

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 6 September 2018

The **SPEAKER (Hon. V.A. Tarzia)** took the chair at 11:00 and read prayers.

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

Motions

LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY

Adjourned debate on motion of Mr Malinauskas:

That this house establish a select committee to inquire into and report on strategies to ensure a strong and robust South Australian livestock industry should live exports of sheep be either banned or restricted with particular reference to—

- (a) the development of a plan to assist sheep farmers and transporters who currently gain income from the live export trade in the event that the trade ceases or is restricted;
- (b) explore the capacity of the local meat processing industry to expand and create jobs in a changing industry;
- (c) develop and strengthen overseas markets for Australian chilled and frozen sheep products;
- (d) explore the quantum and scope of the assistance package required for South Australian sheep farmers to make a positive transition should the trade cease or be restricted;
- (e) ensure that the South Australian livestock industry is best placed to capitalise on opportunities should live sheep exports be banned; and
- (f) any other related matters.

which Mr Treloar has moved to amend by deleting all words after 'That this house' and inserting the following words in lieu thereof:

refer to the Natural Resources Committee of the South Australian parliament to inquire into and report on strategies to ensure a strong and robust South Australian livestock industry with particular reference to—

- (a) the development of a plan to ensure that all livestock producers and transporters who currently gain income from the live export trade meet high animal welfare standards;
- (b) explore the capacity of the local meat industry to expand and create jobs;
- (c) further develop and strengthen overseas markets for Australian meat products;
- (d) ensure that the South Australian livestock industry is best placed to further capitalise on new opportunities; and
- (e) any other related matter.

(Continued from 21 June 2018.)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (11:02): I believe that this motion has been spoken to by both sides, and Mr Treloar has put on the *Notice Paper* a proposed amendment. I suggest that it is now an appropriate time to vote on the motion as amended.

Amendment carried; motion as amended carried.

Parliamentary Committees

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: MURRAY BRIDGE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:04): I move:

That the second report of the committee, entitled 'New Murray Bridge wastewater treatment plant project', be noted.

The existing Murray Bridge Wastewater Treatment Plant is owned and operated by SA Water and was commissioned in 1970. As a result of population growth within the area, the existing plant is now managing wastewater in excess of its original design capacity.

The new Murray Bridge wastewater treatment plant project, which is expected to deliver sufficient capacity to meet customer demand for the next 30 years, includes the following components: a new wastewater treatment plant at Brinkley, four pumping stations (two for wastewater and two for effluent), approximately nine kilometres of wastewater pipeline from the existing wastewater treatment plant to the new site, a five-megalitre lined and covered storage facility at the new wastewater treatment plant, and approximately nine kilometres of effluent pipeline that will connect with the existing pipeline.

The estimated total cost of the works is \$52.54 million excluding GST. As anticipated, the project will be completed, inclusive of the defect period, and close out by March 2022. The Public Works Committee has examined written and oral evidence in relation to this project, and the committee has been assured by SA Water that acquittals have been received from the Department of Treasury and Finance, the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the Crown Solicitor that works and procedures are lawful and necessary.

The committee is satisfied that the proposal has been subject to the appropriate agency consultation and meets the criteria for examination of projects as set out in the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991. Based on the evidence considered and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Public Works Committee reports to parliament that it recommends the proposed work.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: EDINBURGH PARKS PROJECT

Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:06): I move:

That the third report of the committee for the 54th parliament, entitled 'Northern detention basin (stage 2): Edinburgh Parks project', be noted.

In 2011, construction of a northern detention basin in the Edinburgh Parks industrial estate commenced. Due to budget constraints, the scope of the original project was reduced to the point where it currently provides a level of flood protection, estimated at one in 50 years. The project is comprised of a network of stormwater management basins that extend over approximately 38.5 hectares of land. The proposed works seek to intercept storm and floodwaters over and above those that can currently be accommodated. Those waters would otherwise enter the Edinburgh Parks industrial estate and would flow from within the urban areas adjacent to the Elizabeth regional centre.

Consistent with existing arrangements, intercepted waters will be temporarily contained so they do not inundate developed and occupied lands, including the Edinburgh Defence Precinct and land earmarked for future development. When completed, the northern detention basin will have sufficient capacity to collect and temporarily store floodwaters generated from storm events, up to and including a one in 100 year event in respect of the upstream catchment.

The management of this storm and floodwater is an intrinsic element in the future of development of the northern portion of the Edinburgh Parks industrial estate. The works will contribute to the broader aim of creating a large-scale, high-quality, well-planned industrial estate that reinforces Adelaide's north as being a strategic location for industry. Together with the already completed works, the total construction cost of the northern detention basin project is estimated to be \$5.727 million. The proposed stage 2 works are expected to be completed before the end of the 2019-20 financial year.

The Public Works Committee has examined written and oral evidence in relation to this project, and the committee has been assured by Renewal SA officials that acquittals have been received from the Department of Treasury and Finance, the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the Crown Solicitor that the works and procedures are lawful and necessary.

The committee is satisfied that the proposal has been subject to the appropriate agency consultation and meets the criteria for examination of projects as described in the Parliamentary

Committees Act 1991. Based on the evidence considered and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Public Works Committee reports to parliament that it recommends the proposed public works.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: OLD ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL SITE

Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:10): I move:

That the fourth report of the committee, entitled 'Old Royal Adelaide Hospital site: demolition, infrastructure and refurbishment of retained state heritage buildings project', be noted.

In August 2017, the state government approved the transfer of the former Royal Adelaide Hospital land to Renewal SA and for preliminary demolition works to commence. This project is the next phase of the transformation of the old Royal Adelaide Hospital site and includes further demolition, landscaping and public realm works, and the adaptive re-use of existing buildings on the site to create an innovation incubator, start-up and growth hub. The establishment of this hub is a key element of the project. It will involve the repurposing of seven state heritage listed buildings that front North Terrace and Frome Road.

The repurposed buildings will incorporate shared work and social spaces, as well as collaboration and quiet spaces, complemented by specific features, such as a lecture theatre. The site will also include event spaces, meeting rooms and gym facilities that building tenants will have access to. These integrated spaces will facilitate the entire start-up ecosystem, which will also include fledgling businesses working to develop new ideas or products, business incubators, mentoring programs and logistical support, business advisers and investors, and venture capital firms to help take ideas to the global market.

This project is expected to have a significant economic benefit to the state, principally relating to improved employment, branding and tourism. The total gross cost for this project is estimated at \$418.3 million and it is expected to be completed in 2021. The Public Works Committee has examined written and oral evidence in relation to this project, and the committee has been assured by Renewal SA officials that acquittals have been received from the Department of Treasury and Finance, the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, and the Crown Solicitor that the works and procedures are lawful and necessary.

The committee is satisfied that the proposal has been subject to the appropriate agency consultation and meets the criteria for examination of projects, as set out in the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991. Having regard to the evidence considered and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Public Works Committee reports to parliament that it recommends the proposed public work.

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (11:12): I would also like to speak, albeit briefly, on the draft report of the Public Works Committee. We had some witnesses before us in our meeting in August and also some written submissions in regard to this. The report that we are presenting to parliament today examines the history of the proposal, but also the efficacy of the application of South Australian taxpayer funds to the old Royal Adelaide Hospital site, including the demolition, infrastructure and refurbishment of the retained state heritage buildings project.

The actual redevelopment itself of the old Royal Adelaide Hospital site presents a unique opportunity to transform Adelaide's CBD and also to provide linkage between North Terrace and the Botanic Garden. In August 2017, the then state government approved the transfer of the former Royal Adelaide Hospital land to Renewal SA and for Renewal SA to undertake preliminary works on that site, which included, in stage 1, the demolition of the East, Hone and Cobalt wings, and the emergency block link. Stage 1 demolition of the former Royal Adelaide Hospital is now underway, which I am certain many of you will have seen as you go down North Terrace, and it is scheduled for completion in late 2018.

The project vision does respect and build on the site's significant cultural history and location, and it is intended to create an opportunity for people to access, use and enjoy the site in a way they have not been able to in the past, obviously, being a hospital precinct. It is envisaged that there will be the establishment of an innovation, incubator, start-up and growth hub, being a key element of

this project. We are also looking at potentially the national Space Agency being located there as well, which will be a really exciting area to propel this state forward.

Obviously, a site with so many heritage buildings involves the adaptive re-use of those remaining heritage buildings that are not being demolished to create this innovation, incubator, start-up and growth hub. Those seven buildings include the Women's Health Centre, the Allied Health Services Building, the Margaret Graham Building, the Eleanor Harrald Building, the McEwin Building, the Bice Building and, finally, the Sheridan Building.

Any work and development applications relating to these redevelopments will include a mandatory referral to the state Heritage Register. Blended across those seven heritage buildings, which will take up 2,500 square metres in total, the hub intends to include integrated shared tenant, community and event space to try to foster collaboration and bring together a start-up ecosystem, which will include start-ups working to develop new ideas or products, predominantly based around digital technology. In addition, there will be incubators that will provide start-ups with the catalyst tools, mentoring programs and logistical support, business advisers and investors, and also venture capital firms to help take ideas to the global market.

Just recently, the member for King and I attended one such presentation run by Flinders University that demonstrated some of the start-up work being done there aimed at attracting venture capital firms. It was fantastic to see them in action. One of them is Ping, which involves using drones to monitor the acoustics of wind farms to help detect any damage to the rotor blades. These are the sorts of terrific opportunities that can come out of this and help drive South Australia's future in the advanced manufacturing space.

You will also notice that the 2018-19 state budget builds upon this vision. It involves a significant capital works program, with the state budget providing just under \$44 million to refit and repurpose those seven buildings at Lot Fourteen, which includes, as I mentioned, those heritage buildings. The state budget also includes \$200,000 to be expended in the 2018-19 year to define the scope and vision for the gallery, with extensive consultation to then be undertaken with the Aboriginal community, the South Australian Museum and also the Art Gallery. The indicative investment expenditure of \$60 million will be provided in the 2020-21 year and construction of the new gallery is intended to begin in 2021-22. This is another great use of this site, opening it up to the South Australian public in a way that has not been available to them previously.

In addition, the Department for Industry and Skills, Renewal SA, TAFE SA, and the world-renowned training providers Le Cordon Bleu and ICHM will collaborate on a full scoping study for the facilities required at the international school of culinary excellence, hospitality and tourism, with an indicative expenditure of up to \$30 million over two years in 2020-21 and 2021-22. As you can see, there are some exciting proposals for this site aimed at reinvigorating it and opening it up to the South Australian public.

This report by the Public Works Committee is one of those steps in making sure that the money being spent there, whilst significant, will provide a lasting benefit for the South Australian taxpayer and visitors alike.

Motion carried.

ECONOMIC AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY 2018-19

Adjourned debate on motion of Mr Duluk:

That the first report of the committee, entitled Emergency Services Levy 2018-19, be noted.

(Continued from 2 August 2018.)

The SPEAKER: Member for Newland, there are five minutes remaining, sir.

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (11:20): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I am very pleased to have the opportunity to continue my remarks on the noting of the important report from the Economic and Finance Committee particularly concerning the emergency services levy, which of course had been a very significant impost on so many households and businesses throughout the state. We have been consistent all the way through. We have gone about cutting the levy—halving it, in fact—which is exactly what we said we would do before the election, and we are delivering on that promise.

As I alluded to earlier, our emergency services are very important and we are certainly committed to ensuring that our emergency services are always well resourced. In fact, we have put funds on the table to boost our fleet of firefighting aircraft for the CFS and significant additional funding for CFS station upgrades, as well as development of a new Alert SA app, which is particularly important given the chaos that engulfed the previous incarnation under the previous administration. Of course, all our emergency services are very important. The CFS is key among them, but also of course are the SES and the professional services amongst the police, MFS, SA Ambulance Service and all the others.

As we came to the end of the allotted time quite a few weeks ago now, I was talking about the enormous increase in business confidence that has occurred since the election of the Marshall Liberal government. This has been reflected in a number of surveys and is quite a stark and incredible increase in confidence, both by businesses and households. An important and key part of that change in attitude is, of course, removing cost-of-living burdens on businesses and households, with the ESL being a significant impost amongst them.

The other very interesting data that is being looked at, in particular, is a survey by Sensis looking at attitudes of small businesses to different levels of governments and their policies towards small business. I thought it was quite startling to see that the attitude our small businesses in South Australia had to state government policy was the worst of any state in the nation, which is a terrible place for it to be.

However, we have seen quite marked improvements in that, and that is very important because ultimately, if we want to assist families to get ahead and assist them through allowing businesses to employ people and being able to afford to live, then people being able to find work and having low cost of living is a very important part of that. I believe many people are receiving their massively reduced emergency services levy bills right now. We received ours and I know that my wife was very pleased to see that it had gone down quite a lot. Of course, on average, that is a reduction of about \$145 per household, which is not insignificant, particularly for a tight budget.

The cost of living has been bad enough. It is a problem for South Australians. Under the failed energy policies of the previous administration, we have had the highest power prices in Australia and even, in some surveys, amongst the highest on earth, which is really quite incredible. The people of South Australia had had enough. They voted for real change. That real change is what we are delivering, and we are delivering it exactly as we promised we would.

In the lead-up to the election, we promised to cut the ESL. That would be \$90 million per year put back into the economy, and that is exactly what we are delivering. This is in stark contrast to the 2014 election, when of course there was no mention of the ESL, and shortly afterwards it was jacked up enormously, ripping \$384 million out of the state's economy. Families have been hurting very much under 16 years of hard Labor. Now they have a government that does not just give lip service to cost-of-living pressures but is implementing real plans to relieve these pressures, including cutting the ESL.

Time expired.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (11:25): I am so pleased to be able to speak on this motion. The recent election had a number of points of contention between the two parties, the Liberal Party and the Labor Party, in the propositions that we put to the people of South Australia. For nearly the last four years, ever since the remissions on the ESL were removed by the former Labor government, one of the clear differences between the Liberal Party and the Labor Party has been an understanding that the people of South Australia were being hit hard in their household cost of living by the former government's decision to remove the remissions.

Increases of hundreds and hundreds of dollars for the average household over that four-year period when Labor had jacked up the ESL hit households hard to take money out of their pocket and put it to the former Labor government's preference. At the last election, I was very pleased to stand up for the people in Morialta, who spoke to me about their issues in meeting their household living expenses. An average \$145 for the median household being saved by those families will make a massive difference in those households. People are getting their ESL bills right now and, as a result of the measures identified in this report, those households are better off as a consequence.

This is why people voted for the Liberal Party at this election, amongst a range of other issues. This Liberal Party, this Liberal government, is delivering on the commitments that we made to the people of South Australia. In terms of politics around the world, the issue of trust comes up. When political pundits talk about unusual phenomena in certain jurisdictions' elections, this issue of trust always comes up. The cliché is that politicians allegedly cannot be trusted to keep their promises. I think that the former Labor government in South Australia has a lot to answer for in regard to this lack of trust in our community.

The increase in the ESL imposed by the former Labor government on the people of South Australia after the last election is a prime example of why the community's trust in politics and politicians was eroded. It was a clear identification that the faith with the South Australian people had to be met at the earliest possible opportunity by restoring the remissions on the ESL, as the Liberal Party committed to doing. In doing so, as this report notes, we have kept our faith with the South Australian people, returning money into their families' pockets so that they can meet the needs of their families. One critical component is that we have done so without impeding the opportunities for emergency services to be delivered in South Australia in the way that they must.

This report identifies the expenses required to fulfil the requirements of our emergency services. I will give an example of the sort of support that is needed. Morialta has a number of CFS brigades across the electorate, as do many of the electorates served by members on this side of the house and some of the electorates served by members on the other side as well. One of the CFS brigades that has always been in the Morialta electorate throughout the entire time I have been involved—10 years as a candidate and as a member—is Montacute.

We have changed our boundaries regularly, but Montacute has always formed part of the Morialta community. Montacute is a spread township—it is not a township; it is a community. Some 200 votes in the electoral polling booths suggest that about 300 people are living over a broad area of the Adelaide Hills. It is an area where the risk of fire is significant. It is served by Montacute Road, which becomes Marble Hill Road as it passes through Cherryville.

Montacute Road is its period in and period out. The risks here were highlighted 1½ years ago during the storms, where a significant section of Montacute Road was in fact washed out. I was grateful that the then government, at our urging, worked with the Adelaide Hills Council to repair that road as quickly as possible, because when there is a fire in Montacute you have to get out. The Corkscrew Road takes you down to Gorge Road. Anyone who has driven the Corkscrew Road knows that you would not want to be going there in an emergency. So Montacute Road is it, and it is critical that that be served.

The brigade has about 20 or 25 active members. Out of that tiny community, 20 to 25 members still turn up on Monday nights to train. They still turn up when there are issues with flooding, with cars, or motorbikes more often these days, going off the road. They still serve that community so well. In about 1987 or 1988—I forget the year but it was about 30 years ago—a report identified that the Montacute CFS station was no longer meeting OHS standards and was no longer fit for purpose. There was no hot water. It did not really have much capacity for the sorts of things that were going to be needed in a CFS station. So for 30 years the Montacute CFS has been endeavouring to improve their facilities.

Just before I became a candidate in 2008, the community was very pleased that the former Labor government said that they were going to fix it. They were going to use the money from the emergency services levy, through the CFS, to fix the Montacute CFS station, to give them a new site and to make it happen. Indeed, in 2009-10 during the election campaign the then Labor member for Morialta put out flyers of herself—she may or may not have had the CFS jacket on—standing in front of the CFS implements and the station, saying, 'We've fixed it.' The Labor government had fixed the Montacute CFS station and this was something that she should be credited for. We were only to find in 2010-11 that the then government, and through the CFS, decided that the site they had chosen was not suitable and cancelled the project.

But we kept pushing and pushing. I pay credit to the member for Light, who, when he was the minister, after years of years of pushing, finally put it back on the agenda. The money was thankfully able to be there. The brigade pushed so hard to have their new station. We were able to

see that station opened the weekend before last by the new Minister for Emergency Services, Corey Wingard. The final touches put to it over the last few months were marvellous.

I am not giving credit to this new government. This is a project that has been fought for for 30 years and allegedly the money has been there for more than a decade. The people I give credit to in this instance are those volunteers in the CFS brigade who have a fantastic new station. The significance of this station in the Montacute community can be borne out by the fact that this is a community of about 300 people, as I said, and there were about 150 or nearly 200 people who came out for that opening day a couple of weeks ago, appreciating the new station's opening. The service for that local community is significant. It is a useful purpose to which the ESL funds are put.

There was so much pressure put on those CFS volunteers over the last four years when everybody's ESL rates were jacked right up, yet they were still trying to do their community fundraising as well. I note that the Rotary Club of Campbelltown, who supported that brigade, have given them a defibrillator and a stretcher. When they discovered that there was no TV in the brigade, they even brought in a LCD colour TV from the Rotary shed. That sort of community fundraising has been identified as much harder over recent years since the ESL level has been put up. Some people reported that when CFS people were going out to collect for their volunteer sales or their charity sales, people would say, 'Our ESL bills have gone up hundreds of dollars, so surely you've got more money.'

The point is that, despite the ESL bills going up so much four years ago, the CFS, those emergency services, never got any extra money. It was just the removal of the remission. What was previously paid for towards emergency services out of general revenue was never increased commensurate with the increase of money that then came from households. So this government has taken the course of what was sensible, what was in place 20 years ago when the ESL was brought in, of having this remission on households so it was at a reasonable level.

The benefit of restoring that remission is identified. The report, at page 10, says that these remissions will reduce ESL bills by \$90 million, consistent with the government's election commitments. That will make a massive difference for those households and will better support the CFS and other emergency services because, while the money they get may be the same, a lesser proportion of it is coming from households so it increases the confidence with which they can do their own community fundraising. The household impact, the impact on the lives of everyday South Australians with their weekly bills, and particularly dealing with their annual ESL bills, is significant.

Cost of living matters. That is something our community talks about to us, their local members of parliament, all the time, and this government is listening. I am afraid the last government was found utterly wanting when it came to cost-of-living issues, and that is why this government has taken its election commitments to be more jobs, lower costs, better services. This week's budget is an example of us delivering just those things, and this report on reducing people's emergency services levy and returning money into the pockets of households and taxpayers across South Australia is also doing just that. I commend the report to the house.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (11:35): It is a pleasure to follow the member for Morialta, the education minister, on this topic because we came into parliament at the same time, a little bit over eight years ago, and we have shared our views on this internally and externally. This is a very important issue.

The emergency services levy is money charged on properties and some other assets, but largely it is a property tax by state government which, it is fair to say, was implemented under a Liberal government. However, at the time of implementation the Liberal government of the day also put in what were called remissions. Remissions were there so that there was a nominal amount of the entire levy that represented money the government would collect and spend on emergency services funding, and the remission was a reduction in the amount of tax collected without—and this is very important—a reduction in the amount of funding that went to emergency services.

Essentially, it was a remission that Treasury absorbed. It was a discount given to the public—households and companies—who pay the emergency services levy, but that discount did not flow

through to the emergency services sector; it did not at all diminish the funding they received. It was absorbed by Treasury.

Several years ago now, I think probably about four years ago, the former Labor state government started to remove those remissions. At the time they did it for some phony excuse; I cannot even remember what they said at the time, but I do remember that it was not true. They removed the remissions, and they tried to imply that removing the remissions meant that the public—being households and businesses—paid more (the discount on the emergency services levy they received that was taken away) for emergency services.

They tried to pretend that by the public paying more for the emergency services levy the emergency services sector would get more. That just was not true. It was a blatant tax grab by the previous government. The emergency services sector did not get one cent extra via the removal of the remission, via the increased net cost the public had to pay. That money just went straight back to Treasury.

I think it was wrong to do that, but perhaps it was even worse to let the public believe that if they paid a little bit more, if they copped it on the chin, if the remission was removed so they paid more, 'at least the emergency services sector would get a bit more money, and I suppose that's okay'. It was completely wrong of the previous Labor government to allow the public to think that because it was not true. It was absolutely not true. Understanding that it was not true, understanding that the sector was not getting any more by the removal of the remission, we said very early on in the last term of the previous Labor government, very early on in our last term in opposition, that we would return that remission to the taxpayers.

As other speakers have said, and as I know is in the report of the Economic and Finance Committee, exceptionally well chaired by the member for Waite, that was \$90 million per year, \$360 million over the forward estimates of the budget. We said that we would do that. I think it was at least three years out from the last election. There was a bit of concern about developing that policy. Would it be the right time? Should we wait? Who knows what else is to come? And we said, no. We said that this Labor government has done the wrong thing and that a future Liberal government will fix it up, a future Liberal government will do the right thing. We said three years out from the last election, the 2018 election, that if elected we would return that money to the pockets of households and businesses.

Those on the other side might think that \$90 million per year, \$360 million over the forward estimates, \$145 on average per household, is not much. Well, they are wrong if they think that. Every dollar counts to every household. Think about what \$145 can do. Whether that is just trying to make an early extra payment one fortnight on a new mortgage, or whether that means being able to buy the fuel for your car that might allow you to drive your family on a long weekend or holiday somewhere, if you think about \$145 and what that might do for a dental bill for your children, it might mean that you could do something special for your children.

You might not perhaps otherwise take your children to the Royal Adelaide Show, which is on at the moment, but if you had \$145 extra, you could take your children to the Show, and it might be the one and only time that your children have gone to the Show. It makes a difference. It makes a very big difference. It makes a difference particularly in the context of all the other pressures that the former Labor government put on people with regard to cost of living. It makes a very big difference.

We addressed those differences. As I have explained, we addressed the return of that \$90 million worth of emergency services levy. We have also addressed the cost of living with regard to reducing NRM levies. We have addressed it with regard to council rates capping. We have addressed in many different ways. We are looking at reducing payroll tax, which of course is a business tax, but businesses which have payroll of less than \$1.5 million will not pay any payroll tax under our government.

How does that relate to families and cost-of-living burdens? It means those small businesses are more able to employ people. It means those small businesses can be more productive, can be more successful. Do you know what, Mr Speaker? This is not about supporting the businesses. This is about supporting the employees. If you have a job, if you are an employee, you want to have a secure job. You want to know that you can get a mortgage, that you can get a loan to buy a house.

The only way that you are going to get a mortgage and a loan to buy a house is if you have a job and it is a secure job. It must be a secure job. Mr Speaker, what is the only way that you can get a secure job? Work for a company that has a secure future.

That is why we are supporting those organisations—not for the employers but for the employees. We know that we need to put more money back into the pockets of regular South Australians. This commitment was made a long time ago, and we are very genuine about it. Like all of the commitments that we made before the election, the proof is in the pudding. Two days ago, Tuesday this week, budget day, our budget included all the commitments that we had made going to the last election.

I do not pretend that there are not people who do not have some level of disappointment with regard to our budget. Of course, if you received a cut to your spending, a reduction to the spending of your particular area of interest, it is quite natural that you would be upset. However, we decided that we would only make cuts outside of the areas where we had made election commitments, that all of our commitments would be funded, and we would look for necessary savings in other areas. That is exactly what we have done.

The people of South Australia have got their \$90 million per year back. The people of South Australia have got their on average \$145 per year back in their pockets. To connect back to what I said earlier, the previous government tried to pretend that the increase in the emergency services levy was going to result in an increase in money for the emergency services sector, which of course was not true. While we have returned the remission, while we have reduced the emergency services levy, we have not cut the funding to the emergency services sector.

In the same way that they did not get one dollar more from the previous government, they will not get one dollar less from our government by the fact that we have reduced the emergency services levy. That is very important. Those professionals, and perhaps more importantly those volunteers working in the sector, are fully supported by us, as are households.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (11:46): I rise to support this motion in regard to the first report into the emergency services levy 2018-19, moved by the member for Waite. I would like to acknowledge the amazing work of our volunteers and what they do right across the state in no matter what role they play, whether it is with emergency services or not. The simple fact is that without the many hundreds of thousands of volunteers in this state, the state could not function, and we would never have the ability to adequately pay for these volunteers on a wage basis.

What happens with the emergency services levy as far as our emergency services—and, sure, there are some professional operations here. We have the police, the Metropolitan Fire Service and obviously the State Emergency Service and the Country Fire Service, of which I am a member with the Coomandook brigade. There are many thousands of volunteers who do great work in these services for our state. There has been some discussion about fire stations in some of the contributions and it is interesting how convoluted the story can get in just getting a fire station. A lot of it can be around Crown land and native title access and all that kind of thing.

At Coonalpyn, when I was there with the member for MacKillop when that was opened in the last few years, it was a brand-new station with multiple bays. Coonalpyn is just outside my electorate, only by a few kilometres, mind you, so some of the people who volunteer there come from the seat of Hammond. These volunteers attend road crash rescues, as do Murray Bridge brigade members and those from Taillem Bend, and some of the atrocities that these people have to witness just as part of their job as volunteers would make you wince if you knew even the half of it.

I know for a fact that some volunteers just take a year out because when you are a volunteer or in the professional services and you are on a main road like we are on the Dukes Highway to Melbourne, sadly, we have those road trauma incidents and people see horrifying injuries and the impacts of road crashes that cause a terrible death to some people. I applaud our volunteers who are on call at any hour of the day and night.

The Hon. D.C. van Holst Pellekaan: Hear, hear!

Mr PEDERICK: Absolutely! It is good to see that Coonalpyn, after a bit of toing and froing, finally sorted through where they could have their new station, and it is working well.

Another one that had a litany of errors getting up was the fire station at Rockleigh. Sadly, in recent years Rockleigh has had multiple fires. It was serviced by three electorates, Hammond, Kavel and Schubert, and Hammond has made a takeover now with the new redistribution and I am very pleased to represent the good people of Rockleigh.

Rockleigh is a bit like its name: it is a place where getting around in any vehicle on some of the paddocks can just tear tyres and vehicles apart. With one of the most recent fires at Rockleigh at least 100 tyres were destroyed by CFS vehicles, and they were basically ratted tyres from other vehicles sometimes just to keep going; it is tough country. There are some lifestyle blocks in there, but it is good country for people to live in.

However, the Rockleigh Fire Station proposal was a long time coming. There were many years of bureaucracy and red tape. I must admit that I wrote multiple letters to the previous Labor government, and I will commend the now Leader of the Opposition, the member for Croydon, for bringing the answer to one letter up to my office in this place. I did not see another minister from the other side do that when they were in government. The letter was regarding Rockleigh and the simple fact that they were about on the verge of securing the land but they had not done the Crown land clearances, and they realised this at I think the 11½th hour. That ended up in the Federal Court, which was ridiculous, because the work had not been done in the background to make sure that all the clearances were in place.

I am pleased to say that I was present the other day when the Rockleigh Fire Station was opened by Greg Nettleton, the Chief Officer of the Country Fire Service. We have had a few earth tremors lately, and what I learnt that day was that that is probably the safest building to be in. Just get the truck out of the shed and get in the CFS shed at Rockleigh. I think it is the soundest building in the district by a long way, so obviously we are building these buildings to a very high standard and that would be the place to be.

Thankfully, for the good volunteers at Rockleigh, they finally have a shed and equipment does not have to be stored in the neighbour's shearing shed anymore. They can put their firetruck in and they have an operations room and a radio room, and the other volunteers that back up at Rockleigh, the Rockleigh support group, have somewhere to be based as well. They have had some terrible fires there in recent times. The CFS, which is funded by this levy, and the air support manage to limit built losses in a significant way. Sadly, one home was lost, but I was just amazed when I drove through the area after the last big fire that it was only one. It shows the dedication of our volunteers and our aerial firefighting team working in tough conditions.

We are seeing more stations being upgraded by our government, the Marshall Liberal government. There are six new stations to be built, with a couple in the South-East and a couple in other places. Tailm Bend will get a new station as well, and that is obviously quite vital with the growth in the region, not just with The Bend Motorsport Park but with a lot of the agricultural industry investments happening in the region. We are getting a solar farm built out there as well. I am pleased that those investments are coming into the electorate.

I note that my station at Coomandook is combined with Ki Ki and between those two stations they run a four-four truck and a three-four and a 9,000-litre tanker, so they are well served to battle bushfires. When the big fires happen, you see volunteers not just from around the state but from interstate come our way to help out.

I have been involved, since I have been in this place, with several fires, including one at Sedan, and going over to help clean up and put out a lot of the aftermath of the big onslaught on Kangaroo Island in 2007. Before that time, I had never seen a truck that had got so hot that the mirrors had melted off. It is a credit to the facilities we have to keep our crews safe in these trucks.

None of this would be happening, and we would not have the support for those volunteer firefighters, without the emergency services levy in place. The beauty of it is, as has been mentioned by other speakers, that the remission noted in this report is \$90 million a year going back to the good people of South Australia, on average \$145 a household, because some of these increases were crippling households, crippling farmers.

We are good on our promise, as we have said all along with all of our commitments—our 300-odd commitments that we made before the election as a Marshall Liberal team—and we have

delivered already on the first \$90 million of a \$360 million rollout of remissions in the ESL levy, putting that much-needed money back into the hands of the good people of South Australia. I commend all our people and our services, whether professional or volunteer and commend your service.

Mr BASHAM (Finniss) (11:56): I also rise to support the motion moved by the member for Waite in relation to the emergency services levy. It is certainly something very close to my heart, with the work that is done in the emergency services space. My grandfather had a great passion for volunteering for what was originally known as the emergency fire service, later to become the Country Fire Service (CFS).

He was very much driven, with others, to establishing the emergency fire service at Port Elliot following the fire in the 1950s that started at the top of Cut Hill, which is the corner of Crows Nest Road and the Victor Harbor Road, and burnt to the beach, burnt the seaweed on the beach at Middleton, right down to the township itself. That certainly brought the risk of fire in the 1950s back to the farmers of the region and the members who lived in the towns—the risk they faced without a combined approach to actually fighting fires. That led them to forming the brigade there, which still thrives today.

I guess one little interesting anecdote from that fire was a photo my grandfather proudly had, showing the governor coming down to thank those who had been fighting the fire. He had filled the boot of the Rolls-Royce with ice and beer, and he was dropping the beer to the volunteers out on the ground. It was an interesting use of the governor's Rolls at the time to look after the volunteers. That is how we very much understand the commitment people make, and it goes right back to those times.

I see the continuation of this support as essential, but I also understand that we need to make sure that the cost burden is borne not just by the property holders but generally by all taxpayers because everyone is at risk in a fire or an emergency of different sorts. It is not just the landholders who have losses but people who are travelling through, etc., who also need to be protected. We need to make sure there is some equity in the approach to funding for the fire services, the SES and other emergency services.

One of the key things I think also is very important that I am really pleased to see in the budget is the money to make sure we fix the Alert SA app. That is something I have very much used in my time in my different roles, which have taken me out of my state and away from my farm. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Bills

APPROPRIATION BILL 2018

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 4 September 2018.)

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (11:59): I rise as the lead speaker for the budget in reply. Buried way in the national accounts that were released yesterday is a statistic that says a lot about our state and the people of South Australia, whom we are elected to represent. The statistic is not flashy, but it is uncompromising, and we know it to be true. Yesterday, we learned from the national accounts that state final demand for the last quarter of the 2017-18 financial year was up 1.3 per cent—the highest rate of any state in the commonwealth and well above the national average. It is an utterly positive and significant milestone for our nation and for our state, but particularly for our economy.

When reflecting on the period that number relates to, I could not get around the undeniable reality of who owns the credit for this good news. No matter which way you cut it, the Liberal Party does not own this good news, nor does the Labor Party. This achievement is owned by the people of this state: every last hardworking mum, dad, single, couple, student or volunteer, you name it, every South Aussie who decided not to be characterised by their fear of the future but rather by their resilience.

Putting aside who goaded the car industry out of the country, putting aside who orchestrated the naval shipbuilding valley of death, and putting aside who was the architect of federal policy paralysis on what is now a national energy crisis, when faced with the challenge of one of the most complex and substantial economic transitions in our nation's history South Australians collectively decided to stare down the threat of double-digit unemployment and got to work. Official figures show that, since December 2014, we have had over 40 consecutive months of jobs growth, so that by the end of the financial year we have the third lowest unemployment rate of any state.

The people of South Australia deserve the credit for their gritty determination and resilience, which makes our state an integral part of the commonwealth that always punches above its weight. It is true that we are not out of the woods yet. In today's world, no economic transition is ever complete, but we have turned the corner and are right to be optimistic. But for those of us who were in this place at 3pm on Tuesday, optimism and the future were not high on the agenda. Those of us who were here at 3pm on Tuesday would not have had the sense that an economy on the up was delivering huge windfalls in revenue.

The GST is up a billion dollars over the forward estimates. Payroll tax receipts are up \$148 million over the four years to 2021. The state tax revenue total is up \$40 million this year alone. Those who were here at 3pm on Tuesday certainly would not have got the impression that a political party that had spend 16 years in the wilderness had renewed its personnel or freshened its thinking. At 3pm on Tuesday, when Rob Lucas shuffled into this place and delivered the same style of budget he was cooking up 20 years ago, not only did we learn that in over two decades that the Liberal Party could not find anyone else capable of being Treasurer but we also learned that in 20 years the Liberal Party could not come up with any new ideas. It is back to the future indeed.

Election policies reflect the work of a political party that treats a period in opposition as an opportunity—an opportunity to listen, an opportunity to think, an opportunity to develop serious reform—but it is the budget where the rubber hits the road. The budget sets the central policy narrative and direction of any first term Premier and their government. It should reflect the values and the mission of the government and its leader.

On election night in March, the premier-elect triumphantly declared that South Australia could expect a new dawn, but as an unreconstructed Rob Lucas delivered an unreconstructed Rob Lucas budget that had no theme, no vision, no hope, and no ambition, South Australians saw a false dawn. They saw a missed opportunity. In our federation, the states are the tier of government responsible for service delivery. That is our core business. Those services are wide and varied but I think we all agree that community safety, health and education are all equally high priorities. For better or worse, every state budget impacts these core services.

Community safety: we are lucky to live in a state that has fine men and women in uniform, in police and prisons, who work hard to keep us safe, but what does this budget do to help them? SAPOL receives a \$38 million cut for its efforts. What is Mr Wingard going to axe to cover this—10 million packets of chips? But seriously, 80 per cent of the SAPOL budget is made up of wages. You cannot cut \$38 million without affecting front-line work. Something has to give and you can bet community safety will be worse for it. Crime Stoppers is an integral service to the community. The information collected and given to SAPOL helps solve crimes, catch criminals and make our community safer. For their efforts, Premier Marshall has given them a \$960,000 cut.

Then there is Corrections, the unheralded arm of the community safety portfolio. All of us can sleep easier in the knowledge that the most dangerous criminals in our society are locked up at night. South Australians would also be shocked to learn that it can cost up to \$100,000 a year to keep someone detained in a maximum security facility. Although South Australia can be proud to have a reoffending rate below the national average, having a reoffending rate of 45 per cent of released prisoners returning to custody within two years amounts to a revolving door.

That leaves governments with two options: either build more and more prison beds at huge capital and recurrent costs or stop the revolving door. This government made their choice when it decided to cut the funding of programs targeted to reduce reoffending by 10 per cent by 2020. Less rehabilitation means more crime and that means more victims. Then to cap it off, they are going to privatise a prison. Not just any prison, a maximum security prison—

There being a disturbance in the strangers' gallery.

Mr MALINAUSKAS: —now if the minister thinks that the running of a low security—

The SPEAKER: Order! Leader of the Opposition, one moment please. I ask that members of the gallery please do not interject. Thank you.

Mr MALINAUSKAS: If the minister thinks the cost of running a low-security Mount Gambier prison, the one that the Liberals first privatised, can be compared with the cost and complexity of a maximum security prison, then clearly he has not read the brief. If the Premier believes there are savings to be made at the Remand Centre, then find them. If he believes there are efficiencies that can be found at the Remand Centre, then deliver them. But do not just give up only six months in and say, 'It's all too hard,' and hand the keys of a gaol over to a private for-profit corporation.

Cutting SAPOL, burning Crime Stoppers, reducing rehabilitation and privatising prisons is quite simply poor policy. As corrections minister, I had the courage to stand up for my convictions, denounce Kevin Foley's rack 'em, pack 'em and stack 'em policy and do something about it. This minister should have the courage to stand up to Rob Lucas and do what is right for community safety in our state by stopping the Americanisation of our prisons and instead investing in crime reduction.

The Liberal Party spent 16 years complaining about Health. They love pointing to every problem without having any solutions. They fought tooth and nail against giving patients access to a new Royal Adelaide Hospital. They gave South Australians the impression that they would address every funding shortfall and fix every waiting list. Now we see the reality of the Liberal's management of our health system: privatisation and cuts. At the first chance they got, the Liberal government broke their promise and restarted privatising our public hospital system.

SA Pathology, SA imaging and patient transfers are on the privatisation chopping block. Important clinical services in our hospitals, like blood tests and biopsies, will be contracted out to the lowest bidder. Profit will be the motive, not the best patient care. World-leading teaching and research will suffer, and patients will be forced to pay more as bulk billing suffers. We see in black and white the cuts that our public hospitals will now be facing. Across the health system, 880 staff will be cut and many of these will be key clinical staff.

There is no doubt that the impact of this will be felt at the front doors of our hospitals. Where ramping has been at crisis levels this year, it will now only get worse. This budget is so mean-spirited that it is even cutting health services to homeless people with HIV. We in Labor believe in the value of public health care, provided by publicly employed clinicians serving the public good, not chasing profits.

Education is one of the most important investments a government can make for the future of the state's economy, as well as for the individual benefit of young people. This budget does not show any imagination or interest in the future. The Marshall government claims credit for huge investments by the previous government in literacy, numeracy, STEM, languages, behaviour support, new schools and infrastructure upgrades. The only idea with a Liberal stamp on it is a largely unfunded move of year 7s from one school to another. This decision will take much-needed upgrade money from high schools and turn it into classrooms for children who are already in classrooms just down the road.

I would have no objection to this policy if the government had decided to actually fund their commitment. Instead, they are making schools wear it by using the Building Better Schools money to pay for an unfunded promise. The Premier remains, not surprisingly, silent in the debate with Canberra for money our schools are owed: \$210 million this year and next year alone—transformational funding.

Tertiary education is another complex policy area, with shared responsibilities with the federal government. The Premier started on the wrong foot by calling South Australian universities hopeless, absolutely hopeless, in their recruitment of international students. I am sure that endeared him to the vice chancellors. Regarding TAFE, having touted full contestability with private trainers throughout the election, his first budget closes at least seven campuses, with no consultation and no analysis. On the same day, his minister tables a review report that recommends that campuses be

run locally and opened up to shared use with employers, other trainers and the community. However, that is not consistent with the Marshall government's mantra to cut, close and sell.

Unfortunately, it is not just the core areas of community safety, health and education that will be subjected to Rob Lucas's 20-year-old blunt axe. When the budget papers are analysed, it quickly becomes clear that sport and recreation funding is being cut dramatically. The big losers are sports outside cricket, footy and netball. I love my footy, but the Premier may want to note that the mix of grassroots sports played in this state has moved beyond just those played when South Australia was still a colony.

Indeed, the sports that we play are as diverse as the people who play them, which happens to include women. The fact that this government has cut the Female Facilities Program shows how completely unconnected the Liberal Party is with women. Do you know what would have happened if, as treasurer, the member for West Torrens had tried to pull a stunt like this in the Labor Party? It would never happen because the member for West Torrens wants his young daughters to have the same access and the same opportunities in grassroots sport as the shadow treasurer's young sons.

And how about the regions? Has the funding followed the rhetoric? Remember hashtag #RegionsMatter? It turns out it is nothing more than a cheap throwaway line. Under this budget, country road funding gets a \$26 million cut. Forget Royalties for Regions.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr MALINAUSKAS: How about the Liberal Party show some loyalty to the regions for the faith they put into you. I was surprised that not one dollar in this budget has been allocated to farmers who are suffering from the drought. The New South Wales government developed a \$1 billion assistance package for drought-affected communities. Although South Australia has not been affected by the drought like New South Wales, there are some South Australian farmers who are hurting, particularly on Eyre Peninsula. I am not going to try to pretend to know the communities or the people who are being affected as much as those in the member for Flinders'—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my right!

Mr MALINAUSKAS: I am not going to pretend to understand those communities or those people like the member for Flinders does, who I believe genuinely cares about his electorate, but I did meet with some of his constituents while spending some time recently on Eyre Peninsula. I got the sense that some of those folk who are there doing it tough could actually do with some assistance right now. They do not need a working group. They need some help, help which is not unprecedented, help which you are capable of delivering. You are in charge now. Only you can make it happen. So get on with it, and on this one the Labor Party will stand with you. In this budget few things have been spared:

- public transport services and routes are being cut;
- Service SA centres are being closed;
- in the disability sector a suite of work is being privatised;
- the environment department is being slashed by more than \$10 million per annum;
- \$48 million in grant payments and 125 FTE positions have been slashed from the South Australian Housing Trust;
- in Aboriginal affairs, the Office of the Treaty Commissioner is gone;
- staffing numbers in the Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation division have been almost halved, and \$5 million of funding is gone;
- the Marni Wodli Youth Accommodation Services for at-risk Aboriginal youth have been cut by almost \$2 million;

- even historic tall ships that engage young people have copped a hit;
- managed taxi ranks have been axed;
- Safe City grants are gone;
- community legal services have been cut;
- the economic driver of tourism, which has been delivering growth for our state, has been cut; and
- the equally important mining sector—what do they get? They get slugged with higher taxes.

The list goes on and on, and it begs the question why. For what central reason? For what purpose are the members for Newland and King expected to go back to their electorates and explain the privatisation of hospital services to and from Modbury Hospital, the closure of Modbury's Service SA Centre, the cancellation of bus services, the cancellation of the Tea Tree Gully park-and-ride and the closure of the Tea Tree Gully TAFE?

What is the reason why they are being asked to undertake this work? Is it because the fiscal hawks are in charge and debt must come down? No. In this budget debt soars. It goes up \$3.2 billion. The debt-to-revenue ratio goes from below 35 per cent—somewhere we always worked hard to keep—to over 41 per cent. Debt-to-revenue ratio up, debt up. So this is not about debt reduction. Is it because—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr MALINAUSKAS: Is it because—

The Hon. S.K. Knoll interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, Minister for Transport!

The Hon. S.S. Marshall interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Premier, order!

Mr MALINAUSKAS: Is the Premier asking the members for Newland and King to undertake this work because the government wants to see higher jobs growth delivered to our state? No. Treasury forecasts in this budget that jobs growth is going to decline, from 2.1 per cent in 2017 to 1 per cent in 2022, a halving of jobs growth rate over the course of this budget. So I am not sure what the explanation is. Maybe the true cost of key election commitments was not thought through. In any event, if there are questions or doubts about what the vision is behind this budget, those questions or doubts are of the Premier's and Treasurer's making.

The Hon. Mr Lucas said the word 'Labor' 39 times in his budget speech. He only mentioned jobs nine times. He did not mention prosperity once. What the Premier and Treasurer do not realise is that the people of South Australia do not care about the dark arts of budget tricks. Bringing substantial expenditures back from one year into the previous in order to create or exaggerate a deficit is a cheap headline but not a long-term strategy.

What South Australians care about is public health services being delivered in a way that is good for them rather than for profit. What workers care about is being able to catch the bus and make sure that they are still running to get to work. What teenagers care about is getting into their TAFE. What parents care about is whether their community is safe for their children. But most importantly, what South Australians care about is each other, which is why the fairness test matters. One of my favourite quotes is from Frank Delano Roosevelt (FDR). He said:

The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

It is an eloquent set of words, a set of words which does not admonish inner quality but which recognises that too much inequality stifles our progress. I could not agree with FDR more, and when this basic test of fairness is applied to this state budget there are some glaring failures.

Tax reform can be a powerful tool to stimulate an economy and pursue fairness. That is why Labor in government, and in opposition, have supported the government's payroll tax reductions. It is also why we recently supported the ESL reductions. Both employers and households have earned a dividend on their determination and resilience.

Likewise, we support some land tax reform. Aspirational South Australians who have worked hard to acquire capital to own an investment property or a holiday shack should not be unfairly slugged. But there is a basic value judgement to be made about the fairness of a pensioner in a 1960s bedsit or a cottage flat being more than \$500 a year worse off while an interstate landlord who owns \$5 million of land gets a \$30,000 a year tax break. It would take 60 pensioners dipping into their wallets and purses to pay for one landlord's tax break.

We all heard Trish's story on the radio yesterday. The idea that we could be making the most vulnerable people in our community, who cannot afford their own home, worse off, while people on the highest land tax threshold pay a lot less, does not pass the fairness test. On a day that national accounts placed South Australia as one of the best performing economies in the nation, on a day that multimillionaire landowners were learning about tens of thousands of dollars of tax cuts, it should not be the day that the most vulnerable in our community learn about a rent hike.

On this side of the house, we know what we stand for. We believe that the determined and resilient people of our state deserve better. When an economy is on the up, now is not the time to be revisionist about the past. Instead, we should be investing in the future, full of optimism and potential, but the government collaborated with the growth industries of tourism, mining, higher education, premium food and wine and agriculture. Our economy can continue to prosper without leaving swathes of people behind.

In health, our state now has world-class hospitals and an expert cohort of doctors and nurses. Instead of imposing savage cuts and instead of imposing privatisations, the Premier could be sitting down with our top clinicians to develop ways to improve efficiency without impacting patient care, properly consulting, just like he said he would. The Premier could also be investing in primary and preventative care—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr MALINAUSKAS: The Premier could also be investing in primary and preventative care to keep people healthy and out of hospital, just like he said he would.

Education is a centrepiece of Labor values and progressive values. A party that believes in working towards a future and preparing the population to benefit from economic change will always prioritise education funding. Now is not the time to be closing TAFE campuses, particularly at Port Adelaide, where we will need more skilled jobs than ever before.

In community safety, rather than privatising prisons we can invest in long-term strategies and improved safety by tackling reoffending. We are capable of all these things and more. Sure, it is hard and we are not naive about the challenges, but if any of us are looking for a source of inspiration, we need only look at the people we represent.

The Treasurer may have ice in his veins, but this budget has proven the Premier to be cold-blooded. On this side of the house, we may have cool heads, but we are very much warm-blooded. For Labor, our work is just beginning. We will campaign for fairness right throughout this term of government. We will stand up for what is right. In a period of prosperity, we will work day and night to ensure that the gritty determination and the resilience of the South Australian people gets the reward it deserves.

There being a disturbance in the strangers' gallery:

The SPEAKER: Thank you, members of the gallery. The Deputy Premier has the call.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (12:26): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I am very proud today to rise and support the state budget of 2018-19, the very first budget of the Marshall Liberal government. Elected after 16 years of Labor's financial mismanagement, our government must now act to clean up Labor's mess. South Australians understand the financial state of affairs that was left to us, and they know that together all of us must put our shoulders to the wheel and return the budget to a sustainable position.

With this budget, South Australia sees decisive action and determined economic political leadership. The Marshall Liberal government is committed to financial repair, and it begins in this budget. In addition to getting the state's finances in order, we said before the election that we would deliver our election commitments to create more jobs, lower costs and provide better services for South Australians.

As members know, we have already delivered many of our commitments, and this budget delivers more of them. I commend the Treasurer for his budget speech. I am so impressed that I asked the Premier to get it autographed by the Treasurer, because it will be an important document for the future.

The Hon. S.S. Marshall: Which I did.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Which indeed he did. What is also important to note is that it is clear that the deficit of some \$397 million left in this last financial year, which was paraded by the former government as going to achieve a \$12 million surplus, has cascaded into this massive deficit. Shamefully, the former government knew full well before they left office that it was heading towards at least a \$200 million deficit and they said nothing.

That identifies the level of deceit that applied to the daily operations of a government that would never tell the truth to South Australians. That situation has been revealed, and the former government can bleat all they like about the position that they claim was going to occur, but their own advisers and their own documents reveal this shameful concealment.

I would also like to say that in a circumstance where you keep spinning lies, eventually the public wakes up—and they did in March 2018. That deceit and deception are now over and we are committed to a transparent administration. We have started straightaway with this budget. It is important to ensure that we no longer have fake news, that we do not have fake budgets and that we do not have made-up figures. We have a situation where the former administration, now led by one of its ministers in the opposition of today, continues to bleat out fake news. He makes Donald Trump look like a rank amateur. It is just appalling to think that they continue to fail to face up to what they have done and what legacy they have left to South Australians.

I want to highlight some of the important savings measures insofar as they relate to the area of the Attorney-General's responsibility. In contributing to this debate, it represents somewhat of a change from previous years, when attorneys-general did not rise to support their treasurer—in all the time I can remember being here—let alone their own cabinet collective decision-making. Let me start by providing confirmation of the significant additional funding to the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption and the Office of Public Integrity to support the performance of statutory functions, along with the delivery of education programs and investigation activities. This also delivers a key election commitment to enable ICAC to conduct public hearings.

The funding boost of \$14.5 million includes \$7 million over four years to support operations and a further \$7.5 million of investing expenditure over four years for IT system upgrades, office accommodation fit-out and the establishment of a hearing facility, which will allow access to both media and the South Australian public. I did offer the Sturt Street courts that were renovated by the previous government, but they are not fit for purpose. They still sit in decay after a \$10 million spend, which is just so symptomatic of the administration of the previous Labor government.

As I have said before, the previous government was addicted to secrecy and continually blocked attempts to legislate for open ICAC hearings, despite the ICAC commissioner, the Hon. Bruce Lander QC, calling for the ability to conduct maladministration and misconduct investigations and hearings in public. Our government has introduced legislation to enable those public hearings, and now we are backing that up and funding it in the budget. The ICAC has

demonstrated a clear need for extra funding to do its job in recent years, funding which has not been provided by the former Labor government, notwithstanding submissions presented to them. We recognise the importance of an independent integrity body and we are proud to resource it properly.

Let me refer to Forensic Science SA, which will be aided with an extra \$1.5 million over four years for coronial services. The FSSA provides independent, high-quality, expert scientific evidence, opinion and information to the justice system and to the South Australian community. It is an essential service, and I would like to acknowledge and thank Professor Chris Pearman and his team for the vital work that they do. The additional funding is to support an increase in the number and complexity of post mortems and pathology reviews requested by the Coroner.

There could not be a member in this house who does not hear the plaintive claims of their constituency about the delay of funerals, the delay of coronial inquiries, the delay in their laying to rest a loved one or at least an inquiry into their cause of death. Last year, in my response to Labor's appropriation bill, I said in relation to FSSA:

...the failure to deal with the performance indicators in respect of turnaround times was a direct reflection of the government's failure to provide adequate resources...

Under this government, FSSA receives a much-needed funding injection.

I am very pleased that the full-time community legal service will be reinstated in the Riverland as a result of our allocation of \$600,000 over four years. This will provide people in the Riverland with access to legal services when they most need them. This is good news for the people of the Riverland, after the service closed in 2017. This demonstrates the Marshall Liberal government's commitment to the Riverland and to the regions, and I thank our Premier for understanding its significance. Again, unlike the Leader of the Opposition, who again falsely claims a reduction in relation to services, we are rebuilding regional services and reopening offices. This is an important part of access to justice for our regional South Australians.

The budget provides additional funding of \$750,000 for the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions for the prosecution of a number of complex criminal cases currently being conducted. These cases require the application of significant legal resources in a dedicated capacity for extended periods of time. High profile cases, such as the NCA bombing and the ongoing prosecution of Sturt police officers arising from an ICAC investigation, are the types of cases that obviously require additional resourcing. The government takes its responsibility seriously in this regard.

The budget provides \$146.4 million in the financial year just concluded to support South Australia's participation in the National Redress Scheme for Survivors of Institutional Child Sexual Abuse. This is probably the thing I am most proud of in the new government: making that decision early, paying up the commitment early and now providing the legislation, which is on its way through the parliament. This figure is an estimate based on the actuarial assessment commissioned by the commonwealth, which estimated up to 1,690 eligible applicants may have been abused within South Australian government institutions.

As members know, the National Redress Scheme was a recommendation of the commonwealth's Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse. Our government believes that joining the scheme is the best means of providing a measure of justice to those victims. As I have previously said, the stories presented at the royal commission opened our eyes to the prevalence of institutional child sexual abuse, the failure of institutions to respond, and the lifelong impact it brings to bear. The commission's findings are powerful and far-reaching.

The scheme will be administered by the commonwealth Department of Social Services. The South Australian Government Financing Authority (SAFA) will manage the administration and payment of the redress claims assessed by the national scheme operator. Funding for the payments has been sourced from the Victims of Crime Fund and, at the completion of the scheme, any residual balance will be returned to the fund.

The consolidation of the Independent Gambling Authority is a budget measure that will reduce expenditure by \$236,000 in 2018-19, with ongoing savings of \$483,000 per annum from the 2019-20, producing a \$1.7 million saving over four years for taxpayers. Savings will be realised through the consolidation of the IGA within Consumer and Business Services, which will perform the

regulatory functions of the IGA. The Liquor and Gambling Commissioner will become the sole regulator and assume the operational and enforcement responsibilities previously under the IGA.

The consolidation of operations into a single gambling regulator is consistent with the recommendations of the Administrative Review of Gambling Regulations in South Australia by His Honour Tim Anderson QC, initiated by the former government, and will simplify the regulatory framework for the industry. Regrettably, this report was kept concealed for two years but is now before the parliament, and we are pleased to announce this initiative, consistent with their advice.

The Office of the Public Advocate has been allocated \$1.2 million over two years to support clients living with disability to access the National Disability Insurance Scheme. This will help clients secure the best possible plans and funding for support services as they become participants in the scheme. Around 700 clients of the Public Advocate are expected to become NDIS participants, and significant work is required to assist and support them to access and remain in the scheme. This is much-needed funding. I was appalled to hear the Leader of the Opposition today treat the NDIS as something his federal counterparts proudly paraded as an idea that was initiated under their administration federally but now, suddenly, it is some shameful privatisation of a much-needed service for those in our disability community.

As a result of the financial mess we inherited from the former Labor government, the delivery of this budget has forced the government to make some hard decisions. These decisions have not been easy, but are necessary to ensure that the government delivers its election commitments. It commences the task of financial repair, while maintaining a budget discipline around the forward estimates. The priority for this government is to ensure that our state is respected again as an engine room in the Australian economy and not the recipient of dismissive scoffs from other states.

It is also a priority that our state deliver a future for our children and provide them with a secure, inspiring, exciting future, a place to work and play, and not a place from which to flee to try to secure employment elsewhere and, finally, that we ensure that our state is a sanctuary, a safe, protected and productive sanctuary, for those who are most vulnerable in our community and where they can have a future that gives them that opportunity.

It is certainly true to say that when we receive budgets I remember my father's words: 'It is very important to pay well those who work hard, to provide for those who can't and to starve those who can but won't'. Our priority must be to protect the vulnerable, to ensure that we give them a future and to work hard to ensure that those who are prepared to resurrect the status of our state, the economy and the future for our children, do have our priorities and do enjoy that support as we go forward.

One of the matters I feel rather sad to have announced is the discontinuance of the sentencing council. This will, of course, save \$100,000 a year, but it is a council, in my short time as Attorney-General, whose advice I have valued. It was previously chaired by the Hon. Kevin Duggan AM QC, and the current chairperson is the Hon. John Sulan QC. Both have been very supportive in providing us with advice in relation to restorative justice, and I commend them for all their work during the time they have operated, since 2011.

Surely, we will have to rely on many internal people within the Attorney-General's Department, but I am assured that those who have served on this council will continue to make available their support and advice on an individual basis. I certainly will value that. I make the point that one of the greatest concerns I had when coming into office was that when the former government dealt with the sentencing law reform and rewrote the Sentencing Act the sentencing council was not asked to express a view or consulted in relation to the bill that came to the house. I found it absolutely stunning, and I felt sickened by the fact that they had been ignored when they are a body supposed to be there to provide advice to government.

I also make the point in relation to the sentencing review that this is an issue concerning to us as a government looking forward to future areas. Apart from the major indictable reform the former government brought in, which became effective in April, clearly there are some difficulties with that, but we are trying to work hard to make sure it works. In relation to sentencing law review, in 2011 and then in 2012, the former attorney-general introduced legislation to provide for sentence discounting. At the time, I made the point on behalf of the then opposition that this had been a practice

which had been considered overseas, in the United Kingdom, and abandoned and which had been considered in other states and at the least reduced. But, no, the government wanted to press ahead with what has been colloquially called 'the supergrass amendments'.

We indicated at the time, and the *Hansard* is there for all to see, the concerns we had in moving to a 40 per cent discounting in relation to sentencing and whether that would have any actual impact, given the experience around the world, as to the encouragement for early guilty pleas. I made the point that plea bargaining is something that the public does not always understand in relation to having a full understanding of how it applies and why it can be important for there to be a negotiating option in dealing with the settlement of cases that are being prosecuted.

The government went ahead with it anyway, and I think it is fair to say that when the government appointed the Hon. Brian Martin to do its review of that legislation, to see whether it had been effective, both in the early guilty pleas and in the supergrass opportunities given to criminals to assist the prosecution in relation to successfully convicting others, there were some significant limitations identified in respect of this legislation.

It is fair to say that, although there had not been much opportunity in the time that that review had passed, there was certainly an indication that on balance there had not actually been a translation into a reduction in the median number of days to finalise major indictable matters and in relation to early guilty pleas. On the supergrass matter, the reviewer said that it was too early to tell at all. We are down the track a few more years and clearly we need to look at this data again.

This is a matter that I think a new government needs to take up because the former government's option was to introduce legislation, give criminals a much greater discounting than applied anywhere else, much to the concern of victims and general disquiet in the public and then not make any provision for what was still a burden with some provision of sentencing so that people were then shuffled off into the opportunities of home detention. You can see where I am going here.

The former government's way of doing this was to do an early deal, reduce the number of people going into prison, pretend to the public that they were strong on law and order and then, when it came to the crunch and they were not prepared to put any money into extra prison beds, give them home detention. That was the modus operandi of the former government. We do need to look at this issue again and we do need to identify whether there has been a direct benefit and whether there has been the important consultation with victims that was highlighted back in that report in 2015, which the former government either did not read or did not care about, but they certainly did not do anything about.

I look forward to continuing to seek advice from the judiciary, the legal associations and people who work in this field, both at a government level and in the private sector, to ensure that we do make provision for a fair system in respect of sentencing. In relation to the Legal Services Commission, there are some other initiatives that have been announced, and I look forward to making a further contribution in respect of a budget of which I am immensely proud.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay) (12:47): Let's be clear: this is a budget that delivers cruel cuts, closures and privatisations, cutting more than 4,000 public servants, punishing Housing Trust tenants and privatising prisons and vital health services, but today I will focus my remarks on my shadow portfolio of trade, tourism and investment.

The objectives of this portfolio should be a bipartisan one. We all want to see a growing tourism sector and a booming visitor economy. We all want to see growth in our goods and services exports, more international students and more investment in our state, and that is why I am astounded that this budget does the opposite.

Let me start with tourism. South Australia's picturesque scenery, diverse regions, amazing food and drinks, and a jam-packed calendar of festivals and events make South Australia a must-visit destination. The tourism sector alone contributes \$6.7 billion to our economy. We have a transparent goal to achieve an \$8 billion visitor economy by 2020. Deloitte has nominated tourism as a sector that offers significant global growth, a sector that employs 56,000 South Australians directly and indirectly, and it is a truly whole of state industry, with 60 per cent of tourism expenditure in the metro area and 40 per cent in the regions.

Labor knew that investing in tourism would pay dividends. Let me acknowledge the great work of the former minister for tourism. With a key focus on destination marketing, we delivered, and the results speak for themselves. Since 2013, we have experienced a 30 per cent increase in the economic impact of tourism. Over the last term, we achieved 54 major events and 73 conventions and added more than 1,100 additional hotel rooms, with 14 more hotels on their way. We attracted new direct flights from China Southern and Qatar Airways. We oversaw the development of a very strong cruise ships market, with 63 stopping in South Australia last year and an aim for more than 80 this year.

Labor was committed to continuing its support for tourism, as was clearly detailed in our election proposals. We were going to increase the budget for the South Australian Tourism Commission to \$100 million by 2020-21. This was a true commitment for growth. The South Australian Tourism Commission does great work in supporting the sector. They provide support in marketing the state around the nation and to the world. They work to sponsor and support major international, national and regional events. They help provide support for developing our tourism industry.

The tourism industry is a very dynamic arena. We are competing for visitors not just in Australia but around the world. Why, then, will the Liberal government spend \$11 million less this year than was spent last year? This government, in its very first outing, has reversed the growth in the tourism budget. For the first time in more than four years, the money for tourism has been cut. Let me review: in 2014-15, there was \$52.3 million for SATC; in 2015-16, \$71.2 million; in 2016-17, \$89.8 million; last year, \$99.1 million was spent; but this year, the budget is \$87.9 million, a decrease of 11 percent from the spend of last year.

When the government wants to cut our tourism events, which one will they choose? The Adelaide 500? The Tour Down Under? The Christmas Pageant, which does not have a sponsor for next year? Do they want to stop supporting the post-race concerts at the Adelaide 500, which have not been announced yet after this year's sellout with Robbie Williams? What are we waiting for? The international marketing budget has also been cut.

The visitor economy in South Australia is a success story. In the last year alone, the economic contribution of international visitors increased by 10 per cent to \$1.2 billion. Now the government is saying, 'Let's pare back our tourism marketing this year.' What kind of signal does this send to our tourism operators, to the international airlines and to our local retail and hospitality industry?

An important tourism industry representative body, the South Australian Tourism Industry Council, with more than 900 members, called on this government to maintain the tourism budget with at least the 2017-18 budget plus CPI. It was the South Australian Tourism Industry Council's number one priority, and the government failed at this first measure. We must continue the strong positive momentum of showcasing South Australia to the world. By increasing investments to attract more international and interstate visitors and more events, we will continue to drive our industry in tourism. It is a key driver for our economy and a job creator. Now is not the time to take a step back.

Let me now focus on trade and investment. The government says this is a more narrowed approach to trade and investment policy—and how narrow it is. In this budget, the Liberal government has outlined their four-year plan to cut 45 per cent from the new Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment. This will result in the number of people in this new department decreasing from 142 FTEs today to 78 FTEs by 2021. This government wants industry to grow exports with one hand tied behind their back. This is in complete opposition to the declaration—a very proud declaration during the election—that a Liberal government will drive an export-led transformation of the South Australian economy. It was a bold claim, but it is gone.

The Labor government had a very clear vision about how South Australia can attract leading companies around the world—companies like Boeing, VeroGuard and Technicolor. We want them to set up offices right here in South Australia. It was the work of dedicated experts such as Investment Attraction South Australia that made this happen. As of February 2018, the work of Investment Attraction SA brought in 34 projects and contributed \$8.185 billion to the local economy, creating more than 8,000 jobs. Now the minister's signature policy is the creation of five new trade offices and

a Shanghai business and investment hub, but there is going to be far fewer people to support them at home. I am greatly concerned that we are repeating past history.

The Liberal government was very critical of the 2012 Hartley report, which advised on transitioning from stand-alone trade offices to being more focused on the facilitation of inwards investment and to continue with trade missions. More importantly, he emphasised that trade offices need support from their home state. He said that adequate back office support was mandatory. I am concerned that we will not achieve the lift in exports, as is our shared goal.

On top of that, still to this day the government has given no forward calendar, no commitment to support trade missions for our local businesses. More than 300 businesses participated in the 2017 outbound business missions. Sixty of those businesses became new exporters. Without a 2018 calendar or indeed a 2019 calendar for the business missions, it is extremely difficult, indeed impossible, for businesses to plan, to participate and to express an interest in going on these missions.

Experts tell us that trade missions are important, but the government wants to cut business missions. The experts are telling us that trade offices need back office support, but the government wants to cut this support. What we really have here is a government with no follow-through. In its revised activity indicators for the department, the number of inbound and outbound missions will no longer be publicly reported, yet the government has made new targets. But with no detail about how they will achieve them, there is no transparency. The targets are 2,000 new export or investment related jobs in 2018-19 and \$500 million in foreign direct investment in 2018-19.

These are admirable targets but, without the clear understanding and focus that we previously had, I am very concerned about these goals. The government need to explain how they think cutting programs in the tourism, trade and investment sectors will assist the economy. The budget raises more questions than answers. How does cutting the tourism budget by \$11 million help achieve the target to create an \$8 billion tourism visitor economy by 2020? How does cutting 45 per cent of the Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment—

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Duluk): Member for Ramsay, would you like to seek leave to continue your remarks?

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: Can I have just a moment?

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Duluk): You better be very quick.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: Thank you. We cannot afford to lose this positive momentum. This is no time for complacency.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Boyer.

Sitting suspended from 13:00 to 14:00.

Parliamentary Procedure

ANSWERS TABLED

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

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Premier (Hon. S.S. Marshall)—

Remuneration Tribunal—

No. 6 of 2018—Allowances for Members of Local Government Councils
Determination

No. 6 of 2018—Allowances for Members of Local Government Councils Report

No. 7 of 2018—Allowances for Members of Adelaide City Council Determination

No. 7 of 2018—Allowances for Members of Adelaide City Council Report

No. 8 of 2018—Manager Family Violence List Allowance—Magistrates Determination

No. 8 of 2018—Manager Family Violence List Allowance—Magistrates Report
No. 9 of 2018—2018 Review of Salary for Presidential Members of the SA Civil and Administrative Tribunal Determination

No. 9 of 2018—2018 Review of Salary for Presidential Members of the SA Civil and Administrative Tribunal Report

By the Minister for Energy and Mining (Hon. D.C. van Holst Pellekaan)—

Petroleum and Geothermal Energy Act 2000—Compliance Report 2017

By the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government (Hon. S.K. Knoll)—

Approvals to Remove Track Infrastructure—Annual Report 2017-18
Commissioner of Highways—Leases and Licenses Granted for Properties held by the
Annual Report 2017-18

Ministerial Statement

NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME FRAUD

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (14:02): I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I was concerned to read an article in *The Australian* newspaper of 31 August 2018 about a South Australian resident who lost the whole of her core funding under the National Disability Insurance Scheme to a fraud involving a trader from Western Australia. People with a disability rely on their funding arrangements under the NDIS to obtain essential support and services, and to hear that shonky operators are seeking to take advantage of people in that situation is quite disturbing.

The commonwealth has established an NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission, which commenced operations in South Australia and New South Wales from 1 July this year, with other states to follow. The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission is a new independent agency established to improve the quality and safety of NDIS supports and services. Its aim is to regulate the NDIS market, provide national consistency, promote safety and quality services, resolve problems and identify areas for improvement.

A complaints commissioner is part of the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission. Most NDIS providers do their best to provide quality supports and services to people with disability, but issues can occur. The NDIS commissioner can take complaints about services or supports that were not provided in a safe and respectful way, or services and supports that were not delivered to an appropriate standard.

In addition, the commonwealth has established an NDIS fraud task force. I can advise the house that this task force is a partnership between the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), the Department of Human Services and the Australian Federal Police. The task force will focus on high risk and serious criminal activity potentially targeting the NDIS whilst also building fraud prevention and detection capabilities within the NDIA.

In South Australia, a Disability Reform Program Steering Committee was established to oversee the transition of disability services to the NDIS. A subgroup of that steering committee is the quality and safeguarding subgroup, which is chaired by the Commissioner for Consumer Affairs. This subgroup is comprised of representatives of government agencies and statutory authorities that will provide assistance and services to people with a disability or who deal with complaints about traders or practitioners who provide goods and services to people with a disability.

The subgroup has been engaging with the NDIS complaints commissioner about information and data sharing, referral pathways for complaints about service providers and education

opportunities. This is to ensure that the South Australian regulators and agencies can work with the commonwealth to assist people with a disability to access complaint options and dispute resolution mechanisms in a simple and timely way. This subgroup is exploring options for information sharing, information and referral pathways to the commonwealth where conduct comes to the attention that relates to NDIS-funded services.

Our Commissioner for Consumer Affairs and other members of the subgroup can also refer matters to the task force. Complaints about an NDIS-funded service can be made to the NDIS complaints commissioner by telephoning 1800 024 544 or lodging a complaint online. The NDIS fraud task force have established a dedicated fraud hotline, and anyone with information about suspected fraud involving the NDIS should contact the fraud hotline on 1800 650 717. I would urge members to refer any of their constituents, if required, to those contacts.

Parliamentary Committees

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (14:07): I bring up the fifth report of the committee, entitled South Australian Virtual Power Plant Project.

Report received and ordered to be published.

Question Time

STATE BUDGET

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:08): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier explain how increasing rent for Housing Trust tenants, privatising prisons and hospital services, increasing state debt by more than \$3.3 billion and closing Service SA centres, TAFEs and bus routes will deliver more jobs, lower costs and better services?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:08): I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his question. He stumbled over our slogan. I hope he doesn't forget our slogan—'More jobs, lower costs and better services'—because that's exactly and precisely—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —what we took to the people of South Australia. Every time you go to an election it's an opportunity for the people of South Australia to decide who they want to govern them. And guess what they decided? They said they wanted more jobs, lower costs and better services—they elected us. It was a vote of confidence. It was a great vote of confidence in what we took to the election. It was also a vote of no confidence in what we had had for 16 years in South Australia: hopeless and dysfunctional government at every opportunity, increasing the burdens on individuals, families, and businesses in South Australia. Let me tell you, sir—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —the people of South Australia voted for a government that made commitments, and we were delighted when we brought down our very first budget on Tuesday this week to implement each and every single one of those commitments. And that contrasts very distinctly with what we have seen from those opposite over the last 16 years. Usually, the budget headline in *The Advertiser* immediately after an election says, 'Horror budget'. What did *The Advertiser* say this time? The government—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: This is a government which is implementing—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —each and every one of its commitments.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: And I am proud—proud to be leading a government which has brought forward a range of benefits for the people of South Australia. Let me tell you about just some of them. I think one of the most important things that we are addressing in our budget is the massive skills problem that we were left in South Australia by the previous government.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: They should hang their heads in shame.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: They are too gutless to ask a single question about TAFE—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —because what did they leave us with? A complete and utter catastrophe.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The member for Port Adelaide, the former minister for education, presided over not only a disaster in education, not only a disaster in child protection, but also a complete and utter disaster in TAFE. What did Labor do? They promoted her. They made her the deputy leader of their parliamentary party.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order: personal reflection, sir—out of order.

The SPEAKER: Personal reflections—

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: I was only highlighting, sir, the honourable member's—

The SPEAKER: Sorry, Premier. Member for West Torrens—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! What was the personal reflection amongst the shouting? I missed it.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Mr Speaker, the question—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: —was very specifically about the budget.

The SPEAKER: Yes.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: And the Premier has reflected on members personally. It's pretty obvious.

The SPEAKER: So the point of order is debate?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Yes.

The SPEAKER: Okay. I will listen carefully. Before I rule, I have noted a number of members making interjections during the Premier's answer, so I call to order—who? I will tell you: the members for Mawson, Lee, the leader, the member for Wright, the member for Badcoe, the member for West Torrens, the member for Playford, the member for Reynell and, especially, the Minister for Education. I will listen carefully. Premier, if you are winding up your remarks I ask that you do stick to the substance of the question. Thank you, Premier.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Thank you, very much, sir. The Leader of the Opposition asked questions about the core things that we took to the election: more jobs, lower costs and better services. I am presenting to this house—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —our credentials that were brought down in our budget on Tuesday. Let me tell you about more jobs. On 1 January next year, we will wipe out payroll tax for every single small business in South Australia. Every business with a payroll of up to \$1.5 million will not pay a cent—will not pay a cent. It is all designed to create jobs. Before the election, when we were talking about reducing payroll tax, those opposite were saying, 'You're just looking after your mates in the employment sector. They are just going to trouser the money.'

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Now, of course, they have jumped on board. Well, good on you. At least you have made a decision in that area. Also, in terms of jobs, we are going to create 20,800 new apprenticeships and traineeships in South Australia. This is a massive investment in the future of South Australia. Those opposite neglected our future generation with their hopeless mismanagement of TAFE and vocational education and training—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —not those on this side of the house. There's only a few more moments, but I will address the issue of lower costs. I was stopped last night at a function for the Magarey Medal count by a lady who said to me, 'I have never voted Liberal before. I voted for you this time. I opened up my ESL bill. It was halved.' She said, 'Thank you. Finally, a government that's doing what they said they were going to do.'

The SPEAKER: The medal was won by a member of the Norwood Football Club, Premier, I know as well. The member for Lee.

STATE BUDGET

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:13): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier explain why under his budget the employment growth rate will more than halve, from 2.1 per cent in 2017-18 to 1 per cent in only two years?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Premier has the call. He will be heard in silence, please.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:14): Thank you very much. It's a very important question, the question of job creation in South Australia. As I outlined in my previous answer, the new government will be doing everything that we possibly can to effect more jobs here in South Australia.

Historically and until extraordinarily recently, when there has been a change in government and a new confidence in South Australia, our state has lagged behind the national job creation rate—statement of fact! I know they hate facts on that side of the house, but it is a statement of fact. For virtually the entire time, the very long and tedious time that they were in government, we lagged behind the national average job creation rate.

Now, since January, there has been a massive uplift in community sentiment here. In fact, every single published poll has not only said that confidence has gone up—consumer confidence, business confidence has gone up—

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Point of order, sir.

The SPEAKER: There is a point of order from the member for Lee.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Thank you. It's debate. This was about the employment growth figures, not about confidence.

The SPEAKER: Employment growth rate.

An honourable member: That's what he was talking about.

The SPEAKER: If I am allowed to rule on the point of order, I believe that the Premier is providing some economic background that is related to such a rate. I will listen carefully. Premier.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Thank you very much, sir. I find it incredible that when we are talking about future job creation in South Australia that the member for Lee, who is—

The SPEAKER: Please come back to the question, Premier.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Well, we are talking about job creation rates in South Australia, sir. A fundamental direct influence on the creation of new jobs in South Australia is business confidence. If those opposite want to tell us—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —that somehow there is a sort of an inverse relationship, I don't know—business confidence goes down, jobs go up. I don't know how your mind works. I don't know how—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: I don't who is doing their economic modelling, sir. I don't know who is doing it. It might be Kevin Naughton. It could be somebody who is advising them who has some new model that has been lost on the rest of the economic world, but what we know on this side of the house is that when business confidence improves then people go out and employ more people, but more than that, what we want to do to increase the job rate—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —in South Australia, what we want to do to increase the rate of job creation in South Australia is to provide some incentive for the business community. That is why we are lowering their costs. That is why we are supporting them with a comprehensive skills development program, which has been sorely missing in South Australia for an extended period of time. That is why, sir, and I know that you will appreciate this because you are out in your electorate working hard, like many of the members in this house do—certainly on this side of the house.

But when we talk to people about job creation, do you know what they always say? 'There's too much red tape in South Australia.' Well, of course there's too much red tape; we have had Labor in power for 16 years. That is why we have worked very hard to put forward positive policies to reduce red tape and burden on the private sector in South Australia so that we can create more jobs here in South Australia. That is why we were very disappointed on this side of the house—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —while we have been focused on improving the job creation rate referred to by the honourable member on the other side—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left! You have asked the question.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —of the house, we were very disappointed that they didn't support our very positive policy to create—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —a productivity commission for South Australia. This is very sensible policy. It is like those opposite are arguing against—

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order, sir.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —red tape reduction in South Australia.

The SPEAKER: There is a point of order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Yes, the Premier is reflecting on a vote of the house.

The SPEAKER: He is reflecting upon a vote of the house.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: Point of order on the point of order.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Sir, I believe that the Premier was talking about Labor's position on a matter, not on a vote of the house.

The SPEAKER: Yes, I uphold the point of order on the point of order. I believe the Premier is winding up.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Well, sir, there is nothing more important to the new government than creating more jobs in South Australia. Those opposite had 16 years to put in place all their policies related to job creation. Guess what? They failed. We will not fail. We will back those people who put their assets, their businesses on the line—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —to create jobs in South Australia—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —because we want to get this state moving.

The SPEAKER: The Premier's time has expired. I call to order and I warn the member for Lee and the member for Playford for a first time. The member for Narungga has been patiently waiting and has the call.

PORT WAKEFIELD OVERPASS

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (14:18): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. My question—

An honourable member interjecting:

The SPEAKER: I will come back to you.

Mr ELLIS: —is to the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government. Will the minister update the house on the state government's plans to improve traffic flow and safety around Port Wakefield?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:19): Talk about patience. Ask the people from Narungga how patient they have been about waiting for a long-term solution for Port Wakefield. I would like to thank the member for Narungga for his advocacy but also pay tribute to his predecessor, the member

for Goyder, who has been fighting for this project for such a long period of time. In fact, even the member for Grey, Rowan Ramsey, says he has been fighting for this for over a decade.

If those opposite want to understand where the jobs are going, they are going to construction in South Australia. That is where the jobs are being created here in South Australia—good, private sector jobs to build the productive infrastructure that this government has put into this budget. We took to the election a commitment to deliver an overpass over the top end of the Copper Coast and Augusta highways at the top of Port Wakefield, a \$24 million commitment that we were going to work on a conservative fifty-fifty arrangement with the federal government.

What we have been able to deliver is not just stage 1, but we have actually been able to chuck in the steak knives and actually get stage 2 and get the duplication done. Not only did we get the stage 2 duplication of Port Wakefield through the township, but we actually got an 80:20 funding arrangement from the federal government—\$71 million that we got from the federal government to be able to deliver this project for South Australia.

This is something that the former Labor government seemed to enjoy a decade ago, but it's never been delivered. We have actually been able to deliver this for the people of South Australia. This is one of a number of large infrastructure commitments that we have been able to deliver in this budget. I want to thank the former Labor government for having—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —put into the state budget some money to deliver Joy Baluch, Pym to Regency and the Gawler electrification. There is only one problem with actually being able to deliver these infrastructure projects as a result of last year's budget: the fact that they didn't have the money from the federal government—no money from the federal government to deliver any of those projects. What we did was work assiduously and managed to get \$1.8 billion worth of new money in the federal budget.

Pre-budget, those opposite set a test for us, saying, 'You need to bring forward that spending.' Do you know what we did? Exactly what they asked for. Do you think they would be happy? No. What we have actually delivered in this budget is \$500 million more spending on infrastructure than was seen last year—the highest, excluding the NRAH, on record—and over the course of this budget and over the forward estimates, on average, \$240-odd million extra than the average spend over the last Labor budget.

This is what jobs look like in South Australia. It looks like productive infrastructure that is going to deliver productivity improvements, better road safety and job certainty for workers in the construction and civil construction sectors here in South Australia. This is how we are going to rebuild the South Australian economy, and I am extremely proud to help deliver a budget that does just that.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Lee, I welcome to parliament today members of the Hahndorf Lions Club, who are guests of the member for Kavel.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Member for West Torrens is warned.

Mr Pederick: Chuck him out.

The SPEAKER: I might do that. I also welcome to parliament today the very well-behaved students from Gleeson College, years 11 and 12, who are guests of the member for Wright. The Member for Lee.

*Question Time***STATE BUDGET**

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:22): Thank you, Mr Speaker. My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier explain how he expects a pensioner in a Housing Trust home receiving just \$450 a week to afford a rent increase when his police minister, who earns \$6,350 per week, can't seem to afford two packets of chips?

The SPEAKER: Premier, would you like to have a go at that?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:23): Well, it's a diminishing standard from those opposite. Who would have guessed?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left! The Premier will be heard in silence. You have asked your question.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The member for Lee, who has asked a lot more questions and had a lot more media attention than either the leader or the deputy leader, is clearly trying to make a bit of a name for himself at the moment. I suggest to him that he just try to up the standard if he wants to shuffle up the deck a little bit further.

The reality is that this government will be doing everything it possibly can to help every single South Australian with the massive cost-of-living burden that was left them by the previous government. Those opposite—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —should essentially hang their heads in shame when they think about what they inflicted upon our most vulnerable, lowest income citizens in South Australia over the 16 years that they had in power. It would be a very good lesson for the new Leader of the Opposition to go back and take a look at what happened to electricity prices under the previous government.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order: it is clearly debate, sir. The question was about Housing Trust rents.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my right! Member for West Torrens, the question that was asked arguably went a bit further than to be interrogatory. It did contain some expression. I will give the Premier some leeway here, and I will be listening to ensure that he returns to the substance of the question. I also call to order the member for West Torrens before for saying, 'Let them eat chips,' and the member for Lee for also interjecting. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Thank you very much, sir. This question is all about what the new government is going to be doing to lower the cost of living for the people of South Australia.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: I know this is almost impossible to believe, but the Leader of the Opposition asked, 'What has this got to do with Housing Trust tenants?' I don't know. Do they pay for electricity? I think so. Do they pay for water? Yes, I think they do. Do they pay state government fees, fines and charges? Yes, I think they do. It doesn't surprise me that they don't understand this.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: You need to get a briefing, my friend. You need to get a briefing from somebody other than Kevin Naughton. The reality is there are a lot of things which affect cost of living in South Australia—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —and we will be doing everything we can over the time that we are on the treasury bench to help every single South Australian. Energy prices under the former government—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —went through the roof. I would like to commend the Minister for Energy and Mining for the work that he is doing to put downward pressure—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —on energy prices in South Australia. Those opposite had 16 years. What happened? They left South Australian citizens—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —with the highest priced, least reliable grid in the entire nation, backed up by nothing other than diesel generators. They are going to save the environment with diesel generators. Talk about back to the future. There's another front page for *The Advertiser*. Anyway, sir, cost of living is important. It is not only energy prices, but under the former government, because of their incompetence, their bungling of the desal plant decision in South Australia, they left the people of South Australia with—

The SPEAKER: Point of order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The Premier has now had some time to answer the question. The question was: how can a Housing Trust tenant afford to pay rent increases—

The SPEAKER: Yes, I heard the question, member for West Torrens—

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: —when his own minister can't afford a packet of chips?

The SPEAKER: —and amongst the cacophony of noise from members on my left, I believe that the Premier is coming to the substance of the question. Premier.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Thank you, sir. I am coming to the substance of the question because we are going to be lowering the cost of living for every South Australian. I have already outlined what we are going to be doing, and there is going to be more said about this in the coming weeks and months on our energy prices. This is a major cost for the people of South Australia. We are going to be lowering them. We are going to be putting downward pressure—that's what we are going to be doing.

The second thing is water pricing. Those opposite cooked the books. There is no doubt in my mind they cooked the books, and the truth—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: No, the member for West Torrens—the blood is draining out of his face—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —because there's an inquiry going on at the moment. Let's just see what it shows regarding the real value of the regulated asset base. Because if it shows that it's lower, then what happened is that the previous government had an additional tax. It was trousering money from the most vulnerable people in South Australia. Under this regime, it will stop.

The SPEAKER: The Premier's time has expired; thank you, Premier. The member for Lee.

STATE DEBT

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:28): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier explain to the house what level general government net debt reaches in his budget?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:28): I suggest that the honourable member read the budget papers.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Lee has the call.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Premier will not interject.

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Leader of the Opposition will not interject.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Deputy Premier also will not interject.

The Hon. T.J. Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Primary Industries is called to order. Member for Lee.

STATE DEBT

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:28): Is the Premier aware that this level of debt is higher than when Rob Lucas privatised ETSA?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:28): It's great to get the opportunity to talk for another four minutes about the state budget. It's a very important budget to talk about. One thing that we are extraordinarily proud of—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens is on two warnings.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —in our budget is our expenditure on productive infrastructure in South Australia. As the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Planning outlined to the house only a few moments earlier, there has been a huge amount of work done to repair the relationship with Canberra so that we can—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —present in this budget that has just been handed down the most comprehensive upgrade of our productive infrastructure in this state's history. We are very proud of that—very, very—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —very proud of that. It is interesting. I listened to—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader will not interject.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —the comments from the Leader of the Opposition during his budget in reply speech earlier. If you chunked it up, it sort of made sense. If you listened to it continuously, it was literally all over the place. It was very difficult actually to follow. One minute, he said we should be increasing our recurrent expenditure each and every year. He was fighting against efficiencies and cost savings that we have put in. He was fighting against it. He wanted bigger deficits. Okay, alright, that's his point and that is a legitimate—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader is warned.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —opportunity or option for a government to take. In government, you have these levers that you can pull. One of them could be that we want to run big, big deficit budgets because we want to put more money into the economy. If that's what they want to do, they can do it. We don't want to do that. They ran—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —seven deficit budgets out of the last 10 years—seven out of the last 10 years. The three where they did manage to cobble together a surplus were only from flogging off assets here in South Australia, and there are no more to flog off, by the way, before they ask that next question. They want to run up the big deficits—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Get a briefing.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Now the Leader of the Opposition is suggesting that we are selling the prisons. Who is going to buy this prison?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my right!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: I know that according to the Leader of the Opposition there was no central, uplifting theme.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: Point of order. The Premier will be seated.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The question was whether the Premier realised that the net debt was higher now that it was—

The SPEAKER: Yes, about debt level compared to when Rob Lucas was the treasurer.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The question is about—

The SPEAKER: Premier, please come back to the debt.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —debt, sir. Debt, of course, can be increased a couple of ways. Those opposite have advocated this morning in the speech from the Leader of the Opposition to this house that they just want to run big deficit budgets. They don't want to look at—

Mr Malinauskas: You didn't listen at all.

The SPEAKER: The leader will cease interjecting.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Wait on. He said that he didn't like any of the efficiencies that we have put in place, but somehow, if we remove those efficiencies—I don't know—we wouldn't have increased expenditure. There's a unicorn over there! You live in la-la land.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: There is another point of order.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: You live in la-la land.

The SPEAKER: Point of order. I think the Premier has finished his answer? I think the Premier has finished his answer. The member for Lee has the call.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Leader of the Opposition and the member for West Torrens are close to departing the chamber today. Member for Lee.

STATE BUDGET

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:32): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier explain why his government is borrowing an extra \$2.3 million each and every day for the next four years?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:32): We believe in the people of South Australia. We want to grow our economy. I think the cost of capital at the moment is about the lowest it has been in the history of the world, and so when there is an opportunity—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —to invest in productive infrastructure that is going to—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: If those opposite would pipe down and listen about the budget, maybe they would learn just a little bit. The reality is that the cost of capital at the moment is extraordinarily low against any historical comparison. If those opposite want to chortle and present some other compelling evidence from the last 50 or 60 years, do it. Come forward and provide that opportunity for the house. We would love to have a lesson on economics from those opposite.

The cost of capital is extraordinarily low at the moment. Those opposite failed to invest in the productive infrastructure of our state. I would put it to you, and I would put it to this house, that that held back the productivity capacity of our state. I know exactly and precisely how they went about making capital investment decisions: pet projects, marginal seats and electoral cycles. That is what it was all about: pet projects, marginal seats and electoral cycles. That's their mantra. Well, it's not our mantra.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: That's why we are doing everything we can to make sensible decisions to improve the productive capacity of our state. That's why we are advocating to establish an independent body, Infrastructure SA, to develop a long-range productive infrastructure plan for our state. We're very proud of that. We want to have independent scrutiny of the investment decisions that are made on behalf of the taxpayers in South Australia. We think that by doing that we will get better decisions in South Australia, but we couldn't wait for that to be established.

As you will see in the budget, despite what those opposite were bleating about—all the way through the lead-up to the election, it was going to be this valley of death in terms of infrastructure in South Australia but, gee, they got that one wrong—it's a significant reinvestment in South Australia because we are backing South Australia, and they hate it. They absolutely hate that the new government is backing the people of South Australia. We don't accept that our young people should give up hope of living in South Australia and getting a decent job—no way. We do not accept that. Those opposite accepted it year after year after year.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Lee can depart under 137A for half an hour.

The honourable member for Lee having withdrawn from the chamber:

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Thousands of South Australians gave up hope under the previous regime. We saw thousands of people leaving South Australia each and every year, not because they didn't love this state. This is a great state, but it was let down by a poor government. That's why the people of South Australia cast their no-confidence motion in those opposite in the election that was held on 17 March. We are very proud of our budget. We are particularly proud of the investment that we are making: roads—very important projects—hospitals, schools. These are the projects that will make sure that we reach our full potential as a state.

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA

Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (14:36): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Can the minister update the house on how funding in the state budget will help RDAs grow the regional economy?

The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE (Chaffey—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:36): I thank the member for Flinders for his very important question. Of course, coming into this recent election, this government wants to govern for all South Australia. We put a policy platform up there, Recharging Our Regions. Part of that policy platform was about giving certainty to the RDAs around regional South Australia. There are eight RDAs, which do an outstanding job, but this government has put certainty into the marketplace for RDAs.

It's about giving them a long-range forecast, long-range capacity, to undertake the work that they need to do to develop our regions, grow our regions and make sure that this government gets value for taxpayers' money. The \$773 million is an investment into the regions of South Australia with the previous budget. The Marshall Liberal government has prioritised the economy of South Australia, but it is the economy within South Australia, not just within wherever we can see from one gate to the next.

It's really important to note that the \$12 million allocated over four years to the RDAs is an important stepping stone to stimulate the think tank within the regions. It's about the RDAs stepping up. They will be scrutinised. They will have KPIs set so that they actually reach their potential and it reflects within their RDA designated areas so that we are actually growing our regions and giving the regions certainty.

We have seen through the budget some of the increases with health. I think the education minister has done an outstanding job being a minister for South Australian education. We look at health within South Australia. The Minister for Health in another place has done an outstanding job in governing as a minister for all South Australia. This is what the RDAs are going to do: they are going to complement what South Australia has been longing for for the last long, tedious 16 years, and that's making the regions more relevant. It's giving the regions more opportunity.

It's making sure that our regions have a growing economy so that they have a reason to grow the population and a reason to be part of a growing economy when it comes to agriculture. My role is to grow it, minister Ridgway's role is to sell it and minister Pisoni's role is to educate it with those skills that are needed to produce and export our food. We need the skills because we have seen over the last 16 years a decline in the skill base within our primary sector. The RDAs are there to put some meat on the bone when it comes to growing our regions.

What I will say is that those eight RDA regions—of course, the Adelaide Hills, the Fleurieu, Kangaroo Island, Adelaide Metropolitan, the Barossa, the Far North, Limestone Coast, Murraylands and the Riverland, Whyalla, Eyre Peninsula, Yorke and the Mid North—they are all productive regions here in South Australia, but for far too long they have been neglected. This government is going to change that. Every morning, I look in the mirror as a regional MP and I just wonder where South Australia was left behind. If I look into the history books—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE: —it was about 16 years ago.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier and the Minister for Education will not interject, and the leader. The minister has the call.

The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE: So on top of the RDAs, the certainty, the funding that they now receive, we have the Regional Growth Fund. We look at how that \$150 million over 10 years is going to help and give certainty to our regional economies. Of course, we look at the \$750 million over 10 years with the Royalties for Regions. That's about putting money back into our regions that are giving to the state's economy. The \$10 million Black Spot funding. That's about leveraging money from the commonwealth so that we can remain competitive.

The SPEAKER: The minister's time has expired. The member for Kaurna.

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader is on two warnings.

An honourable member interjecting:

The SPEAKER: I might do that.

EASTERN EYRE HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:40): My question is to the Premier. What is the Premier's response to the fact that the presiding member of the Eastern Eyre Health Advisory Council has resigned following his calls to the Minister for Health being ignored by your minister? With leave and that of the house, I explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PICTON: Dean Johnson, the presiding member of the Eastern Eyre Health Advisory Council, has told ABC radio today that he has resigned after his letters to the Minister for Health asking for GP services at Kimba and Cowell have gone unanswered. He said:

If this was happening on North Terrace, there'd be people up in arms and it'd be splashed across the front page of the newspaper every day. I don't think it's good enough that rural communities are without even the most basic of services, particularly when it's been a tough year for our farmers.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members of my left! It would be highly reasonable to expect a very broad answer to that very broad question. The minister has the call and he will be heard in silence or members will be departing the chamber.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:42): To be quite blunt, as the minister representing the Minister for Health, I don't know any more about that individual person's case than you've just read out. I would be happy to get some information from the Minister for Health and bring an answer back. But the other part of your question was with regard to focus on regional health, and let me just tell you that the budget that we brought down two days ago had a huge focus on regional health—absolutely no doubt about that whatsoever.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The minister will be seated. Member for West Torrens, you can leave under 137A for half an hour.

The honourable member for West Torrens having withdrawn from the chamber:

The SPEAKER: The minister has the call.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: So, for the benefit of the house, let me just share some of that information which may well be linked to the person you were asking about before, member for Kaurna: \$140 million over 10 years for country health capital works—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —to significantly improve our regional hospital and health infrastructure; \$20 million over four years to develop and implement a rural workforce strategy to address the shortage of health practitioners in rural areas; \$8.5 million over three years for the construction of a new 24-bed aged-care facility in Strathalbyn and the future fit-out of the Kalimna hospital—a community consultation process will determine if the Kalimna hospital will be used to refit the site for aged-care accommodation and transform it into a hub—\$7 million over three years to upgrade the emergency—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The minister has the call.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —department at the Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital—

Mr Duluk interjecting:

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

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —and \$6.9 million over four years to deliver additional chemo services in regional areas, allowing patients to receive lifesaving treatment closer to home. A further \$5 million has been provided for the implementation of a single statewide chemotherapy prescribing system; \$2.1 million over two years to deliver on the Marshall team's election promise to expand and upgrade the renal dialysis unit at the Mount Gambier hospital; two renal dialysis chairs will be added, enabling a further—

The SPEAKER: There's a point of order, minister. Please be seated.

Mr PICTON: Point of order, Mr Speaker: this is completely off topic.

The Hon. T.J. Whetstone: What number?

Mr PICTON: Debate, 98.

The SPEAKER: Debate, 98. Minister, I will listen carefully. Please come back to the substance of the question. I understand it was a broad one but please come back to that.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Just to help the shadow minister, I will select from this extensive list, which has many more items still to come, only the ones that are regional, that are statewide and that could very well apply to Eyre Peninsula—which is exactly what he was asking about.

The SPEAKER: Yes, minister, please add more to what is already in the public domain, though.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: There is \$1 million over four years for the South Australian Healthy Towns Challenge—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

An honourable member interjecting:

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: No, I am just trying to filter the ones out. You said you don't care about any of these other places in South Australia—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Members interjecting:

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: You said you do not care about the South-East, about the Riverland, about the outback. You said you only wanted to know about Eyre Peninsula.

The SPEAKER: Is the minister finished? Is the minister still going? Please wind up your answer.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Yes, sir; we've got much more.

The SPEAKER: Please wind up your answer.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Yes, sir. Don't you worry; we've got lots more. I am just trying to filter out the good news for the rest of the state and the good news about the parts the member specifically asked for.

Ms Cook interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Hurtle Vale is warned for a second and final time.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Clearly the opposition is not interested in this good news, so let me just make it very clear—

Mr Hughes interjecting:

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

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —that we take the concerns of anybody in the health system about regional health in South Australia extremely seriously, and I will bring back an answer about the person you have—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The minister's time has expired. The member for Kaurana.

Ms Stinson interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Badcoe is on two warnings, and the member for Giles is warned for a first time. The member for Kaurana.

BLOOD TESTS

Mr PICTON (Kaurana) (14:46): My question is to the minister representing the Minister for Health. Will the minister guarantee that after the privatisation of health services, which he previously opposed, there will not be increased costs for blood tests? The minister himself, in this house on 12 June 2012, said:

...the government's role is to fill the gap where the private sector does not provide: to provide services that the private sector does not provide, important jobs on behalf of all taxpayers and all South Australians; to provide a health service, which is very important, as the private sector will not provide the complete health service that we all deserve...

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:47): As a relatively inexperienced member of parliament back in 2012, I would absolutely stand by that comment. It is the role of public services, and not only in Health, to fill the gaps where private services don't fill them.

The opposition ran out of questions on Tuesday; the way they are trying to address that on Thursday is to be recycling Wednesday's questions. My word, sir, what are we going to do with these guys? It's budget week, and you would think they would be so full of questions. But you have kicked out the former treasurer, you have kicked out the shadow treasurer, and in budget week they have nothing else other than yesterday's questions.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The question was about potential increased costs for blood tests, minister, thank you.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Yesterday, the shadow minister for health asked me about a quote of mine that I think he said came from February 2015—separate to the 2012 one

he just shared with the house—and he asked if I still stood by that. The substance of that quote, and I don't remember every word, was that where the services can't be provided by the private sector there shouldn't be privatisation.

Let me say again, the Minister for Health, the Treasurer, the Premier and our government have said that we will have a look at Pathology SA. They have said very clearly that we will look to see where there are gaps, where services need to be fulfilled by the private sector and where they need to be fulfilled by the public sector. We will look at cost comparisons, we will look at all the options, and where it seems sensible to make a change we will and where it seems sensible to stay the same we will, and where it seems sensible to do something different we will.

That is the substance of the Minister for Health and our government's commitment, and it is completely consistent with what I said on the record in 2012, what I said on the record in 2015, and what I say on the record today.

MOBILE PHONE BLACKSPOTS

Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (14:49): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Can the minister update the house on how \$10 million allocated in the state budget to address mobile phone blackspots will assist regional South Australia?

The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE (Chaffey—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:49): Yes, I can, and I thank the member for Kavel for his excellent question. I know that he has already made contact with me about the Brukunga, Piccadilly and south of Woodside areas of concern, that they don't have mobile phone reception. It's really important that here in South Australia this government has now acknowledged that there are issues with blackspot mobile coverage, unlike the previous government—three rounds of commonwealth funding and you never put your hand in your pocket. Never—because there aren't any blackspot funding issues in South Australia.

Just recently, I wrote a letter to every regional MP to ask them if they wouldn't come back to me with the issues of blackspots in their electorate. The majority of MPs in this place responded. There were four regional MPs who didn't respond. Do I name them?

Members interjecting:

The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE: No, I won't name them. There is still time to write back to me and tell me where the blackspot issues are in your electorate—four of you. How many regional MPs are on that side? Four, exactly. Because there aren't any issues on that side maybe. There is still time to write to me and tell me. We have put \$10 million on the table. We are going to leverage that money with the federal government. We have already spoken to industry, we've spoken to the telcos, we've spoken to local government. We are going to leverage our \$10 million to connect South Australia with the business world, with the world of safety, with the rest of the world—unlike those opposite. Remember, we suffered a long time, over 16 years, for the neglect, because regions do matter.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE: That's right, they do matter, and we need connectivity in the regions. Let me just explain to you. Over the last three federal rounds, there was money put on the table, and 867 base stations were deployed. In South Australia, we received 37. Shame!

Members interjecting:

The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE: Shame! So on this side of the house, this government is going to prioritise the digital connection so that we can be competitive, so that we can actually do our business in our vehicles or in our tractors or in our trucks, and so that we can sell our grain on farm, so we don't have to report to the top of the hill to make a call, so we don't have to go home to make a call from our landlines. It's just outrageous. This government has a priority to regional South Australia—to remote South Australia—so that we are connected to the world, so that we can grow our economy, so that our farmers, our primary producers, are connected to the business world, so that we can grow our economy and create more jobs.

This is what it's all about. It's about governing for South Australia. The \$10 million of Black Spot funding will be leveraged. The telcos will match those dollar-for-dollar contributions. We are going to put blackspot towers in place, and if the MPs want to respond to me so that when we do put that funding into place, yes, we will consider all blackspots within regional South Australia.

HEALTH SERVICES

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:53): My question is again to the minister representing the Minister for Health. Can the minister confirm whether the more than 880 job cuts within SA Health include job cuts in SA Pathology and SA imaging to be privatised, or will that privatisation result in even more job cuts?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:53): What the Minister for Health has said, and our budget has said, is that we will look at SA Pathology, and where services can't be delivered, or shouldn't be delivered or could be done cheaper—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —we will look at all of that. We have said that having some of those services delivered by private organisations, if it's sensible, if it's cost effective, if the service will be just as good, that's the sort of thing that we might look at. It's not actually a sweeping privatisation of SA Pathology in the way the member for Kurna would have this chamber believe. It's not that at all. The intention, as I have said several times this week in this chamber, is to investigate where it might be sensible to make a change. I don't know how much change that would entail. I can assure you the Minister for Health doesn't know how much change that might entail either because he hasn't started that review yet.

I can tell you also, member for Kurna, that we are incredibly focused on people and their jobs and their employment. We know that every single person is important. We want more and more people to be employed in South Australia, but we want efficient, positive service delivery—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —and we will look into where we need to make changes and, if we need to make changes at the time, we will share that information.

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Transport is called to order, as is the member for Reynell. The member for Kurna.

SA PATHOLOGY

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:55): My question is to the minister representing the Minister for Health. Will the privatisation of SA Pathology mean that public hospital patients' medical records are held by private for-profit companies?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Point of order, sir: the statement contains argument and claimed facts that have in fact been described in other ways.

The SPEAKER: It does presuppose some facts. What I will do is I will go to the government's side and I will get the member for Kurna to rephrase the question. In the meantime, we will move to the member for Florey.

AUSTRALASIAN SOLDIERS DARDANELLES CENOTAPH

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (14:55): My question is to the Premier in his capacity as Minister for Veterans' Affairs. Can the Premier advise the house of the history of the Australasian Soldiers Dardanelles Cenotaph in Lundie Gardens, its connection with the Wattle Day League and the War Widows Guild, and any plans—apart from the sale of the beautiful centenary badge—to commemorate the anniversary of its unveiling on 7 September 1915?

The Hon. S.K. Knoll: Did you want to answer that yourself?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:56): I thank the member for Florey for her question. I feel she has a few other questions up her sleeve which will be directed, of course, to the Minister for Planning, Transport and Infrastructure. Nevertheless, I do want to acknowledge in this house the wonderful interest that the member for Florey has in veterans' affairs.

When we were elected into government on 17 March and I became the Premier of South Australia, which is an enormous privilege and pleasure, one of the great perks that comes with being the Premier of South Australia is that you get to choose your own portfolio, and I was delighted to be able to select myself, if you like, to be the Minister for Veterans' Affairs. I did that because, as the Premier, you get to meet some people who have done extraordinary things and volunteered and worked in hospitals and contributed to society in many ways. But there are people in our community who pull on a uniform and put their lives on the line to protect our freedoms in this country. For that reason, I decided that I would take on this portfolio. It is a very important portfolio to me.

I absolutely love having the opportunity to commemorate this service and to work with some of the very specific issues that veterans who have completed their active service have when moving back into mainstream life post service. I really appreciate the opportunity to serve in this way.

The question from the member for Florey is really to do with the Australasian Soldiers Dardanelles Cenotaph, which is an extraordinary commemoration, and I would like to update the house on some of its significance. It was originally the brainchild of a patriotic Adelaide builder, Walter Torode, and was sponsored by the Wattle Day League. Not everybody knows about the Wattle Day League. I know the member for Florey knows about the—

Ms Bedford: Might know about it.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: She might know about the Wattle Day League. She knows about lots of things that are important to the people of South Australia. Really, the Wattle Day League was formed by women who had lost husbands and sons at Gallipoli.

The cenotaph was built to remember those who had been killed at Gallipoli. It was unveiled on 7 September 1915 by none other than the Governor-General of Australia, Sir Ronald Munro Ferguson, just 135 days after the landings at Gallipoli and while Australian troops were still fighting on the peninsula. Originally, it was erected in a grove of 100 wattles near what is now known as Sir Lewis Cohen Drive.

The cenotaph was originally an obelisk, where mothers and relatives of the men killed during the landings and subsequent fighting could come and place their floral tributes. It was designed to represent the cliffs Australian soldiers had climbed at Gallipoli. A cross was later added, symbolising an empty tomb, as many felt it was unlikely that they would ever have the opportunity to make a pilgrimage to overseas war graves. The cenotaph is believed to be the very first memorial erected honouring the fallen of World War I.

The War Widows Guild, which I suppose follows on from the Wattle Day League, continues to operate now. It represents women who have lost husbands, partners and loved ones throughout a century of conflict involving Australian service personnel. The guild was formed in 1945 and still operates today. In fact, in South Australia it operates in my electorate, and I very much enjoy going along to see them.

This Sunday, 9 September, Veterans SA, in partnership with the RSL and the War Widows Guild, is conducting a service to commemorate the 103rd anniversary of the unveiling of the Australasian Soldiers Dardanelles Cenotaph at the Lundie Gardens. I would just encourage any members who are available to avail themselves of the fact. Come along. Also, I thank the member for Florey for her important question.

HEALTH SERVICES

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (15:00): My question is to the minister representing the Minister for Health. How can this government possibly be improving the care of one patient in this state by cutting 880 health staff, privatising SA Pathology, privatising SA imaging, privatising patient transfers and shutting down the independent voice of patients and health consumers in this state?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (15:00): Despite the argument and accusation, I would say, in that question let me share some more facts and figures. The reality is that funding for health is very significant, and here are some examples in our budget: \$23 million over four years to support the establishment and operation of a four-bed high dependency unit at Modbury Hospital.

Ms Bedford interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Also, \$14½ million—

Ms Bedford interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Florey, surely, is not interjecting?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —over four years to establish—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The minister has the call.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —a 12-bed acute medical unit at Noarlunga Hospital, enabling the facility to admit—

Mr Picton interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Kurna is warned.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —a wide range of patients with more complex needs.

Ms Hildyard interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Reynell is warned for a second and final time.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —\$9.9 million over four years to strengthen the cardiac centre at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital to ensure accessible quality health services for the people of western Adelaide. Also, \$52 million over four years to support nursing and public hospital staff costs at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. They are just some—

Mr Picton: It's 880 jobs going.

The SPEAKER: The member for Kurna is on two warnings.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —of the numbers I can share with you. Our budget not only supports country health; it supports metropolitan health. We are very focused on repairing the damage done to our health system by the previous Labor government.

Those opposite cannot even utter the words 'Transforming Health'. Which one of you has said those words for months now? Please, put a hand up.

The SPEAKER: Please do not provoke the opposition, minister.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Please, put a hand up. Please, come on, one of you must have. The former Labor government did so much damage—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left! The minister has the call.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —not only to the service side of things but also on the financial side of things. One of the first things that was uncovered was the \$250 million per year blowout in CALHN. We value the people who work in our health system—doctors, nurses—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —professionals, allied health workers, orderlies—absolutely every single person. The volunteers who work in our system.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Mr Speaker, let me tell you a story about a volunteer in our health service who told my wife—on the bus, as it happens, so hardly science but a real story—that, as an elderly lady—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —and as a volunteer in the Royal Adelaide Hospital, she was not allowed to have free tea and coffee. It is completely unacceptable for those opposite to ask an argumentative, accusing question, as the member for Kaurna just did. We are focused on health delivery, we are focused on the people who work in the health system, we are focused on the patients, we are focused on fixing—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: —your mess.

PENOLA BYPASS

The SPEAKER: The member for Hammond.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (15:04): Thank you, Mr Speaker.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

An honourable member: Chuck him out.

Mr PEDERICK: I haven't done anything wrong.

The SPEAKER: I wouldn't go that far.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Hammond has the call.

Mr PEDERICK: My question is to the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government. Can the minister update the house on the state government's commitment to build the Penola bypass?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:04): I would like to thank the member for Hammond for his question, and I do note the fact that he has probably driven down there a few times, maybe to go and do a bit of crabbing or whatever down at Port MacDonnell. It is a fantastic and beautiful part of our state.

This is another infrastructure project that has been called for for such a long time. In fact, on this one, the former government didn't even have an excuse because the feds had the money on the table; they just wouldn't accept it. Well, this government went to the election promising to deliver the Penola bypass and, magically, in Tuesday's budget the money appeared and it was there. The people of the South-East are finally going to get an important productive infrastructure project that they wanted. It adds and builds upon a very strong pipeline of infrastructure that we have developed.

A few weeks ago, in press conferences that members opposite had with the media in the lead-up to this budget, they were out there saying, 'There is a valley of death in infrastructure.' They were out there saying, 'Unless there are some new projects in this budget, we are all going to be

ruined and the jobs are going to be gone.' We have delivered in this budget for productive infrastructure for South Australia—\$500 million extra this year and a \$240 million on average increase every year over the forward estimates. It's exactly what we said we were going to do.

This budget actually has some cognitive consistency. We said we were going to deliver a balanced budget with small budget surpluses. We have delivered that. We said we were going to build productive infrastructure that helps to grow jobs—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —in our state. It is an entirely consistent budget. We haven't had to try to have our cake and eat it, too, or to try to argue both sides of the fence. We haven't argued before the budget for more infrastructure spending and then started having a whinge about debt after the budget comes out. We haven't said that we don't want you to spend more—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader can leave for the rest of question time.

The honourable member for Croydon having withdrawn from the chamber:

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —and now we want you to spend less. I can understand that you would want to pick one, but you can't have both. You cannot have both. It is why this budget is so good for South Australia. What it says is that the government is going to make the tough decisions to make sure that our operating balance is in surplus but that we aren't scared to go and invest in productive infrastructure that is going to grow jobs in South Australia.

This is how you grow an economy. This is how you grow a sustainable pipeline for the construction industry workers who so desperately need a government that does its job properly. We will continue to fight and progress and push for more of these projects, and to work collaboratively with the federal government to get it done so that in South Australia—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —the construction and civil industry workers—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —have jobs that they can go to. We will also have an internal logical consistency in understanding how economics works. You cut your cloth to make sure that you have surpluses, but you aren't scared to invest in productive infrastructure. Instead of running budget deficits that have to be funded by debt, we spend the debt money—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —on infrastructure projects. It's exactly what prudent financial managers do, and I am so proud of this budget delivering for South Australians.

Grievance Debate

STRATHMONT POOL

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (15:08): I rise today to speak against the closure of the Strathmont hydrotherapy swimming pool in Oakden, in my electorate of Torrens. This pool is used extensively by around 1,500 children and adults for swimming lessons and hydrotherapy, including children with autism spectrum disorder and intellectual and physical disabilities; new migrants from landlocked states, often challenged by fear of water; young babies; and some more senior members of our community requiring hydrotherapy.

I have received representation from providers and many families who access the pool on a weekly basis. They have written to me, spoken to me out in the community and met with me in my office. A local resident, Tania, has written, telling me how the closure of the pool will affect her family and, in particular, her young son Billy. She said:

We live in Oakden. Strathmont is our local pool both for Billy and my daughter, Laura, who swims every Saturday with Swim Safe Swim School. My son (Billy) is 13 years of age. He has severe autism, is non-verbal, and has an intellectual disability. From 9 years of age, Billy also developed the co-morbidity of epilepsy.

As a child with autism, he has a strong fascination and affinity with water. Therefore, Billy needs to be safe in the water. He needs to be able to know how to do basic strokes, tread water, get to the edge, listen to the instructor, get out if he needs to...

Billy and his class mates travel via Mini bus to the Strathmont pool. The mini-bus is funded by all the parents at a significant cost each (\$150 each term)...for a short journey. What would be the additional cost of an even longer journey?

The [Strathmont] pool's temperature is consistently regulated throughout the year. This means that Billy can swim even in the Winter months. One of the side-effects of Billy's Epilepsy...is that he cannot control his body temperature when he becomes cold. Therefore, swims at any other centre cannot last [long enough for him].

Moving to an existing hydrotherapy pool is not the answer. Other pools such as the nearby Hampstead Pool is very shallow. Here Billy cannot use a deep end to practise critical water safety and immersion in the water—this is also part of his sensory profile.

To close Strathmont means that someone must be displaced. A suggestion made to me was for the Repat Hospital at Daw Park. This is over an hour away. If Billy gets stuck in traffic on a bus, and the sun is coming through the window, he is at risk of having a seizure from over-heating.

Billy's grandfather Robert, too, contacted me and said that it seems that Human Services has no feelings or humanity towards understanding the needs of those very special people like his grandson. A Dernancourt resident, Andrew, who has three children participating in programs at the pool asks:

How can you do this to someone who provides an essential service to the community? If the pool is closed the ripples will flow through the community, diminishing the opportunity and ability of future generations.

I ask the minister and the Premier: what price is put on the lives and the quality of the lives of those people who access Strathmont swimming pool—those with a disability; both young children and those more advanced in their years; also the new arrivals from landlocked states for whom learning to swim can be a challenging ordeal; and the impact it will have on other users of hydrotherapy facilities that are already at or near capacity by trying to make room for the soon to be displaced people?

It is a documented fact that we need more, not fewer, swimming pools for rehabilitation for those with a disability who benefit through water therapy, and for those who form part of our ageing population, to assist them in keeping mobile and in their home. The benefits far outweigh the costs socially and economically.

On behalf of the users of the Strathmont swimming pool and other pools that would be negatively impacted, I ask the Marshall Liberal government to reconsider their decision to close the Strathmont swimming pool, for the benefit of those who are using it already.

ELDER ELECTORATE SCHOOLS

Mrs POWER (Elder) (15:12): I rise today to talk about education and particularly the important part our schools play in our local community. Underpinning our prosperity as a society at both an individual and community level is quality educational opportunities and outcomes. The inherent value of education is not just the exposure to knowledge but the role that education plays in promoting values and attitudes that create a more inclusive and connected society.

Over the past few months, I have made the time to visit and meet with most of the principals, teachers and students of the early learning, primary and secondary schools within my electorate of Elder, as the newly elected member of parliament. Those whom I have not yet met with, I will be doing so in the near future.

Rather than using these visits as a quick photo opportunity, I have spent time getting to know the philosophies and approaches each school uses to educate the younger members of my

electorate. I applaud the commitment each of the school's leadership teams, governing councils, teaching and support staff, parents and carers and local communities have demonstrated in ensuring the best possible start for our next generation. On my visits, I have witnessed the dedication, innovation and enthusiasm in providing quality education to our local young people. The level of commitment I have witnessed has been inspiring.

Hamilton Secondary College is one of the most innovative schools in our state and provides local students with amazing opportunities in STEM, particularly with the relatively new Mike Roach Space Education Centre. Hamilton Secondary College is the only school in South Australia with a designated facility and specialist curriculum to lead space education and share that speciality with upper primary school classes from across the state. Hamilton Secondary College also provides vocational learning pathways that provide students with SACE subjects and nationally accredited certification.

The school also has a specialist disability school, with the Hamilton Unit, that provides a warm and welcoming place for secondary school students with moderate to severe intellectual disabilities or severe and multiple disabilities. This includes students with complex care needs and sensory impairments. I have not only had the pleasure of meeting with the principal, Peta Kourbelis, and deputy principal, Annette Ryan, but I have also had the opportunity to attend one of their governing council meetings where I learned about the incredible innovative approach the school is taking regarding mobilising their student voice.

Sacred Heart Middle School were kind enough to provide me and the Minister for Education with an informative tour of the Mitchell Park campus and an update on the upcoming merger with Marymount College. In 2019, girls from Marymount College at Hove will relocate to create a co-educational year 7 to 9 campus at Sacred Heart College in Mitchell Park. This will be known as a Champagnat Campus. The school will continue to empower our young people to be excellent human beings and to remain true to their values as they bravely and compassionately respond to the world around them.

The minister and I particularly appreciated hearing from the students their thoughts regarding the merger and how they felt about transitioning to a co-ed school. One student remarked that her only concern was that the girls might not get as much time on the oval, but I trust that will not be the case. The students were also extremely articulate about their dream jobs for the future and what made their school special.

Clapham Primary School also hosted the Minister for Education and me last week for the opening of their new STEM Centre. The staff and students of Clapham proudly showed us the centre, and the wonderful school captains brilliantly hosted both a tour of their school and the opening of the STEM ceremony. Thank you to the principal, Jodie Kingham, Mr Tucker and students from room 9 for demonstrating their new resources. Thank you also to the governing council chairperson, Damon Isaacs, and all the staff and students not only for hosting us at this special event but also for all the incredible work they do all year round.

GILES ELECTORATE

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (15:17): I rise today to talk about a number of issues in the electorate of Giles, especially the interesting reaction today to comments that the Mayor of Kimba, Dean Johnson, made in his letter of resignation about why he was resigning from the HAC. I find it very disturbing that somebody opposite labelled Dean Johnson as a 'Labor stooge'. I think you might find that Dean Johnson is a member of the Liberal Party.

He has been a very good mayor of Kimba for a number of years now. In all my dealings with Dean Johnson, I have always found him very professional. He has a lot of integrity and, like a lot of mayors of small communities, he really cares for his community. To be dismissed in that way, I think is pretty shabby because what he was doing was raising important issues. One of those issues is about the capacity for some of our smaller communities, when it comes to health services, to be listened to and then the perennial problem—and it is a perennial problem—of getting GPs to come and service communities such as Kimba, on Eyre Peninsula, and Cowell, in the Franklin Harbour area.

Both Franklin Harbour and Kimba have struggled when it comes to getting GPs. The Mayor of Kimba has been very frustrated about that. Pressure is put on local councils in those areas to try to fill the gap. Obviously, the mayor was very frustrated that he had written to the Minister for Health in the other house and did not get a response. The man is not a Labor stooge: he is a man who takes his commitments and obligations to the community of Kimba very seriously.

It is worth reflecting on the lack of GPs in those communities, especially given the challenges they are going through at the moment. Parts of Eyre Peninsula are experiencing incredibly adverse health conditions. Just recently, I was down at Franklin Harbour and met with a number of farmers. They expressed their serious concerns about what was going on. Some farmers have come to my office in Whyalla, too, to express a degree of desperation when it comes to the plight they are facing.

There was one farmer with a connection to Whyalla. It was at Westies. We were having a few beers on raffle ticket night—I won third prize, but I had to donate it back—and I had a long conversation with one of the farmers of Eyre Peninsula near Cowell. He was a third generation farmer. He said that, in his experience, this has been the worst he has ever seen. The thing about drought in South Australia is that there are a lot of areas that are doing well. Some areas are below average and will get through, but some parts of the state, and certainly some parts of Eyre Peninsula, are doing it incredibly hard.

I call upon the minister, when it comes to the Regional Growth Fund, to give those communities experiencing difficulties some priority when it comes to the allocation of money from that fund. When we were in government and there were a whole bunch of contractors going to the wall in Whyalla because of their company moving into administration, we used some of the money from the regional development fund to do the best we could for those contractors. It represented, at the time, incredibly tangible and worthwhile assistance. We need to look at the use of that fund to assist some of our farming communities in the state that are going through an incredibly difficult time.

MOUNT GAMBIER FRINGE FESTIVAL

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (15:22): Today, I rise to speak about the Mount Gambier Fringe Festival, an event that brings Mount Gambier alive with music, comedy, dance and performances. It is a festival that encourages our community to explore and embrace the regional arts scene and showcases our town to a wider audience. The festival's inaugural event was held in 2017, when around 8,000 people enjoyed Mount Gambier's first foray into the entertaining world of fringe.

This year, Mount Gambier residents came out in force, with over 12,500 people attending the numerous performances held during the event. The festival commenced with a vibrant street party in the Cave Gardens, with many residents attracted to the pop-up bars and food stalls offered by local eateries. There was an uplifting spirit in the city's streets. It was truly inspiring to see local businesses embrace and elevate the weeks-long event.

The colourful street party included family entertainment to amuse children, such as face painting and carnival rides, whilst parents could enjoy entertainment provided by local musicians such as Ben Hood and also participate in the Zorba dancing in the main street. Other events during the festival included *Out of the Box*, curated by Mark de Nys; the performance of *Silent Bell* in the Cave; *Cirque Nocturne*; B.L.U.E's Uke Fest; the After Hours Cabaret Club; dance performances, *Trolleys* and *Losers*, delivered by Lewis Major; as well as many more performances.

We have been very fortunate that Louise Adams, who was a finalist on *X Factor*, has embraced the Fringe Festival. As well as being involved in organising the event, Ms Adams also put on a show, entitled *A Tribute to Unplugged*, which took audiences on a musical journey through the iconic *MTV Unplugged* series.

As the audiences are taken through a journey of the regional arts world, they are also taken on a tour of some of Mount Gambier's iconic locations. The festival parades itself across the town, taking advantage of the early autumn weather and spreading the joy of being creative and being inclusive to some of our most celebrated settings. I look forward to seeing the festival grow to include the renowned natural landscapes that our town has to offer, perhaps a local play or production at the Umpherston Caves or a family fun day at the Valley Lakes.

The festival has a wonderful opportunity to prosper across our town. It is sensational to witness our town embrace the arts scene that we have to offer. We see it every day on the way to work and our children on their way to school, the cars driving ahead of us containing the South Australian numberplate reading 'South Australia—The Festival State'. It is a daily reminder of the identity and essence of our state. It is truly exciting to call such a celebratory and inclusive event home to Mount Gambier and South Australia.

Mount Gambier will once again embrace the fringe festival next year and I look forward to joining in the festivities of the Lift-Off party on 22 March 2019 and attending the entertaining events and shows that only a festival of this kind can have to offer. I also invite the Premier to come to Mount Gambier to show his support for the arts in regional South Australia and join in with the invigorating festivities.

In light of the tremendous success of the Mount Gambier Fringe Festival, I would like to congratulate all those involved, especially the Mount Gambier city council. The council's hardworking team has sourced funding for sponsorship commitments and has established a building model which enables the growth of the tourism and cultural economy in the region. The festival provides a forum for our local artists to engage with our local community and learn from visiting artists in a supported environment. I also take this opportunity to thank the state government for its previous funding commitment to the Mount Gambier Fringe Festival through Country Arts SA and SATC.

I also thank the venue operators and the local businesses which provide sponsorship and support. Finally, I thank the artists who ultimately enable the festival to be such a success. The Mount Gambier Fringe Festival is an attraction to our vibrant community and I commend all involved in a small or large way for pursuing the identity of our state, as represented by our numberplates, to the regional community of Mount Gambier.

STATE BUDGET

Mr BOYER (Wright) (15:27): I rise to respond to this week's state budget insofar as it affects the north-eastern suburbs. We all knew that the wrecking ball was coming. I guess when you hand the keys to the government coffers back to the Treasurer who sold ETSA, you can take it as read that the cuts are going to come thick and fast. But I think I speak for all of us on this side of the chamber when I say that even we were shocked, not only by the extent of the cuts but by where they were delivered.

Not only that, but some of the cuts are so heartless that even a politician of nearly 40 years' experience like the Treasurer was incapable of spinning them. In fact, the starkest and most unsettling characterisation of just how damaging these cuts are came when Trish from Port Pirie called in to ABC radio on Wednesday morning. Trish lives in a one-bedroom Housing Trust home and already struggles to pay the paltry \$60 a fortnight that she spends on groceries. Her very simple question to the Treasurer was this, 'Where do I find the extra \$10 a week you are going to charge me to live in my one-bedroom Trust home?'

Now, at this point, there were a couple of ways the interview could have gone. The Treasurer could have provided Trish with a cogent argument about why he thought it was fair and reasonable to lump her with the task of padding out his surplus. He utterly failed on that count. Nobody, not even the interviewers, could make sense of the esoteric answer that he gave. He could have, at the very least, shown Trish some empathy. He could have apologised for targeting her and other Housing Trust tenants. Instead, the Treasurer, when asked if one needed to have ice in one's veins to do his job, simply answered, 'It helps.'

That one line very aptly sums up this budget, particularly for residents of the north-east, who have been forsaken already by this government and similarly by the new Liberal members of parliament for the seats of King and Newland. If anyone needed an indication of the sense betrayal felt by constituents in those seats, they need only look at social media. There is outrage and shock. People are already asking, 'How did this happen? Why were we targeted?' Those are very fair questions indeed: why did this Liberal government choose the north-east as ground zero for the wrecking ball?

It started last week with the announcement that the much-needed expansion of the park-and-ride at Tea Tree Plaza would not be going ahead. It is hard to fathom how a government can

make such an announcement on a day when, like most days, the sign outside the park-and-ride showed that the car park was full. Then on budget day we got the shock news that Tea Tree Gully TAFE and Service SA at Modbury would both be closed.

The spin from those opposite this week has been that this is a government that does the things it said it would do, but the real focus should be on the things it did this week that it never told voters it was going to do. I wonder if the residents of Newland and King would have voted for this government if they had known that just six months later their local TAFE and Service SA centre would be closed. I wonder if the residents of Newland and King would have voted for this government if they knew that just six months later the expansion of the Tea Tree Plaza park-and-ride would be scrapped.

What I do know for certain is that if the residents of Newland and King had known that just six months into the term of this new Liberal government they would again move to privatise services at Modbury Hospital, the members for King and Newland would not be in this chamber. Just this week, the member for King put out a letter to the constituents of King saying:

I want all members of this community to know that I truly care about our local region and want to do everything I can to win the trust of this community to make it the best area to live in South Australia.

The betrayal is all the greater, given that I believe the member for King actually worked at both the Prospect and Modbury Service SA centres. I am sure her old work colleagues are really thrilled that she has been elected to parliament only to throw them on the bonfire.

In the member for Newland's first newsletter he said, 'I am determined to stand up for our community to ensure that the north-east is never overlooked.' Well, guess what? Here is his big chance. Now is the time to stand up, because I can tell you this: these cuts would never have happened under the watch of Jennifer Rankine or Tom Kenyon. People do not forget, and we will not forget either.

KING ELECTORATE

Ms LUETHEN (King) (15:32): Thank you for the opportunity to speak about my community letter and survey, which are going out to my King electorate this week, and the budget handed down by our Treasurer. This week, everyone in King should receive a letter and a survey from me in their letterbox. The timing is really important because it is time to check on our first six months in government.

I want to hear from the King electorate in terms of their issues, their hopes, their ideas and any feedback they have on this week's budget. I am sending out this letter so that they come directly to me to ask any questions they have and not listen to the spin from the former government. I encourage all my community to take a moment to contribute their feedback and continue their conversations with me, conversations I have been so grateful to have with them in the last few years. I am listening, I am acting and I am certainly committed to serving them to the best of my ability.

King does matter. Their views matter. I live in King and I care about that community. Every day, I am focused on helping people to improve our local King community, and I steadfastly continue to be focused, along with my colleagues, on more jobs, lower costs and better services. I know there are some questions right now about services, and I will fight for our community services. They do matter to me, and what my community wants to see matters to me even more.

I want all members of our community to know that I truly care about our local region and all the northern suburbs, and I want to do everything I can to win the trust of our community to make it the best area to live in South Australia. Our new government has committed to many exciting promises through the King electorate, and I look forward to delivering on each of these promises for our community. So far, we have already delivered for our local community.

We have delivered \$320,000 in funding to the South Australian District Netball Association (SADNA) to improve the SADNA car parking facilities at the courts in Golden Grove. This was a promise we made and it is already being delivered. Nearly 400,000 people who visit these courts will benefit, not to mention the residents in surrounding streets. We have put back the first \$90 million into the economy as a reduction on emergency services levy bills. This was a promise we made and it has been delivered.

We are ahead of schedule to fix Golden Grove Road. The project is scheduled to finish in 2020 instead of 2021. This is a promise we made and it is currently being delivered. Both the Premier and the minister have been down since we were elected to have a close-up look of what the issues are and what the solutions should look like. We currently have a bill to cap council rates to put money back into ratepayers' pockets and drive better spending decisions in councils. This bill has passed the House of Assembly and is currently being debated in the Legislative Council. In this budget, we have just announced funding for:

- the upgrade of the Golden Grove park-and-ride. This project will see the car park increase to 400 spaces, which will ease congestion and stop the overflow clogging our nearby streets. This is something that has been raised with me time and time again. This was a promise we made and it is currently being delivered;
- \$150,000 for the upgrade to the Skyline Drive turn-off from Black Top Road at Hillbank to add a slip lane. This was a promise we made and it has been budgeted to be delivered;
- \$110 million towards the upgrade of the Modbury Hospital. This was a promise we made and it is being delivered;
- \$45 million to reduce elective surgery waiting times so that patients can get the care they need sooner. This was a promise we made and it is being delivered; and
- removing payroll tax for small businesses. This was a promise we made and it will be delivered.

In addition, a \$100 million fund over the next four years to promote economic and jobs growth in South Australia is a key part of the \$738 million jobs and industry package in our new state budget. Once again, these are many examples of how this government cares, has listened and will deliver. People can return the survey to me by email, phone, postage and by dropping it off to our King electorate office. Please send me feedback.

Bills

APPROPRIATION BILL 2018

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading (resumed on motion).

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (15:38): It would probably be wrong to say that it is with pleasure that I rise to speak to the Appropriation Bill, given that this is the first Liberal budget in many years and it is certainly back to the future. I am old enough to remember being around during the last period of Liberal government in South Australia, and indeed I lived in a regional community at that time. In that regional community and in others, one of the strong memories is the level of cutbacks to services in regional South Australia; it was very disturbing.

That is not to say there were not good people in that government. Indeed, some of those people I respect and still respect today. They are still out there in different roles making a contribution to South Australia. It was certainly a very hard period. It was especially hard in a community like Whyalla, which was already experiencing significant job losses, to have a whole range of other cuts imposed on the community. It is in contrast to what happened with the Labor government: when we went through a hard time, they were there to provide the support that was necessary.

We often hear from the Liberal government that regions matter, with hashtags all over it. Premier Marshall and his Treasurer, Rob Lucas, delivered a budget that could not be further from the truth when it comes to support for regional South Australia. Certainly, the delivery was not commensurate with the rhetoric in the lead-up to the budget.

The Hon. T.J. Whetstone interjecting:

Mr HUGHES: I will get on to that. I am always willing to acknowledge those good things. We might as well just get the high school out of the way because that was a very positive thing. It was not so much an initiative, because we announced our commitment to that in the half-year budget review, but a solid commitment that we would deliver on.

The Hon. T.J. Whetstone interjecting:

Mr HUGHES: It was there in the half-year budget review as a commitment. I will concede that there is something that I quite liked about the commitment in the budget, that is, that it would be funded as a traditional Labor government funded project rather than as a PPP. PPPs can be useful, but I am a bit of an agnostic when it comes to them.

In the lead-up to the budget, we had a Liberal government that ignored some of the state's farmers, who are currently experiencing extremely dry conditions and dire weather conditions in some parts of our state. We had the minister offer counselling, and there are additional counselling services. We were writing letters to the federal government because we missed out with the last round of funding when it came to assistance for communities impacted by serious adverse weather conditions. Whereas councils and communities in Queensland and New South Wales received a significant amount of money from the federal government, we missed out.

I was expecting some tangible support for farmers in this budget, but I cannot find it. It was a bit of a surprise and a great let down to our primary producers, those living in regional South Australia and across the board, not just in relation to agriculture. It looks like quite a significant cut to regional road funding in the order of \$26 million. There is the slashing of key initiatives in PIRSA and not funding female change rooms in the regions. Indeed, when you look at the funding for sport and rec, one of the things that stands out is just how much is going to the metropolitan areas; hardly anything is going to regional South Australia.

The government has turned its back on the state's 277,000 recreational fishers. It is closing TAFE facilities in Roxby Downs and Coober Pedy. Instead of looking at ways of rebuilding and rejuvenating TAFE, which I think is necessary in those communities, no, we close them down. When you look at TAFE in Roxby Downs—and Roxby Downs is going to be expanding—and the contrast with when we were in government, and the amount of money we put into educational resources in Roxby Downs, with the government we now have, it is disturbing.

Once again, we have put back on the agenda the threat to privatise Pathology SA and the undermining of the important work that service provides to regional communities. When it comes to Pathology SA, some of the exchanges yesterday were interesting when it was said, 'We were going to do exactly the same thing.' Well, no, we were not, because I was very heavily involved in the discussion about Pathology SA earlier on in the term of the last government, and a consultant's report about Pathology SA had a line about reviewing that service with a view to looking at privatisation, and I knew that would have a very negative impact on regional South Australia especially.

The minister at the time was the Hon. Jack Snelling. I went to see Jack and I said, 'Let's not have this review, this privatisation. Even looking at it is a waste of time. It's the wrong thing to do.' It was cut off at the knees, and we went on the public record, we went on the media, to indicate that we would not be pursuing that particular agenda that was recommended by that consultant at the time.

There is a range of cuts. There are changes at the South Australian Research Development Institute (SARDI), with more than \$5 million to be pulled out of that organisation, or for it to find additional cost recovery, and this comes at a time when parts of our farming sector are struggling. A lot of the stuff in the budget is a bit of pea-and-fumble, and I will try to get on to some of that stuff in a minute.

A number of people approached me expressing concern about the potential in the budget to impose those cuts on SARDI. As we know, SARDI undertakes vital research to help make South Australia's primary industries and regions internationally competitive, and this is done through a range of programs to help increase primary producers' productivity and sustainability while creating opportunities for market growth. It is integral to the primary industries sector, so it is something that should be looked after.

It is worth reflecting, given all the negativity that was often pointed Labor's way, that when it came to our primary industries—and Labor should not take the responsibility for this; this was a massive collective effort, but especially an effort amongst our primary producers—we did reach a

record of \$19.97 billion in the state's food and wine production. That was very good news, and I do hope that you are going to build on that and that we will see more good news in the future.

There is a degree of uncertainty now given that SARDI has faced these additional pressures. I will just quote directly what the Treasurer had to say in his budget speech. In the budget, Treasurer Lucas says that 'savings would be made through improved cost recovery for support services provided by PIRSA towards the delivery of SARDI research and development activities'. I do not think there is any excuse to put additional pressure on SARDI. The Liberals have inherited a budget in surplus, a growing economy and a fall in the unemployment rate.

Indeed, there have been 40 consecutive months now of employment growth, and the Liberals are set to receive an extra \$1 billion in GST cash over the forward estimates. It is very disappointing to see what is going to happen to SARDI. Primary Industries in regional South Australia is also facing cuts. More than—

The Hon. T.J. Whetstone: There's no cuts in SARDI.

Mr HUGHES: There is additional cost recovery.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. T.J. Whetstone interjecting:

Mr HUGHES: They have been asked to find \$5 million of additional cost recovery. More than \$36 million has been stripped from PIRSA and the changes mean:

- the cessation of the SA Premium Food and Wine Credentials Grant Program, which is \$6.6 million;
- the cessation of the economic sustainability grant program, \$10.6 million;
- cutting the Food Innovation Taskforce and Advanced Food Manufacturing grants program, as well as a variety of other grant programs, \$8.8 million; and
- abolishing the Food Park Tenant Attraction program at \$5.5 million.

So there are some significant cuts to PIRSA.

Despite constantly talking about the regions—and I am looking to address some of the challenges that these organisations face—we just see more pressure. We have also seen the Local Government Association's Regional Youth Traineeship Program entirely eliminated as well. I am sure we will find lots of hidden cuts in the budget that will have an ongoing negative impact on regional South Australia.

I have mentioned that we have had cuts to regional roads. Once again, it was one of those things that, when in opposition, the Liberals talked a lot about. It is a very legitimate thing to talk about. There is always going to be an unmet demand; resources can only go so far. I was expecting an incredibly significant increase in funding for regional roads, but that is not the case. Instead, there is \$26 million in cuts, leaving country South Australians worse off.

The Royalties for Regions program will raise an estimated \$315 million over four years for a regional road and infrastructure fund, based on taking 30 per cent from mining royalties. The thing about mining royalties is that they can go up and down depending on the commodity cycle and a range of other factors. This represents a \$26 million cut, compared with the \$341 million over four years that was being invested in country road maintenance and safety projects under the former Labor government.

To make matters worse, to fund the Liberals' promised Port Wakefield overpass and road widening project, the Marshall government is pilfering \$17.7 million from the regional roads and infrastructure fund from 2019-20 to 2021-22. This will whittle down the amount left to spend on the rest of the regional road networks to \$297 million.

The former Labor government understood the importance of investing in country roads, spending almost two-thirds of South Australia's road maintenance and safety budget in country SA. The Royalties for Regions is a cut dressed up with a pretty name. Regional communities have every

right to be disappointed with the Marshall Liberal government. Liberal MPs promised the world to country South Australians, but now they are in the driver's seat they have turned their backs on the regions and chosen to cut regional road funding.

The Liberals' Regional Growth Fund is another pretty name—well, it is a rather bland name, but never mind. We will not know the substance of that program until we start seeing how that money is going to be allocated. We are talking about \$150 million, which mirrors the commitment given to a similar fund by the Labor government. I am willing to be corrected here, but the Labor commitment was going to be CPI adjusted over the 10-year term of that particular fund. I have not heard any mention of CPI adjustment in relation to this particular fund.

The Labor fund has received some criticism from those opposite because it was often directed at particular companies, but it had a fairly hard measure when it came to jobs. Not all those funding proposals that got the guernsey delivered, but an incredibly significant number of those projects did. Our fund was tied directly to job creation.

With the Liberals' Regional Growth Fund, those often-used words are there: it is 'strategic' and it is 'collaborative', which essentially means it can be anything. You could argue positively that it gives you flexibility. Well, it certainly gives you flexibility, but let's see how it actually measures up. I am not going to bag it, though, because the first round, I think, closed on 31 August with 80-plus applicants. Let's just see the measure of that.

We have funded some projects through various mechanisms. Becker Helicopters did not come through our regional air program: it came through an Investment Attraction program, but it was a company-specific thing. We have been told, in a sense, that that is not what we are going to do. I bet you will end up doing that. In the case of Becker Helicopters, that company is going to grow to 80 jobs with the potential for more. I know the amount that was used as the carrot to get that company to come from Queensland. I would spend that carrot every day if I could get 80 jobs out of it.

It was interesting what that company, which was set up interstate, had to say about our state government and also the Whyalla city council. It said that the state government did more in the period of one year than the Queensland government did in 15 years. Hence, it was fairly easy to pluck them from Queensland, but it was not guaranteed. Sometimes a little bit of company-specific funding does help to secure companies for South Australia and, in this case, a new company that did not compete with anybody else.

I am not going to go through the figures for Labor's original development fund because I will run out of time. In 2016-17, it generated 3,000 original jobs, over a billion dollars of investment and it was independently assessed by Ernst and Young. If you come from the regions, when you get the budget you always turn to Invested in the Regions. I found it very interesting that a whole range of these initiatives are Labor-funded initiatives. I will take the example of the health field, which is really important.

Health and education are clearly priorities. There is some stuff that the new Liberal government are doing in the health field, some additional cancer centres in regional South Australia—that is great. That builds on the good work that the Labor government did. We talk about the \$140 million over 10 years for investment in country health facilities. Once again, that was allocated in the last Mid-Year Budget Review. As a regional member—

The Hon. T.J. Whetstone interjecting:

Mr HUGHES: It certainly was. As a regional member, I remember having a conversation with Jack Snelling when it was not in the full budget. It was not in the full budget. The independent consultant's report, I think, recommended an amount a little bit less than that, but we committed \$140 million. It is great to see you carry out that commitment as well. I think it should have been done sooner, especially when it comes to some of the smaller hospitals. That backlog could have been addressed sooner, but it is good to see it addressed. If we had been returned to government, we would have addressed it as well.

We talk about education, and I think I mentioned at the start that a big slice of that, when it comes to the regions, is in my electorate and my community of Whyalla. I went on the radio when that was announced by—

Time expired.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (15:58): I will pay due respect to probably the only real regional member in the Labor Party, the member for Giles. In saying that, I thought he was not going to acknowledge the \$100 million we are putting into a new Whyalla high school.

Mr Hughes interjecting:

Mr PEDERICK: You have had your 20 minutes.

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Giles!

Mr PEDERICK: What I would like to say is that the Marshall Liberal government has delivered a strong budget to deliver on our election commitments and to secure South Australia's future. We made around 300 individual election commitments and we will deliver all of them. We are delivering on our election commitment to create more jobs, lower costs and provide better services for South Australians. The Marshall Liberal government is taking our state forward through a budget that is fair, responsible and lays a strong foundation for the future. The budget achieves a real return to surplus and projects surpluses across each year of the forward estimates.

Families and businesses will benefit from major tax reforms, including the \$360 million reduction in the emergency services levy and the abolition of payroll tax for small businesses from 1 January 2019. Over 20,000 new apprenticeships and traineeships will be created to ensure South Australians are job ready and able to capitalise on future industries, such as defence and the \$90 billion naval shipbuilding program.

Regarding defence jobs and veterans, the Marshall government is investing to drive defence jobs, capitalising on the federal government's \$90 billion investment in naval shipbuilding. The 2018-19 state budget will deliver on election commitments to establish a defence export program and veterans' employment initiative. New funding will be provided for three key initiatives:

- \$300,000 per year to fund grave leases on an ongoing basis for war veterans, as opposed to families having to repurchase leases every 25 years;
- \$45,000 in 2018-19 to commence the rememorialisation of Anzac Highway by shifting the memorials, which are currently located on median strips, to road verges and making them more visible and accessible; and
- \$10,000 per annum for three years to provide headstones for unmarked graves of World War I veterans who served our nation 100 years ago.

In the Attorney-General's portfolio, we are putting up \$14.5 million in the budget for additional resources to support the operations of the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption and to enable the ICAC to hold public hearings. We are providing \$1.8 million to Forensic Science SA for forensic coronial services to support an increase in the number and complexity of post-mortems and pathology reviews requested by the Coroner. We are providing \$146.4 million to support South Australia's participation in the National Redress Scheme for survivors of institutional child sexual abuse.

In regard to policies related to the environment and water, which are dear to my heart being at the lower reaches of the River Murray, funding of \$1 million in 2018-19 has been allocated for the establishment and operation of an independent inquiry into water pricing in South Australia. This will inform the government if the methodology used to determine SA Water's bills is reasonable. The independent inquiry into water pricing will commence in early September and be finalised around 30 June 2019. This initiative delivers on the government's election commitment. This budget includes \$27.7 million of new funding to key environmental programs that will see real lasting benefits for our state's environment and deliver lasting impacts across our state.

In regard to education, we see record funding, and it is a hallmark of the Marshall Liberal government's first state budget. More than \$1 billion is being invested in capital projects, including two brand-new birth to year 12 schools, to be built under a public-private partnership model, and a new \$100 million school in Whyalla funded by the state government.

The Marshall Liberal government is delivering on its election commitments by delivering a literacy guarantee package of measures, which includes 13 new literacy coaches, phonics screening checks for all year 1 students and literacy and numeracy professional learning programs for teachers. A package of measures will address bullying, truancy and substance abuse in our schools. The government is providing for an expansion of the languages in schools program, increasing the focus on South Australian children learning a second language, and is building a new technical college in Adelaide's western suburbs that specialises in preparing for South Australia's future defence industry needs.

In regard to tourism, we are committed to growing event tourism in South Australia. The government is investing an extra \$21.5 million over four years in the event bid fund to secure more lucrative major events. In addition to the increased funding for the major event fund, \$4.9 million has been provided to support the hosting of major events in South Australia, including the NRL State of Origin in 2020 and five national swimming events through Swimming Australia. We are investing an additional \$10 million in 2019-20 to invest in marketing South Australia as a tourism destination in key international and domestic markets.

In relation to trade and investment, which is vitally important to this state, we are helping South Australian exporters to grow by investing \$12.7 million over four years for new trade offices. The government also launched the South Australia Export Accelerator program in August, matching exporters dollar for dollar to help support exporters throughout their export journey. In the emerging exporter category, up to \$5,000 is available for South Australian businesses that are exporting for the first time; in the export accelerator category, up to \$30,000 is available to help fund business expansion that will create multiple direct ongoing jobs; and, in the new market entry category, up to \$15,000 is available to help fund business expansion per each new international market. Exporters can continue to access these grants as long as they are seeking sales in brand-new markets.

In regard to human services and social housing, the Marshall Liberal government is committed to helping the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our community. Abolishing volunteer screening check fees for South Australians recognises the huge contribution that volunteers make to the community. Funding of \$11.9 million over the next four years has been allocated to a suite of domestic violence measures to ensure that women living in violent or abusive relationships are better able to access immediate support.

These measures include \$4 million to establish 40 new crisis accommodation beds for people fleeing abuse and \$5 million in interest-free loans to non-government organisations to fund new domestic violence support housing. There is an extra \$1.66 million over four years to extend the Women's Safety Services SA Domestic Violence Crisis Line to 24 hours a day, and there is \$150,000 for the development of a personal protection app linking at-risk women directly to police and DV services.

The measures also include \$510,000 to support a statewide trial of a domestic violence disclosure scheme to enable women to request information on their partners' criminal history, as well as \$624,000 over four years for the SA Coalition of Women's Domestic Violence Services to enhance its community work and activities. There is \$3 million to support the administration and implementation of the energy discount offer for concession holders and \$200,000 in 2018-19 to streamline ConcessionsSA administration and service delivery processes.

Reducing homelessness and increasing access to appropriate housing is a key focus for the Marshall Liberal government. The recently signed National Housing and Homelessness Agreement will see \$118 million per year directed towards improving access to affordable, safe and sustainable housing across the housing spectrum. The Liberal government has inherited a broken housing system. Sixteen years of mismanagement under Labor has meant that many of the 34,000 homes in the system are run down and in chronic condition. There is a backlog of maintenance into the hundreds of millions of dollars. The public housing system will not be fixed overnight but with the establishment of the new SA Housing Authority the Marshall Liberal government is working to clean up Labor's mess in social housing.

In regard to health and wellbeing, the Marshall Liberal government's budget is focused on delivering better health services, repairing the damage that was done to our public hospitals under

Labor and ensuring health services are sustainable. The Marshall Liberal government committed to tackling the massive blowout in South Australia's overdue elective surgery waiting list—a tenfold increase in overdue cases. This budget invests \$40 million over the next two years to reduce elective surgery waiting lists in South Australia's public hospitals.

The budget also includes \$5 million over the next four years to improve bowel cancer prevention and detection in South Australia by reducing the waiting lists for colonoscopies. This delivers on one of our election commitments. The budget is repairing the damage done to our hospitals through \$20 million to stop Labor's sale of the Repat, something they said would never happen. They said, 'Never ever,' but never believe them. It will allow the site to be reactivated as a genuine health precinct.

We have \$23 million to support the establishment and operation of a four-bed high dependency unit at Modbury Hospital; \$14.5 million to establish a 12-bed acute medical unit at Noarlunga Hospital; \$9.9 million to strengthen cardiac services at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital; \$52 million over four years to improve the level of patient care being offered at the new Royal Adelaide Hospital; \$5.3 million to enable the planning and design of a new Women's and Children's Hospital.

Regional health is a matter dear to my heart. Health funding initiatives for regional South Australia contained in this year's state budget include \$140 million over 10 years for country health capital works to significantly improve our regional hospital and health infrastructure that has degraded following 16 years of Labor Party neglect. I must say that over time, probably close to 30 years ago, I was protesting out on the steps of this place for the survival of the Taillem Bend Hospital. Thankfully, it is going strong. We have some aged care in there and we have just had some new doctors sign up to provide services there, linked in with Murray Bridge after hours to supply after hours emergency care. All Labor thought about doing was closing country hospitals.

There is also \$20 million in regional health over four years to develop and implement a rural workforce strategy to address the shortage of health practitioners in regional areas. That is much needed money going into the regions. We have \$7 million over three years to upgrade the emergency department at the Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, something I have done a lot of work on over the last four years, or even longer than that, to get this project funded. I am so pleased that we will deliver this project and give the upgrade because it has been 40 years since any substantial work has been done in the emergency department at Murray Bridge. It has long been needed and with the rapidly growing region, the second fastest in the state behind Mount Barker, it is much needed due to the growth of the community.

There is \$6.9 million over four years to deliver additional chemotherapy services in regional areas, allowing patients to receive lifesaving treatment closer to home. These are much-needed services. A further \$5 million has been provided for the implementation of a single statewide chemotherapy prescribing system to reduce the risk of underdosing fiascos as we saw under the former Labor government. Furthermore, there is:

- \$2.1 million to deliver on the Marshall Liberal government's election promise to expand and upgrade the renal dialysis unit at the Mount Gambier hospital. Two renal dialysis chairs will be added, enabling a further eight patients to receive treatment in Mount Gambier each week;
- \$1 million over four years for the South Australian Healthy Towns Challenge to enable rural and regional communities to apply for a grant of up to \$50,000 to help improve the health and wellbeing of their community.
- \$1 million this year to upgrade the fire protection system at the Lighthouse aged-care home in Kingston;
- \$720,000 for the Ardrossan hospital to fund the Marshall Liberal government's election promise to enhance services such as accident and emergency, palliative care and subacute care at this community-owned facility;
- \$600,000 over four years to upgrade surgical facilities at the Yorketown Hospital and employ additional nurses, who certainly do vital work right across the state;

- \$500,000 this year for the McLaren Vale District War Memorial Hospital to fund the installation of solar panels to significantly reduce the energy cost of the hospital and upgrade hospital infrastructure, delivering on another Marshall Liberal government election promise;
- \$337,000 over the forward estimates to increase paediatric services at the Mount Barker hospital;
- \$160,000 over two years for a pilot program for an intensive outpatient rehabilitation program in the Riverland to reduce the harm associated with the use of crystal methamphetamine in regional and remote communities;
- \$100,000 this year to fund the development of a business case to assess the need for a new Barossa hospital, as per the Marshall Liberal government election promise once again; and
- \$50,000 to support the establishment of a permanent renal dialysis unit in the APY lands, run by Western Desert Dialysis.

Importantly, the state budget also provides \$3.6 million in annual funding for governing boards, including six boards in country South Australia. These are the new health boards we have announced and are starting to put in place. This will put decision-making closer to people who actually deliver and receive health care, helping to break down what happens at the moment with seven layers of bureaucracy in health, where decisions are made a long way from where they need to be made.

In regard to energy and mining, the state budget provides \$184 million in expenditure and a \$10 million underwriting guarantee to ensure more clean, reliable and affordable power for South Australians, something the former government did not think about once. The budget also delivers on our election commitments for \$100 million for the home battery scheme, \$50 million for grid scale storage and \$30 million to better manage demand.

The budget also accelerates delivery of an interconnector to New South Wales by supporting early works, which Electranet's modelling suggests would reduce bills by \$30 per account per annum when operational. The \$200 million for the interconnector fund is a contingent project in the budget. Of this, \$4 million is being provided as a grant in the budget and \$10 million as underwriting to support early works. This is vital spending needed to support energy use.

As a large energy user, the resources sector needs lower energy bills, which is a focus of our budget. This budget is also focused on delivering improved customer service for resource companies as they deal with government, and the government is advancing the review of the Mining Act to improve outcomes for both resource companies and landholders. Mr Deputy Speaker, I will have to continue my remarks in the grievance section, but I commend the Appropriation Bill.

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (16:19): I rise to make a contribution to the Appropriation Bill. First, I would like to acknowledge all previous speakers, particularly the Leader of the Opposition for his address in reply to the budget today. It was well received on our side, and clearly was well received by the gallery. We saw a large group of our fine custodial—

Mr Pederick: Was there anyone at work?

Mr ODENWALDER: They were on their lunch break, mate; it is union rules. They had a lunch break, then they came down here and supported the Leader of the Opposition in opposing certain aspects of the bill we are discussing today. I want to focus on my portfolio areas rather than on my electorate. I think I will focus on that in the grievance debate if time allows, but I do want to focus on my portfolio areas, and particularly the threat that some aspects of this bill present to public safety.

I want to preface all of this by saying how proud I am to have been part of the Labor government which was in power for 16 years and which instituted some very good public policy around community safety. Many members here contributed directly, including many former police ministers. The member for Enfield and the former member for Croydon made very strong contributions as attorneys-general, as did others such as the member for Playford, who worked in

the background to ensure that our law and order policies were always responsive to the needs and concerns of ordinary South Australians and of our communities.

I was particularly proud of our serious and organised crime laws, which had a tortuous passage through the houses and the legal system. I will not go into detail as there are people here who are far more familiar with that process than I am. However, through all the court challenges and subsequent legislative changes, I think we ended up with a very good, very workable model. Every police officer I speak to is extremely happy with this legislation in terms of its effectiveness.

It is not always effective in terms of disrupting the businesses of organised criminal gangs, as that is a very complex and demand-driven problem, particularly when you are talking about drugs. As SA Police Assistant Commissioner Duval recently noted, it is a very difficult demand-driven problem. While I do support many of the government's measures in relation to drugs, I have some scepticism about how successful their particular war on drugs will be.

Public safety has been a great result of these reforms. As I said, police at all levels attest to this. The reforms have been absolutely crucial in disrupting the activities of not just outlaw motorcycle gangs but also criminal gangs in general. It has been effective, as I said, not so much in relation to their primary business concerns but in terms of the intimidation and the violence that accompanies those business practices. We have seen a marked change. Police tell me time and time again that, with our legislation, they have disrupted criminal gangs to such an extent that they simply will not be seen contravening the very tough laws that now govern things such as their association.

I am very proud of that suite of legislation and of all the other changes we made throughout the Rann and Weatherill governments. That is why it is alarming to see certain cuts in this budget which directly and negatively impact public safety. I was incredibly proud to have been appointed the shadow minister for police, corrections and emergency services by the leader earlier this year. I made a decision at that time, inspired by the leader's public statements, that I would support any sensible measure this government or the crossbench brought forward in terms of public safety, and the record bears that out.

Over the past few months, I am reasonably certain I have supported every law and order policy that the government has brought into this place. The opposition have supported every law and order and public safety policy, with the one exception of the custodial sentences for the simple possession of cannabis, which the Attorney-General wisely, albeit belatedly, amended out of her own legislation.

On occasion, the opposition have gone further. We have introduced amendments and bills in private members' time squarely aimed at community safety and at giving police the powers they have told us they need in order to do their job more effectively—whether it is greater capacity to punish drug possession offences around prisons, or the removal of automatic parole for serious drug offenders, or giving police the capacity to search vehicles for drugs when the operator of that vehicle indicates a positive result in a roadside drug test. The government have opposed all these measures outright. The third one is still under question but I expect they will oppose it; they have certainly indicated they will oppose it.

Now they have given us a budget that contains measures which seem inexplicably aimed at reducing community safety. Crime Stoppers has been topical and, as was widely expected and widely feared, \$960,000 of funding to Crime Stoppers has been cut in this budget, putting this valuable crime-fighting resource at risk. Crime Stoppers, as we all know or should know, is an important link between the public and the police. It provides our law enforcement officers with invaluable information about all sorts of serious crime, and this cut makes no sense.

In January this year, the then Labor government committed \$960,000 from the Attorney-General's Department to ensure that Crime Stoppers continued to provide their valuable service to South Australians. Inexplicably, the Liberals have chosen not to honour this commitment. This cut means that South Australia is now the only state not to provide government funding for Crime Stoppers.

By way of history, Crime Stoppers was funded quite generously, as I understand, by their major sponsor, Bank SA, up until 2012. They also receive a \$40,000 ongoing recurrent grant from the federal government. Since 2012, they have been operating with less and less cash in reserve

and it is now reaching an emergency point for them. I hasten to add that they came to the government and the opposition last year seeking ongoing funding to continue their operations and to continue their community education campaigns. Clearly, the then government got the message and, in January, made that decision. However, we were not the only people getting the message about the need for this funding.

The Minister for Transport, who was then the shadow minister for police, and a good shadow minister for police by the then opposition standards, said in this place, and I quote:

The fact that Crime Stoppers is in the position that it's in is absolutely disgusting, and after having gone to the government a number of times the government still hasn't come to the party.

That is the then Labor government that decided to fund Crime Stoppers to the tune of \$960,000. He continued:

This obviously shows that the government isn't serious about fighting crime in South Australia when they're unwilling to fund even the basic amount of money to help Crime Stoppers keep up and running.

Times have changed, obviously, and this cut is indicative of the flavour of this cuts budget.

Over the past two decades, Crime Stoppers has helped solve almost 30,000 crimes, including some of South Australia's most heinous cases. This cut will put everyday South Australians at risk and it leaves Crime Stoppers' continued existence on very shaky ground. This funding was crucial for Crime Stoppers to continue to serve our community. Crime Stoppers themselves are confused and appalled at this decision. They point out that this decision by government to not support the Crime Stoppers program in South Australia makes it the only place in the country not to receive any state or territory funding. Crime Stoppers say, and I quote:

The lack of budget allocation comes despite a public commitment by the previous government and a number of subsequent briefings with the Minister for Police and his advisers, who have acknowledged the efforts of the highly effective crime-fighting program but do not follow up accolades with action.

...Crime Stoppers SA has achieved significant results on a shoe-string budget, but a number of earmarked crime prevention initiatives across regional and metropolitan communities are now in jeopardy.

These are the words of Crime Stoppers on budget day. They go on:

Despite solving an average of 25 crimes every week and directly contributing to a safer South Australia, the program has never received financial support from State Government for its day-to-day operations and rewards scheme.

That lack of support now forces crime Stoppers SA to consider cost-cutting measures.

Crime Stoppers has been unquestionably successful in keeping our community safe. Since the program first began in South Australia in 1996, I believe, more than \$220,000 in rewards have been paid to members of the community; more than 32,127 crimes have been solved; over 21,000 persons have been apprehended; and about \$9.4 million worth of property has been recovered.

Just last year there were 19,439 calls from people wanting to share information about criminals and their illegal activities; 4,222 online hits and reports using the app or website; 911 arrests, including wanted fugitives, arsonists and suspects wanted for robberies, theft and assault; 1,901 charges laid for drug dealing, firearms, robbery, serious assaults and child pornography offences; and 79 firearms seized, including ammunition and a range of illegal accessories.

It is important to note these last two points: over 1,200 plants and 240 kilograms of cannabis which equates, I am advised, to over 86,000 street deals; and the shutdown of 12 clandestine labs and 1.3 kilograms of amphetamines seized, which equates, again I am advised, to nearly 17,000 street deals. This government continually claims and made a big deal at the election of prosecuting a war on drugs, yet it is cutting funding for a program which demonstrably and self-evidently does so much towards detecting drugs in our community.

In the Attorney-General's portfolio area, we have also seen two quite simple—and, in the scheme of things, relatively inexpensive in terms of the total budget—public safety grants being cut. The first of those is the crime prevention grants, which many of us will know of in our own communities. This is a saving of nearly \$4 million over four years, but these grants have historically

provided communities, councils and community groups with things like CCTV and other initiatives in their own communities to enhance public safety and to keep their residents safe.

Importantly, there is also the cut from 2020-21 in the Safe City grant, which grants the Adelaide city council money to maintain its CCTV network, which of course is particularly important in places like Hindley Street and Hutt Street, where complaints need to be verified often by the use of CCTV and often used by police, of course, to catch offenders, and particularly I am thinking of Hindley Street. Not a day goes by, I am sure, when some perusal of the CCTV on Hindley Street assists in some sort of police investigation. Again, these are inexplicable cuts to very successful and very public safety programs.

On top of all this the police commissioner, of course, needs to find \$7 million in 2018-19, rising to \$11 million in 2021-22, in so-called efficiencies to back-office activities in SAPOL. The Treasurer assures us that front-line police services are not directly impacted. As the leader stated, I just do not see how this can be so. When you take that much money out of the police budget, something in the police operational sphere has to give. In the minister's contribution to this debate, which I hope is soon, I very much hope he will outline what discussions he has had with the commissioner and what discussions will be taking place in the near future or have already taken place with SAPOL about where these cuts will happen.

Another aspect of the budget is the long-awaited decision on police station opening hours. Of course, we all know that the government went to the election promising to reopen or re-extend hours in several suburban police stations, which the commissioner in a review in 2016 had deemed unnecessary or less necessary than having patrols on the road. I wish I was privy to the negotiations between the minister and/or the Attorney and the commissioner in order to reach this conclusion, but it will allow the creation of a counterterrorism rapid response group.

I will reserve my judgement on this. The opposition will reserve its judgement on that. We do not know the details, of course. I trust the commissioner. I trust the police management that their intention is always to create the most responsive police force they can whatever politicians say or try to direct them to do, and so of course we will reserve our judgement on that. That, I think, is a win for the police commissioner, despite the fact that decisions he made just two years ago have clearly been rejected by this government.

The government did promise to enhance access to police. That was the basis of the promise to reopen the stations. The fear was, when the announcement was first made several weeks ago, that the extended opening hours would be attended entirely by civilian staff, who I am sure are very competent public servants but who are not sworn police officers. The government were quick to reassure us that there would always be a police officer present, which again begs the question: why is that police officer not ultimately more valuable on the road, as the police commissioner has always state?

Nevertheless, I am sure that the commissioner, having reached this agreement with the government, will work this out. His preference was always to have police on the beat and on the road, rather than stuck behind a desk. Perhaps even limiting it to one police officer per station for all of those extended hours is a risk. Again, it remains to be seen how the commissioner will staff these police stations, but you would have to conclude that it would be unsafe to have a bare minimum of sworn police officers close by the station, if not in the station, at all times. The danger is that not only are the public not protected in certain situations but the civilians themselves, who staff the police stations, are put at risk.

In the time I have available to me, I will just go over a couple of the other interesting aspects of this budget from a public safety point of view. There are a couple of small cuts to academy processes. There is a \$1.1 million saving over two years simply by delaying a cadet intake by about six months. I guess that is an accounting trick, and I do not really have much to comment about that, but more interesting is the \$3 million saved over three years by shortening cadet courses from 12 months to 11 months.

Of course, this begs the question: where are these cuts being made? Presumably, someone has gone through the academy curriculum and given advice to the minister and to the government about what training police are receiving now that is considered surplus to requirements. I would like

to see that advice and I hope, again, that the minister addresses this in his contribution to this debate or at least in answers to questions in estimates.

It is important: where will these cuts come from? Presumably, police cadets are not wasting a month at the academy. They are doing something there, so where are the changes being made? Is it in their defensive options, in their firearms training, in their baton training, in their taser training, in their training in investigations, in their criminal law training, in their driver training? We need answers to reassure us that the police cadets coming out under this new regime are receiving all the training that police cadets receive now. This is in the context of what I think we all agree is a much more complicated policing environment. Our community has changed over the years; there are many diverse groups in our communities that have particular needs.

There is a focus on domestic violence, which the commissioner himself has made paramount. For better or worse, the workload of police in relation to domestic violence is much heavier, and the necessary training for police officers, in terms of empathy and understanding the broader issues around domestic violence, forms part of that. Against that backdrop of a much more complicated and much more demanding policing environment, we are seeing slightly less training per cadet. There may be a very good reason for that; there may be a study out there that shows that a month of the training was not particularly useful. I do not know, but it would be interesting to see what the result is there.

Another interesting aspect is that there was no funding for the RAA Street Smart Primary program. The RAA run a very successful driver training program, as most of us would know. Schools in our communities have this driver training, and there are six in my electorate. The RAA were asking for an extra \$400,000, a small amount in terms of the total budget, to extend this program to all primary schools every year. That is all it would have taken. I am a bit perplexed as to why that was not taken up, so I will be talking more to the RAA about that. I will continue my remarks during the grievance debate.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (16:39): I have great pleasure in rising to speak on the Appropriation Bill for the first time as Minister for Education in this Marshall Liberal government. It is an honour to serve in this way and one that I take very seriously indeed. The children of South Australia, the young people of South Australia and the students of South Australia are at the fore of our minds. We have a grand ambition, a bold ambition, to deliver great things in our schools, our early childhood settings, our training institutions and of course our universities in South Australia. We would like to see every child in every classroom in every school in South Australia supported to grow to their full potential and achieve their potential in life and in their education.

Significant bodies of work are being done in literacy, in languages, in a range of fields and vocational education as a result of the government's election policies, and I am so proud to see so many of them in the budget. This is a government that is delivering for the people of South Australia on those election commitments that we took to the election, and we are so proud that this is a government that is delivering on its promises of more jobs, lower costs and better services. Better services is a range of fields that I have responsibility for, and I am looking forward to continuing to do that work in the years ahead as we seek to achieve what we can for the people of South Australia to be their best.

The education portfolio benefits in this budget from increased support. This Liberal government will see schools funding and education funding increase to the point of \$515 million more in the budget for the 2021-22 year, compared with the last Labor year of 2017-18. This is a significant investment in education because education is the foundation of our social wellbeing and, of course, our future economic prosperity. That includes a range of programs that I identified before in support for schools.

We are also identifying a significant capital works program, a range of programs for the first time appearing in the forward estimates: schools in Whyalla and in the north and the south of Adelaide, a significant investment because those communities need that investment; new schools in the north and the south; and a school in Whyalla to replace the current outdated junior high and senior high construct in facilities that are not what they once were.

That capital build is backed up by programs announced before the election by the previous government, and the dollars that were committed to by the Liberal Party in opposition will now be delivered to that range of schools through capital works programs across South Australia and, indeed, to the tail end of the STEM Works program, also announced by the previous government, supported by the then opposition. I am very pleased that members on either side of the house have been in the process of unveiling those projects in recent months, and that work will continue. There are a number of other specific projects that have capital in the education space.

I am sure that we will spend a lot of time talking about education during estimates, and there is some terrific work being done. I will not go through all the election promises, as we have spoken about some of them before, and I am hoping at some stage to get my third question from the shadow minister for education for the year, where she might raise some other issues that we might talk about. I note that 172 days into the new government I am yet to get my first question from the shadow minister on TAFE. Given that the opposition has shown no interest in the TAFE SA institution at all in the parliament this year—I note that they have raised some issues in the media in recent days—this seems like a good time to put some of that work into context.

It is worth doing so in the context of the Appropriation Bill because, of course, this Appropriation Bill identifies a \$109.8 million rescue package for TAFE. That is money that is in the budget produced by the Liberal government that was not in the budget produced by the Labor government. In fact, in their last Mid-Year Budget Review, a fact that the Leader of the Opposition, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition or the former treasurer, who sits alongside them, has yet to identify is that there were \$70 million worth of cuts to TAFE SA.

At the same time that they were presiding over the ASQA audit fiasco, which I absolutely assure the house happened on the Deputy Leader of the Opposition's watch as the then minister for education, they then imposed \$70 million worth of accumulated cuts and efficiency dividends on TAFE SA—revenue expectations that were completely unrealistic; cuts with no road map of how they were to be achieved.

This morning, the Leader of the Opposition, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and the shadow minister were at Port Adelaide TAFE bemoaning the decision made by this government to change the service delivery model for the Port Adelaide TAFE offerings. They are the same people who sat in the cabinet and last December announced \$70 million in cuts over the forward estimates to TAFE SA. There was no ownership of this, no decisions about how those cuts were to be achieved. No, they just imposed the cuts and left TAFE to do its business. They left TAFE alone, as they had for 16 years; 16 years in which they ran down this once proud institution, which will be proud again. It is on the way.

I want to take this opportunity to once again commend the interim board that has been working so hard, to commend the interim CE, who has been doing an extraordinary body of work over the time since she was appointed, I think in December. In December, the shadow minister claimed credit for having taken bold action. She said that the reports that were tabled on Tuesday take aim at the leadership in TAFE, the senior executives.

She said that she fired them. Well, she fired them after significant prompting from the opposition and the media. She fired the chair of the TAFE board, and that was actually it. The CE of the TAFE institution last year resigned and the minister, who should have resigned at the time, did not, and she still sits as the Labor Party's spokesperson for TAFE SA, which potentially gives some clue as to why the Labor Party has not asked a single question in this chamber of this institution that they now claim to care so much about. This is the basis upon which, of course, this \$109.8 million rescue package was so necessary.

Let's talk about the context of why this \$109.8 million rescue package is so important. The Labor Party, between November 2012 and the end of its period in office, oversaw a reduction in TAFE SA staff, full-time equivalent, from 2,825 in November 2012, to the end of the financial year just past, 2,201—624 TAFE SA staff fired under the Labor administration within the last six years. That was when Susan Close was the minister for education and those who immediately preceded her—the Leader of the Opposition was in the cabinet, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and the shadow minister for education—were in the cabinet. The shadow minister for mining, who was the treasurer, and the shadow treasurer were in the cabinet. They oversaw 600 job losses at TAFE SA.

In a completely unstrategic way, as identified by the Strategic Capability Review—and I am going to tell you a little bit more about what some of those reviewers found over Labor's oversight of the TAFE SA organisation—there were 600 job losses owned by Labor. They have no credibility when they talk about job losses or efficiencies. Indeed, those efficiencies in this budget are by an order of magnitude less than the unstrategic havoc that was wreaked on the organisation when Susan Close was the minister for education and those opposite were in government. Let's talk about campus closures and the Labor Party—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, if I could just interrupt, can I remind you, please, not to refer to members by their names.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Yes, sir. The member for Port Adelaide.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: The member for Port Adelaide or Campus Close as I am starting to think of her. The Labor Party, after 172 days in opposition, are yet to ask a question in this house about TAFE SA. Potentially, they have been talking about these campus closures. Seven campuses are in the situation where they have low numbers.

On a number of occasions, the numbers have been run down significantly in recent years. They have underutilised facilities, sometimes inappropriate and outdated facilities, bearing in mind that much training these days is best delivered in a worksite, on a farm or in blended delivery models. They are potentially able to use facilities that are not necessarily owned by TAFE SA; they can be delivered in a hall. A short course on safety can be delivered as well in a hall as it can in an old demountable TAFE SA facility—that was one example that was put to me—or indeed online. This is the direction that training has been heading for some time.

There are also campus consolidations and I point out, particularly in relation to Port Adelaide where a significant majority of the training being delivered is in the range of nursing, that there are excellent facilities at Regency TAFE where those courses are going to be moved to. There are outstanding facilities where those courses are able to be moved to, and the course delivery is capable of being delivered in a greater way because, of course, if we are not spending money on outdated, underutilised or unnecessary infrastructure, that means we can invest more money in training young South Australians or work seekers. We know this is capable of being done because it has been done before.

The Labor Party was responsible for TAFE SA during a period of an extraordinary number of campus closures. The 'shadow minister for education campus closures', as I have started to think of her—the member for Port Adelaide—was in fact the minister in 2016 and 2017 when the Gawler TAFE campus was transitioned to the city of Gawler, Renmark TAFE campus was relinquished to the Department for Industry and Skills, the Waikerie TAFE campus was transferred to Waikerie High School, Morphettville and Kimba leases were terminated, and the Clare TAFE campus was closed and transferred to the Department for Environment and Water. This was all in 2016, by the way, so not that long ago.

The lease at Cleve was terminated in December 2016, Kangaroo Island was transferred to the school in January 2017, Millicent was transferred to the school in February 2017, and Bordertown and Naracoorte were moved to the Department for Industry and Skills in March 2017. On these campuses, as on the campuses that are identified in this year's budget, there were low levels of training activity—training activity that was capable of being delivered in other settings and training activity that was capable of being moved to other TAFE campuses. It is noteworthy that the Labor Party did not raise any concerns because, of course, it was them doing it.

Those opposite closed 11 campuses in that two years. Prior to 2010, they closed Peterborough and Jamestown as well. In 2013, Yorketown TAFE was closed. In 2013, the Marlestone, O'Halloran Hill and Panorama TAFEs were closed and in 2011-13, the Croydon TAFE was closed. In 2011-13, the Roseworthy TAFE was closed, and in 2015 English language services at the Rundle Mall TAFE campus were closed.

How many TAFE campuses do those opposite want to have brought to their attention that they in fact closed? Did you hear the outrage in the parliament yesterday? Did you see the outrage

in Port Adelaide this morning when the members for Lee, Port Adelaide and the Leader of the Opposition fronted up to the TV cameras and bemoaned the idea that a TAFE campus was able to have its courses offered in a more modern way or in better facilities or more appropriate facilities or in a way that is able to deliver better value to TAFE SA, the students and those businesses and industries who we are seeking to find a skilled workforce for?

The outrage was extraordinary and completely unmatched by even an acknowledgement that they had closed well in excess of a dozen TAFE campuses during their term in office and extraordinarily about a dozen when the member for Port Adelaide was the minister for education. Did they care then? No, they thought that TAFE is offering a way that more training can be delivered in that sense.

The fact that we have this rank utterly pathetic hypocrisy from the Labor Party is very disturbing. The fact that they are unwilling to ask a question in the House of Assembly can only be put down to the fact that they know they are the guilty party when it comes to devastating TAFE SA. They know that the member for Port Adelaide, as minister for education and child development and higher education and skills, had responsibility for TAFE when they were closing campuses.

The thing is that those campus closures were capable of being delivered in a way that those students were able to be supported, but what else happened when the member for Port Adelaide was the minister responsible for TAFE SA? We saw extraordinary devastation not only for TAFE SA but for the entire training market across South Australia.

This is again amongst the purposes for which we have this \$109 million rescue package and a \$200 million Skilling South Australia package that this government is delivering to support more than 20,000 new trainees and apprentices across South Australia. Why is that so necessary? Because between 31 March 2013 and 31 March 2018 there was a 58 per cent decrease in the number of apprentices and trainees training in South Australia—a drop from 36,000 to 15,000. There was a 58 per cent decrease in the last five years of the former rotten, hopeless Labor government. The number of commencements for the same period decreased by even more—by 63.8 per cent, from 22,990 to 8,325 apprentices and trainees. That is what the South Australian Labor Party did to the training and apprenticeship market in South Australia.

What did they do to TAFE in that same time? What was the student headcount, I wonder, in 2013. In semester 1 of 2013 there was a 51,314 student headcount in accredited courses, 59,372 students at TAFE in their total TAFE SA activity. That was semester 1, 2013. Five years later, the Liberal Party comes to government after seeing the member for Port Adelaide, the shadow minister for education, as the minister responsible for TAFE. What had happened to TAFE in the meantime? Well, when I arrived, semester 1, 2018, as at the end of March—bearing in mind that we had 51,300 students enrolled in accredited courses in 2013—it had gone from 51,000 to 23,612 as at 2 April, so the week after I got in as Minister for Education.

I found that such devastation had been wrought on TAFE SA by those opposite that we were down to 23,000 students. So much work is going on at TAFE SA by the CE, by the board, by the educators at TAFE SA, by the people working at TAFE SA, that that is turning around, that is getting fixed. There have been steps taken, with the support of this government, to improve the support for TAFE SA. It is not just this \$109 million rescue package, by the way: there are a series of other measures that are addressing some of the extraordinary challenges that TAFE SA has faced.

Already TAFE SA has recruited an Executive Director of Quality Teaching and Learning. They have improved their internal audit quality processes and ramped them up, and they are, indeed, introducing a new academic board, as per the Liberal Party's election promise and the recommendations of the Strategic Capability Review.

This \$70 million cut, that turned around to a \$109 million rescue package, comes on the back of the work that needed to be done. I remind all members of some of the challenges facing TAFE SA, as identified by the Nous review, and as identified by the Strategic Capability Review that went into TAFE SA. The Strategic Capability Review opens with the words:

The reviewers are dismayed by the depth of the problems at TAFE SA. The significant challenge now facing TAFE SA stems from an absence of strategy, poor leadership, and the centralisation of decision-making and

resources. The last four years have been a lost opportunity for TAFE SA specifically and for South Australia as a whole.

That is on Labor; that is on the shadow minister for education, the Leader of the Opposition and everybody who was in that Labor cabinet. The Nous Group, that looked into what happened that led to the ASQA debacle last year, reported:

Despite the fact that it is clear that, as a public corporation, TAFE SA is subject to control and direction by the minister—

that is, it's your guys' fault, on the Labor Party, for what happened—they identified:

Cabinet-approved time-limited funding to assist TAFE SA meet its transition costs (primarily funding TVSPs) on the basis that investment TAFE SA's downsizing would significantly ease budget pressure over the medium to long term. However, the focus on cost cutting became an obsession one, meaning that leaders and managers paid much more attention to cost inputs rather than the quantity or quality of outputs.

The Labor Party in government did not care about quantity or quality of outputs of traineeships, apprenticeships or other vocational education at TAFE SA. That is what the review, commissioned by the member for Port Adelaide, found. They found that it was unsophisticated cost cutting, with no strategic purpose at all. Greg Black, a former head of DFEEST, defined it during the election as basically that they cared so little about who went that a lot of the best people, the people who could get other jobs, were the first to offer their hands for a TVSP.

We have some terrific educators at TAFE, and the Strategic Capability Review and the Nous review said that that was the case: lots of good educators, but ageing infrastructure, obsolete equipment, unreliable technology and inflexible online platforms severely limited organisational capacity and information. That is the Strategic Capability Review. The Labor Party is responsible for this problem; the Liberal Party is fixing it.

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (16:59): In rising to speak on this bill, I must articulate that I am incredibly disappointed by this bill, I am incredibly disappointed by this government and I am incredibly disappointed about the impact that this government is having on South Australians in every corner of our state. This government has handed down a cruel budget, a budget that the Treasurer has admitted is best delivered by someone with ice in their veins. This budget could indeed only be delivered by someone lacking the warmth that comes with compassion, care and a commitment to fairness and inclusion.

If you are committed to fairness, equality of opportunity and inclusion, you make sure that those who need your support and your care the most get that support and care. It is the role of every one of us in this place to make sure that the more vulnerable members of our community are treated with compassion and respect, with access to quality services and supports. It is also the role of every one of us in this place to ensure that all South Australians have access to decent jobs, quality services when they need them, good public education and health facilities, and transport and infrastructure.

I am here to stand up for the people of Reynell and across South Australia to ensure that our community members have that access and that they are treated with compassion, care and respect. I know that everyone on this side of the house is similarly committed to doing so because Labor values all South Australians. We will fight for South Australians and against the devastating effect this budget will have on their lives. In contrast, those opposite are not fighting for South Australians so they can make ends meet and can access decent services, facilities and support when they need it. They have prioritised some of the wealthiest people in our community to the detriment of Housing SA tenants and South Australians across our community who deserve and want a fair go.

With so many cuts and so many misdirected and offensive revenue raisers, it is difficult to know where to begin, but I will start by focusing on one of the most basic rights that we want for South Australians: the right to a roof over their head. This budget includes a rent increase for people in Housing SA homes. Our Housing SA tenants need support, not higher rents. I have constituents come to my office, often on bus services that I understand will now also be cruelly cut, who are Housing SA tenants and struggling. Together with my staff, I help connect them with services in the community so that they are able to get the support they need.

It is disgraceful that the Marshall Liberal government is attempting to claw money in this budget from members of our community who need it most. I assure the many community members and friends residing in Housing SA homes that I will fight against this terrible announcement and that I am here for you. To the many Housing SA tenants in Christie Downs, Hackham West, Morphett Vale and elsewhere, I will do everything I can to fight the impact of this cruel grab for cash. I know what you do to meet the cost of living, to put food on your table and to pay your rent. I respect it. I will fight to ensure that things do not get harder for you and that your ability to access basic necessities is not compromised.

One outstanding organisation that I connect people with in the south is Heart and Soul in Hackham West. Heart and Soul provides food assistance for people in our community, a number of whom are Housing SA tenants, giving them a hand with their weekly grocery shopping. It is an incredible organisation made possible by its founder, Eman, all the volunteers and all the people who donate food. Their generous hearts make a real difference to many. I was deeply proud that our former Labor government was able to support Heart and Soul through the Fund My Neighbourhood program.

Heart and Soul was successful in winning a grant, which they will use to purchase a new refrigerated truck to collect food donations from across our beautiful southern community. It is incredibly disappointing that the Fund My Neighbourhood program has been cruelly cut by the government in this budget. As well as supporting organisations like Heart and Soul Food Assistance, it also supported Foodbank and community members to secure a grant to work with our community to set up a food hub in the south. It supported the Port Noarlunga Primary School to build a canteen in a shed for school sport, and it supported many other organisations.

Whilst taking more money from Housing SA tenants with one hand, this government is taking away grants programs from community organisations with the other. There is no doubt that this budget will make life tougher for people. More than ever, we are going to need our community to come together to support one another and also, importantly, to fight against this government's cruel, blatant disregard for ordinary South Australians. The Fund My Neighbourhood program was a fantastic way for local communities and people to decide how to improve their local neighbourhood. But this government is not in any way interested in listening to what our people and communities want or need.

They are not interested in making their lives just a little easier. In fact, they are intent on making things harder. This government, with ice in their veins, are making cuts left, right and centre without having any plan whatsoever for the future of our communities and of our state as a whole. It is astonishing that there is literally no narrative in this budget about what this government's vision is for our state. This is because there is not one. Their vision is simply to cut, to claw money away from those who need it most and to privatise. Well, the people of South Australia have seen this and will continue to see it.

Many prison officers flocked here today because they know what privatising prisons will mean for community safety, for jobs and for rehabilitation. They are rightly angry and they, together with so many others, will stand up against these cuts, against their money grabbing from the most vulnerable people and against privatisation. They are astonished, as am I, as are we on this side of the house, that rehabilitation programs are being cut at the same time that prisons are being privatised, an initiative that makes no sense and that speaks this government's utter, utter lack of vision.

Sport is a powerful tool for social change and for bringing people together in the community families created by so many clubs across our state. It adds the power to include all and to support all to do their best and to belong. Like so many other South Australians, my own experience as a child showed me that they do just that. In my previous roles and currently, I see so many clubs and their generous volunteers working day in and day out to make sure that their facilities and programs are appropriate and can welcome all.

Women are taking to traditionally male-dominated sport in droves. For them to have the opportunity to equally and actively participate in the sport they love, we must provide them with the facilities they need to do so. We want to end the days of girls and women getting changed in cars or in the male change rooms. Recently, in one circumstance, a parent from a particular club told me

that these were connected to the male toilets and that during an under-18 girls' footy match men inadvertently came in to use the toilets whilst the girls were changing.

Clubs across our state know that if we genuinely back women in sport, then we must provide them with appropriate facilities. These clubs, their athletes and supporters, and everyone on this side of the house knows that if you are genuine about equality in sport, about equality everywhere, then you stand up and you speak out for facilities for men and women, boys and girls, that are equal. We also know that if you are allocating grants to clubs for facilities, then you make sure that you consider the influx of women playing sport and that you back them in.

When we see girls and women play sport, when we see them play at the highest level, we see them differently. It is transformative in terms of how the roles of girls and women are perceived, and it gives us the opportunity to challenge many other issues that our community confronts about gender inequality. This government has utterly failed South Australian girls and women. It has again showed its complete lack of regard for equality. It has shown that they want to take our quest for equality in this state backwards. Shame on them. South Australian girls and women deserve so much better, and I will stand up to make sure that they are treated better than those opposite intend to treat them.

In contrast, the Female Facilities Program was initiated by our former Labor government to fund the development of new, or the upgrading of current, female-friendly change facilities for participants and officials. I say well done to the member for Mawson for his part in this work. This did not mean that boys or men would not benefit from these change rooms. It was about building change rooms that were appropriate for girls and women.

The objectives of the Female Facilities Program were to support the increase in female participation in sport in South Australia, to ensure that girls and women have the facilities they need to equally and actively participate in the sport they love and to support the South Australian Strategic Plan's sport and recreation target to increase the proportion of South Australians participating in sport or physical recreation at least once per week to 50 per cent by 2020.

Labor invested a total \$24 million towards this program, which was incredibly popular across our state. Forty-one clubs across South Australia were given funding via the first three rounds, which thankfully cannot be clawed back as contracts have been signed. The last \$10 million round, round 4, which was fully funded and costed, has now been clawed back by this cruel Marshall Liberal government. Clubs were able to apply for a maximum \$500,000 grant, meaning that at least another 20 clubs could have had a grant to upgrade or build new facilities from round 4. Numerous clubs had applied for this round, which closed in April 2018 and was expected to be announced just after 31 July 2018.

I have received numerous communications from clubs and state sporting organisations confirming that they have received a call from the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, not the minister, to tell them that round 4 of the Female Facilities Program will not be honoured, expressing their anger at the government's new announcement not containing any new funding for sport whatsoever—in fact, a reduction in funding and the exclusion of particular sports—and expressing their anger that volunteers who put grant applications together and then waited for months and months to hear an answer have been told that their work does not matter, that their volunteering does not matter, that their athletes and their clubs do not matter to this government.

As well as this last fully funded round being abandoned, it is clear that the Female Facilities Program will not continue into the future. It is clear that this government will not support girls and women in sport, that it does not support grassroots clubs, given it has reduced funding overall. It is clear that it will provide minimal support for just some codes, with others being locked out of grants altogether.

The Liberals have also clawed back \$10 million from the synthetic surfaces program and have pretended that funding for the State Sports Park and the Women's Memorial Playing Fields is all of their making. Like the Female Facilities Program, the clubs that had applied for synthetic surfaces grants have now been told that their applications are also not proceeding. Under the synthetic surfaces program, clubs could have applied for up to \$1 million in grants, meaning at least another 10 clubs have missed out.

Curiously, this budget speaks of our South Australian Women in Sport Taskforce, led by some extraordinary South Australians—leaders in sport and elsewhere—delivering on its strategies to achieve gender equality in sport. Despite this, the task force appears to have been abandoned—not surprising given this government's lack of support for women in sport, for women in general, for the clubs that support them and for the athletes who participate. This cruel Liberal government has invested no new money whatsoever in recreation, sport and racing grants, not one new dollar. In fact, even the \$5 million for next financial year has a strong caveat attached of needing to see how this year goes.

Sport is so important to our communities. It has an incredible ability to bring people together, and I was proud to be part of a government that recognised this and had record investment in sport. Just a couple of weeks ago, as both shadow minister for sport, recreation and racing and shadow minister for multicultural affairs, I was so pleased to assist the Southern Football League in holding its first multicultural round to celebrate diversity and to encourage understanding between diverse cultural communities.

Morphett Vale Football Club hosted the event, with support from our local league, the Ahmadiyya Muslim community and SANFL. The Ahmadiyya Muslim community had a stall at the grounds and ran its very successful Coffee and Islam program. A pre-game discussion occurred on the field, involving multicultural leaders, league and club officials and players from the participating teams. I could not be prouder of our local league, the Southern Football League, Morphett Vale Football Club and the Ahmadiyya Muslim community for coming together and establishing this initiative. Sport is indeed a powerful way to include people and celebrate diversity, and this initiative and the ties that were strengthened through it have done just that.

South Australia is richer, stronger and better for its rich cultural diversity, and this sporting event harnessed what brings us all together. Those opposite should support our clubs so that they are able to do more of these events, not rip the guts out of funding and put more pressure on them and their volunteers. We on this side of the house will keep backing women, backing grassroots clubs and backing diversity in participation, and I say shame on every one of those opposite for not doing the same.

It is also deeply disappointing to see nothing, nothing whatsoever, in this budget for racing. The racing industry in South Australia hires thousands of South Australians, brings tourists to our state and is an integral part of our community. Labor invested in the industry and delivered \$6 million over two years in racing prize money. The racing industry has been let down by this government, with no commitment in these budget papers to continue with that commitment.

In recreation, our rec fishers are being used and tossed around again. RecFish SA is the peak body for recreational fishing in South Australia, and they have been a strong advocate for the 277,000 rec fishers in our state. It is run on a small budget and it is run well, but the Marshall Liberal government is wasting money by exploring a new advisory body for recreational fishers. It is unnecessary and it is demeaning.

I am honoured to be the shadow minister for the status of women. In the area of domestic violence, I am pleased to see a focus. As many people in this chamber know, it is always a positive thing for us to work together to address the terrible scourge of domestic violence, but unfortunately this government has not got it right. The prevalence of domestic violence in our community is shocking and unacceptable. We are deeply committed to preventing and eradicating domestic violence. It is terrible that there is absolutely no funding, not one single dollar, for preventative programs in this budget. Whilst we must always fund programs and support services that keep women safe when in crisis, we must also fund those programs that mean violence is not perpetrated in the first place.

We all agree that violence against women is completely unacceptable and never an option. If we truly believe this and want to make the cessation of violence a reality, we must fund prevention. Whilst an increase in crisis accommodation beds is welcomed, the sector has been very clear that funding for staffing resources must also increase in order to be able to provide appropriate support to women in crisis who may utilise these beds. It is disappointing that there is no funding for this in this budget. The domestic violence app has not been well received by domestic violence services. It

is potentially dangerous for those experiencing domestic violence in terms of having it loaded onto a mobile telephone, and it is not a priority for the sector.

It is deeply shocking that this government cuts 4,000 public sector jobs and that this government wants to privatise our prisons and our health system. Where they are not privatising they are cutting, with local sporting grants, TAFEs, Service SA centres and local bus routes on the chopping block. It is clear that Labor cares about our community and that the Liberals have once again demonstrated, through this budget, that they do not. Labor will fight for our community; the Liberals will not.

Time expired.

Mr DULUK (Waite) (17:19): It gives me great pleasure to make a small contribution on this, the first Liberal budget in quite a long time. I have to say that I am glad Rob Lucas from the other place is our Treasurer, a man who is sensible, calm and collected and who provides a contrast to the shrill noise of those opposite.

I actually have a lot of respect for the member for Reynell—and, in fact, quite a few of those opposite, who I know come to this place with good intentions. Yet they seem to forget that for the last 16 years they were in charge of the Treasury bench, and in speech after speech, starting with the Leader of the Opposition at 12 o'clock today, all I hear is whinge and complain, whinge and complain. There is no acknowledgement of their sins and no acknowledgement of their budget failures, just whingeing and complaining.

Ms Hildyard interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Reynell, you have had your opportunity to speak. The member for Waite can now be heard in silence.

Mr DULUK: When you return a \$397 million budget deficit to the people of South Australia, when you work backwards and look at all the so-called budget surpluses that the member for West Torrens handed down in previous years, they were only supported through the privatisation of fantastic state assets such as the Lands Title Office, the Motor Accident Commission and the forests in the South-East. I know that the member for Mawson is from the South-East, and he would have been appalled at the decision to sell the rotation for the forests for less than the rotation is making right now. That is the vandalism of those opposite.

They give the people of South Australia a gift of a deficit of \$397 million, but then we are going to see, when debate continues over the coming weeks, the hypocrisy of those opposite regarding their actions. If one looks at what they did, at what they tried to do—and the Leader of the Opposition this morning on radio had to come out and say that, yes, he actually looked at not the outsourcing of services at prisons but the privatisation of prison services when he was corrections minister, albeit briefly—it knows no bounds. That is the problem with those opposite.

Treasurer Lucas and all of us on this side of the house will not be lectured by the Labor Party on how to run the state's finances. That can be seen in the budget papers, the key indicator of a loss last year, 2017-18, of \$397 million. If you accept the premise that Labor made a loss of \$397 million of state finances, if the government were a business and you were the CFO and you looked at those figures of an organisation with revenues of \$19 billion making losses year on year on year, you would have to ask what you were going to do differently in order to get your budget and your company back on track.

That is exactly what this Marshall Liberal government is doing. It is getting the company, the company of South Australia, the shareholders of which are our wonderful people, back on track—and we are getting us back on track through three simple key points: more jobs, lower costs and better services. We know that if we keep to that theme of more jobs, lower costs and better services for the people of South Australia we will have done the right thing in this budget.

Budgets are not easy. Setting your own family budget is never easy because there are always competing priorities, and setting a company budget is never easy because there are always competing priorities. Of course, setting the budget for the state is never easy because there are always competing priorities there. I will not give this speech today, I might save it for my budget

grieve, but I think there is an immorality in having long-term budget deficits. There is an immorality in making reckless budget decisions because ultimately, at some point, somebody has to make the right tough decisions, which inevitably lead to a conflict in priorities.

There has to be reallocation of services and expectations, and it takes away from the ability for us to be able to do what we want, how we want, and provide the services to the people of South Australia. We are talking about the fantastic initiatives that were in the budget for my electorate. My electorate of Waite is pretty excited, first and foremost, about the \$16½ million investment in local roads. When I was elected to parliament in 2015, we promised that a Liberal government would spend money on fixing local roads in our community because for 16 long years in the wilderness not a single dollar of local road investment was put into my electorate.

In fact, the last bit of funding that was spent by the Olsen-Kerin government in 2002, when my predecessor, Iain Evans, was the local member, was at the Blythwood roundabout at the bottom of Old Belair Road. A series of works was laid out in the 2001 budget to spend on infrastructure throughout the Mitcham Hills. There was a change of government, and for 16 years not a cent was spent.

Even when the former member for Waite, the Hon. Martin Hamilton-Smith, switched sides and joined the Labor Party, he did not deliver a single cent for the electorate either. The former government failed to listen to my community, and I am very proud that a Liberal government is listening to my community and funding the very important road upgrades that are required throughout the Mitcham Hills road corridor. We are also going to look at the intersections of Main Road and Russell Street, and of Brighton Parade, Shepherd's Hill Road and Waite Street, other blackspots in my community that will finally be getting those upgrades.

There is also money in the budget for the upgrade of Flagstaff Road, which is something that is very important to my broader community. I must put on the record my thanks to the new member for Davenport as well for continuing with the advocacy in that area. Of course, there is also money in the budget—\$20 million—for the GlobeLink master plan, which is going to look at freight throughout South Australia, in particular road freight and rail freight throughout the Mitcham Hills, to see how we can create efficiencies in the delivery of freight.

We know that exports are key to our longevity and our economic stability as a state. We need to export our goods and services. We need to give our fantastic manufacturers and primary producers the ability to get their product to market, whether it be interstate or overseas, as quickly as possible in the most timely and efficient manner. Looking holistically at that is so important.

Another really big issue in my electorate is obviously the provision of healthcare services. It is fantastic to see an additional \$43 million being spent to cut elective surgery waiting times. I know that the major hospital in my community, the Flinders Medical Centre, and SALHN are going to greatly benefit from that additional investment in elective surgery.

Those opposite, most recently in the contribution by the member for Reynell, say that we do not care about people and we are not investing in the community. What the former Labor government did in health, in Transforming Health, in the decimation of rural and country health (as the member for Narungga knows, with issues in his electorate), in the closure of the Repat—which I think, given where it sat, has probably saved, over the course of two or three years, about \$6 million if you look at the budget paper—shows everything you need to know about those members opposite.

Collectively, the Labor Party has no heart and it has no brains. If it had heart and if it had brains, it would never have implemented Transforming Health, which has done nothing but wreck healthcare services across metropolitan Adelaide and throughout the whole state. It is our task and the health minister's task to reverse those terrible decisions.

In my community in particular, of course, it is centred around the Repat and our policy to reactivate the Repat. It has been a real pleasure to work closely with the member for Elder, the member for Davenport, the federal member for Boothby and the health minister in ensuring that the Repat becomes an important health precinct again and provides a suite of services that the people of my community expect and most certainly need.

In terms of some other local projects that were announced as part of the election campaign and delivered in this year's budget, there is investment in the Wirraparinga Trail Loop at Brownhill Creek. That continues the great investment that this conservative government is applying in a practical way to the environment. No more slogans, no more outrageous targets, no more love affairs with slogans saying, 'We're going to be clean and green by 2030, 2040 or 2050,' or whenever the member for Cheltenham had in his dreams. This is practical, on-the-ground, sensible conservation of our environment, which is so important.

We are delivering more park rangers to places such as the Belair National Park in my community, which goes towards helping our natural environment. We are reforming NRM to give local groups and organisations a say in land care management, which is so important. There is no more need for lefties talking about the environment, as they like to do, without any practical outcomes—just practical, conservative measures to fix and ensure we have a wonderful community and a green environment that is going to be there for generations to come. This includes the Glenthorne precinct, the new national park and the development of the whole of the southern suburbs into an open recreation space that also looks at recreation and the desire for that—and also the environment.

I was at a Polish community function on Saturday, where we were celebrating 100 years of Polish independence from 1918. A lady from the Polish community in Flagstaff Hill came up to me and asked, 'When are we going to get the boats in the Happy Valley Reservoir?' It is something that they do in Europe. You are allowed to fish and partake in water sports in reservoirs and dams throughout Europe. It also happens in Brisbane, but the former environment minister (Hon. Ian Hunter in the other place) said you could never do it. We are going to do it. We are going to open up our reservoirs for recreational use, and we are going to open up our environment for the people of South Australia to enjoy, which is so important.

More broadly, we have a platform to grow our economy and to grow South Australia, and that is so important. This budget looks to address the lack of consistent investment throughout the state. As Treasurer Lucas outlined in his budget speech, it is about reforming the way we think. No more corporate handouts, no more picking winners. That is a thing of the past because it is inefficient and it picks favourites. By picking winners, you are by default picking losers. We are not here to pick losers in this state budget; we are here to create a level playing field, especially in the economic space and the business space, that allows all South Australian businesses to compete.

How are we doing that? First and foremost, we are reforming payroll tax. Every year, year after year, the former Labor government did very little to tackle payroll tax. It is one of the most insidious taxes there is because it taxes employment. From 1 January, the threshold for payroll tax will be \$1.5 million, one of the best in the nation. That is going to create a level playing field. It is going to send a message to businesses to say that we can invest and we can employ without the penalty of increased payroll tax, which is so important.

We are spending \$157.2 million to abolish payroll tax and a further \$95.9 million for land tax relief as well. We are seeing a lowering of the land tax threshold as well. The message to the people of South Australia, and indeed to the people of Australia, is that once again South Australia is open to business on a level playing field. You do not have to be Jay's best friend and you do not have to be Tom's mate; all you have to do in order to succeed in this state is to be a friend of South Australia, because we are not going to penalise you for having your chance to have a go.

We are supporting lower costs. The cost of doing business is going to change in this state, and the costs to South Australians is going to change. For too long, we know that the cost-of-living pressures have been a huge burden for so many South Australians, and we have listened to the people of South Australia. That is why we are cutting ESL bills, putting \$360 million back into the pockets of South Australians so they can spend their money how they see fit, which is so important. We are also capping NRM levies from 1 July 2019.

When we talk about supporting communities, a really big issue is volunteer checks, which I am very proud that we took to the election and which we are implementing. I know people come into my office all the time to get their DCSI clearances signed. Even if they just want to volunteer at Meals

on Wheels, as they do, or in a school group or Scouts, they have to pay a volunteer fee. Fancy charging someone a fee so that they can volunteer. It is actually quite ridiculous.

These are the types of fees and charges that have crept in under the former regime because they had to try—not that they ever did—to balance the budget year after year. They just kept on bringing more charges and taxes for people who just went about their ordinary lives in our beautiful suburbs and towns around the state, doing what they do best. We are saying that you can be a volunteer without paying a fee. Isn't that fantastic? That is what the community needs.

We are investing \$100 per primary school-aged children, at a cost of \$29.7 million. That is another project that Labor actually did not fund. The former minister, when he was the minister, did not fund school vouchers for kids in sport in the Mid-Year Budget Review. We have, to the tune of \$100 million, invested in schoolkids so they can participate in sport, which is actually vitally important. I always talk about the arts as well, as people know, and expanding that to support kids' participation in music and arts, which is actually somewhere we should be going as well.

In terms of better services, we are spending over \$1.2 billion in health. We are spending \$692 million to upgrade and modernise school infrastructure, and there is a further \$515 million increase in education spending. That includes helping the independent and the Catholic sector as well. No matter where you send your kid to school, whether is in my electorate at Blackwood Primary, Mitcham Girls High, or St John's Grammar, or wherever you are, it is important that your children, and you as a parent and a taxpayer, will be looked after by this government.

We have allocated an extra \$22 million to extend police station opening hours, which is important because law and order in the community is vitally important. We are looking after people's safety, which is so important. In terms of funding at a human services level more broadly, an extra \$11 million over the next four years has been allocated for a suite of anti domestic violence measures to ensure that women living in violent or abusive relationships are better able to access immediate support. That includes 40 new crisis accommodation beds, and \$5 million in interest-free loans to non-government organisations to fund new domestic violence support services.

We have allocated an extra \$1.6 million over four years to extend Women's Safety Services at SA domestic violence, as well as \$510,000 to support the statewide trial of the domestic violence disclosure scheme, and \$624,000 over four years for the South Australian Coalition of Women's Domestic Violence Services to enhance community working activities. This public policy spending is so important and should be bipartisan, but, in listening to the contributions so far today, the opposition are attacking the government for investing in important social services, which is obviously disappointing to hear from those opposite.

In the area of trade, tourism and investment, it is very important for South Australia because that is what generates real growth. Tourism is so important across the board. We are investing in tourism, which is fantastic. We have allocated \$12.7 million over four years for new trade offices. The former government did do some good work in the trade space and they were pretty parochial. The member for Mawson was pretty parochial in his support for South Australia on the world stage, and I certainly know he did his bit to spruik us on the world stage. I am glad that we are continuing to do that as well.

Mr Ellis: Is there going to be an office in Poland?

Mr DULUK: No, he never went to Poland, unfortunately, but that is something a future Liberal government can look at. New trade offices are actually important to support our businesses getting their product to market. We are also introducing the new programs, including the SA Emerging Exporter, the Export Accelerator and New Market Entry programs. It is so important to go there. One area in which we are lacking and behind is international education. There is a big investment from this government in international education.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (17:39): It is interesting that not a day goes by without a Liberal woman, be it a Senator or an MP, coming out and talking about the bullying culture in the Liberal Party. The member for Reynell made her contribution in this place, and the first thing the member for Waite did was get up and attack her in quite a nasty way and call her 'shrill'. This government has a problem with women. This government—

Mr DULUK: Point of order, sir.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Mawson, take a seat. Point of order, member for Waite.

Mr DULUK: I believe the member for Mawson is misrepresenting me in quite a defamatory manner. At no point did I refer to the member for Reynell as 'shrill'. I said that the contribution from Labor members was a 'shrill contribution'. If the member for Mawson wants to continue to go down this vein, the way he writes to his constituents—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Waite, this is not truly a point of order.

Mr DULUK: I ask the member for Mawson—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: If you feel like you have been misrepresented, you may make a personal explanation, but you are not to interrupt the member's speech. So, at some point you can do that. I suggest, member for Waite—

Mr DULUK: I seek leave to make a personal explanation.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, I am informed that you cannot do that now. You will need to wait until the member for Mawson has finished. I will return to the member for Mawson, who will be listened to uninterrupted. Member for Mawson.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. This government has a problem with women. One of the great things that our government did was to look after women in sport.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Mawson, if I can interrupt, this is an appropriation bill.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: And I am talking about the slashing in the budget by this government of a fantastic program that we had for women's sports facilities. It is an absolute disgrace. It is an area that is absolutely booming. We have women of all ages getting out and participating in sport in record numbers.

We saw that trend start four or five years ago, and we put money into the budget: \$24 million over the first three rounds of this grant. Forty-one clubs received funding of up to \$500,000, including the Dudley United Netball Club in Penneshaw, the McLaren Vale Netball Club and the Willunga Netball Club. Clubs right around our state have really benefited from it, and what did this government do? The first thing they did was slash the program, including the \$10 million that was already allocated by our government to fund up to 40 projects. Those clubs have now missed out. We will be talking to all those clubs, and more, because we know that this is already resonating with people right around South Australia.

We cannot continue to be a decent society if we expect girls and women to get changed behind bushes, in their cars or in offices, or have men coming into places where they are getting changed. That is not a fair society. That says nothing about equality. It is a great shame that the funding for women in sport and their change rooms has been jettisoned by this government. The people of South Australia have taken note.

We put an extra \$146 million of additional money into recreation and sport over our final two years, including money that was to be spent this year that is no longer in the budget. On our estimate, around \$100 million has been ripped out of this recreation and sport budget by this new government. That is a real shame because amazing programs and facilities were going to be built for people right throughout South Australia. The ones that have been left in, such as the Women's Memorial Playing Field and the soccer complex at Gepps Cross, they are trying to claim as their new idea and their money in this new budget. That money was already there. It was locked and loaded in our budget that was brought down last year by the member for West Torrens and the member for Cheltenham—the former treasurer and premier.

It is pretty rude to steal someone else's IP and claim it as your own. They have not just done it there; they have also done it with the Aldinga B-12 school. That was one of the centrepieces of their education policy in the budget. They were telling all the journalists that they were going to build this fantastic B-12 school. I heard David Bevan talking about it, saying this new school was in the

budget. I read it in *The Advertiser*; Celeste writing a great story saying this new school was going to be built by the Liberal government.

Let me just set the record straight. We announced that in our budget in June 2017. On 22 June, I wrote a letter to Aldinga Beach residents to tell them about the new school that we were building. Then we announced \$2 million for Willunga High and \$5 million for Aldinga Beach primary school. That is additional money for the people of Aldinga. We had a Facebook post and voting forms that we put out in November so that people could have a choice on where the school went.

We had two education forums attended by not only the minister for education, the member for Port Adelaide, but also senior members of the Department for Education as well. We handed out flyers at that forum. We talked to the local community. We did more Facebook polling. We sent a flyer to the whole community on 26 February, committing to a new school. On 2 March, we did another flyer, telling everyone we were building a new school in Aldinga. On 9 March, we sent a letter to all Aldinga Beach residents committing to the school.

Again, on 14 March, just a few days before the election, we handed out flyers about the new B-12 school we were building in Aldinga. Since the election, I have twice written to the Minister for Education to come up with some ideas, and we have had a good exchange about what this new B-12 school will look like, where it should be, and it allowed me to feed in the concerns of the community. I have a good relationship with the Minister for Education. It just does not seem right that the Premier and the Treasurer would be out there trying to claim a Labor initiative as their own—and not just as their own but as the centrepiece of education in their budget.

There have been a lot of cruel cuts in this budget, but I think the cruellest cut of all in my area has been to the Aldinga Soccer Club. We do not have a soccer pitch in Aldinga. It is one of the biggest suburbs in the state. It is a growing area and we do not have a soccer pitch. I listened to the local community. They wanted \$2 million to build a soccer pitch, so we committed \$2 million. The money was there. It was in the Mid-Year Budget Review last year.

What does this government do? They take that \$2 million and they give it to a man who has been convicted of murder. They give that money to Henry Keogh and take it off the people of Aldinga. That is an absolute shame, to take that money that had been committed to the people of Aldinga to build a soccer pitch and give it to a man who has been convicted of murder—a man who did not ask for the \$2.5 million this government gave him. It was one of their priorities. They had to get that money out the door before 30 June.

I can tell you that the people of Aldinga are pretty angry about this. They want their sporting facilities and they expect their sporting facilities. Do you know what they are saying about this new Liberal government? They are saying they are just like the old Liberal government that they chucked out 16 years ago. Do you know what they used to say about the south of Adelaide 16, 20 or 24 years ago when the Liberals were last in power? The people in the south used to call our part of the world the 'forgotten south' because the Liberal Party did not care about anything in southern Adelaide. We can tell by this first Marshall budget that they still do not care about the south.

The South Road duplication is another really important project for southern Adelaide. We committed money, \$435 million, to duplicate Main South Road from Seaford all the way to Sellicks. We pick up the budget this week and there is not \$435 million there. There is \$305 million and the duplication goes from Seaford to Aldinga, not all the way through to Sellicks. I can tell you that Craig Curtis and the South Road Action Group are coming after this government because they are not happy with that. This was a major issue for the people in Mawson in the lead-up to the election. People have been calling for this road to be duplicated, we committed the money to do it, and now this Marshall government has ripped that money off those people.

I do not think the present government actually cared too much about the seat of Mawson in the lead-up to the election. I think they just expected that they would win it. There is something that points to that, and that is the commitment of \$2 million to extend the breakwater at Cape Jervis, where the SeaLink ferries come in and go out. It was a rushed decision. The then opposition leader, Marshall, raced down there with Andy Gilfillan, the Liberal candidate for Mawson, and they made this rushed announcement on the Tuesday before the election, when they had seen the polls show that Mawson was on a knife's edge and that it was not going to be simply a seat that they would pick up.

Speaking to the local council in Yankalilla after the election, they said that the \$2 million for that project was not probably the best use of that \$2 million. I spoke to the transport minister—I have a good relationship with him—and I said that I was not going to make a big deal about it, and if the \$2 million could be better spent on something else that the council thinks it should be spent on, as long as it stays in that precinct, it did not have to be for extending the breakwater.

However, I see in the budget that the \$2 million is still going into the breakwater. We welcome that investment into our community, but perhaps the discussion with our local community about what would work best is what the new government should have done. I say again that they are out of touch with the people in Mawson.

The Kangaroo Island commissioner has been cut to save \$1 million a year. I have to say that this position has been a great thing for Kangaroo Island, for bringing people together. We knew in government that it was always hard to get people to work collaboratively on Kangaroo Island, not because they do not want to but just because everyone is so busy. It is 4½ thousand people spread across 4½ thousand square kilometres, and you really needed someone to come in and bring it all together.

I think Wendy Campana and her team should be congratulated on the wonderful work they have done in making sure that things do get done on Kangaroo Island. She has brought all the industry groups together. People would have noticed that groups like KI Wool, KI wines, KI food, KI seafood, the tourism sector and all those groups are doing a lot better, and they all have a greater presence off-island. That is largely due to the hard work of all the people in the businesses who are out there at the coalface day in, day out, and the people who sit above them in the industry associations, but also the Commissioner for Kangaroo Island and her team.

A lot of people are very angry that the commissioner's role has been scrapped. There is also a vacuum there because the new government will not explain what they are going to replace it with. If you are going to take away something that is that important to the island, what are you going to replace it with? I know there is some envy from people in other regions that other regions do not have a commissioner like Kangaroo Island does. Just because one part of our state has running water, you do not turn off the water to them because other areas do not have it; you give the other areas running water as well.

I think this will really damage the government, and I urge them to come up with something whereby Kangaroo Island does not miss out, because it is at a disadvantage in terms of having to catch a ferry or fly to the island. There are cost implications with that. Quite often, ferries are cancelled on really rough weather days, so we need to have some sort of plan that can assist the people and businesses of Kangaroo Island.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government. As I said, we have been getting on quite well so far. That is something that I want to do: actually work with the new government, but it makes it hard when we see a budget that is so mean-spirited to the people in my local area.

Fund My Neighbourhood was a great exercise in bringing communities together and getting them to work on grant applications so they did not have to stick to the usual grants that came up. These were voted on by local people in the area. I know that there were three of these grants handed out in Willunga, one in McLaren Vale and one on Kangaroo Island. They were really important, and to see local communities working together so strongly was absolutely terrific.

In the area of agriculture, two programs were scrapped; one was the South Australian Premium Food and Wine Credentials Grant Program. It did not cost a lot each year, but what it did was allow people who were doing wonderful things here in South Australia—whether in the seafood sector, the wine sector or across the grain sectors—who needed some sort of commendation and accreditation from government, to receive that. We would sign certificates that they could then take overseas and say, 'We are backed by our government.'

It also helped them get certification from international certifiers, whether that be the Marine Stewardship Council, which has given the highest accreditation to the wonderful people over on

Spencer Gulf who do the Spencer Gulf prawns, or whether it is our farmers who are non-GMO. It gave them that certification, so I think it is a real loss.

The Advanced Food Manufacturing grants were also terrific, and I know the Goolwa Pipi Co was one recipient of those grants. They needed to upscale what they were doing, but they needed longer shelf life on the pipis that they were producing. We helped them with a grant that allowed them to get in and test this technology. Once that had been proven, they then made their own investment and it was worth a lot of money to them. The money they are now recouping with their packaged pipis that they are selling all around Australia to chefs and to stores is terrific.

I know that other companies around South Australia really appreciated those grants. I know that the government keeps saying that they do not want to pick winners, but sometimes you have to give individual companies a helping hand. I have given this example before: the Cube at d'Arenberg is a \$15 million investment, of which \$13 million was put up by the Osborn family, who own d'Arenberg winery, a 105-year-old company.

They put up \$13 million of their own money. We put in \$2 million, which will probably pay the wages bill of the extra 70 people they have employed for the first year—it would not even pay that. We will get that money back in terms of the people who are drawn to McLaren Vale and the people who are drawn to South Australia by this wonderful building, the d'Arenberg Cube. It is not just d'Arenberg that benefits from that; it is every tourism operator, it is every accommodation provider, it is every cellar door in the McLaren Vale region and further afield across the Fleurieu. I think that this slogan that they have of 'we are not here to pick winners' is absolutely not a winning way to go.

In terms of tourism, the government keeps saying they are putting extra money in, but that is not what the South Australian Tourism Commission has been told. As someone who was the minister for tourism for five years, I talk to a lot of people in the tourism sector who say that the feedback they are getting from the South Australian Tourism Commission is that the new government has absolutely taken its hands off the wheel.

They have also reduced funding into the vital areas of marketing South Australia. There is no point in having the best facilities, the best natural attractions or the best major events if you do not tell people that they are on. In our time in government, we built the \$535 million Adelaide Oval, the \$400 million new Convention Centre and so much more. We built critical infrastructure but also put money in to make sure that we sold these wonderful assets in terms of bringing people in and making sure that our visitor numbers increased each year.

I was proud of the fact that in the five years that I was the minister, we grew the visitor economy in South Australia, from \$4.9 billion a year to \$6.7 billion a year. That was a huge increase, and one of the great things about the visitor economy is that people spend money right around South Australia and not just in the CBD. More than 40 per cent of the tourism spend is actually in regional South Australia.

I know that the member for Hammond is extremely excited about The Bend Motorsport Park complex. He spoke about it yesterday. Again, they are the things that we did. Is that picking a winner? We did give \$7½ million to that project to help get it off the ground. I commissioned CAMS, the Australian motorsport governing body, to do the report and to come up with The Bend as the best option out of five options for where to build this motorsport complex. I think we should have governments that pick winners, that do work with the private sector. I really think this first budget is a mean and nasty budget.

Time expired.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Cowdrey.

Personal Explanation

MEMBER'S REMARKS

Mr DULUK (Waite) (18:00): I seek leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

Mr DULUK: In the contribution by the member for Mawson, he inferred that I had referred to the member for Reynell's contribution as shrill. I did not. I referred to the Labor members' contribution on the budget debate being shrill.

At 18:01 the house adjourned until Tuesday 18 September 2018 at 11:00.

*Answers to Questions***AUSTRALIAN CRANIOFACIAL UNIT**

255 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). On what dates did the health minister receive correspondence from Professor David David AC about the Australian Craniofacial Unit?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

The minister received correspondence from Professor David David AC on 26 March 2018, 26 April 2018, and 18 July 2018.

AUSTRALIAN CRANIOFACIAL UNIT

256 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). On what dates did the health minister personally talk to Professor David David AC about the Australian Craniofacial Unit?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

The key meeting between the Minister for Health and Wellbeing and Professor David David since the election was on 9 July 2018.

AUSTRALIAN CRANIOFACIAL UNIT

257 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). On what dates did the health minister receive briefings on the concerns raised by Professor David David AC about the Australian Craniofacial Unit?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

Written briefings were provided on 21 June 2018, 22 June 2018, 9 July 2018 and 24 July 2018.

CONSULTANCIES

258 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). In relation to the Answer to Question on Notice No 4 re: consultancies, 'the information is publicly available', where is the information publicly available?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

I refer the member to the estimates committee of the South Australian parliament.

SA HEALTH GRANTS

259 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). In relation to the Answer to Question on Notice No 5 re: grants, 'the information is publicly available', where is the information publicly available?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

I refer the member to the estimates committee of the South Australian parliament.

SA HEALTH

260 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). On what date was the business case regarding lymphoedema treatment services and/or garment subsidy completed?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

SA Health is in the process of developing the business case for a Lymphoedema Compression Garment Subsidy Scheme for South Australia.

SA HEALTH

261 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). What organisations were consulted in the finalisation of the lymphoedema treatment services and/or garment subsidy business case?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

SA Health is working on the business case for the development of a Lymphoedema Compression Garment Subsidy Scheme for SA, and have obtained service information from local health networks and other jurisdictions as well as receiving information from the Australasian Lymphology Association.

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

262 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July on what dates did the Royal Adelaide Hospital Emergency Department at some point reach Code White?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

For the period 18 March 2018 to 18 July 2018, the Royal Adelaide Hospital emergency department reached code white on the following dates:

- April: 6, 18, 21, 23
- May: 7, 17, 24
- June: 12, 25, 29
- July: 2, 9, 15, 16.

FLINDERS MEDICAL CENTRE

263 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July on what dates did the Flinders Medical Centre emergency department at some point reach Code White?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

Between 18 March 2018 and 18 July 2018, Flinders Medical Centre Emergency Department reached Code White on 111 days.

MODBURY HOSPITAL

264 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July on what dates did the Modbury Hospital emergency department at some point reach Code White?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

Between 18 March 2018 and 18 July 2018, the Modbury Hospital emergency department reached Code White on the following dates:

- March: 19-20, 22-25, 28
- April: 3-14, 16-17, 19-21, 23-24, 26, 30
- May: 6-10, 12, 14-16, 20-25, 27-30
- June: 3-5, 11, 16, 19-20, 25-30
- July: 1-7, 9-10, 12-18.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL

265 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July on what dates did The Queen Elizabeth Hospital emergency department at some point reach Code White?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

For the period 18 March 2018 to 18 July 2018, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital emergency department reached code white on the following dates:

- March: 18-23, 25-28
- April: 2-6, 9-14, 16, 30
- May: 1, 3-16, 14-31
- June: 12, 18-30
- July: 1-18.

LYELL MCEWIN HOSPITAL

266 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July on what dates did the Lyell McEwin Hospital emergency department at some point reach Code White?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

Between 18 March 2018 and 18 July 2018, the Lyell McEwin Hospital emergency department reached Code White on the following dates:

- March: 18-28, 30
- April: 1-30
- May: 1-31
- June: 1-8, 11-13, 15, 17-21, 25-30
- July: 1-5, 8-10, 12-18.

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

267 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July on what dates did the Women's and Children's Paediatric emergency department at some point reach Code White?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

For the period 18 March 2018 to 18 July 2018, the paediatric emergency department reached code white at some point on 77 days.

NOARLUNGA HOSPITAL

268 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July on what dates did the Noarlunga Hospital emergency department at some point reach Code White?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

Between 18 March and 18 July 2018, Noarlunga Hospital Emergency Department reached Code White on 15 days.

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

269 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July how many Code Black (security incidents) events were called at the Royal Adelaide Hospital?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

Between 18 March 2018 and 18 July 2018, there were 1235 Code Black events at the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

FLINDERS MEDICAL CENTRE

270 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July how many Code Black (security incidents) events were called at the Flinders Medical Centre?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

Between 18 March 2018 and 18 July 2018, there were 732 Code Black events at the Flinders Medical Centre.

MODBURY HOSPITAL

271 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July how many Code Black (security incidents) events were called at the Modbury Hospital?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

Between 18 March 2018 to 18 July 2018, there were 151 Code Blacks events at the Modbury Hospital.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL

272 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July how many Code Black (security incidents) events were called at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

Between 18 March 2018 and 18 July 2018 there were 608 Code Black events at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

LYELL MCEWIN HOSPITAL

273 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July how many Code Black (security incidents) events were called at Lyell McEwin Hospital?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

Between 18 March 2018 and 18 July 2018, there were 836 Code Blacks events at the Lyell McEwin Hospital.

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

274 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July how many Code Black (security incidents) events were called at the Women's and Children's Hospital?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

144 Code Black events were called at the Women's and Children's Hospital between 18 March 2018 and 18 July 2018.

NOARLUNGA HOSPITAL

275 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July how many Code Black (security incidents) events were called at the Noarlunga Hospital?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

Between 18 March 2018 and 18 July 2018, there were 108 Code Black events at Noarlunga Hospital.

COUNTRY HOSPITALS

276 Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (25 July 2018). Between 18 March and 18 July how many Code Black (security incidents) events were called at country hospitals?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

Between 18 March 2018 and 18 July 2018, there were 45 Code Blacks events in country hospitals.

AUSTRALIAN CRANIOFACIAL UNIT

In reply to **Mr PICTON (Kaurna)** (24 July 2018).

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has advised:

1. The Women's and Children's Health Network (WCHN) has received contact from Dr Grave's lawyers.
2. A review of the selection process for Visiting Medical Officers was undertaken by WCHN to ensure the process complied with applicable public sector policies. This review was conducted by senior HR officers within the Department for Health and Wellbeing who were independent of the original selection process.
3. No. The ACFU, through funding from the South Australian government, supports up to 15 patients per year as international humanitarian cases. These patients are supported for their medical treatment and accommodation and living expenses while in South Australia. These cases continue to be welcomed and there is no plan from the government to alter current arrangements.

AUSTRALIAN CRANIOFACIAL UNIT

In reply to **Mr PICTON (Kaurna)** (25 July 2018).

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has advised:

1. The Women's and Children's Health Network (WCHN) has received contact from Dr Grave's lawyers.
2. A review of the selection process for Visiting Medical Officers was undertaken by WCHN to ensure the process complied with applicable public sector policies. This review was conducted by senior HR officers within the Department for Health and Wellbeing who were independent of the original selection process.
3. No. The ACFU, through funding from the South Australian government, supports up to 15 patients per year as international humanitarian cases. These patients are supported for their medical treatment and accommodation and living expenses while in South Australia. These cases continue to be welcomed and there is no plan from the government to alter current arrangements.

AUSTRALIAN CRANIOFACIAL UNIT

In reply to **Mr PICTON (Kaurna)** (25 July 2018).

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

The chief executive's comments are consistent with evidence from across western health systems that a significant proportion of care currently provided in hospitals could be provided in the community or could be avoided by care in the community.

AUSTRALIAN CRANIOFACIAL UNIT

In reply to **Mr PICTON (Kaurna)** (26 July 2018).

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has advised:

1. The Women's and Children's Health Network (WCHN) has received contact from Dr Grave's lawyers.
2. A review of the selection process for Visiting Medical Officers was undertaken by WCHN to ensure the process complied with applicable public sector policies. This review was conducted by senior HR officers within the Department for Health and Wellbeing who were independent of the original selection process.
3. No. The ACFU, through funding from the South Australian government, supports up to 15 patients per year as international humanitarian cases. These patients are supported for their medical treatment and accommodation and living expenses while in South Australia. These cases continue to be welcomed and there is no plan from the government to alter current arrangements.