

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 20 October 2016

The **SPEAKER (Hon. M.J. Atkinson)** took the chair at 10:30 and read prayers.

The SPEAKER: Honourable members, I respectfully acknowledge the traditional owners of this land upon which this parliament is assembled and the custodians of the sacred lands of our state.

Bills

DEATH WITH DIGNITY BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett) (10:32): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to provide for choices and dignity at the end of life. Read a first time.

Second Reading

Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett) (10:32): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

This is the 15th bill that this house has had to consider on the issue of voluntary euthanasia. This morning, I had a message of encouragement and congratulations from Marshall Perron. We know the history of the Northern Territory with voluntary euthanasia; let's hope that in South Australia, a sovereign state, we can actually move forward on this issue.

This bill is a result of many years of debate, concerns being aired, issues being raised, some furphies being put out there and, unfortunately, also some lies. This is such a serious issue and that volume of debate should not be ignored. That is why we as members of this place need to consider this piece of legislation very carefully. Over the years, we have had members in this place and the other place, such as the Hon. Steph Key—and congratulations to Steph on her courage, determination and persistence—

The SPEAKER: The member for Morphett will refer to members only by their constituency or title.

Dr McFETRIDGE: Thank you, Mr Speaker—the member for Ashford. The late Bob Such, the Hon. Sandra Kanck, John Quirke, Anne Levy and the late Frank Blevins all put in considerable time and effort to try to get to this stage. The need to recognise their efforts is something that I think every member in this place should reflect upon and ask themselves, 'Why are we here today?'

This bill is a very, very important piece of legislation for this house. The bill we have today is the result of months and months of negotiation on behalf of the member for Ashford with numbers of stakeholders, individuals and members of parliament. There is not a member in this place who has not had the opportunity to negotiate the amendments that have been put together by the member for Ashford in her bill.

It became clear that the member for Ashford's bill was still facing some opposition, some concerns, and so with her consent—and the member for Ashford has seconded this bill—we have put together this new piece of legislation which embodies, encompasses and includes all those amendments that were suggested by members of parliament. All the safeguards are there. All the necessary argument has been dealt with.

This is a very sensible, straightforward piece of legislation. You should not need to go to the Acts Interpretation Act to look at this legislation and ask yourself, 'What does it mean?' You do not need to be a QC to look at this and see that this legislation is a straightforward, honest, deliberate piece of legislation to give 75 per cent of South Australians who want this choice, that choice. Everybody in this place should remember that each and every one of their constituents is who they

should be thinking about today—the 75 per cent. One Newspann in 2012 showed that 82 per cent of people want this choice.

This is a choice that is wanted, not demanded, but wanted and needed by those few people where palliative care does not work, so let's give those people that democratic right to make the decisions about the way they leave this life. All of us, every one of us, everybody in this place, is going to die; there is no argument about that. There is nothing more certain about that.

What we do have is the choice today. We have the decision-making ability in this place today to decide for those few people who are in a position of terrible suffering, and if you want to read about some of those stories I am more than happy to give you copies of the *Go Gentle* book that relates some of those stories. This bill is going to give those few people that opportunity to decide when and how they die. It is about voluntary euthanasia. It is about somebody with a terminal illness.

These people are going to die. It is about whether we are going to stand here and say to those people who are going to die from a terminal illness, 'No, you cannot have the choice about dying with dignity, dying with your loved ones around you and dying in a peaceful way, or are you going to be sedated out of your mind, starved to death and dehydrated? What are you going to do?' It is up to us. It is as serious as that.

The bill we have before us today is the result of those months and months of negotiations by the member for Ashford and others in this place, and I thank all those groups that have been contributing to this. I will just read the most important part about this bill. This bill is about a request for voluntary euthanasia. Only a person with a terminal illness can make this request. That person has to go through seven distinct, clear steps before that request can be assented to. That person has to be an adult who is mentally competent to make the request.

They have to be diagnosed with a terminal illness. Their death is inevitable due to the terminal medical condition. The suffering of the person has become intolerable to them and there is no reasonable available medical treatment or palliative care option that could relieve their suffering. That person has to have lived in South Australia for 12 months. No-one will be able to make a request for voluntary euthanasia on the grounds of their disability, their age or their mental health condition—that is very, very clear. The definition of 'terminal medical conditions' is one that is incurable. The person will have reached a stage where their suffering is untreatable. These people are going to die.

Two different doctors will be involved, one of whom is normally the treating doctor who has seen that person progress and deteriorate through their illness. That medical practitioner will be the initial person who examines the patient who is making the request. Then a different completely independent doctor has to examine that patient and explain to the patient what the treatments are and what procedures they can undertake. If either of those doctors has any doubts whatsoever about that patient's mental health condition, they will have to refer that patient to a psychiatrist for examination. There are two doctors, one who is completely independent and has never seen the patient before and then there is that psychiatric backup.

On top of that, there have to be two completely independent witnesses. Those witnesses cannot be beneficiaries of the estate of the person who is making the request. They need to make sure that they understand that this is a request for voluntary euthanasia. They need to be clear in their own minds that there is no coercion, inducements or other pressures on this person. In fact, if people are found to have been acting in an unethical or coercive manner, there are severe penalties for those people in this bill, up to 10 years' gaol. There are severe penalties. There are safeguards.

Seven steps are laid out in the bill. They are very clear and very easily understood by everybody. As well as the doctors' examinations, the psychiatrist's examinations and the witnesses, a report to the Coroner has to be lodged, a report to the parliament has to be lodged every year and there is a clause providing for a five-year review. Some people may think that is too long. I have had it put to me that perhaps it should be three years. I am more than happy to talk about that, but a review within five years is provided for in the bill.

This bill is like any other piece of legislation in here. We are in charge, we are in control and we are the authors of our destiny. We are also the authors of the destiny of those people in South Australia who want this choice. I have letters and submissions, as we probably all have. Can I just say on the doctors' front, I know the AMA is still not supporting this, and I suppose that is putting it

kindly, but you have to understand that only 29 per cent of doctors belong to the AMA. It would be interesting to see how many of that 29 per cent actually support voluntary euthanasia.

In the nurses' federation, there is overwhelming support from hundreds of thousands of nurses. In the nurses' federation, 85 per cent support it. We have submissions from lawyers supporting voluntary euthanasia, we have submissions from youth groups and young people supporting voluntary euthanasia and we have submissions from Christians supporting voluntary euthanasia.

In the submission from Christians for voluntary euthanasia, interestingly, they talk about their various polls. A Morgan poll showed that in South Australia, 81 per cent of Anglicans, 87 per cent of Methodists, 66 per cent of Presbyterians, 69 per cent of the Catholic community, 74 per cent of the Uniting Church, 74 per cent of Lutherans and 68 per cent of Baptists supported voluntary euthanasia. A 2012 Newspoll showed that 82.5 per cent overwhelmingly supported voluntary euthanasia. That is part of the submission from the Christian lobby.

Also in their submission, they use evidence from two extremely well-respected and highly credentialed members of the church: Lord Carey, the former archbishop of Canterbury, and Archbishop Desmond Tutu. I do not think anybody in this place would have any qualms about the ethics, morals or truthfulness of these two people or their ability to put a position that needs to be put and needs to be argued. Both those men said that they support voluntary euthanasia. Desmond Tutu said:

I have been fortunate to spend my life working for dignity for the living. Now I wish to apply my mind to the issue of dignity for the dying. I revere the sanctity of life—but not at any cost.

There is another quote in here from an English minister, Canon Rosie Harper, who watched her uncle die: 'He had no choice about dying. He did have choice about the manner of his death.' Why did he have that choice? He went to Switzerland—one of the countries where voluntary euthanasia is available.

This is all we are asking today. We are asking this place to see the sense, to see the need and to show the compassion for those few, that small group, who do not respond to palliative care, so that they can be able to make this choice. Across the Christian lobby, the doctors, the nurses, the young people and the lawyers there is very, very strong support. Recently, we did some work with another group in South Australia. Last month, we ran four focus groups in South Australia. The result was those focus groups were in support of voluntary euthanasia. There were criteria, and those criteria were:

- that it be voluntary, that it be the individual's choice;
- that the person be dying and in the final stage of life. That the illness be terminal;
- the person be in 'excruciating pain' or 'terrible suffering' or 'suffering a lingering painful death' or 'untreatable pain'; and
- that these three above 'facts' be independently verified by established mainstream Australian medical protocols and rigorous medical checks and balances.

That is from the four focus groups last month in Adelaide, and that was the result they came up with. That is why it is very important today that we recognise the need is there and the responsibility is ours. So, do the right thing by your constituents, do the right thing by the people of South Australia and give them death with dignity.

The SPEAKER: Does the member for Morphett have any clause notes to table?

Dr McFETRIDGE: Not at the moment, no, Mr Speaker.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. P. Caica.

VOLUNTARY EUTHANASIA BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 9 June 2016.)

Mr KNOLL (Schubert) (10:48): We have been debating this bill in this place for over nine months. It is something that I know each MP here has grappled with on a personal level. This parliament has been extremely respectful in giving time today to deal with this issue, and that is quite a feat considering the fact that it is a conscience motion. It was reliant on each of the 47 MPs here actually making the decision that today was to be the day when we would debate this issue.

For us now not to have a decision today, I think, is disrespectful. I think it is disrespectful to allow this uncertainty to continue for many, many more months. I think about the thousands of emails from both sides of this argument that we have received and of the people who have travelled from interstate and all over the country to be here this week, to persuade MPs this week. For that effort to now go to waste I think is very disrespectful, especially to those who we heard from earlier this week from Lives Worth Living who do not otherwise have many means, who came here this week to make sure that their voices were heard as loudly as possible.

I also think that we need as a parliament to show the courage to make a decision because, no matter what decision we make, one side of the argument is going to be happy and the other not so. What we can do is give certainty to all sides of the argument, but essentially otherwise today we put off that decision for months and create more uncertainty for months.

This is the first time I have been through this debate, and it has come at a huge personal emotional cost. I think that many of us here on both sides of this argument need a decision so that we can move on because, whilst this sits on the table, I know that many of us will struggle to deal with the other issues that our state faces. I urge all to help make a decision today for all those on all sides of the argument who have worked with this parliament, the entire South Australian community and this parliament, to make today the day that we make a decision on this issue.

I love life. It is infinitely better than the alternative, and I am genuinely grateful for every day that I am given on this earth. The confluence of events and random chance that have led me to being alive here at this stage of human history is a gift of such immense value that I can never fully appreciate it and, whilst I cannot appreciate it, I intend to take advantage of this immense gift to the fullest.

We live longer, with a better quality of life, with so much more choice, technology and free time to spend with family and friends than at any other time in human history. I am grateful for this gift, and every night I pray to say thank you. However, for those in here who do not want to thank God for the chance that they have been given to be on earth, alive at this time in human history, then thank evolution, thank biology, or thank the random chance, that one in a million if not a billion chance, that means that we in this room, across our country and indeed the world get to be alive at the greatest time in human history.

As a society, we spend so much effort improving life and prolonging life. Health is the biggest part of our budget, and we do so much to try to reduce death in all its forms. We are heading in the right direction when we do this, especially when we talk about the prevention of suicide, which is why I find this bill so wildly inconsistent and that those who seek to do more to prevent suicide, who are not willing to support suicide, are willing to support something called euthanasia.

With this as a background, I am an advocate for human life in all its forms. When this question comes before us, I struggle. I struggle when I hear the stories of those who are suffering and would like us to approve this question to give them choice. But what I struggle with most is the concept that my vote would give rise to a situation where life is ended prematurely. This question comes with its nuances and subjectivity that make it difficult to find a perfect solution.

Often in this place, seeking perfection is the enemy of doing good, but I do not feel that this applies to this question. When we are talking about the conscious act of taking life, then perfection is what we must seek. If even one life were be taken prematurely, then I would feel responsible, and that responsibility would sit too heavily on my conscience, as it would sit, I think, on all of our consciences. Life is the most precious thing that we have, so if we here make a decision to approve a bill that leads to someone wrongly losing their life—even months, days or minutes of life—then that is something for which we would all have to take responsibility.

Over this journey, I have heard stories of those misdiagnosed with a terminal illness who may have considered this option. Once re-diagnosed, I have heard stories of the joys of life that these people were able to go on to experience—the joys of a new child coming into this world, the purity of two people making the decision to be with each other for life and affirming that decision in front of family and friends, or, indeed, the simple joys of good food and good company and a good glass of red wine and the beauty that exists in our world at every turn.

I know that the discussion we are having here today centres on the quality of life versus the quantity of life, but I would contest that we must continue to preserve both in whatever combination they come. It does seem interesting to me that those in this debate who do believe or, in my case those who struggle daily and desperately want to believe in the concept of an afterlife, are the ones who are seeking to keep people away from that future for longer and that those who do not believe want us to get to that final end quicker. Our time on this earth is too short, and in my view we should do all we can to extend it.

I know I cannot comprehend the pain and suffering that some go through and I do have huge sympathy for those people, but I think that is why we must continue to invest in medical science and I think that is why we must preserve the status quo. I would hate to see a system that has an out clause where it is not necessarily those who are asking for death who are denied, but in my view it is more about those our medical system will shape as to wanting that end. In fact, there may be a subtle change in the way our medical system approaches people whose lives they do not consider are as worthwhile as others and that, indeed, we channel people towards that end in conscious and subconscious ways.

I also know this question will become redundant in the future as we continue to improve palliative care and the cure of terminal diseases. Indeed, the concept of voluntary euthanasia—

There being a disturbance in the strangers' gallery:

The SPEAKER: The gallery will show the same respect to the member for Schubert as was shown to the member for Morphett or I will clear the gallery.

Mr KNOLL: The concept of voluntary euthanasia is actually quite a modern construct and I think advances in medical science have taken terminal illnesses and turned them into acute and manageable. As we continue to do that, this question will become more and more irrelevant. So I say again that I want life. I want it in greater quantity and greater quality. I want it for myself. I want it for my family and friends. I want it for everybody. I also, dare I say it, want it for those who no longer want it for themselves, whether we call it suicide or euthanasia, for there is an eternity to experience the alternative.

So I cannot vote for any stage of this bill or any subsequent bill. As a society, we value life more now than at any other time in human history, and to create a passage to shorten life in this way would be a retrograde step. Life is precious because it is finite. To live forever and ever would render life meaningless, but having just that little bit extra would be pure joy—the joy of extra minutes stolen from death where we truly understand the value of what we are giving up. I urge my colleagues: we cannot do this. From the depth of my heart and from the central core of my being, please do not head down the path where we devalue life in any capacity.

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (10:57): I wish to place on the record, perhaps briefly, my comments on the Voluntary Euthanasia Bill. I have spoken on previous bills that have come to this chamber on this matter, so I will allow people to read at length those contributions from 2011 if they wish to get my detailed position on all the aspects. However, just in brief, I did point out in those bills that my judgement certainly at that time on voluntary euthanasia would be tied to certain safeguards: matters to do with requiring a second opinion of the initial diagnosis, requiring informed consent and requiring a confirmation by mental health professionals that somebody was not suffering from treatable depression. This bill does not meet the safeguards that were put there.

On other occasions, some bills have passed a second reading for contemplation of amendments in a committee stage. I remind the house that in 2011, when one of these bills was dealt with that was introduced by the then minister for health John Hill, there were amendments moved, amendments that I moved myself to those bills, that were rescinded in following weeks upon

the argument that some ministers had been in meetings when those amendments were debated. Minister Hill in particular, I think, was the one who moved the rescission motion. He found that, because he was not there to present a case, not all the facts had been brought to bear.

In the meantime, the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, I think it was, wrote to all members expressing their concern that their members could not be privy to a bill or a set of amendments that would allow, in effect, a tick off for euthanasia, a tick off for suicide, as they identified it. It is a situation that I have grappled with ever since. I am grateful for the many constituents who have come to see me or who have written to me. Well over 100 people have written to me on both sides of this issue, as well as to other MPs, so I am thankful for that.

There is another bill on the agenda at this point. Given the complexity of the committee stage last time and, given the fact that there is another bill on the agenda, for better or worse, I indicate that if there is a second reading vote on this Voluntary Euthanasia Bill then I will not be supporting it.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart) (11:00): This is a very serious issue, an extremely serious issue that we come here to debate. It is far more serious than many that we deal with here, and I can actually see both sides of the issue very well. I grew up in a family that was very open to voluntary euthanasia. My mother was diagnosed with cancer when I was about 10 years old and it was something that we discussed around our kitchen table. She wanted the opportunity for voluntary euthanasia, if it was necessary. Thankfully, she has never needed to, or wanted to take that up. She is in her senior years now. She is not particularly healthy at all, but I know that, consistently through her life, that is the view that she has had and it is something that we have discussed as a family, as I said, from my being a boy onwards.

But I also understand the other side of the issue too. In a briefing yesterday one of our parliamentary colleagues said that, generally, this is about the principle and not about the detail. I have a very different view from that. I really can deal with the principles and I grapple with which principle is more important: sanctity of life versus opportunity to choose. Both of those things I believe in very strongly. So, the detail is incredibly important because we as a group of legislators, regardless of our political affiliation, have a great responsibility to the detail on this issue.

In that spirit, I have engaged very openly. I have not been able to meet with every single person who has wanted to meet with me, but I have met with as many people as possible, I have attended as many briefings as possible, and I found that, overwhelmingly, the people who have engaged directly in writing, or directly in person, or directly on the phone, have done so in a really positive spirit, regardless of their perspective on this issue.

I would say that the overwhelming flood of emails from people you have never heard of, sending you exactly the same script hundreds and hundreds of times, have no impact on me, to be quite blunt, but the people I have actually sat down with, engaged with, spoken to on the phone etc., I have found have all come in a very good spirit. A few people have said, 'If you vote for this, I will never vote for you again.' A few people have said, 'If you vote against this, I'll never vote for you again.' So, to be quite blunt, those people count each other out.

This is not an issue that I, and I hope any of my colleagues, would choose based on how people are likely to vote for them at the next election. Hopefully, regardless of our position on these issues, they will find other issues to decide on. As I said, there will be some people who will hold that view, and fair enough for them, but there are more than enough of them on both sides of the argument for me to think seriously about the issue rather than that particular style of lobbying.

I have gone through the bill put forward by the member for Ashford in great detail, and I do not support it. I would be very willing to consider amendments to that bill. I understand the issues that are going on behind the scenes, and I say, quite squarely, that I have absolutely nothing to do with the business in the background about pushing for adjournments, pushing for it to be voted on, pushing to have a different bill proposed instead, and questions about whether we should discuss the amendments or should we prevent people from discussing the amendments. I say quite openly, too, not one member of parliament has come to me to ask me to become involved in those discussions either, which I greatly appreciate, and greatly respect.

So let me say that I find this a very difficult issue. I do not support the bill as the member for Ashford has put it forward. I have gone through it in great detail, and did so several months ago and

have revisited my thoughts and my notes on it. Interestingly, when you do that and you go through the consultation and the lobbying with lots of people, there are a lot of people who say you must support it for this reason, and then you find out the bill is actually not quite what they are telling you is critical. Then there are people who say you must not support it for this reason—well, the bill is not actually exactly the way they think it is either.

I will not support the bill that we are debating at the moment. I would be open to considering ways of improving it. I understand the member for Morphett has put his bill forward in a way to try to progress that. I leave myself as open to the next bill as I was to the current one when it was put forward to consider and make up my mind. If there is a vote on an adjournment today, I will sit in the gallery for that vote because I think that is actually part of the whole game playing. I think that is part of the game playing on both sides.

If there is a vote and a division on whether or not we should adjourn this bill, I will sit right there and I will watch. If it comes to a vote on the bill, I will sit in the chamber and I will vote on the bill as I see fit. I will not back away from making a decision on behalf of the people I represent in parliament on this extremely difficult issue, but I will not participate in the game playing either. With those words, hopefully my position is very clear.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Minister for Housing and Urban Development) (11:06): It is my view that the issue of voluntary euthanasia is perhaps the most difficult issue that a parliament can consider. While there are many people in our community who are supportive of it, and indeed a number of people in this chamber are supportive of it, there are also many in the community who are not and some who are stridently opposed to it. Indeed, many in this chamber are stridently opposed to it.

After thinking about this issue, and considering firstly the bill which was put forward in February of this year and also a bill which has just been introduced, I can understand why many people do not support voluntary euthanasia. I can understand that some people's religious beliefs preclude them from supporting voluntary euthanasia. I have no criticism of those people. Far be it from me or indeed anyone else, I believe, to criticise someone for their religious beliefs or how they line up on a matter because of those beliefs.

I also understand that many see perhaps what could be described as a biological imperative. We as humans, like all other organisms, relentlessly strive for survival—that is as common to us as it is to anything else on this earth and that quest for life should also preclude a regime of voluntary euthanasia. I understand that argument. I also understand the argument that it is the most unusual and perhaps also extreme measure for a parliament to enable a government to enable the lawful killing of one citizen by another. That fundamentally contradicts what many would call a social contract or a basic element, a fundamental element, of a relationship between a citizenry and its government.

Here in Australia, we almost do not allow that on any basis whatsoever. We do not allow it for capital punishment, and in fact the only thing I can think of off the top of my head might be, in the most extenuating of circumstances, allowing a law enforcement officer, in an effort to protect a larger proportion of the community, to execute that form of duty. For those reasons, and perhaps many others, I understand why many people oppose voluntary euthanasia. It cuts across what many people see as fundamental obligations of themselves as members of parliament. It is understandable then in that context that so many attempts at legalising a voluntary euthanasia regime in South Australia, and indeed in other places around the country, have failed.

I believe that unfortunately there are still a number of people within our community, albeit a small number of people, who are suffering the symptoms of terminal illnesses which are so severe, and so torturous and unbearable, that it places them in a terrible and dreadful circumstance. I also believe that some of these people have gone through accessing every possible or reasonably available medical intervention, and, indeed, beyond that every reasonably available palliative care support or option, that could be made available to them, but still find themselves in this dreadful circumstance of intolerable suffering.

So the question for me is: should I, as a member of parliament, or should the parliament as a whole, contemplate, for this small group of people within our community, allowing a regime that will

enable them, of their own choice and of their own volition, to make a decision to end their suffering earlier than what otherwise might occur from their terminal illness? In my view, that is something that should be provided for this small number of people within our community.

The bill we are currently debating regrettably does not do that. It casts the net far wider and seeks to provide what is called by the bill's title 'a voluntary euthanasia regime', but in a way which is not about people with a terminal illness, which is not necessarily about these people who have exhausted every medical intervention or palliative care option available to them. In its form, my view is that this bill cannot be supported.

However, as we have heard from the member for Morphett this morning, an alternative proposition has been put in this parliament, a proposition that is focused on an individual suffering a terminal illness. There is a proposition from the member for Morphett, in his bill, that sets out a quite rigorous and robust regime for the making of a request for voluntary euthanasia and how the request should be carried out. It is far more robust than the bill that was introduced in February in terms of protections and safeguards which would be absolutely necessary and, in my view, the bare minimum for a regime that could provide for voluntary euthanasia here in South Australia.

I realise that is not what we are discussing right now. We are discussing the original bill, which was introduced in February. If this bill were to continue being considered, and if the bill were to continue through the process and go to a vote at the second reading stage, I realise that there might be not just me but potentially other members of parliament who could not bring themselves to support a regime as set out in this current bill.

However, I think it is pleasing to those people—many of whom, perhaps, are here visiting the parliament today—who strongly believe in voluntary euthanasia, as well as to members of parliament who are focused on having the most specific, robust regime for voluntary euthanasia, that in the coming weeks the parliament will have the opportunities to debate and vote on a far more robust voluntary euthanasia regime, a regime, I would say, that reflects the community sentiment of those who seek for voluntary euthanasia to be accessible here in South Australia.

I do not believe the community expectation around voluntary euthanasia is reflected in this current bill. I believe the community expectation is reflected in the bill that the member for Morphett has introduced, and I suspect there will be many members of parliament who will seek some further improvements to that bill that the member for Morphett has introduced. It is on that basis that I think we all estimate today that what is likely to occur is that debate on this bill will not conclude but will be adjourned, and perhaps will not ever be restarted. Instead, a more robust regime for voluntary euthanasia, as foreshadowed and outlined in the member for Morphett's bill, will take the place of this current bill.

Given how much time, effort and understanding all 47 of us, and perhaps even the 22 in the other place, have put into thinking about this issue and considering what a voluntary euthanasia regime should entail, I suspect that there does not need to be a long period of time of further discussion, negotiations and consultation before the member for Morphett's bill can be contemplated. On that basis, while it may be disappointing to some people who were hoping for some resolution of this matter today, it certainly seems from the actions of the original bill's sponsors as well as the member for Morphett's bill, that there is likely to be significant progress on voluntary euthanasia in South Australia in the coming weeks.

We should recognise and pay tribute to the hard effort that has gone into this from members of the local community, as well as members of this parliament to rapidly accelerate the progress that has been made on this issue, not just this week but in the past weeks and months.

Mr SPEIRS (Bright) (11:16): This is obviously a very difficult decision when placed before any parliament in any jurisdiction. I agree with the member for Lee when he states that it is perhaps the most difficult decision to come before any parliament at any time. The issue of voluntary euthanasia, which is essentially the sanctioned killing by the state, is an incredibly difficult one for any policymakers, any decision-makers or any leaders to contemplate. However, that is what we are elected for and that is why we are here: to consider, to take on board evidence and to come up with a decision one way or the other on a range of issues, but today the bill before the house is on the issue of voluntary euthanasia.

I believe that it is very easy for people, when they are polled over the phone or asked in a casual way whether they support voluntary euthanasia, to say yes. How many times in our lives have we said as individuals, 'Shoot me if I ever end up like him. Shoot me if I ever end up like her'? I have heard that from family members over and over again, and I have heard it from friends. People do not like the idea of interminable suffering. People do not like the idea of pain in their lives so, in an informal or casual way over a telephone poll or when speaking with friends, it is quite easy to say that this is something that you are comfortable with, this is something that you would support.

However, when you are one of 47 people, or 69 if you take into consideration the members of the other place, if you are one of that class of people you actually have that responsibility on your shoulders, so it is much harder to reach that final conclusion. It is much harder to come up with the decision one way or the other. People often say to me, 'Well, 80 per cent or 70 per cent of people within the South Australian community, 70 per cent or 80 per cent of your electors would support this.'

I then say to them, 'But they aren't the ones who have to make the decision.' They are not the ones who stand up in parliament and take responsibility for these laws going right or these laws going wrong or these laws being initiated, which sets up a situation where they could be broadened and increased in scope in the future. It is easy to say that you are in favour of euthanasia in a casual sense but when you start to look at legislation, when you start to undertake analysis and when you research the issues that are associated with voluntary euthanasia, that decision becomes a lot harder.

While laws have been instituted in other jurisdictions, and perhaps most notably in the European nations of Holland and Belgium, most countries in the world have chosen not to go down this path. Most jurisdictions have decided that going down this track requires such a reworking of medical efforts, such a change in the behaviours of doctors, such a change in family relationships and the very principles of human life, that they decide not to even contemplate going down the track of legislating voluntary euthanasia.

It is also interesting to note that this is very much a First World problem, it is a rich country's problem. I have worked across Africa and I can tell you that no-one talks about voluntary euthanasia over there, where the hope of life and staying alive is significant in those countries. This is a rich person's problem, this is a rich country's problem, and even when I dissect my community, it is the richest parts of my community which support voluntary euthanasia. It is a very interesting demographic and geographical study to undertake.

Looking at the laws that are before the South Australian parliament today, and we have to consider the laws that are before the parliament. We have had a new bill introduced this morning, but that is not the bill that we are discussing today. The bill which is before the South Australian parliament is perhaps one of the broadest ever to be framed in the voluntary euthanasia debate in Australia's history.

Traditionally, euthanasia laws have been framed around relieving pain and suffering from those suffering terminal illness from which there is no return. They have required two independent doctors to certify that life is coming to an end and that there is no reasonable likelihood of a recovery being made. In fact, many examples of draft euthanasia laws put into place again and again across Australian parliaments, and across parliaments in the Western world, have placed defined time periods on how long the person is likely to live, and they propose that if this is highly limited, euthanasia is a viable option.

However, the laws that are before the South Australian parliament are not so. They state those highly objective terms 'unbearable' and 'hopeless' to be used to determine whether someone can accept voluntary euthanasia. These terms are highly problematic and so loose that they personally scare me. Many people, particularly those suffering from mental illness, would say that they have had times of hopelessness, but that should be no reason to sanction euthanasia.

On the basis of those terms being in this legislation alone, it is my view that they should not progress any further. Not only that, the very fact that those terms are in this legislation gives me a mirror into the future because we now have a new bill before the parliament but it is absolutely my belief that those who are strong proponents of euthanasia in this parliament and in the community

would much prefer the original bill, and that is where you get the scope creep of legislation over years.

I do not like to use the term 'slippery slope' when it comes down to conscience issues because I think it is used over and over again as a very loose term, but when it comes to voluntary euthanasia we have a very slippery slope, and well-intentioned laws can be brought into practice such as the ones that are now before the parliament and have been introduced this morning, but that slippery slope is very much something that we have witnessed in other jurisdictions.

Some statistics: in Belgium, figures for sanctioned euthanasia and assisted suicide rose from 235 in 2003 to 2,012 by last year. In the Netherlands, they rose from 2,331 in 2008 to 5,516 last year. Further, the slope has become even more slippery in some countries because in Holland and in Belgium, children can be euthanased. People who have not reached the age of consent, with the agreement of their parents, can be killed by the state, and that is the very fact of this matter. The slippery slope is indeed very slippery and very dangerous.

There are situations where children who have mental illnesses, children who have spastic conditions and children who have terminal illnesses are essentially put to sleep by their parents. I cannot, with my conscience, stand up for laws that would open that gate to allow us to reach a point where South Australian children could some day in the future be put to sleep by our state. It is my view that end-of-life care requires a huge amount of resources to ensure that people have dignity and comfort in their final days, and this brings me to my final point.

We often talk about palliative care as an alternative to euthanasia. Some people argue that palliative care and euthanasia go hand in hand, that they complement each other, but there is also a fairly significant stream of thinking which says that palliative care is substantially undermined when you have the option of euthanasia before you. Why bother with palliative care as an individual, or why as a state or country invest in the science of palliative care when you can simply go down the euthanasia track?

The bill does not address pain and suffering. It does not get alongside people and build relationships and try to give people hope. Instead, it seeks to end life, it seeks to remove all hope, it seeks to remove people's future. On that basis, I cannot support this bill or any bill which seeks to sanction killing by the state.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson—Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Minister for Forests, Minister for Tourism, Minister for Recreation and Sport, Minister for Racing) (11:26): I rise briefly to thank the member for Ashford for the months and months of hard work that she has put in, and all those other people, and I thank the member for Morphett as well for the great work he has done. It is very important that this house gets the sort of bill the people of South Australia are going to expect us to have with the proper safeguards.

I am a supporter of allowing people to die with dignity. As I said, I rise to thank those people who have done all the hard work. We will not have a decision today, but I want to assure the public who contact me—those people who do want voluntary euthanasia in South Australia—that we will keep working on it, and we will make sure we get it right. I also want to thank Andrew Denton and the many people who have worked so hard outside this place to try to inform people inside and outside the Parliament of South Australia.

Ms CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (11:27): I rise to speak on the Voluntary Euthanasia Bill, introduced by the member for Ashford. As I have indicated to her, I will not be supporting the bill in this form. However, it is fair to say that with a number of amendments I would be sympathetic to it being advanced. In short, however, the statutory sanction of death by doctor is something which in the present bill is deficient in definition, is inadequate in protection, and certainly does not address a number of the concerns I have raised.

For the benefit of those who move above the emotive issues to understand the significance of why as legislators we have responsibility to have something that is practicably able to be applied, in terms of something as simple as the insurance law, and the protection against someone avoiding their obligation as an insurer to pay out on an insurance policy where someone has taken their own life via a voluntary euthanasia approval, to impose a fine of \$10,000 when you have a \$1 million insurance policy is a nonsense.

That is an example of what we have to explore, and I am pleased to see in the bill that has been tabled today that the voiding of the clauses that would obviate that is exactly the sort of work that has to be done as legislators to make sure that not only do we have any process that has suitable protections but that we recognise what ill we are trying to cure as such and, secondly, that there are a number of other consequences that occur that we as legislators have to responsibly address.

What I want to say is that I am concerned, in the last few days, as to why we have got into this mess, and why it is that we are not progressing an amendment to this bill and we are now having to move to another delayed debate on this important issue. It is up there with abortion, stem cell research and all the other issues things we have had to deal with. It is not the only one, but for newer members it is probably the first one.

What is concerning to me is that in the last few days I have heard that one particular organisation, a union, has threatened the re-election of members of this parliament if they were to vote to support voluntary euthanasia, and I am appalled at that. I am not going to name them. I am simply going to say that I want those members to remember that they are here, elected by the people in their electorates, to represent the people of South Australia. I want them to remember that, having accepted that position and been sworn in, they must comply with the obligations that they have sworn to and that they lined up in this parliament and accepted responsibility to do and not be intimidated by the threats of others. That is very important.

The SPEAKER: Could the member seek leave to continue her remarks.

Ms CHAPMAN: I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted.

The SPEAKER: The adjourned debate to be taken into consideration—

Mr GARDNER: Sir, I think that when time expires it does not need a date defined. It just automatically stays on the list.

The SPEAKER: Well, I am advised by the Clerk that the mover of the bill has the choice.

The Hon. S.W. KEY: Yes, sir. I was hoping that we could adjourn the bill to 1 December. I would have thought that a lot of people in here would be happy about me moving it to 1 December.

The SPEAKER: I am advised that it is not really for us to speculate whether the house will sit on the optional sitting week, so the member for Ashford is entitled to adjourn her bill to Thursday 1 December, and so I accept the motion. Is it seconded?

Debate adjourned.

Motions

GAWLER TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

Mr KNOLL (Schubert) (11:32): It is from the sensational to the more mundane, Mr Speaker. I move:

That this house recognises the urgent need to implement traffic management solutions for Gawler to—

- (a) provide local residents with quality infrastructure to reduce congestion;
- (b) create a safer environment for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians; and
- (c) meet the rapid growth needs of the local Gawler area.

Gawler may not be in my electorate, but it is very much a window to my electorate. In fact, Gawler has become somewhat of a roadblock for those seeking to access the southern Barossa, and subsequently it is a huge issue for me. On behalf of the residents of the southern Barossa, I urge for these issues to be fixed so that people are able more easily to visit towns around Williamstown, Lyndoch and Rowland Flat.

Traffic in Gawler has been an issue for some time. I think anybody who has had to travel down Adelaide Road, through to Murray Street and into Gawler has seen what a disaster it is. It is

impacting upon the development and advancement of the town and, in fact, has to be seen as an example of poor planning over a long period of time that has led to this disastrous situation.

Gawler has had new housing developments on almost every single side, from Hewett to Gawler East and the proposed Concordia development, through to the south, with Evanston Gardens and Orleana Waters. There have been issues with growth in housing in Gawler for a long period of time, so this idea that Murray Street and Adelaide Road were not going to be able to cope should have been foreseen by governments over a longer period of time.

This has to be an example of poor planning, and it is something that even the member for Light has admitted in speeches in this place, when he said previously that issues around traffic management in Gawler and the decisions that have been taken by previous ministers in relation to housing development and road infrastructure development have been sub par.

I bring this issue to this place because, for the residents of Gawler, for the residents of the southern Barossa and for every tourist who visits our beautiful region, this is an issue that must be fixed. I think that the biggest way to improve traffic management situations in Gawler would be to fund properly—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: If I could ask members conducting conversations to do so outside the chamber. Could all members who wish to discuss anything leave the chamber.

Mr KNOLL: —and to provide the most optimal route so that those who are merely travelling through Gawler can get around the town safely whilst freeing up that road infrastructure for those who want to use the local services and the local amenities. There is a significant solution on the table at the moment, that is, the Gawler East link road, which I have heard called by many names, but I think Gawler East link road is the name we are finally settling on. The way that the name of that road is framed potentially underlines what I think is one of the central conflicts in this issue as a traffic management solution.

The Gawler East link road was slated as needing to be built, and it was a condition as part of the Gawler East development that we signed many years ago. The idea was that once the 1,000-home limit of the 3,000 houses slated to be built had been reached, the road had to be in place at that time for further approvals to be sought for homes to be built beyond that first 1,000. The most frustrating thing—again, I think the member for Light would agree with this—is that a decision on how, what, why and how much and who was going to pay for what was not completed at the time that the original approvals were given.

That has led us now to a situation where we are hurtling towards this 1,000-home limit and we still do not have a solution that works. As part of last year's budget, the government put \$55 million on the table to build a road, but in my view they are building the wrong road. Instead of a route that would take all through traffic out of Gawler, and instead of providing a connection to the Tiver Road intersection, which the government has spent \$13.6 million on, we have an inferior route, where essentially residents of Gawler East and the southern Barossa would be able to get around Murray Street but then, via the Potts Road-Adelaide Road intersection, be dumped into the southern end of Gawler. All we are merely doing in that instance is moving the blockage from Murray Street to Potts Road-Adelaide Road.

That DPTI alignment, as we are calling it, the Potts Road option, was presented to council. Council in their wisdom, in my view, decided that they did not want to merely accept this inferior option. They have gone on to explore two more options in the Eastern Alignment and the Eckerman Alignment, but they have now also presented what I think is perhaps the best option, that is, the Eastern Alignment alternative. The rationale behind both those alignments—and I will not go into the minutiae of the slight variations in alignment—is to preserve a future link to Bentley Road and to Tiver Road. I think that is extremely important because whilst everyone can see that we are not going to get the road that we really need, what we should be doing is making sure that in the future we get the road that we really need.

The Eastern Alignment alternative was put to a council meeting about six weeks ago. I went along hoping for there to be a decision, but unfortunately council did not come to a decision. They agreed to defer and seek more consultation, and they put the DPTI alignment back into the mix. I

know that that consultation has now finished and that they are very quickly moving towards a final solution.

I want to put on the record in this house, and I have written to the Gawler council to say: please—from the residents of the southern Barossa, from every tourist who visits our region, from everybody in the Gawler East area, and from everybody who will live in the Concordia area in the future—preserve the Tiver Road option for the future.

You can ask why the government is not taking the superior option now. The truth is that it is because they do not want to own the bridge. By calling it a link road, by making it a local road instead of making it a proper bypass or thoroughfare, by definition, it is a road that needs to be owned by the council. This bridge is an expensive piece of infrastructure that is going to burden the Gawler council for generations to come. It will be okay for the next 20 years, but after that, when the bridge starts to need significant redevelopment, it will be a huge draw on council funds.

The council, again in its wisdom, realising this is something that needs to be solved, has agreed to go along with this, and I think it is to be commended for this. However, it really is a shame that the government has been short-sighted in this area. Instead of giving the people of Gawler a road that they have needed for a long time and one that they deserve, the government is giving them an inferior option.

The real issue that the Gawler council has in choosing the Eastern Alignment alternative or the Eckerman Alignment is that it will need to put significant funds (somewhere in the order of \$5 million) towards this proposal. That is a significant burden on council, which already has reasonable debt levels; however, I think the Gawler council is showing courage to this point.

It has been put to me that there is a way to get a route that preserves the Tiver Road option for the future within the existing bucket of funds. If that is something that is available, I would urge all parties to pursue that option. I am merely putting the question out there. If the government wants to take money off the table, instead of being able to use the existing envelope that has already been promised towards the superior alignments, then I would urge the government to make sure that they make the funds available so that we can get the best outcome possible for the community.

I know that there are other issues in Gawler when it comes to traffic. There is the Main North Road intersection that others have been pursuing, and I think that is extremely commendable. The Gawler East link road is \$55 million, it is on the table now, and it is something we have to get right. I know the Gawler council is going through a difficult period, and they are going to take on a significant financial burden, but I urge the council to show some foresight and courage to take the long-term view.

I would like to talk briefly about the Concordia development, which is slated to be somewhere between 20,000 to 30,000 homes, and which will create, again, a new and bigger burden on traffic management systems within Gawler. Concordia, if it goes ahead, is a chance for us to get it right this time. In any redevelopment of that area, a connection through to the Northern Expressway has to be something that is built at the earliest stages of that development so that we can make sure that we can see into the future and fix the problems before or as they arise, as opposed to the situation we have now, where businesses on the main street of Gawler are struggling in part because it is very difficult for people to drive down their road, find a park and get into their shop in the first place.

This is an issue that has been neglected over a long period of time. I think that this is an issue that many have put into the too hard basket. I agree that we have finally come to a point where we may see some sort of solution, and I understand that DPTI is pretty keen to get on and get the work done once a decision is finalised. I would like to say to the Gawler council: please make a long-term bold choice. I would like to say to the government: please be willing and accepting partners, given the fact that you have essentially lumped upon council a huge financial burden. At least come to the party in the greatest way that you can so that the people of Gawler can get the best outcome possible.

This poor planning has led to this situation in the first place. Let us use this as a case study, as a cautionary tale, about how not to go about traffic management in Gawler, or in any town in South

Australia, and use the lessons we can learn from this disaster to help make sure that we make better decisions when it comes to planning towns in the future.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (11:45): I rise to speak against the motion, and I will explain why. First, the motion states:

- (a) provide local residents with quality infrastructure to reduce congestion;
- (b) create a safer environment for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians; and
- (c) meet the rapid growth needs of the local Gawler area.

They are very commendable objectives and ones that I support, but when you read the motion as a whole, and take into account the contribution of the member for Schubert, he does not touch those issues at all. He avoids the issue of Gawler entirely. I understand that he is the member for Schubert and will bat for the people of Schubert, and that is what this motion is about. This motion does not have Gawler at its heart at all.

I will explain. First, he talks about the Gawler East link road. He does not understand the purpose of the road or the history, because the purpose of the link road was to link Gawler East (a new development) with other parts of Gawler. It was not designed to carry through traffic from the Barossa—that was never its intention, it was not planned for that purpose.

So, his motivation behind this motion has nothing to do with Gawler or Gawler residents, even though he tries to dress it up that way: it is about the southern Barossa, and good on him if he bats for that. But, please, do not come into this place and pretend to care about Gawler when you do not. That is the first issue.

Secondly, when you talk about traffic, when you talk about transport, there are three elements: first, you try to improve the existing network to make it more efficient, and I will provide some examples of government undertakings, along with the local council, over the years, certainly since I have been the local member for the area.

He talks about new infrastructure, and certainly the Gawler East link road, amongst others, and the future north-eastern link road, are designed to provide new infrastructure to improve traffic around the town. I expressly emphasise 'around the town'. These roads are not designed to be thoroughfares; they never were. In fact, I do not think the Gawler council wants it, and neither should it. This is about getting people from Gawler East to parts of the south.

It is interesting what this motion does not talk about and what the member for Schubert did not mention at all. It is not usual, because he is a member of the Liberal Party and the Liberal Party, both at a state level and a federal level, has an aversion to public transport.

Mr Duluk: I caught the train in today.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Davenport.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: He did not mention public transport.

Mr Pengilly: I caught the train.

Mr Duluk: I caught the train in to work today.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Finniss, member for Davenport.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: He did not mention public transport once in his whole speech, yet—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sit down. I remind members of the standing orders, which require that members be given respect while they are speaking, and that people should not be interjecting. Unfortunately, I will have to get out the book and start now.

Mr Knoll: I'll counsel him.

The SPEAKER: You're in the wrong spot; you're not going to do anything from there. We would like to hear the contribution of the member for Light, just as we heard the contribution of the member for Schubert. Member for Light.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: The member for Schubert did not mention public transport once, and I will tell you why he did not mention public transport once: because at the last state election the Liberal Party was going to axe the Gawler bus service. That was their policy: they were going to axe it. They do not support public transport.

Tony Abbott made very clear that, as a national government, he would never support public transport in any place in Australia. Not only that, the current Liberal government is not supporting public transport. They have put no money into the electrification of the Gawler line. We have put our half, and the federal Liberal Party has not. The reason he has not mentioned public transport is that the Liberal Party do not believe in it, and because they do not believe in public transport they do not see public transport as a possible way of addressing the issues of the traffic congestion in Gawler.

I have made it very clear that I support public transport. I support my community having buses in and around town because buses carry more people. It is clear today that the Liberal opposition and the member for Schubert do not support it at all. He did not mention it once, yet his motion states:

- (a) provide local residents with quality infrastructure to reduce congestion;
- (b) create a safer environment for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians; and
- (c) meet the rapid growth needs of the local Gawler area.

A key element to achieve those objectives has to be public transport. We have to electrify. So, rather than sit across there like *The Silence of the Lambs*, they should get onto their federal members to support the electrification of the Gawler line, support public transport and the expansion of our bus service in Gawler and also do the road transport.

They have this fetish about road transport only because they do not have a sophisticated answer on how to address issues. For the member for Schubert to come into this place and sell my community short is disgraceful. It is a disgrace that he should come into this place and say to the people of Gawler, 'You are not entitled to public transport.' He did not mention it once. If it was important, it would have been a key part of his speech. His whole answer to congestion is the Gawler East link road. That is absolutely appalling. To suggest that even a link road to Tiver Road would resolve Gawler's congestion issues is selling the Gawler community short.

Perhaps it would be better if he just looked after Schubert rather than try to look after Light. He is not really doing a good job in either. Putting that aside, it is a complete disgrace that the member for Schubert would come in here and talk about improving the quality of life for people in Gawler and to say that the answer is this link road from Potts Road to Tiver Road. It is quite clear that he does not understand that community at all. It is quite clear that, in the future, the link will happen. It has been planned for, and it will happen when it is required.

I raised three issues. First, I raised the issue of improving the existing network, and I will give some examples. Secondly, I raised the issue of new infrastructure, the Gawler East link road and its purpose. Thirdly, I will talk about public transport a bit more because he did not touch public transport, neither at the state level nor at the federal level. The Liberal Party has an aversion to public transport because—

Mr Duluk interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The member for Davenport is called to order.

Mr Knoll interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: And you are not in your spot, so you are called to order too.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: The Integrated Transport and Land Use Plan, which is for greater Gawler, includes: the Gawler East link road; the Adelaide Road/Potts Road/Para Road intersection upgrade, which the community supports and which I clearly support; the duplication of Main North Road between Potts Road and Gawler Bypass, which will improve traffic management; a north eastern bypass road of Gawler to the Sturt Highway, which I have been supporting for many years and which will occur when and if Concordia goes ahead; and a whole range of other improvements.

Let us look at some other things that have also happened in the meantime which the member for Schubert chose to ignore: in terms of improving existing infrastructure, the government spent \$108,000 recently on a pedestrian refuge on Murray Street; we put in a pedestrian refuge on Main North Road, at Kingfisher Drive, Hewett; a roundabout at Main North Road and Redbanks Road, at a cost of \$2.7 million, which the community supports wholeheartedly and which has improved traffic management; a painted median scheme and turn-in lanes at Main North Road near Paxton Street, which I supported and initiated; a koala crossing at Lyndoch Road near the school, which improves road safety. He does not mention pedestrian safety.

A roundabout at Jack Cooper Drive and Ryde Street again improves commuter safety. A roundabout at Adelaide Road/Nineteenth Street/Fifth Street was built and is also about to be improved again. The Evanston Railway Station upgrade—public transport—again, he did not mention that. This is what we have done: traffic signals at Main North Road/Tiver Road/Gordon Road in preparation for the development at the southern part of Gawler, which is very important. We have the infrastructure in place to allow the southern part of Gawler to expand. One day, at the appropriate time, they will be linked to the Gawler East link road, but not at this point in time. A whole range of other things are also occurring.

If you are going to come into this place and talk about improving traffic management in Gawler, firstly you need to understand the community and, secondly, you actually need to say to the community that it is entitled to a whole range of options which improve it. Those options include, as I indicated, improving the existing network—I have given examples, concrete examples, of what has happened in the last 10½ years since I have been the local member—new initiatives, which I have supported, and which are occurring now; and, thirdly, public transport. I have supported upgrades of our train station; I have supported the electrification of Gawler rail. The only people who do not support it are the Liberal Party. Not once has the member for Schubert stood up in this place and called on his federal colleagues to support it.

Mr Pengilly interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Finniss!

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: At the last election, the whole Liberal Party's policy in Gawler for public transport was to axe the bus. That is what would happen at the next election if they got—

Mr PENGILLY: Point of order, Deputy Speaker—

The SPEAKER: There is a point of order. What is your point of order?

Mr PENGILLY: The member for Light is not responsible for Liberal Party policy.

The SPEAKER: I think he has admitted that. Continue.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: I would certainly agree with the member for Finniss. I do not want to be responsible for Liberal Party policy; I am not sure anybody would.

Mr Pengilly interjecting:

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: Have you checked Facebook recently, member for Finniss?

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Light!

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: For those reasons, I do not support this motion. It is selling the Gawler community short and should be opposed.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (11:56): I rise to support the motion by the member for Schubert:

That this house recognises the urgent need to implement traffic management solutions for Gawler to—

- (a) provide local residents with quality infrastructure to reduce congestion;
- (b) create a safer environment for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians; and
- (c) meet the rapid growth needs of the local Gawler area.

Before I hear from the other side, as we have with the previous speaker, that I do not know anything about Gawler—well, I do know a little bit about Gawler. I have travelled into and around Gawler all

my life because both my sets of grandparents did reside there and my family also had farming land at Angle Vale. I have watched the growth of Gawler. It was once an outlying country town, but it has certainly almost become suburban without too many green areas between that and the city.

I am pleased to see the member for Schubert fighting to get a better outcome for the residents of Gawler and the people who travel through there, because it is a central location. It is very much a commuter location, no matter which way you may be heading through to the more northern areas of the state. Whether it is people going to work or school bus time in the morning, or whether it is school time or people leaving work in the afternoon, Murray Street, the main street, is extremely congested. Even in the middle of the day, there are some severe tight spots along Murray Street. In fact, the whole street can be blocked at times and everyone is down to a crawl.

Gawler's main street is an iconic street. It has had some great old stores there in the past, like Crosby's and Eudunda Farmers with their pneumatic tubes to send their dockets around the store. Areas like Hewett to the north of the town were part of the expansion, and other proposals to expand around Roseworthy as well as putting immense pressure on Gawler and its residents. Certainly, as the member for Schubert said, there should be a better alignment that brings people around on the Tiver Road to give a better outcome for people who do not need to go through Murray Street. I do not believe Murray Street businesses will suffer (this is the main street of Gawler). I do not think they will suffer, because people will have more access into the town to be able to access those businesses and other services.

We certainly do not want to see the burden of whatever route that comes through—and we hope it is the best route to have the best outcome for the district—falling to local government. We want to see the state government play their part in making sure that the right route is put in place. With regard to infrastructure, better management and better use of facilities, I note what the member for Light said about public transport in Gawler.

I note that Gawler has what I understand is a public service, which is like a ring route. I would be interested to know how many people actually patronise that route. I am told it is not many, but I am happy to be informed if it is a lot. For someone to come in here and say that we on this side of the do not advocate for public transport, that is completely wrong. It is just completely wrong.

Mr Whetstone: Desperate.

Mr PEDERICK: Desperate, absolutely. I have advocated for public transport, whether it be through to Murray Bridge or to the south coast through Victor Harbor and Goolwa. In the case of Murray Bridge, I was a candidate 11 years ago, and it was one of the issues that came to the fore. One of the first sets of businesspeople who came to see me were those operating the private bus line at the time. We were debating contracts of bus route rights (or access rights) in this house at that stage. It is a very lucrative arrangement, as a company gets the rights to those routes and essentially no-one else can use them unless they get an exemption.

It came to light that some bizarre things had occurred, such as school buses not being able to pull up at stops so that children could swap over from one bus to the other at Tailem Bend to get into Murray Bridge. There were some really bizarre circumstances where major bus companies needed permission to go into certain areas. I am all for competition, and I think we should have more competition, so I think we should have more public transport. I certainly believe that the south coast and Murray Bridge should get appropriate Metroticketed public transport, and I have advocated for that for the whole time I have been in here and even before I got into this place. That is absolutely vital as areas grow.

We heard the member for Light speak passionately about public transport. I look across the other side at a government that has partially built a train service, in terms of the electrification of rail, where they put in some poles and forgot to put up the wires. Essentially, with electrification, that is exactly what happened. If his comrades on the other side are so passionate about public transport, why do they not get on and finish his electrified train set so that they can go up there?

Perhaps they want to iron out the problems that have been as far as the Seaford line, where we have seen some major outages because of poor cable installation and poor products. These major outages affect people using that public transport. It is ridiculous that we have a situation where

electric trains have to be shunted with diesel engines to be serviced because the network to the north, towards Gawler, has not been completed. I think we have to have clean hands on this, so let us see what this government does with that proposal into the future.

I certainly agree that there need to be some far better outcomes in the Gawler area. We need to get the best out come as far as the link road and the bypass. We need to make it not just useful for locals to link from one area out of Gawler and partially bypass some of the main street, but make it take in those future needs as well because it is very much a growing community out there. There are plenty of communities growing around it and it is far better, I believe, to put the proper link road in place so that we look at those future needs instead of going for a lesser model when we could have had the better model leading us into the future.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Does someone want to speak for a few minutes to give the member for Schubert a chance to get back?

Mr PENGILLY (Finniss) (12:05): I have listened with interest to the member for Schubert's motion this morning and his reasoning behind it. I have no reason whatsoever to doubt the sincerity of his intent with the motion or his knowledge of it, so I was somewhat disappointed to hear the contribution from the member for Light. He does not have a mortgage on the affairs of roads that run through his area, and I do not in my area either. I think that just nitpicking and scoring political points was not all that clever. The member for Schubert—

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr PENGILLY: The member for Schubert is an astute and active new, young member to this place. He does copious amounts of work when he brings something like this to the chamber and he should have been given the respect he deserves, as far as I am concerned, rather than being torn to pieces, so it was disappointing. I heard what the member for—

Members interjecting:

Mr PENGILLY: Well, you asked me to fill in.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Everyone needs to stop.

Mr PENGILLY: I seek the protection of the Chair, ma'am.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have thrown myself as a cloak of protection over you. Everyone has gone quiet now, so you are alright.

Mr PENGILLY: The member for Hammond made a contribution with some interesting comments on his own experience. Yes, we do understand what goes on in our own electorates but, also, when you have major road corridors that go through your electorate to other places, it is with the best of intent that members comment on that. I am quite happy for people to talk about roads that go to my electorate or through my electorate as well, including the notorious Adelaide-Victor Harbor Road. With those few words, I support the member for Schubert's comments.

Mr KNOLL (Schubert) (12:07): I am quite excited to remember that I get a right of reply. What is interesting is that when those *Hansard* watchers go back over this speech, they will see the fact that I was quite respectful about the way I spoke about this issue. I just implored all parties to come to the table and do the right thing, whereas other speakers may or may not have tried to make this into a personal debate, and that is disappointing. It is disappointing from the member for Light.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr KNOLL: Unfortunately, it is not the first time and I am sure it will not be the last. What I find most incredible is the fact that the member for Light does not think that there is a problem. If you want to solve something, the first thing you need to do is admit you have a problem. If the member for Light genuinely votes down this motion, then he can stand in peak hour traffic in Murray Street

and see what happens. There is a 1½ to two-kilometre stretch of road that can take 10 minutes to go down. If the member for Light does not think it is an issue, that is fine but I think his community would think differently. First things first, if you want to fix a problem, you have to realise that you have an issue.

The Hon. P. Caica: That's the Liberal Party.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr KNOLL: Many of the interventions—

The Hon. P. Caica interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Colton!

Mr KNOLL: —that the member for Light talked about would actually help reduce traffic. When you talk about decreasing the number of car parking spaces and putting in extra pedestrian crossings, you actually make it harder for road traffic. Public transport is certainly an issue. If the member for Light wants to talk about this state government's record and how much money they wasted in the mismanagement of the electrification of the Gawler line, I am happy to have that debate too. It is interesting that he is part of a government—and he was a minister—that has its hands on the purse strings. If the state government and the member for Light are committed to public transport, why do they not fund the electrification? At the moment they are only going out to Salisbury.

This project has been delayed and reintroduced, I think, four or five times. The amount of money that they have wasted so far because they cannot even do the job properly is an absolute disgrace. If we want to talk about public transport, I am more than happy to have that debate. My issue at the moment is around road traffic and the number of cars on the road, which is only going to increase. If the member for Light does not think so, he again needs to take his head out of the sand because more and more people are coming to live in Gawler, and they all drive cars because it is an outer suburban area, which means that public transport is difficult.

If you want to catch a train from Gawler to Adelaide, that is fine. For anybody who wants to go anywhere else, it is much more problematic, so you still need cars, which is endemic in outer suburban areas or in country townships that are trying not to become outer suburban areas. That is an issue. I think that the member for Light went down this path because he is trying to deflect from the real issue. Instead of recognising that there is a problem and thinking that somehow he was being righteous in his indignation, he is hiding from the fact that in his heart he realises that there are traffic issues in Gawler.

I know that because he is in the paper regularly advocating for the Main North Road and Tulloch Road intersection upgrade, which means he obviously knows that there was a problem that does need to be fixed. However, it is more than just that intersection, and if the member does not think that it is an issue, then that is to his detriment. I commend this motion to the house, and I hope that members see fit to vote for it. If they do not, it will be because they think that everything is hunky-dory in the Town of Gawler. If that is what they do, I am more than happy to have that debate in the public space.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes 16

Noes 20

Majority 4

AYES

Brock, G.G.
Goldsworthy, R.M.
Pederick, A.S.
Sanderson, R.
Treloar, P.A.
Wingard, C.

Chapman, V.A.
Griffiths, S.P.
Pengilly, M.R.
Speirs, D.
Whetstone, T.J.

Duluk, S.
Knoll, S.K. (teller)
Pisoni, D.G.
Tarzia, V.A.
Williams, M.R.

NOES

Bettison, Z.L.	Bignell, L.W.K.	Caica, P.
Close, S.E.	Cook, N.F.	Digance, A.F.C.
Gee, J.P.	Hildyard, K.	Hughes, E.J.
Kenyon, T.R. (teller)	Key, S.W.	Koutsantonis, A.
Mullighan, S.C.	Odenwalder, L.K.	Piccolo, A.
Picton, C.J.	Rankine, J.M.	Rau, J.R.
Vlahos, L.A.	Wortley, D.	

PAIRS

Gardner, J.A.W.	Atkinson, M.J.	Marshall, S.S.
Hamilton-Smith, M.L.J.	McFetridge, D.	Weatherill, J.W.
van Holst Pellekaan, D.C.	Snelling, J.J.	

Motion thus negatived.

WILLOUGHBY, MR SAM

Ms COOK (Fisher) (12:17): I move:

That this house recognises Sam Willoughby and his achievements and wishes him well in recovery from a serious training accident.

Sam Willoughby, also known as the BMX Bandit, is a South Australian Olympic silver medallist and two-time world champion BMX cyclist. Proving his strength and determination, he left Adelaide at the age of 16 to go to California to race. He stayed at the home of other cyclists until he earned enough money to support himself. As a junior, he won BMX titles in 2008 and 2009 and won a silver medal in the 2012 London Olympic Games. He was recognised as a junior talent by winning the Australian Institute of Sport Junior Athlete of the Year Award in 2012. In 2014, he won the world championship in Rotterdam and has been ranked number one in his sport.

Sam competed in the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, having torn his cruciate ligament six months earlier. He and debut Olympian Anthony Dean, another South Australian, put in amazing efforts to be the top two qualifiers for the final which, under the circumstances, was remarkable in itself. Everyone in the final knew the Australians were the ones to beat. My husband and I set our alarms dutifully and sat transfixed to the television in the middle of the night to watch. In the final, Sam and Anthony finished sixth and eighth respectively.

Following the Olympics, the Minister for Recreation and Sport announced the state government would name the newly announced UCI standard BMX track in the southern suburbs the Sam Willoughby International BMX Track. The track will be a Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) standard BMX track built at O'Halloran Hill. The BMX track is a \$3.5 million investment by the state government and two local councils, the cities of Marion and Onkaparinga, each contributing \$750,000 towards the project.

It was wonderful to spend time with Sam at the announcement of this. Sam was humble and so very generous with his time with many young BMXers from the Hallett Cove club and Happy Valley club attending, along with their parents. He spoke very fondly to me of his fiancée, Alise Post, a Rio games silver medallist in the BMX. We laughed at how we hoped together that Alise would enjoy training and racing at her new home track in O'Halloran Hill. He was so happy to be home spending time with his family—family is very important to Sam.

We were all so saddened to hear of the of the horrible training accident that he recently encountered. The accident, which occurred during a training session in the USA, saw Sam land dreadfully on his head. He has broken his neck, leaving him with fractures to his C6 and C7 vertebrae, severely compressing his spinal cord and leaving him with no movement from the chest down. Although there is no guarantee that he will walk again, Sam is showing the strength and

determination that saw him become world champion and an Olympic medallist and refusing to be in a wheelchair on his wedding day in April next year.

The support through this time shown by family, friends and fans has been terrific to see. Sam's parents issued a public statement, thanking everybody, which partly read:

The huge outpouring of support from friends, family, fans and supporters has been incredible, and many of you have already asked how you can provide assistance to Sam in some way to ensure he has access to the best possible rehabilitation treatment. As a result, we have set up a portal where you can offer support, both through financial assistance and messages for Sam, and can also be kept up to date with Sam's progress. Any donation, great or small, and any message of support will assist in Sam remaining strong throughout his road to recovery.

I know that Sam takes great interest in the messages that are sent to him through Twitter tags and through Facebook as well. It is very positive for him to see those. The road to recovery is a costly one. The health system in the United States of America is very different from what we have in Australia. They are not privy to the same benefits that we are, so it comes at a huge cost.

The family has set up a website where people can donate funds towards his recovery. Should you wish to donate, please visit road2recovery.com/strengthfor91. A hashtag has been set up where you can show your support to Sam: #strengthfor91. The electorate of Fisher considers Sam as one of its own, and there are several wonderful local initiatives that have been set up also to assist with fundraising and for the healing of the community and support for Sam.

The Happy Valley BMX Club, Sam's own club, a place of happiness for Sam and his family, is running a series of four sausage sizzles at training. I attended the first one last week with my family, and I will attend at least one more, with two of them left to happen. They will occur every Tuesday from about 6pm to 7pm, and everybody is welcome to come down and see the beautiful Happy Valley BMX training area under gorgeous big gum trees. They will happen next week and the week after. Thank you also to the community members, including the Collins Parade butcher and followers on Facebook who have put their hand up to donate the sausages to increase the profit margins and the fundraising capacity, which is amazing.

Sam's mum, Sharon, is the deputy principal of the Thiele Primary School, which is a part of the campus school in Aberfoyle Park, part of Fisher. She has been connected with that school for a long time and she is part of the community there and a wonderful woman and a great leader. The school is holding a fundraiser next week, and I look forward to attending and again assisting with fundraising efforts. All these community events will add up—after all, it is all the small drops that fill the bucket.

They follow on from radio station FIVEaa dedicating several hours of their sports show on 23 September when, along with many other South Aussies, I phoned in to make pledges to support Sam Willoughby. Sam is one of our own. He is a kind-hearted, genuine Aussie champ and I think the world of him. Our thoughts are with Sam and his family during this tough time. Along with the South Australian parliament, I wish him all the best through his recovery. I commend the motion to the house.

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (12:24): I, too, rise to speak on and support this motion extending best wishes to Sam Willoughby during his recovery. News of the training accident that left Sam Willoughby with a terrible injury was distressing to hear. I am sure many in this place were very upset and, in some form, stressed to hear of a previous world champion enduring such a horrific accident. During that routine training session in the US, Sam landed awkwardly, fracturing his C6 and C7 vertebrae which severely compressed his spinal cord, leaving him with no movement from the chest down.

The two-time world BMX champion and Olympic silver medallist is now fighting in rehabilitation so that he can walk down the aisle when he marries his fiancée, Alise Post. The 25 year old was flown to hospital and placed in intensive care, after surgeons had removed his C6 vertebra, replaced it with a titanium cage and fused the C5 and C7 vertebrae with a plate and four screws. He has regained the use of his arms and is slowly regaining sensation in his legs, which is very positive news.

The news certainly shocked the cycling community in South Australia that have given Sam overwhelming support over the years. There was also a lot of social media support, with the hashtag

#strengthfor91—the year Sam was born and his official racing number—posted on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. The 2012 and 2014 BMX World Champion finished sixth in the men's final at the Rio Olympics and afterwards returned to Adelaide briefly to visit his family and friends before flying back to his base in San Diego in the US to prepare for the remaining world cups and the rest of the American season.

Then the tragic incident happened. He had just revealed that he had been riding with a torn anterior cruciate ligament in his knee for six months prior to the Rio Olympics, where he was shattered not to put in a medal-winning performance. Sam has always been a determined fighter. He was born in Adelaide's southern suburbs, and he pretended he was a BMX world champion in his backyard as a youngster before chasing down his dream at the age of 16, when he began racing in the US and then four years later became the BMX World Champion.

His current fight is certainly a new one, but Sam has South Australia, and no doubt Australia, right behind him throughout his recovery. Horrible accidents such as this one incurred by Sam certainly put life into perspective. As a motorsport enthusiast myself, I have seen a number of horrific injuries during my time involved in sport, particularly noting how debilitating a serious injury is overseas, away from your home and your loved ones. The horrific injuries I have seen during my time were never something I wanted to see or hear. My best wishes are with Sam for his recovery and to let him know that we are all behind him. A post by Sam's fiancée, Alise, updating Sam's condition reads:

The days have been getting busier and busier here at rehab for Sam! He is now finishing up two solid weeks of rehab and is doing great. All the staff love him here, because as you can imagine his work ethic, motivation and intensity have made quite the impression on those around him. I can honestly say he's probably working harder than he ever has before, which is pretty impressive as we all know how intense he already was with his day to day training! From dawn to dusk he's filled with individual and group therapy sessions that are helping him become more and more functional both using what he already has, and working towards gaining things back.

Balance and mobility have been a big focus thus far and Sam is picking up on everything quickly. Some highlights from his therapy thus far include meeting a 3x Paralympic Rugby medallist who shared his story with a group of young men like Sam...it's amazing how many Paralympic athletes we are always surrounded and inspired by at the Olympic Training Center, but now we can gain even that much more respect for the path they've had to endure to get where they are...they are truly incredibly strong people with great life lessons to share. Another highlight would be using the FES bike to help stimulate his legs in a motion and 'feeling' so familiar to him. Some other highlights include getting in the pool for the first time and getting stood up in a special standing frame they use to reacclimatise people to an upright position.

The visits and presence of our good friend and [team manager] Jason Carnes definitely help in this situation as Jason always has plenty of stories and laughs to share that keep spirits up and actually physically kept Sam's blood pressure levels in check as they stood him up...thanks Jase! He was also a great therapy buddy for Sam during his upper body strength classes as anyone who knows him can imagine...

So yes, on top of all the physical stimulation, the support of friends, family, and fans from around the world has played an incredible role in the healing process and keeping Sam's spirits up—THANK YOU to everyone who has sent positive energy and kind messages our way. Keep spreading the love.

A website has been set up for Sam for people to send messages of support and donate towards Sam's rehabilitation costs.

As the member for Fisher has said, the medical system is very different in the US. I can speak firsthand about friends who have had accidents and debilitating injuries through water ski racing, in particular, in the US. I have a number of friends who have had injuries that have been lifelong that have also been financially challenging. The support website for Sam is www.road2recovery.com/strengthfor91. To date, almost \$40,000 has been raised, which is a great effort.

As the shadow minister for sport, the South Australian Liberal Party and this chamber send their best wishes to Sam for a full recovery. I hope this injury is something Sam will put behind him very quickly. Sam, yes, it is a jolt in life, but it is also a test of strength, and you, my friend, you have that internal strength.

Ms COOK (Fisher) (12:31): I thank the member for Chaffey for his contribution, as well, on this very important motion sharing our thoughts with Sam Willoughby and his family. I would like to thank everyone in advance for their consideration of any offers of support they can give and also

note that Sam is one of the first people to jump when other people need his help. He has participated in being an ambassador for programs such as the Happiness Cycle, which has donated many thousands of bikes to young people in need.

I am sure we cannot wait for him to get up and moving and to participate in that, and also to walk his beautiful fiancée, Alise, down the aisle. In saying that, I thank the opposition for its support of the motion and commend it to members.

Motion carried.

EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (12:32): I move:

That this house—

- (a) condemns the state government for removing the emergency services levy remissions and then further increasing the levy; and
- (b) acknowledges the impact of the levy increase, particularly on sport and recreation clubs and organisations, which are already battling the high cost of utilities.

I bring this motion to the parliament today after many concerns have been raised with me in my role as shadow minister for sport, recreation and racing and also for investment and trade, particularly by export businesses and sport and recreation clubs across the state, which have been severely impacted by the ESL increases. Not only do they find increases with ESL, not only do they deal with high electricity prices to run their clubs, to have the lights on their ovals and stadiums, but there is also the cost of water. This is a cavalcade of challenges that every sporting club here in South Australia faces, unlike clubs in other states in the nation.

The current Labor government has hit households with increase after increase in the emergency services levy. In 2014, the levy increased about \$150 for people with a \$400,000 home and about \$370 for people with a \$1 million property, after removing the rebate on that levy. Farmers were hit especially hard. Many have multiple property titles under their care and some say that they had faced increases beyond 1,000 per cent.

The Wine Grape Council of South Australia summed up the view of many on the land at the time of the rebate removal in 2014. On ABC radio, the executive officer of the WGCSA, Peter Hackworth, said that with the current state of the wine industry it is yet another cost growers will find difficult to bear. He said:

I think it's very unfair for the Treasurer to try to use a bit of emotional blackmail, saying that this is about...Government cuts to health and education.

Mr Hackworth points to the loss of car and ship manufacturing, as well as stalled mining projects like the Roxby Downs expansion, as reasons why the state government should not be placing more pressure on the primary industry sector at the moment. He said, 'Agriculture is one of the most productive sectors of our economy. You've got to support it, not hit it.' I am fully aware that selected regional towns get a 20 per cent discount and if you live outside that regional town you get a 50 per cent discount, and if you live outside any incorporated area you get a 90 per cent discount. What is not mentioned is the fact that most of regional South Australians are cash poor but asset rich, and this is where the ESL hits hard.

We saw fingers pointed by the government when it made its decision to remove the ESL rebate, yet it received an additional \$857 million in unbudgeted GST revenue from the federal government. In response, there were protests from CFS volunteers, many being farmers, who refused to fight fires on government-owned land. Despite these protests last year, the state government again raised the intake from the levy to \$285.7 million in the 2015-16 year, a \$19.8 million increase in that financial year.

This equated to \$23 or a 9 per cent rise for a metropolitan residential property worth \$426,400 and then once again this year we saw a smaller increase—but still an increase nevertheless—to the ESL following the Pinery bushfires. The state Liberal government will return the ESL remissions that Mr Weatherill and Mr Koutsantonis cruelly removed in 2014 and provide it to South Australians with much needed tax relief.

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS: Point of order: you are not to refer to people by their names but by their electorates.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am sure the member for Chaffey will not do that again. Member for Chaffey.

Mr WHETSTONE: Thank you for your protection, Madam Deputy Speaker. The ESL rise is another cost-of-living hit for South Australia where householders pay the nation's highest utility charges. The Premier and his government's massive increases in the ESL do not just hit home owners, it is also levied on sporting clubs, community organisations, churches and independent schools. One aspect of the levy increase that has been understated is the impact on sporting and recreation clubs and organisations. Many of these clubs were already facing financial stress before being hit by the ESL increases, including increasing electricity bills, increasing gas bills and increasing water bills.

As I have already said, sporting clubs are supported by volunteers and emergency services are supported by volunteers and yet this government continues to look a gift-horse in the mouth, over and over again. As if it was not bad enough to remove the remission, we continue to increase, we continue to blame someone else, something else for these increases. I think enough is enough. The taxpayers of South Australia are fed up with this state government continuing to point the finger at someone else for its mismanagement of the state's finances, for its mismanagement of running the state in general.

I have spoken to a number of organisations and sporting clubs, including in the areas of netball, basketball and golf, that have been hit hard by increases to the ESL. Many of their bills have increased by thousands of dollars. For example, following the initial removal of the ESL rebate by the state government there are a number of examples of the initial impact. A group of metro basketball stadiums went up from \$1,711 to \$4,016. A local basketball club went from \$425 up to \$1,953.

There are diverse examples: a yacht club went from \$4,200 to \$18,500; a golf club in the metro area of Adelaide went up from \$1,252 to \$5,500; and a golf club in the country went up from \$300 to \$1,200. A key metro racing venue went from \$12,900 to—and get this—\$27,000, which is just outrageous. Under a South Australian Liberal government, these above costs will be reversed—that is, tens of thousands of dollars just in these examples that I have raised. Some of the impacts will be on sporting clubs. They provide a valuable community asset, and many cannot afford to wear these costs. As I said, they are supported by volunteers who are getting absolutely slapped.

How are these volunteers going to work harder to raise more money so that these sporting clubs can provide a community service? They can give grassroots sports opportunities to our young. They can give the social fabric of every community and every town of every region and metropolitan sporting team hope and opportunity. What about the state government encouraging our volunteers? We know that the work of volunteers in South Australia is worth a reported \$14 billion to the state's economy. Again, this is a state government not just looking the gift horse in the mouth, this is the state government kicking the gift-horse. I think it is just outrageous.

Export businesses face another cost in their bid to remain globally competitive, particularly SMEs, which are critical to our exports. The 176,000 SMEs that drive South Australia's economy are being hardest hit. They are the ones that are the shining light in the state's economy and they are the ones that are having to dig deeper into their pockets yet again and question the viability of their business in South Australia, question why they want to expand and employ more people. Why would they want to do that if they continually get smashed around the back of the head by this government's careless increases in taxes and levies and their lack of consideration for driving the state's economy in a productive way rather than in a taxing way?

The Treasurer is offering \$10,000 grants for small businesses to employ more people, but how many of these grants are basically being offset to cover the ESL cost? In a transitioning economy, we should be supporting our exporters, not continually taxing them into the ground. In conclusion, there is no doubt the impact of the increase in the ESL has been profound. The state government can point the finger and play the blame game, but the reality is that the ESL tax is nothing more than revenue raising.

The impact on the likes of sporting clubs and businesses will be everlasting. The South Australian Liberals will reinstate the ESL rebate, giving all of these organisations some relief, giving all of these businesses, all of these exporters and all of the South Australian taxpayers some relief. What will Labor do? No doubt, they will keep increasing the ESL levy. The reason I put this motion to the house was the overwhelming concern I have at the impact this continual ESL increase is having.

Once upon a time, we dealt with disasters, we dealt with bushfires, floods and those natural disasters, but today we have a government that continues to look elsewhere to prop up those ESL expenses. As I said, once upon a time the government would recoup and recover, they would provide the emergency services that are needed. They would be great Samaritans. They would drive an economy. They would look after grassroots sport. They would give those volunteer bases the comfort and support they need. But today, again, the state government is looking the volunteer gift-horse in the mouth.

The Hon. P. CAICA (Colton) (12:43): I think it was in 1998 that former Liberal leader Iain Evans, a minister at that stage, introduced this tax that the member for Chaffey says is a revenue raiser. This was a time when the Liberals actually had policies, as opposed to this day and age. The now released cabinet submission states:

Everyone in the community has the right to expect access to affordable services (universal access) for the protection of life, property and the environment, and everyone has a responsibility to make a reasonable contribution towards the cost of doing so.

He was right then, and the same situation applies today. It is something that we should all be contributing to. I remember from my time in the fire service, before the emergency services levy came in, that if you insured there was a certain component of your insurance that went to the fire services. Of course, what that meant was that those people who didn't insure got the service without having to put their hand into their pocket, so it was generally covered by those people who insured and, of course, the government of the day with respect to funding of the emergency services.

It is safe to say that I am not going to agree to this motion today. The government's removal of the general ESL remissions for most property owners was a response to the commonwealth government's savage and severe budget cuts to health funding as part of the 2014-15 commonwealth budget—the horror budget that saw so many backflips thereafter, but not in this area. I will touch on that a little bit later. I also want to refer to an article that was written by my colleague, the member for Kurna, for InDaily.

I do not often read InDaily, although I might have a flick through it—not that you can flick through it on the computer: you press a button to change the page, or whatever it might be. It was off the bench in support of the ESL, and it was a very good article. I notice that the member for Schubert was meant to respond to it—I have not bothered to read his because I probably could not find it anyway—but certainly the member for Kurna made some very good points. One of the points that he made, which I think is right, was that if we did a straw poll of my electorate and said, 'Put up your hand everyone who likes paying tax,' I do not think we would get too many people putting their hand up.

The Hon. S.W. Key: I support tax.

The Hon. P. CAICA: So do I, but what I am suggesting is that the majority of people do not like paying it. It is not popular. The majority of people understand that if we are to have the level of health that we have in South Australia, a First World health system, if we are to have the roads that we enjoy, if we are to have the education system that we enjoy, and if we are to have the emergency services that we know are there to protect life and property and operate as efficiently and effectively as any emergency services in the world, it has to be paid for, and it is generally paid for through taxes, and that is the right thing.

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The Hon. P. CAICA: If I had my way, and I know that some of my colleagues might hate this, and I do not care or at least some of them would. I would throw the Ambulance Service into it. We should have universal coverage for ambulance services, which should be paid in a similar way

to the emergency services levy, but I will not hold my breath for that to occur. I know that it will one day—and it should.

Mr Bell interjecting:

The Hon. P. CAICA: Queensland has it, most of the world has it, and no-one should be excluded from ambulance coverage because of their inability to pay for it or their fear to be able to pay for it. It should be universal coverage in a similar way to this. Anyway, no tax is ever popular, as I have said. This was a levy that was brought in by the Liberal Party and, as the member for Kaurna said, he was defending it because he does not believe it deserves its bad reputation.

What we do know about the emergency services levy is that a lot of people think that it goes into government general revenue, but every cent collected is directed towards the emergency services in its various forms: from surf lifesaving through to the rescue squadrons, through to the CFS, the MFS, a component for police, and a component for other organisations that provide a service in the delivery of emergency services. That is a good thing and it is appropriate. Touching on the commonwealth budget, the horror budget of 2015—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The Hon. P. CAICA: It is a fact. I am not blaming anyone; I am saying it is a fact. It is very interesting that one of the few policies that the opposition have is to reinstate the remissions. I wonder what they are going to do with respect to where that money will have to come from in the areas of health, education and those other areas. But that is okay; you will do that. You will have to find that money from somewhere, and it will be to the detriment of where that money is being provided.

The 2014-15 budget cut funding to the state's health budget by \$1.25 billion between 2016-17 and 2019-20. What we as a government have continued to do is argue that the previous funding arrangements should be reinstated in full, with the commonwealth being a partner in meeting the nation's growing health costs. We have publicly said that if that was the case we would reinstate those remissions.

At the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) meeting in April 2016, the commonwealth agreed to continue activity-based funding for hospitals beyond 2016-17, but at a much reduced rate than was agreed before the 2014-15 budget cuts for South Australia. This agreement will provide \$187 million over three years to 2019-20. This only restores 18 per cent—I will repeat that, 18 per cent—of the commonwealth budget cuts to health care over those three years. Even with the removal of the ESL remissions and the extra health funding agreed at COAG, there is a major substantial shortfall of over \$700 million over the period 2016-17 through to 2019-20.

The changes that were made to the ESL in response to the commonwealth government's brutal cuts protected the community's most vulnerable. It is true and will continue to be the case that general remissions continue to be provided to eligible concession holders, and that is something that this government will always continue to support and make sure is in place. In 2016-17, the remission on the prescribed residential ESL rate reduces the effective rate for concession holders by 80 per cent. In addition, eligible concession holders are also provided with a \$64 remission on the flat fee, known as the pensioner concession.

ESL increases in the past few years have been driven by two main factors, and they will continue to be driven by those particular factors. First, there is additional expenditure on our professional and volunteer emergency service personnel and organisations. Those who sit on the Economic and Finance Committee would have seen where that money is being allocated to provide greater levels for both our professional and volunteer emergency service personnel and their organisations. Secondly, there are additional costs arising from major bushfires. Every dollar, as I have said, raised by the ESL goes towards funding vital emergency services, and as a former member of the emergency services, I support every cent that is collected going into our emergency services.

In 2015-16, we provided additional funding to extend workers compensation entitlements to CFS volunteers who are diagnosed with certain types of cancer and for training services and equipment for workers and volunteers. In addition, we also recovered costs for the Sampson Flat bushfires. In 2016-17, additional funding is being provided for retrofitting fire truck safety systems,

accelerating the replacement of CFS fire trucks, enhanced flood response and incident management capabilities for the SES, and increased training for CFS and SES volunteers. Costs associated with the Pinery bushfire will also be recovered.

This year, households should experience only a very modest growth in their ESL bills, I am told. Median-valued metropolitan houses should see an increase of around \$4, while average regional households should experience a small fall in their bills. I would like to comment again on the member for Kaurna's contribution some time ago, but I am running out of time. The government acknowledges the impact of these increases on all levy payers. The removal of general remissions and subsequent expenditure increases were not decisions that were taken lightly.

The government has done its best to protect pensioners and other vulnerable people from the impact of these changes and the decisions of the federal Liberal government. While the government will continue to explore avenues in which we can reduce the tax burden on the community, it is also conscious of the need to balance this with the provision of adequate community services and the achievement of the state's economic priorities. Indeed, it was a bloke who was on Channel 10, I think, who was quoted as saying:

But if it was really needed by emergency services and it all went there, probably OK sure, that's the way it's got to be. But from what I can see the Labor Government's just putting it in their own pocket.

Well, it is not. It is all going to emergency services in this state.

Mr Bell: You put the general revenue back in the pocket, though.

The Hon. P. CAICA: No, it's not.

Mr Bell: Yes, you did.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, member for Mount Gambier!

The Hon. P. CAICA: Outrageous, he is, ma'am.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Colton.

The Hon. P. CAICA: Who is not outrageous, ma'am.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are all wasting the house's time. Member for MacKillop.

Mr WILLIAMS (MacKillop) (12:54): May I draw the house's attention to the *Hansard* of Tuesday 21 July 1998, page 1,483 and the then member for Ross Smith—I think that was the electorate—one Ralph Clarke. In debating the introduction of the bill when the emergency services legislation was brought to the parliament, he said:

...because when we get into government we will use it in a progressive manner and to the best effect by taking from those with the greatest means for the benefit of those in the greatest need.

We made a big mistake when we were in government in not locking down the emergency services levy and the way it is collected to prevent this government from doing what it has done with it.

I did some exercises on what has happened with the emergency services levy and the impact it has had on my electorate, and I can tell the house that, between the budget years 2014-15 and 2015-16, the collection of the emergency services levy in regions 1, 2 and 3—those are the areas outside greater metropolitan Adelaide—increased from \$30.1 million to \$48.4 million. That is a 60 per cent increase.

The budget papers failed to show that there was any increase in expenditure in the non-metropolitan areas in the period between those two budgets, let alone a 60 per cent increase. The reality is that this government has blatantly extracted an extra tax burden, principally on the people who live in those electorates where they have no representation, other than the member for Giles. This is a shameless exercise by a Labor government, which was predicted by Ralph Clarke at the time the legislation first came into parliament.

It took the government a long time to do it, but they did it, and shame on us for not making the legislation much tighter to prevent them from doing it. Can I urge all members on this side of the house that when they are next in government—and I expect that will not be a long way away—to

actually go through every piece of legislation on the statute book of this state with a fine-tooth comb and tighten up the criteria to prevent future Labor governments from doing what this government has done in the last few years.

I do not have my notes with me but, from memory, on Tuesday 23 April this year there was discussion on this matter on ABC radio, on the Bevan and Abraham program. The ABC is not noted for supporting our side of politics, but if that was the correct date, and I suspect it was, the ABC fact check, which was still in operation then, actually supported the position that we have argued for a long time—that you cannot take away something that was never there.

The nonsense just expressed by the member for Colton was that the federal government took away some largesse of funding that was promised to our health budget in the wild blue yonder if a federal Labor government was returned, but it could not have been taken away because it was never there. It was never budgeted for; it was never there. I remember that the Treasurer on that particular program was fumbling for an explanation in the way he normally does when he gets caught out, which is something that happens regularly to him.

The reality is that the government intended to raise this tax to do away with the rebate to hit the people who have no impact on the vote for its members and to hit the people in those electorates who do not support this government and just to use it as a blatant taxation measure. Lo and behold, they got the excuse that it was done because there was some cut in federal funding. The reality is that that was and remains a nonsense. This government indeed had started to put into action the increase in the emergency services levy before that federal budget was handed down—that is the reality. They had started to put into train the removal of the rebate.

This government stands condemned for a number of things: one is the mismanagement of the state's budget and the second one is the way in which they tried to cover that up by increasing taxes in the areas of the ESL and the NRM levies—the levies that impact highly, with great burden, on those people who are asset rich and generally income poor, particularly the farming community and the people who are represented almost exclusively by members of this side of the house. This is a shameful government. It does not govern this state for all the people, and it even makes a mess on behalf of the people it does claim to govern for. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Sitting suspended from 13:00 to 14:00

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: I welcome to parliament today pupils from Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish School, who are guests of the Premier and member for Cheltenham.

ANSWERS TABLED

The SPEAKER: I direct that the written answer to a question be distributed and printed in *Hansard*; one for the member for Morphet.

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Speaker—

Auditor-General—RevenueSA Information Online system Supplementary Report
October 2016 [Ordered to be published]

Parliament of South Australia—House of Assembly—Parliamentary Service of the Annual
Report 2015-16

By the Treasurer (Hon. A. Koutsantonis)—

State Development, Department of—Annual Report 2015-16

By the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries (Hon. L.W.K. Bignell)—
Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA)—Annual Report 2015-16

By the Minister for Tourism (Hon. L.W.K. Bignell)—
Adelaide Venue Management—Annual Report 2015-16

Question Time

RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGET

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:03): My question is to the Premier. Is the Premier prepared to abandon his stated-based renewable energy target in favour of a more effective single, cohesive national renewable energy target, given evidence produced by the Grattan Institute and others which suggests that state-based renewable energy targets are driving up electricity prices and impacting security of supply?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Treasurer, Minister for Finance, Minister for State Development, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy) (14:03): The South Australian renewable energy target has no mechanism behind it, which is what the opposition failed to mention in their question, and the Grattan Institute is talking about state-based renewable energy targets that have mechanisms alongside them like the proposed Victorian and Queensland renewable energy targets. What the state Labor government is calling for is a national energy intensity scheme as contemplated in direct action which was the policy the Abbott government introduced. It has a mechanism in place left by regulation.

The former environment minister, the Hon. Greg Hunt, had contemplated a baseline and credit scheme. We believe a baseline and credit scheme or an energy intensity scheme is the appropriate way to go. Our renewable energy target has no mechanism behind it and we are advocating for a—

Ms Chapman interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The deputy leader is called to order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: We are advocating for a national scheme. We have advocated it at the COAG. The Premier has made speeches about it. We have talked about it—

Mr Marshall interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The Grattan Institute argues against a national renewable energy target, as I understand it, with a mechanism—

Mr Marshall interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Treasurer, uncharacteristically, is not being in the slightest provocative, yet the leader is interjecting.

Mr Marshall interjecting:

The SPEAKER: No, you're not, and you are called to order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The renewable energy targets that are being highly criticised by some in the industry are the ones that have mechanisms alongside them. Our renewable energy target has no such mechanism. There are no state-based incentives for generation of renewable energy, which is what is being contemplated by the ACT—by the ACT Liberals as well, at the last election recently, where they were unsuccessful—and of course in Queensland and Victoria. This is what the debate is about, and this is what the Prime Minister is talking about. He doesn't want to see—

Mr van Holst Pellekaan interjecting:

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

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: —state-based renewable energy targets with mechanisms. What we are arguing for is a national energy policy that takes into account climate. What we are arguing is that we need to deal with global warming. What we are arguing for is that the Prime Minister has brought together two portfolio areas, energy and climate. He has also signed the Paris agreement, which commits this country to making some very serious targets and decarbonising our electricity production. Our state-based renewable energy target has no mechanism. The only incentivising scheme behind our renewable energy target is commonwealth subsidies. That is the only one.

Mr van Holst Pellekaan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Stuart is warned.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Again, if the opposition is saying we should use a development act to stop developments, it is an absurd proposition to put to the people of the state. We want a national scheme. Right now, there is a vacuum, and the reason states like Victoria and Queensland are talking about state-based renewable energy targets with mechanisms in place is because there is an absence of leadership at the federal level. Why? Because, quite rightly, like most political parties, they are having a debate internally about it. There is no secret to this. The Prime Minister in 2009—

Ms Chapman interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The deputy leader is warned.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: —advocated for an energy intensity scheme much like we have advocated for now, but of course he lost his leadership on that basis. Former prime minister Abbott was successful in a leadership challenge by one vote, defeating him on those renewable policies. So, there is now a 2017 review in place by the commonwealth where they are going to contemplate all of this. Importantly, commonwealth energy minister Josh Frydenberg did not rule out, when directly asked, whether he would support an energy intensity scheme. The work that Dr Finkel was conducting will be very important in leading this work towards a way in which we can decarbonise our electricity market.

RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGET

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:07): Supplementary, sir: can the Treasurer outline to the house whether or not his government actually remains committed to the renewable energy target of 50 per cent by 2025?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Treasurer, Minister for Finance, Minister for State Development, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy) (14:07): Of course we are. We believe—

Mr Gardner interjecting:

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

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: We believe in renewable energy. The only way we are going to get through dealing with climate change and global warming—

Mr Pisoni interjecting:

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

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: —is by decarbonising our electricity grid. The only way to decarbonise your electricity grid is to have an orderly exit of fossil fuels that are high-emitting replaced with a mechanism that supports base load generation and integration of renewable energy. That is what we are arguing for, and that is what we have always argued for. We don't subscribe to, 'Let's dig more coal.' We don't subscribe to, 'Let's restart another coal-fired generator or restart an old one.' That is not our argument; that is the argument for the member for Dunstan. The member for Dunstan argues that we should start digging coal again—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Morialta is warned.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: We don't subscribe to digging more coal. We subscribe to integrating renewable energy into the 21st century electricity grid.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The members for Kavel and Hammond are called to order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Members opposite are stuck in the past, and I have said many times that it is as ridiculous as us hunting whales for blubber as it is to start mining coal again. It cannot be the policy that we would actually increase emissions out of our electricity grid as we move closer and closer to those Paris targets. I remind members opposite that it wasn't Bill Shorten who signed the Paris agreement. It wasn't the Premier who signed the Paris agreement and it wasn't Premier Baird; it was Prime Minister Turnbull.

Prime Minister Turnbull has committed this country to decarbonising our electricity grid. So yes, we are committed to our renewable energy target, yes we are committed to decarbonising our electricity grid, and yes we are committed to an energy intensity scheme. The question is: what is the alternative policy? The alternative policy is more coal. That's the alternative.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Quite frankly, screaming is not a substitute for policy. Screaming and yelling is not a substitute. Let's have an alternative, let's have a debate of ideas, let's talk about this, but the Leader of the Opposition just shouts and howls at the moon.

RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGET

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:10): Supplementary: can the Treasurer inform the house whether the government still maintains its payroll tax rebate on wind projects in South Australia?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Treasurer, Minister for Finance, Minister for State Development, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy) (14:10): No.

RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGET

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:10): Supplementary: can the Treasurer outline to the house how long this program, this policy, was in place, when it began, and when it was actually removed?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Treasurer, Minister for Finance, Minister for State Development, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy) (14:10): I understand that three wind farms took advantage of the construction, paying out just about \$300,000 in payroll tax deductions. I shall compare that to the amount of subsidies paid to renewable energy from 2013 to 2016 by the commonwealth Liberal government. We will compare.

Mr GARDNER: Point of order: the Treasurer was ignoring the substance of the question.

RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGET

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (14:10): As he has sat down, I will ask a supplementary. Can he now please answer the question the leader just asked?

The SPEAKER: My recollection is the Treasurer answered squarely and neatly and then added a little bit at the end.

Mr GARDNER: That's half right, sir. He added a bit at the end, but he did not answer the question: when was the program put in place, and when did it finish?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Treasurer, Minister for Finance, Minister for State Development, Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy) (14:11): I will get those details and bring them back to the house.

The SPEAKER: Splendid.

RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGET

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:11): My question is to the Premier. Has the government done any modelling to ascertain the cost to consumers and the South Australian economy of achieving the Premier's 50 per cent renewable energy target by 2025?

The Hon. J.W. WEATHERILL (Cheltenham—Premier) (14:11): Here's the cost of living on a dying planet: no industry, no capacity to actually offer a future for yourselves and your families—

Ms Chapman interjecting:

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

The Hon. J.W. WEATHERILL: That is the cost of living on a dying planet that's burning up because of climate change. I know they are a bunch of climate change sceptics on that side of the house, but this is the fundamental question at the heart of this government's policy—and not just this government's policy but the policy of this nation, and not only the policy of this nation but the policy of the world community. Those opposite who want to turn their back on this international consensus of the need to actually tackle climate change are basically putting themselves in the past and they are selling out future generations.

Mr GARDNER: Point of order.

The Hon. J.W. WEATHERILL: Those opposite do not understand that the costs of adjustment fall more heavily—those who do not act first are simply burying their heads in the sand. It was this state government—

The SPEAKER: Point of order, the member for Moriatta.

Mr GARDNER: Standing order 98: debate. The question was: has the Premier received any modelling?

The SPEAKER: Has the Premier received any modelling?

The Hon. J.W. WEATHERILL: I certainly have, sir. The point is this: this government commissioned, and took a leadership role in commissioning, Ross Garnaut to act on behalf of all states and territories in relation to the creation of a carbon pollution reduction scheme. The reason that work was undertaken was to provide the most efficient, the lowest cost and the most efficacious way of dealing with climate change. There is an international consensus that the most effective way, including what emerged from Paris last year in December, of dealing with climate change was to put a price on carbon. That was the lowest cost.

What is amazing is that those opposite, who would otherwise be committed to the market, committed to actually pricing an externality and straight up and down neoclassical economics, turn their back on this because somehow it offends their sensibilities to be talking about our natural environment and protecting it in this way. Because they are so addicted to the coal industry, because they are so bought and sold by coal interests, they cannot rise above it and actually even consult their own ideology in what is the cheapest and most effective way of restructuring this economy, and indeed every economy of the nation, to deal with this.

Just consider this fact for one moment. Our nation is the highest per capita polluter of carbon emissions in the world and the single biggest contributor to carbon pollution is our energy system, which is amongst the dirtiest in the world. When sensible measures are promoted, straight up and down, neoclassical economic propositions about pricing and externality to get the most efficient allocation of resources, to get the best change at the lowest cost, we get these culture wars being engaged in by Tony Abbott and all those climate deniers that have the Liberal Party in their thrall.

And there is one thing that sits at the heart of this debate in this place, and that is that, when there is a choice between the state's interests and the Liberal Party's interests, the Leader of the Opposition every time sacrifices this state's interest to his own political party.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Before we get to the member for Adelaide, if a minister debates an answer and the opposition listens in silence and then takes a point of order, I will uphold it. If, however, the

opposition merely interjects at the top their voice and stops only to take a point of order, I will not look at it very kindly. The member for Adelaide.

CHILDCARE SERVICES

Ms SANDERSON (Adelaide) (14:16): Thank you. My question is to the Minister for Education and Child Development. How long had the 15 year old under the guardianship of the minister who was allegedly driving the car that caused the death of the 48-year-old mother been missing, and had the minister been notified?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for Higher Education and Skills) (14:16): I am extremely reluctant to air the personal details of children under my guardianship; and, indeed, there are a lot of legal restrictions on what information is possible to release. I will take the question on notice, and I will seek advice on the appropriateness of providing what level of detail in this public forum.

CHILDCARE SERVICES

Ms SANDERSON (Adelaide) (14:17): My question, again, is to the Minister for Education and Child Development. Given that the car being driven by the 15 year old under the guardianship of the minister was stolen on 4 or 5 October, who was supposed to be supervising the child at the time?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for Higher Education and Skills) (14:17): I believe my previous answer covers the answer for that subsequent question also.

CHILDCARE SERVICES

Ms SANDERSON (Adelaide) (14:17): Again, my question is to the Minister for Education and Child Development. Can the minister explain to the house what her expectations are around the supervision of children under her guardianship and, in particular, whether it is acceptable for a 15 year old to be out at night?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Minister for Education and Child Development, Minister for Higher Education and Skills) (14:17): Obviously any suggestion of the details of any hypothetical or potential case I will not be going anywhere near, but in terms of the abstract, I take the question on its face value for what the expectations are. Naturally, when a child is under the guardianship of the minister there is an expectation of assuming the parental role.

Now, as we have discussed, I think, last sitting week if not the one before, there are no secure facilities in this state, and even if there were to be secure facilities clearly there would be an extremely careful and well thought out process prior to any child being put in a situation where they are effectively locked in.

So, absent that, foster carers, kinship carers, residential care, commercial care, the full range of locations in which children find themselves once they come under guardianship, are required to be responsible, to provide a safe environment, but are not required to lock children in.

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE

Mr DULUK (Davenport) (14:19): My question is to the Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Can the minister confirm that the model of care working group for the new PTSD unit at Glenside has estimated that the unit's operating cost will be 150 per cent higher than the current costs of providing those same services at the Repat?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS (Taylor—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse) (14:19): I had the pleasure of popping down to Margaret Tobin Centre for their 10th anniversary at Flinders health centre yesterday, and the chair of the model of care group did not raise that point with me, but I am happy to ask for advice from my department.

The SPEAKER: The deputy leader is living on the edge. Member for Davenport.

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE

Mr DULUK (Davenport) (14:19): Supplementary, sir: will the minister guarantee that services will not be reduced in an effort to run the new facility within the government's unrealistic budget in terms of the PTSD unit at Glenside?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS (Taylor—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse) (14:19): I will seek an update from my department before I make a comment.

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE

Mr DULUK (Davenport) (14:20): Will the minister guarantee that patients with comorbidities will not be forced to go to a general hospital for their comorbidity to the detriment of their PTSD treatment when at Glenside?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS (Taylor—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse) (14:20): My previous answer replies to that.

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Mr WINGARD (Mitchell) (14:20): My question is to the Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Why is the government closing the Marion Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service as part of its Transforming Health cuts plan?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS (Taylor—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse) (14:20): Having seen some news articles on that, I have asked for a briefing.

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Mr WINGARD (Mitchell) (14:20): Supplementary to the Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse: is the minister saying that she is not aware of the cuts at Marion, and can the minister say that they won't go ahead, from that response?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS (Taylor—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse) (14:21): My previous answer says what I have got to say.

The SPEAKER: Supplementary, member for Mitchell.

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Mr WINGARD (Mitchell) (14:21): My question is again to the Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Can the minister tell the people in my community and the Marion area where they will go for child and adolescent mental health services in the future?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS (Taylor—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse) (14:21): The previous two answers say what I have got to say. I will seek a briefing, which is appropriate.

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Mr WINGARD (Mitchell) (14:21): My question is again to the Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse. Are you not responsible for the CAMHS operation within Mental Health?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS (Taylor—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse) (14:21): The portfolio of Mental Health is broad and we deal with many frail and vulnerable people in South Australia who require our support on a daily basis. Child and youth mental health services is something I get reports on.

Mr Goldsworthy interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Kavel is warned. Supplementary, member for Mitchell.

CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

Mr WINGARD (Mitchell) (14:22): Again to the Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse: have you visited the CAMHS centre at the Marion complex?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS (Taylor—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse) (14:22): I have visited the Marion site, if you are referring to the one opposite the swimming centre. Yes, I have.

PUNJABI ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Mr TARZIA (Hartley) (14:22): My question is to the Minister for Multicultural Affairs. Can the minister inform the house why the Punjabi Association of South Australia was unsuccessful in obtaining Grants SA funding from the state government this year?

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—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) (14:22): As members know, this government has committed threefold to multicultural affairs. We have increased the funding for grants for stronger families, stronger communities and infrastructure. We have reformed Grants SA and, every month, organisations—volunteer organisations, multicultural organisations—

Mr TARZIA: Point of order for relevance, sir. This is not related to the specific question we asked.

The SPEAKER: The minister I think is merely indicating that the total amount of multicultural grants has increased enormously, and I think that is germane to the question, so the member for Hartley is very fortunate that he is not departing. Minister.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: In the reform of Grants SA, what we wanted to do was simplify it and make it easily accessible for youth, volunteer and multicultural groups for them to apply.

Mr Knoll interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Schubert was called to order in the pre-lunch session. He is now warned, and I think he left our company yesterday.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: One of the key aspects of the reform was to make it very easy for what are traditionally volunteer associations, which is what multicultural functions are, to apply every month for grants. So, every month, you can apply for a grant up to \$5,000, four times a year for a grant up to \$20,000 and twice a year for grants up to \$50,000. So there are many opportunities for the Punjabi Association to apply.

My understanding is that a decision was made on 17 October for the latest round of minor grants, so I don't know if they have applied for that, and they may well find out post that. Every month, people apply all through the period. I can take that on notice and check what decision was made—

Mr Gardner: The festival is on Sunday, Zoe.

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

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: That decision is made by members from Communities and Social Inclusion plus members from the SAMEAC, who review those applications every month.

MULTICULTURAL SA GRANT PROGRAM

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (14:25): Supplementary question: given the minister's answer, in which she said that it is now easier for multicultural organisations to apply for grants, is the minister aware of the recent cancellation of the Hungarian Paprikás festival initially scheduled for 2 October? Is the minister aware that the organisers identified that the festival was cancelled because in fact the government's changes to the grant application system meant they weren't advised in time of whether they would get a grant?

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—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) (14:25): I am advised that that festival didn't go ahead. We have advertised quite clearly, we have written to people, we have emailed people, we have held information sessions about applying for the grants. I am very disappointed to hear that they weren't able to continue with their festivities. If they are happy to contact Multicultural SA, we will assist them in how to apply for the grant. Grants are far more

accessible than ever before. The application process is more simple, and every month decisions are made. If people want support, we ask that they apply for it prior to the event.

MULTICULTURAL SA GRANT PROGRAM

Mr GARDNER (Morialta) (14:26): Supplementary question: given the minister's suggestion that organisations wanting support should apply for it before the event, and given that the Punjabi Association applied for the grant a month before their Mela and the Hungarian association applied for funding for their Paprikás festival well before their Paprikás festival, can the minister advise what support she gave them?

The Hon. J.M. Rankine interjecting:

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

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—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) (14:26): Every month, we have more than 50 organisations apply for grants. We have a very clear process. Like I said, this government has contributed more to supporting our multicultural community than ever before—a threefold increase.

Mr Tarzia: Why did you reject their application?

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: There is a process that goes through. As I said, they met—

Mr Tarzia interjecting:

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: A decision was made on 17 October, and I do not know what the outcome of that decision is at this point. I will seek that information.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Treasury's largesse to multicultural affairs is even greater than in my time. Leader.

MULTICULTURAL SA GRANT PROGRAM

Mr MARSHALL (Dunstan—Leader of the Opposition) (14:27): Supplementary, sir: can the minister go back and find out why the applications were unsuccessful and bring some information back to the house at her earliest convenience?

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—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) (14:27): I would like to ask the Leader of the Opposition if he has a particular—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: Mr Speaker, I am interested for all the other groups, because Grants SA is quite oversubscribed—

The Hon. P. Caica interjecting:

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

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: We have lots of groups that apply. Why are you so interested in this group?

Mr Gardner: Well, you pretended to be interested in them for a while.

The SPEAKER: Is the member for Morialta quite finished interjecting?

Mr Gardner: Yes, sir.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. Member for Mount Gambier.

DAIRY CONCESSIONAL LOANS

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (14:28): My question is to the Minister for Agriculture. Why doesn't PIRSA recognise water licenses as an asset for the purpose of assessing dairy concessional loans?

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson—Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Minister for Forests, Minister for Tourism, Minister for Recreation and Sport, Minister for Racing) (14:28): I thank the member for Mount Gambier for the question. As I understand it, the way the assets are assessed in South Australia is that it's taken as dryland farm that has water on it, so it is seen as a complete asset, as opposed to some other states where they take the dryland farm as one asset and the water licence for that asset.

Mr Goldsworthy interjecting:

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

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: I am just explaining what the case is here at the moment. I have written to the Minister for Water and Resources to see if we can look at changing the way things are done here. I have also written again to—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

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

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: I've also written again to the federal Minister for Agriculture, Barnaby Joyce, because—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Chaffey is warned.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: —to repeat a request I made earlier in the year, that is, that the federal government administer all of these schemes around Australia so that there is consistency right across—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Thanks for the interjection. I just said I've written to the minister—

Ms Sanderson interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: —to ask if we can change it. No—

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

Members interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Well, they are not our rules. They are not our rules. So, what we are doing is we are having a look at that. Having grown up in the South-East on a dairy farm—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

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

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: —I'm acutely aware of how hard our farmers work, particularly our dairy farmers, and how hard it's been since the processors that they deal with, Murray Goulburn, and Fonterra from over in New Zealand—let's remember, the state government and the federal government aren't the bad guys in this. We are the ones in there trying to help. If the—

Members interjecting:

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

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: We are looking at the inconsistencies and if there's a better way of doing it. What I must also say is that we were the first government in Australia when these farmers were hit so hard around Australia by Murray Goulburn and Fonterra to get out there with a package. It was a \$60,000 package to help people with the mental health issues that we know come

with such a huge financial shock. There was also financial counselling offered up to people as well to help them get across it. What we would like to see is more people apply. We've only had six applicants so far, and we know that there are over 250—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: There's six who have applied: two have been successful, one has been rejected, and the others are under consideration. What we want to do is have people apply so that we can then work out, if there's a reason they are not getting it, what that reason is, but you can't count an asset twice. So, if it has already been counted—

Mr Bell: It's not counting it the first time. You're counting land value.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: My understanding is that it is being counted because they are taking into consideration a farm that has water on that farm. That's my understanding. I've asked some more questions, and we want to get to the bottom of this because what we want to do is make sure we get these farmers who have been dealt such a cruel blow by the private sector—by those people who buy their milk and then at their whim just say, 'We're not going to pay you the amount we promised we would pay you, and we want back payment for the past 46 weeks.' They have been treated appallingly, we want to help them and we will work through the issue.

DAIRY CONCESSIONAL LOANS

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (14:32): Will the minister commit to amending the Natural Resources Management Act so that water licences in South Australia can be counted as an asset and put South Australian farmers on an equal playing field with their Victorian counterparts?

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson—Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Minister for Forests, Minister for Tourism, Minister for Recreation and Sport, Minister for Racing) (14:33): We're looking at absolutely everything. We want to get this money to people. We want to help the farmers out. I just said in my previous answer that I have written to the Minister for Water Resources, and we want to find an answer. We want to get through there.

As I said, we can't help those other 240-odd farmers, though. If they need assistance, they need to at least make the application, and if they get rejected then we can work out the reasons why they have been rejected. But we've got six: we've had two approved, we've got one not approved—

Mr Bell: Only two? \$15 million, only two approved.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: We've only had six applicants, and we've got three that are still under consideration.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Treasurer is called to order for quarrelling with the member for Mitchell.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: We will look at everything we possibly can, and that includes working with Barnaby Joyce at the federal level. We had the same thing with the drought concessional loans as well. What we want to do is make sure that we can get as much money as we possibly can in to the farmers who are struggling and keep them out there producing the high-quality milk that they do. It's interesting, when you look at our herd numbers, that they have halved in the past few decades, but our production has stayed the same because we have doubled the output in our dairy herd, which is a tremendous tick to all those people involved in the industry. The quality of the milk here in South Australia is better than anywhere else. I also remind people that we need to hit Coles and Woolworths as well because they have a role to play in this. It all comes back, like so many things in life—

Mr Bell: They can't access the loans, Leon. Let's keep on the loans.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: We shouldn't be in the position where we have to give people loans. We shouldn't be in that position.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: We shouldn't.

Ms Sanderson: We are, and how are you going to fix it?

The SPEAKER: The member for Adelaide is warned.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: We've got Coles and Woolworths out there who took the \$1 a litre of milk and absolutely wrecked an industry. We've got Murray Goulburn and Fonterra. Let's sheet home—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Treasurer is warned for applauding in question time.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Let's sheet home the blame to those people who are really hurting farmers. We got PIRSA to make a submission to the federal inquiry that the federal government is running, and I hope that there is input from people on the other side here as well because we need to tell the story about what has happened to our farmers. This is the bandaid. The loans are the bandaid. The real problem that needs fixing is the duopoly with Coles and Woolworths, and it's the problem that we've got with Murray Goulburn and Fonterra. We want to help them, but there needs to be some—

Ms Chapman interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The deputy leader has interjected again after being warned three times. She will cease interjecting.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: So, we want to help these farmers, but there also needs to be some major structural changes to the retail sector and to the processing sector as well. For one thing, in the retail sector, we have a third player in terms of the Foodlands and IGAs which really help us at that retail level. We also have a number of wonderful processors here as well—Fleurieu Milk, B.-d. Farm and many other milk processors—that we are very fortunate to have in South Australia so that we don't have as many people—

The SPEAKER: The minister's time has expired. The member for MacKillop has a supplementary.

DAIRY CONCESSIONAL LOANS

Mr WILLIAMS (MacKillop) (14:37): A further supplementary to the first question asked to the minister: is the minister telling the house that he and his agency are unaware that land title and water title were separated in South Australia by the Water Resources Act 1997, almost 20 years ago, and are separate tradeable quantities?

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson—Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Minister for Forests, Minister for Tourism, Minister for Recreation and Sport, Minister for Racing) (14:37): What I am saying is we are asking the questions about how we can change our system. We will look at—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Okay, but it hasn't been changed.

Mr Goldsworthy: Get with the times.

The SPEAKER: The member for Kavel is living dangerously.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: We want to make sure that we can get this money to the farmers, and these are the questions that we are asking other agencies here in the state government and also federally to ensure that we can get as much money—

Mr Williams: I was asking this question 12 months ago with regard to the drought loans; nothing has changed—12 months ago. How long does it take for you to get an answer out of your department?

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

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: We take this seriously and we are looking at all the different options—

Mr Williams: You take it seriously? Twenty years!

The SPEAKER: The member for MacKillop is warned.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: We are looking at all the possibilities where, if things need to be changed, they need to be changed—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Had the balance of power for four years and did nothing.

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

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: —but can I say—

Mr Whetstone: Blackout Treasurer.

The SPEAKER: The member for Chaffey may depart for the remainder of question time under the sessional order.

The honourable member for Chaffey having withdrawn from the chamber:

The Hon. J.M. Rankine interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Wright is warned for glorying in the member for Chaffey's misfortune.

Mr Pederick: She can go and have a coffee with him, sir.

The SPEAKER: Yes, that's a good idea.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Can I repeat the fact that we want as many people who need this help to apply. The other thing we need to look at is the fact that in this case many of the banks have stepped in and been able to offer loans at the same rate or a fraction lower, so people are going to their bankers where they can continue the relationship they have with their bank. We know that there are dairies out there who are doing that, which is a good thing, and I commend the banks for the compassion they are showing in this instance.

Once again, I want to urge all South Australians to look at the dairy produce they are buying and make sure they pick the right products that will support the South Australian dairy farmers. The simple message is: stay away from the home-brand milks in Coles and Woolies and get behind the SADA milk, the Fleurieu Milk, the B.-d. Farm milk. There are so many wonderful options out there, and we need to make sure that not only do we choose South Australia, as the campaign says at the moment, but we look after those dairy farmers out there who do such a good job.

They are up in the wee hours of the morning and out there again at night, milking their cows and providing fantastic dairy produce. As I said, we have the best quality milk anywhere in Australia in South Australia. Our dairy farmers need to be commended for the wonderful work they do there. We will continue to work with the South Australian Dairy Association, and we have regular contact with them about ways that we can make a difference.

As I said, we are asking at the federal government level and we are asking across our own government about, 'Can we change things around and do it a better way?' At the moment that is the way things are set up, but we are very, very happy to look at changing that if it is going to make it easier to get this money into farmers' pockets.

DAIRY CONCESSIONAL LOANS

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (14:41): My question is to the Minister for Agriculture. Given that 54 Victorian farmers have accessed \$28 million worth of concessional loans, yet only two have been approved in South Australia, can the minister explain why there are so few applications coming through?

The SPEAKER: Splendidly asked. Minister.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson—Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Minister for Forests, Minister for Tourism, Minister for Recreation and Sport, Minister for Racing) (14:42): There is a massive difference in scale between Victoria and South Australia.

Mr Bell: Not that big—\$28 million.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: 3,000 dairy farmers in Victoria and 250 in South Australia, so there is a very big difference in the number of dairy farmers on both sides of the border. There is also a much bigger exposure to Murray Goulburn and Fonterra in Victoria than there is in South Australia.

Mr Bell: They can access water as an asset and it makes the loan ratios better, that's why.

The SPEAKER: I warn the member for Mount Gambier. He has asked his question; he will listen in silence.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: There are more options for farmers in South Australia about where they sell their milk. We have—

Mr Bell: A government that wants to work with them.

The SPEAKER: The member for Mount Gambier is warned for the second and final time. He has been given four questions; he should listen to the answer.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: We have processors, like Golden North in the member for Frome's electorate up at Laura, we have B.-d. Farm down near Strathalbyn and we have the Fleurieu Milk—

Mr BELL: Point of order, sir: I ask the minister to come back to the substance of the question. I have said there are 54 Victorians and only two here. I am not talking about the rest.

The SPEAKER: Yes, I ask the minister to return to the substance of the question.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: I am actually explaining the difference. I am talking about the difference between South Australia and Victoria, and it's all part of it. If we haven't received as many applications as the Victorians have, there are a number of reasons for that, which is what I am going through: we have 250 dairy farmers compared with 3,000 dairy farmers and we have more processors than they do in Victoria. There are a number of different reasons why there would be a difference in the number of people putting their hand up to get some money, and we are working on ways to see if our system here in South Australia can be improved. What we will continue to do is—

Mr Bell: We've got farmers going broke, Leon, and this is no—

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: We are working with them. We were the first government in Australia to be out there helping dairy farmers. We have been out there, we have appointed someone in the South-East who is the go-to person for these grants. We want to hear directly from the people. We will sit there and we will work through the grant application process. We will work with them on what needs to be done so that we can get the money to them.

We are trying to do that, but I want to urge all dairy farmers, if they need some assistance, to come to us, and we will look at their individual circumstances and see if we can help them. By the same token, as I mentioned before, I congratulate those who have worked out an agreement with their banks to help them out, but for those who can't do that, or haven't been able to do that, we are happy to sit down with them and work it through. If it turns out that the reason they can't get it has something to do with their water licence, then we will look at that but, as I said—

Mr Bell interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: I have asked the question whether we can change it, if that is possible, and a number of other things are under consideration to see if we can have a system that delivers the money to the farmers because that is what we want. We want a sustainable, healthy dairy farm. But just remember, this is not the federal government's fault or the state government's fault, it is the private sector.

INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Ms DIGANCE (Elder) (14:46): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Can the minister update the house on the government's record infrastructure investment program?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, Minister for Housing and Urban Development) (14:46): I thank the member for her question. She is a great supporter of infrastructure investment, particularly down in her area with the Oaklands crossing as well. Hopefully, that will be a bipartisan position. We on this side know that infrastructure investment supports jobs and economic activity, not just during construction but on an ongoing basis, and this government is delivering the infrastructure needed to support jobs, encourage economic growth and support the South Australian construction industry. These are all things that those opposite have never supported.

Just think of what has already been delivered: the Adelaide Oval and the Riverbank footbridge, the duplication of the Southern Expressway, the Northern Expressway, the Goodwood Junction upgrade, the state Aquatic Centre, the Gallipoli Underpass, the South Road Superway, the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute, the mental health and substance abuse hospital at Glenside, the rail extension and electrification to Seaford, the tramline extension to the Adelaide Railway Station and then on to the Entertainment Centre, the Port River Expressway and the opening of road and rail bridges, the Bakewell Underpass and major redevelopments at every metropolitan hospital.

Over the next four years, the Weatherill government will keep building South Australia by investing \$12.1 billion in infrastructure investment across health, education, corrections, tourism and transport, just to name a few. Last month, in September, my agency, the Department of Planning Transport and Infrastructure, was managing a total of 134 key projects with a total value of \$7.4 billion. Projects such as the O-Bahn City Access Project and the Darlington upgrade are well underway, as is the Torrens to Torrens project; the \$985 million Northern Connector project, which did not even form part of the opposition's north-south corridor policy; and, of course, a project which the opposition tried to delay and frustrate, the Festival Plaza development.

Other projects in the detailed design phase or under consideration include, in the Minister for Health's portfolio, upgrades to Flinders, QEH, Modbury and Noarlunga hospitals; in the Minister for Correctional Services' portfolio, upgrades to the Mount Gambier and Port Augusta prisons; and, in the Minister for Education's portfolio, a quarter of a billion dollars to install, refurbish and upgrade science and technology labs at 139 public schools across metropolitan and regional South Australia.

In the housing portfolio, which I share with the Minister for Social Housing, we are investing over \$200 million in our 1000 Homes in 1000 Days initiative, not only providing new Housing Trust homes which better meet the needs of tenants but generating a pipeline of work for local builders, subcontractors and tradespeople. In transport, we are investing record levels in road maintenance, with an extra \$110 million over four years. We are expanding our public transport network, most recently with a \$50 million extension to the tram along North Terrace, and in the north-south corridor—the Torrens to Torrens project, which the Leader of the Opposition promised to cancel at the last election; the Northern Connector project, which he believed didn't exist; and the Darlington project.

As I mentioned earlier, we stand ready to deliver an upgrade to the Oaklands crossing. There is money on the table from the state government, there is money on the table from the federal government, but there is no support on the table from the opposition because they don't believe in jobs, they don't believe in investment, and they don't believe in South Australian—

Mr GARDNER: Point of order, sir.

The SPEAKER: Is the point of order that the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure has violated standing order 98?

Mr GARDNER: No, it is that the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure is out of time under the sessional orders.

Mr Marshall: And also 98, sir.

The SPEAKER: Not only, but also. The member for Morphett.

REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITAL

Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett) (14:51): My question is to the Minister for Health. Can the minister confirm that in recent weeks he has received correspondence from RSL LifeCare New South Wales advising him of significant problems within the consortium selected to develop the Repat hospital site, and can he tell the house what effect those problems will have on the scope and timing of the redevelopment?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:51): I am not going to go into private correspondence that I have received, but I will say that at the moment, RSL LifeCare is the preferred tenderer for the redevelopment of the Repat site. If that ceases to be the case, I will advise the house.

NOARLUNGA HOSPITAL

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:51): My question is also to the Minister for Health. Minister, can you inform the house about the progress of the infrastructure currently being built at Noarlunga Hospital under Transforming Health?

The SPEAKER: Is the minister in a position to do that?

The Hon. J.J. SNELLING (Playford—Minister for Health, Minister for the Arts, Minister for Health Industries) (14:52): As a matter of fact, Mr Speaker, I am. I would like to thank the member for Kurna for this important question. I know he takes a very keen interest in the Noarlunga Hospital, and I understand he will be visiting the hospital next week to look at some of the new facilities and talk to staff. It is well known that through Transforming Health this state government is investing over \$260 million in new capital investments across our metropolitan hospitals, and this includes over \$10 million to upgrade Noarlunga Hospital. Construction of new infrastructure at Noarlunga Hospital is on track, with some elements already complete and others making significant progress.

The completion of the brand-new Renal Dialysis Unit in April this year has already improved care for our dialysis patients from the southern suburbs. It features eight dialysis chairs, which are situated in a much larger unit than previously, meaning spacious surroundings and increased comfort for our dialysis patients. The design recognises the special needs of those patients who are required to attend the unit often and for extended periods of time. It offers enhanced privacy for patients as well as providing them with storage space and areas for their personal belongings.

Construction of the new day surgery unit at Noarlunga Hospital was completed last month and features a new recovery area as well as a second stage recovery area, with an increase from eight to 12 chairs, and a staff observation area. Development of two brand-new state-of-the-art operating theatres has now started and is on track for completion in March 2017. The new unit and two new operating theatres are key to transforming Noarlunga Hospital into the elective day surgery centre of the south.

We know from clinical evidence in contemporary medical practice that being in hospital for longer than needed is detrimental. That's why, where clinical evidence shows it is safe and clinically appropriate to do so, our clinicians are undertaking procedures that were previously provided as overnight or multiday surgeries as day cases, ensuring patients are not in hospital for longer than they need, and releasing capacity in our hospitals.

In the past year, I am told that Noarlunga Hospital has increased the proportion of procedures undertaken on a same-day basis by nearly 2 per cent. The proportion of 23-hour surgery has increased by almost 40 per cent when compared with last year. Further planned increases in elective day surgery at Noarlunga Hospital will mean shorter waiting times, shorter stays in hospital and better outcomes for patients in our southern suburbs.

The dedicated paediatric area in the emergency department has started to take shape, with construction starting last month. The new space for children will include dedicated areas for assessment and treatment of children, as well as dedicated waiting areas to ensure privacy for children and their families.

Noarlunga Hospital is open for business. Its facilities are being upgraded. The emergency department continues to operate 24/7, staffed by doctors and nurses. The hospital provides much-needed specialist aged-care services as well as better access to elective day surgery for the local community. Despite some dangerous misinformation that has been spread, Noarlunga Hospital continues to be a very important part of our health system for our southern suburbs.

NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME

Mr KNOLL (Schubert) (14:55): My question is to the Minister for Disabilities. With the transition to the NDIS, can the minister outline whether carer support organisations will continue to be funded by the state to the value that they have been previously?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS (Taylor—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse) (14:55): With the transitioning to the NDIS, which is a hugely complex piece of social policy on the scale of the implementation of Medicare, 32,000 South Australians will be migrating across to the scheme, with its full implementation in July 2018. We know that the NDIA will be price setting for the service provision in that space and is updated on a yearly basis as we move forward.

NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME

Mr KNOLL (Schubert) (14:56): Supplementary: the minister in her answer was talking about the new potential federal-funded model. Can the minister provide an assurance that no SA carer support organisation will be worse off under a move to this model?

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—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) (14:56): I am happy to talk about this. I spend a considerable amount of time with our carer support agencies. Can I just tell you that how we support carers in South Australia is quite unique. I want us to continue doing it that way. Part of the thing is when we are talking to the federal government about how they are going to work with carers, they are looking at having a carers' portal, a one-stop shop for access. While I welcome that concentration on information, I think that we need to not forget that it is often that face-to-face conversation that makes a difference with carers.

We are in a time of transition. I am looking at it very closely. I have just extended the funding for one more year for our carers' support. Just the other day, the carers in the Barossa received an award for the work they are doing there through our service carers' association—the member for Light was there with me—and it was for that activity of engaging people more widely. Often people don't actually recognise that they are carers because they are often just providing a bit of support for their parents, then they realise it is taking up more and more of their time.

What we want to do is provide that support, the information, the opportunity for potential respite. The reality of it is that any of us could become a carer at any time. If our partner or our child gets sick, or our parent gets sick, we could be called upon to provide more services, personal care, do the shopping—

Ms Bedford interjecting:

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: What we do in South Australia is unique.

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

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: I want to continue the work that we do, but we are in a period of transition. We need to understand, in regard to the NDIS, as the minister has spoken about, what support will be provided with those packages. The ILC packages we have will have some support for those carers, but what we do see is a movement towards consumer-directed care, whether it is in aged care or with carers.

Mr KNOLL: Point of order, Mr Speaker: I ask you to draw the minister back to the substance of the question—to be able to rule out whether or not carer support organisations will be worse off under the move to the integrated carer support model.

The SPEAKER: In the time remaining, the minister might move a little bit towards the core of the question.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: I thank the member for Schubert for his interest in this question. We are in a time of transition. I have extended their funding for another year. We continue to have those discussions with the commonwealth, who are looking at having a holistic way of supporting carers. What is important here in South Australia is for us to maintain that uniqueness, and I will continue to advocate the importance of that.

Can I go back to the substance of the issue here. As we move to looking at consumer-directed care, what that does is look at the individual, the person who needs the support. What it does not tend to look at is the carer. It is National Carers Week this week and, if we had to quantify the work that carers do, if they did not provide that work, that unpaid work, while there are some allowances from the commonwealth government, we could not, as any government could not, provide that level of service. I just want to thank the carers.

I meet every quarter with Carers SA, and they have an enormous team of volunteers who help them do what they do. So, I thank you for your interest. I note your interest and will make sure that I update you as that transition happens.

REHABILITATION SERVICES

Mr DULUK (Davenport) (15:00): My question is to the Minister for Disabilities. Will the minister guarantee continued state government funding for psychosocial rehabilitation services for clients not covered by the NDIS?

The Hon. L.A. VLAHOS (Taylor—Minister for Disabilities, Minister for Mental Health and Substance Abuse) (15:00): There are a large number of issues that we are currently discussing at the Disability Reform Council at a national level, and it has been unfortunate because of the caretaker mode and minister Porter's busyness that we have not been able to progress some of these issues. There is a great deal of interest in the community about these supports, and it is something that all ministers around the table have raised with minister Porter and his assistant, minister Prentice. I will continue to pursue that very strongly on behalf of all South Australians and the state.

The SPEAKER: Member for Davenport.

REHABILITATION SERVICES

Mr DULUK (Davenport) (15:01): Supplementary: so the minister cannot guarantee that funding, I am understanding that, but has the minister met, for example, with organisations such as Diamond House to discuss—

The SPEAKER: The member's leave is withdrawn owing to his commenting instead of asking a question. The member for Ashford.

AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY

The Hon. S.W. KEY (Ashford) (15:01): Thank you, sir. My question is directed to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries. Minister, can you update the house on the South Australian aquaculture industry?

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson—Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Minister for Forests, Minister for Tourism, Minister for Recreation and Sport, Minister for Racing) (15:01): I thank the member for Ashford for the question. The latest economic impact report reveals that the South Australian aquaculture industry contributed \$227.8 million to the state economy in 2014-15. The annual EconSearch Economic Impact of Aquaculture on the South Australian State and Regional Communities report reveals that the overall value of aquaculture production increased by \$46.23 million in 2014-15 compared with the previous year. Also, 96 per cent of this value of production centred on Eyre Peninsula and the West Coast, and I want to thank the member Flinders—

Mr KNOLL: Point of order, sir: the EconSearch report that the minister relates to is up on the EconSearch website.

The SPEAKER: Could the member for Schubert bring me the text, as I haven't spent today looking at a computer or a phone. Minister.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: I want to thank, as I said, the member for Flinders for all the great work that he does and the people at SARDI and PIRSA who ensure that our fisheries and our aquaculture sectors are thriving. The biosecurity is very important, and of course opening up new markets around the world is very important as well. With the direct flights into Guangzhou starting from 13 December this year, it is going to be important for us to make sure that we get as much of our fresh seafood onto those planes and into the China market. It is really going to change the way in which we trade with China, and it is something I know that the seafood industry, particularly on Eyre Peninsula, are very excited about.

Condolence

DRAPER, MR L.

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) (15:04): By leave, I move:

That the House of Assembly expresses its deep regret at the death of Mr Laurence Draper AO, QPM, and places on record its appreciation of his long and meritorious service to the South Australian police force, including his distinguished service as South Australia's 17th Commissioner of Police.

It is my sad duty to inform the house of the passing of the former Police Commissioner of South Australia, Mr Laurence Draper, on 10 October 2016. He was aged 93 years. Mr Draper served the people of South Australia as a police officer with distinction throughout his career, ultimately rising through the ranks to lead our police service as commissioner.

After joining the South Australia Police as a junior constable in 1940, Mr Draper served for a great deal of his early career as a detective in the Criminal Investigation Branch. Mr Draper played a significant role in the implementation of a major reorganisation of SAPOL in the 1970s, and he was appointed Deputy Commissioner in 1972 and police commissioner in 1978. Mr Draper served as South Australia's 17th Commissioner of Police from January 1978 until May 1982. Those with a keen interest in the political history of our state, like the Speaker, will note the date of his commencement as police commissioner as coming during a particularly tumultuous time in the state's political history.

Mr Draper was the deputy commissioner when Mr Harold Salisbury was Commissioner of Police and, on the sacking of Mr Salisbury, it became Mr Draper's job as commissioner to calm a heated situation. An editorial in *The Advertiser*, published just prior to the retirement of Mr Draper, reflected on his service and the excellent job he had performed in difficult circumstances, stating he was 'entitled to take pride in what has been accomplished in his four years at the top'.

The situation positively cried for a new police chief with a cool head and no propensity for provocative action. In Mr Draper, those special talents had already been on display as Deputy Commissioner. The government found the ideal man. In late 1979, Mr Draper had begun to have health problems, with his doctor advising him to retire immediately due to his blood pressure being well beyond safe limits. His dedication to service saw him continue on as commissioner for 2½ more years before his doctors advised that the only way to reduce the pressure was to get away from the fire.

His service and influence extended beyond our state's borders, as he headed a four-man advisory team at the request of the Papua New Guinea government to survey and make recommendations for the reorganisation and operation of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary. Later, he headed a contingent of South Australia Police to Papua New Guinea to design a patrol system and assist in training operational personnel.

Additionally, Mr Draper has provided future police and the general public with a rare insight into policing by penning an autobiography after his retirement, something only one other South Australian commissioner had done at the time of Mr Draper's publishing his text in 2007. Titled *More Than Just a Job: My Life and Career From Junior Constable to Commissioner of Police*, the book details Mr Draper's passion for the vocation of policing.

At the time of his retirement, Mr Draper had been awarded the Officer of the Order of Australia, the Queen's Police Medal for distinguished service, the National Medal and the Long Service Medal. For his Order of Australia award, Mr Draper was cited as being acknowledged by his contemporaries throughout Australia, as well as in many overseas countries, as one of the most effective and progressive police administrators of his time. On behalf of the government, I extend my deepest sympathies and condolences to the family, friends and former colleagues of Mr Draper.

Mr VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart) (15:08): I rise to speak on behalf of the state Liberal team to concur with the Deputy Premier's reflections on the passing of Mr Laurence Draper AO, QPM, the former police commissioner of South Australia.

Born in Adelaide on 14 March 1923, Laurence first joined the South Australia Police force as a junior constable in 1940, starting a remarkable career of Public Service that would span over four decades. Throughout his life, Laurence served as a detective in the Criminal Investigation Branch, a superintendent, officer in charge of the management services branch and Deputy Commissioner of Police. Laurence was held in such high regard in the field of law enforcement that in 1973 he received a request from the Papua New Guinea government to lead a four-man advisory team charged with making recommendations on the reorganisation of the operations of the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary. This trip would see Laurence return to Papua New Guinea again the following year to continue his invaluable work to assist this police force in establishing itself.

After decades of service in which he played a significant role in reshaping South Australia's police force, Laurence was appointed at South Australia's 17th Commissioner of Police on 19 January 1978, a post he served in until his retirement in May 1982. Laurence's dedication and commitment to serving the public and the police force throughout his life was recognised through a number of honours and accolades, including receiving the Queen's Police Medal for Gallantry in 1981 and being made an Officer of the Order of Australia.

As the Deputy Premier also mentioned, a book written by Laurence, entitled *More Than Just a Job: My Life and Career from Junior Constable to Police Commissioner*, is available in our South Australian state parliamentary library for anybody who is interested in having a look at it. Having served as a police officer for more than 42 years and as commissioner for five, Mr Draper has made a truly significant contribution to our community and society. One of his more unique contributions lives on in the South Australia Police flag, an emblem which he saw the importance of and lobbied for before it was authorised by state cabinet in 1981.

He was a loving husband to Flo, the dedicated father of Jill, Wendy, Anne, Marie and Susan, and a much loved grandfather to no less than 13 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Our grateful thanks go to Laurence for his many years of service and dedication to our community and state, and our thoughts and well wishes are with his friends and family. Vale, Laurence Draper.

The Hon. J.M. RANKINE (Wright) (15:11): I think it is very true to say that our South Australian police force very much value and appreciate police commissioners when they come through the ranks and work their way through to that lofty position. I know that former Commissioner Draper was held in very high esteem. He came into the position during a very difficult time for police in South Australia. A number of significant critical events had occurred, and they were looking for a very steady hand and one in which they had confidence.

Commissioner Draper, as we have heard, was very highly decorated, but I want to reflect on a personal story. He will always have some affection in my heart. As people know, I was part of a police family for 24 years. As a very young mum, I moved to Peterborough with my husband, who had been posted to Peterborough, with a not quite two year old in tow and heavily pregnant. We were supposed to be moving into a new house, and at that time the Housing Trust built all the housing for police officers in South Australia and the public buildings department managed them. Two new houses had been built in Peterborough for two families to move into, and I thought I was just going to be the bee's knees.

As it turned out, the houses were not ready when the trucks arrived to move us up there, and so we were moved into the old divisional headquarters in Peterborough. We had no curtains, no floor coverings, there was a hole in the kitchen window taped up with some cardboard, and there we were left for 18 months. It did not matter what we tried: we met on site with the public buildings department

head about the state of this new house, and it was consistently rejected for very important building faults. For example, the tap buttons in the basin did not match the tap buttons in the shower and the painting job inside was not up to standard.

There I was with two babies in this very cold old house. One day, when I looked out of the kitchen window and saw water running down past the kitchen. I could not work it out; it had not been raining, so why was rainwater running past the kitchen window, only to find that the pipe from the toilet had burst and we had sewage running past the kitchen window. At that point, I decided to write a letter to the head of the public buildings department to express my concern. When I had penned it, I decided that, rather than send it him, I would send it to Commissioner Salisbury. My husband was not very happy about that, and thought that was going to be the end of his policing career. Anyway, off went the letter.

About a week later, a superintendent walked into the Peterborough Police Station. My husband jumped up and introduced himself, and he said, 'Oh yes you're the fellow whose wife wrote about the house.' He apologised profusely and was told, 'Don't worry about it, we've discussed it at executive level,' at which point I think Tony nearly passed out.

A day or two later, a letter came from Acting Commissioner Draper telling me I was quite right to alert them to our circumstances, and to pack up the contents of our house: a truck would be there to pick us up in a week's time and move us into the new house—in which I delighted. I had my wonderful net curtains of the 1970s: orange in the lounge room, purple and white in my room, gold and white in another, and lime and green in the boys' rooms. Every Sunday, the township would do its Sunday drive, and we would have 20 or 30 cars coming up to have a look at the people in this new house.

That was testament not only to his consideration for not only the men under his command but also to his caring for families, that he took the time to consider a letter from a young 22-year-old wife living in a remote area in South Australia and make sure that we had decent accommodation. There is a long story to the end of that. The fellow running the public buildings department at that time later came into quite significant disrepute, but now is not the time to go into that. I want to pass on my condolences to former Commissioner Draper's family. Vale, Commissioner Draper.

Mr DULUK (Davenport) (15:16): On Monday morning, I had the privilege to attend the funeral of Laurie Draper AO, QPM, who was one of my constituents—not just one of my constituents, but a long-time supporter and member of the Liberal Party. My dealings with Mr Draper were in his later stage of life, but he came across and was an incredibly gentle, humble and unassuming man. If you read his autobiography *More Than Just a Job: My Life and Career from Junior Constable to Commissioner of Police*, you will see in that man why he became Commissioner of Police in 1978, after Commissioner Salisbury, and, of course, in a period of a lot of social change in South Australia.

Something that was evident through the eulogies at his funeral was that he was promoted to that position because he was seen as a safe pair of hands within the police force. He was promoted much to the displeasure of a lot of senior officers at the time. In his own words, he was not a company man and he was not necessarily one of the boys, but he was extremely diligent, he was extremely process driven, and he saw change in the South Australian police force that made it a stronger institution. A lot of the hallmarks we see in the South Australia Police today came through the time under his service as Commissioner Draper.

He was a wonderful family man. His five daughters (Jill, Wendy, Anne, Marie and Susan), and sons-in-law (David, Mark, Danny, and Stephan), 13 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren have suffered a huge loss, creating a huge void in their lives because he was such a wonderful family man. He was a man who loved horses and country living: one who, up until a couple of weeks ago, was still playing lawn bowls, and someone who slipped to the next life peacefully in the last couple of weeks.

It is people like Laurie Draper who, when we go back and study the history of South Australia, and particularly the civil service, will be remembered for a long time to come. Vale, Laurie Draper.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: As there are no further speakers, I add my condolences on behalf of the people of Florey, and ask members to rise in their place so that the motion can be carried in silence for one minute.

Motion carried by members standing in their places in silence.

Grievance Debate

GOYDER ELECTORATE SCHOOL CLOSURES

Mr GRIFFITHS (Goyder) (15:20): I wish to talk about two of the schools in the Goyder electorate today and sadly put on the record that, as a result of enrolment numbers and a decision made by the parent bodies, it is intended that the schools will close at the end of this year. I am grateful that the minister is in the chamber at the moment. She would be aware that Port Vincent Primary School and Edithburgh Primary School are two great little schools on the eastern coast of Yorke Peninsula.

Some members in this chamber might have visited these schools in the past, and they would be aware of how good they are but, as a result of the declining numbers, it has been necessary for the schools to really consider what the future is. Recent polls have been conducted by the parent groups, and the very regrettable but probably only decision that could have been made by the parent bodies was to close. The children who would normally go to the Port Vincent Primary School will be going to the Minlaton District School instead, so that is a bus trip for those kids. The children from the Edithburgh Primary School will be taking a bus trip to Yorketown which is where I went to school.

It is very unfortunate. I have visited both of those schools many times, sometimes on an official visit and not just as an MP. In my previous role, I escorted the Governor when visiting Yorke Peninsula and took him to the Edithburgh Primary School. We have been very proud of what this school portrays and the quality of education that has come from it. While small in student numbers and relatively small in size, these schools have done super jobs not just with the current generation of students—I have some younger relatives who have been students at Edithburgh Primary School and relatives who have worked there—but with the previous generations.

This is exemplified by the fact that the Edithburgh Primary School celebrated their centenary of education on that site in 2013. I was blessed to be there, and my mother, too, came for that because she went to school there. I did not go to school there, but it just shows that multiple generations of families have. When grandparents, their children and now their grandchildren had been at that school, there was real pride on that day in the quality of what they managed to get out of it.

There were memories recalled about the good and bad things that, as young people, we all get up to. It was a special day. Celebrations were held and rightly so. There were discussions going on even in 2013 about the future of the Edithburgh Primary School. It was fantastic that they got through that period, but the challenge has become even greater for them so the very regrettable decision was made to close up.

Probably all members of parliament try to get to as many end of school year functions as possible and witness the very proud young kids being presented with awards and the pride of the parents and relatives who are there watching the culmination of 12 months of education and effort. I am going to try to make sure that, in particular, I go to Edithburgh Primary School and Port Vincent Primary School because I want to be part of that last day which will be rather challenging.

Port Vincent Primary School celebrated their centenary in 1996, so they have provided 120 years of education continuously from that site. This school has been extra special, I must say. They have had a very strong focus on marine studies. I have witnessed some of their displays and been told the stories of when, not that long ago, students went to Japan to an international symposium to present the studies they had undertaken of the marine environment around that school area and the seas close by. The kids have learnt an enormous amount that is a bit different from what most other schools would be doing, but I think it has helped equip them for later education and life, too.

For the current generation of parents, this is a concern. For the current generation of students who have to get on the big bus sooner than they probably would have had to go to a bigger school, that will be an issue for them. However, I am sure the integration that will occur between those students and the kids from the Minlaton and Yorketown schools will be good, but it is going to be sad to see no activity taking place within the physical structures for 40 weeks of the year.

My hope is that the positive outcome that can come from this is that there is an opportunity to negotiate with the communities in Port Vincent and Edithburgh, which have very strong progress associations that have driven an enormous amount of community development, to make use of those structures. The schools have good facilities and they have benefited from some improvements in recent years, which will no longer be used for education purposes, but they can be used for community services in a different way.

As part of the consideration about the future of the sites, I hope the minister ensures that the local community is given an opportunity to benefit so that, while sadness comes from the closure, some positives can come from the future use of the structures. I say goodbye, sadly, to the Edithburgh Primary School and the Port Vincent Primary School.

LABOUR DAY

Mr GEE (Napier) (15:25): Today, I wish to speak about Labour Day and, given that it is National Carers Week, I would also like to talk about the importance of carers. For many South Australia's, 3 October 2016 was a public holiday Monday of a long weekend and a chance to spend time with family and friends, to get away somewhere and not to have to attend work. Sadly, this year it was also a day where many were suffering from the recent flooding and other damage to their properties caused by the wildest weather seen in South Australia for many years.

For me and for many members on this side of the house, it was also a day of appreciation and recognition not only for the emergency services volunteers but also because it was Labour Day. Labour Day is a celebration of the fight for the eight-hour day, which was also known as 888, or eight hours' work, eight hours' recreation and eight hours' rest. This is a day when we remember the rights that have been hard fought for by unions and workers across this nation and the world to deliver the improvements to working conditions that workers have today.

Many people take for granted working conditions like the eight-hour day, five-day week, sick leave, recreational leave and all other types of leave, and many other entitlements that were won through strike, protest and negotiation by workers and their unions over the past 150 years. The first march for the eight-hour day by the Labour movement occurred in Melbourne on 21 April 1856, when stonemasons and building workers on building sites around Melbourne stopped work and marched from the University of Melbourne to Parliament House demanding an end to the six-day week, 12-hour day and 72-hour week.

Their protest was a success, and on 12 May 1856 a celebratory march was held to celebrate the new 48-hour week. It took another 20 years for every state to adopt the same regulations. These workers are recognised as among the first organised workers in the world to achieve the eight-hour day. It was almost 90 years later, in 1948, that the six-day week became a five-day week for most workers.

These rights have seen a benefit not only for workers, allowing them to spend more time with their families and pursue other activities, but also for businesses. Employers also benefit because workers are more productive when the correct work-life balance is achieved. I want to acknowledge union representatives who continue to fight across the world to achieve better conditions and entitlements for workers every day. I stand with them in solidarity for the important work that they do.

As a former AMWU vehicle division official, I note with deep sadness that the last Australian-made Ford rolled off the production line on Friday 7 October. This marked the end of 91 years of vehicle manufacturing at Ford in Victoria and, along with the loss of 280 jobs at Holden on the same day, it signals the start of the end of a famous and proud industry and the loss of highly skilled middle-class jobs. My thoughts are with these workers and their families, along with those workers in the vehicle component sector.

I now wish to speak about a very important group in our community, that is, our carers, especially our unpaid carers who care for members of their family or friends. This week is National Carers Week, an important week that highlights their work and gives everyone the chance to thank those 2.8 million unpaid carers in Australia. Of these carers, one in four is the primary carer providing the majority of support to an individual. The value of the contribution of carers in our community is more than \$60 billion per year, which is clearly very significant.

I also want to thank those people and organisations who support the carers, particularly the staff and volunteers at the Northern Carers Network, who provide a range of support services and activities and giving a caring ear when carers need support or advice. The Northern Carers AGM was held during the last parliamentary sitting, and I am informed that over 200 people attended to enjoy a bite to eat and recognise the hard work of staff and volunteers. I want to thank outgoing chairperson, Angela Macfarlane, a carer herself, who is retiring after eight years of leading the organisation, particularly through the transition to NDIS.

Northern Carers volunteers gave over 11,000 hours last financial year, supporting 5,000 carers. I want to thank every carer in the north and across South Australia for the care they provide to their family and friends. I am sure that they are very much appreciated by the people they care about.

NEW ZEALAND FUR SEALS

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (15:30): I rise today to talk again about the impact of the New Zealand fur seals on the Lakes and Coorong Fishery. I want to make some points about some of the questions I asked of the Minister for Environment in estimates on how they were managing the effects the New Zealand Fur Seals were having on native birdlife and Ngarrindjeri totems in the Lakes and Coorong. The minister made the claim that not one bird has been killed by the New Zealand fur seals. The minister is failing to include visual evidence from the Hon. Tammy Franks and from fishermen who have had to accept seals wreaking havoc on birdlife and their livelihoods as an everyday occurrence.

I recently came across some *Hansard* from a few years ago, when on numerous occasions the Minister for Environment stated that he was advised that New Zealand fur seals do occasionally kill and consume seabirds. On 11 September 2013, when the minister was asked by the Hon. Tammy Franks in the other place about what impact New Zealand fur seals were having on the little penguin species on Granite Island, he responded with the following:

It is true that New Zealand fur seals do sometimes eat seabirds, including penguins, but they form only a minor part of the seal's diet, I am advised. Most of a fur seal's diet is made up of redbait and lanternfish and small bait fish that have no commercial fishery in South Australia.

Again, when the minister was asked on 6 May 2015 about Granite Island he said:

It is true that—and the Hon. Ms Tammy Franks raised the issue of long-nosed fur seals—fur seals do sometimes eat seabirds, many varieties, including penguins, but I am advised that they form only a minor part of a seal's diet.

I find these comments very interesting considering the comments from the minister during estimates, when he confirmed more than once that in his belief not one bird had been killed by the New Zealand fur seals.

Furthermore, if the countless number of pelicans, musk ducks and other native birdlife were not killed by seals, why are they found dead and floating in the middle of the lake and over the barrages, where the seals sit all day, with only the contents of their stomachs eaten or their beaks torn off? Lastly, if these birds were killed by a feral inland animal, why do the fishermen keep witnessing attacks and finding them in the water? Those are very good questions, and I think it is time that, from the minister down, they had a very good look at what is happening in the Coorong and Lakes and put a proper overabundant native species management plan in place.

I will make some comments on some of the things the department has been trying, and they have been talking about trying crackers with the fishermen. These trials were started not quite 12 months ago. Underwater crackers cost \$3.50 each, and one fishermen would need to use 10 to 20 crackers per session. There are 36 licences in the Lakes and Coorong Fishery and, on the basis of these fisherman going out 195 days by 10 crackers per day by 36 licences, this equates to \$245,000 per year the Lakes and Coorong Fishery has to find to fund the use of these crackers. It has also been suggested by one fisherman that they would need to catch an extra 100 kilograms of fish per week to make the cracker use profitable. The fishermen have not even had their second round of training to gain their permits to use the crackers. This is almost 12 months after the crackers were introduced.

Fishermen have told me that crackers are not the answer; they are just another tool in the toolbox which needs a lot more tools. The financial impacts on the fishermen can be clearly seen. One has adopted a tourism approach for their fishing industry on the Coorong, another has become the local baker, and another one has become involved in the local motel. As more and more fishermen and their workers drop out of the industry, I really do fear for the future and potential of the Lakes and Coorong Fishery until there is proper management of these New Zealand fur seals. The minister must take notice of the impact they are having not just on the fishing industry but also on the native birdlife in the area.

DAVIDSON, MR BRAYDEN

Ms COOK (Fisher) (15:35): Today, I would like to talk about an inspirational young graduate of Reynella East College. Reynella East College is the largest school in my electorate and has about 1,800 K-12 students. He is a fantastic South Aussie called Brayden Davidson. Brayden was born five weeks premature, which of course is a bit of a flag predominantly to physical developmental issues, but Brayden was not even diagnosed with cerebral palsy until he was four years old.

Cerebral palsy, as members may be aware, is a term used to describe a whole range of disorders which affect a person's ability to move. An individual's brain is generally damaged either during pregnancy or soon after birth. Once Brayden started kindy, his parents and teachers picked up that he was having some trouble with his gross and fine motor skills. He underwent an MRI and was referred to a specialist at the Women's and Children's Hospital. He was then connected with Novita Children's Services.

During Brayden's primary school days, he attended occupational therapy sessions at the Women's and Children's Hospital to help with his writing. Brayden's parents tell me that at one stage they were told he would probably need a scribe or a computer for his schoolwork, but he is a tenacious young man, and with perseverance and hard work Brayden learned to write. He had Botox injections and serial casting numerous times to assist with functionality of his limbs. He unfortunately became an easy target for bullies, as he was not as strong or as fast as the other boys in his class.

One day, when Brayden was six, he had a pretty bad day at school and he went to his nanna's house. Brayden's nanna was reading an article about the Paralympic Games. She told him, 'If you keep at your sport and train hard, one day you can go to the Paralympics.' A seed was planted that day, so good on you, nanna. Brayden loved all sports, but due to his disability he struggled in mainstream sport. One day, his parents received a flyer from Novita and the Australian Paralympic Committee about a talent search for rowing. He wanted desperately to try this, but mum knows best and she knew he did not have the upper body strength for rowing, so she told him to wait for another sport.

Brayden was impatient. He went searching the internet and found a talent search day for athletics. He went along with his dad for just a bit of fun and to hopefully find his way back to the sport that he originally tried and loved: swimming. He originally dreamed of swimming for Australia and learned to swim from three years of age. Swimming is often used as therapeutic support for young people with a disability. Brayden really enjoyed it and he swam to squads. However, due to his cerebral palsy, Brayden got very tight in the shoulders and the demands of swimming freestyle at that level became increasingly hard.

Brayden's parents approached the coach at the time—he had quite a young coach. They wanted to see whether he could modify Brayden's training so he did not have to swim freestyle as much, but the request was denied at that point. So Brayden walked away from that sport and that was when he took up athletics. The head coach heard of that a few months later and said he could modify the training for Brayden, but it was too late. He did return but he did not feel the same so he continued down the path of athletics.

The people involved thought Brayden showed some potential in the long jump. Within the next couple of months, he had been tested and received his classification to compete as a para-athlete in athletics, and he was off to his first national championships in Sydney. He won bronze in the long jump and silver in the 400 metres. Since then, he has never looked back.

Over the past five years, he has won a total of 10 gold medals in 100 metres, 200 metres, 400 metres and long jump at junior national championships. At open level, he has won one gold,

three silver and one bronze in the long jump and 200 metres. He also has many state titles and Australian records, and one world record, which he achieved in 2015. He represented Australia at 15 years of age at the IPC world championships in Lyon in 2013, where he finished fourth. In 2015, he won bronze at the IPC world championships in Doha, two days after his 18th birthday.

In 2016, he represented Australia at the Rio Paralympic Games, where he set a new Paralympic record of 5.62 metres—an 11-centimetre personal best—and won gold. He intends to return to study either at TAFE or uni next year and also to compete at the IPC world championships in London 2017. Congratulations, Brayden. You are the epitome of determination and a great example of making the most of a situation. You have proved that when one door closes another one can open. South Australia thanks you for that.

PARADISE INTERCHANGE

Mr TARZIA (Hartley) (15:40): I hold in my hand a petition signed by no fewer than 100 members of my local community concerning parking at Paradise Interchange. As we know, many locals have demanded improved parking facilities at Paradise Interchange for some time. We know that Paradise Interchange provides an efficient transport service to our community, but this service has been greatly hindered in recent times by a lack of parking at the interchange. Many commuters understand the frustration of driving to the interchange in the morning hoping to make use of the great service available on the O-Bahn, only to be inconvenienced at the moment by a severe lack of parking.

Often, the solution for them is to park along nearby main roads and side streets, hence not only putting commuters at risk as they exit their vehicles during peak-hour traffic but also creating congestion in neighbouring streets. Further, it has been seen that there is a proposed sale of adjacent land, which I am informed is owned by a private party, which in the past the government has leased for extra parking. Should the sale of this land owned by a private party go through, this will increase congestion in neighbouring streets further and amplify the demand for improved parking facilities at the interchange.

While the state Labor government promised to fund improved car parking infrastructure at Paradise Interchange prior to the last election, they have failed to deliver. We think that the community deserves better because the government needs to make good on their pre-election promise and provide funds for car parking infrastructure. The government cannot, in good conscience, spend over \$160 million on the city O-Bahn project to save commuters supposedly three minutes of travel time and then not even spend a few million dollars or anything to address the current congestion of cars parked on local roads in my electorate at Paradise.

I have been lobbying for several years now, and I know that the member for Morialta has previously also lobbied and continues to lobby with me on behalf of those affected by this severe lack of parking. We have done several things. We have actually been down to the interchange to collect signatures for this petition, and we have launched an online website, which can be found at www.parkingforparadise.com.au. I would encourage residents in the area, if they would prefer to go online, to log their concerns online, to join the campaign online and see what we are doing. There is also obviously a hard copy petition, which in the coming months I am sure we will table in this place.

The campaign is certainly building a strong local following through the community, with the aim of putting pressure on the state government to make good on their pre-election promise. It is not only residents but also businesses in the local area who continue to rally and get people in the area on board to make sure that the government does something soon about this parking situation because we need to relieve the tension and the anxiety caused by the lack of parking at the interchange.

If elected, we on this side of the chamber have said that the state Liberals will build a car park to address the shortage of parks at the interchange. However, until then, we must continue to put pressure on the state Labor government to fulfil its pre-election promise of providing more car parking at the Paradise Interchange, and I will continue to work hard for our community to make sure that we continue to make our area the best that it can be.

NATIONAL CARERS WEEK

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (15:44): This week in Australia is National Carers Week. It is an opportunity to raise community awareness among all Australians about the diversity of carers and their caring roles, recognising and celebrating the outstanding contribution Australia's 2.8 million unpaid carers make to our nation. These carers provide unpaid care and support to family members and friends with a disability, mental illness, chronic condition, terminal illness, an alcohol or other drug issue who are frail aged.

Carers make an enormous contribution to our communities as well as to our national economy. Should all carers decide to stop performing their caring role, it will cost the country more than \$60 billion per year to replace those supports. In my electorate of Torrens, I have met with many carers: parents caring for their children, both young and adults with disabilities; husbands and wives caring for spouses with dementia; physical disabilities resulting from strokes, accidents and disease; young people caring for a parent, siblings, a relative or a friend as well as running the household all whilst still attending school.

In fact, more than 300,000 of Australia's carers are young carers, with 150,000 under the age of 18. While many young carers emphasise that caring is a positive experience, research indicates that, when inadequately supported, their own health, mental health and wellbeing can be seriously affected. Some carers may provide up to 24 hours nursing aid in an unpaid capacity to support a family member or friend with high-care needs often with little or no training at all. Others may care for family and friends who are fairly independent but who may need someone to keep an eye on them or help them with their daily tasks.

The South Australian government distributes over \$2.9 million in annual funding across the sector for respite, advocacy, counselling and information. This funding provides so many services that really make a difference across many sectors of the community. They help the community to run forums, present awards, run awareness projects, publish information on websites and train staff and volunteers. The importance of combating social isolation and simply bringing people together cannot be overestimated. In my electorate office we try to do as much as possible to take everyday pressures off carers by liaising on their behalf with government departments, utility companies and support organisations. I know how important this is and the difference it can make.

I recall the challenges my father faced looking after his mother—my much-loved grandmother—as dementia took hold. It can be an isolating journey for the carer who is also coping with their own grief at the loss and trying to continue with their own life. The physical and emotional toll was significant, and he kept her in her own home until it was no longer safe to do so. I honour him for his dedication and commitment.

It is often the case that some residents I meet with feel isolated if they are caring for a loved one and do not have any means of connecting with others experiencing a similar situation; so, in my office we assist in connecting them with services that may be able to make their lives more manageable. One such service is the Northern Carers Network, a not-for-profit, grassroots community organisation funded through the state and federal governments to provide support to carers living in the northern metropolitan region of Adelaide. It is connected to Carers SA, part of the national Network of Carer Associations and a member of Carers Australia, the recognised national peak body representing and advocating on behalf of family and friend carers throughout Australia.

Carers are an integral part of Australia's health system and the foundation of our aged, disability, palliative and community care systems. The caring role may include help and support in any of the daily activities of the person being cared for. It may include physical and personal care and assistance such as dressing, lifting, showering, feeding or providing transport. Often carers are also responsible for the management of medications and may provide emotional, social and financial support. It may involve helping the person they are caring for to be organised, reminding them to attend appointments and dealing with emergencies.

Australia has over 2.8 million carers, 12 per cent of the population. Any one of us can become a carer at any time. Today, in National Carers Week, I would like to acknowledge the many South Australians who have taken on the role of unpaid carer, and extend a very sincere thank you.

*Resolutions***ELDER ABUSE**

The Legislative Council concurs with the resolution of the House of Assembly contained in message No. 156 for the appointment of a joint committee on matters relating to elder abuse in South Australia and will be represented on the committee by three members, of whom two shall form the quorum necessary to be present at all sittings of the committee. The members of the joint committee to represent the Legislative Council will be the Hon. J.M. Gazzola, the Hon. K.L. Vincent and the Hon. S.G. Wade.

The Legislative Council informs the House of Assembly that it has passed the following resolution:

That it be an instruction to the joint committee that the joint committee be authorised to disclose or publish, as it thinks fit, any evidence or documents presented to the joint committee prior to such evidence or documents being reported to the parliament.

The Legislative Council has also resolved to suspend standing order 396 to enable strangers to be admitted when the joint committee is examining witnesses, unless the joint committee otherwise resolves, but they shall be excluded when the joint committee is deliberating.

Ms COOK (Fisher) (15:51): I move:

That the members of the House of Assembly on the joint committee be the members for MacKillop, Torrens and Fisher.

Motion carried.

Ms COOK: I move:

That this house—

- (a) concurs with the resolution of the Legislative Council contained in message No. 127 that it be an instruction to the joint committee on elder abuse that the joint committee be authorised to disclose or publish, as it thinks fit, any evidence or documents presented to the joint committee prior to such evidence or documents being reported to the parliament; and
- (b) agrees with the proposal to enable strangers to be admitted when the joint committee is examining witnesses unless the joint committee otherwise resolves, but they shall be excluded when the joint committee is deliberating.

Motion carried.

*Motions***EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY**

Adjourned debate on motion of Mr Whetstone (resumed on motion).

Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett) (15:54): I rise to support the motion by the member for Chaffey:

That this house—

- (a) condemns the state government for removing the emergency services levy remissions and then further increasing the levy; and
- (b) acknowledges the impact of the levy increase, particularly on sport and recreation clubs and organisations, which are already battling the high cost of utilities.

There is no greater impact on volunteers and sporting clubs than having increased state government levies and taxes, and we are seeing that all over this state. Even in my own electorate of Morphett, the Sea Rescue Squadron was paying ESL on their buildings, but we managed to get an exemption for them. That was a cost that they were concerned about and it had a significant impact on them. Fortunately for them, as an emergency service they were exempt under the act and we were able to put that exemption in place. We know that there are many sporting clubs out there that have been severely impacted by the massive increases in the emergency services levy.

Let's look at what happens with the emergency services levy. It would be interesting to note whether the Minister for Emergency Services has received the report on the audit, the Fire and Emergency Services Strategic Plan 2015-2025. It is an audit of the expenditure of the ESL to make sure that it is in accordance with the ESL act. To me, this shows that the government does not know where the ESL is going, does not know whether it complies with the act, and we certainly still have not seen the report. The fact that this audit was going to occur has been known for quite a while—under the former minister as well.

It is interesting to note that, in terms of the expenditure of the ESL amongst emergency services, the police get a lot more than the State Emergency Service. Why is the police budget subsidised so heavily out of the ESL? Some answers to questions were provided to the Economic and Finance Committee about what the police do with major regional operations and emergency major events. They talk about gathering information and preparing operational orders and contingency plans for public safety. That is a police job, and that should be coming out of the police budget. That should not be coming out of money that is being paid by the good people of South Australia to provide an emergency service which is separate from police.

The emergency services levy was designed to provide funding for the CFS, the MFS and the SES. We see the police pulling money out—\$21 million. There are lots of things that the police are doing that in my opinion should be done by the CFS, the MFS or the SES. Some of it is for Volunteer Marine Rescue. There are certainly some concerns about the \$2 million allocated to depreciation. Why is the ESL being used for depreciation in the police force? That is a real issue for me.

There are other issues. The STAR Group undertakes some search and rescue—some—but it should not be coming out of the ESL: it should be coming out of a separate police budget which is allocated from a completely different pot of money. The communications centre that the police use—that should be coming out of the police budget. Certainly, crime includes major crime investigations, forensic services, state intelligence activities related to emergency services. Well, 'related to', not 'part of'. It should not be coming out of the ESL. We need to make sure that the ESL is being spent where it was meant to be spent, and that is on emergency services: delivering fire services, rescue services and all the other services that the volunteers and paid members of our highly professional CFS, MFS and SES deliver every day.

Let's not forget the Volunteer Marine Rescue and those wonderful people along our coastlines in the surf lifesaving clubs who get some money out of ESL. I am also concerned about money that is taken out of the ESL to subsidise the health budget. The Julian Burton Burns Trust is a very good and worthwhile organisation, but should money for that be coming out of the ESL or should it be coming out of the health budget? It should be coming out of the health budget.

Is the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources being subsidised by the ESL? It is. Should that not come out of DEWNR's budget and not out of the ESL? An amount of \$3.5 million was allocated to the Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources. What for? Is it delivering fire services? Is it delivering emergency services? Perhaps if we could get an explanation, if the audit is to be completed, about what the ESL is being spent on and whether it is being spent in accordance with the act, it might help. We can then see what this government should be doing, and that is putting their remissions back in place and giving the sporting clubs of this state a breather and the benefit they need from the wonderful services they are delivering to all communities in South Australia.

Mr GOLDSWORTHY (Kavel) (15:59): I am pleased to speak in support of the motion the member for Chaffey has moved in the house, and I commend him for bringing the matter to the parliament. There are some important points to make in relation to the emergency services levy and how this government over a period of time has treated the emergency services levy.

Over its relative terms, the Labor government has a long history of using mechanisms to turn government instrumentalities into cash cows, and we have seen them carry that out in relation to the pricing of water. Recently, we saw the Treasurer and the government hive off part of the Motor Accident Commission to prop up their budget to put their budget into supposed surplus, 'a book-entry surplus', as I have referred to it previously in contributions on the Appropriation Bill and matters relating to that. What they have looked to do is endeavour to turn the ESL into another cash cow for

this government by removing the remissions and also hiking the emergency services levy in recent times.

A number of months ago, the Treasurer and others floated the idea of implementing a tax on the family home. From what this side of the house can ascertain in relation to that issue, it did not really get much airtime because I think what happened within the Labor caucus was that it got shut down very quickly. That is my take on it because there was very little support, if any, within the Labor caucus to implement a tax on the family home. But he got his way, the Treasurer got his way by hiking the ESL by 9 per cent, if my memory serves me correctly, in recent times—9 per cent. He got his way in the end by hiking the ESL.

We see these increases go to the very heart of the issue of cost-of-living pressures on the South Australian community because everybody who owns a property, owns a home and other assets is charged with the ESL. I remember when the ESL was first introduced by the previous Liberal government, and it was necessary. The ESL was a necessary levy to be introduced. I will give the house a bit of a history lesson. I have done this before, but I will keep doing this because it is correct.

Basically, a previous Labor government not only bankrupted the state through the State Bank debacle but they pretty much bankrupted the CFS. From memory, the CFS had a debt of \$12 million. In today's terms, that is not a lot of money, but 25 or so years ago it was a lot of money. The CFS was struggling, and the local government had the responsibility for funding the CFS, and they were struggling, too, and could never get ahead of that debt. I will give you a real-life example.

CFS volunteers, who were members of the Mount Barker Brigade, told me that they had two units—two fire trucks, two units, in the Mount Barker Brigade—and that they could only ever afford the diesel fuel to run one unit at a time. If there was an incident, if there was a fire out in a paddock and they needed all the resources they could muster, there was only one truck. They could only ever afford the diesel fuel for one truck to go out and attend that incident. That is a real-life example from a volunteer I know very well within the Mount Barker community who told me that, so I regard that as actual fact.

That is one of the reasons why the ESL was first established by a previous Liberal government, but what we have seen is subsequent Labor governments rejigging it, abolishing remissions and hiking it to a point where it is becoming very difficult for many households and, as the member for Chaffey states in his motion, sporting clubs, recreational clubs and community-based organisations. As I said before, when the ESL first came out, it was relatively inexpensive. I remember getting the first notice, and I thought, 'If this goes to funding the CFS and the other emergency services to a satisfactory level of resourcing, I am happy to pay for it. I am happy to write out a cheque.'

It was quite a number of years ago but, from memory, I think it might have been \$90. I thought, 'I am happy to write a cheque out for \$90.' I should have my cheque butts with me so I could advise the house by how much it has actually increased, but I can tell you that it is significantly more than \$90. I should have brought my chequebook with me so I could have a look at the butt, but it would obviously be more than double \$90. If I get an opportunity in the next few weeks to make a contribution, I will quote how much that most recent ESL bill was.

The member for Chaffey is correct in saying that it is having a significant impact on sports and recreation clubs and organisations. A lot of the sporting grounds, parks, gardens and the like are owned by local government. I have asked some people and, according to my sources, local government does pay the ESL on their properties. So, if a sporting club or organisation leases an oval, tennis court or playing field and the council pays the ESL on that, you would think that maybe the council might pass that cost on to the sporting club or organisation. It has a direct, negative impact on the financial ability of those organisations to manage their budgets.

From where do they get the money to pay an increase in the ESL if the local council is passing it on to them? They go to the members of their club and put their membership fees up. So, these people are not only paying the ESL on their home properties and other assets; they are actually getting hit with a compounding impact by having their club fees increased. I am not sure how a

sporting club would manage to absorb the increase in the ESL, if they have to pay for it, by means other than putting their members' subs or fees up.

The impacts of these increases on the ESL are broad-ranging. These increases impact on many aspects of activity within South Australia. The government really needs to have an extremely hard look at itself. They talk the talk about being concerned about this and that and reviewing this and doing that but, all the time, taxation is increasing. We have the pretty poor reputation of being one of the highest-taxed states in the country, and the ESL is part of that regime. The member for Chaffey should be commended for bringing the matter to the house, and I certainly, as I said, speak in support of it.

Mr PICTON (Kaurana) (16:09): I will start my contribution by saying that I think we should all be paying credit to the very hardworking volunteers and paid staff in our emergency services for the hard work that they have done over the last couple of months in dealing with the floods and the effects of the very significant severe weather events that we have had in South Australia. Along with the members for Mawson and Reynell and the Minister for Emergency Services, I was down at Old Noarlunga just after the recent flooding events. We saw the hard work that the local CFS and SES crews were doing there.

When we deal with such events and we deal with a terrain and a climate that can be as damaging as it is in South Australia, we need to make sure that our emergency services are well funded and that our volunteers and our crews have the equipment they need to get out there and help South Australians, and that is exactly what the emergency services levy does. That is why I personally am very proud and happy to pay it, and always have been, and I know many other South Australians are happy to do that as well, because every single cent that I pay goes into the emergency services fund that can only be used for those services, such as the Country Fire Service, the SES and the Metropolitan Fire Service.

We know the ESL funds 1,000 MFS staff across Adelaide and the regions. We know that it helps provide the equipment and trucks needed for 13,000 CFS staff and CFS volunteers across the state, as well as 1,600 SES volunteers across the state. For instance, in the south of Adelaide we saw a dozen people rescued at Old Noarlunga with the swift water crew from the Noarlunga SES. That service would not have been available without the funding coming out of the emergency services levy.

As any tax does, the ESL gets a bad reputation from time to time, but this is actually a tax where you know where every single dollar that you pay goes, and it is the law. It is a law passed by this parliament that every single dollar going into that fund has to be accounted for for emergency services. When was that law introduced? Of course, under the previous Liberal government. It was ministers, including the former member for Davenport Iain Evans, who introduced it to cabinet and said in his cabinet submission:

... everyone in the community has the right to expect access to affordable services (universal access) for the protection of life, property and the environment, and everyone has a responsibility to make a reasonable contribution towards the cost of doing so.

We know that not just South Australia has the ESL now; there are similar levies in place in Victoria, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania, funding those emergency services, the equipment and the staff we need to protect ourselves. I think it is very important to note a couple of other things about the emergency services levy that are in place in South Australia.

The first point is that we have protected pensioners and low income earners who still get huge discounts on the levy and have been protected from rises in recent years. A pensioner in an average home in Adelaide pays less than one dollar a week to be covered for the case of fire and emergencies if they own their home. As well as that, people in country areas of South Australia get massive discounts on their emergency services levy to make sure that country tax dollars do not subsidise the city services, given that country fire services are cheaper because of the large number of volunteers who are in place in the country.

So there are those protections in place in the law. This is a law that was passed by the previous Liberal government and I do think it is sad that it gets such a bad rap compared with other

taxes. There are Facebook groups out there with people starting campaigns to say, 'I am not going to pay my emergency services levy.'

There is a guy who has been campaigning on this for some time who has clearly admitted that he has the ability to pay his levy, but he refuses and equates it somehow to the Boston Tea Party. I do not think he is leading some sort of moral crusade; I think he is short-changing the people who might one day save his life and save his family's life, because that is where the dollars that he is withdrawing would go.

When you compare it with all the other taxes that people pay, it is actually quite small. For every \$100 a South Australian would pay on the emergency services levy, a South Australian would pay approximately \$10,000 in other taxes across income tax, across stamp duties, GST and a whole range of other things. It might not be as obvious because you do not have to pay a physical bill that comes in the letterbox, but there are a lot of other taxes, and those other taxes are not defined in a particular fund and you do not have certainty as to the good causes that they are going to.

In terms of the remissions this motion talks about in particular, they were not brought in immediately when the bill came in but afterwards. It was a sweetener brought in by the then Olsen government after the sale of ETSA, which of course we have been talking about this week, and it is in the number of the reasons we are dealing with significant issues in our electricity system at the moment. When they flogged it off after they lied to people at the election, they brought in a sweetener for the emergency services levy.

We would have loved to have kept that going for everybody, but we were unable to do so after there were massive cuts from the federal government in that disastrous 2014 budget from then prime minister Tony Abbott—remember him?—and then Joe Hockey—remember him? Those cuts, particularly to health services, are still there; they have not been reversed by the commonwealth government. We are still short-changed considerably compared with what was then a bipartisan agreement for health reform under the previous federal government that was signed up by Liberal and Labor states and territories.

We have had to take action to try to address that because otherwise it would have meant very significant cuts to hospital services, and we did not want to go down that path. We were not able to keep those discounts for everybody, but we have certainly kept them in terms of pensioners and low income earners, and at the moment they are only paying less than \$1 a week for the ESL. Those opposite say, 'We will bring back those remissions.' Let me state this very clearly now: if there were to be a future Liberal government, you watch, those remissions would never ever come back because they have no plan to work out where the money would come from to put them in.

This is a party that has no plan for any of the funding commitments they have made. They were criticised very fairly at the last election for having no policies whatsoever, and they have clearly decided, 'Oh, we're going to announce some policies now,' although they have not said how they are going to pay for any of them. They have not said one word about how they are going to pay for any of these promises. Bringing the remissions back, how are you going to pay for that? Turning on the Port Augusta coal-fired power station, how are you going to pay for that? Buying land off the University of Adelaide to set up a new national park in the southern suburbs, how are you going to pay for that?

With all these things, there are no plans for how they would pay for them by the party that says that they are economically responsible. Clearly, we know what would happen—that is, much like Tony Abbott, if there were to be a future Liberal government, the only way they would ever be able to meet any of those commitments would be very significant cuts to essential services, and that would be very disappointing to see. I think that one of the cuts could be that they bring in remissions by cutting more out of emergency services operations, and that would be disastrous for our state, particularly for the regional areas in our state.

I think this is a tax that does not deserve the bad reputation it has had. I am willing to stand up for Iain Evans and those people who brought it in back in the 1990s because it is a good way of funding those services. Tying it to property is a reasonable request in the circumstances, and having protections there for low income earners, such as pensioners and people in the country, is fair as

well. I would want to make sure that if my house or my home was in danger we had the services that are available by those emergency services to provide the coverage we need, so I oppose this motion.

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (16:19): I rise to support the motion moved by the member for Chaffey:

That this house—

- (a) condemns the state government for removing the emergency services levy remissions and then further increasing the levy; and
- (b) acknowledges the impact of the levy increase, particularly on sport and recreation clubs and organisations, which are already battling the high cost of utilities.

Like the member for Kaurna, I want to pay tribute to the many emergency services workers in our community who quite often are out in horrendous conditions saving properties and reducing further harm to the environment, or assets owned by persons, the state government or the commonwealth. The savings could never be measured. I want to come to the ESL and make a few points. I guess the main point is around the untruths that have been expressed about why this state government needed to take away that remission.

The Treasurer said the underlying rationale for his original move to scrap the longstanding 50 per cent ESL remission is, 'I need to make sure I've got enough money as possible in place to fund our healthcare system,' due to cuts by the federal government. I thought I would do a bit of research on this. On 24 May 2016, Matthew Abraham and David Bevan had the Treasurer on their program. Abraham said:

I just have a few lingering questions about the emergency services levy and listening to your explanations on television, on radio, and Ian's program, do you think it's just about time you just abandoned this argument that it was about emergency services.

Is the emergency services levy is a response to health cuts made by the commonwealth government? Matthew Abraham and David Bevan decided to put ABC's Fact Check over the comments made by the Treasurer. When you do that, you can see that there have been no cuts to health. Budget documents released through the Coalition's term show health spending increasing above the pace of inflation and population growth year on year in 2013-14 and 2014-15. Spending on health was projected to increase significantly above CPI and population growth in 2015-16.

In actual fact, when you look at how much extra spending is being received from the federal government, you can see that the federal investment in South Australian hospitals and schools over the next four years—this was back in 2014, when it was first introduced—increases by 34 per cent and 27 per cent, adding an additional \$608 million. On top of that, we have unbudgeted GST windfalls. In fact, over the four years from 2013-14 to 2016-17, South Australia was forecast to receive \$1.3 billion more in GST revenue than the forecast in federal Labor's last budget from Wayne Swan and Penny Wong.

Of course, the state Liberals oppose the Labor government's massive increase to the emergency services levy and have made a commitment for the 2018 election that we will reverse these savage hikes if elected. Labor's hikes to the ESL are a land tax on the family home, raising \$90 million per year from South Australian households, basically to plug their massive budget deficit. What people forget or do not realise is that the hikes also include a 33 per cent increase to all motor vehicle registration. It is not just on the land tax; it is actually on vehicle registration as well. Of course, by reinstating these remission payments, the average household will save \$167 on their ESL bill.

Basically, Labor cannot manage their own budget, so they are using any means possible to plug their own. When they say that every dollar is spent on emergency services, of course that is true, but this extra revenue means that they have taken the 50 per cent remission back into general revenue. What used to happen is the ESL funded half of the ESL budget and general revenue made up the other half. Now they have removed the general revenue part and slugged the South Australian people for that other half, which I would not mind so much if we were to go to a user pays system and if that was applied equally over all services in South Australia.

Of course, the main one would be public transport, which is subsidised to a very huge degree and benefits—you guessed it—those living in metropolitan Adelaide. In a state that is already one of

the highest taxed states in the country, with some of the highest utility prices in the country, it is no wonder we also have the highest unemployment rate in the country. If these guys cannot start working this stuff out, we are going to continue on a downward spiral.

The other people I think really need to be thanked are employers who release their employees to undertake emergency services duties in our community. It is a cost on their business, which many of them have to absorb. Not every emergency service worker is an employee of the state government, and I thank those people who are working for private businesses or companies for their commitment to our great state, as well as their employers for releasing them to do the most in our region.

In closing, I want to talk about how much is actually taken out of the South-East—in fact, my electorate. The City of Mount Gambier pays \$2 million per year to the emergency services levy, and the District Council of Grant pays \$674,000. So, every year, my community are putting in \$2.6 million for emergency services, and I can tell you that we would definitely not get that back as a dividend into those services. You put that cost on the NRM levy, on water and on the high price of electricity, and it is little wonder that people in regional areas are struggling with day-to-day bills. I commend this motion to the house, and I condemn this state government.

Mr TARZIA (Hartley) (16:28): I also move that this house condemns the state government for removing the emergency services levy remissions and then further increasing the levy, and also acknowledges the impact of the levy increase, particularly on sport and recreation clubs and organisations that are already battling the high cost of utilities. Like my learned colleague before me, I have a number of great sport and recreation clubs in my electorate, and the leaders of these clubs are absolute champions of our community.

These clubs are the backbone of our community and do such a great job in not only keeping the fabric of society maintained and on track but also making sure that our children, who are coming through these clubs, are fit and have things to do on the weekend and are engaged in our society and in our community. It is very disappointing to see these clubs hit with these ESL increases, because ultimately, as we have heard, if their fees and charges go up, they have to cover these costs somehow. Unfortunately, what we see is that the consumer—in this case, our volunteers and our members—are the people who have to make up this shortfall.

In terms of the emergency services levy, we know that it helps to fund emergency services across South Australia, and money received in payment of the ESL is paid into the Community Emergency Services Fund, or the fund for the provision of these emergency services. RevenueSA obviously administers the fixed property component of the ESL, which is a levy on all land in South Australia. We have seen the Labor Party's position since 2014, which has not been a good one, and 2014 was not that long ago.

Deputy Speaker, you may remember, and I certainly remember, the fight that we put in place and how we lobbied so hard for residents in our community, but the Labor position at one stage was to actually axe the discounts for non-concession aged care, and I remember that school bills went up as much as 400 per cent to even 500 per cent in some instances. In 2015, Labor's position was again to adopt a 9 per cent increase, with a reason or an excuse being things like the Sampson Flat bushfire.

Labor thinks it is okay that, every time we have one of these events, we can keep raising the ESL, which is not good enough. In 2016, there was yet another increase, with the excuse being that there needs to be things like an upgrade in safety equipment and further training to some community groups, and also as a cost-recovery mechanism for the Pinery fire. We know, unfortunately, that here in South Australia we are subject to some extreme weather conditions, and what this government has to do is to manage this economic pie much better, which it is not doing at the moment.

All the while, on this side of the chamber the Liberal Party tabled a huge petition (over 1,000 signatures from my area alone) and stood side by side with the community and opposed increases to the ESL and we opposed cuts to services which were ignored by this government for a long time. On this side of the chamber, we have already committed to restoring the ESL remission for South Australians, which will deliver a \$90 million tax cut per year for all South Australians, and it is one way to ensure that we get economic growth—a clear difference between us and the

government. We want to put money back into the pockets of South Australians so that they can invest and so that they can grow the economy, rather than choke the South Australian economy with more and more taxes.

The massive ESL hikes we have seen under this government is an utterly disgraceful act by this government, given that many South Australians, as we have seen, are actually struggling to make ends meet as it is. An increase in the ESL again shows just how out of touch the Premier especially is with South Australians. It is another hit to South Australia's cost of living, which is threatening jobs and the economy by hurting retail turnover, and we have seen yet again that South Australia has the highest rate of unemployment in all of Australia.

This tax does not just hit home owners. Obviously, it is levied on sporting clubs, community organisations as I pointed out, some churches and also independent schools. Last year's ESL rise followed two large increases, which would be rolled back if our party is in government. As I said, we have made a commitment for the 2018 election that I believe would actually lead to an average annual saving per household of about \$150.

The way in which this tax has been treated is certainly one of the reasons why people are struggling in our state, why businesses are sometimes struggling in our state. I think undoubtedly that it is one of the reasons why we have the worst unemployment rate in the nation. We have seen that South Australian families and also households are being hit on a regular basis by what is unfortunately a theme of levies, taxes and charges by this government.

A state Liberal government, if and when we are elected, will return the ESL remission the Premier and Treasurer cruelly removed last year, and we will provide South Australians with much needed tax relief. I commend this motion to the house.

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (16:34): I would like to thank all those members for their support of this motion. I think that what does underlie the impact of the removal of the ESL remission, the impact of the continual increases of the emergency services levy, is the detrimental impact on our communities.

It is having a detrimental impact on the volunteers who risk their lives, and I want to pay homage to all those volunteers, whether it is emergency service volunteers, sporting organisation volunteers or just general volunteers in our communities in today's society who give their time to make this state a better place. At home, they are dealing with their bills. They are paying the extra ESL and extra utilities costs. We are paying the highest power prices of anywhere, and we are paying huge water bills, and that is having an impact on our local grassroots sporting community clubs.

The majority of the time, those community clubs are run by unpaid volunteers, so they have to find ways to pay the bills. To pay the bills, they have to raise membership and raise more money through barbecues and raffles. This is just another impost. This is just another distraction from the game of having a society that should live within its means, and what it is telling us is that the government cannot live within their means. The government have mismanaged the economy to an extent that they continue to hit everyday people in the hip pocket.

I take offence at the member for Kaurana saying that this is a tax that should not be borne by everybody but, rightfully so, it should be borne by the landowners, those people who are driving our economy, the people in the regions of South Australia who are asset rich and finance poor. They are the people who are driving our economy, they are the people who are creating jobs and they are the people who are keeping the wheels in motion. That is why this South Australian Labor government continues to penalise the people who are doing the most for South Australia.

The businesses and the exporters are the wheels of this state's economy. The 176,000 SMEs here in South Australia are struggling to keep their head above water. They are struggling to make this state a great place. Those sporting clubs are the fabric of our communities and give people the out. They give people the respite. Again, they are the ones that are hurting. If we look at regional taxpayers, they are the hardest hit when it comes to the ESL increases. They are the hardest hit when it comes to the ESL remissions that have been removed.

They are the hardest hit because they are the ones, in many cases, that are growing our food and growing our exports. If we look at the statistics relating to wine, food, value-add and our

clean green image, they are the ones that are being penalised and being belted from pillar to post because they are high power and water users. They are employers, so they are paying those increasing taxes, the regulation, and they have the burden of trying to make a buck in today's world. In South Australia, this government continues to belt the people who matter, who actually bring home the fruits for our economy.

Utility increases are one thing, but the NRM increases are just outrageous. I know that now I pay an NRM levy and a water levy, because there are two components to it. There is now a minimum \$200 charge. It was a \$36 charge last year; now it is a \$200 minimum. It is bloody outrageous, and I think that this government continues to penalise the people who are generating wealth, employing people and making an important contribution.

I think the people of South Australia are sick of it, and they are just absolutely fed up to the back teeth with it. I urge all those people to vote with their feet in March 2018 and have a change of government. Let's see if the South Australian Liberals can make this state great again. The South Australian Liberals will reinstate the ESL remissions—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member might like to—

Mr WHETSTONE: Yes, I see the time.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You need to finish your debate.

Mr WHETSTONE: I think the ESL is a burden on taxpayers.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes	18
Noes	22
Majority	4

AYES

Bell, T.S.	Chapman, V.A.	Duluk, S.
Gardner, J.A.W.	Goldsworthy, R.M.	Griffiths, S.P.
Knoll, S.K.	McFetridge, D.	Pederick, A.S.
Pisoni, D.G.	Redmond, I.M.	Sanderson, R.
Speirs, D.	Tarzia, V.A.	Treloar, P.A. (teller)
van Holst Pellekaan, D.C.	Whetstone, T.J.	Wingard, C.

NOES

Bedford, F.E.	Bettison, Z.L.	Bignell, L.W.K.
Brock, G.G.	Caica, P.	Close, S.E.
Cook, N.F.	Digance, A.F.C. (teller)	Gee, J.P.
Hildyard, K.	Hughes, E.J.	Kenyon, T.R.
Key, S.W.	Koutsantonis, A.	Mullighan, S.C.
Odenwalder, L.K.	Piccolo, A.	Rankine, J.M.
Rau, J.R.	Snelling, J.J.	Vlahos, L.A.
Wortley, D.		

PAIRS

Marshall, S.S.	Hamilton-Smith, M.L.J.	Pengilly, M.R.
Weatherill, J.W.	Williams, M.R.	Picton, C.J.

Motion thus negatived.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF PULSES

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (16:44): I move:

That this house—

- (a) notes that 2016 is the International Year of Pulses;
- (b) acknowledges the important contribution of farmers and primary producers to the South Australian economy and society in general; and
- (c) recognises the ongoing reliance on our producers for food security and to grow the state's exports to meet national and international demand.

The reason I put this motion forward today is to acknowledge the important contribution of farmers and primary producers in South Australia—the very people we rely on for our food security.

By way of background, the International Year of Pulses 2016 aims to heighten public awareness of the nutritional benefits of pulses as part of sustainable food production aimed towards food security and nutrition, not to mention protein. The year will create a unique opportunity to encourage connections throughout the food chain that would better utilise pulse-based proteins, further global production of pulses, better utilised crop rotations, and address the challenges in the trade of pulses. So, Deputy Speaker, let's have a little bit of an understanding: what is a pulse?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I was hoping you would say that.

Mr WHETSTONE: Really?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I want to know your favourite pulse.

An honourable member interjecting:

Mr WHETSTONE: Yes, I have a pulse—some would say not—but pulses are also called grain legumes. It is the name given to the edible dried seeds of leguminous plants. Legumes are plants which produce a double-seamed pod containing a single row of seeds. They are quite different from cereals: grain is the seed of a grass plant. In Australia, pulses make up around 12 crops, which include beans, peas, chickpeas—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Garbanzo beans.

Mr WHETSTONE: —and lentils.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Garbanzos.

Mr WHETSTONE: Yes. Pulse crops are one of the most sustainable crops a farmer can grow, with many varieties needing much less water and energy input than grain crops with a comparable nutritional yield. Late last year, it was reported that pulses in many parts of South Australia had been planted to a maximum capacity driven by the global supply shortfall of the lentil. The total area planted to pulses in the state is up 20 per cent on last year, with over 100,000 hectares of lentils sown throughout the state during the 2015 season.

The total area sown to fava beans was up 30 per cent on last year, with chickpeas and vetch plantings also on the rise. It was reported that nearly half the extra area of lentils grown on Eyre Peninsula—what a great place to visit over at Flinders, and even at Edillilie on Eyre Peninsula—is at maximum capacity for the crop. Lentil prices have doubled over the last three to four years as the drought in India shrinks the global supply. Canada, a major global producer of lentils, is struggling to keep up with demand for high quality produce.

To give you an idea, in August last year the price of pulses was around \$990 per tonne, whereas in October 2012 lentils were sold for as little as \$415 per tonne. Growers also capitalised on an above-average season last year across the Mid North and the west of South Australia with lentil plantings increasing by 5 per cent on 2014. Australian pulse growers are set to reap the windfall harvest this year as well. Pulses may not be big on the Australian diet, with nutritionists estimating that one in 20 of us eat enough of them—so it is time to get on with eating pulses—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I eat chickpeas all the time.

Mr WHETSTONE: Yes—but for countries such as India, these ancient grains are a traditional staple. With a predominantly vegetarian population, India accounts for more than 70 per cent of Australia's chickpea exports, particularly red lentils.

A National Australia Bank report estimated domestic production of lentils would surge this season by around 70 per cent, field peas by about 50 per cent, and chickpeas by about one third. It is being reported that some growers have sourced potentially lucrative forward contracts—very, very smart growers are our farmers. Phin Ziebell, an agribusiness specialist in the National Australia Bank, stated:

Prices have exceeded the \$1,200 a tonne for chickpeas and lentils, which is a massive run up in prices when you're talking that you're lucky to get two to three hundred for wheat. A huge opportunity for improved grower returns.

In Australia, per capita, we eat around half the global average of seven kilograms of pulses per year, so you are eating above the average, Deputy Speaker. According to the 2015-16 PIRSA Crop and Pasture Report, pulse yields were severely affected by the hot, dry conditions and were well below average. In 2016-17, the areas with pulse crops are likely to remain average but varied across regions.

In the northern Mallee, it was also noted in the 2015-16 year that it was expected that there would be an increase in the use of chickpeas and other pulse crops in that region, particularly with good early rains. More farmers are becoming confident in growing these crops due to the success of other farmers and pulse trials in the area. We all know how important a good pulse trial is. We know that Australia has climatic diversity to enable us to supply a broad range of these pulse products, but Australian growers, marketers, researchers and industry leaders are demonstrating that they have the drive, the ingenuity and the skills to meet the challenges facing the industry.

The pulse industry's growth is increasingly becoming a key to the future sustainability of the whole Australian grain industry as the strategic importance of pulses within the cereal cropping system in Australia continues to grow. Research has shown that farm systems achieve sustainable benefit from the increased yield and protein content in cereals and oilseed crops that are planted following pulse crops.

Australian pulse production has grown dramatically. In 1990, total production amounted to only 1.3 million tonnes of pulses. By the turn of the century, pulses represented 2.245 million hectares throughout the country, producing around 2.5 million tonnes of grain with a commodity value of over \$675 million and an additional farm system benefit of around \$300 million. The potential for the pulse crop in Australia, assuming all constraints are overcome, is to increase its current size to 4.2 million tonnes with a commodity value of about \$1.504 billion and a farm system benefit of about \$538 million, giving a total of over \$2 billion.

The pulse industry has become more and more important to the national economy. It is becoming more and more important in providing diversity within our grain-growing farming enterprises. Pulses in South Australia and Australia overall are exported across the world. The value of Australian pulse exports increased by around \$300 million in 2015 driven by the rampant international demand. The price of pulses has seen farmers across Australia allocating more land to lentils, chickpeas and beans with the total planting area up by 20 per cent on 2014.

Despite the export value of pulses such as lentils doubling since 2011, domestic consumption of grains is in reverse. According to the Grains and Legumes Nutrition Council, average serves of core grain foods have dropped by almost one-third while legume and pulse consumption remains a minor part of Australian diets. Only 4.5 per cent of people regularly include legumes such as lentils, chickpeas or beans as part of their diet. A national survey on nutrition and physical activity conducted by the Grains and Legumes Nutrition Council tells us that pulses are important.

It has been a very good season generally for our dryland farmers with South Australia heading towards an eighth consecutive above-average crop with a 2016-17 estimate of 8.9 million tonnes worth an estimated \$1.8 billion to the farm gate. We know about 85 per cent of South Australia's grain is exported around the world to locations including Indonesia, China, Vietnam, India and Egypt, and the grains industry contributed about \$4.6 billion to gross food revenue in 2014. It is an absolute pleasure to introduce the International Year of Pulses motion to the house.

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (16:54): On 20 December 2013, the United Nations General Assembly voted unanimously to declare 2016 as International Year of Pulses, providing an opportunity to showcase pulses, such as chickpeas, dry beans, lentils and peas, and to celebrate their role in feeding the world. The South Australian government supports the International Year of Pulses.

Pulses are an important food, eaten in place of meat as a protein source in diets in many parts of the world. In this year of the pulse, it is hoped that more Australians will recognise the health benefits of including more pulses in their diets. I know that many in our South Australian Indian community value pulses as part of their daily diet and their culinary skills deliver some very tasty, nutritional dishes. Mr Simon Bryant, who is one of the state governments premium food and wine ambassadors, is also the Australian ambassador of International Year of Pulses.

In recent decades, our farmers have recognised the value of pulses in their farming systems. Pulse crops are a profitable component to sustainable crop production systems. Their benefits include fixing nitrogen, providing a disease break for cereals and enabling controlling of grass weeds. In 2014-15, South Australia produced nearly half a million tonnes of pulses, with a farmgate value of \$343 million, which contributed \$263 million to our record level of South Australian food and wine exports of \$5.2 billion.

Lentils are now the largest pulse crop grown in South Australia at around 150,000 tonnes, with a farmgate value of \$139 million and exports valued at \$152 million. South Australia is now the largest lentil growing state in Australia, producing more than half of Australia's lentils. About three-quarters of South Australian lentils are grown on the Yorke Peninsula. The International Year of Pulses recognises the importance of pulses as a nutritious food and their importance to our farming systems. It is interesting that the International Year of Pulses in Australia has seen quite a bit of activity. There was a photo and video competition to showcase Australian pulse grower stories, with the prize being a drone valued at \$2000.

There was an Australian Pulse Conference. In January, there were pulse feasts. There has been a pulse social media campaign. Then there is the Australian Signature Pulse Dish Recipe Competition. The winner of that competition produced a dish, with the ingredients being quinoa, black lentil and roasted barley salad with chickpeas, cauliflower, brussels sprouts and pomegranate in an apple cider vinegar. More recipes that can be made with South Australian pulses can be found on the Pulse Australia International Year of Pulses website, www.pulseaus.com.au.

Mr Whetstone: You need to write a cookbook.

Ms WORTLEY: They are producing a cookbook, too, I believe. It has not yet been produced but, according to the website—

Mr Whetstone: Get in early—write one first.

Ms WORTLEY: I thank the member for Chaffey for alerting this house to the International Year of Pulses and acknowledge the importance of the pulse to this state.

Sitting extended beyond 17:00 on motion of Hon. L.W.K. Bignell.

Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (16:58): I rise today to make a contribution to the debate and support the member for Chaffey in his motion, which reads:

That this house—

- (a) notes that 2016 is the International Year of Pulses;
- (b) acknowledges the important contribution of farmers and primary producers to the South Australian economy and society in general; and
- (c) recognises the ongoing reliance on our producers for food security and to grow the state's exports to meet national and international demand.

What an excellent motion, and I can inform the house that for 30 years as an active farmer I was also an active grower of pulses.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Which ones? Name them.

Mr TRELOAR: I am coming to that. You will just have to bear with me for the next 10 minutes.

Ms Digance: You're too eager.

Mr TRELOAR: That's right.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I want to know everything about your pulses.

Mr TRELOAR: I was active for 30 years and, by default, I am still a grower of pulses on Eyre Peninsula in South Australia.

Mr Whetstone: At Edillilie.

Mr TRELOAR: At Edillilie, thank you, member for Chaffey. The term 'pulse' is used by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and reserved for crops harvested solely for their dry seeds. In other words, they are legume crops, but not all legume crops are pulses. Pulses particularly have the pod that is harvested. This excludes green beans and green peas, which are considered vegetable crops. Also excluded are seeds that are mainly grown for oil extraction, such as soybeans and peanuts, and seeds that are used exclusively for sowing forage, as in clovers and lucerne. However, in common usage these distinctions are not always clearly made, and many of the right varieties used for dried pulses are also used for green vegetables, with their beans in pods while quite young.

In relation to the Australian pulse industry, pulses are a relative newcomer to Australian cropping systems. They have become very important in the last 40 or 50 years, but in the whole scheme of things it has only been in the last generation or so. Commercial production began in Kingaroy, Queensland, with the production of navy beans to help feed the US troops nutritious and familiar food while they were based in Queensland during World War II. It is better than Spam, I suppose.

According to Bean Growers Australia, the first navy bean trials took place in the 1940s. Prior to this time, many pulse crops were simply used as green manure, so they were turned into the soil to add benefit to the soil, but they were also used as fodder crops because of the beneficial effect these crops have on the soil and their value as livestock feed. Since then, the industry has grown significantly, and pulses are being increasingly recognised for their role in sustainable and profitable production systems.

While pulses are grown in all three major cropping regions in Australia, specific crops are better adapted to some regions. The first fully domesticated Australian sweet lupin was developed in the late 1960s in Western Australia. Chick peas were first grown commercially near Goondiwindi, Queensland, in the early 1970s, and mung beans were also grown in Queensland in the 1970s. Commercial production of the fava bean began in South Australia in the early 1980s, and the lentil industry began in Victoria in the early 1990s. We have already heard today that now South Australia is the largest grower of lentils in the country.

Nationally, pulses average just under 10 per cent of the total area planted to crop; however, in favourable production areas they can occupy as much as 25 per cent of the total crop area. When grown in rotation with cereals and oilseeds, pulses provide good returns, improve soil condition, provide a break from important cereal diseases and reduce costs through their ability to fix atmospheric nitrogen for their own use, contributing additional nutrients to the follow-up crop. That is a really good summary of the real benefits of legumes.

Essentially they can extract nitrogen from the atmosphere, store it in the plant and, via their root system on which is contained legume nodules, nitrogen which it has extracted from the atmosphere is deposited in the soil for an improvement in fertility and used by later crops. It is an extraordinary plant. We also have the pod and the seed that are harvested, and sometimes used for human consumption in Australia. I have to say that most of the use still is for stockfeed, particularly in high-density stocking situations.

In 1990, total production amounted to only 1.3 million tonnes of pulses in Australia. The highest level of production to date occurred in 2005-06, and I suspect that that may be surpassed this year because certainly around Australia the season is looking very favourable, apart from those

areas that have become too wet. In 2005-06, Australian growers produced over 2.5 million tonnes of pulse grains; in 2015, 1.8 million hectares of pulse crops produced 2.2 million tonnes of grain, worth \$1.2 billion worth of exports.

The potential for pulse crops in Australia, assuming all constraints are overcome, is to increase its current size to 4.2 million tonnes, with a commodity value of \$1½ billion and a farm system benefit of \$538 million, and it is that farm system benefit that farmers really look to use. In their own right, they are sometimes not profitable, but when you factor in the benefit of an entire crop rotation, which might also include cereal crops like wheat, barley or oats, and canola is often in the rotation these days, and if you do the gross margins over the entire rotation, including the pulse crop and the benefits of the nitrogen it adds, the opportunity to grass free and provide a break from the cereals, the benefits certainly are there.

Legumes are very soil specific. Deputy Speaker, you were wondering about my experience with grain legumes. What we have discovered in my time is that grain legumes are very soil specific, and by that I mean that the lupins we grow very much prefer an acidic soil—often a lighter acidic soil commonly found in the Western Australian wheat belt, but also found in South Australia in the Upper South-East and areas of Eyre Peninsula. For the most part, most of my time was spent growing lupins. In more recent times, peas and lentils have been introduced into the softer Mallee loams, which are often alkaline with a bit of free lime in them, and that seems to be suited to the production of both peas and lentils.

Fava beans are an important crop through the Mid North, some of Yorke Peninsula, some of the Lower South-East and the bottom part of Eyre Peninsula. This is because they prefer a higher rainfall and those heavier clay soils—often alkaline, but not necessarily. Sometimes in paddocks you will have two or three different soil types, and farmers, out of necessity, will often have two varieties of legume crops within one paddock just to match the soil types because they are quite specific and demand those soil types.

Pulses have a real benefit. They are high in protein and fibre and low in fat so they certainly provide a very healthy additive to the general diet of Australians. Pulses are also high in levels of minerals (for example, zinc, iron, phosphate and folate) and many of the B vitamins are found in good store in pulses. The benefits are great, not just to the cropping system but also to the consumer, and also as a value-added product into feedlot situations.

One of my great hopes is that one day, in my part of the world on Eyre Peninsula, we can actually link the land and the sea together. I have this idea that maybe one day we can sustain some of our sea-based aquaculture industries by providing protein that we source from annual crops. We are better placed to do it in South Australia, and particularly on Eyre Peninsula, where we have the ability to grow pulse crops—particularly lupins, beans, lentils and peas, which are high in protein and low in fat—and supplement the aquaculture industry, much of which is constrained by the availability of a food chain.

I know there has been a lot of work done on that over recent years with limited success but I remain hopeful because I think that is the ultimate value-adding opportunity for us. In closing, I would like to congratulate the member for Chaffey for bringing this excellent motion to the house. It is important that we recognise the importance of pulses in our farming systems and the importance of agriculture to the state and national economy.

Interestingly, way back in 2002 when I travelled as a Nuffield Scholar through Europe and North America, I was intrigued to find that in the UK, for example, and on the Canadian Prairies, in totally different environments to those we are used to in South Australia and to those I had been farming for all those years, the crop types were the same. In South Australia, we were growing wheat, barley, canola and pulses. On the Canadian Prairies, they were growing wheat, barley, canola and pulses.

In the UK, I visited a farm in Essex. Their rainfall was 19 inches, and it was the driest farm in the UK. It would be a well-watered farm in South Australia if the rainfall was 19 inches. There he grew wheat, barley, oilseed rape (which is what we know as canola) and fava beans. The crops adapt and the cropping systems that have evolved over the last few decades have proved successful

right around the world. Through the efforts of our farmers worldwide, we are now able to easily feed a growing world population.

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (17:09): I would like to thank the member for Torrens and of course the member for Flinders for their contributions on the Year of Pulses. What I did not mention in my contribution was that I used to grow pulses. I used to grow pulses in my vineyard, but for a very different reason: not to eat but for soil conditioning and also putting nitrogen back into the soil. It was also to bring the vineyard up to a higher health level. They do have all sorts of benefits.

More importantly, we pay homage to the Year of Pulses. We also recognise the great efforts of our farming communities. They are growing pulses in a much more modern way at the moment. We have new R&D, and we have different methods of putting them into the ground and of harvesting them. The member for Colton just reminded me not to forget to mention the bees for pollination. That is critically important. As I think the member for Flinders has said, there are new varieties now, self-pollinating varieties that are the way of the world.

Again, we want to acknowledge the farmers who put their businesses and their finances on the line every year when they plant and pray for the gods to help them. These farmers allow politicians like me, like everyone in this place, to stand up and talk about the contribution of our farming community to the economy, their contribution to growing clean, green food. We need to remember that pulses are the way of the future because the upcoming middle class, particularly in Asia, now has a much higher demand for protein, which pulses give them. Without further ado, the Year of Pulses is 2016, and I was delighted to bring this motion to the house.

Motion carried.

KESAB ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS

Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (17:11): I move:

That this house—

- (a) congratulates KESAB environmental solutions on their 50th anniversary in 2016;
- (b) acknowledges KESAB received the United Nations Association of Australia Environmental Sustainability Education Award for 2015;
- (c) notes KESAB's continued leadership as a world-class NGO in the environmental sustainability sector; and
- (d) recognises that KESAB plays a vital environmental education role across South Australia, in our schools, towns and communities.

KESAB has reached its 50th anniversary this year. As a leading environmental NGO, I believe it is worth highlighting their significant work in South Australia in educating the community about the importance of sustainability, waste reduction and water conservation, amongst the many other environmental initiatives they undertake. I am old enough to remember the Keep South Australia Beautiful advertising campaign that was undertaken some decades ago.

The Hon. P. Caica: You don't look it.

Mr TRELOAR: Thanks, member for Colton, you are very kind. I am blushing. You might remember it also—just. It was a specifically South Australian campaign, and I think that as a result of that we led the country in many ways in regard to our recycling efforts. Certainly, that is true with regard to bottles and cans, and that has been a fantastic success story. Up until very recently at least, you could drive in many other states in this country and see bottles and cans littering the side of the road.

Never has that been a problem in South Australia since they introduced the 5¢ and then 10¢ deposit for bottles and cans to be returned and recycled. It is a real success story. There was an anti-litter campaign at the same time. We always remember our time at school doing emu parades across the back oval. There always seemed to be ample litter to pick up. It was a punishment in a way, but in a funny sort of way the importance of not littering, and the untidiness of litter, was drilled into us, and I think KESAB played a big part in that at that time.

KESAB environmental solutions, otherwise known as Keep South Australia Beautiful Incorporated, is South Australia's peak NGO environmental sustainability educator, and we have just been talking about education. The association has been operating since 1966 and is a founding member of KABN, which was founded in 1972. They have been involved now for 50 years in educating, and a lot of that has been through schools and with government.

KESAB partners with government, councils, corporate sectors and community, creating a broad scope of environmental information, resources, litter and waste audit programs, all encouraging community participation through action. Litter campaigns, recycling and resource recovery education are supported by skilled and experienced staff in partnership with schools, councils and community. Outcomes in recent years show that South Australia has achieved significant recycling rates and waste diversion.

In fact, we are rated as the best in Australia, and KESAB has played an important part from the simple beginning of the organisation. I think that it is actually more than an important part: it has been critical in making our mindset change towards the recycling of our waste. KESAB programs include Clean Site (building and construction), Litter Less and Wipe out Waste (which is a school program), PALYA Clean Communities in remote Indigenous lands, council waste education, accredited council and business waste audits, Road Watch and Please Butt It campaign.

That seems a bit old-fashioned these days. I do not know that many people smoke anymore, but I am sure that occasionally cigarette butts are still thrown out of the window and on the street. KESAB partners with KABN in Sustainable Communities, otherwise known as Tidy Towns. A lot of us in country areas, at least, have had our towns involved in Tidy Towns competitions, and that has been a real feather in the cap for those sometimes really quite small communities which are able to win awards in the Tidy Towns competition. The efforts are also to achieve sustainable cities and clean beaches. These are important initiatives recognising community effort and achievement.

Social research is important to KESAB, allowing facilitation of targeted campaigns or programs, including Butt Free Australia, Clean Marine and litter reduction and behavioural change campaigns. Research through Australia's only litter count, KESAB Litter Index, has been conducted for over 20 years. Information sets a benchmark for capturing data, which is carefully analysed to underpin litter reduction campaigns. I suspect that, with such a good set of data, we are seeing very positive trends and measurable trends over the last 20 years.

KESAB works with over 110 recycling depots in South Australia which, as I mentioned earlier, was the first state to regulate container deposit legislation way back in 1978, which, in fact, coincided with me buying six packs. I actually had a place to take the empties, which was kind of nice, really.

The Hon. S.W. Key: On a budget.

Mr TRELOAR: That's right, I was on a budget. Every week I took my bottles back until my brother started taking the empty bottles and preparing home brew, and we no longer had the benefit of the deposit coming back into the family funds. Anyway, it was all a lot of fun. I distinctly—

An honourable member interjecting:

Mr TRELOAR: It was worth it. Have you ever noticed that anybody who ever makes their own booze thinks it's fantastic, don't they? I distinctly remember my brother putting down boxes of home brew and having hessian bags draped over the crates, over the bottles, to contain the glass because invariably there would be some explosions—but of course he swept it up in line with the KESAB theme. He swept it up dutifully and recycled it. I was distracted, Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You were reminiscing.

Mr TRELOAR: I was reminiscing, but I will continue. The success of the container deposit legislation allows KESAB to focus on other litter pollution, including takeaway packaging, illegal dumping and cigarette butt litter. If you combine these types of litter, that makes up about 65 per cent to 70 per cent of all litter counted.

I do believe that illegal dumping is actually becoming more of a problem, and KESAB would be aware of this. As charges increase at local deposit sites, people are less inclined to pay them and more inclined to take a ute load or a trailer load out on the road, particularly in country areas, and

just drop it off in the scrub. Sadly, we are seeing more and more of this, although there has been legislation in this place in the last couple of months looking to combat that.

The KESAB education staff work with over 1,000 schools and 40 councils to deliver waste education, composting sessions and community waste tours, embracing e-waste, green and organics, and construction-demolition diversion from landfill. Of course, e-waste is a growing problem as well. There is any number of old mobile phones. We recycle them. I do not exactly know what they do with them, but we certainly have the opportunity to recycle mobile phones and old computers.

KESAB also operates two education centres, showcasing environmental sustainability and best practice to over 4,000 students and communities each year. The KESAB family of community teachers and students contributes an estimated 375,000 hours of voluntary work valued at \$12 million per annum towards environmental sustainability. It is a mighty organisation. They have done some wonderful things in the last 50 years. I am a great supporter of all their efforts. I think South Australia has benefited immensely from the introduction of the KESAB programs through all of their organisations and areas of interest. With that, I will congratulate, again, KESAB on reaching their 50th anniversary in South Australia in 2016. I commend the motion.

The Hon. S.W. KEY (Ashford) (17:21): I rise to indicate my strong support for this motion and congratulate KESAB environmental solutions on their 50th anniversary. I promise not to go back too much into history but I was so inspired by the member for Flinders' reminiscences that I should say that, when I look back at my childhood, my father and grandfather, in particular, were always very keen on making sure that we disposed of our waste in a very responsible way. Interestingly, my father was very unhappy about burning everything in the incinerator, which was also something that families would do. I think most backyards would have an incinerator and all the paper waste would go in there.

There would be paper, particularly old newspapers, made into logs to put into the barbecue: I do not know exactly how they were made. But we were all very much trained to look after all of our waste. There was another set of waste that always went to the Scouts, so there was a whole series of things that we had to collect. I think that was a very good foundation. I think you know you are getting old when you start doing those things as well. You turn off the lights that do not need to be on, and all the things that your parents used to do that you found annoying are now things that you do.

I am a very keen recycler, and I find it a really interesting concept. I am very proud to say that different constituents in Ashford were very concerned about the disposal of e-waste, and the very good minister at the time (the member for Colton) received some deputations from different members in the community and made sure that, certainly in the western suburbs, we had a whole process for e-waste. As people know, particularly with TVs changing over to the screens that we have now, there was a need to work out what in the hell we do with all this stuff, as well as computers. I still have a video player, and I have a DVD player as well. A lot of people wanted to trade up into the more recent technologies.

KESAB started in 1966, and it has become a leader in creating sustainable communities through education, action and participation. They have done this very successfully through a combination of grassroots activity and a strong partnership approach. KESAB have been there to change our behaviour. They have inspired and encouraged South Australians to think more about their environment, to live a more sustainable life and to reduce waste precisely because they understand that this work requires proactive engagement with the community.

Certainly in the electorate of Ashford, we have had on many occasions education sessions and assistance from KESAB staff and the department, who make sure that people get the best information they can. I understand that, outside of Ashford, KESAB's programs involve approximately 300 towns and communities, 800 school and community groups, 100 Road Watch groups, thousands of volunteers, 45 councils and more than 50 corporations and businesses. It is estimated that community members, teachers and students who participate in the programs contribute around 375,000 hours of voluntary work each year, valued at something like \$12 million.

These are really impressive figures. I suspect that, despite the fact that they are the figures that we are given, they probably underestimate the work that actually happens. One of KESAB's real

success stories in engaging and energising the communities is the Sustainable Communities Awards, South Australia's longest and largest ongoing community environmental initiative. I am proud to say that I have had the opportunity to represent various ministers in giving out the awards both at a local level and in some of the regional communities.

The Sustainable Communities project is all about telling a community story, getting people together to help their local towns, schools and businesses and be proud of what they have achieved. The KESAB Sustainable Communities started, as we have been told by the member for Flinders, as Tidy Towns in 1978 to create incentives for communities throughout South Australia and to actively and innovatively tackle local litter problems. Fifty-eight towns entered the inaugural event, and by the late nineties over 300 towns were taking part and it had truly become an iconic South Australian environmental education and action program.

In 2009, the program was rebranded as Sustainable Communities to broaden the focus to not only include litter but also waste, water, education, innovation, biodiversity, conservation and energy. It has also been expanded to include activities undertaken by communities, schools, businesses and councils across the state. The categories now include appearance, amenities and facilities; community action and partnerships; environmental sustainability; health and wellbeing; heritage and culture; leadership and youth activities; litter prevention, waste management and resource recovery; and natural environment. It has always retained a strong community focus.

The program is all about getting people together to contribute to a better place to live, work and visit. Over the years, it has involved hundreds of regional people to protect their local environment, enhance their towns, embrace sustainability and showcase their initiatives. As I mentioned earlier, some of the results have been generated by the countless hours of volunteer time and the enormous sense of pride in respective local communities.

Having the pleasure of being on the Natural Resources Committee in this place, we have seen and heard from people in their locations about how important this initiative is. I have been really impressed by the enthusiasm and continuity of many people in the community for the different work under the umbrella of KESAB. Thank you to KESAB for encouraging and motivating South Australians to make real and lasting changes in the community and congratulations again on achieving this important milestone.

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (17:29): I will just make a very brief contribution because I know others want to contribute. I would like to support the motion moved by the member for Flinders. KESAB—Keep South Australia Beautiful, what a great initiative. It has played an important role over 50 years and it continues to play an important role, particularly in the electorate of Chaffey.

Founded in 1966, KESAB environmental solutions is a leader in creating sustainable communities through education, action and participation. We have to acknowledge the volunteers because they are what drive KESAB. The people are proud community members who want their town or community to look tidy, to be beautiful and to be litter free. People become quite obsessive when it comes to that occupation—a 'therapeutic occupation' I call it because it is a great contribution.

The mission statement of KESAB is, 'To inspire the South Australian community to restore, preserve and improve our environment through active participation.' The scope of behavioural change in education programs really explains it. It is about what was and what we see today, and what has been achieved through the KESAB programs over those 50 years is a credit to South Australia. Each year, KESAB is involved in community participation and environmental improvement activities, accounting for around 700,000-person hours valued at about \$30 million. Its programs involve about 300 towns and communities across the state, 800 schools and community groups, 100 Road Watch groups, thousands of volunteers, 45 local councils, more than 50 corporations and businesses, and the state and federal governments.

The Riverland has been very successful at the Keeping South Australia Beautiful Sustainable Communities awards, with Loxton, Waikerie and Barmera recognised. Waikerie was named the overall winner in 2010. In 2014, Waikerie also took home the best community award in the Murray region and the recycling award. These fantastic awards recognise the community's commitment to projects within their towns, including the RV dump points and rest areas, Pioneer Park and the shared

shed facility. They are recognised for their water efficiency programs, and their use of solar power at schools, farms and the town ferries. They also won a number of tidiest street awards.

Ahead of the KESAB judging, the Loxton Waikerie council collected domestic refuse and garden waste free of charge at its Waikerie and Loxton waste disposal depots. Barmera took out the Best Medium Town in the 2015 KESAB Sustainable Communities awards, so I would like to pay homage to those 700,000-person hours that South Australians engage in. Be proud of your town, South Australia. Keep it tidy, keep it beautiful and keep the litter off our streets.

The Hon. P. CAICA (Colton) (17:33): For the purposes of *Hansard*, I am going to speak very quickly. I am going to take a leaf out of the book of the member for Morphett, but feel safe in the knowledge that I do have notes. So, here we go.

I rise to indicate my support for this motion. I also congratulate the member for Flinders on bringing it to the house but, more importantly, I congratulate KESAB on 50 years of effective and worthwhile programs. KESAB works in partnership with students, community, council, environmental and waste offices, and the waste industry sector to deliver a range of programs linked to achieving the South Australian target of zero waste. A fundamental aspect of all KESAB's activities is changing behaviour through increasing awareness and understanding and, my word, they do a good job in this regard.

The scope of behavioural change and education programs, combined with trained and skilled project managers, and qualified teaching staff, positions KESAB amongst the most respected and capable NGO environmental organisations in Australia. In fact, much of KESAB's work is groundbreaking and is studied and emulated around the world.

This exceptional work has contributed to South Australia having some of the world's best recycling rates. The member for Flinders talked about the deposit container legislation and how that created over 100 recycling depots. For the life of me, I can still not understand why some states around Australia are reluctant to have a look at what we have been able to achieve here and emulate what we have been able to achieve here, because it works.

KESAB launched its very first anti-litter campaign, as the member for Ashford said, in 1966, and it is inspiring to see what has grown from these humble beginnings. Today, KESAB's programs involve around 25,000 volunteers, as we have heard, and participants every year who contribute around 375,000 hours toward these activities.

KESAB education staff work with over 1,000 schools and 40 councils to deliver waste education, composting sessions and community waste tours embracing e-waste, green and organics and construction demolition diversion from landfill. The range of programs and activities that KESAB runs is vast, but I would like to outline just a few of them today.

Perhaps one of the better-known programs is Wipe Out Waste where the entire school community gets involved to set up systems that will reduce waste and recover resources and encourage people to adopt more sustainable behaviour. I am sure members here have schools within their community that are involved with the Wipe Out Waste program. This program offers professional development sessions, bin material audits and a range of educational resources to support waste management.

KESAB also operates two education centres showcasing environmental sustainability best practice. One of these is the Wingfield Education Centre that I have attended on numerous occasions that applies interactive learning experience on site at the Wingfield waste precinct and hosts around 4,000 students and community members every year. In addition to this, NRM Education supports early learning centres, schools, TAFEs and universities that are interested in exploring sustainability in their learning programs and management practices. NRM Education staff work with schools across three key initiatives:

- Engaging with Nature—a hands-on program aimed at engaging young people in outdoor environments;
- a range of Youth Voice initiatives; and
- the Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative.

KESAB has also developed Litter Less, an educational resource for primary school teachers and students in partnership with Wrigley's and the Australian Packaging Covenant. The focus of Litter Less is to assist schools in identifying litter issues and then planning and implementing litter reduction and prevention strategies.

KESAB also runs Road Watch, a volunteer, community-based program run in partnership with the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure to address the ongoing problem of roadside litter. Again, talking about our recycling and deposit container legislation, hop over the border into Victoria, drive through to Melbourne and have a look at the difference on the side of the road with respect to what litter exists there compared to what does not exist here in South Australia. Road Watch is a great volunteer program that is flexible and involves no cost to participants. Groups adopt a minimum of two kilometres of roadway and usually undertake four clean-ups a year, and KESAB provides the necessary equipment including safety gear.

Finally, KESAB also runs the successful Clean Site program. This is an educational program for construction sites designed to encourage best waste practice including reducing stormwater pollution entering waterways, increasing recycling and resource recovery rates from construction sites and increasing waste diversion from landfill. This illustrates the breadth and reach of KESAB's programs, and it was absolutely wonderful that KESAB received the United Nations Association of Australia 2015 Sustainability Education Award in recognition of its leadership and delivery of world-class sustainability programs. I know everyone here is very pleased and happy about that.

I do not wish to rain on anyone's parade, and I do not intend to, but I want to just say one thing. We have had some massive storms recently. One of the consequences of those storms is the amount of stormwater that goes out into the sea. KESAB have no control over the turbidity of that water and what goes down there in regard to the colour of it, but what we have seen along our beaches are massive amounts of litter that becomes pollution on our beaches coming out through that stormwater system.

It is important now I think for KESAB to work closely with local councils who are responsible for those sections of the beaches to make sure that we have action plans in place to be able to address that litter and pollution that is there on those beaches after these events in such a way that it is done in a timely fashion and not, as a consequence of a high tide, taken back out into the ocean where again it will just sit there for who knows however long. So, I think there is room for improvement.

As good a job as KESAB is doing—and this is no reflection on them at all—you do not rest on your laurels. KESAB has been fantastic, but there is more work to be done, and that involves KESAB in such a way that ensures that each and every one of us understands our responsibility in making sure that litter and waste does not go into our waterways, which subsequently works its way out to the sea.

As I said, I do not want to rain on the parade and I hope that I did not. I congratulate KESAB and I thank them for the programs that I have mentioned. South Australia has achieved, without doubt, the best recycling and waste diversion rates in Australia that rank with anywhere else in the world. Finally, I want to congratulate John Phillips, who has for a long time been the executive officer at KESAB and he does an outstanding job.

I want to congratulate the KESAB board and all the volunteers who contribute to making South Australia a shining example of how to manage litter and waste in our state for the rest of Australia and the rest of the world. I sincerely commend KESAB for its contribution to these outstanding results and again congratulate the member for Flinders for bringing this motion to the house.

Mr DULUK (Davenport) (17:40): I also commend the member for Flinders for bringing this motion. I would like to make a few comments of support and, indeed, recognise the outstanding contribution that KESAB has made to South Australia and especially to our environment. I also congratulate them on their 50th anniversary. The exceptional commitment of many staff and volunteers over five decades has seen KESAB evolve from a humble community-based anti-litter campaign to an international player in environmental management.

Since its first anti-litter campaign in 1966, KESAB has conducted many campaigns aimed at reducing the litter stream, including Put It In a Bin, Drop Something Sport, Litter Can Be Lethal, Please Butt It Then Bin It and Litter Kills. In addition to these campaigns to promote community awareness, KESAB has been a leading environmental sustainability educator, running participation programs such as: Clean Site for the building and construction industry; Litter Less and Wipe Out Waste, which are school programs; PALYA Clean Communities to assist remote Indigenous lands; as well as council waste education and business waste audits.

KESAB has played an important role in improving South Australia's environmental sustainability since its beginning. Its exceptional work to increase awareness and understanding in the community is so important. KESAB teaches us about the importance of sustainability, recycling, waste reduction and water conservation. Indeed, this has helped South Australia become a leader in recycling rates and waste diversion in our beautiful nation.

It was very pleasing to see the United Nations Association of Australia recognise KESAB's outstanding contribution at the 2015 World Environment Day Awards. We also recently celebrated World Environment Day. Each year, awards are presented in recognition of innovative and outstanding environmental programs. Last year, KESAB was announced the winner of the sustainability education category for its creative and innovative approach in this area.

In 1978, KESAB commenced one of its most recognisable projects, Tidy Towns. This project was created for South Australian communities to actively and innovatively tackle local problems. It garnered widespread attention and community engagement. Over time, the program has expanded as our understanding and commitment to environmental challenges have grown. In 2009, Tidy Towns was rebranded to Sustainable Communities, with the focus expanding to include not only litter but also waste, water, education and innovation, biodiversity, conservation and energy.

The Sustainable Communities program has helped strengthen the sense of pride and ownership local residents have for their community and has been vital in engaging people to actively make a positive contribution to their local environment. I understand Sustainable Communities is the longest and largest environmental initiative in South Australia and KESAB is to be commended for such an outstanding contribution. In recent years, my electorate has benefited from many KESAB initiatives and I would like to acknowledge their efforts, including: the roadside clean-up of Manning Road and Happy Valley Drive through Flagstaff Hill and Aberfoyle Park, which was completed by the Aberfoyle and Districts Lions Club as well as the Rotary Club of Flagstaff Hill.

Other KESAB initiatives in my electorate include the 1,000 bin audit for Onkaparinga council in 2014; a successful Clean Site demonstration at Blackwood Park estate; the Shopping Centre Car Park Litter Prevention and Awareness Campaign, a joint initiative between KESAB, the Onkaparinga council and other partners; and hosting Earth Station schools day in Belair National Park in 2011. I would also like to make special mention of the Hawthorndene Kindergarten, which received a Wipe Out Waste award in 2015 for having the greatest reduction in materials to landfill for an early learning site. I will conclude by extending a warm thank you to KESAB for encouraging and motivating South Australians to make real and lasting changes within their communities.

Mr GRIFFITHS (Goyder) (17:45): I want to make a quick contribution also and talk about two instances in the 50-year history of KESAB and one person, if I may. I am very proud that within the Goyder electorate there have been two communities that have been acknowledged in a very particular way by KESAB, and it was a great pleasure in 2004 when Port Vincent was chosen as Australia's Tidiest Town.

I cannot tell you how proud the whole region was when one of our communities was awarded Australia's Tidiest Town. It was not just a one-year effort, though; this was a decade-long commitment by so many volunteers to get to that level. It went through some very strenuous judging because it is judged on a wide variety of criteria: it must involve the whole community, it had to involve kids, and all that sort of stuff. It was a truly amazing effort. So to those people who were involved in that, and to those who have done the work in Port Vincent since, I congratulate you.

All of us in this chamber can talk about something in our community which has involved KESAB. In 2009, Stansbury won the South Australian contest. It was part of the national judging and was awarded two of the criteria areas. I think there were about 10 at the national level that did not

quite get there but they still did an outstanding job, and it made me very proud. I was with the Stansbury group in 2009 in Canberra for the presentation of those awards, and those people were really pumped about how well they did. It was a fantastic day, and, again, another example of community people coming together on a regular basis to do so many little things that go unnoticed by others but make a profound difference. To all of those people across the state who are involved, I offer my congratulations.

Finally, I want to talk about one particular person, Mr Ross Swain. In my research on this, Deputy Speaker, I found a photo of you with Mr Ross Swain in 2008 when he was presented with a gift for his retirement after 30 years as the Tidy Towns judge. Ross started working for KESAB in 1973 and became the judge for the Tidy Towns competition in 1978, and did it for 30 years. In that time, Ross Swain, later to become OAM, travelled for 26 weeks per year visiting communities across South Australia. He knew so much. In one of my previous local government roles, one of my responsibilities was to drive around with Mr Swain when he was judging a town, and talk to him about the locality and give him any information that he did not know.

The lifelong impression that I will have of this fine man is that he knew so much about every town that he went into. I did not believe that it was possible for one person to possess that level of knowledge. It was to such a level that he would comment to me, 'They have a different lot of flags in their front garden this year.' He knew it so well, and this is after visiting hundreds and hundreds of towns and doing it for 30 years continuously. He had that level of detail, and he ensured that when he judged, he was very fair about it, and no matter if you were a large or a small community you were equally considered.

I have vivid recollections of living in the Mid North, at Carrieton, a very small community in the very far north which has a population of about 50 people. It would regularly feature in the top 10—which blew me away—because the whole community got behind the effort, and that was the consideration that he gave.

Mr Ross Swain OAM retired in 2008. The member for Florey, representing the premier on that day, I believe, is in the photo that I have looked at for the KESAB Tidy Town Awards, and was part of the group when Mr Swain was recognised for his 30 years of effort. The latest reference to him that I can find is when he received his OAM late last year, so I hope that Mr Swain is still well. I have vivid recollections of him.

I congratulate the KESAB organisation on what it has done for 50 years and pay tribute to the quality people involved with the organisation; they are outstanding. Mr John Phillips has also been recognised and he is a long-term member too. They and the board members and the dedicated staff, many of whom have served for a lot of years, provide an opportunity for communities to become involved in making our places better communities to live in, and for that I pay tribute and say thanks.

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (17:49): I also rise to commend the motion to the house and thank the member for Flinders for moving this motion to congratulate KESAB on their 50-year anniversary. I want to quickly talk about the City of Mount Gambier. Last year, Mount Gambier won the Best Large Town Award in the KESAB Sustainable Communities awards.

The City of Mount Gambier won this award for the many works and projects that have happened in the last 12 months. Examples of these include the old hospital demolition redevelopment; the Blue Lake pedestrian solar lighting project; ongoing works to redevelop the railway lands—and I thank the Minister for Transport for funding for that, as that area has come up exceptionally well and I welcome him back to my electorate to see the work that has been undertaken; the continuing work of the youth advisory group; and waste and recycling education activities.

Other awards won by Mount Gambier include: Environmental Sustainability, in recognition of the Blue Lake solar lighting project, which has enabled greater community usage of this iconic site whilst minimising the environmental impact; Litter Prevention, Waste Management and Resource Recovery, in recognition of the outstanding commitment to recycling and re-use of materials during the old hospital demolition redevelopment project; Leadership and Youth, to the City of Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group for their Youth Week activities, and in particular the inclusion of a

public youth forum 'Let's talk about sex(uality)', providing a safe place to talk about diversity and young people.

Judges also gave a commendation to the City of Mount Gambier Youth Advisory Group for their many years of outstanding commitment to engaging and empowering the youth of Mount Gambier. The Outstanding Participation by a School award went to Tenison Woods College for their continual contribution to sustainability and education.

I would also like to talk about Mount Gambier High School, which is a fantastic public school in my electorate, and their recycling program led by principal Chris Edmonds. Chris is a fantastic, hardworking principal with a clear focus on getting the best out of students, and has a high achievement focus for that school. There is a waste curriculum called Wipe Out Waste. The year 8 maths class undertakes surveys of waste. The classes have collated data from material collected on Clean Up Australia Day. The year 8 science curriculum includes: Pollution, Waste, Recycling, and Your Environment.

The year 9 science program includes investigations into everyday substances and recycling plastics. Year 10 science incorporates chemicals in the environment, including air pollution and water pollution. Staff have a united approach to environmental issues in the school, which includes recycling across the site, maintaining or improving the physical environment, and mapping and auditing waste within the school. They also have a reducing and reusing program which allocates staff and students a printing budget, and extra photocopying is paid for when this is used.

Re-use practices include putting aside boxes, magazines and packing materials, and staff are alerted to these materials being available for their use. There is a recycling program, and a key factor in the waste program at the school is a group of very dedicated students who recognise the benefits for their school and the environment. With that, I will conclude.

Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (17:53): I would like to thank those members of this house who have made a contribution on what I think is a very important motion to congratulate KESAB environmental solutions on their 50th anniversary. I can see from the contributions that KESAB hold a very important place in this state and in the hearts of the people of South Australia, and have done for the last 50 years. I would also like to acknowledge Mr John Phillips OAM, Executive Director of KESAB Environmental Solutions, and to thank him for taking the time to meet with me in the lead-up to moving this motion.

I would also like to congratulate not just John but also his staff and the volunteers in KESAB who have really contributed to this organisation and made it what it is over the last 50 years. It has actually turned South Australia into a world leader in recycling and environmental solutions. I think we can be very proud of that. We have all spoken in glowing terms about the work they do and the results they have achieved for the environment and the natural aspect of South Australia. Thank you, one and all, for your contributions and support. I commend the motion.

Motion carried.

At 17:56 the house adjourned until Tuesday 1 November 2016 at 11:00.

*Answers to Questions***GRANT EXPENDITURE**

242 Dr McFETRIDGE (Morphett) (27 September 2016). In reference to 2016-17 Budget Paper 4, Volume 4, page 174—

List all grants and subsidies and the amounts received by the grant recipients for 2015-16 and budgeted for 2016-17?

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): I have been advised:

In 2015-16 the Veterans' Affairs portfolio allocated \$274,364.43 in grants to the veteran community from the Minister for Veterans' Affairs Annual Allocation of Grants. This included a \$100,000 grant to the Legacy Club of Adelaide and a \$100,000 grant to the Returned and Services League. The amount budgeted for 2016-17 is \$275,000.

On 17 August 2015, under the Statutes Amendment (Boards and Committees—Abolition and Reform) Act 2015, the responsibility for the ANZAC Day Commemoration Act, incorporating the ANZAC Day Commemoration Council and Fund, transferred from the Premier to the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.

In 2015-16, \$334,542 was distributed from the ANZAC Day Commemoration Fund from applications assessed by the ANZAC Day Commemoration Council. The budgeted amount for 2016-17 is \$350,000.

Tables listing individual grants are attached.

	MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS ANNUAL ALLOCATION OF GRANTS 2015/16	Amount
1	Consulaire de France Adelaide—On Flanders Field Poppy Trail	\$909.09
2	Farina Restoration Group—Farina War Memorial Precinct	\$2,750
3	Vietnam Veterans Association Australia (SA Branch)—Vietnam Veterans Day 2015	\$5,000
4	Veterans SA—Australasian Soldier's Dardanelles Cenotaph	\$2,172.32
5	Adelaide Cemeteries Authority—Restoration of the Cross of Sacrifice	\$2,000
6	Veterans SA—43rd & 2nd/43rd Memorial Plaque	\$3,306.36
7	SA Museum—A Century On: Aboriginal Soldiers of WWI	\$2,500
8	Illuminart—Violet Verses	\$2,500
9	RAR Association SA—Long Tan Commemorative Service	\$515
10	Veterans SA—On Flanders Field Poppy Trail Parliamentary Function	\$3,285.35
11	Two Wells RSL—Fallen Soldiers in Afghanistan	\$4,700
12	3RAR—Battle of Maryang San Commemorative Service	\$515
13	Veterans SA -2016 Ex-Service Commemorative Calendar	\$6,892.18
14	Veterans SA—Veterans Voice Newsletter: Spring Edition 2015	\$3,710.91
15	Veterans SA—Pozières Bayonet	\$490
16	Veterans SA—Veterans' Advisory Council Reception	\$3,651.86
17	RAR Association SA—Hat Dich Commemorative Service	\$515
18	Veterans SA—The Last Post	\$560
19	Pozières Remembrance Association—Pozières Memorial Park	\$2,000
20	RAR Association SA—Bien Hoa Commemorative Service	\$515
21	South Australian Boer War Association—Website Development	\$2,000
22	Trojan's Trek—Train the Trainer Course	\$5,000
23	RSL—Aboriginal Veterans Commemorative Service	\$5,000
24	Australian American Association—Battle of the Coral Sea Anniversary Dinner	\$500
25	Veterans SA—Veterans Voice Newsletter: Autumn Edition 2016	\$4,086.36
26	Australian Peace Keeping Memorial Project	\$5,000
27	Flinders Uni Art Museum—Wish Me Luck Exhibition	\$2,500
28	3RAR Kapyong Commemorative Service	\$515
29	3RAR—Battle of Long Khanh & Operation Overlord Commemorative Service	\$515

	MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS ANNUAL ALLOCATION OF GRANTS 2015/16	Amount
30	Veterans SA—Cheer-Up Hut Community Engagement Strategy	\$760
31	RSL—Annual Donation	
	\$100,000	
32	Legacy—Annual Donation	\$100,000
	TOTAL	\$274,364.43

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION FUND—2015/16 GRANTS

Name of Applicant	Name of Project	Description of Project	Recommended Funding
Adelaide Cemeteries Authority	Restoration of Cross of Sacrifice	Refurbishment and addition of plaque to Cross of Sacrifice, West Terrace Cemetery	\$20,000.00
Adelaide Hills Council	Research & Preservation of Honour Board Memorials of Adelaide Hills	Engage with schools & local groups to locate & research honour boards for inclusion in publication 'War Memorials of the Adelaide Hills'	\$4,500.00
Adelaide University Sport	ANZAC Centenary Memorial Project - White Picket Memorial Fence	Construction of white picket memorial fence, newly placed bronze memorial plaque & small individual plaques to recognise past players (AUFC & AUCC) who served in WWI	\$1,367.00
Andrea Malone	"Before and After"	Creation of digital memorial based on six Vietnam Veterans to coincide with 50th Anniversary of Battle of Long Tan	\$9,567.00
Alberton Primary School	Honour Board Restoration	Restoration of school honour board, display cabinet, graphic designer	\$7,000.00
Ardrossan RSL	Display Cabinets	Purchase of cabinets to preserve memorabilia	\$3,000.00
Australian International Pictures	"Paris or the Bush"	90 Minute documentary on 'CODS' soldiers - successful rowing crew from Murray Bridge pre and post WWI.	\$10,000.00
Athelstone Primary School	The ANZAC Spirit & Athelstone School Values	Development of remembrance and reflection area adjacent to school hall	\$4,030.00
Berri War Memorial Community Centre Inc	Lt T C Derrick VC DCM Memorial Grandstand upgrade	Upgrading of memorial grandstand on Berri Memorial Oval to include District Honour Roll.	\$2,680.00
CF Rail Services Pty Ltd	Islington Workshops War Memorial	Restoration of the Islington Workshops War Memorial	\$9,922.00
Colonel Light Gardens Community RSL	Tribute to the Mitcham Army Camp	10 Memorial plaques to be placed around the lawned area at Col Light Gardens RSL	\$4,500.00
Coonawarra Penola RSL	Soldiers Cut Outs	Production of life-size cut-outs of WWI soldiers from south-east SA for display with explanatory notes.	\$3,246.00
Corporation of the City of Whyalla	Whyalla War Memorial Oval ANZAC Commemorative Project	Continuation of restoration works at war memorial site - new replica gates, Rising Sun emblem, commemorative plaques & signage.	\$7,338.00
Country Arts SA	Indigenous Diggers Residencies	Manage & deliver Indigenous artists residencies in regional South Australia to engage Indigenous community to capture stories of Indigenous diggers.	\$20,000.00
Diocese of Adelaide of the Anglican Church of Australia Inc	"For King and Country"	Publication of book of service men & women buried/commemorated at North Road Cemetery.	\$1,000.00
District Council of Barunga West	Foreshore War Memorial Refurbishment	Refurbishment of existing monument located at Port Broughton foreshore.	\$2,600.00
District Council of Cleve	Cleve & Districts Century of Service	Collate, preserve & display Cleve & Districts memorabilia	\$1,500.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Project	Description of Project	Recommended Funding
Farina Restoration Group Inc	Farina War Memorial Precinct	Construction of permanent memorial wall, new panel to existing pergola	\$4,000.00
Freeling RSL Sub-Branch	Memorial Garden	Establishment of a Memorial Garden and Wall to honour those who served from Freeling area	\$9,600.00
Friends of the Prospect Library	Prospect Primary School Honour Board Vivian Bullwinkel Commemorative Board	Construction of commemorative panels for WW2 Roll of Honour & old scholar Captain Vivian Bullwinkel	\$2,200.00
From Page to Stage Ltd	The Front - An Australian Musical	Musical production set against backdrop of 32nd Battalion at Battle of Fromelles in 1916 - premiered at Cabaret Festival 2015 - planned regional tour	\$10,188.00
Grange Primary School	Commemoration of Service & Sacrifice WWI	Restoration & recommemoration of Roll of Honour Board 1914-1919, Grange Public School	\$1,231.00
History SA	The Great War at Home travelling exhibition	Education package & community engagement kit highlighting experiences of South Australians on home front during WWI.	\$9,200.00
Illuminart Productions Pty Ltd	Violet Verses 2016 - a statewide story	Large scale projection show for Torrens Parade Ground with stories/insights into the experience of regional South Australian families during WWI	\$20,000.00
Kangaroo Island Council	Soldiers Memorial Park Project - ANZAC and Beyond	Rejuvenation of gateway to Soldiers Memorial Park, Kingscote, inclusion of commemorative pavers & lighting	\$2,756.00
Military Vehicle Preservation Society of SA Inc	1917 FWD Lorry Restoration, Phase 1: Rolling Chassis	Build up/restoration of vehicle to rolling chassis stage	\$6,500.00
Millicent Community Learning Centre	Brave Hearts	Commission sculptor/artist to design, construct, install metal freestanding sculpture & display	\$7,950.00
Mount Carmel College	Restoration of WWI Honour Board	Restoration of Honour Board listing names of former students of original Marist Brothers school, Pt Adelaide	\$500.00
North Adelaide Baptist Church	NABC/ADCF ANZAC Window Restoration Fund	Restoration of twelve memorial stained glass windows	\$8,350.00
On Flanders Fields Project Consortium	On Flanders Fields Project	Range of cultural events and series of linked exhibitions incorporating Western Front artefacts.	\$5,015.00
Paracombe Primary School	Memorial Garden	Upgrading of existing memorial with bench seats & plaques	\$2,505.00
Peterborough History Group SA Inc	Our ANZAC Petersburg WWI	Research of service records of WWI service men & women from district for publication	\$1,809.00
Pinnaroo Primary School	PPS Remembrance Garden	Development of existing war memorial garden on school grounds - addition of memorial plaque, flagpole, life-size soldier silhouettes	\$941.00
Raukkan Community Council Inc	Raukkan Community War Memorial	Construction of phase 2 of Raukkan War Memorial - supply & install granite plaques	\$9,375.00
Register of Aboriginal Veterans of South Australia Committee	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander War Memorial Lapel Badges	Purchase of 1000 stamped metal ATSI badges	\$858.00
Seacliff Primary School	Century of Service Memorial	Construction of memorial path, wall, poles & benches	\$2,400.00
Second Valley Progress Association	Second Valley War Monument and Soldiers' Memorial Hall Education Project	Placement of informative display boards on WWI Monument & Soldiers' Memorial Hall	\$508.00
RSL (SA Branch Inc)	ANZAC Centenary Commemorative Garden Party	Series of events to commemorate the service of the surviving WWII veterans - to be hosted by Governor at Govt House	\$10,000.00

Name of Applicant	Name of Project	Description of Project	Recommended Funding
RSL (SA Branch Inc)	Centenary of Service DVD & Regional Tour - Celebrating 100 Years of RSL - SA	Production of DVD of 10 short stories, pull-up promotional banners, posters - the role of the RSL over 100 years	\$30,000.00
RSL (SA Branch Inc)	RSL Virtual War Memorial	Further development of website including import of various data sets to enhance user experience & encourage further community engagement	\$45,000.00
South Australian Museum	Exhibition: A Century on, Aboriginal Soldiers of World War I	Exhibition highlighting & commemorating service & sacrifice of Australian, Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander & Indigenous peoples who served in WWI	\$4,200.00
STARKEYZ	Australasian Soldiers Dardanelles Cenotaph: The First ANZAC Memorial	Production of short documentary film on story behind Dardanelles Cenotaph	\$8,000.00
Truro and District Community Association	Truro War Memorial	Installation of new war memorial in Truro centre with original plaque for WWI veteran Albert Binning.	\$9,500.00
Victor Harbor RSL Sub-Branch	Soldiers Memorial Gardens Upgrade	Purchase of flags	\$625.00
Victor Harbor RSL Sub-Branch	Soldiers Memorial Gardens Upgrade	Supply of bronze plaques	\$1,000.00
Waikerie RSL Sub-Branch	Refurbishment of cannon	Refurbishment & repainting cannon/field gun on display in Memorial Garden	\$3,080.00
Walkerville RSL Sub-Branch	2015 Local Schools Outreach & Education Program	Expansion of additional educational programs and inclusion of more local schools	\$2,000.00
Wesley Uniting Church, Kent Town	Restoration of war memorial window	Restoration of leadlight & timber surrounds to WWI memorial window	\$3,000.00
TOTAL			\$334,542