There are some fantastic projects being supported under this program.

The Chaffey Learning Exchange is being supported, along with other partners, to set up a world-class higher education network allowing regional students to study what they like in a supportive environment in their region. The University of Adelaide is establishing its successful e-challenge entrepreneurship program in the River Murray schools. Iconic brand Nippy's is being assisted to upgrade with new technologies, like a Brix meter, which measures fruit sugars and allows them to access the high-end Japanese market.

Todiam Freightlines is a family-owned and operated business based in Renmark. The RDIF is supporting them to expand to a new state-of-the-art premises that will greatly improve efficiency and work health and safety. This company operates on the major freight routes between Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne, employing locals and bringing dollars into the Riverland from the cities. Rockford Homes' backpackers lodge in Paringa—it was nice over there—opened in June for the start of the citrus season this year. This provides a remarkable facility with great amenities to attract much-needed seasonal workers into the region.

I have had the pleasure of meeting with some of the grantees and seeing the high calibre of their operations and their passion for working in and supporting the River Murray region. I look forward to seeing the very positive long-term outcomes of this program continue and to shortly announcing the remaining projects that will help the River Murray regional economy to flourish.

PORT AUGUSTA POWER STATIONS

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart) (14:37): My question is again to the Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy. Can the minister advise the house whether Alinta Energy advised him or the government that if the Port Augusta power station closed, the reduction in base load capacity would reduce security of supply and lead to a significant increase in the cost of electricity to South Australian consumers. If so, what was his response?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Treasurer, Minister for Finance, Minister for State Development, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy) (14:38): I think it is pretty obvious what has caused an increase in electricity prices in South Australia. On the front page of the *Financial Review*, it is laid bare for everyone to see.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The head of the ACCC—

The SPEAKER: The deputy leader and the member for Schubert are both on two warnings.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The ACCC head, Mr Rod Sims, has laid it out bare for everyone to see: the guilty act here is privatisation. I think it is high time the Liberal Party offered the people of this state an apology—an abject, grovelling apology.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Point of order, sir.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: They are the architects of the electricity system in this state.

The SPEAKER: Point of order?

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: The minister is debating the topic and not actually answering the substance of the question, either.

The SPEAKER: I will listen carefully to what the minister has to say.

Mr Marshall: What about addressing the question?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I am.

Mr Marshall: You're not.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I am addressing the question. The question was about what has caused price increases in South Australia.

Members interjecting:

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Point of order, sir.

The SPEAKER: If the member for Stuart is going to reiterate the same point of order, the Speaker is not going to be impressed.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: No: 127, sir—misrepresenting me. The minister—

The SPEAKER: No, I have not called upon you to make a personal explanation. The reference to Botox was not a reference to the member for Stuart.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: He doesn't need it, sir.

The SPEAKER: 'May not digress, impute improper motives or make personal reflections.' I do not recall the minister doing any of those.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: No, sir. The minister said the question was about privatisation when it was not at all—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: No, I said 'prices'.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Prices—it was not at all; it was about—

The SPEAKER: The member for Stuart is lucky not to be out on his ear for a frivolous point of order. He will be seated. Minister.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Mr Speaker, my conversations with Alinta were, quite frankly, about their inability—

Mr Gardner interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Morialta is on the edge.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: —to turn a profit. The question I suppose leads down a path of: is the state government prepared to subsidise power generation that was privatised by our opponents? The answer to that is: the state government is not prepared to subsidise thermal generation, nor should it be. There is not a single independent economist or energy expert in the country that says that you should.

Mr van Holst Pellekaan interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Interjecting across the chamber to try to extract an answer to suit their argument won't work. The truth—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Chaffey is warned.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The horrible truth the opposition will not accept is that they are the architects of a monopoly on thermal generation in this state. They are the guilty party. They are the ones who privatised these assets. They are the ones who should stand up and apologise to South Australians for selling ETSA. Selling ETSA has caused these issues.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Point of order, sir.

The SPEAKER: The member for Stuart.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Debate.

The SPEAKER: Yes, but the kind of argy-bargy which is so typical of question time. Minister.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The head of the ACCC, who has been a longstanding champion of privatisation, makes a point on the front page of the *Australian Financial Review* today that privatising to monopoly operators in the private sector entrenches higher costs. It is exactly what the architect of the ETSA privatisation, the Hon. Rob Lucas—not only did they make sure that we were not interconnected with other states after the state government had achieved an MOU—

Ms Sanderson interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Adelaide is warned.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: —with the New South Wales government for greater interconnection to New South Wales, after they announced the privatisation of ETSA, what did they do? They tore up that MOU. Why? They tore it up to maximise the sale price of ETSA. That is why we have entrenched monopolies in this state and that is why we are seeing this market behaviour. The guilty party stand condemned. They stand condemned. They owe the people of South Australia an apology—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: An apology for what they did—an apology for privatising our assets. Keep asking these questions every day.

Mr WILLIAMS: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: Is the minister finished?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Yes, sir.

The SPEAKER: Does the member for MacKillop still have a point of order?

Mr WILLIAMS: Yes, he does, sir: that was debate. It was the worst answer I have ever seen in this place.

The SPEAKER: I uphold the member for MacKillop's point of order.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Well, I am pleased there has been a meeting of the minds. Member for Little Para.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Did the Treasurer refer to the member for MacKillop as an 'idiot'?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Yes, sir; I apologise unreservedly—unreservedly, sir.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Unley is warned for the second time.

An honourable member: It is argy-bargy, sir.

The SPEAKER: Excellent interjection, whomever that was. The member for Little Para.

WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY

Mr ODENWALDER (Little Para) (14:44): My question is to the Deputy Premier and the Minister for Industrial Relations. Minister, how is the government improving worker safety in the state's automotive industry?

The Hon. J.R. RAU (Enfield—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice Reform, Minister for Planning, Minister for Industrial Relations, Minister for Child Protection Reform, Minister for the Public Sector, Minister for Consumer and Business Services, Minister for the City of Adelaide) (14:44): Given the nature of automotive work, there is a risk of people sustaining manual handling injuries, injuries from vehicles falling—

The Hon. J.M. Rankine interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Wright is called to order.

The Hon. J.R. RAU: —injuries from vehicles falling from hoists or jacks, tires exploding during inflation, being hit by passing cars while carrying out roadside work or the long-term effects of breathing in fumes from vehicles and solvents.

Ms Chapman: What about slipping down the stairs at the Supreme Court?

The SPEAKER: Well, there wouldn't have been any slipping down the stairs if they had accepted my offer of a new court building on the eastern side of Victoria Square, but they didn't want to walk over Victoria Square.

The Hon. J.R. RAU: Okay, after that distracting interjection, all the risks, that I mentioned anyway can be managed. Apprentices and young workers can be particularly vulnerable at an increased risk of injury due to their lack of experience, maturity and awareness while they are developing their skills, competencies and physical capabilities. Many can also be unclear about their work health and safety responsibilities.

To help many small businesses and their workers better manage their work health and safety responsibilities, SafeWork SA has been visiting automotive workshops across the state to provide advice about work health and safety issues. These visits aim to promote strategies to better manage workplace hazards, and to avoid accidents and injury across the sector.

As part of this campaign, SafeWork SA has visited more than 60 auto workshops, 90 per cent of which employ apprentices or trainees. SafeWork SA has provided information assistance and support to ensure owners and employers understand their obligations to provide safe work environments, particularly safety inductions, training and supervision, safe use of vehicle hoists and chemical use and storage. This engagement work has allowed SafeWork SA to gain a better understanding of what businesses in this sector need.

A practical outcome is that SafeWork SA has been working with the Motor Trade Association, the group training association, the RAA, the AWU and companies such as Saints Tyre and Auto to develop an automotive workshop safety handbook which will be another resource tool for the whole

industry to use. I look forward to following the progress of this initiative and seeing the benefits it will bring to the South Australian automotive industry.

CHILD ABUSE REPORTS

Ms SANDERSON (Adelaide) (14:47): My question is to the Minister for Education and Child Development. Can the minister inform the house what KPIs and/or determinants will be used to evaluate the success of the proposed eight new non-social workers to be employed to work on the Child Abuse Report Line and what impact the minister expects this will have on the 15,000 calls that went unanswered last financial year?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for Higher Education and Skills) (14:47): The member is quite right to draw attention to the number of calls that go unanswered. I would like to contextualise that slightly in that we are seeing an increasing number of the combination of answered calls and eCARL, which are the emails that are sent into the electronic version of the CARL.

We are getting in absolute terms an increase in the number of contacts from members of the public, often mandated notifiers, into Families SA to inform us about concerns about children. In that context, there is a large number of calls that go unanswered, and it is simply impossible to know how many of those are repeats and how many of those end up being answered. Given that most of our contact is from mandatory notifiers, my belief is that the vast majority of them, if not all of them, are ultimately answered.

Nonetheless, it is not satisfactory to have people who are concerned about a child and are busy people in their own right hanging on a phone for what is literally, at times, hours on end, waiting to get through. I had a Facebook conversation with someone in that situation the other day. She is a member of the public who is a foster carer who got in touch with me to talk about how long it was taking her, and good on her for hanging in there to notify.

To deal with this issue of the escalating numbers—and, as members are well aware because I have raised it several times previously, we are carrying an unacceptable number of vacancies in Families SA which means that our staffing is depleted—we conceived the idea to have some workers who were not trained social workers but could simply answer the phone and do the first level of assessment of the call.

Members will be aware, and I am not sure if I have the exact figures with me, but there is a disparity between the number of notifications that are made and the number of screened-in notifications. There are a large number of notifications that come in, something like 48,000—we are on track for 48,000 this year—and we have about 20,000 screened-in notifications. So, there are a large number that are coming in that aren't, in fact, notifications that ought to be coming to the CARL line. That's one reason to have some form of process to pull out those queries, those notifications, in order not to take up valuable social worker time.

We have taken longer than I would have liked to bring this project in and we also have slightly fewer non-social workers, slightly fewer workers starting than I had hoped because we have lost a couple who we had appointed. Part of the reason that we took some time to do this, and as I say it was longer than I had liked, is because there have been a number of parties involved in working out how best to do this. The union, for example, has been quite concerned, and in some sense is quite hostile to the idea of having non-social workers taking calls.

However, we have worked through with them the use of these non-social workers in the context of a pilot in order to determine: does it in fact lower the wait time for people who are phoning up, and are we, at the same time, still seeing the same or possibly elevated, given the direction we are going in in child protection, number of screened-in notifications so that we are not missing notifications? We will work through that carefully and—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: I haven't used the term 'KPI' but I think a reduction in the call waiting is an indication of a KPI, I just didn't use the term 'KPI'. The reduction in the length of call waiting is—

Ms Chapman interjecting:

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: Okay, I have said it three times—I have said it three times. If you can't be bothered to listen—

Ms SANDERSON: Supplementary?

The SPEAKER: Yes.

CHILD ABUSE REPORTS

Ms SANDERSON (Adelaide) (14:51): Can the minister then explain how you will know whether the trial was a success or not? What measures will be determining whether it was successful?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for Higher Education and Skills) (14:52): Mr Speaker, I'm not sure if people are hard of hearing or just thinking about other things, but I have explained that the features of success, KPIs if you want to use that terminology, will be a reduction in the call waiting or the number of abandoned calls and not seeing a diminution in the number of screened-in notifications, which would be of concern if that were to occur. So, they are two very important elements that are indicators of success.

Mr Marshall interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader will come to order.

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: They are indicators of performance. Now, we will see if we see any, and if we do see any, to what extent, and then we will do the analysis on whether that is worthwhile.

HEALTH AND HOSPITAL CARE

Mr DULUK (Davenport) (14:53): My question is to the Minister for Health. Can the minister confirm that a person who initially presented at the Modbury Hospital emergency department was subject to a more radical surgical procedure at the Lyell McEwin Hospital than necessary due to the refusal of management to allow clinicians to undertake the necessary surgery at Modbury Hospital?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:53): It's interesting the Leader of the Opposition delegated this question to the member for Davenport and didn't make this allegation in the house himself. Last time the Leader of the Opposition came into this place making allegations about things happening, it didn't go very well.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Morialta will leave the chamber under the sessional order for the next hour.

The honourable member for Morialta having withdrawn from the chamber:

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING: Mr Speaker, I am aware of allegations that have been put in the public sphere and those allegations are incorrect.

TAXI LEVY

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (14:54): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Has there been any analysis done on the effects of the taxi levy and the increase for peak periods and weekends in regional areas, such as the Riverland and Mallee, where public transport does not exist?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Minister for Housing and Urban Development) (14:54): I thank the member for Chaffey for his question, has there been some analysis of the impact of the taxi levy? Well, yes, of course. As we have said in our reforms, we are significantly reducing not only the amount of red tape but also fees and charges imposed across all industry participants, not just the taxi industry but also the chauffeur vehicle industry and also introducing a very low regime of fees and charges for new industry entrants like ride-share operators.

One of the ways in which we are offsetting the cost of such a significant reduction in those fees and charges, as well as to pay for some improved incentives to provide services in access taxis for those people with mobility issues, as well as to introduce a regime of industry assistance and support to existing participants in the taxi industry, is a suggestion which was developed by the Baird Liberal New South Wales government, and that is the introduction of a \$1 per trip levy across all industry participants.

Contrary to the views put forward by some academic who released a report which did not mention South Australia, or indeed any of the issues here in South Australia, it is also consistent with how governments should be looking to regulate our industries, and that is raising the cost of regulation from the industries which have been—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Treasurer will not converse aloud.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: —regulated, so that was another part of it. What will the cost be? What will the impact be, for example, of a \$1 levy? When combined with the halving of the maximum credit card surcharge, which is also part of the reforms to the industry, to give an example, the average fare, albeit in metropolitan areas, I am advised is approximately \$21 for a taxi fare, and increasing that cost by, for example, \$1 will clearly take that to \$22. But if you then reduce the credit card surcharge or the EFTPOS surcharge, which is imposed by one company which is—

Mr Marshall: You could have done that anyway; they are not related in any way, shape or form.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: The leader interjects that we could have done that anyway, which of course is contrary to the view that his shadow transport spokesperson put at the time that we first announced it. I appreciate you don't tend to talk about transport issues in your party room, with the cycling war failure to talk about that for 11 months, but maybe you two need to talk a bit.

Ms CHAPMAN: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: The point of order, I suppose, is that the minister is debating the question. That is because he is responding to interjections he shouldn't be, but neither should the leader be making them.

Ms CHAPMAN: Which wasn't my point of order; I am ignoring all of that. What I am asking you to rule on is that we have had three minutes of general information about the taxi levy, and the question was: has there been any assessment of its impact in regional areas and the Riverland? That was the question—nothing to do with the general proposal.

The SPEAKER: And that contribution is an impromptu speech—a vice. Minister.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Thank you, Mr Speaker. Well, if the deputy leader wasn't displaying such wilful ignorance to what was contained in my explanation to a pretty reasonable question, I think, from the member for Chaffey about what the impacts of this reform would be—

Mr Marshall: Well, answer it then, you've only got 50 seconds.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Well, it stopped the panicked, shrill interjections, leader. We realise you are on your last legs—three major KPIs not achieved: election outcome, by-election outcome, federal election outcome. I realise it's tough times for the leader. It's tough times.

The SPEAKER: The minister is, alas, debating the question. Could he return to the substance of the question, which was about taxi services in rural and regional areas.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Yes. As I was stepping through the reasonable question from the member for Chaffey, if one considers the addition of a levy, yet the reduction of the 10 per cent surcharge to a maximum, not a mandated but a maximum of 5 per cent, you would see that somebody would be, particularly as the fare increases—and fares are likely to be larger in regional areas because you are doing larger distances—fares are actually likely to be cheaper net of the dollar levy. So, yes, there has been a consideration, and the other point, with the matter that he

raised about the night-time surcharge on Friday and Saturday nights, is to put more money in the pockets of some of our most underpaid workers in our community—and that's taxi drivers.

TAFE SA RIVERLAND

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (14:59): My question is to the Minister Employment, Higher Education and Skills. Minister, can you confirm whether any functions currently performed at Riverland TAFE campuses will cease before the end of the year or into next year?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for Higher Education and Skills) (14:59): I will have to return with an answer. I just need to clarify exactly what functions are occurring and what might change. That is a big call to answer that entirely, so I will seek advice from TAFE and return with an answer.

TAFE SA RIVERLAND

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (15:00): Supplementary question: minister, I wonder if you can come back to the house sooner rather than later because this question was asked of you in the last sitting week, and you were going to come back with an answer.

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for Higher Education and Skills) (15:00): I believe it was Berri that was asked about last time but, yes, I will return sooner rather than later.

INTERNATIONAL HORSE TRIALS

Ms SANDERSON (Adelaide) (15:00): My question is to the Minister for Transport. What contingency plans are in place for the international horse trials held in Rymill Park, given that the impending O-Bahn tunnel will affect at least five of the jumps, and has the contingency been costed and allocated within the existing \$160 million O-Bahn budget?

The SPEAKER: Don't hold back, minister.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Minister for Housing and Urban Development) (15:00): Thank you, Mr Speaker. The contingency is moving some of the area which is impacted. Will it have a cost? Well, quite possibly, and I understand that we have been discussing those costs and who bears them with the organisers of the event.

CHILD PROTECTION

Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:01): To the Premier, who is not here, but anyone else can take it, I suppose. Is the Premier or Deputy Premier satisfied—

The SPEAKER: It's generally regarded as pretty poor practice to refer to the absence of members from the chamber. I am sure the Premier's absence is scheduled and arranged by a pair with the opposition. If the deputy leader believed that the Premier should have been here today, then the opposition would have refused the pair.

Ms CHAPMAN: Mr Speaker, I thank you for your counsel on that. In redeeming my error, can I say that the Premier's attendance on Kangaroo Island to celebrate today the 180th anniversary of South Australia is to be commended, and I appreciate him going there.

The SPEAKER: A good save.

Ms CHAPMAN: Thank you, sir. I will address my question to the Minister for Education. In respect of the annual report, page 46, detailing drug testing, when I asked the minister previously whether she was satisfied that that complies with the reporting obligations now set out in section 8E of the Children's Protection Act 1993, has she now checked that, read it, and is she satisfied that it complies?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for Higher Education and Skills) (15:02): Courtesy of the Deputy Premier, in his capacity as Minister for Child Protection Reform, a piece of legislation went through recently to modify the Children's Protection Act. That piece of legislation included some changes in the reporting that is required in the annual report on drug assessments. So, while the annual report for the previous

period only complies with what we were asked to comply with previously as a result of the inquest into Chloe Valentine—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: If the Treasurer doesn't stop interjecting about Kylie Minogue, he will be removed under the sessional order for the remainder of question time. Minister.

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: Subsequent reports will comply with the legislation as it has subsequently come in. I have also asked the department whether it is feasible to add an addendum with the additional information that the new legislation does require of us. The challenge will be whether the information has been previously collected prior to it being a requirement, and has previously been collected in a form that's reportable. If it is, I will report it; if not, then it will be from the time of the act coming in onwards. And that was an answer.

Grievance Debate

UNIONS

Mr KNOLL (Schubert) (15:04): Last night, I spoke in this house about the links between the Labor Party and the union movement and how Labor is representing an increasingly small part of South Australia. These links warp Labor's view of South Australia, and this in turn harms our economy and the economic management of this state. Today, I want to highlight three examples of where these links have led to murky decisions by this government.

First off, I want to talk about the appointment of Trevor Smith to the TAFE SA Board. This is a bloke who has a notorious reputation in the South-East for being a thug and who, as a secretary in the CFMEU, is part of the most corrupt union in South Australia. Mr Smith was previously on the South Australian Forest Industry Advisory Board, where in 2013 he was paid \$50,000 a year in an attraction and retention bonus to chair the board, even though this board only met six times a year. The board has since been abolished, and unfortunately Labor's mate Trevor Smith no longer has a gig, but here comes Labor riding through to save the day, and Mr Smith has been appointed to the board of TAFE. Labor reminds me at times of the terrible Lannister family in *Game of Thrones*: they always pay their debts to their union masters.

Secondly, we see the fact that no matter how many times Aaron Cartledge is found guilty of illegal behaviour on South Australian construction sites, he cannot be sacked from the Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board. This is a man who, as state secretary of the CFMEU, has presided over more than \$1 million of fines over the illegal behaviour of him and his officers on South Australian construction industry sites. These illegal behaviours lead to increased costs borne by South Australian taxpayers, and we can all see it in the form of blowouts to infrastructure projects here in South Australia. But again Labor fails to act because they do not want to go against their union masters.

Thirdly, and perhaps most damningly, is the issue of the Work Health and Safety Partnership Program, an issue I have pursued in this place for a long time. This is a program that for seven years gave \$1 million a year to seven unions to undertake training. It is interesting that this program was only open to unions. It was not open to industry groups, it was not open to other organisations that otherwise could have improved HSR recognition in South Australia. It was only open to unions.

Even though reports in 2011 specifically identified that this program did not target small business, where there was an issue in terms of health and safety representatives having enough training, the government did not want to move away from only providing these dollars to unions in providing them to other groups who have a better representation amongst small business. Even though the report said the government need to change, they could not move away from the fact that it is their union mates who are getting the money.

Of the seven unions that were given part of this \$7 million, five of them, interestingly, are fairly reasonable donors to the Labor Party and over the same time have donated over \$2 million to the Labor Party. The Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union have donated \$274,000; the Australian Workers' Union donated \$131,000; the Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union gave a comparatively paltry \$52,000 (obviously Aaron is not feeling happy with the government at

the moment); and the Australian Services Union gave only \$55,000. The most galling is the \$1.571 million given to the Labor Party over that seven-year period by the Shop Distributive Association.

We all know who owns the Labor Party in South Australia and we can rattle off all the members who are here as part of their patronage, and we can all see why. It is interesting that we found a program—and it is always under the guise of safety. Their money gets funnelled to the unions and interestingly found its way into Labor Party coffers. Can I say, though, that I really have to feel for United Voice and the Misco's, who missed out on getting cash from this program even though they, too, are significant donors to the Labor Party.

I do not know what is going on behind the backblocks, but obviously a little bit of representation on behalf of those unions needs to be put forward. The government has serious questions to answer in all three of these instances. There is not a problem with the union movement running the Labor Party, but there is a problem with the Labor Party making decisions that are not necessarily in the best interests of South Australians but making decisions in the best interests of their union paymasters, and South Australians should not and will not stand for it.

TEA TREE GULLY STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:09): We are all well aware of the tough weather conditions that our emergency services have been put through over the past couple of weeks, with the windiest winter in 30 years and a higher than average rainfall. For some members of our community, particularly those in pastoral communities, this is a most welcome relief to the drought they have faced, but it does keep the SES, the CFS and the MFS, and all other emergency services, very busy.

The call of duty and the responsibility to help others if you can are strong and special contributors to community life, no more so than the men and women who brave often appalling conditions to keep us safe in a time of need. I would like to personally thank all the members of the emergency services who volunteer to keep our communities safe, and in particular I would like to acknowledge today my local fantastic SES unit at Tea Tree Gully.

This unit is based at the Tea Tree Gully council depot at Tolley Road, St Agnes, and has recently celebrated its 50th birthday. Led by current unit manager, Phil Tan, celebrations took place on Saturday 9 July. Unfortunately, due to calisthenics commitments, I was unable to attend but I did send my personal congratulations to Phil and all members of the unit. Minister Peter Malinauskas and the member for Newland were in attendance, as was the Mayor of Tea Tree Gully, Kevin Knight, and the federal member for Makin, Tony Zappia.

Phil Tan is the current and sixth leader of this decorated and well-respected unit and has been so since 2013. I would like to place on record the other five leaders of the Tea Tree Gully SES since 1966. Bill Brassington ran it between 1966 and 1992, an amazing 26-year contribution; Craig Stephens, 1992 to 1996; Mark Nelson in 1997; Craig Brassington, 1998 to 2010; and Andrew Woolman between 2010 and 2013.

This 47-strong unit, comprising about 40 per cent female members, is a very well-decorated unit, winning a number of state and national competitions establishing them as one of the best units in the state. This unit has won every biannual State Rescue Challenge since 1992, recently winning the 2015 event held at Brukunga in the Adelaide Hills against a number of units from all around South Australia.

The Tea Tree Gully unit has gone on to win the National Disaster Rescue Challenge, representing South Australia three times in 1994, 2001 and recently in 2011, and has been runner-up many times. This unit is a credit to the local community in the north-east and knowing we are all well protected by this undefeated state championship team and the recipients of its expertise is, I am sure, reassuring and inspiring not only to us but to all units in the SES across the state.

Over the past 50 years, this unit has helped at a number of national disasters from floods, cyclones, fires and storm damage. This unit has been deployed to Darwin, following Cyclone Tracy, assisted during the unforgettable Ash Wednesday fires, and the Port Lincoln, Pinery and Sampson Flat fires, and also the devastating Victorian fires, flood events all around the state, the Newcastle

storms and, of course, most recently the storms and flooding around metropolitan Adelaide and the Hills.

In the past 24 hours alone there have been 11 callouts, one a swift water rescue of a car driven into a flooded river and another where a car was bogged because it had ignored the signs placed on the road. I have been asked by the unit to emphasise to everyone that the community should understand that if it is flooded, forget it. Obey the signs. If you put yourself in danger, you also endanger those who put themselves in harm's way to rescue you.

The SES at Tea Tree Gully and all other SES units are always looking for new members to assist and I would encourage all members, as I am sure they already do, to encourage their communities to consider joining the local unit. The Tea Tree Gully unit trains every Wednesday evening for a couple of hours and is trained to assist in search, advanced rescue, storm damage, vertical rescue, first aid, and urban search and rescue.

I would like to thank all of the members who have been part of the unit over the past 50 years for their time and effort in serving the community. I would also like to thank all of the local businesses and community groups that have given their support to the Tea Tree Gully SES. Their Bunnings sausage sizzles are legend, supported by Bruce's Meat and Poultry at Fairview Park—the best sausage maker in the world, and I say that in the face of the member for Schubert's reputation—and the great people at St Agnes Baker's Delight who also supply the Florey Bun Run for International Teachers Day every year. Café Bongiorno, Tea Tree Plaza, provide support in extreme weather events. Donations of equipment, manpower, money, and food and drink to the unit in times of need are always forthcoming from our generous community, and I also thank them.

Finally, congratulations again to Phil Tan and all the dedicated volunteers involved with the Tea Tree Gully SES over the past 50 years to reach their golden milestone. While I doubt I will ever put on the safety gear in any useful way, I am sure I look forward to being involved with them in the future, hopefully for the next 50 years or the best part thereof.

RIO OLYMPIC GAMES

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (15:14): I would like to speak about the impending Rio Olympic Games and talk about the Riverland and South Australian representation at this much anticipated sporting event. The athletes are over there as we speak preparing as best as they possibly can for the events which are kicking off next week.

Firstly, I would like to wish South Australian athletes good luck for the upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games in Rio. Just to make it this far is a phenomenal effort and requires huge commitment, dedication and passion in their chosen sport. As a proud South Australian, I cannot wait to see our athletes represent their country on the world stage, particularly sitting on a very comfortable lounge and watching all that hard work and sweat pay off.

The Riverland has produced a number of Olympic medal-winning athletes over the years, including the likes of Berri's Hayden Stoeckel and Loxton's Sophie Edington in swimming, and Loxton's Grant Schubert in hockey. At the recent Glasgow Commonwealth Games, South Australian athletes took out one-fifth of Australia's gold medals, so I remain hopeful that we can put together a great performance on an even bigger stage.

The Riverland in the great electorate of Chaffey will have three representatives: Berri locals Karri McMahon and Georgie Parker have been named in the Hockeyroos squad, while Loxton rower Alex Hill is a member of the Australian Olympic rowing squad in the men's coxless fours team. There will be plenty of eager supporters in the region watching at home, willing on our local athletes, as will the families of Karri, Gavin and Deb, and Peter and Michelle will be there cheering Alex. Georgie will have family representatives over in Rio as well. It is a fantastic achievement by those three Riverland athletes.

It has been fantastic to have the interaction of Olympic athletes with our students as role models, and these athletes play an important role in our local communities. It is always pleasing to see this sort of interaction. Earlier this month, the Renmark West Primary School spoke to the Australian taekwondo Olympian Caroline Martin last week via video link and just this week Hockey Australia CEO, Cam Vale, visited St Joe's Primary School in Renmark. The students were able to

write letters of support to the athletes competing at the Olympics, particularly those local athletes being in the Hockeyroos and the rowing team.

I recently caught up with Anna Meares just before she headed off to Rio and she was sounding really upbeat. She is a great competitor, a great South Australian and a great sports star of the world. Shortly after that she was named captain of the Australian team and the flagbearer, which was a huge honour, so congratulations to Anna.

Other South Australian athletes participating include Sam Willoughby from Happy Valley BMX track, who started out at the Happy Valley BMX Club and won silver at the Olympic Games in London. There are 12 cyclists from South Australia: Alex and Annette Edmondson, Jack Bobridge, Glenn O'Shea, Callum Scotson, Matthew Glaetzer, Stephanie Morton, Patrick Constable, Rohan Dennis and Anthony Dean. As I have just said, the flag bearer, Anna Meares, is lining up for her fourth Olympic Games.

In athletics, we have: the lovely Jess Trengove, who won silver at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow two years ago; Tanya Holiday; and Jared Tallent, who was rightfully awarded his gold medal recently from London. In Badminton, Leanne Choo is in the mixed doubles. In rowing, we have Alex Hill, as I said. In diving, we have Grant Nel. In shooting, South Australia has William Woodward, Jack Rossiter and David Chapman.

In swimming, we have Joshua Palmer and Kyle Chalmers, with whom I had lunch a couple of weeks ago and he is very upbeat; he is a great young South Australian. In tennis, we have Thanasi Kokkinakis. In trampolining, we have Blake Gaudry. In Volleyball, we have Louise Bawdin, Taliqna Clancy, Nicole Laird and Mariafe Astracho Del Solar. We have a large Hockeyroos representation with Georgie Parker and Karri McMahon, as well as Jane-Anne Claxton and Gabrielle Nance.

In conclusion, I would like to mention another outstanding Riverland sporting success story: young Aaron Francis, who grew up playing football at East Murray and then moved up to Loxton North and later to West Adelaide, made his AFL debut. He is a great example of what young country South Australian footballers can achieve. Of course, he debuted for Essendon on the weekend and he looked like he was right at home, which is great. Watch this space as Aaron has a bright future in AFL; he can definitely last the distance. He comes from good stock: his father, Dave, played more than 400 games for East Murray. We have had great achievements by Riverlanders. Congratulations to all South Australians representing Australia at the Rio Olympic Games and I wish them well.

SPORTS FUNDING

The Hon. P. CAICA (Colton) (15:19): Yesterday, when I was speaking to the Appropriation Bill, I failed to mention the important funding going into sport and, in particular, female change rooms across the state. I did not do that deliberately; I simply focused on other aspects of the budget. I think this is a terrific initiative that I know is being welcomed by sporting clubs and sporting bodies across the state. In the Colton electorate, there are many excellent sporting clubs, and you know this, Deputy Speaker, because you have heard me over the years speak about these clubs on numerous occasions.

One of these excellent sporting clubs is the Fulham United Soccer Club. Fulham United is not eligible for this funding for female change rooms that has been made available from the budget, and I can even hear you thinking, 'Why?' The reason, Deputy Speaker, is that probably about eight or so years ago, and it might even be longer than that, I was approached by Fulham United to provide support for the construction of women's change rooms at their Collins Reserve base.

Fulham United identified long ago that, with the growth in women's soccer, it was not appropriate for players to have to share change rooms with men or indeed to be forced to get prepared on the sidelines. After an extended period, women's change rooms were constructed at Collins Reserve as a result of the club being successful in being awarded a recreation and sport facilities funding grant with matching funded provided by the local council, the City of Charles Sturt, and the requisite in-kind payment by Fulham United. I was fortunate enough and honoured to play a part in the official opening of the change rooms, along with Mayor Angela Evans.

The point I want to make here is that, while we were all over the moon to get the clubrooms refurbished to accommodate our women's soccer players, to wait the time we did was unfortunate,

particularly for the players. The good thing is that the government recognised this and has provided significant funding to accommodate the expanding growth—and it is an ever-expanding growth in women playing soccer, playing cricket and playing Aussie rules. In fact, we know that these three sports are leading the way in the growth of women participating in sport.

What we should be pleased about is that many sporting clubs across South Australia will not have to wait as long as Fulham United had to for women's change rooms at their clubs to be built. What we can expect, if the Fulham United experience is anything to go by, is we will continue to attract more girls and women to sport if there are proper and appropriate facilities available to them.

To finish off, I just want to focus a little bit more on Fulham United—a fantastic football club. The club was established in 1969 and was then known as Western United. It played at that time at the Barratt Reserve, again just outside of my electorate, where the club remained until it moved to Collins Reserve in 1979 and changed its name to Fulham United. Today, it is recognised as a well-respected, family-oriented sporting and social club providing an ever-expanding community service in the western suburbs.

It has an extremely proud history, with some fantastic players coming from the club, but it also has a very bright future. The Fulham United men were accepted into the Football Federation SA's new State League in April 2015 and debuted this year, 2016, in the State League 2 competition. The men's State League 2 seniors are currently fifth on the ladder after 14 games, which is not bad in their debut season and, as you are aware, there are nine teams in the league.

The women's team is something to behold; if you are ever down our way and you want to go to the soccer, I would recommend we go and watch the Fulham United women's team. Their Premier League team sits third on the ladder after 16 games. There are eight teams in the league, and on 25 July the women's side beat Adelaide Uni 4-2 in the FFSA Cup semifinal. In September, they will be playing off in the grand final, and I would like to be able to get to that particular match.

A club like Fulham United can only be successful if it is underpinned by good administration, good members, good supporters and good volunteers. I want to congratulate all those people involved, particularly Arthur Labroschiano, who is a foundation member and player life member, who is the president, and his board and committee that he has underneath him, including treasurer Romeo Vella. He has been outstanding in making sure he gets whatever he can for the club and, like all treasurers, is tight-fisted and seeks money from elsewhere.

I want to congratulate the coaches and the many volunteers, as I have said, and supporters. I am very proud to have this soccer club in my electorate. They are a shining beacon and one that the western suburbs can be proud of, but also the soccer fraternity in South Australia can be proud of the contribution that Fulham United make to this wonderful sport.

SERVICE SA

Mr WILLIAMS (MacKillop) (15:24): Today, I want to talk about red tape and some nonsense that occurs within our bureaucracy. I specifically want to talk about motor registration. I have had a couple of experiences in recent weeks which I think border on the ridiculous that I want to bring to the attention of the house. As members know, I own a farm in the South-East, and I recently bought a second-hand truck. I went into a Service SA agency to transfer the registration of the truck into my name.

I bought the truck in an online sale and was unable to get a signature from the seller to transfer the registration papers into my name. That did not create a real problem and we were able to get around that, but when I went into Service SA to fill out the appropriate forms, I was given a form and they said I had to put in all of the specifications of the truck. I said to them, 'This is the numberplate. You already have that information. The truck has been registered in South Australia. It is not a new truck; it is around 20 years old, and you have had this information for 20 years. Why do you not just change the name of the registered owner?' I gave them proof of ownership, receipts and all of that sort of thing. But no, I had to have all of the details, so I went home.

My son is a lot smarter at these things than I am. He went onto the internet and looked up the manufacturer of the truck and got all the specifications, and we filled out the form. The only problem was that the manufacturer specifications were cab chassis, so I had to fill out, amongst other

things, the tare weight. I did not know the weight of the tray that was on the truck, so I guessed that weight—

Mr Treloar: Which is what most people would do.

Mr WILLIAMS: It is what most people would do. I went in, and fortunately I struck somebody in the motor registration office in Mount Gambier who was most helpful. The lady there helped me with a number of things. When she got to the tare weight that I had put down, she was looking at the original registration details of this registered vehicle on the computer screen and said, 'I will just change that.' I had put 8.8 tonnes and it was supposed to be 8.6, so she very kindly changed that for me. I was appreciative of that, but the point I want to make is: the whole thing is a nonsense.

I had to attend a government office on two occasions, and I had to undertake a fair bit of work to get the details when the department already had all the information. But it gets worse. A week or two after that, my son purchased two brand-new motorbikes for use on our farm. They were both Yamahas, and the nearest Yamaha dealership to the lower South-East was in Hamilton, Victoria. So, he went over and took delivery of the two motorbikes and brought them home with all the relevant paperwork.

He then went into the motor registration office in Mount Gambier and obviously did not get the same person that I did a week or so before, because he later said to me that the person he struck obviously had no intention of being helpful. They told him that he had to have proof of ownership of the bikes—which he thought he had, because he had just purchased them—and the chassis numbers and engine numbers verified, notwithstanding they were new machines.

My son then rang the dealer in Hamilton about a particular form he had to have filled out and he was told that the dealer had never heard of the form. It turned out, at the end of the day, he had to attend the local police station in Millicent and got a very cooperative lady there who helped him. She had to actually cite the chassis number and engine number on both of these motorbikes and fill out a form, and charged him around \$50 per motorbike—brand-new motorbikes—before he could go back to the motor registration office in Mount Gambier.

We only live 50 kilometres from Mount Gambier, but my son told me that from the point when he left home to register these two bikes to when he had them both registered and arrived home it cost him a day and a half. A day and a half was dedicated to that one task, after having spent some hours driving to Hamilton to pick them up. When we talk about red tape and the impost on doing business in this state, this is the sort of problem that those of us who run small and medium businesses face on a daily basis. I will talk privately with the minister about this, but I would urge the government to look at these sorts of matters and undo the red tape that is burdening business operations in this state.

STATE BUDGET

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (15:29): Today, in the five minutes I have, I will highlight some of the areas of significance that form part of the 2016-17 state budget. Our government cares about today and about the future. We understand the importance of what having a job means to families—a job here in South Australia. Investing in education is investing in our future and that of our children and future generations.

The \$500 million allocated to upgrade school facilities and prepare our children for jobs of the future is most welcome. As a former teacher, I am particularly pleased with this announcement which will see our children gain key skills needed to work in future industries, including high-technology manufacturing. It will of course also provide support and stimulus to the construction sector in the short to medium term.

There is \$250 million to refurbish and development contemporary science, technology, engineering and mathematics facilities in the 139 public schools: 77 primary schools, 44 high schools and 18 R-12 schools. The STEM program in these schools is significant. Hillcrest and Hampstead primary schools will benefit through this program, each being allocated \$1 million for this purpose.

There is \$250 million for a loans program for private schools which, for the first time, will provide them with access to a loan facility at government borrowing rates to fund infrastructure that improves school learning facilities. There has been \$10.6 million allocated to modernise the South

Australian Certificate of Education by moving more activities online, and \$38.1 million for government-funded preschools to lower the number of students per teacher, improving the student-teacher ratio.

Throughout my life, I have been an advocate for sport, particularly team sports. The benefits to the social and physical wellbeing from participation are well documented. The new, and upgrades to, sports facilities announced in this budget include:

- \$4.6 million for the provision of land at the former Ross Smith Secondary School to the City of Port Adelaide Enfield to develop a \$15 million indoor community sport and recreation facility in Lightsview;
- \$10 million to the Football Federation South Australia to develop artificial, high-quality soccer pitches and upgrade soccer facilities across the state; and
- \$10 million for grants to sporting clubs to provides facilities for female participation in sport.

Adelaide City Football Club, in my electorate, has been the beneficiary of \$1 million to develop an artificial, high-quality soccer pitch, and I have encouraged them to involve young people in the area in school holiday programs. We are investing to support wellbeing in our community with:

- \$1.5 million in additional funding to support and rehabilitate people affected by problem gambling, funded from the introduction of a wagering tax;
- \$90.7 million in additional disability funding to support the transition to NDIS and provide additional disability services support; and
- \$44.4 million to improve Aboriginal health outcomes.

Protecting the community is a priority, and the government is continuing to reform our justice system, improve our emergency services and provide additional resources to police through the allocation of:

- \$10.6 million towards a system being implemented that continuously monitors screening assessments for people who work with children;
- \$16.1 million to meet the government's commitment to recruit 313 additional police officers and support initiatives to ensure more sworn police officers provide front-line services;
- \$4.5 million towards reforming our justice system, reducing the time it takes for serious criminal matters to come to trial; and
- \$1.3 million to introduce a national system for SA Police to share information on domestic violence orders within and across jurisdictions as part of the national domestic violence order scheme.

As I said when speaking on the Appropriation Bill in this chamber yesterday, in our great state of South Australia, we need only to lift our heads and look around us to see the transformation that is being achieved right now by way of our infrastructure investments—investments that are augmenting and improving our state's transport, health and education; investments that create and sustain jobs in the present while anticipating future employment needs in a transitioning economy. This includes the redevelopment of many metropolitan and country hospitals, investment in roads and public transport, major upgrades to school infrastructure and the building of 1,000 residential homes in 1,000 days. Investment over four years includes:

- \$3.2 billion on health facilities, including the NRAH;
- \$1.6 billion on water infrastructure;
- \$222 million on the Adelaide Festival Centre precinct and Her Majesty's Theatre; and
- \$783 million on public transport.

This investment in infrastructure is significant. The average number of jobs per annum from government infrastructure spending is 5,800. Growing jobs in our state is a priority for this government, and that is why \$244 million has been allocated to grow and support local jobs. Buying South Australian products grows local business and provides jobs to South Australia.

The \$2 million allocated to the SA Made campaign is significant. This will be an awareness campaign providing South Australians with the information we need so we can identify, support and buy SA products. The government has delivered a budget surplus in 2015-16, and is forecasting further surpluses in the future. This is the eighth surplus the government has delivered since coming to office. For more information, visit www.statebudget.sa.gov.au.

Bills

HOUSING IMPROVEMENT BILL

Final Stages

The Legislative Council agreed to the bill with the amendments indicated by the following schedule, to which amendments the Legislative Council desires the concurrence of the House of Assembly:

No. 1. Clause 5, page 8, after line 8 [clause 5(2)]—After paragraph (c) insert:

- (ca) environmental performance (including water and energy efficiency) of premises and any fixtures, fittings or facilities provided with premises;

No. 2. Clause 5, page 8, after line 13 [clause 5(2)]—After paragraph (h) insert:

- (ha) construction materials used in premises, and any fixtures, fittings or facilities provided with premises, that pose or may pose a risk to human health;

No. 3. Clause 11, page 10, line 25 [clause 11(1)]—Delete 'An' and substitute 'Subject to this section, an'

No. 4. Clause 11, page 10, line 27 [clause 11(1)(a)]— Delete paragraph (a) and substitute:

- (a) enter the premises for the purposes of carrying out an inspection of the premises, provided that—
 - (i) if the authorised officer believes on reasonable grounds that the premises pose or may pose an imminent risk of death or serious injury or illness to occupiers of the premises—the owner or occupier is notified prior to the proposed entry; or
 - (ii) in any other case—at least 5 working days' notice is given to the owner or occupier of the proposed entry (or such shorter period as may be requested or consented to by the owner or occupier);

No. 5. Clause 11, page 11, after line 5—After subsection (1) insert:

- (1a) An authorised officer's powers under subsection (1) are qualified as follows:
 - (a) the authorised officer must not exercise the power of entry in relation to residential premises unless there are reasonable grounds to believe that the premises—
 - (i) are or may be unsafe or unsuitable for human habitation; or
 - (ii) are occupied under a residential tenancy agreement;
 - (b) if, after entering residential premises, the authorised officer forms the view that the premises are not unsafe or unsuitable for human habitation, the officer must leave the premises immediately.

No. 6. Clause 11, page 11, lines 29 to 41 (inclusive) [clause 11(7) and (8)]—Delete subsections (7) and (8) and substitute:

- (7) Despite any preceding provision of this section, a person is excused from answering a question or providing information or a document under this section on the ground that the answer to the question, or the information or document, may tend to incriminate that person or expose that person to a penalty.

No. 7. New clause, page 11, after line 41—After clause 11 insert:

11A—Offences by authorised officers etc

An authorised officer, or a person assisting an authorised officer, who—

- (a) addresses offensive language to any other person; or
- (b) without lawful authority, hinders or obstructs or uses or threatens to use force in relation to any other person,

is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty: \$5,000.

Consideration in committee.

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE: I move:

That the Legislative Council's amendments be agreed to.

Motion carried.

APPROPRIATION BILL 2016

Estimates Committees

The Legislative Council gave leave to the Minister for Employment (Hon. K.J. Maher), the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation (Hon. I.K. Hunter) and the Minister for Police (Hon. P.B. Malinauskas) to attend and give evidence before the estimates committees of the House of Assembly on the Appropriation Bill, if they think fit.

Appropriation Grievances

Adjourned debate to note grievances (resumed on motion).

The Hon. S.W. KEY (Ashford) (15:37): I have had an opportunity in the break to be advised that the former excellent and exceptional disability commissioner, Mr Graeme Innes, has been replaced by Mr Alastair McEwin and that the new AHRC head, who will be replacing Commissioner Gillian Triggs, is Mr Edward Santow. So, there have certainly been some changes in the Australian Human Rights Commission. I was saying before the break that we really do welcome the new people, but in particular I would like to commend the work that has been done by the Hon. Susan Ryan AO.

The issue that our committee has been particularly interested in over the past few years, and which has certainly been highlighted by the Willing to Work report, is the discrimination of people over 50 (at least 50 years of age). Anyone in here who is over that age will understand some of these concerns more directly, with regard to health and safety provisions, access to training and retraining in the workplace and superannuation entitlements. As I understand it, there are all sorts of different schemes with different entitlements for people, in some cases for over the age of 55 and under the age of 55, as well as, in other areas, the age of 60 years is the magic number when a lot of entitlements disappear for you as a worker.

As to workers compensation coverage and the different workers compensation coverage that is available around Australia, certainly, in South Australia your entitlement to compensation, both on wages and medical benefits, deteriorates the older you get and the estimate that is given for how long you are expected to be in the paid workforce. General insurance cover. It is really important for people to check, as they age, that their insurance cover is still there for different things.

I know that with some coverage things like travel insurance are really difficult to get if you are over 70, and to get medical support or insurance when you travel if you are over the age of 70 is something that you really need to look into because my understanding, and certainly my experience representing constituents, is that there is a lot of discrimination against people wanting to do things, particularly in the insurance area.

Obviously, the area of employment and promotion in the workplace can be a question, and the flexibility for work. While in earlier times people might have needed to take time off to attend to their carer's responsibilities—and that might have been children—I am now finding that workers are saying that they have other relatives or friends they are taking responsibility for, as well as grandchildren and sometimes partners. Again, when we are talking about flexibility in the workplace, we probably need to think about some of the responsibilities that we have.

Then, of course, there is just basic age discrimination. In my former life as an industrial advocate, and now as a local member of parliament, there were a number of cases where people

would just be discriminated against because they were of an older age. It had nothing to do with their ability or their experience: it was to do with their age. In relation to the link with working longer and health, there has been a lot of work done on how beneficial work is for us.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (15:41): I rise to make a further contribution in regard to the Appropriation Bill 2016. The member for Heysen gave a very eloquent appraisal of what the government is doing with the privatisation of the Lands Titles Office, and I want to add a few words. Conveyancers from my electorate have expressed to me what they believe is the high risk of this information of land title. It is like everything, as in the movie, a man's, or a woman's, I should say as well—

An honourable member interjecting:

Mr PEDERICK: A person's—to be fully politically correct—home is their castle, and home and land ownership is something to be treasured. I believe, as do these people from the industry in my electorate who have come to me, that there is a lot of risk here; whereas, conveyancers were already concerned about the electronic conveyancing, which has been in for a while now. Not only will that happen, but who knows who will pick up the Lands Titles Office records department?

I have been told that what is likely to happen is that it will go offshore. What level of risk does that contain and what will happen and how do you undo that if the system falls apart? As was conveyed to me by one of my conveyancers, and by the member for Heysen in her contribution, Robert Torrens would be turning in his grave after the work he did, which is used here not only in this state but across other jurisdictions in regard to the Torrens Title.

The problem we have in the state is that it is bankrupt and that the state Labor government keeps selling assets, which they said they never would do—

Dr McFetridge: And we had the Treasurer going against privatisation.

Mr PEDERICK: Yes, and the only reason we are going to run into any surplus whatsoever is because of the almost \$2 billion privatisation of the Motor Accident Commission. In regard to points around domestic violence—and this is a very serious issue—I note there is a very special week on the sporting fields in the River Murray Football League this weekend. Domestic violence is an issue that needs to be taken up every day of the week. I note that in 2016-17, there is a target to release a domestic violence discussion paper consulting on particular matters regarding reform and informing the community on current initiatives. Certainly, the 2015-16 highlights reflect the collaboration between the commonwealth and other state and territory governments to develop and implement the national plan to reduce violence against women and their children.

I note that the Multi-Agency Protection Service is receiving \$683,000 over four years, but they need much more funding. That funding is to be appreciated because this is a cross-agency operation that works exceptionally well, as I know from the brief time I have been there, the briefings I have had and working with senior police since then and talking to them about its operation. It takes out the silo effect of departments and gets people working across departments. I certainly think the government needs to ramp up the work it does there. When we visited with the Social Development Committee, basically all they were doing was paying the rent and living on love from internal budgets.

River Murray ferries are an ongoing issue. It is good that I have in my electorate a local company in Bowhill Engineering, a fantastic company. They were commissioned to build the first two replacement ferries, and they are building another two ferries, and recently the contract was announced in this place. The problem for me is that the government put my local governments (and the member for Chaffey's local governments, and those of others along the river) into discussions for a couple of years about how they were going to fund the ferry replacement. It had nothing to do with local government.

Ferries are a part of state roads. Thankfully, sense has won the day, and they have been funded. They are being manufactured at Bowhill, who do magnificent work and employ a lot of local people. From talking to the owners the other night at a business awards function, I know that they have come very close to having enough work for about two to three weeks. However, now, with the ferry funding, that leads way out towards 18 months to two years of work on the books. It is to be commended, but it would have been far better if we had not gone through the circus beforehand.

I note the regional loans program that other members have spoken about in here. It is a \$4 million loans program which, sadly, after less than two years, after much fanfare in announcing this program, failed to issue one, single, solitary loan for regional South Australia, and that is a disgrace. It just should not happen like that. I am sure there are plenty of people in industries who could have used that money, but once again it did not happen.

During the last year, 4,967 people left South Australia. That is the net figure, not the gross figure. In Tasmania, it was only 79. We are compared with Tasmania a lot, but we are in a far worse state than Tasmania. The Economic Investment Fund has administered \$15 million worth of grants, but the cost to administer these grants was \$13.8 million. It is just ridiculous. If you lived in the real world, you would never go anywhere near running an operation like that—nowhere near it.

There are some local things happening in the budget. The Murray Bridge wastewater relocation is happening, but that will not be completed until December 2021. That is certainly something that needs to happen in our growing regional city. In terms of the Tailem Bend to Keith pipeline, the just-in-time River Murray pipeline, which my property is connected to, the Coomandook tank will get some additional storage. That is welcome because once water is pumped to the storage tanks, whether it is the Coomandook tank, Binnies Well tanks, or other tanks along that line, that is what helps take the surge out of the pumping so that people can have adequate water and do not get the pulsing down the lines that can put so much strain on pipelines right down to the stock and domestic lines on your property.

I discussed electricity in my previous contribution to the Appropriation Bill. We have the government trying to say every which way but coal. Some people are saying that we are against renewables. I am not against renewables: I have over 14 kilowatts of solar panels. The simple fact is that wind and solar are not base load. Ever since Alinta has been forced to shut down because of policy in this state, the base load has come out of Victoria, and guess where it comes from? It comes from coal. That is why the talk of the second interconnector is on—because it has to be connected to that base load power.

Yes, some of that will be connected to some hydro base load, and I guess you could call that base load out of Tasmania, although they have run into trouble until recent rains, as they were nearly out of water to run their hydro plants. They have had trouble with their interconnector as well. I can remember a summer when the temperature got to only 30° Centigrade and we could not import power from Tasmania. We have to be realistic. It is great to have these great ideas to transition to fully renewable, but we still need base load power and it still needs to be affordable.

In winding up, I want to make a quick comment on KESAB and controlling the size of beef schnitzels. I think—and no pun intended—that there are bigger fish to fry or bigger things to fry. They do great work, and I think we have the greatest deposit scheme in the world in relation to returnables, but we need to be realistic and look at the big issues. People need to be mindful of how they order their food because, if they do not want a big schnitzel, they can order a kid's serve or a smaller serving. How much regulation do we need? We are being regulated on our food sizes, but it seems that—

Time expired.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Treloar): Time has expired, member for Hammond. I always wanted to say that. Member for Morphett.

Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett) (15:51): Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker—and how nice it is to see you in the chair. Yesterday, in my second reading speech on the budget bill, I talked about selling the farm and the false economy that this Treasurer and this government are working under by paying their recurrent costs by selling assets. We heard the Treasurer go on about how the biggest sin that was committed in this state was privatising ETSA. I suggest that people go back and read the Auditor-General's Report in 2002 about the state of the state and what he thought of the privatisation of ETSA at the time: it was a very good thing.

Today, the Treasurer stood in this place and quoted from today's *Australian Financial Review* about the ACCC boss criticising privatisation. You have to read the whole article, but I will read the bits the Treasurer did not read. The ACCC chairman, Rod Sims, said:

Privatisation of public assets has been a pillar of Australian public policy since the [Labor] Keating government privatised Commonwealth Bank, CSL and Qantas in the early 1990s and the Kennett government repaired Victoria's shredded balance sheet in the 1990s by selling electricity and gas companies.

Selling gas and electricity to repair the shredded balance sheets, as the Liberal government did in 1993, or in the mid-1990s, selling ETSA to repair the balance sheets here. The ACCC chairman continues:

But the policy has often struggled to win the support of the public, and steep power price rises in recent years have set it back even further even though they have occurred just as much under public ownership.

Those steep power prices have occurred just as much under public ownership. The commission then goes on:

Mr Sims said he was less concerned about the NSW government's power poles and wires privatisations because the state has an independent pricing regulator.

I thought that we had an independent pricing regulator here in South Australia, so what is the Treasurer going on about? While he is reading the *Financial Review*, the Treasurer should also read the other front-page article, which continues on page 6, about how the market should pay for renewable backup, according to AGL. There are some very interesting comments there about the effect on electricity pricing of the way the market in South Australia has been skewed towards renewable energy.

The main thing I wanted to talk about in the few minutes available to me this afternoon is how we are having one of the wettest winters for many years, as though people in this place had not recognised. Certainly all the dams and creeks in the Adelaide Hills are full to overflowing now, and I am sure that there will be some flood events if we get these heavy late winter and spring rains.

I congratulate the CFS, SES and MFS and other emergency workers out there who have been doing a fantastic job in the storms in the last few weeks, particularly risking their lives to rescue people who have been stupid in crossing flooded creeks in cars and taking risks which they really should not be. Our SES and CFS volunteers and MFS firefighters are out there doing what they love to do and are happy to do.

However, this wet winter is going to lead onto a wonderful spring we hope which then, unfortunately for us in South Australia, will lead on to a high fuel load for the bushfire season coming up. Every year we talk about the dangers of bushfire in South Australia. The CFS go out there and warn people to prepare and act and to be ready. Have your bushfire plan in place and be ready to leave if you have to.

The need to heed that advice cannot be underestimated because if you have been in a bushfire—and I think I have said that we could crew two trucks in the CFS from the number of members on this side who have experienced fires—you know that a bushfire is a very dangerous place. In the disastrous Pinery fire, unfortunately two people lost their lives, and that is a very pertinent example of how dangerous bushfires can be and how rapidly they can move. There is very little that can be done to stop those sorts of fires, so being prepared is the best thing. Having a safe place to go to and leaving early is the best thing you can do, if you can. That is why the warning systems and other procedures we have in place are to be heeded, just as crossing creeks in floods should be avoided.

One of the people who has been looking at bushfires and their effects has been former CFS chief in South Australia, Euan Ferguson, who left South Australia to head up the CFA in Victoria. He has retired and is doing some consulting work now. He did a report into the Waroona fire in January this year in Western Australia, and again two people unfortunately lost their lives. There are a number of recommendations that Euan came out with in his final report, and the one that really caught my attention was the fuel management and fire prevention.

Members in this place will know that on numbers of occasions—I think it is three times now—I have introduced amendments to the Native Vegetation Act to try to get some common sense and some reasonable clearing of roadside vegetation to help people have clear paths to escape bushfires and reduce the spread of fires by having decent firebreaks. I think they call them fuse breaks along the roads and creeks. By clearing undergrowth and reducing the fuel, you can help limit the spread of fires in many cases.

Obviously, if there are extremely strong conditions like at Wangary and Pinery, that is unlikely, but they were exceptional conditions. That does not mean to say you do not try. You never choose not to prepare. One of the first recommendations that Euan Ferguson made in the Western Australian report was for the Department of Parks and Wildlife to plan for the highest priority hazard reduction burning effort around settlements in critical areas. Some of the areas had fuel that had been piling up for years, and the aim is to have no area with a fuel load that has accumulated for more than six years.

I think that our people in South Australia could have a good look at that and increase their fuel reduction burns. Interestingly, and I am not aware of whether this scheme exists in South Australia, but there is a bushfire mitigation grant scheme which apparently has federal money as well as state money available. If there is money available to help property owners recover their costs in reducing fuel, their upfront cost will probably produce many times the savings if there is a bushfire. Utilising commonwealth funds to help do that is a good thing. If we can get the commonwealth government to help pay some of the costs here, why not? We all pay our taxes.

Another recommendation is that the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, which is the equivalent of SAFECOM here, develop a simplified and fast track hazard reduction burn planning and approval process. This is what I was saying in my amendments. I wanted to have a simplified process, not the layer upon layer of bureaucratic forms, permissions and consents that you have to go through. I actually trust South Australians to do the right thing and I think they can do the right thing.

That has been recognised in Western Australia by former CFS chief officer Euan Ferguson doing this report in Western Australia. He recommended developing guidelines for landholders with respect to bushfire breaks around roadsides and irrigation drainage channels. Again, that is what I have been pushing for and that has been recommended by Mr Ferguson. Resource efficiency is another area covered by Mr Ferguson in his report.

Recommendation 10 recommends the adoption of an emergency services resource management system for tracking of emergency management personnel, vehicles, plant and aircraft. For years now—and I will ask it again in estimates on Monday, so it is almost a Dorothy Dixier—I have been asking about the automatic vehicle location system that was promised by Mike Rann and Michael Wright many years ago. I think it was in 2004 or it might have been 2008, but it seems so many years ago that it was promised, but it has not been delivered. Let's find out what is going on with the automatic vehicle location system in South Australia.

The other thing we need to do is make sure that we have evacuation places that are safe. The Kangarilla CFS and community centre are co-located. Their emergency generator, which runs the bores and the community centre, is absolutely stuffed. I cannot get either the Minister for Communities and Social Inclusion or the City of Onkaparinga to fund that small cost to provide a safe place for that community. They really do need to think about their priorities. We need to prepare for the bushfire season. We need to have safe places to go and plans in place.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart) (16:02): I rise to make a few comments about the budget. Let me say at the outset that the biggest issues facing South Australia are cost of living, unemployment challenges and the ever-rising cost of electricity in South Australia. Unfortunately, electricity costs are not only rising but rising comparative to all other states in the nation at the same time as our unemployment is rising compared to all other states in the nation. These are fundamental issues that the government must address and has not addressed adequately in this budget, unfortunately.

I am going to spend the short amount of time that is available to me right now to address two key issues which are very important to my electorate, but they are also statewide and national issues of significance: one of them is the much-needed upgrade to Yorkeys Crossing and the other one is the sealing of the Strzelecki Track. As members of this house would know very well from listening to me talk about this many times, in Port Augusta as part of National Highway 1 we have a bridge across the top of the Upper Spencer Gulf that goes from the east side to the west side of Port Augusta, or vice versa, and it is only a single lane in each direction.

There is another bridge over a railway line further east of the gulf which is also a single lane in each direction. This is unacceptable with regard to delivering the service that is required of National Highway 1, but it is particularly unacceptable given that the only alternative path around the gulf and the regional city of Port Augusta is what is called Yorkeys Crossing.

Yorkeys Crossing is a dirt road approximately 21 kilometres long. It is a relatively poor dirt road and when we get approximately six millimetres of rain it is impassable. Not only is the main highway unacceptable for today's modern standards—certainly when it was built it was super duper; it would have been wonderful then, but for today's modern standards and the freight load that is expected on it, as well as the local traffic load, it is not up to scratch, but the backup is completely unacceptable as well.

I said at the outset that this is a local, intrastate and national issue. We quite regularly have congestion associated with the bridge within Port Augusta, but this is also a freight route which carries freight from Sydney to Perth and from Adelaide to Darwin. It is an incredibly important road by state and national standards as well.

The problem is exacerbated and potentially becomes completely untenable when there is an accident on the bridge or a breakdown on the bridge or some other issue which closes the bridge or even just closes one lane of the bridge. Believe it or not, it happens quite regularly. We have been very fortunate that it has only happened for relatively short times—sometimes for 10 minutes, sometimes for half an hour, or sometimes for a couple of hours it has happened. When that happens, very quickly traffic is backed up on the east and west side of the bridge for a very long way, and in some cases kilometres.

If the bridge were ever out of action for, say, 24 hours or 48 hours, our whole national freight efficiency would be very seriously detrimentally impacted. So, it is incredibly important that this house and the government understands how important it is to have this upgraded. The upgrade is twofold: one is upgrading the bridge and the road that goes through town so that there are two lands of traffic in each direction all the way through. I accept that that is a hundreds of millions of dollars solution and that it will come later. It cannot come now.

So, what we need to do now is address what can be done immediately, and that is to upgrade Yorkeys Crossing so that it is a passable, serviceable, useable, all-weather road so that when the bridge is closed for some reason or another we have a reasonable back-up so that heavy freight and wide loads can use it, so that local traffic if necessary, if the bridge is out for a while, can use it, and so that, very importantly, if there is an emergency of some sort on the west side, given that we have all our emergency services on the east side of Port Augusta—like the hospital, the ambulance, police and fire—they have an all-weather serviceable road so that they can get to the west side as quickly as possible and help people. We do not have that at the moment.

Another very important aspect of this important upgrade is that it would contribute to the driving of triple road trains from the northern pastoral area all the way around the outside of Port Augusta direct to the Dublin Saleyards, which is another example of very important freight efficiency which would be provided immediately if Yorkeys Crossing were upgraded. The government says that the cost-benefit analysis just does not come up. I disagree with that because they are not including all the potential costs and all the potential benefits. They are only looking at what happens just at the moment, and I think that is very narrow-minded.

I would like to quickly turn to the other issue which I think is very unfortunate to have been left out of the budget, that is, the sealing of the Strzelecki Track, which runs between Lyndhurst in the Northern Flinders Ranges, 475 kilometres north to Moomba, Innamincka, the Cooper Basin and then a further 30 kilometres to the Queensland border. This road services the pastoral industry, the tourism industry and the oil and gas industry of the Cooper Basin. All three of these industries make very significant contributions to our state's economy and all of them are identified as being among the state government's own highest priorities for further development.

There is bitumen all the way from Brisbane to the South Australia-Queensland border. The Strzelecki Track is renowned as the worst major dirt road in our state, and what this means is that, unfortunately, our state is missing out on business. The Cooper Basin, which overlaps the SA, Queensland and Northern Territory borders, has traditionally been serviced from South Australia, but

over the last decade a large chunk of that business has shifted from South Australia to Queensland, simply because of the condition of the road.

To put this in context, it often takes more than 12 hours for a truck to travel from Lyndhurst to Moomba, and that is only 400 kilometres. On top of the cost of the time to the transport company are the increased maintenance and damage costs. Increased transport costs flow through directly to customers and reduce their efficiency and viability, but one of the biggest issues for me as a South Australian is that the Queensland service providers can travel on bitumen, and so our state loses the business due to inefficiency and higher costs.

Not only does the opportunity to upgrade the Strzelecki Track offer significantly enhanced productivity to these industries but it also offers return of business from Queensland to South Australia, which enhances our economy. But this is not just about taking business away from Queensland, as we all will benefit from having the shared and extremely important Cooper Basin cattle and tourism industries operating as efficiently and productively as possible. There are thousands of South Australian-based tourists who would like to but just do not venture into south-west Queensland because they cannot or will not travel on the Strzelecki Track.

The Queensland cattle industry would benefit enormously from vastly improved access to the South Australian market for their cattle. Right now, the Strzelecki Track essentially locks Queensland cattle producers out of the South Australian market so that they have no choice when prices in Queensland are lower than in South Australia. They cannot find it efficient to come to South Australia where they would get higher prices for their cattle. We will all benefit from these industries operating as efficiently as possible.

Importantly, the South Australian and federal governments are considering a proposal which has been put to Infrastructure Australia. This is a project with a value of \$450 million. I know that is a very large sum of money, but this also has been determined by Infrastructure Australia as having a 4.9:1 benefit to cost ratio, which is extremely high by any standards. Clearly, this would be a very good investment. The problem at the moment is that the state government has not put any money on the table for this project. The state government has talked about it, is aware of it, and even acknowledges how important, useful and helpful it would be for our state, but it has not put any money on the table.

The state government has talked about an 80:20 cost split between the federal and state governments respectively but has not offered its 20 per cent. It has not even offered its 20 per cent over a succession of years, which would be a very positive step forward. While it would not be my first choice, in my mind it would be quite acceptable if 100 kilometres was done each year over five years. That would be a practical way to go.

I point out that by my calculations, adding up all of the north-south metropolitan Adelaide roadwork upgrades that have been completed or are currently being done from Darlington all the way through to Wingfield, the state government has actually contributed 40 per cent of the money and received 60 per cent of the total cost from the federal government. It is possible, when the government feels it is important enough, to do 40:60 and I urge the government to put on the table at least 20 per cent of the money that would be required to upgrade the Strzelecki Track.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (16:12): In the state budget, \$3.5 million has been allocated this financial year to commence the long-awaited Gawler East Link Road Project. The \$3.5 million is part of the \$55 million the state government has allocated to this important infrastructure project for the area. I fully support this project and commend the minister and state government for allocating \$55 million to it in a very tight fiscal environment. The Gawler East Developers and the Town of Gawler will also make a contribution to the cost of the overall project.

The project will create important jobs in civil construction and assist with growth of the Gawler East development, Springwood, which will result in jobs in construction and jobs which result from the creation of new households. In addition to generating important economic activity, the project will make an important contribution to addressing some of the traffic management issues in the Town of Gawler. The project has a number of elements, including:

- the road from the Springwood Estate to Potts Road;

- the upgrading of Potts Road from the intersection of the new link road to Main North Road;
- the upgrading of the Potts Road-Main North Road-Para Road intersection with traffic lights;
- the upgrade of Main North Road from Potts Road to Trinity Drive; and
- the associated improvements to the Main North Road-Tulloch Road intersection.

The alignment of the Springwood Road-Potts Road section of the link road is currently under consideration by the Town of Gawler. The Town of Gawler rejected the state government alignment so as to ensure the success of the project, and the state government has reluctantly agreed to adopt the Town of Gawler's alignment recommendation. I understand that the Town of Gawler will adopt its position in relation to the alignment during August.

It is important that the Potts Road upgrade delivers a better outcome for residents living along it. Ensuring that appropriate traffic measures are put in place at the intersection of Potts Road and Coleman Parade is key to the success of the upgrade. The proposed traffic lights and associated pedestrian crossings at the Potts Road-Main North Road intersection will improve road and pedestrian safety, and in particular, safety for students who attend the two schools nearby—namely, St Brigid's Primary and Gawler and District College. The upgrade of Main North Road will help with traffic flows along this stretch of the roadway. While an associated project, a key part of the project is the upgrade of the Main North Road-Tulloch Road intersection.

I have previously written to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure on this matter and made my views very clear. Given the importance of this aspect of the project, those views are worth mentioning here. Given the retail development on Tulloch Road, it is critical that this intersection is upgraded sooner rather than later, and I would urge the Town of Gawler and the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure to resolve this matter as soon as possible.

The intersection, in its current form, is not satisfactory. It will certainly be inadequate once the Audi store opens. What is most frustrating is the failure of the Town of Gawler and DPTI to work closely enough to develop an agreed strategy to address the traffic management issues at this busy intersection. It is acknowledged that weaknesses in the current Development Act have in part created the problem, but I am not convinced that the Town of Gawler and DPTI could not have addressed the issue sooner.

It has been particularly disappointing that the Town of Gawler has taken on a very passive role in this issue, preferring to blame the state government for the rezoning of the area and, secondly, stating that it is powerless to act. On both of those issues, I would strongly disagree with the council. The council appear to have washed their hands of the issue, stating the state government created the problem while, all along, they have been quite happy to collect the rates the new developments have generated. I am reliably advised that these additional rates are quite substantial.

When Gawler Park and Gawler Green were proposed, a range of traffic management measures were adopted in the development plan. The traffic problems in this locality can be addressed and resolved by the state government and the Town of Gawler implementing the provisions of that plan. My simple message to both the Town of Gawler and the state government, through DPTI, is to stop procrastinating and just do it. Just implement the provisions of the development plan.

It should be a shared responsibility, both financially and in terms of its implementation. It is time for the council and state government to put their differences aside and implement measures to improve safety in the locality. The development plan, when combined with some additional minor traffic measures, would improve safety at the Tulloch-Main North roads intersection.

Adopting the safety measures for Barnet and Para roads would improve safety for children and young adults attending Gawler District College and the children's centre. I have held discussions with members of the governing councils of both schools, and they support the implementation of the provisions of the council development plan for this locality, as far as they pertain to traffic management measures.

Traffic management issues in this locality are raised continually with me by local residents. If it is not the number one traffic issue, it is pretty close to it. Accordingly, I call on the state government and the Town of Gawler to pool their expertise and resources and undertake the required works demanded by the community which I represent. For the record, it is my view and the view of most residents that no traffic measure short of a roundabout at Tulloch and Main North roads will be acceptable.

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (16:17): I wish to take the opportunity today to talk about an intersection in my electorate and the opportunities for improving that intersection that my community would like to see implemented. The intersection in question is the corner of Reid Avenue and St Bernards Road, which is pretty much right out the front of the Morialta electorate office so, not wanting to just take my own personal interests into account here, I also have previously brought to the parliament a petition signed by hundreds of local residents and, more recently, conducted a survey of the surrounding suburb of Rostrevor.

I know the member for Hartley took a similar survey of the surrounding suburb of Hectorville on the other side of St Bernards Road. Upon receiving the results of this survey, we presented some material to the government, and it is that material and the government's response that I will use my time today to discuss in urging the government to act on the wishes of my community and undertake some necessary works. When I was first elected to the parliament in March 2010, the former member for Morialta, Lindsay Simmons, had, in response to community desires for traffic lights at the corner of Graves Street and Newton Road in Newton, elicited from her party an election promise to undertake a draft road management plan of the area.

While this draft road management plan was not in itself a bad thing, I said at the time, and have since been proven to be correct over the last six years, that it was a fig leaf to cover the Labor Party's embarrassment that they were refusing to service the people of Morialta and Hartley by delivering those traffic lights that were so sorely and are still so sorely desired at the corner of Graves Street and Newton Road. Further, the road management plan would only be worth the paper it was written on and the hundreds of thousands of dollars of DPTI staff time and consultation time that was undertaken in order to prepare it if it actually did result to improvements along the road.

DPTI did spend hundreds of thousands of dollars of staff time and management time and community consultation. They had many responses and many engineers' considerations of what to do along the whole stretch of St Bernard's Road, Darley Road, Newton Road, Penfold Road, along the way, as was promised. They produced a very thick document with dozens and dozens of recommendations that would have benefitted the community of Morialta and Hartley.

Campbelltown council responded, I responded, Vincent Tarzia, as he was then, before he was elected as the member for Hartley, put in his two bits in encouraging a response to that, and we ended up with a document that, while not perfect, had many opportunities to improve. One of the significant recommendations it had was for improvement at Reid Avenue and St Bernard's Road.

Consequently, nothing has happened. None of the recommendations has been put in place. None of the improved treatments at any of the intersections that were envisaged by the transport department have been put in place. None of what they describe as candidates for funding have ever been funded. Consequently, the Labor government's hollow promise (as it was) in 2010 to undertake a road management plan has been proven to be just that, hollow.

At any rate, it did come up with some suggestions for improvements to Reid Avenue and St Bernard's Road and also integrated into the intersection of Karrawirra Road and St Bernard's Road, which is right outside my office, as it happens. Undertaking that survey, it was a genuine survey, it was letterboxed by volunteers to all of the people in Rostrevor and Hectorville that would be impacted, potentially, by any change. They are seeking what they would like because there are a number of issues.

Firstly, there are traffic problems at those corners of St Bernard's Road and Karrawirra Avenue and St Bernard's Road and Reid Avenue. Secondly, there is a significant supermarket, Romeo's Rostrevor Foodland, that is a point of great desirable access for people living in Hectorville, but it is very dangerous to cross St Bernard's Road to get there. There is a tiny pedestrian refuge at the moment that, currently, we see people trying to access and not finding it very easy. Only two

weeks ago my office staff witnessed an elderly resident being hit by a truck that nearly killed them. Fortunately, it slowed down so that they were only seriously injured. I say that very seriously because they were very nearly killed. It is a dangerous intersection, compounded by the traffic problems.

We received over 100 responses: 72 per cent support a sheltered right-turn lane being introduced into Reid Avenue, 5 per cent oppose that and 23 per cent are unsure. On the question of right turn lanes being put into both Reid Avenue and Karrawirra Avenue, 67 per cent supported, 3 per cent opposed and 29 per cent were unsure. For pedestrian access, 80 per cent supported the introduction of pedestrian-activated traffic lights, 14 per cent supported a wider pedestrian refuge and 3 per cent supported no change.

In December of last year I provided that information to the Minister for Transport, having previously spoken to him about the matter when he was kind enough to visit the Morialta electorate earlier in the year. The minister responded more recently, identifying that he had both forwarded my letter to the Minister for Road Safety, the Hon. Peter Malinauskas, and also identifying, and I quote from his letter:

The recommended option in the draft [road management plan] for St Bernards Road involves adding sheltered right turn lanes into Reid Avenue and Karrawirra Avenue. The proposed right turn lanes would also retain the pedestrian refuge, which would be upgraded and situated between the two side roads.

[The department] appreciates the local feedback your office has provided and will continue to seek funding opportunities for this work in the future.

Mr Malinauskas, the Minister for Road Safety, responded separately with a similar letter, and I will quote part of that as well. He said similar things about the described suggestion, the road management plan. He said:

This project was to be nominated as a potential Blackspot Project for the 2016/2017 financial year. Unfortunately, given the estimated high cost of the treatment (\$1.6m) compared with the benefit to the community, funding for this work was not seen to be as high in priority when compared to many other projects across the arterial road network. As a consequence, the project did not receive funding. Notwithstanding, [the department] will continue to seek other funding opportunities for this work.

He then goes on to describe why the department would prefer to undertake the treatment that deals with introducing right turn lanes only and not traffic lights. I make the point that if those right turn lanes were introduced with a wider pedestrian refuge that would still be a significant improvement on what we have now. This \$1.6 million figure in the minister's letter stunned me because we are actually talking about an area that has very wide footpaths with a shopping centre that would be delighted to assist the government in having a crossing introduced because their residents are the ones whose lives who are going to be safer.

In relation to the minister's comments about it being a potential Black Spot project but obviously not a high enough priority again, given the recent casualty crash that my staff witnessed a couple of weeks ago, I imagine that that might impact on the Black Spot project's priority order, and I hope that the government will take that into account, as this is a very dangerous area. This \$1.6 million stunned me, so I wrote to the minister again, saying:

In order to assist in helping me, and my constituents, to understand the reasons for the proposed treatments of these intersections not receiving support, I would be much obliged if you might provide a breakdown of the costings for the project that identifies how the suggested figure of \$1.6 million is reached.

I am very grateful to the Hon. Peter Malinauskas, who responded. For the benefit of the house, I will read what the government can spend \$1.6 million on because I am fairly certain that if they had a go at, if they have a look at it, they could get that \$1.6 million down drastically. They estimate:

- \$193,000 Project/contract management, survey and design, consultation and environmental assessment.

They say that is:

...a potentially conservative estimate that attempts to allow for variations in the project delivery model, which was yet to be determined.

I should say it is a conservative estimate—\$193,000 for project management by a department undertaking a project they have already done the planning for. They further estimate:

- \$357,000 Relocation of four communications pits and an allowance for the protection of an existing water main in the vicinity of the proposed works.

That sounds high to me, but I will allow others to cast their expert eye over it. Further:

- \$624,000 Construction costs based on an assumed scope of work.

This is introduce two right-hand turn lanes and widen the footpath in a short narrow area—\$624,000. The letter continues:

...demolition and reconstruction of the existing footpath, new pavement beneath existing median islands, pavement rehabilitation to both sides of St Bernards Road for the extension of works, road lighting upgrades and traffic management during construction.

Finally, somewhere between \$182,000 and \$454,000 they say is the risk component 'to manage unforeseen works and potential impact to services'. For me the \$1.6 million figure does not ring true. I urge the government to look at this again and undertake the works that my community desperately wants.

The Hon. J.M. RANKINE (Wright) (16:27): I have to say that once again we have been subject to a very lacklustre performance by the opposition and, in particular, the Leader of the Opposition in responding to the budget. Really, they do wonder why they cannot win an election. They truly do wonder, they cannot fathom it; it is always someone else's fault.

The member for Waite hit the nail on the head: so lacklustre is the opposition, so devoid of enthusiasm or, importantly, ideas, no-one bothers to turn up to hear what the opposition or their leader has to say. I have no doubt they will go into estimates, hours of questioning, and make no ground and still wonder why. In question time, they have had 20, 30, 40 questions on the trot and get nowhere and they wonder why. The chamber reverts back to a system of alternate questions and they are happy with that. Don't you really have to wonder why?

If there was a measure of contrast of political priorities between the parties, education must be it. I am absolutely delighted with the investment this state government is again putting into education and education infrastructure here in South Australia—a total of \$500 million, \$250 million in infrastructure funding for public schools, and a \$250 million loan facility for private schools throughout South Australia. In my electorate, we have been very fortunate; \$9 million is going into schools in Salisbury East and the Golden Grove area for new and upgraded STEM facilities. This investment is fantastic for the children in our area. Four primary schools—Keller Road, Madison Park, Gulfview Heights, and Wynn Vale—will receive \$1 million each, as well as Golden Grove and Salisbury East High School getting \$2½ million each. It is a real boost for these schools and a real boost for the children, as I have said.

Salisbury East High School must be close to 50 years of age. When we came to government, it had not had any money spent on upgrades in its entire history. It was old and it was tired. In fact, when we came to government, public schools were so run down in this state that the first budgetary program for schools, the first priority of our government, was to fix the toilets in the schools. Kids did not have working, safe, sanitary toilets under the Liberal government.

Public schools were neglected massively by the former Liberal government. This was further compounded, obviously, and an indication of the priority they have for their public schools, when the federal Liberals turned their back on the Gonski funding, turned their backs on the state's public and private schools—and not a dicky bird of complaint from those opposite. More recently, we have heard from the member for Adelaide, who thinks this \$250 million investment in our schools is a waste of money.

I also remember Trish White, when she was the minister for education, coming out to Salisbury East High School and announcing a new home ec and tech study centre. The entire assembly erupted, and teachers cried. Kids were so excited. It was their news of the day when they were picked up by their mums and dads. Of course, since then, under the great principle, Jacqui Van Ruiten, further investment and enhancements have been made at Salisbury East High School. It was \$7 million, I think, and a performing arts centre as well as classroom upgrades and ground upgrades.

I have to say that I was extremely disappointed that she was poached from Salisbury East High School and appointed to Norwood Morialta. I understand that placement had a higher

classification, so I understand Ms Van Ruiten accepting the position, but maybe the minister could consider a grading system for principals that considers not just the size of the school or the number of campuses but the complexity and challenge of disadvantage in principals' pay scales.

The private schools in the Wright electorate will also obviously benefit from the loan facility. When I was minister for education, it was their second priority after receiving money to help them assist children with a disability. The fact that they needed access to funds for capital works had been a concern for them for some time, so I know that they are going to be pleased with this loan facility available at government interest rates.

Jobs out in my electorate is also obviously a big issue. The Northern Connector, and an investment of more than \$900 million of both state and federal funds, will be a great boost to our local economy. There is a \$12.1 billion total infrastructure spend on transport, health and education in this budget. I was particularly pleased, in connection with the Northern Connector, with the establishment of the NorthHub, so those seeking to work on the Northern Connector, those needing a job, can register their interest.

The major tenderer, Lendlease, committed that at least half of the jobs will go to people in the local area. NorthHub will advertise vacancies, seek expressions of interest for upcoming positions, provide information on training opportunities from engineers to apprentices, from supervisors to admin staff. NorthHub provides a direct link into jobs, and it is a great initiative. NorthHub's website is now open, and we will be contacting people in my electorate, in areas that have relatively high levels of unemployment and areas where we know many of the Holden workers come from, and giving them details of how they can contact NorthHub.

Health is another area in which there is a clear divide between the major political parties. We know the federal government cut \$655 million from South Australian hospitals over four years and refused to honour the signed National Health Reform Agreement with the states in 2014. Here in South Australia, this state budget includes a commitment of \$526.8 million over four years to help ease the shortfall in federal health funding. Despite this extra state investment, there is still a significant hole in our health budget courtesy of the federal Liberals.

All Australians should be able to access health care when and where they need it. That is why Labor believes access to health care should rely on your Medicare card, not on your credit card. Labor gave Australians Medicare: the Liberals have been consistent in wanting to get rid of it. Our record and commitment to public health continues with a \$5.8 billion investment in the health system, up to \$230 million from the last financial year. That will ensure continued access to the best possible health services. Let me outline also some of the investment that we have made locally out in the north-east.

Since 2002, the state Labor government has invested \$30 million in Modbury Hospital to improve the services and hospital infrastructure. Under Transforming Health, Modbury will receive further improvements, including an expanded one-stop breast service, gastroenterology outpatient services and elective endoscopies. The South Australian government is also committed to the construction of a new \$32 million purpose-built rehabilitation centre at Modbury Hospital that will bring together allied health specialists, including occupational therapy, physiotherapy and speech therapy, as well as medical and nursing staff. The minister has announced that the Lyell McEwin Hospital will receive a second cardiovascular intervention suite in the 2016-17 state budget.

Since 2002, the state government has invested \$313 million in the Lyell McEwin Hospital. Facilities include new radiotherapy, CT scanner, a mental health building, an inpatient building, a women's health and paediatric inpatient building, an extended emergency care unit and an administrative teaching and research space. Works have also been undertaken to upgrade and improve the engineering infrastructure, and a new multideck car park was constructed in 2010. A second cardiovascular intervention suite will be opened at the Lyell McEwin Hospital later this year.

The state government is investing in education, investing in our children and investing in health, particularly in the northern suburbs, where many families are feeling the hurt and strain of the Holden closure courtesy of the federal Liberal government.

Mr DULUK (Davenport) (16:38): Since the Treasurer delivered his budget on 7 July, my office has been contacted by quite a few constituents. I can tell you that not one has phoned, emailed

or visited my office to sing the praises of the Treasurer's budget. No-one has said that it is an excellent budget, no-one has even said it is a good budget. What they have told me is that they are very disappointed. They are frustrated and they are very angry. They are frustrated by the government's unwavering commitment to Transforming Health, despite growing protests from medical professionals, staff and patients, as well as budget blowouts and despicable waste, including \$3 million of taxpayers' money the government spent spruiking its changes to the health system.

They are angry that the government has ignored the most pressing issue for every household and every business operating in South Australia, and that is the extraordinary increases to cost of living. Every household and every business is hurting. They are hurting because of increases to electricity bills, because of increases to ESL and because of increases to council rates. What does the budget do to help relieve these rising costs? What does it do for young families, for couples, for single income homes, for pensioners and for business owners? This government has increased the tax burden for all of them. That is right: it has increased the tax burden on all these people.

The government has increased the solid waste levy. The levy will cost South Australians an extra \$64 million per annum by the end of the forward estimates, with the price increasing from \$62 to \$103 per tonne by 2019-20. The Onkaparinga council, which my electorate overlaps, has already incorporated this price rise in its rates with an eleventh hour increase following the budget announcement. With the addition of the waste levy to the annual rate increase, Onkaparinga residents are now paying 3 per cent more each year or an average of \$44. That is, \$44 that households no longer have to help with school fees, to pay for a doctor's visit or put towards groceries.

Taxis, chauffeurs and ride-sharing trips will also attract a new levy for every metropolitan trip from next year. Public transport has again gone up with a single trip now at about \$5.30. Indeed, fees and charges for all major government services have increased—registering a motor vehicle, CTP premiums, driver's licence renewals and speeding fines. Although there has been some minor relief to water bills this year, let's not forget that in 2008-09 the average residential water bill was \$340.60. In 2015-16, it was \$783.44.

Successive Labor governments have made a conscious decision to inflict an increasing financial burden on South Australians year on year. They have done so to help prop up a budget and to compensate for the government's disgraceful mismanagement of taxpayer money. As a result, South Australia is now the highest taxing jurisdiction in Australia, as reported by the Commonwealth Grants Commission.

Once again, the government has not only failed to deliver any cost of living relief for South Australian households and businesses, but it has actually increased cost-of-living pressures with new taxes, increases to existing taxes, and additional fees and charges. My constituents are walking around the local community with much lighter pockets as a result of this Labor government and, as they move about their community, travelling to and from work, visiting the shops and enjoying their weekend activities, they are wondering, where are all their dollars going? How is their local community benefiting from all these taxes, fees and charges?

Whilst they welcomed the government's announcement that \$2.5 million in STEM funding will be invested in Blackwood High School, they are left disappointed that once again the government has neglected the infrastructure and transportation needs of Davenport. The state budget has failed to allocate any funding to help develop a new multi-use sports hub at Hewett Sports Ground in Blackwood.

Efforts by the City of Mitcham and local clubs to secure state government assistance have repeatedly fallen on deaf ears. The council has committed over \$400,000 to the project and was seeking an equal contribution from the state government. The upgrade is desperately needed to improve the facilities which are in terribly poor condition. On a recent visit to the club rooms, I noticed that the rooms were opened by Robin Millhouse, who was the member for Mitcham many years ago.

The clubrooms represent the essence of grassroots sport, operating as a home facility for the Woods Panthers Netball Club, Blackwood Tennis Club, Coromandel Cricket Club, Blackwood Football Club and Sturt Lions Soccer Club. They are also used by many other clubs, schools and

organisations, but the local clubs, volunteers, coaches, athletes and local residents who rely on these facilities to practise and compete in their sports have again been ignored by the state government.

The government could not find \$400,000 to make a real difference to the community. Thankfully, the federal Coalition government wants to make a difference and has stepped up to fill the void left by the state Labor government. I would like to commend Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull, sports minister Sussan Ley, and new member for Boothby Nicolle Flint for making this commitment possible.

I am becoming quite repetitive but I will tell the house again that the road capacity in the Mitcham Hills will not stand an evacuation when there is a fire. Traffic along Main Road, Old Belair Road, Belair Road and Fullarton Road in and out of the Mitcham Hills continues to increase and yet again the government ignores the desperate need to upgrade roads, especially the central corridor through the Mitcham Hills.

On Monday this week, there was an unfortunate accident along Old Belair Road at the James Road intersection. This accident happened during peak hour and resulted in traffic banking up all the way to the Glenalta crossing. It was a frightening insight into how quickly and easily congestion immobilises commuters and residents in the Mitcham Hills. It is a situation that is at the forefront of the minds of my constituents each summer as they contemplate their capacity to evacuate in the event of a bad fire.

In 2009, the Natural Resources Committee, chaired by the current Deputy Premier, released its interim bushfire inquiry report. Recommendation 1 stated:

The committee recommends the provision of substantial funds to improve road infrastructure in the Mitcham Hills to be spent over the 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14 budgets.

Not for the first time I ask: how much has been allocated to meeting the recommendations of the Natural Resources Committee? The answer is: very, very little. As then Sturt CFS group officer Mike Pearce noted in his evidence to the committee:

...if there was to be a major bushfire in the Mitcham Hills area on any weekend...we could have more than 8,500 vehicles fleeing from an approaching front. Of the six exits from the district, you could only reasonably expect less than half to be suitable for this purpose due to bushfire impacts. The situation will cause severe traffic congestion throughout the district and leave road users in some areas at extreme risk.

The need to invest in infrastructure and upgrade local roads has only increased since these comments were made due to the population growth throughout the Mitcham Hills and surrounding districts. This state budget once again ignores the safety of local residents. The government still has not responded to the report's recommendations and it has failed to allocate any funding to improve road infrastructure in the area.

The government has not even met its obligation to improve public transport in the area and in this year's budget it has only allocated \$10 million to the much-needed Tonsley train line extension, when the state government is due to make a contribution of \$40 million to the project. Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull has committed to partnering with the state government to cover half of the \$85 million project, but the best the Treasurer can do in this budget is to commit \$10 million to the project, which we understand is to be completed by 2018.

Ten million dollars is not going to get the job done and again Davenport residents miss out. Of course, the Tonsley project is a fantastic project: it is a rail extension between the Tonsley innovation precinct and the university and includes a new train station adjacent to the Flinders Medical Centre. The benefits of extending this line 620 metres are numerous, including: cutting travel times from the city to the campus to just over 20 minutes; easing parking woes for users of the hospital as well as staff, patients and visitors; improving access to the university; and enhancing the attractiveness and liveability of southern Adelaide. However, the benefits for commuters, patients, staff and students do not appear to be a priority for this government.

Finally, I would like to touch on the topic of epilepsy. I know we had many people from Epilepsy SA in the house recently, but there is no funding for epilepsy or the Epilepsy Centre in this state budget. The Epilepsy Centre is South Australia's community support base for more than 61,000 South Australians living with epilepsy. They operate without government financial assistance and, after repeated requests, they have still not received any assistance.

I commend the Epilepsy Centre for their work and for what they do with limited resources. I encourage all members to support the epilepsy lottery because, quite simply, they do not have enough money and with this government that is unlikely to change.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Flinders.

Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (16:48): Thank you, Deputy Speaker. We must be winding down the list, I think.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Again, you could still be the best on ground.

Mr TRELOAR: Again, let's wait and see. I rise to make a contribution to the grievance debate relating to the Appropriation Bill 2016. As the member for Colton noted yesterday, this budget sees unprecedented expenditure on infrastructure. I can only say that that is only too true but, unfortunately for this government and for this state, it is all borrowed money. It is borrowed money and the interest bill on those borrowings is running at about \$1.7 million a day, as has been pointed out many times.

That interest bill creates an extraordinary impost on the people of South Australia, particularly given the fact that we as a state have no real capacity to repay this debt. As a former banker, the member for Davenport would understand the importance of being able to make your principal repayments at least in a timely manner so that you can stay on top of your borrowings, which is something this government has not been able to do through any of the six years and the six budgets that I have seen in my time in this place. Invariably, budget blowouts occur, borrowings go up, expenditure goes up and interest payments go up. Unfortunately, as far as I am concerned, it is simply more of the same.

All this is in a state that has now just 7 per cent of Australia's population. We are a very small state and a very small economy in the scheme of things. As a percentage of Australia's total population, we are declining. We are in decline. The Premier I think described it at one stage as 'genteel' decline. That is a rather quaint term. The Treasurer yesterday talked about 'declining inertia', which I guess is new terminology for the situation we find ourselves in.

In relation to my electorate, I would like to take a few moments to talk about something I have talked about on many occasions before in this place, that is, the water supply and water resource on Eyre Peninsula. We will have the opportunity, I am sure, as part of committee business in this place to talk about the recently released Water Allocation Plan for the Southern Basins and Musgrave Prescribed Wells Areas. This water allocation plan has been a long time coming. The previous one was brought in in 2001 and still being worked under, so it has taken 15 years actually to get to this place.

I know full well how much work has gone into this. There are 130-odd pages. The amount of work, the amount of scientific evidence that has been collected, the amount of community consultation that has gone into this has been quite extraordinary. Ideally, we would have had this document a little bit earlier, but the fact is that it has been a difficult document to produce, particularly in regard to the underground resource, which in essence provides up to 85 per cent of the reticulated water supply requirement of Eyre Peninsula, with the other 15 per cent of course coming from the River Murray.

I will not say it is a perfect document, and certainly it is not one that will please everybody. It is not all things to all people, let's put it that way, but it is a big improvement on what we have had and at least it draws a line in the sand. From there, we can move forward with the management of this water resource. However, in all of this, and as I have said before, we will not actually take the pressure off the southern basins, and by 'pressure' I mean the pressure that is in place due to extraction.

The suggestion has always been that extraction rates have been in excess of a sustainable amount and that that has put pressure on the basins. We have seen the basins reduced. There have been years of declining rainfall, I am sure, but certainly the last six years (and I know full well because I am a farmer) have been years of good rainfall, so the recharge, I would suggest, has been reasonable. We have seen a slight increase in the water levels in, both the Poldia Basin and the Southern Basin, so that is a sign that it is going in the right direction.

Also in all of this is a discussion around the future of the Tod Reservoir. Two budgets ago—it may even be three budgets ago—the state government announced that there would be money going into dam bank upgrades right around the state, and the Tod Reservoir was included in that. I was actually quite excited at the time because it was a significant amount of money and I thought, 'Hello, the state government has decided to resurrect the Tod Reservoir.' I thought that was a good thing because, if nothing else, it provided a backup supply to the water supply on Eyre Peninsula and provided some security, if for some reason the southern basins got to a point where they could no longer provide water. It was not to be.

We have discovered over recent months that in fact the state government, through SA Water, was certainly planning to spend some money on the wall of the dam (the dam bank), but what will happen as a result of this is that the capacity of the dam will be reduced to 8 to 10 per cent of its full level. Essentially, that will leave just a puddle. There are a lot of questions around this; in fact, I attended a public meeting in Tumbly Bay two weeks ago that was attended by about 80 community members, and they raised some really significant issues.

I think it is important to remember that, more than any other dam, the Tod Reservoir has iconic status. It really is part of the psyche of the Eyre Peninsula people. As children, we all went on school trips and there was always an annual school trip to the Tod Reservoir. It was such an important part of the settlement of Eyre Peninsula, and up until 2001 or 2002, it was a very important part of Eyre Peninsula's water supply for 80 years. It has been taken offline primarily due to salinity issues, but all in all I have to say my observation is that it has been badly managed in the last two decades.

In the past, there was always recognition that the catchment was slightly saline, and the incoming waters were always carefully managed to keep the salinity at a level appropriate for a potable water supply. My understanding is that in around 2000, a significant amount of water was let into the reservoir early in the season, before the creek lines had been flushed. As a result, a significant body of saline water was deposited into the reservoir and has essentially become a slug of saltwater sitting at the bottom of the reservoir. Through negotiation with the NRM board, that has been slowly released over time down the Tod Reservoir.

I drive past the Tod Reservoir on my way to the Port Lincoln Airport from my home at Edillilie, and I did notice, after this exceptionally wet July—we have always had wet Julys on Eyre Peninsula but this one has been particularly wet—that the Tod River was flowing significantly. I thought to myself, 'What a waste; all of this water is actually flowing past the reservoir.' Country people hate waste, and to my mind, that water—

Mr Knoll interjecting:

Mr TRELOAR: We hate waste, member for Schubert—and not just the waste of water, but government waste as well, don't we?

Mr Knoll: That's right.

Mr TRELOAR: Indeed. To my mind, it was just a waste of a resource, and I sincerely hope that SA Water take on board the concerns that were raised at the community meeting at Tumbly Bay. In the couple of minutes that I have remaining, I might dot point some of those concerns because they are significant. They are reasonable concerns and they should be addressed by SA Water and taken into account in the long-term future of the plan.

Very quickly, the views of the majority of those present at the meeting can be summarised as follows: they were sceptical about the risk of dam failure and would like to see hard evidence in relation to the risk of structural failure. My understanding is that South Australia has signed up to the ANCOLD agreement. That is all very well and every state in Australia has signed up to that, but as a result, we have to ensure that our dams are able to withstand an event that occurs—wait for it—one in every 600,000 years.

I am having trouble thinking that far ahead but, more importantly, I am having troubling thinking that far back. I suspect there have been at least four ice ages in that time, or maybe more. It was before modern humans walked on the earth. We are building capacity in our reservoirs to withstand an event that could occur one in every 600,000 years, which is more than half a million

years. I would suggest that is quite an extraordinary state of affairs and one that is not even reasonable.

Mr KNOLL (Schubert) (16:58): I will leave the unions alone in this contribution, but I rise today to talk on this Appropriation Bill in relation to how it affects the fantastic electorate of Schubert. There is a mixed response, as I am sure there has been a mixed response across most electorates, but I want to start off with a couple of the good things that I have seen happen out in the Barossa, the first of which took three years and technically did not cost the government any money.

We have finally seen the railway station land in Angaston transferred from the state government to the local council. This is an exciting project, because part of the land will be sold off for residential development, and the money that is then garnered from that land will be put back into remediating that site. Being a former railway station, that site does have a few issues, with the termination of the line in the Barossa Valley. I think with that money we can transform the area into a real focal point for the town of Angaston.

I will point out the fact that I have a conflict of interest: I live about 50 metres from this land. In fact, my backyard backs onto this railway land, but I am really excited by the fact that Angaston, which is a town of about 2,500 people, will have a square large enough to cater for some of the large events put on by my community. The first of those is going to be happening on 16 October. We have a long lunch that is in the early stages of planning, and I expect to be able to wander out three minutes before the start of the event, trudge across the road and head straight up to the event. I am really looking forward to that and the town of Angaston coming together.

We were really excited by the \$1.2 million that was part of the Mid-Year Budget Review for the upgrade of the surface of Murray Street, the main street in Tanunda. Frustratingly, though, the government has delayed that resealing by six months, and they are blaming the NBN for not having finished their works underneath Murray Street, Tanunda. It makes sense that the gas which has recently come through needs to have that work done first, and then the NBN work needs to be done as well to make sure we do not have to rip up the road not long after having resealed it, but the truth is the NBN is due to finish in the next couple of months. There is no reason why the government could not start that work directly after that but, frustratingly, they have delayed it until March next year.

This is an issue that brings calls to my office like almost no other. I think members can guess what other issue may elicit more calls to my electorate office, but this is an issue at the very heart of many in the Barossa because Tanunda is one of the main gateways into the Barossa and one of the first experiences that tourists get. We want to make sure that it is a premium experience in line with the world's-best shiraz that we serve when people drive past there towards cellar doors. Anyway, we wait in anticipation. Some in my community are a little bit jaded and suggesting it will not happen, but I am confident that, in this instance, the government will follow through on its promises.

We have also, as part of last year's budget, seen a couple of hundred thousand dollars spent on the upgrade of Barossa Valley Way. By upgrade, I mean a bit of shoulder sealing, which is very welcome, but also increased barriers on the side of the road in various spaces on Barossa Valley Way. This has caused some contention because there are those who do not think they are necessary, but many more, looking at where they have been placed, are wondering about the strategic importance of them because some trees have now had the metal barrier put in but others have not.

Indeed, barriers have been put in certain parts where there is a natural embankment just behind where the barrier has been put in, which again makes people question the validity of them. The main argument against them is, if they are used in long tracts on long sections of road—and it is not only Barossa Valley Way, we have also seen an increase in their use on the Thiele Highway—and somebody has an issue where they need to get off the road, they cannot. They are stuck, and I think it is a situation where we could actually create greater potential for accidents by not allowing cars the ability, when they need to, to get off the road.

I think that is a very legitimate concern and one we are in the process of talking to the minister about. I hope I can get a reasonable and sensible answer to it, so I can allay the concerns of my

constituents that the government is not just putting up ugly metal structures the length and breadth of my electorate and that there is some benefit from them.

In this year's budget, we were very excited to see, after two years of me carping on in this place, some money for school infrastructure upgrades. I have been lucky enough to have both of my high schools receive money. Mannum Community College received \$3.5 million, and Nuriootpa High School received \$2.5 million. I have also had a number of primary schools—Freeling Primary School, Tanunda Primary School and Nuriootpa Primary School—receiving \$1 million each. That money is extremely welcome, but I hope that it is able to be spent in the right way. I understand the government has their focus on STEM and upgrading the capability of primary schools and high schools to focus their education towards those subjects, but there is a standing need, especially at Nuriootpa High School and Nuriootpa Primary School, that needs to be addressed and I hope can be addressed through the course of this funding.

At Nuriootpa High School, we have a capacity issue. We were lucky enough at country cabinet last year to have the minister come and visit Nuriootpa High and see firsthand some of the capacity issues that exist there but also some of the dilapidated, very expensive to operate transportable buildings that are there. We are hoping that, through this \$2.5 million, we can address the issue of providing greater access to resources around STEM subjects but also combine that with being able to deal with some of the infrastructure complaints that currently exist.

We are hoping that the same can happen at Nuriootpa Primary School. That primary school was one of those 1970s experimental jobs where it was built in a circle with an inner circle of an open area and two levels of a library and then the outer area with, essentially, open plan classrooms, and you see different classes in the same area retreating to weird little corners of the rooms, each equipped with their own microphone and speaker so that their students can be heard trying to get away from each other because there is such a build up of background noise.

We are hoping that through the course of this we will be able to, potentially, partition off some of those open spaces into regular classrooms, at the same time addressing what the intent of this money is. So, I am really hoping that that is what happens, but as always electorates turn to their elected member and say, 'That's all well and good but what have you done for me lately?' I think in this regard they have some legitimate concerns, and there are a couple of areas that I want to highlight.

The first that I will highlight is the Barossa Hospital, which I know is in the hands of the minister at the moment. There has been some local commentary in my local media, which is entirely confusing. It is under active consideration, but I hope that the government shows some foresight and is willing to take this process to the next level so that we can actually look at this in a holistic way and finally, after 25 years, get the job done.

There is also the issue of recreational boating on the Warren Reservoir. We now have fish, which is well and good for those anglers, but as somebody who would not mind taking a single scull rower onto the lake I am looking forward to the day that I can paddle. I am also not looking forward to the day Ivan Venning makes me go with him in his little yacht he has bought, which I am certain is going to capsize with the two of us in it and cause a by-election. Having said that, if that is what it takes to get the reservoir open to recreational boating, then I am willing to take that risk.

Lastly, I want to talk about road funding, which is a huge issue in all rural areas, but especially an issue in the Barossa because of our limited access to public transport. I want to nominate three roads that I think are worthy of attention. The first of those roads is the Daveyston to Freeling road, which is an awful, undulating patchwork of various grades of asphalt. It is a road that is going to see increasing use with the potential opening of a new dolomite mine at Nain, and I would really like the government to seriously consider funding to resurface that road.

The second resurfacing that I think needs to happen is on the Stott Highway in between Angaston and Keyneton. Again, an undulating, unsafe, narrow stretch of road that, at 100 km/h, needs to be resurfaced in parts. It is a state government road and I look forward to them getting on and having a look at that.

The third one, which I think will fundamentally change the way that people commute around the southern Barossa, is the sealing of the final part of Parra Wirra road, out from Williamstown, as

you head towards Humbug Scrub. If that part of the road were bitumised people would be able to access, from the member for Little Para's electorate, through Napier, up through Parra Wirra road, and get to Williamstown much quicker than either having to go via Gawler or go via Gomersal Road.

I think that that will completely reorient back towards the southern Barossa, which is a part of the Barossa that has potentially felt neglected over the past decade. It will really reorientate traffic and potentially help bring tourist visitors back to that part of the Barossa. So, there is my shopping list of demands and desires on behalf of the great people of Schubert. I look forward to their positive consideration from this government.

Motion carried.

Estimates Committees

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for Higher Education and Skills) (17:08): I move:

That the proposed payments for the departments and services contained in the Appropriation Bill be referred to Estimates Committees A and B for examination and report by Thursday 4 August 2016, in accordance with the following timetables:

APPROPRIATION BILL 2016
TIMETABLE FOR ESTIMATES COMMITTEES
ESTIMATES COMMITTEE A
THURSDAY 28 JULY AT 9.00 AM

Premier

Treasurer

Minister for Finance

Minister for State Development

Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy

Legislative Council

House of Assembly

Joint Parliamentary Services

State Governor's Establishment

Auditor-General's Department

Department of the Premier and Cabinet (part)

Administered Items for the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (part)

Department of State Development (part)

Administered Items for the Department of State Development (part)

Department of Treasury and Finance (part)

Administered Items for the Department of Treasury and Finance (part)

FRIDAY 29 JULY AT 9.00 AM

Minister for Education and Childhood Development

Minister for Higher Education and Skills

Department of Education and Child Development

Administered Items for the Department of Education and Child Development

Department of State Development (part)

Administered Items for the Department of State Development (part)

MONDAY 1 AUGUST AT 9.00 AM

Minister for Health

Minister for Health Industries
Minister for Arts
Minister for Police
Minister for Correctional Services
Minister for Emergency Services
Minister for Road Safety
Department for Health and Ageing (part)
Department of State Development (part)
Administered Items for the Department of State Development (part)
South Australia Police
Administered Items for South Australia Police
Department for Correctional Services
Administered Items for the Department of Treasury and Finance (part)
Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)
Administered Items for the Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)

TUESDAY 2 AUGUST AT 9.00 AM

Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
Minister for Forests
Minister for Tourism
Minister for Recreation and Sport
Minister for Racing
Department of Primary Industries and Regions (part)
Administered Items for the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (part)
South Australian Tourism Commission
Minister for Tourism
Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)
Administered Items for the Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)

WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST AT 9.00 AM

Minister for Employment
Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation
Minister for Automotive Transformation
Minister for Science and Information Economy
Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation
Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse
Minister for Disabilities
Department of State Development (part)
Administered Items for the Department of State Development (part)
Department for Communities and Social Inclusion (part)
Administered Items for the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion (part)
Department for Health and Ageing (part)

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

THURSDAY 28 JULY AT 9.00 AM

Attorney-General
Minister for Justice Reform
Minister for Child Protection Reform
Minister for Planning
Minister for the City of Adelaide
Minister for Consumer and Business Services
Minister for Industrial Relations
Minister for Public Sector
Courts Administration Authority
Attorney-General's Department (part)
Administered Items for the Attorney-General's Department (part)
Electoral Commission SA
Administered Items for the Electoral Commission SA
Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)
Administered Items for the Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)
Department of the Premier and Cabinet (part)
Administered Items for the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (part)
Department of Treasury and Finance (part)
Administered Items for the Department of Treasury and Finance (part)
Independent Gambling Authority

FRIDAY 29 JULY AT 9.00 AM

Minister for Transport and Infrastructure
Minister for Housing and Urban Development
Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)
Administered Items for the Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)
Department of Treasury and Finance (part)
Administered Items for the Department of Treasury and Finance (part)

MONDAY 1 AUGUST AT 9.00 AM

Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation
Minister for Water and the River Murray
Minister for Climate Change
Department for Environment, Water and Natural Resources
Administered Items for the Department for Environment, Water and Natural Resources

TUESDAY 2 AUGUST AT 9.00 AM

Minister for Investment and Trade
Minister for Small Business
Minister for Defence Industries
Minister for Veteran's Affairs
Department of State Development (part)
Administered Items for the Department of State Development (part)
Defence SA
Department of Treasury and Finance (part)

Administered Items for the Department of Treasury and Finance (part)

WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST AT 9.00 AM

Minister for Communities and Social Inclusion

Minister for Social Housing

Minister for the Status of Women

Minister for Ageing

Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Minister for Youth

Minister for Volunteers

Minister for Regional Development

Minister for Local Government

Department for Communities and Social Inclusion (part)

Administered Items for the Department for Communities and Social Inclusion (part)

Department for Health and Ageing (part)

Department of Primary Industries and Regions

Administered Items for the Department of Primary Industries and Regions

Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)

Administered Items for the Department for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)

Motion carried.

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for Higher Education and Skills) (17:09): I move:

That Estimates Committee A be appointed, consisting of the Ms Bedford, Ms Cook, Mr Hughes, Hon. S.K. Key, Mr Knoll, Mr Marshall and Mr Speirs.

Motion carried.

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for Higher Education and Skills) (17:09): I move:

That Estimates Committee B be appointed, consisting of Mr Odenwalder, Ms Chapman, Mr Duluk, Mr Gee, Mr Griffiths, Hon. A. Piccolo and Ms Wortley.

Motion carried.

Adjournment Debate

LIGHT ELECTORATE

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (17:09): I would like to take this opportunity to speak briefly to the adjournment debate and, in doing so, highlight some matters that are of interest to my electorate. First of all, I would like to congratulate the Hewett Centre and also Relationships Australia who recently held a gambling awareness day. This was designed to increase the awareness in our community of the impact that gambling has on people but also importantly it sought to shine a ray of hope for people. The most moving part of the day, which I attended part of, was the stories from people who had a gambling addiction or who were affected by gambling itself.

What was really disturbing was that the gambling started as a social occasion and, given the people's personal circumstances, it became a major problem and the gambling was a way for them to escape other issues affecting their lives. It was really disturbing how they went from quite well-adjusted people with happy lives to people who had lost everything—relationships, money, etc. I am pleased to say that both Relationships Australia and the Hewett Centre in Gawler are going to do some more work in this area because I think it is an area that is underestimated in terms of the impact it is having not only on our communities but also on families through the money lost from gambling.

Another thing I would like to mention is a support group which has been established in Gawler to support people who have kidney disease. The Gawler Renal Support Group, which was developed about two years ago, was set up to address the issues of social information and support needs of people with chronic kidney disease, people on dialysis and people who have received a transplant. They have social events, and these give them the opportunity to exchange stories about each other's journeys, and through that it helps them progress with their healing. This is a self-help group and a volunteer group, but they play an important role, and they are very keen to see the opening of the new dialysis unit, which is attached to the Gawler Health Service, and that there is money in the state budget this year to make sure that the new dialysis unit is opened.

I would also like to mention an innovation that I have not seen before, but I am happy to be corrected. Springwood Communities is a development in Gawler East, and they have appointed a community engagement person, a community coordinator. One of the greatest challenges of new urban areas is building a sense of community and a sense of belonging. It is easy to build roads, streets, parks and move people in, but it is an entirely different thing for people to work together to form relationships in that community, and her role is to work with the people in her community to bring them together.

She also helps identify possible sponsorship programs and helps create a sense of community in those new areas. This community already has about 350 people living there, and I am keen to work with them and to address issues around public transport and also general services for that community. It is great to see the development industry acknowledged. It is one thing to deliver the bricks and mortar, but it is the intangible things that help bring communities together.

Another thing I would like to mention is some research undertaken by a year 12 student at Trinity College who lives in Angle Vale. He is one of the students who has to do a research project as part of his SACE, and he decided to do some research into the rations given to World War II soldiers and whether the rations were sufficient, etc. As part of his research, he met with World War II veterans from the Gawler RSL. He provided me with the results of his research over the weekend.

His research has shown that our World War II soldiers were not provided with sufficient rations to sustain their basic dietary needs. He said that they were not fed well enough to maintain their physical and mental health, which is a real worry. He said that, through talking with the veterans, he got great insight into the soldiers' lives and a better appreciation of what it was like to be involved in conflict, rather than what people see on television. He got some greater insights through talking to the veterans. One of the veterans just turned 100, so he has seen quite a few conflicts in his time.

Evidence collected from his oral research was that, in his opinion, they did not get enough food and that one of the problems with the deficit was a lack of fibre and vitamin C, which caused a lot of knock-on effects. As a result of their poor diets, they had poor blood clotting to heal wounds. He said that not only were they in the trenches but they also had terrible constipation as a result of a poor diet, which would be—I cannot say that here.

The Hon. S.E. Close: No, you can't.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: It would be really tough and make it worse. He has been moved by his research in trying to understand why we would send people to war and not support them appropriately. The student's name is Brandon Klar. I was very keen to see that he was interested in that. He also made a big additional effort this year to go to his first dawn service to get a better understanding and to meet with students. I would like to compliment him and commend him for his research. He has not only done the ANZAC Day thing but he has tried to get a better understanding of what it means to go to war. With those few comments, I would like to commend the adjournment debate.

TOD RESERVOIR

Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (17:17): I would like to continue from where I left off just a few moments ago, when I was talking about the so-called upgrade planned by SA Water to the Tod Reservoir and the community meeting that occurred in Tumbly Bay to discuss this and other community concerns that about what that might mean for the iconic Tod and ongoing water security on Eyre Peninsula.

A few dot points were raised, the first of which I have already mentioned. People were sceptical about the risk of dam failure, given that the ANCOLD agreement compels us to cater for a one in 600,000-year flood event, which is beyond anybody's capacity to imagine what that might mean. Certainly, it seems rather ludicrous in many ways to even need to consider that.

One of the other issues that was raised was that, given that salinity is a major reason for the dam being taken offline as a supply of drinking water, the community would like more research undertaken on whether salinity can be improved and, in particular, on receiving dam intake flows from the lower salinity Pillawarta Creek catchment and Tod River and diverting the higher salinity water from Toolillie Creek. There are three major creek lines associated with the Tod River catchment. It has always been about managing the saline flows in the intake of better water into the Tod Reservoir.

I remember that a lot of work was undertaken in the catchment by landowners back in the 1990s and early 2000s. It was at a time when Landcare was at its peak. I am still a little bit saddened by the demise of Landcare because it was such a good movement. For whatever reason, it lost favour, and I suspect that governments, particularly federal governments, had another model they wanted to pursue. Ultimately, what happened was that community involvement was lost, unfortunately.

There was a lot of work done in the late 1990s and early 2000s in the catchment—a lot of planting, a lot of revegetating, a lot of fencing off of the creek lines, which was really a good thing to do. It was worthwhile for landowners to undertake that, and really it was for the betterment of the catchment because it excluded stock from the creek lines so that grazing pressure was taken away, the erosion brought about by stock grazing on and within creek lines. It was an opportunity to revegetate the creek lines. Some of the trees that were planted way back then, 15 to 20 years ago, are truly majestic now and it is a pleasure to drive through that catchment.

There was a bit of a hiccup in 2005 when the Wangary fire roared through almost the entire catchment and took off a lot of the vegetative cover, but that has regrown. One thing about native vegetation is that it will shoot after a fire, so it has been a pleasure to watch that come back. Landowners once again took the opportunity to realign their fences and assess their whole farm plans. In all of that, the effort was made to improve the salinity of the creek, or lower the salinity of the catchment.

By removing stock, you also remove that inflow of nitrates which comes from stock running within a catchment. Through modern farming techniques, we have had less soil erosion. We are generally one-pass farmers these days, and that certainly has reduced the amount of time that soils are exposed to the elements, to heavy rainfall. It has also reduced the soil erosion and the run-off. All in all, the opportunity should have been there to improve the water quality, and I think that needs to be further explored and further tested.

Another concern raised was that the cost of the dam upgrade was exorbitant, given its limited proposed use for recreational purposes and limited capacity. We are talking less than 10 per cent of full dam capacity for other economic activity. There has been some talk of it being a water supply should a mining company progress in its proposal. It is debatable whether or not that demand will ever be there because we have seen a lot of mining proposals come and go. There is also quite public discussion about restocking reservoirs, or at least stocking reservoirs throughout the state, with fish for recreational fishing and possibly other uses as well, such as waterskiing or other water sports.

I have to wonder who would actually go fishing in a reservoir on Eyre Peninsula; some might, but we have to remember that just to the east we have the Groups off Tumby Bay and that just to the west we have Farm Beach, north of Coffin Bay, both of which are renowned for their whiting fishing. Further out, some magnificent deep-sea fishing is available to the residents and visitors to Eyre Peninsula. I wonder just how useful restocking this reservoir is going to be. There was also concern in relation to continued reliance on Uley South as the Eyre Peninsula's water supply, and I have addressed that many times in the past.

The extraction rates are within the water allocation plan, but the sense is that we have an ever-increasing reliance on the southern basins or Uley South. I have to say that it came as

somewhat of a surprise to me, when I was first elected to this place, to discover that there have been at least two major housing developments on Eyre Peninsula, one at Point Boston and one at Ceduna Waters, where there is no reticulated water supply to the housing development. I am not sure exactly of the reason.

My understanding is that SA Water either were not able or were not prepared to put in a reticulated supply to these households. I think this is a pretty sad indictment on the state of the water resource and the capacity of the water resource on Eyre Peninsula because what we would like to see long term is further growth in population and further growth in industry. If we are already at capacity, we have concerns about whether that increased industry and population can ever be sustained. So, in all of this, the feeling was that the Tod Reservoir should be retained as a contingency water supply, given the potential for improving salinity.

Of course, there are always advances in technology. I know that a few years ago there was discussion about fitting a desalination plant at the Tod Reservoir and putting the water through a desal plant. That was deemed to be cost prohibitive but of course, with all these things, technology is advancing. My thoughts are that it does not have to be SA Water necessarily. There are companies throughout Australia and around the world who specialise in this sort of thing, and I am sure at some point there will be the available technology to filter and return this water to a potable supply if required.

Finally, the Tod River catchment could potentially be impacted by mining in the Koppio Hills. This is a vexed issue because I know in recent times there has been a significant amount of exploration through the Koppio Hills which was allowed for by the state government. Tenements were let but there was much concern locally about what impact the drilling might have on water tables throughout the Koppio Hills.

Of course, wherever you drill in a high rainfall area, you are going to strike groundwater at some point. Through the hills some of the groundwater is good quality water, some is not, some is quite saline. There was genuine concern. I do not know that those concerns have been adequately addressed as yet by the department of mines and energy.

Be that as it may, the drilling occurred, and there have been a number of mine proposals in relation to Koppio Hills, the first one regarding iron ore and more recently a graphite proposal. Certainly the iron ore proposal seems to have disappeared into the ether. The graphite proposal has a much smaller footprint, not much more than a localised quarry which is my understanding of it, but it is all going to have an impact, and of course there will be a demand for water.

I guess that is the crux of the issue: there will be an ongoing demand for good quality water on Eyre Peninsula, and we need the opportunity to provide that for an increased population and increased industrial activity.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Regrettably, if there is another chapter we are going have to wait.

Mr TRELOAR: Another day.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Another day.

Mr TRELOAR: Well, there is another chapter.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay. Well, we are on stand-by.

At 17:27 the house adjourned until Thursday 4 August 2016 at 10:30.