

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

### Thursday, 12 September 2019

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.

#### *Parliamentary Committees*

#### **ABORIGINAL LANDS PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE: APY LANDS VISIT**

**Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (11:01):** I move:

That the report of the committee, entitled 'The key issues raised during its visit to the APY lands 7 to 9 May 2019', be noted.

I rise to speak to the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee report on the recent visit we undertook to the APY lands, which is one of the broader responsibilities of this committee, which is to inquire into matters affecting the traditional owners of the lands. If you are interested, Mr Speaker, you can find that responsibility under section 6(a) of the act. I am sure you will be most interested to look into it further.

As part of this remit, the committee considers it important to travel out to the various Aboriginal-held lands and to speak with those traditional owners as well as service providers who can provide personal insight into the successes and challenges being experienced in these remote areas. Accordingly, the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee spent three days visiting various communities of the APY lands in early May.

Unfortunately, the Hon. Tammy Franks was unable to be with us, but she is a valued member of the committee. We were fortunate to have all other members of the committee in the travelling party. The Presiding Member (Hon. John Dawkins), the Hon. Kyam Maher, the members for Giles and Waite and I took great pleasure in touring around this wonderful part of our state. It was my first time visiting the APY lands, and I believe it was the member for Waite's first visit as well, and we were in for a real treat, seeing firsthand the beauty of the incredible landscape in this part of our state and experiencing the generosity of people in sharing their experiences and concerns.

We were privileged to be able to visit with quite a few communities during our three days in the lands, including Umuwa and the nearby community of Pukatja (Ernabella) on the first day, the Far West community of Pipalyatjara and the various surrounding mining sites, followed by Amata on the second day and then Mimili on the third day.

By visiting these communities, we were able to speak with people about a diverse range of issues. These issues included the recent problems with feral animals as a result of the drought conditions, mining approval processes and housing concerns, which was a big issue—potentially the biggest issue we encountered while we were out there. It is pleasing to note that the Hon. Michelle Lensink in the other place has visited the APY lands since we have been up there to address those concerns.

We also heard about health clinics, mental health services, disability services and some of the most amazing artists and art centres that Australia has to offer as well as schools and vocational education centres. I have to say that stopping at the various art centres along the way was a real treat. We got to see some really talented people at work, in the middle of their craft, and it was really pleasing. To see the opening of the art centre in Adelaide displaying some of those artworks and getting them out and available for purchase is a really wonderful thing. It helps bring new money into the APY lands and creates employment and gives people a purpose. It is wonderful to see the increased exposure those artists and their art is getting in Adelaide.

Unfortunately, the 15 minutes allotted do not enable me to go into full detail about all the concerns that were raised, but I will touch on a few that the committee heard during this trip in a bit

more detail. It is impossible to unpack fully the complexity of the issues that were raised in the report; however, I would like to share some key points that provoked discussion while we were there.

Firstly, I would like to say it was an absolute pleasure to hear the traditional owners talking with pride about their communities and their culture and talking with passion about the need for more employment opportunities and more support for kids wanting to become knowledgeable Anangu elders who can represent their people on and off the lands.

Discussions with the APY Executive, traditional owners and Metals X also raised exciting future mining opportunities opening up on the lands and the resulting potential employment opportunities and infrastructure support. More work could be done in this area to make sense of what resources are available and to help smooth the approvals process. It seems that past failures have ongoing implications for the relationship of trust between those wanting to make use of the richness of resources in the area and those who fear harm to their culturally significant places.

In Pukatja, we visited a couple of houses in the process of repair by the SA Housing Authority. The SA Housing Authority has some very particular obstacles out in the lands: the distances make transporting materials expensive, the transience of community members means housing occupants are constantly shifting and mineralogy of water is destructive to the infrastructure. I was shocked to hear that an air-conditioning unit weighs four kilos upon installation and will weigh upwards of 11 kilos within a year due to becoming salt-laden from the water in the region.

Of course, overcrowding in houses remains an issue that was frequently raised by TOs and service providers. We were also able to speak with staff and Malpas, the Anangu support staff from the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, staff and residents from the disability independent living facility in Amata and staff from the health clinic in Mimili. People living out in the lands have complex health needs and all these services and their staff work incredibly hard to keep up with those complex needs.

From the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service we had the profound fortune to meet with Bobbi Sawyer and Andrew Groome, who have worked on the lands for many years to understand the needs of communities and earn the respect of community members in order to support children and adolescents in some very trying and difficult circumstances. Complex trauma requires multifaceted mental health programs and safe spaces to manage the resulting problem behaviour. The problem sexual behaviour that was discussed extensively with us is so multifarious that I hesitate to oversimplify it here. More work needs to be done and more support needs to be provided to the hardworking staff of CAMHS and Anangu community members.

Another health agency showed us around their Mimili clinic and their brand-new ambulances. The recent Gayle's Law legislation has made us all aware of the difficulty these services encounter. Anangu communities have high numbers of residents with chronic diseases and limited staff to support them. The clinic is working hard to implement early intervention strategies such as vaccine programs and food and nutrition education.

They remain concerned about the safety of staff from outside the communities as well as those from within. Anangu on-call support staff are available to accompany nurses after hours, but there is currently little security for the on-call support staff when they return to their community homes. Following the implementation of Gayle's Law, staff on the ground consider this the next step in security for health workers on the lands.

It is pertinent to touch on education services. The committee had the wonderful fortune of staying in Umuwa at the Trade Training Centre where Mark Connelly runs a very tight operation and training resources are of an extremely high quality. The facility is vital to adult education for the whole of the lands and impressive to see. As the lack of employment opportunities was another issue frequently raised, the Trade Training Centre is working towards upskilling community members in order to provide more opportunity for them.

Equally impressive was the Mimili Anangu School. The staff and school leadership were very generous with their time in sharing their knowledge and experiences. We had the great privilege of sitting in on some of the classes and seeing the teachers in action. It offered a great insight into the complexity of multilingual teaching spaces. It really was a difficult thing for teachers to master, I felt, in my short time sitting in there, with so many kids at different stages of learning, just due to the sheer

lack of critical mass to split classes up into more defined age groups. The teachers were dealing with a number of different kids at a number of different stages in their learning process and trying to juggle all those things and a number of distractions.

One of the wonderful initiatives we had the pleasure of witnessing was the Anangu support staff, who were in the classroom helping the teacher run the class and maintain order and offering support to kids who could not get ready access to the teacher if they were tied up elsewhere or running an errand for something else. It was really impressive to see those people. We had the great opportunity to chat to a few of them about the challenges they face in avoiding truancy and making sure people were engaged while they were at school and learning everything they should.

To me, the exposure we had to the Anangu support staff in the school and the insights they could give us into the running of each classroom was one of the stand-outs of the trip. I have to say that the teacher who accepted me into his classroom did a great job. It was quite a young class and he managed to keep them all on task. Visiting the classroom and seeing the different challenges they have going on was really a stand-out for me.

I have a friend we managed to run into while we were up there. He has been a teacher at Amata for a couple of years; he teaches sport. We ran into him while he was conducting a baseball clinic or game after school hours. Kids had just started rolling in when I showed up, so it was wonderful to see them there. He goes out of his way to provide things for kids to do after school so that they are engaged and active and have something to do.

He is also—and I want to make special mention of this—a member of the Amata Swans, who recently won into the grand final. He plays out there on some of the most beautiful ovals in the state, I would say. We had the great pleasure of visiting the Amata oval, with the wonderful backdrop of the MacDonnell Ranges. Every now and then he puts photos up on Instagram of his games and it is really a treat, with the dirt ovals and the MacDonnell Ranges in the background.

I commend him for taking an active role in playing on that team and wish him all the best in the grand final, which I believe is either upcoming or has just been. He is playing. The Premier was up there to see them win into the grand final. They won on the last kick of the day, I think. Congratulations and best of luck to the Amata Swans.

Retention of staff remains a key issue for schools up there, and we need to ensure that we continue to provide schools with the resources to attract staff and retain them going forward. The quality of teacher up there was really impressive, and it was wonderful to see them in action while we were in the classroom.

I mentioned earlier that it was my first trip up onto the lands, so I want to take an opportunity, at the very real risk of repeating myself, to explain a bit further about some of the places we visited. As I said, we visited Umuwa, the service centre, which is a relatively new town, formed in 1991, and which is where the APY Executive is based. It was formed in 1991 in order to bring governance of the lands from Alice Springs—housing, the administration and services infrastructure—there.

As I said, it is the base for the Umuwa executive. Its administration is based there, as well as a number of non-government agencies. We stayed in the trade centre, and we owe a great deal of thanks to Mark Connelly for his hospitality. He fed us and made sure we were well watered in the wonderfully comfortable accommodation; we never went hungry. He did a great job and we got to see the trade centre in action on the second or third day, as well as some kids making use of the wonderful facilities they had there.

We also had the great opportunity while in Umuwa to have a barbie dinner with the executive and some of the staff of the APY council. That was a wonderful dinner. It was very difficult to cook the steaks due to a lack of light. It got dark quickly, but we made the best of it. Some people had leather and others had ones that were still mooring, but it was good. Everyone enjoyed the dinner and it was wonderful to enjoy their company.

We then ducked out to Ernabella and visited the art centre, which I believe is under renovation at the moment. We saw some of the wonderful and talented people there. Ernabella is a place of great cultural significance to the local community and the lands surrounding it. There are about 600 or 700 people living in that community.

On the second day, we flew out to the western part of the state to Pipalyatjara, which was a wonderful experience. We did some off-road driving around the prospective mine sites to see what was on offer. It is really impressive country. It is eye-opening to get up there and see the vastness of it. You can see as far as your eyes let you, and it is a really impressive part of the state. It was an eye-opener for me, having never been up there.

We then popped into Amata, where I caught up with my mate. We saw the oval and visited the art centre and a couple of other things. We then went on to Mimili, where we saw the school in action, which was a wonderful stand-out experience. It was wonderful to see the different towns to compare and contrast, and the general stores and art centres. It was really good exposure for me.

One other issue that was brought to our attention while we were up there was the drought conditions and how they are impacting the communities. It was brought to our attention that the intrusion of camels into the community is having a significant impact. They are seeking out water, breaking things, exposing taps and that sort of stuff.

It was interesting to hear how camels are affecting the communities and the difficulties they have in herding them and selling them commercially. Camels earn them about \$200 a head but, as they are large animals, you can only fit 20 or so in a truck, so the cost of transport makes it very difficult to make a commercial operation out of camel harvesting, but they are working on that. There are discussions about building an abattoir on the lands and business plans have been submitted. There are also a few other ideas, such as installing water points up north to discourage their intrusion into the communities, and a few different things like that.

Finally, as my time runs out, I would like to make special note of housing, which was the main issue raised with us while we were out there. It was pleasing to see the Hon. Michelle Lensink visit recently to hear the concerns herself.

#### *Parliamentary Procedure*

#### **VISITORS**

**The SPEAKER:** I welcome to parliament today the Australian Political Exchange Council members from Korea, who have been hosted by me this morning. Welcome to parliament.

#### *Parliamentary Committees*

#### **ABORIGINAL LANDS PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE: APY LANDS VISIT**

Debate resumed.

**Mr HUGHES (Giles) (11:17):** Well done to the member for Narungga. I think that was a very comprehensive coverage of the visit to the APY lands. In fact, he has said most of the things that I was intending to say, so I will not go over them apart from to dwell on a number of issues that are perennial issues in the APY lands.

One of those perennial issues is the economic base in the APY lands and the constant feedback that we get from people who have lived there for many years—from many of the elders—about jobs for our young people. It is really challenging in such a remote location when it comes to providing an employment base. People forget that, on top of that remoteness, it is a vast area. In terms of land mass, it is the size of England, with around 3,000 people connected largely by dirt roads, so it is different from most of our vast state.

The potential opportunities all come with their own level of complexity. The member for Narungga mentioned Metals X and the exploration effort that has been going on for many years when it comes to nickel and cobalt deposits in the Far West of the APY lands. There might well be an opportunity for a similar deposit where most infill exploration was done and they have established the JORC reserve at Wingellina over in Western Australia. If that particular project does get off the ground, and given the demand for cobalt at the moment for a range of reasons, and given the demand for nickel, which is usually associated with the cycle of the steel industry, it might well make it easier for the potential project in Western Australia.

I think it is entirely right that the people on the APY lands have the power of veto when it comes to mining on their land. It is, after all, their land. So companies have to work in an incredibly

sensitive way with the community, and the community will have its own internal debate about what they see as the way forward in relation to potential mining opportunities. It is one of those things where, if it is handled right and it does have a social licence to operate, it might well provide jobs for people on the APY lands.

The member for Narungga mentioned the Trade Training Centre and Mark Connelly. During the term of the previous government I had discussions with our then education minister, Susan Close, about the incredibly important role that Mark Connelly plays at the Trade Training Centre and the need to do continuity planning when considering the ultimate replacement of Mark Connelly. He is not going to be there forever and a day, and the work that he does goes over and above what you would normally see. The success of the Trade Training Centre has not just been down to the participants; it has been down to the extraordinary work that Mark Connelly does and his commitment to the people of the APY lands over many years.

The member for Narungga touched on another important issue. You have a number of service providers up in the APY lands. It is a complex mix, and I sometimes wonder whether it should be such a complex mix of service providers. You get service providers that are in and out. One of the really important things about the APY lands is over time building up relationships, so when it comes to the continuity of work that is provided by some of the important agencies over there, we need to seriously look at the short-term funding and the short-term contracts that are provided, and this has been an ongoing issue.

This bleeds over into other areas. We have people dealing with, say, profoundly complex child abuse issues, and we have people dealing with generational and intergenerational trauma and all of the complexity around that, yet the people with some of the necessary expertise that are employed might be there for just a one-year contract. So we need to get to that continuity.

It does bleed over into the education department. The contracts there are generally of a longer term nature, and there are incentives, but the incentives ultimately run out. Say a new teacher, just graduated, goes up to the APY lands, they have the various incentives in place for a number of years, but by the time they get the experience necessary those incentives run out.

There are challenges in teaching up there, but there is also great reward for people who become part of the various communities in the APY lands. So, whatever government it is, we need to really look at some of these issues about continuity of contracts and ensuring the contracts that are in place provide that stability and that capacity to develop relationships over time.

Housing was touched upon. Housing is one of those other perennial issues, with overcrowding on the APY lands and a range of other issues. It is very expensive to build in the APY lands, but housing is at the source of a number of the other problems experienced in the APY lands.

I want to finish on a positive note. One of the sources of private income when it comes to the APY lands is obviously the arts centres. It has been said by artists elsewhere in the nation that there are more international artists in the APY lands, on a per capita basis, than anywhere else in the nation. Much of the work that is produced in the APY lands is world class. That is why it appeals to galleries and buyers overseas. Of course, the APY Art Centre Collective now has a presence in Sydney as well as a presence here in Adelaide, and there has been talk—and probably more than that—about a major gallery here in Adelaide to exhibit the high-quality work produced in Aboriginal communities.

One of the other things that needs to be done, when looking at these arts centres that do such a fantastic job, is invest in those arts centres in the APY lands and invest in housing for some of the people who work up there as managers. There are a number of issues there, and we should not be looking at spending a lot of money just here in Adelaide; some of that money needs to go back to the grassroots where the art is generated.

It might well be that we could see more APY art here in Parliament House as one way of supporting the fantastic work done up on the APY lands and elsewhere in South Australia by Aboriginal communities. On that note, I conclude.

**Mr DULUK (Waite) (11:25):** I will not take up too much of the house's time, but I echo many of the words the member for Narungga has put on the record as well, of course, as the member for

Giles. It was my first time up in the APY lands and it is a most magnificent and beautiful part of South Australia. The vastness is incredible and, obviously, the cultural history of thousands of years is magnificent.

The way they play footy up there is very different, and I note the Premier was up there recently as well having a look around and was at one of the footy games. I think it was when we were in Amata, if I am correct, that we had a look at the footy oval—absolutely pure red dirt with a white line and people out there having a kick and catch. It was a long way away from Bob Neil No. 1, which is, of course, University Oval No. 1, in terms of a footy oval, but it is a truly remarkable part of South Australia with fantastic people. Everyone we met on the trip was extremely hospitable, and they opened up and were very welcoming of the committee—of course, a bipartisan committee—which was fantastic.

As the members for Giles and Narungga both highlighted in their contributions, it is a part of South Australia that is not without many, many challenges. Employment is certainly a huge issue, as is the tyranny of distance in terms of employment. Places like the trade centre, with the work they do there, are a fantastic investment by government in terms of assisting people with employment. However, employment, health and education are the three biggest issues up there.

When we were in Mimili, we looked at the school community there and some of the teaching methodology on the lands, accounting for the vastness and the cultural and linguistic differences, which are real challenges up there. As both my colleagues have commented, there is an issue of continuity of people working in the health profession and people working in the education sector on the lands and as a government and a service provider of education we are, as we should be, ensuring that continuity of teaching and that relationship building over a period of time with people on the lands.

From a bureaucracy point of view, the more we can do, especially in the education space, is fundamentally and critically important in ensuring we can lift completion rates of students on the land. There is also the ability to share the importance of education, and it is interesting to see what Noel Pearson is doing in his Cape York Institute. It is very much a change in teaching methodology in Cape York, really going back to the basics of the 3Rs that is central to the Cape York Institute's thinking on education at the moment. We are seeing success in completion rates by students in Cape York in Far North Queensland, and I would be very keen to see if there are any similarities that can be drawn out for the APY lands and, indeed, for all remote schools across South Australia more broadly.

Another big concern on the APY lands is health. Access to health care is important, obviously in dealing with some long-term trauma historically around substance abuse and sexual abuse, which are still concerns to many right across South Australia, but in particular on the lands. That was certainly mentioned by many people to us, especially by some traditional owners, traditional elders and many of the women we spoke to as well. It is very much an important issue and it is one we have to deal with as a society because, as always, looking after those who are vulnerable is paramount to all.

Some of the other great highlights on the trip were, as the member for Giles reflected on, looking at the art centres and the fantastic export of art from the APY lands, not only into Australia—and there is an APY gallery on Light Square—but internationally as well by those world renowned artists. It was a fantastic trip to the APY lands. I encourage all members of the house, if they have a chance, to go up there to learn about the culture and that beautiful part of South Australia, but also so that we can educate ourselves about the many challenges that are faced up there and how together as a parliament and a government we can address many of the challenges that are before us.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (11:31):** I rise to support the motion and thank the member for Narungga, and indeed the entire Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee, not only for the report that has been prepared to enlighten us as members of the parliament but for their attendance and for making those observations and bringing that information back to the parliament. It is very important that this committee be the eyes and ears of the parliament to ensure that we are kept contemporary with what is happening on the lands and to report the key issues back to us.

While they were visiting in May, one very important thing was happening on the APY lands, and that was as a consequence of the women from the Western Desert area and APY lands viewing on their televisions, as we all did, the tragic circumstances that occurred in a mosque in Christchurch in New Zealand, the sister city of Adelaide. Not only were they, too, moved by this but they wanted to ensure that there was communication of their pain that they shared with many of the families in Christchurch when this despicable act of murder had occurred.

They set about coming together to produce the most exquisite piece of artwork, a very large piece of artwork, which I later learned represented the flowers they wanted to send to the people of Christchurch. Flowers are often a symbol of memorial in relation to one who is suffering grief in circumstances and they replicated the flowers in a massive dot painting. For example, they had pale lilacs in there, which they explained to me later were representative of grevillea, but they also happened to be the colour of what is the most beautiful flower of the region and in the Northern Territory, which is the desert rose. All these beautiful colours and the stories in relation to people coming together to convey their support and sympathy were captured in this beautiful piece of artwork.

I want to commend the Premier for not just asking me but allowing me to go to Christchurch recently with three of the many artists who had come together to present this gift to the Mayor of Christchurch in the presence of families and leaders in their communities who had suffered directly and also in the presence of some of the indigenous New Zealanders of Maori descent. It was a very moving occasion. It was highlighted by the speeches of three of the artists to explain their gift of love and support to the people of Christchurch.

For those who have not visited Christchurch in recent years, as our sister city it has of course received our support in the wake of the shocking earthquakes that it suffered. It is a city that has been rebuilt. It has grown up out of the ashes. Most of the buildings now are at a limit of seven storeys and on a new type of engineered support structure to be more able to accommodate earthquakes and movement in the buildings and therefore their salvation in the event of those events occurring in the future. It is a city that obviously had been very badly damaged by these natural events and then, more recently, devastated by the loss of life—some 51 murdered and 49 seriously injured.

Our hearts are with the people of Christchurch. This was a very moving occasion. The people of the APY lands—all of them—and the families of those women, many of whom contributed to this piece of work, should be congratulated. I do so, I think on behalf of everyone here in the parliament, to recognise this very important and generous gift from the many women on the APY lands who acted immediately. They were doing those paintings while the committee was there; they have been delivered, the people of Christchurch are appreciative and we should be very proud of them.

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (11:35):** As I hope is no surprise to this house, as the member for Stuart I have very deep engagement with Aboriginal people and communities, but the APY lands are not actually in the electorate of Stuart; they are in the electorate of Giles, represented by my colleague across the chamber. Nonetheless, this is part of the state that every South Australian and every South Australian member of parliament should take interest in, should be very proud of and should also be very aware of the significant challenges that exist and want to make a contribution to supporting Anangu who live on the APY lands.

I suggest that there is no-one more committed to that than our Premier. The Premier of South Australia has taken it upon himself to also be the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, which is a tremendously positive step not only with regard to recognition but also with regard to progress and getting things done. The Premier has established the South Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council, which has been invited to meet face to face with cabinet to participate in a cabinet meeting twice since the Premier and our team came into government. There is no other group that has met with cabinet twice in the same way the Aboriginal Advisory Council has. I think that is, again, a very important recognition of the importance of work that our government wants to do in this area and also a very practical approach to getting on and getting some results.

With regard to results, the Premier has also established an Aboriginal Action Plan. This is not only about the Aboriginal lands, but it is largely about the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara

lands. It is a plan that is meant to support Aboriginal people all over the state, but of course many of the actions refer to that part of the state specifically. I am reminded of one of the comments the member for Giles made about short-term contracts, and I agree with him on that. It is very difficult when you have challenges that have evolved over decades and will take a very long time to turn around with people on fairly short employment contracts.

Extending those employment contracts, though, is not the only part of the solution because, as well as that, you need to find people who want to do the work for a very long time. I pick up on the example the member for Giles used of a teacher who might have a one or two-year contract and then, when the person is really starting to hit their straps with regard to educating Aboriginal students, the contract is over and so they go.

Even if it were a longer contract, a lot of teachers would choose to leave then anyway, but some would choose to stay longer. So it is not only about the structure: it is actually about the people involved. I know there are good people all around the state who want to contribute, whether it is in education, health, law and order, transport or recreation and sport. People in the APY lands deserve all the different things that government can contribute as much as anybody else does.

Our government is very committed to actually getting results—not just having policies, or just making announcements, or just making headlines in the paper. We are actually trying to get some results. Every member of our cabinet is tasked with some of the actions of the South Australian Aboriginal Affairs Action Plan. The Premier comes to us and asks, 'How are you going, minister? How is your department going? What have you achieved? Are you on track? Are you going to achieve what I have asked you to achieve?' so there is a very strong focus.

In my department (Department for Energy and Mining) we have an enormous amount to contribute. We have a program entitled Stronger Partners Stronger Futures, which is all about trying to share the tremendous employment and wealth-creating opportunities that energy and mining—but I have to say more predominantly mining—and potentially the petroleum industry have to offer to this part of the state. We want those opportunities to be shared with Aboriginal people. At the moment, very little mining can be done on the APY lands. I am very hopeful that this will change over time, not only for our state's overall economy.

We do need to improve our economic performance; the Premier has also set a very clear 3 per cent economic growth target. Mining resources and other portfolios will play a very important part in that. We want to expand our mining industry so that we can contribute to the state as a whole through the creation of jobs and wealth, and through royalties. We received \$300 million through mining royalties in the last financial year. Those royalties go towards building schools and hospitals, paying nurses, teachers and police officers, building roads and bridges, etc., and providing disability support services.

As well as that, we want those opportunities to be shared with people who live and who, in the future, can work on the APY lands. One of the most fundamental challenges for all of us in regard to the APY lands is: how do you support people economically and socially, and enable them to continue to live on their homelands? This is where they want to be. This is where they can best practise culture and live in harmony with country. How can you do all of those things when there are very few employment opportunities in that area?

Fly-in fly-out has been tried. It is a very good opportunity for many Aboriginal people; however, no different from the non-Aboriginal population, fly-in fly-out is not for everybody. Quite understandably, there are a lot of people on the APY lands who do not want to spend essentially half of their time away from the APY lands. That is no different from somebody who lives in Adelaide or Port Augusta or Port Lincoln or Mount Gambier. A lot of people who live in those areas do not want to be away from their homes either.

So how do we go about trying to do this? Firstly, respectfully and, secondly, practically. In my mind, we need to start with exploration. There is no point going through what is almost always a difficult process, even just in regard to effort, and sometimes all the way through in regard to heartfelt social issues that need to be addressed. You would not put people through those challenges if you did not know that there was actually something there to mine.



It seems that there is a lot of mineral wealth in the APY lands, but we need to have greater opportunities to confirm that so that we can put on the table the types of opportunities that could then be available to and accessed by Aboriginal people who live on the lands. Then, we can start the real discussion about whether or not they want to do that.

Interestingly, this is not an Aboriginal issue. We have these challenges all over the state. We have these challenges everywhere in South Australia in regard to trying to weigh up the opportunities of mining versus weighing up whether a community welcomes it. This is a human issue that we need to address, that we need to deal with respectfully and responsibly by considering the benefits and the wants of the individual people and families in an area and also the benefits and needs of the state.

It is also interesting to point out that we are going through a very similar thing in regard to the Woomera Prohibited Area, which is traditionally an Aboriginal inhabited part of the state. We are going through it not with the Aboriginal communities; we are going through it with the defence department, and they do not really want too much mining on the Woomera Prohibited Area either.

Just as I respect Aboriginal communities' opinions, I respect the defence department's opinions as well. But I view the Woomera Prohibited Area in exactly the same way as I view the APY lands. We want to see what is there so that then we can start to actually weigh up the pros and cons. I see many opportunities that mining could bring to the people of the APY lands, and I want those people to have the opportunity to consider whether those benefits are things that they would like to actually allow to happen and actually be able to grasp for themselves.

#### *Parliamentary Procedure*

### **VISITORS**

**The SPEAKER:** I welcome to parliament constituents of the electorate of Cheltenham, who have been hosted by the member for Cheltenham. Welcome to parliament.

#### *Parliamentary Committees*

### **ABORIGINAL LANDS PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE: APY LANDS VISIT**

Debate resumed.

**Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (11:46):** I would like to conclude this debate by offering a few thank-yous on behalf of the committee. I am sure the committee will not mind me speaking on their behalf. I would like to start by thanking Shona Reid, the previous executive officer of the committee. She did a fantastic job while she was there. Unfortunately, she has moved on to greener pastures and taken up a role with Reconciliation SA, but she did a lot of the preliminary work in organising this trip to the APY lands. On behalf of the committee I thank her for her work in organising that.

Her replacement, Dr Ashley Greenwood, has picked up where Shona left off and has done an outstanding job since arriving. I would like to also offer the committee's thanks to her for the wonderful work she did in organising and chaperoning us up on the APY lands. Dr Greenwood has an amazing pedigree as a researcher. She has been able to offer some wonderful insights into Indigenous relations and things of that nature, so she has been a wonderful asset to the committee.

I would also like to offer my thanks to the member for Giles for his contribution, for hosting us in his electorate on the APY lands and for his work on the committee. Likewise, I thank the member for Waite, the Minister for Energy and Mining and the Attorney-General for their contributions. It was wonderful to hear from the Attorney about the impact of Indigenous art and pleasing to know that the art we witnessed being created while we were up went to such good use in Christchurch after the massacre.

The Minister for Energy and Mining spoke about the limitations for travel. I had an interesting chat to the fellow who worked for Housing SA while we were up there. He lives in Port Pirie and drives to work on the APY lands. He informed us about the ridiculous number of kilometres that he had racked up. He had been up there for a number of years and fulfilled his job well. He showed us around the housing problems they have, and it was wonderful to hear from him. Thank you to those members who have made a contribution.

I would like to also just quickly thank Richard King and the APY Executive for having us while we were there. They were wonderfully hospitable. As I said, we had dinner with them and heard from them directly. It was pleasing to be allowed to attend up there. We thank them for their generosity in hosting us. I would like to thank the rest of the committee as well. It is a wonderful committee, as the member for Waite said. It is a bipartisan committee, and it really has been pleasing for me to be on it. I am really enjoying the learning curve that comes with it.

It is a valuable committee for me to be on, as the Point Pearce community in my own electorate is tied quite strongly to this committee. The learning I am doing has been wonderfully beneficial both from a statewide perspective and for me representing the local constituency of Narungga, the wonderfully named Narungga constituency. Thank you to the rest of the committee. I have named them already and I will do so one more time: the members for Giles and Waite as well as the Hon. Tammy Franks, the Hon. Kyam Maher and the Presiding Member, the Hon. John Dawkins. Thank you very much.

I want to take one more opportunity to stress the point that has been made by each member who spoke. The artwork up there that we had the great privilege of visiting was truly world class. It was wonderful to see the increased exposure it is getting. Bringing new money onto the lands is a great benefit to the people there, creating opportunities and some growth. It is wonderful to see. It was pleasing to drop in to a number of different art centres and see the artwork being created and the wonderful work that is underway there.

I will take one more opportunity as well to promote the grand final coming up in the football league up there. As I said, I will be supporting the Amata Swans and my mate Mitch Vanson, who will hopefully get a few kicks while he is up there. It was really an eye-opener to see the wonderful red dirt ovals and how different they are from the ovals we play on back in the Narungga electorate, but there was one watered oval that we flew over.

The member for Giles might remember what community that was in, because I cannot, but it was fascinating to see it from the air, and the difference that green oval made to the rest of the landscape was really stark. It was good to see it from the plane. There was the one watered oval and then the famous photo of the oval under the shadow of Uluru.

As I have said, the school, and the retention of teachers, was perhaps the stand-out experience for me. The schooling was wonderful, and we have in the gallery today some wonderful teachers from the schools in Narungga accompanied by their prefects. It is pleasing to welcome school leaders from Narungga into the gallery today to witness parliament and I look forward to taking them on a tour at the conclusion of this speech.

As I have said, getting up to the APY lands was a great experience for me, and I hope to do it again. It is pleasing to see that the Minister for Human Services, the Hon. Michelle Lensink, has been up there to hear firsthand about perhaps the biggest issue, being housing, and that the Premier was also there recently to watch the footy, amongst other things, I am sure. With that, I commend the report to the house.

Motion carried.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: MURRAY BRIDGE SOLDIERS' MEMORIAL HOSPITAL  
EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT UPGRADE PROJECT**

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:51):** I move:

That the 22<sup>nd</sup> report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled 'Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital emergency department upgrade project', be noted.

Mr Speaker, you will know that Murray Bridge is one of the largest cities in country South Australia with a population of 18,120 residents. It provides a critical regional centre for health services in the Murraylands region. The city has an average annual growth rate of 1.4 per cent, making it one of the fastest growing centres in the state. Over the next five to 10 years, the broader catchment population for the Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital is expected to grow to over 30,000 residents.

The Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital emergency department currently provides level 3 emergency services as delineated within the SA Health Clinical Services Capability

Framework. In 2017-18, the Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital supported 6,812 emergency presentations.

By way of additional background and to assist members, though these matters are well known to those of us participating in the public works examination of this particular proposal, through a unique and longstanding agreement between a local general practice the Bridge Clinic, which will be well known to the member for Hammond, the SA Ambulance Service and the Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, patients requiring emergency care are accepted at the Bridge Clinic Monday to Friday between 8.30am and 7.30pm and on Saturdays between 8.30am and 11am. This has enabled a duty doctor to be based at the Bridge Clinic during business hours, maximising the care that can be delivered for both emergency patients and walk-in urgent cases.

I raise that to reflect on the presentations under this model. In 2016-17, there were an additional 4,000 presentations managed by the duty doctor at the Bridge Clinic, including 700 presentations transported by the South Australian Ambulance Service. As I earlier mentioned, they participate in that arrangement with the clinic and the hospital.

While the hospital provides emergency services 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the South Australian Ambulance Service have traditionally accessed the Bridge Clinic during the hours outlined, except where critical cases required transportation directly to the Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital because facilities, treatment and services there were better suited to the need that was presenting. In 2017, the South Australian Ambulance Service changed the patient transport approach and directly transported all patients to the Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital. The Bridge Clinic also advised that it could not continue to cover the after-hours medical roster.

I raise these matters to emphasise the growth in demand for health services in this catchment. I raise it by way of background to outline the need and I raise it because these were matters that were examined by the committee in forming up, developing, with the assistance of executive officers, and later presenting the report to parliament, which I now address.

As a result of the growth in population within and around the Murray Bridge hospital, and the increased presentations to the emergency department, the existing emergency department requires expansion to meet the increased demand that I have taken some time to outline to the house. You would know, Mr Speaker, and certainly the member for Hammond would know, that in March 2018 an election commitment was made by the now South Australian government to expand the emergency department at the Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital.

We had the benefit of taking evidence from the member for Hammond in the course of our committee hearing, and may I say that it was detailed, precise and useful. The member for Hammond is closely familiar with the growing demand for medical services in his community and was absolutely a driving force behind the formulation of that election commitment and efforts to bring forward this proposal in a timely manner to ensure that the upgrade to the hospital can take place and thereafter increase services available to the Murray Bridge community. As I say, the scope of these works was an election commitment.

A feasibility study on the emergency department was completed by Country Health SA Local Health Network in early 2018, establishing a \$7 million budget, which was of course confirmed as part of the 2018-19 state budget. To support the emergency department upgrade, a new sustainable medical and nursing workforce model will also be developed in consultation with clinical leaders, as would be appropriate to ensure that the redeveloped emergency department provides access to patient-centred, high-quality care. It is envisaged that a medical officer will be on site for emergency care 24 hours a day, seven days a week, supported by a dedicated emergency services nursing team.

I can report to the house that in June 2018 the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure tendered for a professional services contract, followed by approval by SA Health. It was an engagement allowing for the concept development phase to commence in early August 2018, bringing us to where we stand today with the current proposal.

Allow me to reflect on the current proposal. The existing Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital emergency department, in terms of its current physical footprint and also the emergency

service model, presents challenges in meeting the increased emergency demand. A solution is proposed that is more patient-centred, as would be appropriate, and sustainable within the rural workforce supply.

Emergency presentations to the emergency department and to the Bridge Clinic, which I earlier remarked upon, have increased significantly in recent times, with the increase being attributed to the trend in population growth. I mentioned earlier forecast growth. We anticipate that the catchment or region will achieve a population of 30,000 people in the next decade. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

### *Bills*

## **LEGISLATION (FEES) BILL**

### *Introduction and First Reading*

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (12:00):** Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to provide for the prescription and variation of fees for the purposes of various acts and for other purposes. Read a first time.

### *Second Reading*

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (12:00):** I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

The bill I introduce today is the Legislation (Fees) Bill 2019. The bill repeals and replaces the Fees Regulation Act 1927, which provides the authority for regulations to be made for the prescription and variation of fees for the purposes of various acts. In particular, the bill converts the existing statutory power to set fees by regulation into a power to set fees by ministerial notice or by regulation. Rather than amend the existing act, the bill repeals and replaces that act, which had not been amended since it came into operation in 1927, which I think I can comfortably say is before any of us were born. The bill is simpler and reflects modern drafting styles.

At present, each year schedules of increases to annual fees and charges are prepared by departments and provided to the Office of Parliamentary Counsel for the preparation of amendments to the relevant regulations. The only reason that the Office of Parliamentary Counsel is involved is that currently the only process to set fees is by the regulation-making powers contained in the principal acts under which the fees are imposed.

Nearly half of all the Office of Parliamentary Counsel's publishing for the year occurs on the single date of 1 July as a result of the annual fee increases which are coordinated by the Department of Treasury and Finance. The removal of parliamentary counsel from this process would allow them to provide a better service in getting legislation published promptly. It would also mean that departments will be responsible for ensuring the fee increase notices are prepared and published in the *Government Gazette* in a timely manner. This will remove the need for back-and-forth versions of the regulation shells between the departments and the Office of Parliamentary Counsel.

Clauses 4 and 5 of the bill create these efficiencies by enabling departments to prescribe their fees by fee notices. The relevant minister or department that administers an act under which a fee arises will take responsibility for preparing fee notices and arranging for their publication in the *Government Gazette*. The bill recognises, however, that in some instances it will be preferable for some fees to continue to be prescribed by regulation. This is permitted by clauses 4 and 6 of the bill, which provide that prescribing fees by a notice is discretionary and that regulations may still be made or varied under any other relevant legislation.

One instance in which this might be used is for fees which are currently set pursuant to the national scheme, such as the Motor Vehicles (National Heavy Vehicles Registration Fees) Regulations 2008. In those circumstances, users of those schemes will benefit from the uniformity of the way in which the fees are set in different jurisdictions. Clause 4(3) enables an authority to vary a fee prescribed by a fee notice. This can be done by the authority publishing a new fee notice in

substitution of the current fee notice. This will have the effect of revoking and replacing the earlier fee notice so that there is one complete fee notice in operation at any given time.

Similarly, clause 4(4) of the bill entitles an authority to revoke a fee notice outright. Clauses 4 and 5 will also be used when agencies need to apply fee increases outside the annual process, or when new fees need to be imposed outside the usual 1 July time frame. Clause 5(3) of the bill removes the current irregular commencement provisions (which provides for commencement within 14 sitting days after the regulation has been laid before the parliament) in favour of the more usual commencement arrangements (a day specified in the notice; where the relevant act authorises, a day before the notice is published; or the day on which it is published in the *Gazette*). There are no negative consequences but a number of technical advantages to this change, including:

- making it easier to identify when regulation variations commence, as there will be no need to refer to and review parliamentary notice papers;
- making it easier to populate the legislative history of regulations as there will be a fixed point to anchor to the changes; and
- reducing the risk of future error by departments which will assume responsibility of the process by establishing one process.

The bill retains parliament's scrutiny over the notices. Clause 5(4) of the bill provides that sections 10 (other than subsection (1)) and 10A of the Subordinate Legislation Act 1978 apply in relation to a fee notice. This means that a fee notice must be laid before each house of parliament within six sitting days after it has been published in the *Government Gazette* and that a copy of the fee notice must be provided to the Legislative Review Committee along with an accompanying report.

The fee notices will be disallowable in the same way that regulations are. They will also have the same evidentiary value as fees published by regulations because courts are required to take judicial notice of publications in the *Government Gazette*. This proposal arises from a request by the Office of Parliamentary Counsel to implement measures to cease publication of annual fees and charges regulations by its office.

The beneficial effect of the bill is wider, however. It brings efficiencies to all the other agencies and entities which are currently involved in prescribing fees by making regulations, including the departments themselves, cabinet, the Governor in Executive Council (whose approval is required to make the regulations under the existing act) and the Government Printer. Accordingly, I commend the bill to members and I seek leave to have the explanation of clauses inserted in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

#### Explanation of Clauses

1—Short title

2—Commencement

These clauses are formal.

3—Interpretation

This clause defines key terms and phrases used in the measure.

4—Relevant authority may prescribe fees by fee notice

This clause provides that, where an Act allows for fees to be prescribed, or makes no provision in respect of charging fees for services provided by the Crown etc, then the relevant authority under that Act may prescribe fees by fee notice.

5—Fee notices

This clause sets out requirements and procedural provisions in respect of fee notices.

6—Saving provisions

This clause clarifies that fees may, where appropriate, continue to be prescribed by regulation. The clause also provides that, where a particular fee is prescribed both by regulation and fee notice, the fee is to be determined by reference to the most recent instrument.

## 7—Regulations

This clause confers regulation making powers in respect of the measure.

## Schedule 1—Repeal of Fees Regulation Act 1927

This Schedule repeals the *Fees Regulation Act 1927*.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Brown.

**SURROGACY BILL***Committee Stage*

In committee.

(Continued from 11 September 2019.)

Clause 1.

**The CHAIR:** We have a total of 32 clauses. There are a number of schedules and amendments so we will work our way through them. Are there any questions on clause 1? No.

Clause passed.

Clauses 2 and 3 passed.

Clause 4.

**Ms LUETHEN:** I will not be proceeding with the amendments in [Luethen-1].

Clause passed.

Clause 5 passed.

New clause 5A.

**Ms LUETHEN:** I will not be proceeding with the amendments in [Luethen-2].

**Ms STINSON:** I move:

## Amendment No 1 [Stinson-1]—

Page 5, after line 38—Insert:

5A—Central assessment unit may conduct working with children check

Despite a provision of the *Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016*, or the provisions of any instrument or agreement to the contrary, the central assessment unit may conduct a working with children check under the *Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016* on the application of a person who wishes to be a party to a lawful surrogacy agreement (whether or not the person will or will not be working with children within the meaning of that Act).

This amendment was filed this morning, but I will highlight to the committee that it is identical to the amendment that was just withdrawn by the member for King. I will start by commending the member for King for that amendment. Although this is a conscience vote, many of us on this side of the house individually, separately, believe that this is an improvement to the bill. Many of us support, and certainly I support, this amendment.

The amendment ensures that, despite a provision of the *Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016* or the provisions of any instrument or agreement to the contrary, the central assessment unit may conduct a working with children check under that act on the application of a person who wishes to be a party to a lawful surrogacy agreement whether or not that person will work with children within the meaning of the act. Essentially, it allows the central assessment unit to conduct working with children checks for the purpose of a surrogacy agreement. We believe that is an improvement.

While in the current bill there is no prerequisite as far as criminal history or allegations go, I am aware that there may be a proposal put forward for police checks, but I will leave that for others to discuss. I believe that a working with children check is a much stronger measure. It certainly is a much stronger and more thorough mechanism than a police check. For those not familiar, a police

check simply records convictions, so there must have been a charge and conviction at a court for it to come up on a national police check.

The difference is that a working with children check picks up a much broader range of allegations, if you like. It searches databases for charges that are pending, as well as allegations, and that includes things like notifications that have been made through CARL (the Child Abuse Report Line), as well as a number of other things.

We believe that that much higher standard of checking is important. We are talking about bringing a new life into the world. We are talking about bringing a vulnerable child into the world and placing them, ultimately, with someone who is not their biological parent. That requires a high level of rigour and a high level of checking that that child will be safe and that that child's safety can be assured to the greatest degree possible. Nothing is perfect, but we believe that a working with children check would go quite some way to ensuring the safety of that child in these circumstances.

At the moment, we obviously require working with children checks for anyone working with children, anyone volunteering with children and, indeed, people who foster children and even kinship care as well. Ultimately, that can also flow into adoption, although we do not do a great number of adoptions in this state at the moment. But, if someone has been a foster or kinship carer before and then moves to adoption, they would have been required to have a working with children check.

I thank the Attorney for her time and the time of her staff in informing me about the role of the intergovernmental agreements. I understand that there are some concerns that this amendment may cut across intergovernmental agreements that exist that relate to the operations of the central assessment unit. I absolutely take those on board. The view that I take is that we should be looking to the interests of the children first rather than what might be convenient or swift for us to achieve.

The will of the parliament should be the thing that is important and the will of the parliament should then be reflected by the actions of government in terms of either renegotiating or altering any agreements that may make the operation of such a clause difficult or, indeed, some other remedy should be put forward that achieves this aim of applying a working with children check through some other means. Certainly, I would support inserting this higher standard of the working with children check—and I believe others do as well—rather than a police check or, indeed, having no form of check whatsoever.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I indicate that I oppose this proposal. I do not in any way doubt the intent of this amendment, as indicated by the mover, that we need to secure the highest possible protection for any child who is going to be born into a relationship for which we are seeking court approval, that the legislation we make around that must consider that and that we must do everything we can to ensure that is the case. At the moment, the bill does not make provision for any kind of historical check in relation to either the surrogates or the receiving parents.

Certainly the debate has already canvassed a number of options and one of those options is to progress along the lines of this process. I am going to set out why again that is problematic. The reason for that is that I need to inform the parliament of the consequences of passing a piece of legislation that would frustrate the implementation of legislation and raise the question of whether that is something that may be the motive not necessarily of the mover but of other members of the house who do not like this legislation at all.

The reason I do that and raise that possibility is that there has been a very clear indication of what I am about to repeat—of the danger in progressing this model of perceived protection or enhancing the protections when considering both the validity and approval of these agreements. I am going to outline them again because, although this information has been provided to some members, it has not been provided to all.

Firstly, the South Australian Law Reform Institute considered this issue because it had been considered and included, but not in this form, as a protective aspect in Victoria. It had been considered, they report to us, in New South Wales and declined. But that does not mean that in our jurisdiction we do not have another look at it. The proposal incorporated in this amendment indicates (for members following this) the utilisation of the central assessment unit who undertakes the working with children check. That is an entity which operates, has its genesis of capacity in the Child Safety

(Prohibited Persons) Act 2016 and is able to be populated with information essentially arising out of the intergovernmental agreement. That is a COAG agreement, a copy of which has been provided to the mover of the motion, that facilitates the exchange of information.

Number one, the COAG intergovernmental agreement sits around the whole scheme that provides for the exchange of information between jurisdictions to facilitate the provision of the check for the purposes of working with children. That is the first aspect. That is important to remember because it is confined under the terms of that agreement for its purposes in working with children. The scheme is not designed or provided to facilitate checks for the purposes of surrogacy or any other domestic purpose. So it is confined in that way. That is the thing we are presented with at the moment.

The intergovernmental agreement provides that jurisdictions will only use the expanded criminal history checks for the purposes of working with children checks. Police can only release this information for that purpose and the screening unit can only use it for that purpose. So we have two aspects that are, I think, crystal clear—that is, that the intergovernmental agreement is the body that says you can utilise this information for working with children checks. It does not make any provision for what we are doing here or in any other domestic purpose. Secondly, the police can only release that information for that purpose and the screening unit can only use it for that purpose, so any other purpose would be outside that agreement, as this information—

*An honourable member interjecting:*

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** —you can have a chance to speak—is the basis of the working with children check. The screen would not be effective without it. In other words, the passage of this amendment in this bill could be introduced, but the unit that is to employ this role of providing this service in surrogacy agreements would not be able to provide it. Even the police would not be able to make provision of that information.

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I hear members call out to say, 'Well, let's just amend the act.' Of course, the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016 is an act that can be changed. The parliament can consider that. They can open up that act and they can consider that. Secondly, COAG members can go back and reconsider those agreements at the national level and they can rewrite those.

I highlight to the parliament, though, that this arrangement, if it is imposed, would sabotage the effect of the bill progressing at this point. It may take months or years to actually go through that process. Nevertheless, the parliament in the end might say, 'Well, this is what we want. We want to have a standard which is the same as working with children checks and not police checks to be able to advance the surrogacy agreement process that would be enforceable under the model of this legislation.'

I also make the point, leaving aside the legality of this and whether this in fact is an attempt to frustrate the surrogacy process in any event—

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** That is outrageous!

**The CHAIR:** Order!

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Members might recall that in the course of the—

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Point of order.

**The CHAIR:** Others will have the opportunity to speak.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** You will have a chance to speak.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** I ask that that be withdrawn.

**The CHAIR:** There's a point of order.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** I find that personally offensive.

*Members interjecting:*



**The CHAIR:** Member for Lee, thank you; I take your point of order. So you found whatever it was that the Attorney said offensive?

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Yes, and I ask her to withdraw it.

**The CHAIR:** Attorney, given that we are in the very early stages of this committee and we have a long way to go, I might ask you to withdraw that.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** My statement was, to be clear what I said, that in the event—

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** Are you withdrawing or not?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I am just going to identify what I am withdrawing because I am going to say something else. In the event that it is a motive of any of the members in relation to this debate to deliberately do so—

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** That is unsatisfactory, Chair.

**The CHAIR:** So, member for Lee—

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** No, I am just repeating what I said.

**The CHAIR:** Attorney, could you—

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** Yes, and that is the offence to which we are taking exception. That is offensive.

**The CHAIR:** Member for Lee, settle down! I have asked the Attorney to take her seat. I have identified, I think, what you have taken offence to. Am I right?

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Yes.

**The CHAIR:** So I do ask the Attorney to withdraw.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Having identified it, I withdraw it.

**The CHAIR:** Thank you, Attorney.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** And I make the point that, in relation to this bill, the implementation of it, if it goes through to become an act, would not be able to progress while there is a conflict not only in the COAG agreement but also in relation to the disclosure of information and the opportunity for the central assessment unit to provide that information, let alone the police providing it, in breach of the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016. We would need to obviously address that. It would have a direct consequence of not allowing this legislation to progress.

The other matter, I suppose, is the principle of whether in fact we do need to have checks at all. As members would know, the agreement that we are seeking to be approved would only be lawful if a number of criteria are met in respect of the surrogate mother. Already in this bill they include that the surrogate mother must be over 25 years of age, not have impaired decision-making capacity, be an Australian citizen or permanent resident, must not be pregnant at the time of the agreement and must undergo counselling.

The amendments before us are as we have described. It is important to remember that to impose a test to be obtained and disclosed to any court making this assessment is arguably discriminatory, as it is not a requirement for any other reproductive treatment in South Australia. I want to repeat that: it is not a requirement for any other reproductive treatment in South Australia.

Criminal checks are required to access reproductive treatment in Victoria, but it has been criticised as being discriminatory, intrusive and insulting. Again, I refer members back to the SALRI report, which has been tabled and available for consideration since late last year and, as I think I have also mentioned, has been rejected as an option in the 2018 New South Wales review of their surrogacy legislation.

I think it is an important principle to consider if we as a parliament are going to impose on prospective parents—whether they are planning to have a baby within the envelope of their lawful marriage, through adoption or through IVF treatment, or whether they are going to go and secure through any of those methods a child from overseas—the need to look at the threshold question of

whether we should be imposing a check, including consideration of a working with children check, if I can paraphrase it, as is the subject of this amendment that is proposed. I think we need to have that discussion.

I remind members that we are proposing in this legislation a procedure that will allow South Australians who are resident here to seek a lawful and enforceable approval of an agreement to have a surrogate child. If anyone in the parliament thinks that that is an easy process, let me just point out some easier options. Number one, you partner with or marry someone who is fertile and able to have a child. Let me tell you, that is a lot easier and quicker than going through this proposed process. Number two, you consider adoption of a child that is already born, either in Australia or from overseas. Thirdly, if it is available, if there is an infertility issue in relation to one of the parties, you access donor egg or sperm and/or IVF treatment.

It is pretty obvious that there is only going to be a fairly small group of people, as has been demonstrated in other states, who would go through such a process to have a child if they did not have to. If they were in some way motivated in a more sinister way to think, 'I am going to go along and get a surrogate and have babies produced through a surrogacy agreement because I want to in some way carry out my paedophilic interests in relation to that child or support an international program for photographing of children,' then I can tell you there are a lot of other quicker and easier ways to have a child than to go through this process.

I think we should start from the basis that we are presenting a proposal in this bill that is designed to enable South Australians to safely apply for a process within the envelope of maintaining commercial surrogacy as illegal, to enable them to progress that here and not go overseas, exploit women, exploit others, which is currently occurring. We know that; we only have to look at television screens to tell us about that. If you have missed those for some reason, if you have not identified those, please, I urge you to go back and look at the South Australian Law Reform Institute's very comprehensive report, which tells us in enormous detail what is already happening.

The description of what happens in Ukraine I think is reprehensible. To think that passports can be issued and a baby of weeks old is leaving the country in the arms of a non-Ukraine national, with no security for the surrogate mother in those circumstances, is shameful. To not fix up our structure here in South Australia, which is currently there but effectively impractical to implement, is appalling.

If we do not deal with this issue in a timely manner, more in this category will continue to go overseas to exploit those circumstances, and I think that is an unconscionable position for this parliament to remain in, so I cannot support the amendment. I have had discussions with the member for Badcoe to explain to her the legal impediments we have to this, but I think there are other measures at least that have been proposed that we have notice of now that in a mandatory way will provide for police checks. I will come to speak on that in a moment.

It is not the same. I accept that, but it will provide some relief, I would hope, to those who might be concerned that somebody with a prurient interest, other than to have a happy child in their household, exploits it to use that child for some mischievous purpose. Sadly, there are many other ways that that can be done. Frankly, there are a lot of children out there who are vulnerable to that and, sadly, we have to spend a lot of energy, which we should, in protecting them. These are children who have been born of families and for whatever reason have not been protected either by their parents or guardians or the state. Certainly, those children pay the price, but as a community we are paying the price.

In short, we have complex interjurisdictional issues that support the scheme that would make the proposal for parties to provide a working with children check problematic, even with the passage of amendments to the state act. Ultimately, if it is the will of the parliament to go down this course, I would strongly urge the parliament to consider alternate proposals that would not be frustrated by the impediments that I have outlined.

**Mr MALINAUSKAS:** I welcome the opportunity to be able to address the house regarding this important amendment from the member for Badcoe. Let me start by acknowledging that there is some good intent within this piece of legislation that I think is worthy of my support and, I hope, the parliament's support. Having said that, as we contemplate this important amendment in the member

for Badcoe's name, we contemplate the essential question that sits at the heart of what I think should govern all our judgement here in regard to legislation such as this and other pieces that we may face in the future, and that is the interests and the welfare of children. That must be paramount, particularly for those children who are currently voiceless—those who are yet to be born.

When I contemplate our unequivocal fundamental obligation in that regard, it strikes me that the amendment in the member for Badcoe's name is utterly rational and reasonable. I really find it rather peculiar that the Attorney-General would cite an intergovernmental agreement as somehow an impediment to supporting an amendment that achieves that solemn obligation we all have to protect the interests of the child.

I would like to acknowledge the member for King, who I think originally raised these issues. I thought the amendment in the member for King's name was meritorious and worthy of support. It is disappointing that the member for King withdrew that amendment, but I would like to thank the member for Badcoe for moving this amendment. I certainly cannot in good conscience allow a situation where we see a piece of legislation pass that has not done absolutely everything it possibly can to ensure that the welfare of a child is protected from people we know exist within our community that have nefarious motives. We must do everything that is within our power, and allowing a working with children check to occur in this instance for intending parents is such an obvious first step.

It is worthwhile the parliament contemplating the distinction between a police check and a working with children check when we contemplate the amendments that are before us. A working with children check clearly provides a higher test, a higher standard. It looks into things that are not able to be accessed or achieved or realised through a police check—for instance, whether or not a trial is underway regarding the subject of the test, whether or not that individual has ever been laid with charges regarding sex offences or child sex offences, whether or not there have ever been any allegations made through the child abuse hotline.

The parliament would be well aware that there are examples of people in our community who commit crimes against children of a sexual nature who do not get caught or who are not successfully prosecuted in a criminal court. Why would we ever want to see a circumstance where someone who has not been successfully convicted but may well have committed a crime against a child be able to get access to a child in an absolute way? That is an appalling situation and an absurd proposition, which is why a working with children check should apply.

The Attorney well knows that we are able to change intergovernmental agreements. They are frequently changed. There is a process that provides for that. They are not somehow a set of rules that are cast in stone that can never be changed. We have systems within COAG, we have ministerial councils, to address these very legitimate issues. There is, I dare say, a number of other jurisdictions that, when their attention is drawn to this issue, would be more than happy to accommodate the eminently reasonable proposition that an intending parent has a working with children check prior to becoming one under this surrogacy arrangement. That would be an eminently reasonable proposition and I would be astounded if other jurisdictions would not support it.

Yes, it might require a degree of additional work from the Attorney, but that is her job. She gets to sit around those tables and advocate for that change. I do not imagine that a change as elementary, as basic and as obvious as that would need a herculean effort to achieve. The member for Badcoe's amendment is worthy of this parliament's support by all of us who want to achieve the objective of doing everything within our power to keep children in our state safe.

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL:** Chair, can I clarify who I am actually allowed to ask questions to?

**The CHAIR:** The mover, who is the member for Badcoe.

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL:** In seeking to filter through the different amendments, it seems in my mind that there are three main differences between amendment No. 3 of the member for King and the current amendment from the member for Badcoe that we are seeking to unpack here. One difference is the fact that there is a difference between a working with children check and a criminal history report; the second relates to amendment No. 2 around the fact that we are creating an offence, with the phrase 'each intended parent must not be a prohibited person under the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act'; and then No. 3 talks about disclosure of the check—in this case it is the

working with children check—to the intending parents, with again a difference being that the Badcoe amendments speak to disclosure to a third party of that information as opposed to just the intending parent, which is there under the member for King's amendment.

I am just seeking to understand what is offending COAG principles here. Is it the difference between the two different types of checks, or is it the disclosure of private information to a third party that is causing the consternation?

**Ms STINSON:** The member raises a few different things there, so I will work through the latter two first and then come back to the main one. The member talked about his understanding that there would be a new offence committed in the second part of the amendment; that is not the case. Under the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016, a person can apply for a working with children check, and that can be denied and no reason is necessarily given for that.

There is also a separate process where a proactive prohibition can be declared on a person. That reference that talks about not being a prohibited person under that act is a declaration that exists already in the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act, so it is not seeking to create a new offence or a new category of person at all: it refers to what exists already in that act.

As to a third-person disclosure in the third part of my amendment, the Surrogacy Bill talks about basically a mandated counselling process, and that counselling process is aimed at informing all parties of what are their legal rights and entitlements, but also the likely, I suppose, emotional and social outcomes of a decision to engage in a surrogacy arrangement. So this seeks to furnish that counsellor with information about the criminal record or allegations against a person so that a surrogate mother is fully informed, and that there is a third person present to inform her of the ramifications if there is such history for a person.

The other question the member asked was around what part the Attorney takes issue with. I suppose quite rightly that would be for the Attorney to answer, but I will do my best based on my understanding of the matters. It really only pertains to the first part of the amendment, because that amendment talks about the engagement of the central assessment unit, which is the unit that currently conducts working with children checks under the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act. At the moment, that legislation is drawn up in a way to outline or to target people who are working or volunteering with children; it is not designed for the purpose of surrogacy.

My amendment seeks to say that, notwithstanding that act, the central assessment unit can make an assessment for the purpose of surrogacy. I think the Attorney's point is that there are intergovernmental agreements that exist that facilitate the setting up of that unit, and that those intergovernmental agreements would require alteration, because at the moment they pertain to the working with children checks in relation to working and volunteering with children, not surrogacy.

So they do not allow the exchange of information between different jurisdictions for the purpose of surrogacy; they only allow the exchange of information between jurisdictions for the purpose of creating a work or volunteering-related permit. I am happy to expand on any of that if the member would like any further clarification.

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL:** Again I am not sure I got the answer in relation to the second part. Obviously, what we are doing here is creating an action so that an intended parent must not be a prohibited person. We have said in law that you cannot do this. My question really is: what is the enforcement mechanism? There are other parts of this act that create offences: entering into commercial surrogacy, arranging surrogacy for another person, inducing, and advertising. Here we have a situation where someone must not, so what is the enforcement mechanism for that amendment?

**Ms STINSON:** That is a very good question and one that I turned my mind to when putting this together. The Surrogacy Bill basically sets up a number of criteria that a person has to meet before they are allowed to legally adopt or have that child legally recognised as their own. There is no penalty as such; the penalty is that you will not be able to enter a legally recognised surrogacy agreement.

What the bill seeks to do, essentially, is that a surrogacy arrangement is entered into, a child is born to the surrogate mother and the surrogate mother is legally the parent of that child until such

time as the court orders the transferral of the parental rights to the intended parents. The bill would set up the system by which that agreement is recognised and is legal in the eyes of the court that ultimately has to make the decision.

It would mean that if a person is a prohibited person, and if they fail to meet other criteria—for example, being an Australian citizen, being 25 years of age—the court will not recognise the parental rights being transferred to the intended parents.

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL:** I am looking through this and I suppose the unanswered question for me is that I cannot see here where it is an offence to enter into a surrogacy agreement without having complied with these other arrangements. Maybe that is something the member can point me towards.

Obviously, we live in a federated country and we rely on intergovernmental agreements as a way to share information, and I know there has been a whole series of issues we have been seeking to work on together nationally, especially in relation to cross-sharing facial recognition data and a whole series of other issues. My other question is: is there not a situation where, because there is not the sharing of information across borders, there would essentially be a deficiency in the legislation in being able to get the information needed to enact a lawful surrogacy agreement? What sort of mechanism would we be able to use in the absence of some sort of COAG agreement?

**Ms STINSON:** To address the first point, the member is right that there is not some sort of penalty in the bill for entering into an unlawful agreement. It is not unlawful to enter into an unlawful agreement; it is just that it would not be recognised by a court. The consequence of that would be that if you made an unlawful agreement the court would not transfer the parental rights from the birth mother to the intended parents.

Essentially, the custody or the parentage of the child at law would remain with the birth mother and not come over to the intended parents. That would be the consequence of someone entering into an unlawful agreement. Of course, those are not matters I have sought to amend or change at all; that is what is in the bill that has been put forward by the Attorney.

The member's second question was around the consequences of there not being an exchange of information about jurisdiction; do I have that right? The paramount consideration here is the safety of the child, and I do not believe a police check is sufficient. I believe we should be aiming for a higher standard, which is a working with children check that covers a broader array of risks to the child. I understand the Attorney's point that there are intergovernmental agreements that were put together for the purpose of checks to be devised for work and volunteer-type relationships and that those would need to be modified at COAG or through other mechanisms.

Equally, I would say that the Attorney and others are welcome to put forward some sort of alternative that achieves a higher threshold than the police check does. So it would be up to the government to either renegotiate or modify those agreements and find a way to ensure that there could be that sharing of information to ensure that we have all the information possible to be able to protect children. That is absolutely right.

But we feel, I feel, that saying something is time consuming or difficult is not a good enough justification when it comes to the protection of children and that it is certainly not impossible. We see COAG agreements changed all the time and, of course, there could be other ways of tackling this put forward as well, which I would completely welcome.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** In speaking for a second time on this in the form of a question to the mover, is there not a weakness here? Even if this amendment passed, in the absence of the capacity for the police to provide all the information that is wanting to be done and for the working with children check to be able to be fully populated with the information that it would normally have access to—in other words, it might only have convictions and no particulars of the background—is there not a risk then that the person could not be a prohibited person under the act?

Therefore, your proposed expansion of the information you consider should be appropriate would fail, because the person who might have a record whom you would like to exclude actually gets through the system, not being identified as a prohibited person when clearly there would be background information that would otherwise be available, or the working with children check is

frustrated by not being able to be completed with that information. Therefore, it would not undertake the effect you desire, which is to get all that information before the unit for the purposes of making that assessment to identify if they are a prohibited person.

**Ms STINSON:** I thank the Attorney for the question. Firstly, the working with children checks include a national police check. A national police check would be done, so charges would naturally be picked up in that. I think that addresses what the Attorney was saying. My understanding of the question that you are stating is that you are putting forward a position that a national police check would be the better way to go because you argue that an intergovernmental agreement cannot be changed and, therefore, some information is better than none.

But I would argue that a national police check is part of the working with children check anyway, so charges would be picked up in that component of the working with children check. What I am putting forward with this amendment is that a full working with children check is conducted over and above a national police check. I understand the Attorney not wanting to expend time on renegotiating or having to talk with her interstate counterparts about amending the intergovernmental agreement.

I agree that that takes time. My argument is that it is worth it. That time is absolutely worth it to ensure not only that we are picking up people who may have a conviction, which would of course be picked up by the national police check component of a working with children check, but also that we are aware of any other allegations, dropped charges, current trials that might be underway for a person who is seeking to bring a new life into this world and to have them legally become their own child.

Progress reported; committee to sit again.

*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*.

#### *Parliamentary Committees*

### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (14:01):** I bring up the 28<sup>th</sup> report of the committee, entitled Joy Baluch AM Bridge Duplication.

Report received and ordered to be published.

**Mr CREGAN:** I bring up the 29<sup>th</sup> report of the committee, entitled 'Flinders Ports (Inner Harbour Port Adelaide title F) site remediation project'.

Report received and ordered to be published.

**Mr CREGAN:** I bring up the 30<sup>th</sup> report of the committee, entitled South Eastern Freeway Managed Motorway Project.

Report received and ordered to be published.

**Mr CREGAN:** I bring up the 31<sup>st</sup> report of the committee, entitled Kroemer's Crossing Roundabout Project.

Report received and ordered to be published.

#### *Parliamentary Procedure*

### **VISITORS**

**The SPEAKER:** I welcome to parliament today school leaders from Kadina Memorial School, St Columba's Memorial School, Ardrossan Area School, Snowtown Primary School, Maitland Lutheran School and St Mary MacKillop School, hosted by the member for Narungga. I also welcome

Mr and Mrs Gordon and Kathleen Sloper, guests of the member for King. I believe they are celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**Honourable members:** Hear, hear!

**The SPEAKER:** I also believe that we have Mr Bob Randall, former member for Henley Beach, in the gallery, so I welcome him as well. I believe that he is now the Deputy Mayor of the District Council of Tumby Bay.

*Question Time*

**GOH, DR T.**

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:04):** My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier assure the house that neither he nor his office provided any information to *The Australian* newspaper regarding Dr Timothy Goh?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:05):** I am not aware of any such action.

**GOH, DR T.**

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:05):** My question is to the Premier. Did the Premier's advisers, Mr Paul Armanas or Ms Ashton Hurn, or any other adviser employed by the South Australian government, contact *The Australian* regarding Dr Timothy Goh?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:05):** Not that I am aware of.

**GOH, DR T.**

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:05):** My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier assure the house that his government has not used taxpayer resources to scroll through Dr Timothy Goh's social media posts?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:05):** I think the line of questioning that is coming from the member for West Torrens says more about the way that they operated when they were in government. I have already made it clear to this house—

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I have already made it clear to this house—

**The SPEAKER:** Premier, one moment. Please be seated. The member for Wright is called to order. The member for West Torrens has a point of order; I imagine it is for debate.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** And personal reflections on members, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** I have the point of order. The question was reasonably specific. If the Premier has some relevant preamble to the question, I will allow it; if not, I expect him to come back to the substance of the question relatively quickly. Premier.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Thank you very much, sir. As I was saying, I have answered this question. I am not aware of any of the matters that are being put to us in parliament today. I do know, though, of course, that there are people who are against our position with regard to land tax. That's fine. One of the differences between those of us on this side on the house and those on the other side of the house is we don't fall down on the ground, screaming, carping and complaining every time somebody differs from the opinion that we hold. We are standing up for 92 per cent of individuals—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Playford is called to order.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —who will end up with lower land tax in South Australia due to the policies that we have put on the table. What we don't know, of course, is what the Australian Labor Party stand for with regard to the position we have. We are really looking forward at some point in the future to those opposite making it clear who they do stand up for.

**The SPEAKER:** Has the Premier finished his answer? It has only been 1½ minutes. I am going to give the member for West Torrens one more and then I am going to switch over.

**GOH, DR T.**

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:07):** My question is to the Premier.

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Leader, be quiet. I am trying to listen to this question.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Does the Premier agree with Dr Timothy Goh that he is abusing his office as Premier of South Australia to silence those who oppose his aggregation policy?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:07):** I am happy to address this issue. I am not sure whether I have met Dr Goh—certainly not in any formal capacity or certainly not recently. Dr Goh is obviously a very—

*The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for West Torrens is called to order.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —successful professional in South Australia and he has a different opinion from that of the government. That's fine. People can have their own opinion—

*The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Light!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —with regard to any policies that any government puts up. We celebrate Dr Goh's success, but it does not move us to change our position. We have been elected not to respond to those who shout the loudest via social media or via any public comments that they make: we are elected to govern on behalf of all South Australians.

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The leader is called to order.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** We made it clear—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —that we completely rejected the position of those opposite who presided over the highest land tax in the entire country, driving investment dollars out of South Australia.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Point of order: this is pure debate, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** The point of order is for debate. I have allowed the Premier some preamble. The Premier was speaking to matters that I believe were germane to the question. If he starts to deviate too far, I am going to pull him up. Premier.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** The point that I am trying to make, sir, is that, of course, when there is reform on the table there will be different opinions. Some people will be for; some people will be against. We are not going to be swayed by those people who go to social media with a difference of opinion. Reform means that you can very rarely satisfy every single person. We have been elected on this side of the house—that is what happened at the election in March last year—to govern on behalf of all South Australians, and we chose to pursue lower taxes here in South Australia. We said that we would deliver lower taxes and that is precisely what we have done.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** In our first budget we outlined bigger tax cuts—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*



**The SPEAKER:** Leader!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —than had ever been in a state budget in the history of this state, and in our most recent budget—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The leader is warned.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —we put a new land tax position. We have nuanced that position since the budget was handed down, and we did that in response to the feedback—

*The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Light is warned.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —that we have received. We were very clear—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my left!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —when we brought down the budget that we had a different position from those opposite. They would bring down budget after budget—

*Dr Close interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The deputy leader is called to order.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —where they would announce it and implement it a few weeks later on 1 July.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Point of order, sir: the Premier is debating, again.

**The SPEAKER:** Has the Premier finished? I think the Premier has finished his answer. I ask that members on my left not interject; I remind them that it is disorderly to do so. I am going to switch to the member for Elder and come back to the member for West Torrens. The member for Elder.

#### STATE ECONOMY

**Mrs POWER (Elder) (14:10):** My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier please update the house on how lowering costs for South Australian households and businesses will drive economic growth?

**The SPEAKER:** Before I call the Premier—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Premier, be seated for one moment.

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** I give the leader great latitude because he is the leader, but he is testing it today. I have asked that I can listen to the question and that members not interject between the full question and the answer. I am going to ask for the question again. The member for Elder, please repeat.

**Mrs POWER:** Thank you. My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier please update the house on how lowering costs for South Australian households and businesses will drive economic growth?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:10):** I am very—

**Mr BROWN:** Point of order, Mr Speaker. That question was out of order: it asked the minister 'to please update the house', which is not necessary. I draw on the rulings of Speaker Lewis.

**The SPEAKER:** There is a point of order on the point of order.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Sir, Speaker Atkinson had this matter drawn to his attention on many occasions and identified, in my recollection at least, that it was a frivolous point of order.

*Ms Cook interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** No, I do not need anymore assistance, but thank you. I am going to allow the question on this occasion, and I will decipher and run through the various findings of Speakers Atkinson and Lewis on this point and if necessary I will come back to the house, but thank you, member for Playford. Premier.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Thank you very much, sir.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** It is a very important question, that the member for Elder asks about how we are driving economic growth in this state by lowering costs for families and for households in South Australia, and whilst those opposite—

*The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —try to make a lot of noise, because that is what they do best—they make a lot of noise—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Leader!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —they never delivered for the people of South Australia, not for 16 years, and that is why we were elected in March of last year.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Premier, please be seated. Before I hear from the member for West Torrens, I am going to ask the member for Light to leave for 20 minutes under 137A for interjections during the Premier's answer. The member for West Torrens is probably going to—

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Debate, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** —yes, raise it for debate. In all seriousness, I really did struggle to hear most of that answer because of many members interjecting. Thank you, member for Light.

*The honourable member for Light having withdrawn from the chamber:*

**The SPEAKER:** I will listen carefully to the answer. The Premier has the call. I would like to hear his answer.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Thank you very much, sir. My government was elected. We were very much committed to lowering costs for households and for businesses in South Australia, and that is what we have done since day one in this parliament, delivering lower costs for businesses and for households—

*Mr Hughes interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Giles is called to order.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —in South Australia. And that continued this week when we—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —announced our position with regard to land tax—

*Mr Picton interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Kurna!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —a further cut to the massive burden that was inflicted upon the people of South Australia for such a long period of time by those opposite. This morning—

*Ms Hildyard interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Reynell!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —sir, I was delighted to travel with you to your electorate, the electorate of Hartley, where I met with a couple, Dom and Lyn—people who have worked hard, people who have accumulated assets over a long period of time, and some of those many people in South Australia who have had to suffer under the highest land tax regimes in the country, paying a top rate of 3.7 per cent in South Australia. They were delighted because they had heard a lot of misinformation about the position that the Liberal Party was taking with regard to land tax. They were absolutely delighted that their land tax bill will come down by thousands of dollars every single year.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** That's precisely why we have pushed ahead with this reform—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Leader!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —to put more money back into the pockets of ordinary South Australians.

*Ms Hildyard interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Reynell is warned.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** It is money they can spend in our economy to grow the size of our economy in South Australia, to create more jobs in South Australia to give to our next generation—

*Mr Patterson interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Morphett is called to order.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —like the students here today in the public gallery, those fantastic students over here from the YP. We are making these moves to grow our economy, to create more jobs, so that these young people have a future here in South Australia, a future denied by those opposite in the 16 long years they were in government. What is the Leader of the Opposition's response?

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Absolutely hopeless this week.

**The SPEAKER:** There is a point of order. The point of order is for debate.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Yes, of course, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** The Premier has provided some relevant preamble. I have allowed a little bit of compare and contrast. I ask him to come back to the substance of the question, which was about lowering costs, I believe.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Lowering costs, sir, and our land tax position is part of that.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** There is \$70 million back into the economy at a time when the Australian economy is slowing.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** The Reserve Bank governor is out talking about stimulus.

*The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Lee is called to order.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Let me tell you, we are embarking on our own stimulus. Straightaway there is \$70 million back into the South Australian economy. There is \$70 million back into the pockets of ordinary, hardworking South Australians so they can spend it in the economy to create more jobs, but we haven't stopped there. On 1 January this year, we lowered payroll tax for all small businesses in this state, and those opposite hate it. They love taxes.

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** That's what they inflicted for 16 long years.

**The SPEAKER:** There is a point of order. The Premier has finished his answer.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Sir, if I may, under indulgence—

**The SPEAKER:** Yes.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** —the Premier makes these remarks and debate in his answers that in turn generate interjections. Opposition members are then expelled for those interjections.

**The SPEAKER:** I have the point of order. I ask members not to provoke other members if they can, and hopefully the member for West Torrens will also abide by that ruling. If he likes, I will give him the call.

#### GOH, DR T.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:17):** My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier think that Dr Timothy Goh is a tax cheat?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:17):** I have no information that would suggest that whatsoever. Dr Goh is a very successful dentist—

*Mr Brown interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Playford is warned for a second time.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —and businessman in South Australia, and we celebrate that success on this side of the house.

*Mr Odenwalder interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Elizabeth is called to order.

#### LAND TAX

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:17):** My question is to the Premier. Why didn't the Premier have the courage to tell South Australians before the election that he would be increasing land tax through aggregation measures?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Point of order, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** Why didn't the Premier do something before the election.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** That is a very argumentative question.

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Morialta says—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Be quiet for a second; it's hard enough. That arguably contains argument by saying that the Premier did or did not do something. I hear the member for Morialta's point. I'm going to allow it on this occasion, but it is a fair point of order. Premier.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:18):** We were very clear before we went to the election that we wanted to lower taxes in South Australia. We said that we would restore—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Members on my left, you have asked your question; allow the answer. You may not like the answer but allow an answer.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** We were very clear that we would restore the remission on the emergency services levy that was taken from them by the previous government. That was something that the previous government did not talk about before the 2014 election. They didn't say that what they were going to do at the next budget, the very next opportunity, was rip off \$90 million from the taxpayers each and every year. They didn't do that.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Lee and the deputy leader are warned.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I will tell you what we said, though. We said we would restore that remission for the people of South Australia, putting another \$360 million back into the economy over our first four years in government.

*Mr Brown interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Playford can leave for 20 minutes under 137A.

*The honourable member for Playford having withdrawn from the chamber:*

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** We said we were going to do that. We said we were going to lower payroll tax in South Australia, and we delivered that. We said we would lower land tax in South Australia, and that is precisely what we have delivered.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** We have a draft bill out. It's out for consultation at the moment.

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Leader!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I encourage those opposite to form an opinion because at the moment they are like a feather, floating around, looking to land somewhere.

*The Hon. Z.L. Bettison interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Ramsay!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** You have no idea. Leadership 101, you fail.

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

**The SPEAKER:** Premier, be seated. The point of order is for debate. I uphold the point of order.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Also, sir, disorderly conduct.

**The SPEAKER:** I have upheld the point of order. I agree. I would like to dial down the temperature, please. Has the Premier finished?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** No, I've got plenty to go.

**The SPEAKER:** Well, let's stick to the substance of the question, please.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** To the substance of the question, we know exactly and precisely what we stand for on this side of the chamber. We stand for lower taxes and that is precisely—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —what we have delivered.

*Mr Szakacs interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Cheltenham!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I know those opposite hate it. They love taxes; they are addicted to taxes. If they could marry taxes, they would.

**The SPEAKER:** The Premier has finished?

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

**The SPEAKER:** The Premier has finished. Yes.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Not 30 seconds after your most recent ruling the Premier debated immediately again.

**The SPEAKER:** Yes. I have upheld the point of order for debate. I have upheld it and I call the member for Lee.

#### LAND TAX

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:20):** My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier believe it is courageous to promise lower taxes at an election and then deliver higher land tax bills to thousands of South Australians?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Point of order, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** The point of order is for argument?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Absolutely, sir. The member continues to ask questions framed in a way you have counselled him not to.

**The SPEAKER:** In the spirit of a flowing question time, I am going to allow this answer. I have given some latitude in the question. I am going to allow some latitude in the answer. Premier.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:20):** Well, it's a worry to me, a great worry to me, that the shadow treasurer in South Australia—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —is innumerate, because he is now trying to reframe a \$70 million land tax reduction as a tax increase.

**The SPEAKER:** There is a point of order, Premier.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** This is shameful.

**The SPEAKER:** Premier, there is a point of order.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** My point of order is about debate. It was a very simple question—

**The SPEAKER:** Yes.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** —which could be answered with a yes or no answer.

**The SPEAKER:** I have the point of order. I have allowed some latitude in the question. I am going to allow some latitude in the answer, but if it goes too far, if it does deviate, I will bring back the Premier. The Premier has the call.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Thank you, sir. What we have out for consultation at the moment is the single largest land tax reform in the history of South Australia. It takes South Australia from having the highest—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Elizabeth is warned.

**Mr Malinauskas:** Why didn't you announce this reform last year?

**The SPEAKER:** Leader! I will not allow the leader to shout during every single answer. He will be leaving. I know he doesn't like it when he leaves the chamber.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** It takes South Australia from having the highest and least competitive land tax rate in the country to a system or a situation where we are on average with the mainland states of Australia. This is something that we are proud of. We are addressing the issue that had been left to fester for a long period of time, driving investment dollars out of South Australia, repelling investment dollars—

*Dr Close interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The deputy leader is warned.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —into South Australia. This is designed to grow the size of the South Australian economy. It is a \$70 million land tax reduction in the first three years: \$20 million in the first year and \$24 million in the second year, \$70 million over the first three years—

**Ms Stinson:** Are you sure of those figures this time?

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Badcoe is warned.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Ninety-two per cent of individual investors will end up better off, and we know exactly who we stand for. Now the opposition haven't formed an opinion. They are going to have a forum in a couple of weeks' time—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —to work out what they are going to do with this single most important reform in the history of our state.

**The SPEAKER:** Premier, there is a point of order. Is the Premier finished?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Yes.

**The SPEAKER:** The Premier has finished. The member for Lee then the member for Narungga.

#### LAND TAX

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:23):** My question is to the Premier. How does the Premier expect the thousands of land tax payers to meet the cost of his \$86 million land tax aggregation measure?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:23):** As I have outlined before, 92 per cent of individual investors will end up a lot better off under the land tax—

**Ms Stinson:** Well, what about the people impacted by the aggregation?

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —arrangements that we have brought forward. The only thing that is standing between these people and land tax relief, much long overdue land tax relief, is the Australian Labor Party. They haven't formed an opinion; they are going to hold a forum. They are floating around like a feather in the wind.

**The SPEAKER:** There is a point of order.

**Mr Malinauskas:** The legislation is not even in the parliament. You should try talking to people here.

**The SPEAKER:** Leader, you can leave for 20 minutes under 137A.

*The honourable member for Croydon having withdrawn from the chamber:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for West Torrens on a point of order. Debate?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Immediately, sir, within 30 seconds of getting up.

**The SPEAKER:** Yes, I have the point of order. It was about the cost of an \$86 million land tax measure and something about aggregation. It is a fair point of order. I ask the Premier to come back to the substance of the question if he is not finished. He has finished his answer.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Supplementary, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** No, I am going to switch to the member for Narungga. I will come back to the member for Lee. Member for Narungga.

### FREIGHT PRODUCTIVITY

**Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (14:24):** My question is to the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government. Can the minister inform the house on how the Marshall government is lowering costs by increasing freight productivity?

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:24):** Can I thank the good member for Narungga for his question, a man who is extremely keen to work together with his regional constituents, as well as this government, to deliver better freight productivity for the many broadacre farmers on Yorke Peninsula. We have an ambition on this side of the house to grow our economy by 3 per cent. It is something that we ministers are constantly lectured on by the Premier and something that has been drilled into us, that we must deliver.

In order to do that, we need to help our large industries, our large exporters, to improve the way that they do business. We know that one of our largest exports is grains out of South Australia; in fact, it is our largest export. We need to do what we can on this side of the house to improve the cost of doing business—

*The Hon. L.W.K. Bignell interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Mawson is on the board.

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL:** —for those farmers so that we can get their product out of the port and overseas as cheaply as possible to increase those returns back to growers. The best way to do that is to improve freight productivity.

There are two things you need to deliver better freight productivity on our roads. The first of those is the political will to push for less red tape, but also an opening up of our road network to higher freight productivity vehicles. The second thing you need, and this has been the missing element for the last couple of decades, is the money to deliver the improvements. That is something that this government is delivering on in spades—in spades.

We can make some simple improvements that make things a whole lot easier for farmers right across South Australia by making some simple changes. I must commend the federal government for their help with the heavy vehicle productivity program and with something in the member for Hammond's electorate, and that is the Cypress Terrace level crossing upgrade to make sure that we can get rigid trucks, road trains, 35-metre B-triples, 32-metre and 36½-metre road trains, as well as PBS Level 2As and 3As across that intersection.

At the moment, what you have to do is stop and get a permit every time you want to cross a rail crossing. Essentially, you have to phone up and ask whether it's okay to drive across. By putting \$2½ million on the table, in conjunction with the federal government, we are going to make it so that all those vehicles that I just mentioned don't have to stop and make a phone call: they can do what the rest of us get to do and that is cross the train line. That is a fantastic outcome that is going to help improve freight productivity in that part of the world.

We are also tackling some specific upgrades that are going to help not only our broadacre industry but also our livestock industry. We have put money on the table to help Thomas Foods and provide some enabling infrastructure, road infrastructure, to make sure that we can get high-productivity vehicles to their front door so that we can help with their expansion and their ambition to grow 2,000 jobs out of Murray Bridge and to rebuild a plant that has been ravaged by fire, and in turn help one of our largest export industries in South Australia.



We have put on the table \$6 million to fix Kroemer's Crossing in my electorate of Tanunda to again help the wine industry move grapes around the electorate just that much more efficiently. We have put money on the table to upgrade some intersections down in Naracoorte, in the member for Narungga's electorate, to again help the livestock industry down there to be able to use higher productivity vehicles, helping livestock carters get their stock to the Dublin saleyards more efficiently, to drive costs down and to essentially pass those costs back on to the producers on the land.

This is a government that is willing to tackle freight productivity head-on, not just by reducing red tape but by putting the money on the table necessary to help our farmers grow our biggest export markets that are going to deliver prosperity and jobs for the people of South Australia and get the Premier off our back by delivering the 3 per cent growth that he requires.

#### LAND TAX

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:28):** My question again is to the Premier. Does the Premier believe that landowners facing aggregation measures for the first time will pay less land tax?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:28):** Every investor in South Australia will need to seek their own advice. We have laid out the details in the draft bill we have put out for consultation.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** That consultation is open until 2 October. We hope to introduce that legislation into this place on 15 October. We do that because we want to make sure that it gets through the parliament and that the tax cuts that we envisage, the \$70 million worth of tax cuts over the next three years, come into effect on 1 July, providing much needed—much, much needed—relief to the massively high land tax bills that South Australians have been forced to pay for a very, very long period of time.

#### LAND TAX

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:29):** My question again is to the Premier. How many landowners facing land tax aggregation measures have no other investments to provide for their retirements?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:29):** I don't have all the details broken down, but what I have provided to the house before is that there are over 22,000 people who are already aggregated. These 22,000 people will end up significantly better off because of two significant reforms that we are putting in place. One is to increase the threshold at which land tax is paid from the current \$391,000 up to \$450,000, a massive leap in that threshold at which land tax is payable; 9,000 people who are currently paying land tax will not be paying land tax into the future.

The second and major reform is to take us from having the top marginal land tax rate in the country, at 3.7 per cent—massively uncompetitive, driving investment out of South Australia or repelling investment coming into South Australia. It will take that away and take us down to 2.4 per cent. This is lower than Queensland and this is lower than Western Australia. It's the average of the mainland states in Australia.

It's a massive reform. Would we like to go forward? Of course, because we on this side of house stand for lower taxes, taking that burden from the people of South Australia, getting our economy moving in the right direction, creating more jobs. That's what we are about. It's what we have been about in our first 18 months. I am very proud of the team that I lead. Reform is tough. Others choose to kick the can down the road, sweep the difficult situations under the carpet. We don't do that, we don't crumble, we don't fall apart.

We listen to the people of South Australia. We make decisions on behalf of all South Australians, and that is precisely why we were elected in March last year. Every single day that we are in this place we will be making decisions in the best interests of the people of South Australia, and that means from time to time people will have different opinions, but it doesn't mean that we crumble. It doesn't mean that we say, 'Too hard. Put that in the too-hard basket.' No way. We have

been elected to drive economic reform, economic growth, jobs creation in South Australia, and that is what we will do.

### LAND TAX

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:31):** My question is to the Premier. Did the government conduct analysis on landowners facing aggregation with no other investments to provide for their retirement?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:31):** We have been listening to the people of South Australia for a very long period of time about the situation that they face with the highest land tax rate in the entire nation. I don't think there was a single person in South Australia who owned property who wasn't complaining about having the most uncompetitive highest rates in the entire nation, so we listened to those people.

On budget day this year we put out our position. We said at that point we were not prepared to put that in place on 1 July, as had been the practice under the previous government. We decided that we would listen and we would consult. This is an important reform. I do note—

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** You had no idea. You get the numbers right; three times wrong.

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I do note that those opposite embarked upon their own tax reform agenda some years ago, in 2015, just before the 2018 election. Their estimate at the time was that aggregation would bring an additional \$30 million into the state coffers each year. We had, at the point of the budget, estimated \$40 million. But we said at the time that this is an interesting reform where we don't know the complex arrangements between land ownership in different vehicles, so we are very happy to listen to the people of South Australia.

We have had a huge amount of input into the model and the methodology that we have used. Ninety-five per cent of it at least has been extraordinarily helpful, and we thank the people for the submissions and the information and the examples that they have provided, especially in relation to what exists in other states, other jurisdictions around Australia. We now have a robust model and methodology in place, and now we have been able to go out with a draft bill. I feel extraordinarily positive about this.

I fail to understand those who don't like this bill because, quite frankly, 92 per cent of private investors will end up better off and 75 per cent of all company groups will end up better off. This is a fairer system. It is in line with the aggregation arrangements that exist in New South Wales, exist in Victoria, exist in Queensland, but, most importantly and unlike the reform agenda that those opposite took in 2015, when they talked about aggregation and only talked about the revenue impact, we were talking about the revenue but also the net cut that we were implementing.

Simultaneous with dealing with the aggregation issue, we are bringing down the top marginal rate to a nationally competitive rate and significantly increasing the threshold. It's a package. It's a reform package. Some choose to look at only one part of that package, but if you look at it in total it is a fair balanced system that is going to grow the economy, grow jobs and finally South Australia is open for business.

### SMALL AMOUNT CREDIT CONTRACTS

**Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (14:34):** My question is to the Attorney-General. Can the Attorney-General update the house on the outcomes of the recent Consumer Affairs Forum meeting with respect to small amount credit contracts reform?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (14:34):** I am delighted to. I thank the member for Heysen for his question. The former attorney-general, as many would remember, the Hon. John Rau, in one of his last contributions to this house lamented the slow pace of commonwealth reforms in the area of consumer protection and his lack of success in reforming payday lending regulations. He raised that payday lending significantly affected a number of constituents in his area, and I'm sure in other members' areas. Certainly I have heard from some of you about the exploitive practices and predatory behaviour by payday lenders that sometimes occur.

Indeed, the former attorney put to me that there is a lot in common between a glacier and the pace of reform in the Consumer Affairs Forum. He wished me luck, and I am delighted to inform the house that I think I have risen to the former attorney's challenge. Firstly, it was on the list at the recent meeting of the Consumer Affairs Forum, which includes all those ministers across Australia and territories and New Zealand.

Members might be aware that the commonwealth Assistant Treasurer confirmed that the commonwealth will be proceeding with the recommendations arising out of the 2016 review into small amount credit contracts, as well as the further recommendations arising out of the Hayne royal commission, particularly in respect of these matters. We are pleased to have received that. It's a positive development from the commonwealth.

I am very pleased to report that I have received unanimous support from every state, territory and New Zealand to recognise the urgent action that is now needed, particularly given the advent of instant cash machines and the proliferation of online applications. I have also given notice that states are still able, particularly our state, to regulate on small amount credit contracts. If there is any delay that is not expeditiously dealt with at the preferred commonwealth national model, then I will propose that we take action in this state and that we get on with it.

This is an issue that is far too important to have been left for what is now 10 years since it has been an identified public problem. One egregious example submitted by ASIC, who attended our conference, was of a washing machine costing \$769. It was offered on a three-year lease and ultimately cost \$4,517. There is no justification for consumers to be effectively slugged with these exorbitant costs.

Some of the new protections proposed are a cap on the total repayment amount, amending the affordability provisions based on gross earnings to net earnings, requiring that there be equal amounts paid at equal intervals, not charging additional fees for the ordinary life of the loan in cases of early repayment, and preventing these lenders from making unsolicited invitations to apply for credit to current or former customers. I look forward to further updating the house and I will make sure that the former attorney-general knows.

#### LAND TAX

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:38):** My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier believe that landowners facing aggregation measures for the first time have money to spare?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:38):** Well, that is not something that I have the personal knowledge of—individuals, what their arrangements are and what money they have to spare. But I make this point to every South Australian: our motive for doing this is not revenue raising. Our motive—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** It's almost impossible to believe—

*Mr Boyer interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Wright!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —that those opposite cannot understand the basis of what is being put before them in the legislation. Maybe that—

*The Hon. S.K. Knoll interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Minister for Transport is called to order.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —gives us a hint as to why they haven't formed the position to back 92 per cent of South Australians—because they don't understand how it works.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Point of order: debate.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Members on my left, be quiet. The point of order is for debate.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Debate and personal reflections again, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** Premier, the question had a few elements to it. I think when you start to reflect on what other members might know or not know you are probably starting to cross the line, so I ask you to come back to the substance of the question, please.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** As I indicated to the honourable member, I have no personal knowledge of the cash arrangements of the people he refers to and what money they may or may not have to spare. But I make this point again: our reform is all about getting our economy moving in the right direction, making South Australia a more attractive destination to attract and retain investment capital.

If there were more money coming into South Australia, or remaining in South Australia in terms of investment, then property values in South Australia would be higher. People would have greater assets in South Australia than they had in the previous 16 years when we had sluggish real property growth or values growth in South Australia. I do note that, since we came to government, the ANZ Property Council index shows that we have the highest forecast property growth in South Australia, and that is a factor of growing confidence in our state, growing confidence that there is a government in place that wants to reduce the tax burden on the people of South Australia.

Of course, with reform, not every single person is going to be a beneficiary, and individuals need to get their own advice as to how to structure their investments into South Australia. But in total—and I repeat this because not every person over there understands exactly and precisely what's going on—there are three reforms at the moment.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Point of order, sir: the opposition was sitting quietly, listening to the Premier with courtesy, and again—

**The SPEAKER:** Yes, the point of order is for debate—

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Personal reflection, sir, and debate.

**The SPEAKER:** —and personal reflection, yes. I again remind the Premier to come back to the substance of the question.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I am happy to update this for the house's benefit, although I am pretty sure that people on my side know how it works, but that's a reflection on my side. They know exactly how it actually works.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my left and right! Premier.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Thank you, sir. There are three—not one, not two, but three—reforms which we are effecting simultaneously.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** The first is aggregation, and that brings us into line with other jurisdictions in this country and, quite frankly, other jurisdictions around the world. The second reform is the increase to the threshold, taking it from 391 to 450; 450 is larger than 391. The third is to bring the top marginal rate from 3.7 down—that's going down—to 2.4. When you bring those three things together, there is a reduction in tax. That means the tax that we are getting is lower. That means less tax.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** That means more money in people's pockets. This is how it works. It's a little bit complicated, but I am happy to provide a further briefing to anybody who requires information on this. But let's be clear: this is a reform. There is some complexity, not a lot, but there

is some complexity to this issue. But there are three reforms operating simultaneously—aggregation, higher thresholds, lower rates—and the net effect of that is a reduction in the revenue from land tax into South Australia, and that means \$70 million going back into the South Australian economy and 92 per cent of individual investors will be better off.

#### LAND TAX

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:43):** My question is to the Premier. For the next financial year when the land tax measures are due to come into force, will the current land tax proposals deliver as much relief to South Australians as the measures contained in last year's budget?

**The SPEAKER:** There was a little bit of chatter. Could the member for Lee repeat that, please?

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** For the next financial year when the land tax reforms are due to come into operation, will the current land tax proposals deliver as much relief to South Australians as the measures contained in last year's budget?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:43):** I thank the honourable member for his question. We have made it very clear what that update is going to be. We have put our model and our draft legislation out for consultation. We have made it very clear what we think it will bring in, which is an additional \$85 million in the first year, and we know that the reduction in revenue will come from that reform.

The package we have out at the moment is \$105 million. So it's \$105 million worth of land tax relief, \$85 million worth of additional revenue, resulting in a \$20 million reduction in our first year. In the second year, this increases to \$24 million. As I have updated the house on numerous occasions—and I am happy to do this again—over the first three years, it is a \$70 million net reduction.

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

**Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (14:44):** My question is to the Minister for Police. What processes were in place in 2012 allowing destruction by SAPOL of the suitcase belonging to the late Dr George Duncan, who drowned after being thrown into the River Torrens on 10 May 1972? Can you assure the house those processes were followed, and what procedures are going to be put in place to prevent future destruction of significant documents held by police under Coroner's orders?

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:45):** I thank the member for Florey for the question. Just confirming, that was 2012?

**Ms Bedford:** I don't expect you to know.

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD:** I appreciate the fact that you don't expect me to know; I wasn't in the house in 2012, but I am very happy to take that question on notice and follow it up with the appropriate authorities.

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Davenport and then the member for Lee.

#### EMERGENCY SERVICES VOLUNTEERS

**Mr MURRAY (Davenport) (14:45):** Thank you, Mr Speaker.

*Members interjecting:*

**Mr MURRAY:** Listen up.

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr MURRAY:** My question is to the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services. Can the minister please inform the house what assistance South Australia's emergency services are providing to Queensland in response to their bushfire emergency?

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:46):** I thank the member for his question and say what a pleasure it was to be in his electorate last Friday night, visiting the Cherry Gardens CFS. What a great group they are. It was very, very impressive to see the way they operate. They spoke incredibly highly of their local member, who is a great advocate for them in their community.

Sadly, though, we have seen over the past few days the fires up in Queensland and New South Wales. We understand that they are facing some very, very tough times. Earlier this week, I did reach out to the ministers in both of those states. I checked on them and made sure they were going okay and also asked if they needed any help or assistance, and told them that if they did just to sing out.

Well, as it turns out, they did. New South Wales said, 'We think we're travelling okay at the minute,' but up in Queensland they did ask for some help. We notice that the bureau is predicting weather conditions 5° to 6° above average and high winds over the next few days. Of course, that results in very, very high fire dangers. The state is doing it tough but they asked for some help, and we were very happy to help them out.

I was pleased that the shadow minister accepted my invitation yesterday, and it was a pleasure to go with him to the Airport and farewell some of the staff and volunteers we have sent up there to help in this situation. Seventeen incident management personnel have gone up there, and it was great to thank them firsthand for the great work that they do.

In fact, one of the volunteers I spoke to had just been doing a very long run at the Show, as a volunteer there, with the CFS. She had packed up and was driving back to the country, to where she was from. I think she made it about as far as Balaklava when she received the message that crews were needed to go to Queensland. It was wonderful to hear that she said, 'No problems at all,' got in the car, turned around and came back to join this crew. To have our volunteers do this sort of work and contribute like they do at the drop of a hat is absolutely fantastic, and I think everyone in this place should be very, very proud of them.

Of the team that left yesterday, there were 12 CFS staff and volunteers, four from the MFS, and one from the Department for Environment and Water. They started a five-shift roster today as they have landed up in Queensland. I will run through the people: the incident management volunteers came from Region 1 Operations Brigade in the member for Kavel's electorate; Region 6 Operations Brigade in the member for Flinders' electorate; Eden Hills (member for Waite); Aldinga Beach (member for Mawson); East Torrens (member for Morialta); Booleroo Centre (member for Stuart); and Paracombe, which is in the member for Newland's electorate. Again, it is great to have those people contribute.

Also, today, 55 CFS and MFS firefighters have flown out to join as well. So, as well as incident management, we have firefighters going out today. A group of them left at 8.30 this morning, and in fact the second lot are leaving in about 10 minutes from the Adelaide Airport. Of those 55, 11 are from the MFS, eight are from CFS Region 1, 11 are from Region 2, six are from Region 3, eight from Region 4, three from Region 5 and three from Region 6.

The point I make about them coming from those different areas is it again shows how South Australia right across the board is willing to help out in these situations. Again, we thank them for that. Also, just to stress to the people out there, there is still capacity built into our CFS volunteers whilst they are away.

It is great the way these organisations work together when there is need and there is a call for it in other states. South Australia always steps up and delivers a very experienced and highly regarded volunteer capability and professional capability as it is called upon. Equally, reciprocating, that comes back.

With my last few seconds, I will take the opportunity just to remind people that this time of year is the perfect time to make sure you do prepare for the fire danger season. We know the threat is always there, but the best thing to do is be prepared, so get your fire danger action plan in place, make sure you clear up around your house and make sure you are ready for the summer ahead.

**LAND TAX**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:50):** My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier advise how many landowners with ownerships currently below the tax-free threshold will now incur a land tax liability as a consequence of aggregation measures?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:50):** Well, I don't have that detail with me and I am not sure that detail would exist, but I do have further information to provide to the house.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! We have the question.

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Leader!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** It is interesting that the Leader of the Opposition has returned to the house after his unruly behaviour, which was ruled out of order previously—

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Point of order, sir: that is grossly disorderly.

**The SPEAKER:** Yes, I have the point of order. Would the Premier not refer to whether members are or are not present? Please get on with it.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** It is a matter of record, sir; it is on *Hansard* that you actually asked the Leader of the Opposition to leave. It is not like I am drawing the house's attention to it—

**The SPEAKER:** Yes, I understand. Premier, can we please get on with the answer? Thank you.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Yes, absolutely, sir, but it is interesting to note how noisy it becomes when the Leader of the Opposition, who is not even asking any questions today, comes back in to the house.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Point of order: he is directly defying your ruling.

**The SPEAKER:** Yes. Premier, I ask you to please return to the substance of the question.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I would like to provide some information to the house, sir—

**The SPEAKER:** Thank you; that would be greatly appreciated.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —because only a few moments ago, the member for Lee asked a question regarding what the likely tax revenue increase or decrease was and what was taken in the 2018 budget versus the 2019 budget—

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Point of order: relevance. The question was about how many landowners below the tax-free threshold will now face a bill.

**The SPEAKER:** Yes, I have the point of order. The Premier is now speaking about land tax. I will allow him some time to come back to the question.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Only a few moments ago, the opposition was interested in this answer. I have now received information and I wanted to inform the parliament. I thought that would be helpful, but if those opposite are not interested, I am happy as well.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Lee.

**LAND TAX**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:52):** My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier's offer of a briefing in a previous answer indicate that the government will now release its modelling?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:52):** We have always said that the Treasurer is more than happy to provide information on the modelling and the methodology that we have used—

**An honourable member:** Hand it over.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** And, no, of course we are not going to be handing over the modelling for a range of reasons.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Elizabeth can leave for the remainder of question time. Member for Elizabeth, you will leave under 137A.

*The honourable member for Elizabeth having withdrawn from the chamber:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Premier has the call.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Of course we are not going to be—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Leader!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —handing over the full details because, as those opposite would be more than aware, this was of course the subject of a cabinet deliberation. More importantly, there is a whole pile of personal information that we have—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Leader! The Premier has the call. Is the Premier finished? The Premier has finished.

#### LAND TAX

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:53):** My question is to the Premier. Will the information that the government is prepared to now provide be within a tolerance of an error of 200 per cent this time?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:54):** I have been over this before, but I am more than happy to use question time in this way, to re prosecute exactly and precisely what has happened. I do point this house to the information that was—

*The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Lee is on two warnings.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —provided by the former government with regard to aggregation back in 2015. They used Treasury modelling—

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

**The SPEAKER:** Point of order. Premier, one moment. The point of order is for?

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** It's debate, again, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** No, I do not uphold the point of order, and I will listen to the Premier's answer assiduously.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** It's not debate in the slightest, and it confounds me—

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** The Premier has just reflected on your ruling.

**The SPEAKER:** I will go back and check the footage. I didn't hear, in fairness, the Premier's remarks, but what I would like is for members on the left and right to be quiet so that I can hear the Premier's answer. I have the question: it was about land tax. I will listen to the Premier's answer.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I'm sorry, I thought I heard you say that it wasn't debate. If you—



*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Well, I am sorry. As I have just said to the house, I did not hear that. If that is the Speaker's ruling, then I am happy not to continue with my line. But I make the point that, when talking about modelling, I am reflecting on the most recent time Treasury was asked to do the modelling on exactly and precisely what we put forward. The last time they did this was in 2015.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The leader has already been ejected once in question time. We have the question; please allow the Premier to answer. You will have an opportunity to ask questions after that.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** The line of questioning that the member for Lee is pursuing is really a question about accuracy in modelling, and I make the point that the modelling that was provided in our state budget was from Treasury. It was exactly and precisely the same methodology that those opposite relied on when they provided information to the people of South Australia in 2015, and I make—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my left!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** And I make this point, because I think it is an important one: this is precisely why we didn't implement our measure on 1 July this year, because this is a complex reform and we were wanting to hear and we were keen to hear from people as to what we were putting—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The leader is warned.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** And we were pleased to hear from a large number of people who submitted information. On day one, on the public record on many, many occasions I said that if we could receive information that would suggest that the revenue from our measures would bring more money in that we would accelerate the rate reduction. I made that very clear, and that is precisely what we delivered. We received information—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —that updated the methodology and the modelling, and we immediately accelerated—

*Mr Brown interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Playford is called to order.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —that rate reduction to make South Australia nationally competitive. In fact, we are now at the average of the mainland states. This is a major reform, and I think what we have demonstrated by working together on this side of the house with the people of South Australia is that we are up for reform. Reform isn't easy. There are always people who are going to have differing opinions, but what we have been able to demonstrate is a methodology for going about complex reform, not putting it in the too-hard basket and delivering for the people of our state.

#### INTERNATIONAL CONTAMINATED SITE REMEDIATION CONFERENCE

**Mr DULUK (Waite) (14:58):** My question is to the Minister for the Environment and Water. Can the minister please update the house on the management and remediation of contaminated sites in South Australia?

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (14:58):** I want to particularly thank the member for Waite for the question—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —and in particular for representing me at the 8<sup>th</sup> International Contaminated Site Remediation Conference in Adelaide on Sunday night. I understand that he gave a rousing speech to the hundreds of delegates from all over the world—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —who came to the 8<sup>th</sup> International—

*Mr Teague interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Heysen is called to order.

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —Contaminated Site Remediation Conference. Interestingly, the first such conference was held in Adelaide as well, and of course South Australia has a substantial history in undertaking complex site remediation as a result of our industrial and manufacturing heritage in this state.

This conference was an opportunity for some 600 or so delegates from Asia, Africa, Europe and North America to come together. It included our own Chief Executive of the EPA, Tony Circelli, who was one of the plenary speakers. The Malaysian Minister of Housing and Local Government, Zuraida Kamaruddin, also attended and was very keen to learn about the site contamination leadership that South Australia has provided over recent years.

In terms of that leadership, one thing the EPA has a particular focus on is dealing with orphan sites. These are sites for which the owner cannot be found anymore or is financially unable to undertake its responsibilities with regard to site remediation. The EPA and the public servants who are part of that organisation have a very important role in coming in and taking care, control and stewardship of those sites. They work through often complex community engagement processes and costly decontamination processes as they work towards the remediation of those sites, making them safe and in some cases aspiring to see other forms of development undertaken on them.

This is something that the government is very interested in being able to do more efficiently and cost-effectively, bearing in mind that safety and community wellbeing are maintained. We know that these contaminated sites are often in strategically advantageous places when it comes to uplifting value for the communities in which they are found. They can be on strategic road and rail corridors. They can often be close to the city centre. That gives them substantial potential value but, unless they are appropriately decontaminated and made a central part of the surrounding community, woven into the surrounding community, that value cannot be attained.

It was very interesting to look at the list of speakers who came to Adelaide. I know from speaking to EPA officials that there was an opportunity for shared learnings between different jurisdictions from all around the world. Of course, they were also able to look at Adelaide, which, despite having these sites, has developed a clean, green reputation. That is a reputation this government wants to continue to enhance through the creation of our governance body, Green Adelaide, which we hope to set up following the passage of legislation later this year. It was a great conference. I hope that the many people who attended it have been able to take their learnings all across the world, and I once again thank the member for Waite for representing me there.

#### LAND TAX

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (15:02):** My question is to the Premier. Why is the Premier now proposing to provide over \$20 million less relief to land tax payers over each of the next two financial years?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:02):** It is quite clear to me that the opposition has run out of questions.

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** The Leader of the Opposition hasn't even been given a question today. They ask the same question in 82 different ways. I have nothing further to add.

**The SPEAKER:** There is a point of order.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** It is disorderly and debate.

**The SPEAKER:** Point of order: personal reflections. I have the point of order. Something like that I am going to put within the tolerable amount of political argy-bargy, but I take the member for West Torrens' point.

#### LAND TAX

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (15:03):** Supplementary to the Premier: why won't the Premier answer a question about the reduced amount of land tax relief contained in the current land tax proposal?

*Mr Duluk interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Waite can leave for the remainder of question time.

*The honourable member for Waite having withdrawn from the chamber:*

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Point of order, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** I didn't even hear the entire question. Could I have the question again.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Why won't the Premier answer a question about why the government is now proposing to reduce the amount of land tax relief by over \$20 million over each of the next two financial years?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Point of order, sir: the supplementary question raised by the member for Lee presupposes the suggestion that the Premier hasn't answered a question. It's argumentative and, if it were factual, then it's done without leave.

**The SPEAKER:** I have the point of order. Given today's answers and questions, I am going to allow the Premier a go at that one. It's a valid point of order.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:04):** I refer the honourable member to my previous fulsome answers.

#### LAND TAX

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (15:04):** My question is to the Premier. Is the Premier now proposing to provide more or less land tax relief to land tax payers in his current proposals than contained in last year's budget?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:04):** We have put forward a comprehensive package of reform which will deliver \$70 million of relief over the next three years.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** It is the biggest land tax cut in the history of our state.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Colton on the buzzer.

#### MORTAL KOMBAT

**Mr COWDREY (Colton) (15:04):** My question is to the Minister for Innovation and Skills. Can the minister update the house on how the production of the *Mortal Kombat* film is helping to grow South Australia's economy?

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills) (15:04):** Yes, I can, and it is one big figure: \$70 million of foreign currency coming into South Australia. And I tell you that I was very, very pleased to visit the site of where they are building the props yesterday. I had a tour—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** —and met a number of South Australians who are working on very important roles in that project. Let's look at the numbers so far. Out of the 428 people who are engaged on the production, 330 of those are local South Australians. On that point, when the producer took me round to show me—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** —the pre-production work that has been done, the setting of the scenes, he actually pointed out to me the scene boards that are designed by scene designers. They are obviously not interested over there.

**The SPEAKER:** Members on my left!

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** The biggest ever production in South Australia's history.

*The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Lee can leave for 20 minutes under 137A.

*The honourable member for Lee having withdrawn from the chamber:*

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** Of course, what Bennett Walsh was very pleased to share with me was that for that work of designing those scene sets, those two-dimensional scene sets, they usually bring people in from all over the world to do that sort of work, but in this case all four of them come from Adelaide. There is no doubt that we have the talent here in South Australia for this type of work.

I also met Claire. Claire is a cabinet-maker. She did the cabinet-making apprenticeship, very similar to the one that I did, in bespoke furniture—and how handy that has been, working from plans and making some very quirky designs using her skills. Back into the industry after doing her apprenticeship, of course, she was made aware of the *Mortal Kombat* work through someone else, another local who got a job through *Mortal Kombat*, so she was thrilled to bits about being involved.

Rachael, a sculpture artist, was working on the plasterwork building rocks. She does exhibitions and she is obviously hungry to have substance on her CV. I said to her, 'What's going to go on your CV after you have finished this work?' and she said, 'That I worked for Warner Brothers.' That's what is going on her CV. She was thrilled to bits with the opportunity. There was Alex, first time working on film, and he was—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** —connected to *Mortal Kombat* through contacts in the Fringe Festival.

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** So, as you can see, the creative industries community—

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Playford!

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** —are coming on board, getting lots of experience, lots of work, in this field. He generally does fine art sculpturing, but in this role he was building columns and walls and really enjoying the work that he was doing. Will, who is a science graduate, 12 years at university, has taken on the job of being a construction and stage hand—absolutely loves it—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** —and the opportunities that he is enjoying from working on *Mortal Kombat*. And, of course, Ausma. Ausma has her own painting and decorating business and she was staining up timber boards with an aged effect. She was introduced for the first time, even though she had been in that business for many, many years, to shellac. It was a great conversation.

*Ministerial Statement*

**GAYLE'S LAW REGULATIONS**

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (15:09):** I table a copy of a ministerial statement relating to Gayle's Law regulations made earlier today in another place by my colleague the Minister for Health and Wellbeing.

*Grievance Debate*

**GOH, DR T.**

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:09):** Dr Timothy Goh is a migrant who came to this country to build a better life, much like my father did, much like your father did, sir, much like the grandparents of the Leader of the Opposition did and much like almost everyone in this parliament. He came here looking for a better life. He was educated, went about his business, earned an income, paid taxes and did well. Dr Goh is no fan of mine. When I was treasurer, this man relentlessly attacked me on Facebook and in the public domain as a good Liberal.

**An honourable member:** Shame!

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Yes, shame, I agree. What really surprised me was what is going on inside the head of the Premier and the Premier's office that class warfare has now seeped into the Liberal Party to such an extent that this man's success is being used as a spear against him. We understand from reading *The Australian* that Liberal sources have given to the newspaper a photograph of Mr Goh standing alongside a luxury vehicle that he had aspired to own his entire life. This is the Liberal Party.

The Liberal Party think that by denigrating Mr Goh's achievement they somehow strike a blow in their class war on aggregation. You have to ask yourself, Mr Speaker, what is going on in the heart and soul of the Liberal Party. Class warfare does not work, never has, never will. It has no place in Australia's political discourse. Someone in the Premier's office thought it was a good idea to do this. You can understand how hurtful it was to Mr Goh and to his family, given that he is suffering through his father's illness, to be perpetuated onto the pages of our national broadsheet because he dared to criticise the Premier's aggregation policies. He had the temerity, as a Liberal, to stand up and say that Liberal Party policy is wrong.

I thought the whole foundation of the Liberal Party was that you are a series of individuals, with individual rights to speak your mind. Apparently not. I have to say to the members of the backbench who are watching this train wreck in slow motion in front of them: who is next? Who else is going to get attacked for doing well or buying three or four properties?

I can tell you that the number of people who come into my office and apologise to me for voting for the Liberal Party, for daring not to go on holidays, for daring to sacrifice and buy an investment property rather than some other form of investment, whether it is shares or anything else, because they did not understand that as well as they understood property, generally postwar migrants, are now being told that they are rorters, that they are millionaires and that their success is something that deserves to be taxed.

Today, the shadow treasurer asked a very simple question of the Premier: how many people who currently are not aggregated, but who are below the tax-free threshold, will now be aggregated? Scoffs, laughter, claims that we do not understand. These people are facing tax bills of \$7,000, \$9,000, \$12,000 or \$20,000 from a party they have supported their entire life. If they dare to oppose it, some genius, some child in the State Administration Centre, decides to trawl through on government time a Facebook site and to then give it to a journalist to have it published as a symbol of whose side the Liberal Party really is on.

Do you really think that Mr Goh, who probably handed out how-to-vote cards for the Liberal Party at the last election, ever in his wildest imagination would have thought that because he dared to speak his mind a Liberal staffer would leak that to a paper? Is it a leak? What are they really saying? They are saying that his success is something to be ashamed of. This is the Liberal Party, not us.

This is the party of aspiration, this is the party that wants to see workers do well, this is the party that wants to see our kids get a decent education so we can get access to capital, so our kids can be CEOs and our kids can invest. We are the party that opened up Australia, we are the party that floated the dollar, we are the party that lowered tariffs and made Australia competitive. Opposite, if you do well, they are the party that will embarrass you. Do not dare to speak against Liberal Party policy or they will put your Maserati, your house or your wealth on the front page of the paper to embarrass you. Tom Playford looks down on you all with shame.

### **R U OK? DAY**

**Mr COWDREY (Colton) (15:14):** I would like to take this opportunity today to acknowledge a couple of matters. Today, 12 September, is R U OK? Day. R U OK? is a not-for-profit suicide prevention organisation that helps raise awareness by encouraging local communities to look out for one another and ask the question: R U OK? I have been an R U OK? ambassador since prior to entering this place and I am a big supporter of the work that R U OK? do to encourage everyone to meaningfully connect with people around them and support anyone who is struggling.

I think one of the reasons why R U OK? has been so successful is that it is a simple message but one that can make a huge difference or even save a life. R U OK? suggests four steps to start a conversation: (1) ask the question R U OK?; (2) listen; (3) encourage action; and (4) check in. The R U OK? Day Trust the Signs tour, raising awareness around mental health, recently visited Adelaide prior to R U OK? Day. I was fortunate enough to attend with federal minister Anne Ruston and to hear some of the latest research being done in the area.

While the profile of mental health has been raised significantly in the past few years through the wonderful work of charities such as R U OK? there is still much more to do. I want to thank all the volunteers and everyone involved in R U OK? and wish them the best as they continue to raise the profile of mental health and suicide prevention in our community. I urge everyone to continue to ask the question and to keep checking in with their friends, their family and other people in their community—not just on this day—and keep this issue at the forefront of people's minds. Take a minute to have a conversation because that one minute could save someone's life.

We know that one of the best ways we can prevent and manage mental health is through physical exercise and strong community organisations. A sense of purpose and belonging is absolutely crucial to happiness. This leads me to the other matter I wanted to discuss today, which is to recognise the 2018-19 surf lifesaving season, in particular the achievements of the West Beach and Henley surf lifesaving clubs. Our surf lifesaving clubs certainly provide opportunities for physical exercise and are well known for their community-minded and inclusive approach.

I recently attended the Red and Yellow Ball that recognises statewide achievements and the Henley and West Beach surf lifesaving club presentation nights. I would like to take a moment to congratulate the major award winners from both clubs. At the Red and Yellow Ball, Henley was recognised as the Club of the Year, which is absolutely excellent recognition. The Community Education Program of the year went to Henley's nippers program, a program I am incredibly proud to be involved with that provides a pathway into lifesaving for young people with a disability. Well done to everyone at the club involved in the program.

The Lifeguard of the Year went to Cooper Forest and the Assessor of the Year to Roy Menner, both from the Henley Surf Life Saving Club. The Athlete of the Year went to Ben Zuill, the Nipper of the Year to Oliver Cenko, the Innovation Award to Peter Zuill, and the Surf Lifesaver of the Year to Brian Burrowes, all of the West Beach Surf Life Saving Club.

At the Henley awards night the Hero of the Surf was awarded to Alex Bandjak for his efforts in performing a rescue earlier in the year. The President's Award went to Chris Fuller, recognising many years of hard work and dedication to the club. The Club Member of the Year went to Darren Hocking, the Barry Duhne Junior Lifesaver of the Year to Michaela Collins, the Senior Lifesaver of

the Year to Sue Mitchell, and the Patrol Member of the Year to Rebecca Forest. The Best First Year Member went to Dayna Fisher.

At the West Beach awards night the Kay Dempsey Female Club Champion for 2018-19 was Alyson Hettner, the J. Edwards Senior Club Champion went to Matt Zuill, the Cadet Female Club Champion to Tayla Dawkins, the Cadet Male Club Champion to Eddy Newberry, and the Junior Female Club Champion to Stella Bengner. The Junior Male Club Champion was Harry Dawkins and the Master Club Champion Women was Glenda McArthur. I would like to congratulate each and every one of those surf lifesavers on their tremendous achievement across the 2018-19 season.

As it is already starting to warm up, and with the next season only just around the corner, it is important to recognise and acknowledge not only the surf lifesaving clubs in my electorate of Colton but all clubs in South Australia as they continue to volunteer their time patrolling our wonderful beaches to keep our communities safe.

### SNAPPER FISHERY BAN

**Mr HUGHES (Giles) (15:19):** Today, I rise to talk about the proposed snapper fishery ban here in South Australia. Early in August, two options were put on the table when it came to snapper fishing in South Australia. The first option was a three-year statewide snapper closure for all sectors from 1 October 2019 to 28 February 2023. The second option was a total snapper closure for the waters of the West Coast, Spencer Gulf and Gulf St Vincent from 1 October 2019 to 28 February 2023.

In announcing those two options and putting them on the table, no consultation occurred with the commercial fishing sector, which was taken by surprise. The 309 licence holders in this state and their families were not involved in consultation about these particular options. The 277,000 recreational fishers in this state were not consulted in related to the options that were put on the table. The charter industry was not consulted about the options put on the table and regional communities and businesses, partly dependent on snapper as a fishery, were not consulted. In announcing the two options, the minister said:

The science shows drastic action is required to protect snapper stocks and for the future of this fishery, unlike the former Labor Government we will not take a back seat and watch this species decline.

I will get onto the science in a few minutes, but I will just say that we have called for an independent scientific review of the science that underpins the options that are being put on the table. Good science is an open process and there is absolutely nothing wrong with having a look at the methodology and the conclusions drawn, given the potentially serious impact on a range of sectors the proposed bans have, so the minister should actually welcome our call to have a look at the underpinning science and support an independent scientific review.

The minister indicated that the Labor government just sat back and did nothing in relation to snapper. Nothing could be further from the truth. During the term of the Labor government, a whole range of initiatives were commenced in relation to snapper. There was the reduction in bag limits, the introduction of commercial daily quotas and the introduction of seasonal closures. There was the introduction of closures around spawning aggregations and there was a proposal that had gone through cabinet as a result of a two-year consultation process with the commercial and recreational fishing industry to seriously restructure the snapper fishing industry and the fishing industry in this state. There was a multimillion dollar package tied to that particular proposal. We said at the time when in government:

In the biggest fisheries shake-up in decades, the State Government will spend \$20 million to buy back up to a third of South Australia's Marine Scalefish fishing licences.

This will help to ensure snapper, whiting and garfish stocks are available for future generations of South Australians to catch and enjoy.

The multi-million structural reform package will provide better access for recreational fishers, economic viability for commercial fishers and greater sustainability for the fishery overall.

In conjunction with the buyback, we were also going to introduce zoning and additional quotas beyond the daily quotas that were already in place. The proposals had the support of the commercial

fishing sector. What did the minister do when this government was elected? He scrapped them. He sat on his hands and did nothing.

It is very interesting that it is R U OK? Day today because the stress that people within the commercial fishing sector have been subjected to as a result of the failure of this government to act in a sensible fashion is enormous, so you should hang your head in shame. A lot of work had been done. A platform had been provided for you to build on and what did you do? You burnt that platform.

### COMMUNITY RECOGNITION AWARDS

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (15:24):** I rise today to speak about the Community Recognition Awards I held in my electorate recently. Every year, in conjunction with my friend and neighbour the member for Black, I hold a winter warmer event to present Community Recognition Awards to local residents who make a big difference in our communities. It is great to do these awards because so many people out there do so many things, but there are people out there who just fly under the radar, and our intent is to capture those people.

We held the event at Patritti Wines. I would like to thank Ines Patritti, who is the matriarch of this family and this great local business in Dover Gardens, in the heart of my electorate. The wines they produce are absolutely stunning. They are a great supporter of ours and they do an outstanding job.

I would like to run through some of the winners because they are great people who, as I said, do great things. The first person I would like to talk about is Bill Heycox of Oaklands Park. Bill brings joy to thousands of people, and he has done so over many years, with his Christmas light display in his street in Oaklands Park. He raises money for the Royal Flying Doctor Service. He has great camaraderie with the people in his street and every year people come to look at his display.

He also does a great job driving community groups around. I know he does it for one of the local retirement homes. He gets a bus and takes them across to the Marion shopping centre. I saw him there one day in the food court when he was surrounded by six or seven women. He was totally in his element. He collects these ladies of his own accord, takes them to the shopping centre, allows them to go shopping and drops them home again. He was revelling in his great work that day. His wife, Lesley is a wonderful support to him as well.

Another group we recognised was the Marion VIEW Club for their great work on International Women's Day. The committee does an outstanding job: Jill Cunningham, Shirley Jenner, Lorraine Baker and Erica Woolman. These ladies come together every year and have a wonderful lunch; 185 ladies attended the event this year. They raised over \$3,000 for The Smith Family. They do this regularly. It is a great social event where they all come together and have a wonderful time, but they are giving back to the community and helping out people in need. The money they raised for The Smith Family is absolutely outstanding.

Another recipient was Anthea Williams from Brighton who volunteers with many community groups in the Holdfast Bay area. She regularly weeds and picks up litter in the sand dunes along Brighton and Seacliff Beach. That may not sound like a lot as a single entity but she does it week in, week out and day in, day out, right throughout the year, and it really makes a significant difference to our local community. It is a great example of one person just doing a little bit consistently like that and it has a great impact on our community. We congratulate Anthea.

Tim Voss, also from Brighton, is very dedicated. In his spare time, along with his son and a couple of his son's mates, he has established a Brighton pump track for local kids to enjoy on a little bit of property alongside the train line at Brighton. They have put this pump track in there and young people, and not so young people, really enjoy using that. It is a wonderful facility.

Another recipient was Ligita Bligzna from North Brighton. Ligita volunteers her time to protect the rare hooded plovers on Seacliff Beach. Ligita has worked closely with local community members to educate the public about these rare birds. I know the member for Black is very passionate about this as well. It is not far from my house, in fact, and to go down and see the great work they do there to look after the plovers is outstanding. The community has really jumped on board with that as well.



We also acknowledged John and Wendy Cobb from Marino who both play a significant role in protecting and promoting the rare hooded plovers. They do a great job on the beach along with Ligita.

It was a wonderful night. We also managed to raise a little bit of money, which we like to do at these events, for a local charity. This year, we raised funds for the Marilyn's. You may ask, 'Who are the Marilyn's?' People in my community know them well. They are a group headed by Brighton locals, Sarah Tinney and Sarah Ventress who work tirelessly to raise money for the Cancer Council of South Australia.

They are very prominent during the Brighton Jetty Classic when they get dressed up—and I think this year they had 270 people dressed up—as Marilyn Monroe in full regalia and they march down Jetty Road, Brighton, float out into the water, and it is a sight to behold. They have secured the Guinness book of records for their actions. They are a great part of our community.

All fun aside, they raise money for the Cancer Council and they have raised over \$250,000 since they began in 2014, and their efforts are greatly appreciated by that charity. It was wonderful to give them a helping hand along the way. Again, big congratulations to all the people who received awards in our Community Recognition Awards evening.

### **NORTH EAST COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROJECT**

**Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (15:29):** Today, I shine a light on a not-for-profit organisation located within my electorate of Torrens. The North East Community Assistance Project (fondly known as NECAP) was founded in 1980 and it started off distributing Christmas hampers to families doing it tough in our north-eastern suburbs. Over the years, demand grew and they expanded by supplying emergency relief, bedding, clothing, furniture and other household items, food hampers and support services to families and individuals experiencing financial and social hardship, many of whom are residents of Torrens and the surrounding suburbs.

NECAP also provides opportunities for volunteers and TAFE student placements, as well as work experience and skill-based training for people currently looking for work. Members in this place would understand the struggles some of the families are facing in the community to secure affordable housing; for others, it is trying to navigate the system to secure low-income benefits, sickness and disability payments and Newstart allowance just to stay afloat. Sometimes, they go without for weeks.

A food relief provider survey showed that 73 per cent of food relief agencies felt the client numbers accessing their services were increasing, with 46 per cent stating that funding was a primary challenge in their organisation. NECAP funds are raised by membership fees, donations and their own op shop, which is located in the North East Road premises, and by generous donations from the community. They do not receive ongoing funding from the state or federal governments.

The entire organisation is run by volunteers who generously give their time, commitment and passion to what they do. So far this year, this has amounted to more than 13,000 hours of volunteer work. The NECAP thrift shop sells low-priced furniture, clothing, household items and bric-a-brac that have been donated by the general public and businesses. The money from the sales goes towards the continual running of NECAP and to support their main service of providing emergency relief to residents.

NECAP provides a vital service for our community to ensure families have access to food on days they are not able to afford it themselves, and it is one of the only food and emergency relief organisations in the nearby area. It has occupied a site on the Gilles Plains Primary School premises for many years. In 2018, the school amalgamated with Windsor Gardens Secondary College to form Avenues College B-12. Next year, the junior campus will relocate and join the senior campus on the McKay Avenue site.

NECAP understands that the Gilles Plains site is likely to be declared as surplus land and sold off. This means that they need to find a new home. Under the former Labor government, NECAP remained central to discussions regarding the schools' amalgamation to ensure they were able to relocate their premises to a suitable location while remaining in the area they have serviced for some 40 years. The agreement with state government has always been that they are able to operate rent free in order to reduce their running costs and provide a much-needed and greatly appreciated service to the community.

In government, there were strong commitments from Labor to ensure that this organisation was protected. In the lead-up to the election came commitments from the then opposition leader, the then shadow minister for education and the Hon. Michelle Lensink while supporting their Liberal candidate for Torrens. I understand that since the change in government NECAP board members and volunteers have written to the minister and Premier about finding a suitable location, without receiving a satisfactory response.

The only correspondence they received was in reference to the Department for Education, suggesting the location of Valley View Secondary School. However, this was not suitable, as it would not accommodate their main source of income, the thrift shop. There was limited access to direct public transport, and it is less than half the size of their current premises. Public access and parking were also issues.

It is incredibly important that NECAP remains in the catchment area, as without a suitable home base those in need will miss out on its valuable services. NECAP delivers these services through its dedicated volunteers, with generous donations from members of our community, by purchasing food hampers from Foodbank and SecondBite.

I call on the Premier, the Minister for Education and the Minister for Human Services to put genuine effort into locating a new home for NECAP in the local catchment area as soon as possible to give certainty to some of our most vulnerable residents and to the volunteers who dedicate their time each week for the benefit of our community.

#### **TEA TREE GULLY COMMUNITY WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

**Dr HARVEY (Newland) (15:34):** Today, I would like to speak about the Tea Tree Gully council's Community Wastewater Management System (CWMS). The Tea Tree Gully council CWMS provides wastewater services to approximately 4,700 properties, many of which are located within my electorate of Newland.

The CWMS is a system where, essentially, the heavy stuff in the wastewater from households is collected by a septic tank, typically owned by the home owner in their front or back yard. The effluent is carried away by the council's network of pipes before ultimately ending up in the SA Water sewerage system. The CWMS is owned and managed by the Tea Tree Gully council and, as such, is the responsibility of the council. This has been the case for almost 50 years.

Shortly after being elected, it became clear to me that a number of residents within my community have been concerned about this system. There is the inconvenience of having septic tanks emptied every four years, which is a service provided by the council, but in some cases it requires additional expense by the home owner to reach the tank. I have also heard stories of people not realising they even had a tank, not knowing where the tank is and even some cases of structures being unknowingly built over the top of tanks, all while the number of blockages in the system has increased by 138 per cent in just five years.

In fact, I recently visited a property in Banksia Park where I was shown an overflowing inspection point by the home owner in their backyard. The CWMS line runs along the back of their property and is, in fact, adjacent to one of the local creeks. I understand that the council did promptly attend the residence to repair and disinfect the area, but obviously this is a less than ideal situation and one that is of increasing concern, given the steady increase in the number of blockages.

While it is fair to say that the system is not about to collapse tomorrow, it is also fair to say that the system has been in a steady state of decline for decades, with very little evidence of any attention paid by the council to planning for its future. In fact, at a recent community meeting, we heard that in the late nineties and early 2000s the council had come to the realisation that the system was not about to be taken off their hands. What was the council's response then for the following 20 years? Nothing.

On that point, in only very recent years an asset management plan was produced that makes for some pretty concerning reading. Moreover, in only very recent months, the council made the decision to jack up the annual services charge by almost 30 per cent over the next few years—a sudden, very unexpected and dramatic increase. What we have now is a situation where residents

have been handing over hundreds of dollars each year to the council in the belief that the council was paying attention to the future of the system.

Unsurprisingly, now that residents realise the council had been completely asleep at the wheel for decades, there is a great deal of concern and, in many cases, white-hot anger from members of the community. I must say that that anger is shared by me. There is absolutely nothing unusual or surprising about infrastructure ageing over time; this is completely normal and should have been planned for well before now. I was shocked to learn that between 2012 and 2016 not a single dollar was placed into council's CWMS reserve.

The situation the council finds itself in is an example of what happens when you sit on your hands and hope a problem will just go away. I know that many residents in my community are incredibly disappointed with long-serving members of the council in particular. At the end of the day, though, despite the current predicament being entirely of the council's own making, it is ultimately the residents who end up shouldering the burden.

To that end, I have been in regular contact with the Minister for Environment and Water in respect of any role that SA Water may play in the future of the council's CWMS system. I can reconfirm that SA Water is open to continuing commercial discussions with the council, and I have provided contact details to the council so that they can recommence discussions with SA Water at a higher level than had occurred previously.

I would strongly urge the Tea Tree Gully council to engage with SA Water. The ball is in the council's court. Residents understand that there is no simple solution to this problem, but they want a plan. Residents are not interested in finger-pointing or any further abdication of responsibility: they want solutions.

As I said before, SA Water is open to having commercial discussions with council, and I would encourage the council to engage fully and work towards the best possible outcome for our community as we were all elected to do.

### *Bills*

## **LANDSCAPE SOUTH AUSTRALIA BILL**

### *Final Stages*

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

No. 1. Clause 3, page 20, after line 26 [clause 3(1)]—Insert:

peak body means—

- (a) the LGA; and
- (b) Primary Producers SA Incorporated; and
- (c) Conservation Council of South Australia Incorporated;

No. 2. Clause 3, page 21, line 15 [clause 3(1), definition of *regional landscape levy*]*—Delete the definition and substitute 'regional landscape levy means a levy declared under Part 5 Division 1 Subdivision 1;'*

No. 3. Clause 7, page 27, lines 31 to 33 [clause 7(1)]*—Delete 'the ecologically sustainable development of the natural resources that make up or contribute to our State's landscape' and substitute:*

*ecologically sustainable development by establishing an integrated scheme to promote the use and management of the natural resources that make up or contribute to our State's landscape*

No. 4. Clause 7, page 28, lines 1 to 3 [clause 7(1)(c)]*—Delete paragraph (c) and substitute:*

- (c) provides for the protection, enhancement, restoration and sustainable management of—
  - (i) land, soil and water resources; and
  - (ii) native fauna and flora,especially so that they are resilient in the face of change; and

No. 5. Clause 7, page 28, lines 4 and 5 [clause 7(1)(d)]*—Delete paragraph (d) and substitute:*

- (d) promotes, protects and conserves biodiversity, and insofar as is reasonably practicable, supports and encourages the restoration or rehabilitation of ecological systems and processes that have been lost or degraded, and promotes the health of ecosystems so that they are resilient in the face of change; and

No. 6. Clause 7, page 28, line 6 [clause 7(1)(e)]—After 'environment' insert:

- (including a recognition of the need for mitigation and adaptation)

No. 7. Clause 7, page 28, after line 41 [clause 7(3)]—Insert:

- (ca) environmental factors should be taken into account when valuing or assessing assets or services;

No. 8. Clause 7, page 29, after line 4 [clause 7(3)]—Insert:

- (da) consideration should be given to the conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity;

No. 9. Clause 8, page 29, line 27 [clause 8(2)(a)]—After 'resources,' insert 'including the protection of biodiversity,'

No. 10. Clause 8, page 29, line 30 [clause 8(2)(b)]—After 'including' insert 'in relation to the state of matters regarding biodiversity and'

No. 11. Clause 8, page 29, line 36 [clause 8(2)(e)]—After 'resources' insert 'including in relation to the environment and its biodiversity'

No. 12. Clause 8, page 29, line 38 [clause 8(2)(f)]—After 'environment' insert 'and its biodiversity'

No. 13. Clause 8, page 29, line 40 [clause 8(2)(g)]—After 'resources' insert 'including the environment and its biodiversity'

No. 14. Clause 11, page 32, line 30 [clause 11(2)(a)]—After 'environment' insert 'and give particular attention to water catchment areas'

No. 15. Clause 11, page 33, after line 7 [clause 11]—Insert:

- (4a) The Minister must, before a proclamation is made under subsection (3), give each peak body notice of the proposed proclamation under that subsection and give consideration to any submission made by any peak body within a period (being at least 21 days) specified in the notice.

No. 16. Clause 13, page 34, after line 8 [clause 13]—Insert:

- (4a) The Minister must, before publishing a notice under subsection (3), give each peak body notice of the Minister's intention to publish a notice under that subsection and give consideration to any submission made by any peak body within a period (being at least 21 days) specified in the notice.

No. 17. Clause 15, page 35, after line 5 [clause 15]—Insert:

- (3a) Of the members of a regional landscape board that are to be appointed by the Minister under subsection (1)(a), (2) or (3), at least 1 must be a member or officer of a council at the time of the member's appointment unless—

- (a) the board's region does not include any part of the area of a council; or
- (b) the Minister cannot, after taking reasonable steps, find a member or officer of a council who—
  - (i) in the opinion of the Minister, is suitable to be appointed as a member of the board; or
  - (ii) is willing and available to be a member of the board.

- (3b) Before appointing a person or persons under subsection (1)(a), (2) or (3), the Minister must give each peak body notice of the fact that an appointment or appointments are to be made and give consideration to any submission made by any such body within a period (of at least 21 days) specified by the Minister.

No. 18. Clause 16, page 35, lines 21 to 23 [clause 16(1)]—Delete subclause (1) and substitute:

- (1) A regional landscape board must consist of persons who collectively have the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to enable the board to carry out its functions, including, so far as is reasonably practicable, knowledge, skills and experience across the following areas:

- (a) community affairs at the regional level;
- (b) primary production or pastoral land management;
- (c) soil conservation and land management;
- (d) conservation and biodiversity management;
- (e) water resources management;
- (f) business management;
- (g) local government or local government administration;
- (h) urban or regional planning;
- (i) Aboriginal interest in the land and water, and Aboriginal heritage;
- (j) pest animal and plant control;
- (k) natural and social science;
- (l) if relevant—coast, estuarine and marine management, fisheries or aquaculture.

No. 19. Clause 16, page 35, lines 24 to 28 [clause 16(2)]—Delete subclause (2)

No. 20. Clause 16, page 35, lines 32 and 33 [clause 16(3)(a)]—Delete 'determined by the Minister (and the Minister may put in place processes to ensure' and substitute:

referred to in subsection (1) (and the Minister must put in place processes to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable,

No. 21. Clause 16, page 35, line 39 [clause 16(4)]—Delete 'subsection (3)' and substitute 'subsection (3)(b)'

No. 22. Clause 17, page 36, line 36 [clause 17(3)(a)(ii)]—Delete 'section 17(1)' and substitute 'section 17(1)(a)(i) and (b),'

No. 23. Clause 17, page 37, line 11 [clause 17(3)(b)(ii)]—Delete 'section 17(1)' and substitute 'section 17(1)(a)(i) and (b),'

No. 24. Clause 17, page 37, after line 35 [clause 17]—Insert:

(6a) If—

- (a) a council is constituted by an administrator or administrators (whether under the *Local Government Act 1999* or any other Act) at the time that the processes for the conduct of an election are commenced (being at a date determined by the Minister for the purposes of this subsection); and
- (b) the Minister determines, by notice in the gazette, that this subsection should apply for the purposes of the election (on the ground that it is not practicable or appropriate to use the council's voters roll for the purposes of the election),

subsections (3), (4) and (5) will apply as if the council did not exist (and as if the area in relation to which the council is constituted were an area outside the area of a council).

No. 25. New clauses, page 39, after line 32—Insert:

22A—Meetings of boards to be held in public

- (1) Subject to this clause, a meeting of a regional landscape board must be conducted in a place open to the public.
- (2) A regional landscape board must give public notice of its intention to hold a meeting that will be open to the public in accordance with the requirements prescribed by the regulations.
- (3) The notice must state the time and place at which the meeting will be held.
- (4) The regulations may dispense with the requirement to give notice in prescribed circumstances.
- (5) A regional landscape board may order that the public be excluded from attendance at a meeting if the board considers it to be necessary and appropriate to act in a meeting closed to the public in order to receive, discuss or consider any prescribed information or matter in confidence.
- (6) A member of the public who, knowing that an order is in force under subsection (5), enters or remains in a room in which a meeting of the board is being held is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty: \$2,500.

- (7) If an order is made under subsection (5), a note must be made in the minutes of the making of the order and of the grounds on which it was made.

22B—Agenda and minutes of meetings open to public to be made available

- (1) A regional landscape board must make available to members of the public copies of the agenda, and copies of the minutes, of each meeting, or the part of each meeting, that is open to members of the public by publishing them on a website determined by the board, or in such other manner prescribed by the regulations.
- (2) An agenda under subsection (1) must be made available at least 3 days before the meeting to which it relates is held except where the meeting is held in urgent circumstances.

No. 26. Clause 23, page 39, line 39 [clause 23(1)(a)]—After 'landscape management' insert 'and biodiversity conservation'

No. 27. Clause 23, page 40, after line 24 [clause 23(1)]—Insert:

- (ea) to undertake an active role in ensuring, insofar as is reasonably practical, that the board's regional landscape plan, landscape affecting activities control policies, water allocation plans and water affecting activities control policies, advance the objects of the *Native Vegetation Act 1991* and promote the conservation of wildlife as envisaged under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972*; and

No. 28. Clause 23, page 41, after line 16 [clause 23(4)]—Insert:

- (ab) the constituent councils for the region, and other councils as may be relevant; and

No. 29. Clause 24, page 41, line 38 [clause 24(2)(e)]—Delete 'and flora' and substitute ', flora and ecosystem health'

No. 30. Clause 42, page 53, after line 41 [clause 42(3)]—Insert:

- (da) assess the state and condition of the natural resources of the State; and

No. 31. Clause 42, page 54, after line 2 [clause 42(3)]—Insert:

- (ea) provide for monitoring and evaluating the state and condition of the natural resources of the State; and

No. 32. Clause 42, page 54, line 8 [clause 42(4)(a)]—Delete paragraph (a)

No. 33. Clause 42, page 54, after line 11 [clause 42(4)]—Insert:

- (d) the best available climate science information.

No. 34. Clause 43, page 54, line 19 [clause 43(1)]—Delete 'The Minister' and substitute 'Subject to subsections (1a) and (1b), the Minister'

No. 35. Clause 43, page 54, after line 24 [clause 43]—Insert:

- (1a) The Minister must at least, in acting under subsection (1), consult with each peak body.

No. 36. Clause 43, page 54, after line 24 [clause 43]—Insert:

- (1b) The Minister must at least, in acting under subsection (1), consult with bodies (other than peak bodies) that are, in the opinion of the Minister, bodies interested or involved in management of the State's landscapes.

No. 37. Clause 45, page 55, after line 8 [clause 45(1)]—Insert:

- (aa) include information about the issues surrounding the management of natural resources and the state of landscapes at the regional and local level, including information as to methods for protecting, improving and enhancing the quality or value of natural resources within the relevant region, and the health of those aspects of the environment that depend on those natural resources; and

No. 38. Clause 45, page 55, line 21 [clause 45(1)(c)]—After 'level' insert ', with particular reference to the conservation, use and management of natural resources,'

No. 39. Clause 45, page 55, after line 34 [clause 45]—Insert:

- (1a) A regional landscape plan must take into account the best available climate science information.

No. 40. Clause 49, page 58, lines 27 to 41 and page 59, line 1 [clause 49(4)(a) to (g)]—Delete paragraphs (a) to (g) (inclusive) and substitute:

- (a) for a levy to be imposed under Part 5 Division 1 where a levy has not been imposed by the board in relation to the financial year immediately preceding the relevant financial year; or
- (b) to impose a levy under Part 5 Division 1 which will require the approval of the Minister under section 65(4) or 69(10); or
- (c) to change the basis of a levy under section 66(1) or 69(4); or

No. 41. Clause 49, page 59, lines 12 to 18 [clause 49(5)(b) and (c)]—Delete paragraphs (b) and (c) and substitute:

- (b) at the conclusion of the processes and consultation required under paragraph (a)—prepare a report to the Minister on the outcome of those processes and that consultation.

No. 42. Clause 49, page 59, line 23 [clause 49(7)]—Delete '(5)(c)' and substitute '(5)(b)'

No. 43. Clause 49, page 59, line 31 [clause 49(9)(a)(ii)]—Delete '64(5)' and substitute '65(4)'

No. 44. Clause 49, page 60, line 18 [clause 49(14)(b)]—Delete '64(4)' and substitute '65(3)'

No. 45. New clause, page 209, after line 38—After clause 246 insert:

247—Review of Act

- (1) The Minister must, as soon as practicable after the expiry of 3 years from the commencement of this section, appoint an independent person who has, in the opinion of the Minister, extensive knowledge, skills and experience in relation to the management of natural resources, to conduct a review of the operation and effectiveness of this Act since that commencement.
- (2) A report on the review must be submitted to the Minister within 6 months of the commencement of the review.
- (3) The Minister must, within 12 sitting days after receiving the report, cause a copy of the report to be laid before both Houses of Parliament.

No. 46. Schedule 5, page 227, after line 8 [Schedule 5 Part 16]—Insert:

48A—Amendment of section 65—Use of poison

Section 65(3)(a)—delete 'in pursuance of the Animal and Plant Control (Agricultural Protection and Other Purposes) Act 1986' and substitute:

under the Landscape South Australia Act 2019

No. 47. Schedule 5, page 233, lines 1 to 4 [Schedule 5, clause 88(2)]—Delete subclause (2)

No. 48. Schedule 5, page 234, lines 23 to 32 [Schedule 5, clause 88(8)]—Delete subclause (8) and substitute:

- (8) In relation to any other board established under this Act—
  - (a) elections for the purposes of section 15(1)(b) will not be held until 2022; and
  - (b) the Minister must ensure that the elections held in 2022 are conducted so that voting closes at 5 p.m. on the last business day before the second Saturday of November 2022; and
  - (c) a person elected in an election in 2022 will take office on a day determined by the Minister; and
  - (d) until the day determined under paragraph (c), the board will be constituted by 7 members appointed by the Minister.

No. 49. Schedule 5, page 234, lines 37 and 38 [Schedule 5, clause 88(10)]—Delete 'before the day determined by the Minister in relation to that board under subclause (8)' and substitute:

until the Minister determines to constitute the board with 7 members

No. 50. Schedule 5, page 234, lines 39 and 40 [Schedule 5, clause 88(11)]—Delete 'until the day determined by the Minister in relation to that board under subclause (8)' and substitute:

until the Minister determines to constitute the board with 7 members

## SCHEDULE OF THE SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

No. 1. Clauses 64 to 68, page 71, line 4 to page 74, line 13—Delete clauses 64 to 68 (inclusive) and substitute:

## 64—Interpretation

In this Subdivision, unless the contrary intention appears—

rateable land means rateable land under the Local Government Act 1999;

ratepayer means a ratepayer under the Local Government Act 1999.

## 65—Board may declare levy

- (1) If the annual business plan for a regional landscape board specifies an amount to be contributed by ratepayers in respect of rateable land within the region of the board towards the costs of the board performing its functions under this Act in a particular financial year, the board may, by notice in the Gazette, declare a levy (a *regional landscape levy*) under this Subdivision.
- (2) The amount specified by a regional landscape board in an annual business plan under subsection (1) in respect of a particular financial year should not exceed—
  - (a) unless paragraph (b) or (c) applies—the amount imposed by the board under this Subdivision for the immediately preceding financial year adjusted by the percentage applying under subsection (3); or
  - (b) an amount allowed by the Minister under subsection (4); or
  - (c) an amount approved by the Minister under subsection (6).
- (3) The percentage applying under this subsection in respect of a particular financial year is the percentage change in the CPI (expressed to 1 decimal place) when comparing the CPI for the September quarter of the immediately preceding financial year with the CPI for the September quarter of the financial year immediately before that preceding financial year, being this percentage change published by the Australian Bureau of Statistics.
- (4) The Minister may allow a regional landscape board to specify an amount under this section that exceeds the amount that would otherwise be payable under subsection (2)(a) if the Minister is satisfied that exceptional circumstances exist that justify the principle established by subsection (2)(a) not applying in relation to the board for a particular financial year.
- (5) For the purposes of subsection (4), exceptional circumstances must fall into 1 of the following cases:
  - (a) that there is an urgent need to address an issue with existing infrastructure located within the board's region that cannot reasonably be dealt with through other funding sources or over a longer period;
  - (b) that there has been a natural or environmental disaster that has resulted in extraordinary measures being proposed by the board;
  - (c) that some other major event with an adverse impact on a significant part of the community within the board's region has occurred and the board considers that it should take immediate action in relation to the matter;
  - (d) that some other situation exists that is exceptional and that the benefits in allowing the board to impose an amount under subsection (4) in a particular financial year outweigh the fact that additional costs are to be imposed on the relevant community in a particular financial year.
- (6) In a case where a regional landscape board did not declare a levy under this Subdivision in relation to the immediately preceding financial year, the Minister may approve an amount under this subsection for the relevant financial year after taking into account such matters as the Minister thinks fit.

## 66—Basis of levy

- (1) A levy declared under this Subdivision may be based on 1 of the following factors, as specified in the relevant annual business plan:
  - (a) the capital value of rateable land;



- (b) a fixed charge of the same amount on all rateable land within the relevant region;
  - (c) a fixed charge of an amount that depends on the purpose for which rateable land is used;
  - (d) the area of rateable land;
  - (e) any other factor prescribed by the regulations.
- (2) Differential levies may be declared on any basis prescribed by the regulations.
  - (3) The purposes for which land may be used that may be the basis of a regional landscape levy under subsection (1)(c) may be prescribed by the regulations.
  - (4) A regional landscape board may, in declaring a regional landscape levy, fix a minimum amount payable by way of a levy under this Subdivision (despite a preceding subsection).

#### 67—Liability for levy

- (1) The person who is the ratepayer in respect of rateable land at 12.01 a.m. on 1 July of the financial year for which a regional landscape levy is declared is liable to pay the levy to the regional landscape board.
- (2) Two or more persons who are ratepayers for the same land are jointly and severally liable for the regional landscape levy in respect of that land and are entitled to contribution between each other in proportion to the value of their respective interests in the land.
- (3) A subsequent ratepayer of land is liable for a regional landscape levy, in respect of that land, that has not been paid by the person or persons liable under subsection (1) or (2).
- (4) A subsequent ratepayer who has paid the whole or any part of a regional landscape levy is entitled to recover—
  - (a) the amount paid from the person primarily liable or, if there are 2 or more such persons, from any 1 or more of them;
  - (b) a part of the amount paid from another ratepayer (if any) in respect of the land that is in proportion to the value of their respective interests in the land.
- (5) The Governor may, by regulation, grant remissions in respect of the levy, or part of the levy.
- (6) In this section—  
*subsequent ratepayer* includes a person who has ceased to be a ratepayer in respect of rateable land.

#### 68—Constituent councils to provide information

- (1) In connection with the operation of section 67, each constituent council for the region of the regional landscape board must, in accordance with the regulations, provide to the board—
  - (a) a full copy of its assessment record under section 172 of the *Local Government Act 1999*, as it is up-to-date for 1 July of the financial year in respect of which the regional landscape levy is to be imposed; and
  - (b) such other information prescribed by the regulations.
- (2) The relevant regional landscape board is liable to pay a fee, determined by the Minister after consultation with the LGA, to a council in connection with the council providing an assessment record or other information under subsection (1).

#### 68A—Notice of levy

- (1) The relevant regional landscape board must as soon as is reasonably practicable after the declaration of a regional landscape levy cause a notice of the amount of the levy that must be payable in respect of any land for the relevant financial year to be served on the person liable to pay the levy.
- (2) The notice must state—

- (a) the amount of the levy payable; and
  - (b) the factor on which the levy is based and, if it is a differential levy, the differential basis; and
  - (c) the date on or before which the levy must be paid or, if the regional landscape board is prepared to accept payment in instalments, the amount of each instalment and the date on or before which it must be paid.
- (3) If there are 2 or more persons liable to pay a levy, service of a notice on 1 of them will be taken to be service on both or all of them.
- (4) A regional landscape board—
- (a) may arrange for service of a notice to be effected as part of any other notice served by a public authority or other person (with the agreement of that public authority or person); and
  - (b) may arrange for collection of a levy to be effected by a public authority or other person (with the agreement of that public authority or person).
- (5) The Governor may, by regulation, make any other provisions for the collection of the levy.

68B—Funds may be expended in subsequent years

To avoid doubt, if an amount due or paid to a regional landscape board under this Subdivision is not received or spent by the regional landscape board in the relevant financial year, it may be spent by the board in a subsequent financial year.

68C—Regulations

The Governor may, by regulation, provide for such other matters relating to the operation or administration of this Subdivision as the Governor thinks fit.

No. 2. Clause 80, page 85, after line 5 [clause 80]—Insert:

- (aa) a regional landscape levy; and

No. 3. Clause 83, page 85, line 22 [clause 83(1)]—Delete 'In the case of an OC levy,' and substitute:

In the case of a regional landscape levy or an OC levy,

No. 4. Schedule 5, clause 94, page 237, line 13 [Schedule 5, clause 94(4)]—Delete 'amounts or contributions' and substitute 'levies or amounts'

No. 5. Schedule 5, clause 94, page 237, lines 19 to 22 [Schedule 5, clause 94(5)]—Delete subclause (5)

## **STATUTES AMENDMENT AND REPEAL (SIMPLIFY) BILL**

*Second Reading*

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills) (15:41):** I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** The Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Simplify) Bill 2018 aims to reduce red tape and simplify regulation for businesses and consumers. The state government is committed to lowering the cost of doing business in South Australia. We are committed to creating an environment in which our businesses can operate competitively in the global economy.

The government's red-tape reduction strategy is about supporting businesses by putting into place efficient processes. This approach supports innovation in how government regulates and interacts with business to the greatest extent possible. Regulatory barriers can also hinder competition and prevent small businesses from starting up. Inefficient regulation costs more than just time and money; it makes the economy less responsive to economic trends and global market forces.

Amendments to 40 acts are included in the bill and include changes to 27 acts to add the option of publishing government notices online. Twelve obsolete or unnecessary acts are proposed for repeal and the remaining changes support red-tape reduction, most notably in relation to transport, licensing and registration. The bill contains some important reforms which I will now detail.

A significant component of the bill is the various amendments to the Motor Vehicles Act 1959. The package of initiatives reflects an ongoing commitment to supporting passenger transport, motor vehicle and goods transport improvements to support the local economy. The transport reforms in this bill include enabling automatic progression of a motorcycle licence after a period of 12 months—that is, removing the need for clients to attend a Service SA centre to have engine capacity restrictions removed from a motorcycle licence after completing 12 months on a restricted motorcycle licence—and providing more flexibility in the accepted means of verifying a learner's test that has been passed.

This means that an applicant for a learner's permit will not be required to produce a certificate. Changes will also allow testing to be conducted by more delegated government employees. This will add to flexibility and create efficiencies.

The bill will amend the Road Traffic Act 1961 to allow low-risk public events to occur without the need for closing off public roads. The amendments to the Aquaculture Act 2001 will extend the maximum production lease term that can be given from 20 years to 30 years, making the lease terms more attractive to financial institutions. The amendments will also clarify that if the public register includes a notation that a specified person has an interest in the lease, that person must also be provided with a copy of the written notice sent to the lessee where the minister proposes to cancel the lease.

The Fisheries Management Act 2007 will be amended to clarify that a court has a clear discretion to reduce the number of demerit points that would otherwise apply if found guilty of offences under the act where a person is liable to be disqualified from holding a fisheries licence and that disqualification would cause a level of hardship disproportionate to the offence committed. The amendments will also provide a head of power to make regulations that will allow greater flexibility in the prescription of fees in future such that they may be prescribed to apply in different fishing seasons or may include methods of calculation or be varied according to specified factors.

The Irrigation Act 2009 will be amended to facilitate new investment in South Australia's irrigated agriculture sector by enabling irrigation trusts to adopt more efficient and fit-for-purpose business models. This is an industry-driven proposal responding to market barriers under the existing legislative scheme that will positively impact on irrigators' water supply and business productivity.

The Real Property Act 1886 will be amended to ensure the Registrar-General has the power to mandate electronic conveyancing in line with policy objectives. A further amendment will also allow a revocation of power of attorney, or the death of a grantor of power of attorney, to be noted on the electronic copy of the duplicate or copy of a power of attorney. The Dog Fence Act 1946 will be amended to reduce red tape by allowing the minister to establish, vary the functions of and abolish local dog fence boards by declaration. These powers are currently assigned to the Governor. The amendment has been recommended by the Dog Fence Board.

Provisions in the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 will be clarified relating to the appointment of the director of national parks and wildlife. Currently, the act does not include a provision for the appointment of the director of national parks and wildlife. The appointment of the director will be simplified by introducing a process whereby the minister may appoint a person to the office of the director of national parks and wildlife and a mechanism is provided whereby, if the director is absent and unable to discharge official duties, then the minister may appoint an employee to act in the role.

The bill includes amendments to 27 acts to create flexibility and include an option to publish notices online. The public notices reform aims to decrease the cost associated with public notices advertisement and the time taken to publish those notices. Where it is considered to be the best option, publication of notices in newspapers will continue to play an important role, for example, in rural and remote communities where internet access is not always available.

This Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Simplify) Bill 2018 proposes the repeal of 12 spent and redundant acts. These will be removed from the state's statute book as they have fulfilled their purpose or are no longer required. For example, two similar acts, the Bank Merger (National/BNZ) Act 1997 and the Westpac/Challenge Act 1996 will both be repealed. These two acts enabled the transfer of assets and liabilities to new banking structures and, as such, have served their purpose.

Two rather antiquated pieces of legislation will also be repealed: the Statistics Act 1935 and the Redundant Officers Fund Act 1936.

The amendments and repeals in the bill are the result of concerted and extensive engagement and collaboration with the business sector and community at large to deliver beneficial reforms that improve the competitiveness of the state. This engagement was done through the government's YourSAY platform, face-to-face meetings with peak industry groups, an online survey of business as well as encouraging written submissions from small business owners and individuals.

The changes announced continue the government's regulatory reform agenda. The bill is a demonstration of the government's commitment to continuously look for ways to reduce red-tape burden on business in the state and to improve government processes to support the economy and services to the community. The Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Simplify) Bill 2018 is another important step in removing unnecessary red tape. It removes the regulatory and administrative burden for business and for the community and improves the state's competitiveness. I commend the bill to the house. I seek leave to have the explanation of clauses inserted in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

#### Explanation of Clauses

##### Part 1—Preliminary

###### 1—Short title

This clause is formal.

###### 2—Commencement

This clause provides that the measure will commence on the day on which it receives the Governor's assent. However, some specified provisions will commence on a day to be fixed by proclamation.

###### 3—Amendment provisions

This clause is formal.

##### Part 2—Amendment of Aerodrome Fees Act 1998

###### 4—Amendment of section 6—Aerodrome operator may fix fees for arrivals, departures etc

The proposed amendment provides that if an aerodrome operator fixes fees, a notice setting out the fees must be published by the operator in the Gazette. The notice must also be published on the operator's website, in a periodical publication prescribed for the purpose or in a daily newspaper circulating in the State.

##### Part 3—Amendment of Agricultural and Veterinary Products (Control of Use) Act 2002

###### 5—Amendment of section 20—Manner of making order

The proposed amendment provides that as soon as practicable after a trade protection order addressed as referred to in section 20(1)(b) is made, a notice setting out the date on which the notice is published, the terms of the order and the persons to be bound by the order must be published by the Minister in a manner and form that, in the opinion of the Minister, will be most likely to bring the order to the attention of the persons bound by it.

##### Part 4—Amendment of Air Transport (Route Licensing—Passenger Services) Act 2002

###### 6—Amendment of section 5—Declared routes

This proposed amendment provides that the Minister must ensure that a copy of the relevant notice relating to a declaration under section 5 is published—

- on a website determined by the Minister; or
- in a newspaper circulating generally in the State; or
- in a newspaper circulating generally in Australia.

##### Part 5—Amendment of *Aquaculture Act 2001*

###### 7—Amendment of section 25B—Cancellation of lease

The proposed amendment requires the Minister to give a specified person with an interest in an aquaculture lease noted on the public register a copy of the written notice given to the lessee relating to the proposed cancellation of the lease.

8—Amendment of section 28—Granting of corresponding licence for pilot lease

The proposed amendment allows public notice of the proposed grant of a pilot lease to be published on a website determined by the Minister instead of in a newspaper circulating generally in the State.

9—Amendment of section 35—Granting of production leases and corresponding licences in public call areas

The proposed amendments allow public notice of the proposed grant of a production lease and corresponding licence to be published on a website determined by the Minister instead of in a newspaper circulating generally in the State.

10—Amendment of section 36—Granting of production leases and corresponding licences if public call not required

The proposed amendment allows public notice of the proposed grant of a production lease and corresponding licence in respect of an aquaculture zone or part of an aquaculture zone not designated as a public call area to be published on a website determined by the Minister instead of in a newspaper circulating generally in the State.

11—Amendment of section 38—Term and renewal of production leases

Currently an aquaculture production lease can be issued or renewed for a term of 20 years, or such lesser period as is specified in the lease. The proposed amendments will enable production leases to be issued or renewed for terms of up to 30 years and will allow the Minister to extend the term of an existing production lease, on application by the lease holder, by such period as the Minister thinks fit (but only once and not beyond the thirtieth anniversary of the day on which the lease was granted or renewed).

12—Amendment of section 39A—Granting of research leases and corresponding licences

The proposed amendment allows public notice of the proposed grant of a research lease and corresponding licence to be published on a website determined by the Minister instead of in a newspaper circulating generally in the State.

13—Amendment of section 50—Grant of licences other than corresponding licences

The proposed amendment allows public notice of the proposed grant of an aquaculture licence other than a corresponding licence to be published on a website determined by the Minister instead of in a newspaper circulating generally in the State.

14—Amendment of section 60—Reviews

The proposed amendment corrects a drafting error.

Part 6—Amendment of Associations Incorporation Act 1985

15—Amendment of section 43A—Application for deregistration

This proposed amendment would allow the Commission to publish a notice of an application under section 43A in a manner and form determined by the Commission to be most appropriate in the circumstances.

16—Amendment of section 44—Defunct associations

This amendment would allow the Commission, by notice published in a manner and form determined by the Commission to be most appropriate in the circumstances, to give notice requiring an association to show good cause why it should not be dissolved.

Part 7—Amendment of AustralAsia Railway (Third Party Access) Act 1999

17—Amendment of Schedule—AustralAsia Railway (Third Party Access) Code

The regulator must undertake public consultation when the regulator is undertaking a review or considering adopting a guideline. The amendment would provide the regulator with the option of publishing on a website or in a newspaper a notice about the matter on which consultation is to occur.

Part 8—Repeal of Bank Merger (National/BNZ) Act 1997

18—Repeal of Bank Merger (National/BNZ) Act 1997

This Act is to be repealed.

Part 9—Repeal of Corporal Punishment Abolition Act 1971

19—Repeal of Corporal Punishment Abolition Act 1971

This Act is to be repealed.

Part 10—Amendment of Correctional Services Act 1982

20—Amendment of section 81E—Notice to victims to be published

This proposed amendment requires the CE to publish in the Gazette a notice notifying victims. The CE must also publish the notice on a website determined by the CE or in a daily newspaper circulating generally in South Australia and in a daily newspaper circulating generally in Australia.

Part 11—Amendment of Crown Land Management Act 2009

21—Insertion of section 18A

This clause inserts a new provision requiring the consent of the Minister responsible for the administration of the *Crown Land Management Act 2009* before a council resolves to exclude dedicated land from classification as community land in the circumstances described in section 193(4)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

Part 12—Amendment of *Dog Fence Act 1946*

22—Substitution of section 35A

New section 35A provides for the Minister, on the recommendation of the board, by notice in the Gazette, to establish a local dog fence board constituted of the persons specified in the notice for the area inside a dog fence specified in the notice, with the powers and duties specified in the notice.

23—Substitution of section 35C

New section 35C allows the Minister, on the recommendation of the board, by further notice in the Gazette—

- to amend or vary a notice under section 35A; or
- to abolish a local board and make provision for incidental matters.

Part 13—Repeal of Economic Development Act 1993

24—Repeal of Economic Development Act 1993

This Act is to be repealed.

Part 14—Amendment of Emergency Services Funding Act 1998

25—Amendment of section 20—Sale of land for non-payment of levy

The proposed amendment gives the Commissioner of State Taxation the option to advertise notice of an auction on a website determined by the Commissioner.

Part 15—Amendment of Environment Protection Act 1993

26—Amendment of section 28—Normal procedure for making policies

27—Amendment of section 39—Notice and submissions in respect of applications for environmental authorisations

The amendments proposed would provide for the option of publishing notices on a website or in a newspaper.

28—Amendment of section 46—Notice and submissions in respect of proposed variations of conditions

This amendment would provide the option to cause public notice of a proposed variation to be published in a manner and form determined by the Authority to be most appropriate in the circumstances.

29—Amendment of section 69B—Sale and supply of beverages in containers

A correction is made to the penalty provision in section 69B of the principal Act (incorrectly specified by a recent amendment Act—the Environment Protection (Waste Reform) Amendment Act—as \$4,000). It is proposed to be returned to its previous level of \$30,000.

Part 16—Amendment of *Explosives Act 1936*

30—Amendment of section 25—Power to sell explosives

The amendment would allow a call for public tender under the section to be published on a website determined by the Director or in a newspaper.

Part 17—Amendment of Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005

31—Amendment of section 78—Fire danger season

The amendment would allow the Chief Officer's order fixing a fire danger season to be published in the Gazette and also on a website, in a State-wide newspaper or in a local newspaper.

32—Amendment of section 105F—Private land

A notice to take specific action may be published on a website or in a local newspaper if the responsible person cannot be served personally or by post.

Part 18—Amendment of Fisheries Management Act 2007

## 33—Amendment of section 44—Procedure for preparing management plans

The proposed amendment allows public notice of the Minister's intention to prepare a management plan to be published on a website determined by the Minister instead of in a newspaper circulating generally in the State.

## 34—Amendment of section 54—Application for licence, permit or registration

The proposed amendments remove the requirement for applications to be signed and provide for fees to be prescribed by the regulations rather than fixed by regulation.

## 35—Amendment of section 57—Transfer of licence or permit

The proposed amendments remove the requirement for applications to be signed and provide for fees to be prescribed by the regulations rather than fixed by regulation.

## 36—Amendment of section 64—Applications for registration

The proposed amendments remove the requirement for applications to be signed and provide for fees to be prescribed by the regulations rather than fixed by regulation.

## 37—Amendment of section 68—Issue of duplicate authority

The proposed amendment provides for fees to be prescribed by regulation rather than fixed by regulations.

## 38—Amendment of section 104—Demerit points for certain offences

This proposed amendment provides a court with guidance in deciding whether to reduce the number of demerit points incurred by a person on being found guilty or expiating an offence.

## 39—Amendment of section 116—Registers

The proposed amendments provide for fees to be prescribed by regulation rather than fixed by regulations.

## 40—Amendment of section 127—General

The proposed amendments make it clear that the regulations may—

- prescribe fees for the purposes of the principal Act and regulate the payment, refund, waiver or reduction of such fees; and
- prescribe various methods for the calculation of various fees; and
- prescribe fees which may be differential, varying according to any factor stated in the regulations; and
- prescribe amounts payable for the late payment of fees under the principal Act.

## Part 19—Amendment of Gaming Machines Act 1992

## 41—Amendment of section 29—Certain applications require advertisement

The proposed change provides that the required notice—

- must be published in the Gazette and on a website; and
- may be published in a State-wide newspaper or in a local newspaper.

## 42—Amendment of section 42A—Advertisement of certain applications and objections

The publication by the applicant of notice must be advertised in the Gazette and on a website or in a State-wide newspaper.

## Part 20—Amendment of Geographical Names Act 1991

## 43—Amendment of section 11B—Assignment of geographical name

This clause amends section 11B by establishing the publication requirements for a notice under subsection (2) to be in the Gazette and on a website or in a local newspaper.

## Part 21—Amendment of Government Business Enterprises (Competition) Act 1996

## 44—Amendment of section 11—Public notice of investigation

This clause substitutes section 11(1) of the principal Act to provide that the Commissioner may determine the manner and form of a notice of investigation.

## Part 22—Amendment of Heavy Vehicle National Law (South Australia) Act 2013

45—Amendment of section 10—Other declarations for purposes of *Heavy Vehicle National Law* in this jurisdiction

This amendment updates the references to reflect recent changes to the Law to declare the Magistrates Court to be the relevant tribunal or court for the purposes of section 590D as well as section 556 of the Law.

Part 23—Repeal of Housing Loans Redemption Fund Act 1962

46—Repeal of Housing Loans Redemption Fund Act 1962

This Act is to be repealed.

Part 24—Amendment of *Impounding Act 1920*

47—Amendment of section 25—Notice of impounding

The amendment will allow for the publication of a notice to be in a newspaper or on the Department's website.

48—Amendment of section 26—Poundkeeper may charge for service of notice

49—Amendment of section 32—Proceedings prior to sale by poundkeeper of unclaimed cattle

50—Amendment of section 33—Time and mode of sale of impounded cattle

The other proposed amendments are consequential on the changes made to section 25 of the principal Act.

Part 25—Amendment of *Irrigation Act 2009*

51—Amendment of section 14—Dissolution on application

52—Amendment of section 15—Dissolution on Minister's initiative

The proposed amendments to sections 14 and 15 of the principal Act facilitate the vesting or attachment of irrigation trust property, rights and liabilities in 1 or more persons on the dissolution of the trust. However, if that is not practicable or appropriate, the property, rights and liabilities will vest in or attach to the Crown or an agency or instrumentality of the Crown (including a Minister), as specified by the Minister.

53—Repeal of section 16

This clause repeals section 16 of the principal Act. Section 16 concerns the disposal of property on the dissolution of a trust. Those matters are now covered by the amendments to sections 14 and 15.

Part 26—Repeal of Liens on Fruit Act 1923

54—Repeal of Liens on Fruit Act 1923

This Act is to be repealed.

Part 27—Amendment of *Livestock Act 1997*

55—Amendment of section 37—Gazette notices

This clause amends the provision to enable the relevant notice to be published on a website determined by the Minister.

Part 28—Amendment of Local Government Act 1999

56—Amendment of section 44—Delegations

Section 44 currently requires councils to review delegations in force under the section at least once in every financial year. As amended by this clause, the section will instead require councils to review delegations within 12 months after the conclusion of each periodic election.

Part 29—Amendment of *Marine Parks Act 2007*

57—Amendment of section 14—Procedure for making or amending management plans

Publication procedures are updated and simplified in this amendment with Gazette and newspaper notices replaced by notices on a website determined by the Minister.

Part 30—Amendment of Maritime Services (Access) Act 2000

58—Amendment of section 43—Review and expiry of Part

The amendments by this clause to section 43 of the principal Act alter the publishing requirements for giving notice of a review of the operation of Part 3 of the Act as it applies to particular industries.

Part 31—Amendment of Motor Vehicles Act 1959

59—Amendment of section 38A—Reduced fees for pensioner entitlement card holders

This clause amends section 38A to remove the reference to the 'State concession card' which no longer exists.



## 60—Amendment of section 38AB—Registration fees for trailers owned by pensioner entitlement card holders

This clause amends section 38AB to remove the reference to the 'State concession card' which no longer exists.

## 61—Amendment of section 47C—Return, recovery etc of number plates

This clause amends section 47C so that the Registrar is not required to direct the owner of a motor vehicle to return number plates to the Registrar when the registration of the vehicle expires, is void or is cancelled other than on the owner's application. The amendment will allow the Registrar to direct the owner to destroy the plates or ensure that they are securely stored so that they cannot be affixed to a motor vehicle that is driven on a road or allowed to stand on a road.

## 62—Substitution of section 72

This clause substitutes section 72.

## 72—Classification of licences

Subsection (1) provides that a licence must be assigned 1 or more prescribed classifications.

Subsection (2) provides that subject to the Act, if a person applies for the grant or renewal of a licence and the licence is granted or renewed (as the case may be), the Registrar must ensure that the licence is assigned the classification for which the person has applied.

Subsection (3) provides that if—

- (a) an applicant for the renewal of a licence applies for the licence to be assigned any further or other classification; and
- (b) the Registrar is satisfied that the applicant is competent to drive a motor vehicle in respect of which that further or other classification is required under this Act,

the Registrar must ensure that the licence, if renewed, is assigned that further or other classification.

Subsection (4) provides that if the Registrar is satisfied that a person who holds a licence is competent to drive motor vehicles for which a licence assigned a further or other classification is required under this Act, the Registrar must ensure that the licence is assigned the appropriate further or other classification.

Subsection (5) provides that the Registrar may, for the purposes of this section, require a person who holds a licence or applies for the grant or renewal of a licence to provide evidence to the satisfaction of the Registrar of the person's competency to drive motor vehicles for which a particular classification is required under this Act.

Subsection (6) provides that the regulations may provide that, for the purposes of this Act, a person is to be taken to hold a licence that is assigned a particular classification if the person has held a licence of some other classification for a prescribed period (the *qualifying period*).

Subsection (7) provides that, subject to the regulations, a classification assigned to a licence must be endorsed on the licence.

Subsection (8) provides that for the purposes of the Act, in determining whether a person has held a licence for the qualifying period, any period during which—

- (a) the person's licence was suspended; or
- (b) the person was disqualified from holding or obtaining a licence in this State or in another State or Territory of the Commonwealth,

is not to be taken into account.

## 63—Amendment of section 79—Examination of applicant for licence or learner's permit

This clause amends section 79 to allow the Registrar to accept evidence (other than a certificate) that an applicant has passed a theoretical examination. It also broadens the definition of tester to include persons or classes of persons to be authorised by the Registrar as testers.

## 64—Amendment of section 80—Ability or fitness to be granted or hold licence or permit

## 65—Amendment of section 141—Evidence by certificate etc

## 66—Amendment of section 145—Regulations

These clauses make minor amendments that are consequential on the substitution of section 72.

## Part 32—Amendment of National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972

## 67—Amendment of section 5—Interpretation

The definition of *Director* is updated reflecting new appointment procedures in section 11A. *Public notice* is defined as notice published on a website determined by the Minister.

68—Insertion of section 11A

New section 11A (headed Director of National Parks and Wildlife) is inserted governing the appointment of the Director.

69—Amendment of section 38—Management plans

Publication of the notice in subsection (3) need now only be on a website determined by the Minister, and not in the Gazette or a newspaper.

70—Amendment of section 41A—Alteration of boundaries of reserves

Publication of the notice in subsection (2) need now only be on a website determined by the Minister, and not in the Gazette or a newspaper.

71—Amendment of section 49A—Permits for commercial purposes

Publication of the notice in subsection (1) and the recommendations in subsection (4) need now only be on a website determined by the Minister, and not in a newspaper.

72—Amendment of section 60D—Code of management

Publication of the notice in subsection (5) need now only be on a website determined by the Minister, and not in the Gazette or a newspaper. Publication of the notice in subsection (7) need now only be on a website determined by the Minister, and not in a newspaper.

73—Amendment of section 60I—Plan of management

Publication of the notices in subsections (4) and (7) need now only be on a website determined by the Minister, and not in the Gazette or a newspaper.

Part 33—Amendment of *Payroll Tax Act 2009*

74—Section 95—Assessment if no probate within 6 months of death

This proposed amendment replaces the requirement to publish the notice in a newspaper with a requirement to publish the notice on a website, with publishing in a newspaper to be optional.

Part 34—Amendment of Petroleum Products Regulation Act 1995

75—Amendment of section 34—Controls during periods of restriction

This amendment would allow notice of directions to be published in the Gazette, on a website determined by the Minister or in a newspaper.

76—Amendment of section 38—Publication of desirable principles for conserving petroleum

This amendment would allow desirable principles to be observed to be published in the Gazette, on a website determined by the Minister or in a newspaper.

Part 35—Amendment of Phylloxera and Grape Industry Act 1995

77—Amendment of section 18—Duty to prepare and maintain five year plan

This amendment would allow the Board to publish a notice of the date, time, place and purpose of a public meeting on a website determined by the Board or in a newspaper circulating generally throughout the State (or both).

Part 36—Amendment of *Prices Act 1948*

78—Amendment of section 12—Accounts and records in relation to certain declared goods and services

The proposed amendment would allow the choice between publishing the notice in the Gazette, or in a newspaper, or on the Commissioner's website.

Part 37—Amendment of Primary Industry Funding Schemes Act 1998

79—Amendment of section 9—Management plan for fund

This clause would allow the person or body administering the fund to publish notice of a public meeting to be convened in a manner and form that, in the opinion of the person or body, will be most likely to bring the notice to the attention of members of the public.

Part 38—Amendment of Public Assemblies Act 1972

80—Amendment of section 4—Notice of assembly

This amendment would provide for the option of publishing a copy of an objection to an assembly on a website determined by the Minister.

Part 39—Amendment of Rail Safety National Law (South Australia) Act 2012

81—Amendment of section 7—Exclusion of legislation of this jurisdiction

The amendment made to section 7 by this clause clarifies that certain South Australian Acts do not apply the Act, the *Rail Safety National Law (South Australia)* or to instruments made under the Law except as applied by the Law.

Part 40—Amendment of Railways (Operations and Access) Act 1997

82—Amendment of section 7A—Review and expiry of access regime

The amendment provides for the regulator to give reasonable notice of the review of the access regime, by publishing a notice in a manner and form determined by the regulator to be most appropriate in the circumstances, inviting written submissions on the matters under review within a reasonable time specified for the purpose in the notice.

Part 41—Amendment of Real Property Act 1886

83—Amendment of section 3—Interpretation

This amendment makes it clear that a form approved by the Registrar-General may be an electronic form.

84—Amendment of section 54—Form of instruments and manner of lodgement

Under section 54, the Registrar-General may not register an instrument that does not comply with the Act and is not in the appropriate form. Under the section as amended by this clause, the Registrar-General may also approve the manner in which instruments are to be lodged.

85—Insertion of section 160A

The effect of this proposed new section is that a requirement for entry of a note of the revocation of a power of attorney, or of the death of the grantor of a power of attorney, to be made on the duplicate or copy of the power of attorney will be satisfied if a note of the revocation or death is entered on an electronic copy of the duplicate or copy.

Part 42—Repeal of Redundant Officers Fund Act 1936

86—Repeal of Redundant Officers Fund Act 1936

This Act is to be repealed.

Part 43—Amendment of *Road Traffic Act 1961*

87—Amendment of section 33—Road closing and exemptions for certain events

This clause amends section 33 so that on the application of any person interested, the Minister may declare an event to be an event to which section 33 applies and may do either or both of the following:

- make an order directing that specified roads (being roads on which the event is to be held or roads that, in the Minister's opinion, should be closed for the purposes of the event) be closed to traffic for a period specified in, or determined in accordance with, the order;
- make an order directing that persons participating in the event be exempted, in relation to specified roads, from the duty to observe an enactment, regulation or by-law prescribing a rule to be observed on roads by pedestrians or drivers of vehicles.

Part 44—Repeal of Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1921

88—Repeal of Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1921

This Act is to be repealed.

Part 45—Repeal of Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation (South Australia) Act 1971

89—Repeal of Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation (South Australia) Act 1971

This Act is to be repealed.

Part 46—Repeal of Statistics Act 1935

90—Repeal of Statistics Act 1935

This Act is to be repealed.

Part 47—Repeal of Statutory Salaries and Fees Act 1947

## 91—Repeal of Statutory Salaries and Fees Act 1947

This Act is to be repealed.

## Part 48—Amendment of Summary Offences Act 1953

## 92—Amendment of section 72A—Power to conduct metal detector searches etc

This amendment would give the Commissioner of Police the option of publishing a notice of a declaration under section 72A on the Commissioner's website or in a newspaper.

## Part 49—Amendment of Taxation Administration Act 1996

## 93—Amendment of section 4—Meaning of taxation laws

## 94—Amendment of section 110—Offences by persons involved in management of corporations

The purpose of these amendments is to remove reference to the *Debts Tax Act 1994* and the *Financial Institutions Duty Act 1983*, both of which have been repealed.

## Part 50—Repeal of War Service Rights (State Employees) Act 1945

## 95—Repeal of War Service Rights (State Employees) Act 1945

This Act is to be repealed.

## Part 51—Repeal of Westpac/Challenge Act 1996

## 96—Repeal of Westpac/Challenge Act 1996

This Act is to be repealed.

## Part 52—Amendment of Wilderness Protection Act 1992

## 97—Amendment of section 3—Interpretation

The definition of *public notice* is amended to mean notice published on a website determined by the Minister, and no longer means notice published in the Gazette.

## 98—Amendment of section 12—Wilderness code of management

This is a consequential amendment preserving the status quo with respect to public notification of the adoption of a revised or substituted code of management (namely by notice in the Gazette).

## 99—Amendment of section 16—Prevention of certain activities

This amendment gives the Minister discretion to publish a notice under subsection (7) in a newspaper or on the Minister's website, whichever medium the Minister considers appropriate in the circumstances.

## 100—Amendment of section 31—Plans of management

This is a consequential amendment preserving the status quo with respect to public notification of the adoption of plan of management (namely by notice in the Gazette).

## 101—Amendment of section 33—Prohibited areas

This amendment preserves the status quo with respect to public notification of the declaration of prohibited areas or variation or revocation of such declarations (namely by notice in the Gazette) but also adds a requirement for the notifications to be on a website determined by the Minister.

## Part 53—Amendment of Work Health and Safety Act 2012

## 102—Amendment of section 274—Approved codes of practice

This amendment would provide the Minister with the option of publishing notice of the approval, variation or revocation of a code of practice on a website or in a newspaper as well as in the Gazette.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (15:50):** I rise to make a contribution as the opposition's lead speaker on the Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Simplify) Bill 2018. This bill has been in existence for quite some time. Its title indicates that it has been around since at least the previous calendar year but, in fact, longer than that. It is the culmination of an effort of consultation, work and examination, not by this government but by the former Labor government, of a number of acts which could be repealed to not only reduce the number of outdated statutes on the parliament's books, so to speak, but also remove the application of the outdated requirements of those acts on the community of South Australia.

As we saw, particularly in the last calendar year, much of the legislative agenda of the former Labor government—which unfortunately did not manage to make its way through both houses of parliament before the last state election—was recaptured, dusted off, rebadged and claimed as the child, as it were, of the legislative efforts of the new Liberal government. I do not take umbrage at any of the descriptions the minister has provided with regard to the detail of the bill. However, I have to say that since the last election there has been quite a lot of communication between those organisations that potentially will be impacted by the successful passage of this bill.

Many of the changes in this bill, as the minister has just advised us, relate to the advertising requirements of government agencies and departments in promulgating decisions that they make from time to time throughout the community. It would be of no surprise to many that when these acts were first written as bills, the most common means of communication was by the public notices section of the local newspaper in a community, rather than by Facebook, Instagram or indeed websites or so on. What we see now is the impact of this bill; many dozens of regional newspapers fear losing an important part of their newspaper, and that is the contributions from government agencies to the public notices section.

I will admit that some amendments here include the repeal of acts such as the Liens on Fruit Act. It probably does not get a regular guernsey nowadays, and the reason for that to hang around has probably long been expended. But there are other amendments that, the bill proposes that would see, as the minister has just described, 27 acts being amended to provide for a new and different discretion for a government agency, or the minister to which it reports, to choose how they publish these notices.

While it might be more contemporary to provide the option for a minister to choose to publish on a government website as opposed to the local newspaper, I think two things are likely to happen if that option is exercised. It pains me to say this, but I think we can recognise that there are some government websites that are not highly trafficked and, for example, not highly trafficked for recent news. I suspect that people would have perhaps found out more information from their local newspaper about the consultation process on the government's proposed three-year ban on snapper fishing than they would have from the fisheries subcategory on the PIRSA website. That would be my guess.

If that is a reasonable example, and I believe it is, then that probably holds true for many forms of decision and updates that may be made from time to time, or that are indeed required by law on a regular basis, that need publication throughout the community. I can say that the opposition has been contacted by many papers, including *The Murray Pioneer*, *The Loxton News*, *The River News*, *The Bunyip*, *The Leader*, *The Courier*, *The Transcontinental*, the *Barossa and Light Herald*, the *Border Chronicle*, *The Border Watch*, the *Coastal Leader*, even the *Coober Pedy Regional Times*, the *Eyre Peninsula Tribune*, *The Flinders News*, *The Islander*, the *Mid North Broadcaster*, *The Murray Valley Standard*, the *Naracoorte Herald*, the *Northern Argus*, *The Border Times*, *The Plains Producer*, the *Port Lincoln Times*, *The Recorder*, *The Times*, *Yorke Peninsula Country Times*, the *Whyalla News*, *The South Eastern Times*, *The Pennant*, the *West Coast Sentinel* and *The Southern Argus* as well as the *Northern Argus*.

Many of the concerns they raised are about the loss to their particular news outlet, their newspaper, their periodical, of having the benefit of the requirement that relevant public notices are included in their publication; I think we should be honest, not just because of the newsworthiness of many of these public notices. Of course, we are not just talking about snapper bans, which may or may not happen once or twice, but also things that happen of at least as great an import and reasonably regularly. For example, that might be changes to air routes in regional South Australia.

Publication of these sorts of matters needs to be promulgated in the source of information and news with which members of regional and sometimes remote communities are familiar and have become accustomed. Unfortunately, the bill gives a discretion to relevant ministers to choose not to make those advertisements in those papers but instead just publish on a website. Indeed, the website is not specified.

Of course, I think we can all admit it is most likely that it will be the relevant government website, and that is not unreasonable in that scenario. They may choose to publish on a non-

government website. They may choose to publish on a news website, perhaps in the local Messenger or Adelaidenow or any of those news outlets that I have just read into *Hansard* that maintain a website. But my belief is that that is still to the detriment of the ability for those regional communities to get their news from the news source they trust.

I must be honest that, I am certainly not alone in thinking this and I am not referring to my opposition colleagues. This was actually drawn to our attention and to my attention following conversations that had actually happened with the member for Mount Gambier. The impetus to amend the bill to ensure that there is still a requirement to publish in these regional news outlets, in these local papers, is an initiative of the member for Mount Gambier as well, indeed prior to the opposition forming the view that this action needed to be taken. That is why the opposition has placed on file 44 amendments to ensure that the bill can be amended in relevant places merely to remove that discretion from the minister or his agency to choose not to advertise in a government department.

The minister did say that this was about reducing a red-tape burden on business. I think it is probably fair to say that for the repeal of the Liens on Fruit Act that is the case. Unfortunately, in the other 27 cases, where 27 acts are being amended to remove the publication requirements in local papers, I think it is to remove a cost burden on government agencies. That may be desirable for some in this place, presumably those on the other side rather than on this side or, presumably, on the crossbench, but that is to the detriment of those papers even more. Not only is important relevant news being removed from their papers but also an important revenue source.

There is nothing wrong with that. I think we should be open and up-front and honest about the fact that this is an important source of advertising revenue for these papers. It is an important source of revenue for these papers because it has ever been thus. If we have created such a symbiotic relationship between the government and these local news outlets, then to break it merely for a cost-saving initiative for this government I do not think is a good way forward, given the representations that I have heard over the last 18 months.

I will quickly, and probably to some extent rightly, be accused of some sort of change of position or backflip or, I dare say, inconsistency. I know we do not use the H word in this place. I think the former member for Playford used to talk about something with a forked tongue, whatever that meant.

I am sure that those allegations will come quickly from the minister, indeed maybe from others on that side of the house, and I should cop those slings and arrows because, yes, I was a member of the government, as I boasted earlier, that did initiate and introduce this bill into this place before the last election. Nonetheless, that does not detract from the importance of moving and supporting these amendments. I look forward, I hope, to the government's support for my amendments.

**Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (16:02):** I also acknowledge that I am the lead speaker for my party on this bill, the Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Simplify) Bill.

*An honourable member interjecting:*

**Mr BELL:** Yes, our joint party room meetings are quite interesting. In all seriousness, there is a lot in this bill that I quite simply agree with. I think it makes great inroads into not only simplifying but also modernising 40 acts, and I welcome that type of review. In fact, think it was Kerry Packer who said that one thing politicians could do every time they introduced a new bit of legislation was look at which bit of legislation they could remove and the country would be a lot better off.

However, there is a hidden part in this bill which I really want to draw regional members' attention to because it is regional members who are going to have to face their local media, their local papers, to explain why they voted for a bill that is going to damage their business and, in my opinion, reduce communication between the government and a local community.

In fact, I will go as far as to say that regional papers may look back at this very moment and realise this was a pivotal moment for their business in regional communities because if amendments are not made this is another nail in the coffin of regional papers. It gives the ability for 27 acts to change the way that the state government advertises in local papers in matters that are considered to be of public relevance.

Unfortunately, if we play this through, and knowing a little bit about how government works, even ministers with very good intentions who say, 'We will make sure that we keep advertising in local papers, but we will also put the notices online,' will eventually not even know that a public notice has gone out because the department will make the decision. Over time, we will see less and less advertising of public notices in regional papers.

These are regional papers that are struggling at the moment yet employ regional people. Not only do they employ regional people but they play a very important role in the connection between Adelaide, government and their region. South Australia is unique in many ways, but one of the ways it is unique is that we really are a one-city state, and a lot of things go on in Adelaide that need to be communicated to regional areas. Regional papers are an integral part of a regional community, not only communicating public notices from the government but also informing regional communities how they can have their say in the goings-on in Adelaide.

I will find it a bit strange if regional members vote against these 44 amendments that are tabled at the moment because it is sending a very mixed message to their regional communities. Regional papers obviously employ regional people. Regional people, particularly the older set, may not be computer literate so, if we start putting all the notices that affect their life online or in an electronic form and do not advertise in regional papers, we are at risk of alienating a segment of our communities and certainly denigrating their ability to have their say.

Some people say to me that that is not the intent of this and that the intent is to give online as another option. I have no problem with that, as long as it is still mandated that public notices and communication from departments occur in print form in local media because as soon as you remove that mandate, whether it is the day after legislation is passed or a month after or a year after or five years after, there is no mandated requirement under legislation that the government of the day advertise public notices in local papers, and that slide will begin and then continue.

We have some very good ministers who come from the regions who I am sure believe they will be advertising their department's activities in print form, but we cannot rest on that, that that is going to be the case going forward for all ministers and perhaps even future ministers. I think the amendments are sensible and I think they get the balance right. I challenge regional members, if they are listening to this and have not had a good look at this legislation, to very quickly understand what they will be passing if this legislation passes unamended.

It is those members, particularly regional members, who will need to talk to their regional papers about why they have removed this part from the bill going forward and have not supported the amendments which I think are fair, reasonable and sensible. It is regional communities, in my opinion, who are going to be affected by this. We have not heard a lot around that yet. I have certainly had most of the papers come to see me and express their concerns.

I think part of our job here as MPs is to change legislation, to keep it up to date and current with modern times, but it is also our responsibility to stand up and speak out on behalf of our communities—in my case, it is a regional community—about the people and the businesses impacted by the changes to legislation. Many MPs I have spoken to were not even aware of this potential impact to their local paper. I ask, in closing, that regional members look at these amendments very closely and vote accordingly to support their regions.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (16:11):** I rise to speak on the Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Simplify) Bill 2018. As has been ably presented and acknowledged by the parliament, this is a bill that had been largely replicated from a bill that was introduced but not finalised by the previous government, and it is in the line of a number of bills that have been presented, ostensibly to reduce red tape and to simplify regulation for individual members of the community as consumers but also business.

I think it is fair to say that, whilst the individual aspects of the provisions seem to be without controversy, there is the question of giving the option in this bill to enable governments to choose the manner and form of public notices, whether that be electronic or printed papers, which we have heard a bit about already, newspapers, as we have often known, but also magazines and association and industry publications. They are all different means by which one can provide information to the

public, and more particularly to the people or industries that are interested in the particular reforms that occur.

Obviously, we have historically come from circumstances in our parliamentary life from having a town crier stand outside the parliament with 'Hear ye, hear ye! These are the outlines of the legislation which the parliament has passed.' Fortunately, those days are over and we have a number of different ways in which we provide those communications.

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** When did that happen at Kingscote?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** The poor old member for Lee, he is so isolated, isn't he, from the real world. But in any event—

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** So that happened in Kingscote, did it? What year did that stop happening in Kingscote?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Let me go back to—

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Order!

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** —standing outside of parliament. I do not know of any other parliament houses in South Australia other than this one.

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** Was it Penneshaw? Sorry, Penneshaw, was it?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Parliament House. Other parliament houses, standing outside other parliament houses.

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** So in the regional communities where we are trying to—

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Order, member for Lee! Please.

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** Or did your analogy fall over?

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Member for Lee! Please.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** From that information, sometimes the notices were then affixed to public noticeboards outside civic centres, such as councils, to advise of changes of the laws and regulations, but there is no question that we have moved now to a standard where electronic, recording, publication and transactional work have utilised the provisions of electronic technology.

Let me just give you one example in relation to the long list of proposed areas of reform. Under this bill, the Real Property Act 1886 will be amended to ensure that the Registrar-General has the power to mandate electronic conveyancing in line with policy objectives. A further amendment will also allow revocation of the power of attorney, or the death of a guarantor with the power of attorney, to be noted on the electronic copy of the duplicate or copy of a power of attorney.

Members who were in the parliament during the time of the former attorney-general will recall a significant period of reform which transferred conveyancing transactions in relation to real property—that is, land—to be converted to the old paper certificates of title and documents to be registered at the lands titles office were to be personally submitted, recorded, marked and approved to a period of midway. Now, electronic transactions are undertaken; in fact, we had to set up in legislation a new way in which documents could be certified because there would not necessarily be a signature of the transferor or transferee.

It could be done by an agent, but it had to be done under a certain certification procedure. Often, that was the solicitor or broker, for example, of one of the parties to the transaction. We had to go through a number of different ways as to how we might deal with that if, for example, one of the transactional parties resided in Ceduna or anywhere else in regional South Australia. They would have to go through this new process and do it in a way that was not going to create a greater level of complexity for parties in those circumstances.

In the lead-up to the former government's decision to sell the South Australian lands titles services to a private company, all these electronic conveyancing reforms were progressed. I recall that we saw the death of parchment certificate of title, which was a sad day for some who had undertaken transactions in the old way, but this is progress.



Whilst the member for Lee has, I think, acknowledged that perhaps, in light of the previous iteration of this bill his government at the time had been progressing, he now seems to be coming into a period of enlightenment, saying that he would walk away from that commitment as a member of that cabinet to bring it to the parliament. Suddenly, opposition has brought some refreshment to his understanding of what is important to regional South Australia, and he presents to us a new—

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** Do you know what would be refreshing? Somebody else talking.

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Order!

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** —period of enlightenment that he has reached. Well, I am pleased that he has actually understood that there are significant issues in regional communities, and one of them is employment. There is a need for us to progress the state to ensure that we do give young people, including those in regional South Australia, the opportunity for employment. That should obviously be supported. I am not quite sure why—

*The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:*

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Order!

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** —in all of the areas—

*The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:*

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** The Deputy Premier has the call. Member for Lee, please, that is enough.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** —of promoting—

*The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:*

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Please, that's enough. The Deputy Premier has the call.

*The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:*

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Order!

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** —electronic transactions and modernising—

*The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:*

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Member for Lee!

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** —and developing, under the Real Property Act, all these obligations that could be converted in an electronic matter—selling off the lands titles services, that now, suddenly, in opposition he has had this light bulb of enlightenment to say that we need to change that approach. When we tell the people of South Australia about all the electronic reforms that are coming through in bills such as this, we must remove from government departments or ministers who undertake essentially the advertising of public notices—including in that, of course, reformed laws—any choice, that they are to be struck out from having any choice as to how that is to occur and they must therefore give publication by notices in the local newspapers.

I remind the house that even our own *Gazette* is electronic. It now electronically records the notices, including our legislation from here, regulations and other public notices. Some people may still get a hard copy of the publication. I still keep hard copies of the publications of bills that we have as I just find that a little bit easier to manage; some might still with the *Gazette*.

In the time I have been here, the *Gazette* has been available online. I do not doubt it is relied upon on a regular basis; I expect that many industry associations regularly look each week at the *Gazette*. Journalists, members of parliament and people in government departments would go through the electronic version of the *Gazette* to identify where there have been important public notices relevant to whatever their organisation or department may be.

As the Attorney-General, I have responsibility for the Attorney-General's Department and the Chief Justice has responsibility for the Courts Administration Authority. Between us, these divisions of our government, as such, have a large amount of work to do to educate the public about law reform

and changes in relation to both policy and parliamentary reform: where amendments are to apply, where there is to be a new process to undertake and whether there have been higher or lower fees to pay. All these things quite often come through the Attorney-General's Department and some of them through the Courts Administration Authority.

There are other agencies for which I am responsible: the Small Business Commissioner, Consumer and Business Services and the Public Trustee. These are all agencies that have quite a lot of documentation on behalf of the group that they are looking after, and they need to regularly publish updates, keep the public informed and, in addition to that, advise a number of other agencies in government of their obligations as a result of reforms. We do quite a lot of work in the Attorney-General's Department particularly.

Advertising costs are now all available online and there is a lot of public notice expenditure and advertising to inform the public of this. The mode in which it is delivered is also a mix. I frequently look at that list—we have regular reports on it—and I am sometimes a bit shocked at the level of cost to keep the public informed. Again, consistent with previous governments, there is a very significant component to allow that to be electronic.

I am advised from agencies that if I were to look at just one industry area that I have a lot to do with, the Law Society of South Australia, that they, too, regularly traverse the electronic version of the *Gazette*. They obviously read through the material that we put on notice to ensure that they are up to date with what law changes there are and what bills are coming through. There is a lot of electronic transaction and there is a lot of advertising of this information to the public, which is done in that form.

The suggestion that there needs to be consideration and protection of country newspapers that are going to be in dire straits, it seems, if this election is allowed to continue—and presumably that decisions are made or choices are made to elect to not have used printed publications—is a little bit of a mystery. The reason I say that is not that I suggest that country newspapers are not under some financial pressure. I do not doubt that they are.

Certainly, as I grew up, the local published newspaper, *The Islander*, was a publication which I think pretty much every household purchased each week and which was read in hard copy. Electronic copies were not available, and local news was an important means, I suppose, by which the community maintained its community interaction. There was everything from the usual classified ads to sports results, to matters of importance, notices from the council, births, deaths and marriages and all the local advertising about what product was available, whether it was new tractor tyres or new plants that you could buy. These are all things that, at a local level, are important.

In fact, in my day there used to be a little column written by a lady who would basically put out all the gossip in the district, which I think was probably read by everybody in the community; nevertheless, that happened. We move to a time when that same paper is available electronically, and a number of people in the community choose to get their information that way; in fact, I still do today.

I think that we have to accept that there has been a transition in those communities themselves and that, irrespective of the question of offering electronic publication as an alternate means, the fact is that these papers themselves have moved to provide their product in different forms of their own choice. I do not doubt that it is for them to keep up with their readership and to ensure that they are able to continue to engage with generations that are more savvy and more interested in getting their information electronically. That has been occurring any way. That is not actually going to change.

I recall that there was a time when the member for Mount Gambier, for example, raised the potential plight in respect of *The Border Watch*, another well known regional paper. I think it used to be owned by Alan Scott, or should I say the late Alan Scott, when he used to own the television and the radio station all at once. I think he was the only media mogul in the country at the time who actually owned all forms of medium in a country region. In any event, no doubt it is still a well-read and well-loved paper available electronically.

Again, this has been replicated today, but on the latest data I am advised that in 2017-18 public notice expenditure in *The Border Watch*, *The South Eastern Times* and *The Pennant* was

\$7,858.92, and to the year to date to April—so it is not the full year—that is, for this financial year, which has now concluded, it was already, as at April 2019, \$12,786.68. That indicates to me that, in fact, the revenue has not diminished; in fact, it is on its way under those estimates of probably doubling just in the last two years.

I think what is important is whether a case is put to the parliament that for some reason this particular area of employment, I suppose, is facing 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges, namely, the redundancy of employment as a result of changed technology. It is an unenviable situation in lots of areas. If there is going to be a case for us as a parliament to say, 'We are going to carve out this particular area in this particular region to provide that,' then I think we need to have the data to support both a diminution of income and a risk of unemployment.

Using that example, I credit the member for Mount Gambier for going to the trouble of identifying where there was a vulnerability in his local area. I think up to 2½ full-time jobs were at risk as a result of the potential loss of revenue in that work. If that is the case, good on the member for raising it—at least he has done his homework about what the risk is—but it seems to me that there is an inconsistency of information in relation to that. In that case, it sits against a backdrop of local papers that have elected to go into electronic form themselves.

I have not in any way gone to my department to request or instruct (assuming I even have the power to do that at this point) how we would notify all these legal changes and notices that we are obliged to do in the Attorney-General's Department. I know there is a lot of it. I see reports on it. Therefore, I can only assume that has continued to be by the same methods and choices made consistent with previous administrations. I know that, as a new government, we now have very strict rules in relation to advertising—

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

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** —who should be in it and the compliance of that, but I need to be persuaded.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** The Deputy Premier's time has expired.

**The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (16:31):** I would like to make a contribution to this debate. I certainly support the comments made by the member for Lee and also the member for Mount Gambier on this matter. Last week, for example, I was in Ceduna for local government regional meetings, as I go to the regions for my shadow portfolio area. One thing I always do when I go to regional areas is purchase a copy of the local newspaper because I can get an insight of what is happening in that particular community, what has recently happened, etc.

Also, through the letters columns, I can get an interesting view of what the community think. There are a whole range of things to pick up in the local newspaper. For example, I picked up copies of the *West Coast Sentinel*, *Eyre Peninsula Tribune* and *Port Lincoln Times*. When I am in the Riverland, I pick up copies of *The Loxton News*, *The River News*, *The Murray Pioneer* and *The Murray Valley Standard*, and I think there is also one called *The Border Chronicle*, which covers the Karoonda area.

**The Hon. T.J. Whetstone:** *The Border Times*.

**The Hon. A. PICCOLO:** *The Border Times*. I always try to purchase a copy of the local newspaper. I think one is also an online paper. Locally, I get a copy of *The Bunyip*, the local paper, and I purchase copies of *The Leader*, the *Barossa Herald* and also the *Plains Producer*. This is one way for me to keep in touch with what is happening in the community where I live and also in the regional communities. From time to time, I pop into the library here and read the regional newspapers.

Regional, rural and local papers play an important role in reporting what is happening in those communities. They chronicle major events and activities and they also provide a document of record, if you like, and that is very important. They also record the cultural history of the area. In my view, they play a very important role in our society and they are very important to those local communities.

As the Attorney-General has mentioned, she is aware, as we all are, that there are city-based newspapers but that the ones in the country are facing some challenges in terms of revenues, etc., to keep them alive and viable. Equally, like the city-based papers, they are trying to modernise. A lot of them now have some sort of social media component, websites, etc. They are trying to keep up with the times, but it is very hard to go from one format, which has been invested in quite heavily, to another format or platform without major loss of assets and capital for that business.

We have an important role in supporting these newspapers because their demise would be a sad loss for the community. The choice available to us in this place is that we can support amendments which help make a difference and help protect—I do not think 'protect' is the right word; I think the language to use is 'support'. Governments use the procurement process time and time again to achieve certain political, economic and social policy outcomes. There is nothing new about that. This is a case where the government should be using their procurement capacity to support local small businesses in regional and rural South Australia for the reasons I have outlined in terms of the important role they play.

Despite what has been said, any amendments that ensure that government use their procurement power to support these businesses is very important not only in the sense that we keep these small businesses viable in these small communities, where every job is extremely important because the opportunities for employment are less so, but also in terms of social policy outcome—that we support these papers that enable our history to be chronicled for future use.

With those few comments, I would certainly support any amendment and call on other members to support any amendment that helps maintain and support these small businesses in our communities because they play an important role for a whole range of reasons.

**Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (16:36):** I would like to start by declaring an interest to the house. Members can apprise themselves of it on the register of interests, but I am a potential beneficiary of a trust that owns a regional newspaper, the *Yorke Peninsula Country Times*, and I should make that known right from the outset.

It is commendable that the government is attempting to reduce red tape and simplify regulation for businesses and consumers. It is a wonderful thing and pleasing to see this initiative from the government to try to make things easier for all the business owners out there. The government's red-tape reduction strategy is about supporting businesses by putting in place more efficient processes, and this hopefully will improve business and give opportunity for growth out there in our regional areas.

I would like to commend the member for Mount Gambier for his contribution. He is clearly well in touch with the local newspaper in his local community and seems to have a great handle on the situation. Ever so briefly, I would like to highlight the importance of regional newspapers in their communities and highlight that they remain a vital mechanism for communication out to our regions and are heavily relied upon by regional constituents to apprise themselves of the news and developments happening within their region at any given time.

I can only relate back to my previous experience about the newspaper and, hopefully with the permission of the owner, I can reveal some statistics about the *Country Times* and its circulation. I know for a fact that there are 7,000 *Country Times* papers printed per week on a Tuesday and, when we make the assumption that there are three readers per house, that equates to roughly 21,000 readers per week, or at least over 20,000 readers in circulation.

The geography of the circulation of the *Country Times* is roughly similar to that of Narungga, slightly smaller but roughly similar, and we know that, with 25,000 voters per electorate, it covers quite a high percentage of the voters who are reading the paper every week. The circulation is still relatively high and the readership is still really strong. It covers a really wide variety of readers, and a lot of people wake up to it or get it in the afternoon on Tuesdays and rely on the news on the classifieds in there.

Advertising is the lifeblood of regional papers and, in order to ensure that they can continue to operate profitably, we need to make sure that that advertising stream is preserved. That is not all government advertising. Obviously it is preferable that that money come from private businesses in the area spruiking their wares and promoting themselves in the paper but, as has been made clear

today, all advertising is appreciated, be it private sector or government. A small amount of advertising that comes in from these ads that are detailed in this act are appreciated; no matter how small the money may be, it is appreciated by the owners of these small regional family-owned businesses in a lot of instances.

As part of being in government, we have an obligation to make things easier for business and to ensure that they can continue to be profitable and that is no different for newspapers. Politicians love getting their photo in the paper, so we need to make sure that we continue to empower regional newspapers to continue to provide that platform for us to get our photo in there and cop the bagging from our mates when it does appear.

Unfortunately, I have very little faith in the departments to accurately decide where they should advertise in any given situation. Since being elected to parliament, I have had an experience only 18 months in of a new mining tenement lease announcement. The mine was south of Wallaroo and the advertisement was placed in the Port Pirie *Recorder*. No-one from the surrounding area where the mine was proposed was afforded the opportunity to read the advertisement because it was placed in a paper that was not circulated anywhere near where the actual mine was proposed. That is one example of a shortcoming, potentially, with this system. I have very little faith in the departments to administer it properly and to exercise their discretion reliably.

It is true that regional papers, or all papers, are trending toward a more online database, but the fact of the matter is if the advertisement is not placed in the paper then it will not appear either online or in hard copy. We need to ensure that we continue to maintain these revenue streams and continue to keep regional papers profitable.

Fortunately, I have great confidence in the ministers on this side of the house to exercise their discretion properly. I am sure they will continue to advertise in regional papers wherever necessary, whenever necessary and perhaps even more often than was done previously. That being the case—

**The Hon. A. Piccolo:** What about future ministers?

**Mr ELLIS:** Tony, are you suggesting you are not going to? If you ever get over here, you are not going to?

*Members interjecting:*

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Order!

**Mr ELLIS:** There you go.

*The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:*

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Member for Light!

**Mr ELLIS:** The member for Light, if ever afforded the opportunity to sit on this side, is going to cancel advertising.

*Members interjecting:*

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Order! Member for Narungga, if you could please not respond to interjections.

**Mr ELLIS:** Another reason to ensure we continue to sit on the government benches.

*Members interjecting:*

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Order!

**Mr ELLIS:** That being the case, I have great confidence in ministers on this side that they will continue to advertise in regional papers and, as such, I support the bill and look forward to its passage through the house.

**Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (16:42):** Thank you, Mr Acting Speaker, and what a fine job you are doing this afternoon. I rise to support the Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Simplify) Bill and

notice that there are a reasonable amount of amendments that have been filed by the member for Lee and the member for Mount Gambier.

I want to go over a bit of what this simplify bill is seeking to do. It is amending 27 acts and it is also adding the option of publishing notices online, and there is a lot of discussion around publishing and whether it is publishing in rural papers or not. The bill will give government departments the discretion to publish notices online in regional newspapers, newspapers circulating across the state, as well as in the *Government Gazette*, and the ability, as has been so roundly put by the member for Narungga, to publish notices in regional local newspapers remains available to government departments. It is interesting that the bill is virtually the same bill as had been introduced by the former Labor government.

**Mr Brown:** Is that a reason to support it or oppose it?

**Mr PEDERICK:** You can speak. The rationale for the amendments from the member for Lee could be to minimise any potential impact on advertising revenue of regional publications. However, the majority of the proposed amendments do not relate to regional newspapers and instead pertain to public notices in the *Government Gazette* or a statewide newspaper. Obviously, because many of us like me, the member for Hammond, represent regional areas, I have regional newspapers that are vital to our area, whether it is *The Border Times*, *The Murray Valley Standard*, *The Southern Argus*—

**An honourable member:** A great paper.

**Mr PEDERICK:** —yes, absolutely—or *The Times*, Victor Harbor, which I used a bit more when I was representing the areas around Goolwa and Currency Creek. There is also a range of small community publications like *The Lakelander* at Meningie and the *Mannum Mag*, obviously in Mannum, and we have one that goes out in Milang. These are all vital tools to get information out to people.

From having a look within our own government departments, the simple advice indicates that regional newspapers are not utilised to a large degree for the purposes of publishing the applicable government information. As such, the impact on regional newspapers of any change in publication format by government departments, should they do so, is not as large as has been put by some members in this place.

We have ministers and departments already indicating that they will continue to advertise in regional newspapers. They will make that choice to make sure they get that message to regional readers and constituents to make sure they get the news. Analysis of government expenditure indicates that only 28 per cent of all expenditure on state government public notices in this state relates to regional publications. Yes, it is still money going into our regional economies, going into our regional areas, supporting those areas. I note that papers have struggled and some have done a better job than others in enhancing online news. As someone who is closer to 60 than 50, accessing online sometimes can be a drama.

**The Hon. D.G. Pisoni:** You don't look it.

**Mr PEDERICK:** Thank you, member for Unley. It has been a transition for all newspapers. Even major publications like *The Advertiser* in South Australia and *The Australian*, the national paper, have had to learn how to adapt to the online world. That has been a matter of course because more and more people get their news online. In fact, I subscribe to a range of newspapers online. I get *The Murray Valley Standard* online, I get *The Advertiser* online and I get the *Stock Journal* online. There is a range of other publications that you can get online; some you still cannot but most you can.

It has changed everything to a different world, getting away from whether it is a spreadsheet version or the paper versions that we have been used to. I think they will still be utilised for a long time to come, but it has taken quite a bit of change and adaptation by papers, whether they are publications from country areas, regional areas or mainly state publications like *The Advertiser* and *The Australian* on a national basis.

The quantum of public notice spending in the 2017-18 financial year by state government on an individual regional publication did not exceed \$12,700. That refutes claims by some members in

this place who are saying that it could lead to the loss of 2½ full-time equivalent jobs. As I said before, the government has recently determined to ensure advertising occurs in the regional press.

We have certainly done that in the payroll tax campaign and the compulsory third-party choice campaign. Certainly, payroll tax was great news for South Australians. We could advertise right throughout the state so that, for owners of small businesses with an average of up to 25 employees, lifting the limit where payroll tax comes into play to \$1.5 million means that on average an employer hiring 25 people would not have to pay any payroll tax at all.

In regard to compulsory third party, there is a choice when you register your vehicle or vehicles. You can choose your compulsory third party insurer, and that was certainly good news that was absolutely advertised in the regional press. I note that the Treasurer met with representatives from regional newspapers and talked about the quantum of advertising. He advised those people from regional press that a number of agencies will continue to advertise in regional papers, and I think they will.

I am the Chair of the Environment, Resources and Development Committee. The member for Playford and the member for MacKillop in this place are members of that committee. We advertised recently in Eyre Peninsula papers and, I believe, the Port Pirie paper. I do not even know what the Port Pirie paper would be, but papers in that Iron Triangle region and in Port Lincoln I believe—

**Mr Teague:** *The Recorder*.

**Mr PEDERICK:** *The Recorder* is the paper in Port Pirie. We are going to Whyalla on Friday week to host an inquiry into our recycling reference for the Environment, Resources and Development Committee and we certainly got quite a bit of interest and advertising in those local papers to make sure that we get that output to ensure that the local people are well informed of our arrival.

The simple fact is that it is not just print or online versions where you can get your word out. As we all know in this place, you obviously can use airwaves and television. Especially in a local area, it is fantastic if you have access to local television. That is just mint. We do not have as much as we used to have. We used to have WIN TV around the place. There is still a little bit of local TV, but I have local radio with 5MU and Power FM. I know that several members in this place utilise those mediums to get the message out.

I think it is about the appropriateness at the time of when, how and why you want to get that message out. As part of the total mix of all these items of press and availability, I think that regional newspapers will be well utilised in the future, certainly by this side of the house anyway, because we know and we understand regional areas. We know the vitality of having those jobs in regional areas, no matter what work it is, including those jobs that happen in regional press.

It is especially vital for my area. I do not know how many papers are printed in Murray Bridge by *The Murray Valley Standard* presses. I think there would be a paper getting printed nearly every night there to be distributed right around the state. The interesting fact is that—I do not know how far down the reserve list *The Murray Valley Standard* printers are—they have the capacity of backing up *The Advertiser* print run if they need to.

**The Hon. D.G. Pisoni:** Just move it all there.

**Mr PEDERICK:** We could. We could move it all into Hammond. Certainly, they have the capacity. It is my understanding that they are able to print *The Advertiser*. They obviously do not have the capacity of *The Advertiser* printers, but they can certainly fire up if they have plenty of notice to get an edition of *The Advertiser* out, so, yes, they are vital services for our state and we certainly believe in the overall simplification of legislation.

As I said, we are amending multiple acts with the Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Simplify) Bill and we are determined to make it easier to govern and to give people choice. Choice is one of those icons of the Liberal Party. It is a bit hard for those on the other side to understand choice. We have a conscience vote at the moment on another matter, and it is interesting. Without trying to reflect too much on the other matter, I am not mentioning it by name, when it came to working out whether

people wanted to speak on it or they had to have a briefing, they turned up and someone spoke for about five minutes and—

*Members interjecting:*

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Order!

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** We sort out our differences behind closed doors; that's the difference.

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Order!

**Mr PEDERICK:** But when they have a difference, they cannot even make up their mind if they have a difference or not.

**An honourable member:** Bring it on.

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Dr Harvey):** Order!

**Mr PEDERICK:** Anyway, I digress. I salute the fact that we have this legislation before the house and that we are looking to simplify and get things right so that government can act in a smoother way and that we can have choice and rely on our ministers and our departments to make the appropriate decisions in regard to advertising and the Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Simplify) Bill. I commend the bill to the house.

**Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (16:56):** I rise to commend the bill to the house. I am grateful for the opportunity to do so, and I will address some remarks in a moment to the topic that is preoccupying the bulk of the time in the debate in relation to reforms to modernise the capacity for publication in the modern form.

But, before I do, it is important to highlight that this is indeed a 'simplify' bill which will have the effect of amending or repealing a great number of pieces of legislation, many of which have become redundant over the course of the last century. It is well that we act in this place to clean up the books where there is material in legislation that has well and truly past its use-by date. Just to illustrate that, it may serve to highlight the repeal that is the subject of clause 88, which has the effect of repealing the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1921. It is a short act. I might read it in its entirety. The operative section of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1921 is section (2), which reads as follows:

2—Removal of certain disqualifications arising on account of sex

- (1) A person shall not be disqualified by sex or marriage from being appointed as, or from performing the duties and exercising the functions of—
  - (a) a public notary; or
  - (b) a justice of the peace.
- (2) This Act shall have the same effect as if it had come into operation on the sixth day of July, 1915.

It is somewhat quaint, and one sees immediately that in 2019 one would certainly hope there is absolutely no purpose to be served any longer by a piece of legislation that sets out the positive removal of any pre-existing disqualification of a person who might otherwise be qualified to perform in those public roles, so there we are.

From time to time, these processes provide us with the opportunity to simplify the legislative books and bring this legislature and the legislation of the state into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. I am glad to see that clause 88 of the bill is not the subject of any controversy, and I understand it will be supported in its passage through this house.

There is some controversy in the course of the debate in relation to the modernisation of the publishing requirements in relation to certain official notices. That occupies a number of the parts of this bill that would amend various pieces of legislation that require the publication of notices. I might perhaps, by way of illustration, reflect on a recent significant moment in our state's history in relation to electoral matters. It involved the significant publication of notices in metropolitan and rural newspapers in two stages. I do so to illustrate how the attitude of those on the other side might vary from time to time.



In December 2015, the Electoral Districts Boundaries Commission, published notices indicating the commencement of the work it was to undertake in the course of the 2016 distribution. It published notices in the metropolitan newspapers such as *The Advertiser*, the *Sunday Mail*, *The Weekend Australian* and many of the Messenger newspapers throughout the metropolitan area. The commission also published notices in a wide range of country newspapers, many of which have already been referred to in the course of the debate. They included the fine newspapers that were published weekly in my electorate of Heysen: *The Courier*, *The Weekender Herald*, and, thirdly, as has been adverted to by the member for Hammond, Strathalbyn's *The Southern Argus*.

The Electoral Districts Boundaries Commission went ahead and did that in December 2015 with a view to ensuring that the public was well informed about the process that was underway. It was uncontroversial at the time. It is a matter of public record now that the Electoral Districts Boundaries Commission went about its work throughout the course of 2016 and published a final report in late 2016.

That report was the subject of an appeal by the Labor Party because the Labor Party found that the report had finally and eventually belled the cat on what had been going on over the preceding 40 years. It was a finding of the commission that there had been an electoral imbalance in South Australia over 40 years, with the result that Labor was unfairly succeeding electorally in the vast bulk of elections that had taken place in the preceding 40 years.

The Labor Party did not like those findings, so much so that they instituted an unprecedented appeal against the findings of the boundaries commission very early in 2017. The Labor Party, having instituted the appeal, sought to be heard by the full Supreme Court. Not only that—

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Point of order: the member for Heysen, while normally interesting to the parliament, is unfortunately breaching standing order 128, that is, indulging in irrelevance.

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Duluk):** Thank you very much, member for Lee. I do not uphold that point of order. I am listening intently to the member for Heysen and always value his contribution in the house.

**Mr TEAGUE:** Have patience, I would urge the member for Lee; I am coming to it. I am eminently relevant and you will see why in just a moment. The Labor Party did not like the idea of having a boundaries commission outcome that, for once in 40 years, produced fair boundaries, so much so that they instituted an unprecedented appeal to the Supreme Court. Not only that, but they insisted that the appeal was so important that it be heard by five judges—not the usual three, but five judges. They had their wish granted and—

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Point of order: I know that the member for Heysen is relatively new to this place, but it is important to maintain within the lines your remarks when it comes to the debate on a bill. I know that keeping things within a boundary—for example, a motor vehicle parked in a car park—is a challenge for the member for Heysen and that he is now struggling similarly with the precepts of this debate.

**The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Duluk):** To be fair to the member for Heysen, Wilson's do not leave us too much space. Thank you, member for Lee. I will urge the member for Heysen to stay as relevant as he can and should be to the bill before the house, but of course it is an omnibus broad bill, so I expect a broad contribution.

**Mr TEAGUE:** I thank the Acting Speaker for his guidance and assure the house that I will well and truly stay on the rails. On the very same day that the Labor Party was granted its wish of a five-member Supreme Court bench to hear its unprecedented appeal against the finding of the Electoral Districts Boundaries Commission that produced, for the first time in 40 years, fair electoral boundaries in this state upon which to prosecute an election, orders were made for the publication of notices in newspapers throughout the state.

Those orders were the subject of consideration in the course of directions hearings and there was submission made by parties on the appropriateness, scope and size of notices to be published. What was interesting about the difference between what happened when the commission started its work at the end of 2015 and the notices that it went ahead and published in newspapers was that

that was at the commission's cost. However, when it came to the publication of public notices in newspapers at the time of the appeal, that was to be at the Labor Party's cost.

So, when it came to a requirement that there be a publication in Adelaide's main metropolitan newspaper, *The Advertiser*, and when there was discussion about whether it would be appropriate to publish in *The Australian* and a discussion about the appropriate scope and size of publications to be made in the various country newspapers around the state, the Labor Party took a very keen interest in the cost that was going to entail, the cost the Labor Party was going to have to incur in publishing these notices. My distinct recollection of their attitude at that stage was that the fewer hard-copy publications they would have to foot the bill for, the better.

They thought, 'Well, the public is going to be very adequately informed about this with a minimum amount of publication. We won't want to tell too many people about this' because, firstly, perhaps they were not too proud of themselves in mounting this legal argument. They were not too keen on facing the everyday South Australian and facing up to the sort of argument that they were mounting before the Supreme Court. Secondly, when it comes to having to bear the cost out of your own pocket, it would appear the attitude was very different in early 2017 on the part of the Labor Party to the cost of publication from what it was when it was the commission that had to go about doing the publishing.

That is an illustration of how one's attitude might change depending on one's point of view about the appropriateness of certain forms of publication, their scope and the cost of doing so. Of course, what is important for the government of the day, and for the responsible relevant departments who are charged with publication of important notices pursuant to legislation, is that they must go about doing so in the best interests of informing the public relevantly of the contents of those notices.

The fact is that we are well and truly now—19 years, in fact—into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In the course of our journey into this century, we have seen really rapid technological development. We have seen changes in the norms in terms of people's behaviour, how they consume media and how they go about informing themselves of the issues of the day.

I might say that I am no different from many of my generation, who grew up with hard-copy newspapers as the only way to get hold of the published print media of the day. What I have seen over the course of my growing up into adulthood is that now I find it most convenient for just about all purposes to see and to read the newspaper coverage, whether it be the metropolitan coverage or the material published in my local Hills newspapers, or indeed newspapers globally, on my screen, on my phone, on my tablet or on my computer.

That, of course, provides the opportunity for me, if there is a topic of interest, to easily pick it up and to circulate it to other people I know who I think might find the subject matter interesting. It means the material can come directly to me and be in my hand, wherever I am and instantaneously, and it offers the capacity for those who are charged with informing the public to meet the reader where they are at all times of the day and night, not just in the traditional way at the time that the hard-copy form might be published and distributed.

With those observations, I certainly want to endorse our embrace of this 21<sup>st</sup> century, now almost one-fifth of the way through as it is. I hope that the remaining four-fifths of this 21<sup>st</sup> century might be navigated with a confident attitude towards the technologies that are now well and truly available to us and used by large numbers of South Australians in particular.

I said at the outset that there are three newspapers of particular significance in my electorate of Heysen. I want to reflect on the importance of those three publications in particular because they illustrate how the evolution of the consumption of press media tells us a story about local communities and the receipt of news and notices in those local communities over time. *The Weekender Herald*; *The Courier* newspaper, published out of Mount Barker but very well distributed throughout Heysen; and *The Southern Argus*, published at Strathalbyn and a very important publication for that town, all have a central role to play in ensuring that news, notices and issues of the day are made available to people in my local communities of Heysen.

Indeed, so much so that I can say with a fair amount of confidence that a large number of people in Heysen would read one, two or all three of those newspapers on a regular basis, subscribe to them and follow the news published in those newspapers, well ahead of any engagement with the

metropolitan newspapers, so central are they to day-to-day life through the Hills. I commend those three newspapers in particular amongst so many others that are published throughout the regions of country South Australia.

I encourage the steps that have been taken by them to be increasingly available in electronic form, increasingly available in a way that permits the sorts of advantages that we have been talking about in terms of the development of technology over time. There will always be those who enjoy picking up the hard copy, as I have done at my local Bridgewater service station over many years—it is the first thing you see when you walk in at Bridgewater—but for many, it will be a move to the electronic, and the legislation should reflect that. With those brief words, I commend the bill to the house.

**Mr BASHAM (Finniss) (17:17):** I also rise to support the bill. I have seen many changes in my lifetime in the way we receive our information in life. Computers were first introduced to my school while I was there. One classroom of computers was introduced in my last year at school, which was a completely foreign thing to me. I then went to university and learned some different things there as well. I learned how to program in dBase. I have that knowledge, but I have never used it and I never will because the whole evolution of the internet, computing, etc., has gone well beyond that point.

The debate in the chamber around this bill has very much been focused on communication in country papers. I think we are missing the point of what this is actually doing. This is trying to get the notice to as many people who want to see that notice as possible. Mandating it to be somewhere where people no longer go to get that information does not achieve that. It just sends money into a particular industry, which is not giving the benefit of what we want from communicating that notice to people.

I was very intrigued by a story in today's *Adelaide Advertiser* on the top of their first classifieds page that promotes their new website. They are transitioning their death notices, birth notices and any other tribute notices to a webpage rather than having the main birth and death pages in their classifieds. They are going to allow people to actually access the 33 newspapers that News Corp has throughout their network across Australia, to actually go on there to see what birth and death notices, etc., are there, which means that people will have a wider access.

While looking there, I looked at the next couple of pages, page 43 in the paper, and was amazed to see still in the paper—and I suspect it is because they are required to—the transport movements that are occurring in and out of Adelaide Airport and out of the port of Adelaide and other regional ports around South Australia, seeing the ship movements across the state.

I find it very strange to still have that in the newspaper. How many of us in this chamber would have checked to see what time their flight leaves in the newspaper the last time they flew on a plane? I would have thought they might go to a website or an app where they actually get a really up-to-date time of when the plane might leave, rather than rely on what is printed in the newspaper for the times flights leave Adelaide Airport.

Information needs to be much more current, and the communication to people needs to be understood and made more available by their being able to go to points where they can receive that information. I certainly read *The Advertiser* online as my method of reading that paper. Very rarely do I buy a hard copy of the paper these days.

I was interested on a Saturday to notice an ad for a select committee that was operating out of the other place. I happened to run into someone who was actually interested in that and mentioned the ad to them and asked whether they had seen it. They had not. They did not know that they could see those ads in papers; that is not where they thought they would look for something like that.

They asked me whether I could send them a copy. They asked for a copy by email. They did not ask for a printed copy. They did not want to go and buy a newspaper. They wanted the information electronically. We need to make it available to people in a form that they want to receive that information.

There are also many other things in the bill that I think are very important to simplify and repeal, such as some of those things that are on the statutes that are no longer needed. To clean up all this in a bill is important. With those few words, I very much support this bill.

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills) (17:22):** Thank you very much, Mr Acting Speaker, and what a fine job! I have not heard a peep out of those not contributing during your chairmanship—the fear of God you have placed over the chamber.

It has been a great debate, and I really do appreciate members' contributions, although the member for Lee's conversion on the road to Damascus does remain a mystery. It is very clear in this bill that the majority of the proposed amendments do not relate to regional newspapers and instead pertain to public notices in the *Government Gazette* or statewide newspaper, which is obviously *The Advertiser*.

Perhaps after this debate the member for Lee should be known as Murdoch Mullighan. He seems to be going in to bat for the statewide newspaper, which is itself moving into a very strong online presence. The other curiosity, of course, is that these amendments were absent when the Labor Party handled this bill prior to the election, and they were even absent in the upper house when the bill went through after the election, so the motivation of the opposition on this is curious.

I just want to respond to some of the commentary about the advertising in regional newspapers. Remember, in most instances there is no obligation now for the government to be spending money advertising in the classifieds or public notices, if you like, of government papers. Already this government has made a commitment without obligation through law, but obligation through service, to increase expenditure in regional media since we have been in office.

Of the \$496,457.65 that was spent in 2016-17, \$171,427.91 was spent in regional South Australia. In the next year, 2017, which of course was another year when Labor was in office, there was a total advertising budget of \$511,502.82 of which \$165,424.65 was spent in regional South Australia. Hence, something happened in March last year: there was a change of government and of a total expenditure of \$510,660.05 for the 2018-19 year, \$225,528.25 was spent in public notices in regional newspapers.

But there is more: since May, with the budgeted advertising expense for the Skilled Careers—Your Passion campaign, we are spending \$104,000 in regional media in South Australia. So this government does not require any legislation to force it to have an interest in regional South Australia because that is the backbone of our community. We understand the contribution that regional South Australia makes. We are going through a transition, and that is why the Minister for Education is revolutionising the digital economy and digital education in our schools in South Australia.

By the end of this financial year, we will have gone from what we inherited—the worst connected digital schools in the country—to the best connected digital schools in the country. All our schools, those in regional South Australia and those in metropolitan South Australia, will have fibre connection through a deal that was very well negotiated by the Department for Education to ensure that students in our schools have the best outcome. Then, of course, we have rolled out GigCity and we have expanded to Mount Gambier through the fibre network and into Whyalla, so we have connected GigCity in Adelaide through to Mount Gambier and Whyalla.

We are enabling regional South Australia to come into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Yes, that may have happened, as the member for Heysen pointed out, 19 years after the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, but it did happen and it took this government to make it happen because we are committed to innovation, we are committed to reform and we will make sure that during that reform process we will continue to support regional South Australia.

The member for Narungga made a very strong point when he said that he understood that this government, these ministers, understand the support there is for regional South Australia, and we will continue with that support as we go through the transition. We have proven that. Since we came to office we have spent more money in the public notices without any legal obligation to do so. We do not need that legal obligation.

It would be a pity to hold up this bill. It is going to free up the regulatory environment here in South Australia. It has bipartisan support, it is very similar to the bill that was introduced into the parliament by the previous government. We have made some improvements to that bill and we are reintroducing it. It got through the other place, when there was a perfect opportunity for the Labor

Party to put forward these amendments in the upper house. Yet it has waited until the debate reached the House of Assembly before it even raised any concern.

It really does make you wonder what the country cabinets were all about over the last 16 years. We heard about how important they were for those on the other side in understanding what is important to regional South Australia, yet something they say is important now that they are in opposition that they did not attend to when it first came to the parliament this session but are attending to now all of a sudden is an important issue.

I reinforce the fact that we are committed to supporting regional media; we have done that. We have increased expenditure significantly in supporting regional media, and we have not needed legislation in order to do that because we are committed to regional South Australia.

Bill read a second time.

*Committee Stage*

In committee.

Clause 1.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I move:

That progress be reported.

The committee divided on the motion:

Ayes .....23

Noes .....20

Majority ..... 3

**AYES**

Basham, D.K.B.  
Cregan, D.  
Gardner, J.A.W. (teller)  
Luethen, P.  
Murray, S.  
Pisoni, D.G.  
Tarzia, V.A.  
Whetstone, T.J.

Chapman, V.A.  
Duluk, S.  
Harvey, R.M.  
Marshall, S.S.  
Patterson, S.J.R.  
Power, C.  
Teague, J.B.  
Wingard, C.L.

Cowdrey, M.J.  
Ellis, F.J.  
Knoll, S.K.  
McBride, N.  
Pederick, A.S.  
Sanderson, R.  
van Holst Pellekaan, D.C.

**NOES**

Bedford, F.E.  
Bignell, L.W.K.  
Close, S.E.  
Hildyard, K.A.  
Malinauskas, P.  
Odenwalder, L.K.  
Szakacs, J.K.

Bell, T.S.  
Boyer, B.I.  
Cook, N.F.  
Hughes, E.J.  
Michaels, A.  
Piccolo, A.  
Wortley, D.

Bettison, Z.L.  
Brown, M.E. (teller)  
Gee, J.P.  
Koutsantonis, A.  
Mullighan, S.C.  
Picton, C.J.

Progress thus reported; committee to sit again.

**APPROPRIATION BILL 2019**

*Final Stages*

The Legislative Council agreed to the bill without any amendment.

*Parliamentary Procedure***ADJOURNMENT**

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (17:38):** I move:

That the house do now adjourn.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** I have a contribution to make on the adjournment.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** My advice is that it is not open to debate after it has been moved and after 5.30.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes ..... 22  
 Noes ..... 19  
 Majority ..... 3

**AYES**

Basham, D.K.B.  
 Cregan, D.  
 Harvey, R.M. (teller)  
 Marshall, S.S.  
 Patterson, S.J.R.  
 Power, C.  
 Treloar, P.A.  
 Wingard, C.L.

Chapman, V.A.  
 Duluk, S.  
 Knoll, S.K.  
 McBride, N.  
 Pederick, A.S.  
 Sanderson, R.  
 van Holst Pellekaan, D.C.

Cowdrey, M.J.  
 Ellis, F.J.  
 Luethen, P.  
 Murray, S.  
 Pisoni, D.G.  
 Teague, J.B.  
 Whetstone, T.J.

**NOES**

Bettison, Z.L.  
 Brown, M.E. (teller)  
 Gee, J.P.  
 Koutsantonis, A.  
 Mullighan, S.C.  
 Picton, C.J.  
 Wortley, D.

Bignell, L.W.K.  
 Close, S.E.  
 Hildyard, K.A.  
 Malinauskas, P.  
 Odenwalder, L.K.  
 Stinson, J.M.

Boyer, B.I.  
 Cook, N.F.  
 Hughes, E.J.  
 Michaels, A.  
 Piccolo, A.  
 Szakacs, J.K.

Motion thus carried; house adjourned.

At 17:44 the house adjourned until Tuesday 24 September 2019 at 11:00.

*Answers to Questions***KAURNA ELECTORATE MINISTERIAL VISIT**

**1093 Mr PICTON (Kaurna)** (10 September 2019). Between the dates of 18 March 2018 and 18 July 2019 has the Minister for Energy and Mining visited the electorate of Kaurna?

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** Since 22 March when the Marshall Liberal government's cabinet was sworn in, seven ministers have personally visited the Kaurna electorate.

I can advise that I am not one of the seven ministers that has visited.

**KAURNA ELECTORATE MINISTERIAL VISIT**

**1094 Mr PICTON (Kaurna)** (10 September 2019). On what dates and at what locations has the Minister for Energy and Mining visited the electorate of Kaurna from 18 March 2018 to 18 July 2019?

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I refer to my answer to question with notice number 1093.

**TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE**

In reply to **the Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee)** (19 June 2019).

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised:

As noted in the *Sunday Mail* (09/06/2019), of the \$1.1 billion, \$440.4 million, which equates to 39 per cent of the total expenditure, is within the forward estimates.

**ROAD NETWORK**

In reply to **Mr BELL (Mount Gambier)** (23 July 2019).

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised:

The Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure has identified a Competitive Alliance approach as the preferred model for the Joy Baluch AM Bridge Duplication and Port Wakefield Overpass and Highway Duplication projects. This is the same model used to successfully deliver other large scale infrastructure projects in South Australia, for example the north-south corridor.

*Estimates Replies***JOYCE REVIEW**

In reply to **Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition)** (24 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier):** I have been advised of the following

The total cost was \$108,494.

**MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS FUNDING**

In reply to **Ms HILDYARD (Reynell)** (24 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier):** I have been advised of the following

5EBI radio station is a valued organisation giving an important voice to local multicultural communities. I have been advised there has been no funding cut and that 5EBI multicultural radio station has received funding of \$22,500 towards their annual radiothon for 2019-20.

To ensure funding better reflects the needs and aspirations of our growing multicultural communities, the South Australian government completed a review of multicultural grants programs based on the comparative study of multicultural grants across different jurisdictions in Australia. Every eligible multicultural organisation in South Australia is given the same opportunity to present their case for government support and apply for the four different grant programs on a competitive basis.

5EBI is an eligible multicultural organisation and therefore can assess the following Multicultural Affairs grants: (1) Celebrate Together, (2) Advance Together, (3) Expand Together and (4) Stronger Together.

I have been advised that under new eligibility requirements for the Multicultural Affairs Grants Programs, 5EBI may not be eligible to apply for grants that cater for fundraisers, but the organisation can apply for any of the 4 Multicultural funding streams for future projects.

**PUBLIC SECTOR EXECUTIVES**

In reply to **Mr BROWN (Playford)** (24 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier):** I have been advised of the following:

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019, the following new executive appointments were made within the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

POSITION TITLE	SAES LEVEL
Chief Executive	EXEC0F
Director, Cabinet Advice	SAES Level 1
Director, Protocol and Missions	SAES Level 1
Director, Multicultural Affairs	SAES Level 1

The total employment cost for these executive appointments was \$1,134,010 (excluding on-costs).

Infrastructure SA

POSITION TITLE	SAES LEVEL
Chief Executive	SAES 2

Since 1 July 2018, the following new executive appointments were made within Infrastructure SA.

The total employment cost for these executive appointments was \$297,308 (excluding on-costs).

Office of the South Australian Productivity Commission

Since 1 July 2018, the following new executive appointments were made within the Office of the SA Productivity Commission.

POSITION TITLE	LEVEL
Chief Executive, Office of the SA Productivity Commission	EXEC0F
Deputy Chief Executive, Office of the SA Productivity Commission	SAES2

The total employment cost for these executive appointments was \$324,187.50 (excluding on-costs).

Defence SA

Since 1 July 2018, nil new executive appointments were made within Defence SA.

Individual executive total remuneration package values as detailed in schedule 2 of an executive employee's contract will not be disclosed as it is deemed to be unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP ADVISORY BOARD**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised:

Alcohol is not made available at all FIXE events.

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP ADVISORY BOARD**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised:

Payments made to Mr Freney since he has been on the Entrepreneurship Advisory Board have totalled \$1,185. These payments have been related to costs incurred as part of Mr Freney's role on the Entrepreneurship Advisory Board. Payments made are as follows:



Invoice Date	Period Covered	Amount GST Exclusive \$
31 July 2018	May 2018 to July 2018	345.63
31 August 2018	August 2018	103.61
30 September 2018	September 2018	68.63
31 October 2018	October 2018	85.82
30 November 2018	November 2018	311.56
31 December 2018	December 2018	269.53
		1,184.78

I further advise that no payments have been made to Mr Freney since January 2019.

#### ENTREPRENEURSHIP ADVISORY BOARD

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised:

No.

#### ENTREPRENEURSHIP ADVISORY BOARD

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised:

Yes.

#### APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised:

Yes. Pre-apprenticeships and pre-traineeships are part of the Skilling Australians Fund National Partnership funding agreement, and are counted by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER)—the same way in which they were counted under the former state labor government.

#### IMMIGRATION SA STAFFING LEVELS

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised:

Eleven people have been employed with Immigration SA for more than five years.

#### CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

In reply to **Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised:

Mr Handley, of Handley Accounting, has been engaged by a registered training organisation (North West Business Development Centre) to assist them with auditing and compliance activity, including ASQA auditing and compliance activities. In line with the legislation (specifically 5(1)(b) of the act) Mr Handley was deemed to have the 'appropriate experience' and had also been 'engaged' in vocational education or training. Crown advice was sought prior to making recommendations to the Governor on the appointment.

Mr Handley brings valuable financial and auditing skills that are a great benefit to the operation of the board. I have been advised that soon after his appointment Mr Handley was elected unanimously as Chair of the CITB's Finance and Audit Committee.

#### PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES

In reply to **Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised of the following:

Between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019, there were five executive roles abolished within the Department for Innovation and Skills. They were:

- Director, Operations and Stakeholder Management (SAES1)
- Group Executive Director, Delivery and Engagement (SAES2)
- Director, Evaluation Project (SAES1)

- Project Director, Skilling South Australia (SAES1)
- Director, Strategy, Governance and Coordination (SAES1)

The total full year employment cost for these 5 roles was \$1,171,972 (including super). During this period there were 6 executive roles created:

- Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Chief Entrepreneur (SAES1)
- Director, Creative Industries (SAES1)
- Project Director, Lot 14 (SAES1)
- Project Director, Apprentices and Trainees (SAES1)
- Project Director, Skilling South Australia (SAES1)
- Director, Strategy, Governance and Coordination (SAES1)

The total full year employment cost for these 6 roles was \$1,229,000 (including super).

#### GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised that for the Department for Innovation and Skills

- At 30 June 2019, 10 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$1,286,435
- The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment costs:

Year	No of FTEs budgeted to provide Communication and Promotion Activities	Estimated Employment Expense
2019-20	10	\$1,309,000
2020-21	10	\$1,329,000
2021-22	10	\$1,349,000
2022-23	10	\$1,369,000

- As an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed. The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and are disclosed on the DPC website: <https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure>.

#### PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES

In reply to **Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised that for the Department for Innovation and Skills

Attraction allowances and retention allowances paid to public servants and contractors between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019 were as follows:

Position Title	Classification	Allowance Type	Allowance Amount
Manager, Client Engagement	ASO8	Retention	\$22,000 p.a.
Assistant Director, Policy and Analytics	MAS3	Retention	\$18,986 p.a.
Assistant Director, Regulation and Contract Support Services	MAS3	Retention	\$23,013 p.a.
Assistant Director, ICT Services	MAS3	Retention	\$17,260 p.a.
Project Director, Apprentices and Trainees	ASO8	Retention	\$9,132 p.a.
Manager, Budget and Reporting	ASO8	Attraction	\$10,470 p.a.
Manager, Risk and Performance	ASO8	Retention	\$11,661 p.a.
Director, Science, Technology and Commercialisation	SAES1	Attraction	\$5,232 p.a.

#### MINISTERIAL STAFF

In reply to **Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised the following in relation to staff employed within my office:

- Ministerial staff employed as at 5 July was published in the *Government Gazette* on 18 July 2019.

- The following table lists public sector staff employed as at 30 June 2019.

Title	ASO Classification	Non- salary benefits
Principal Ministerial Liaison Officer	ASO8	Car Park
Office Manager	ASO7	
Executive Officer to the Minister	ASO6	Car Park
Senior Business Support Officer	ASO5	
Ministerial Liaison Officer	ASO5	
Cabinet and Parliamentary Officer	ASO5	
Correspondence Officer	ASO3	

\* Denotes maternity leave

\*\*Denotes leave without pay

[Note – non-salary benefit could be a description or value (i.e. car park)]

- Nil staff were seconded from the department to my office as at 30 June 2019.

#### TERMINATION PAYOUTS

In reply to **Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised of the following:

Two executive level employees have been terminated from the Department for Innovation and Skills since 1 July 2018. The roles that were occupied by the terminated employees were:

- Director, Information Technology and Property Management (SAES1)
- Director, Office of the Training and Skills Commission (SAES1)

The total value of the termination payments made were \$230,708.10.

#### PUBLIC SECTOR EXECUTIVES

In reply to **Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised of the following:

Since 1 July 2018 up to and including 30 June 2019, the following new executive appointments were made within the Department for Innovation and Skills.

POSITION TITLE	SAES LEVEL
Director, People and Performance	SAES1
Project Director, Lot 14	SAES1
Director, Science, Technology and Commercialisation	SAES1
Director, Strategic Policy and Projects	SAES1
Chief Operating Officer, Office of the Chief Entrepreneur	SAES1
Project Director, Skilling South Australia	SAES1

The total annual employment cost for these executive appointments was \$1,117,977.00 (excluding on-costs).

Individual executive total remuneration package values as detailed in schedule 2 of an executive employee's contract will not be disclosed as it is deemed to be unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

#### GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

In reply to **Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised:

Section 4 of DPC Circular 13—Annual Reporting details the use of the annual report template. The template includes sections for an organisational structure and changes to the agency to be included by each agency.

I refer the member to the annual reports which will be published for each of the agencies I am responsible for.

#### ELECTRANET

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised of the following

ElectraNet weighted average cost of capital is determined as part of its five-yearly revenue proposal.

**ELECTRICITY PRICES**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised of the following:

On 25 July 2019, the commonwealth government 10-year treasury bond yield was 1.26 per cent.

**MINING INDUSTRY**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised of the following:

The Department for Energy and Mining in the final preparation of the 2019-20 Agency Statement identified that the \$4.6 million projection for mineral production did not match the \$4.8 million previously used in the 2018-19 Agency Statement. Despite attempts to correct this mismatched projection in the production process, the 2019-20 state budget papers inadvertently retained the \$4.6 billion in the final Agency Statement.

**ELECTRICITY GENERATION**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised of the following:

On 24 January 2019, the emergency generators, under direction from the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO), dispatched a total output of 732 megawatt/hours for the four-hour period of operation, peaking at an instantaneous output of 216 megawatts.

**GRID SCALE STORAGE FUND**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised of the following:

Applications to the Grid Scale Storage Fund closed in February 2019 and 53 proposals were received. My department has evaluated all proposals and proponents have been advised whether their proposals have been shortlisted. My department is currently engaged in negotiations with shortlisted proponents and the government will make investment decisions in the coming months.

**PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised of the following:

Between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019, there were nil executive roles abolished within the Department for Energy and Mining. During this period there were nil executive roles created.

**PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised that for the Department for Energy and Mining:

At 30 June 2019 8.4 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions in 2018-19, costing \$0.83 million.

The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment costs:

Year	No of FTEs budgeted to provide Communication and Promotion Activities	Estimated Employment Expense
2019-20	7.8	\$0.79 million
2020-21	7.8	\$0.80 million
2021-22	7.8	\$0.81 million
2022-23	7.8	\$0.82 million

- As an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed. The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and are disclosed on the DPC website: <https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure>.

**MINISTERIAL STAFF**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised that for the Department for Energy and Mining:

Attraction allowances, retention allowances and non-salary benefits paid to public servants and contractors between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019:

Position title	Classification	Allowance Type	Allowance Amount
Manager, Exploration Assessment	PO5	Retention	\$21,745
Principal Mining Assessment Officer	PO4	Retention	\$21,094
Principal Resource Information Officer	PO5	Retention	\$20,600
Manager, Exploration Regulation	PO5	Retention	\$21,745
Deputy Director	PO5	Retention	\$23,407 increasing to \$24,182
Principal Mining Assessment Officer	PO4	Retention	\$21,094
Chief Geoscientist	PO5	Retention	\$23,407 increasing to \$24,182
Deputy Director, Principal Reservoir Engineer	PO5	Retention	\$34,643 increasing to \$41,837
Senior Case Manager	ASO8	Retention	\$21,631
Manager, Gas Systems Regulation	PO5	Attraction	\$6,569 increasing to \$10,500
Manager, Infrastructure	PO5	Retention	20% of salary (\$24,181)
Team Leader, Mining Compliance	PO4	Retention	\$18,985
Team Leader, Environmental Approvals and Compliance	PO4	Retention	\$18,790
Principal Drilling and Well Operations Engineer	PO5	Retention	\$34,634 increasing to \$41,837
Senior Case Manager	ASO8	Retention	\$8,652
Principal Mining Regulator	PO4	Retention	\$18,445 reducing to \$14,756
General Manager, Policy and Communications	ASO8	Retention	\$22,963 increasing to \$23,323
Principal Facility and Pipes Engineer	PO5	Retention	\$34,643
Principal Technical Officer	PO4	Retention	\$6,500
General Manager, Oil and Gas	PO5	Attraction	30.35% (\$36,395)
General Manager, Licensing and Regulation	MAS3	Retention	\$17,530

**TARGETED VOLUNTARY SEPARATION PACKAGES**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised the following in relation to staff employed within my office:

- Ministerial staff employed as at 5 July was published in the *Government Gazette* on 18 July 2019.
- The following table lists public sector staff employed as at 30 June 2019

Title	ASO Classification	Non- salary benefits
Business Support Officer	ASO3	Nil
Business Support Officer	ASO3	Nil
Senior Business Support Officer	ASO4	Nil
Cabinet/Parliamentary Officer	ASO5	Nil
Cabinet/Parliamentary Officer*	ASO5	Nil
Executive Assistant	ASO5	Nil
Liaison Officer	ASO6	Nil
Office Manager	ASO7	Nil
Liaison Officer	PO3	Nil

\* Denotes maternity leave

\*\*Denotes leave without pay

- The following table lists staff seconded from the department to my office as at 30 June 2019.

Title	ASO Classification	Non- salary benefits
NIL		

**PUBLIC SECTOR EXECUTIVES**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised of the following

Nil executive level employees have been terminated from The Department for Energy and Mining since 1 July 2018.

**PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised of the following

Since 1 July 2018, the following new executive appointments were made within the Department for Energy and Mining.

POSITION TITLE	SAES LEVEL
Director, Corporate Services	SAES1
Director, Low Carbon Industry Development	SAES1
Director, Strategy and Government Relations	SAES1
Director, Strategy and Government Relations (term backfill arrangement)	SAES1

The total employment cost for these executive appointments was \$759,967 inclusive of 2 per cent cabinet increase (excluding on-costs).

Individual executive total remuneration package values as detailed in schedule 2 of an executive employee's contract will not be disclosed as it is deemed to be unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

(Note CE salary package published on OCPSE website so can be released)

**GOVERNMENT SAVINGS TARGET**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised:

The annual reports published for each of the agencies I am responsible for will contain this information.

**CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT**

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection):** I have been advised of the following:

Placement Category	2018-19 Estimate \$000s	2019-20 Budget \$000s	2020-21 Estimate \$000s	2021-22 Estimate \$000s	2022-23 Estimate \$000s	Total 5 year Estimate \$000s
Total Family Based Placements	-	18,478	5,856	2,588	-	26,922
Total Non-Family Based Placements	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	18,478	5,856	2,588	-	26,922

**FOSTER CARERS**

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection):** I have been advised of the following:

In alignment with the data provided as part of estimates, as at 31 May 2019, of the 128 foster care households that entered the child protection system since 1 July 2018, 71 of these foster care households had children or young people placed in their care.

**CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT**

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection):** I have been advised of the following:

The table below provides the vacancies by position group in the department as at 30 June 2019.

Position Groups	Classifications	Temp vacant > 90 days duration	Vacant	Total
Other Child Protection Workers	AHP1-4	1.5	14.5	16
Social Worker / Case Manager	AHP1-4/PO1-4	19	32.8	51.8
Manager	MAS3/ASO7-8/AHP4-5/PO4-5	3	7	10
Operational	OPS1-5	25.3	38.4	63.7
Administration	ASO1-8	17.5	27.8	45.3
Total		66.3	120.5	186.8

\*Total vacancies include all temporary vacancies that have been vacant for more than 90 days, and all substantively vacant roles (i.e. do not have an employee returning to that role).

Social workers and case managers refer to the following positions: social workers; case managers; senior practitioners; high-risk infant workers; and AHP supervisors.

The other child protection workers position group includes the following roles: Aboriginal family practitioners, psychologists, occupational therapists, assessment officers and other allied health professional classified roles.

The operational position group includes all roles classified in the OPS stream, including: youth workers, case support workers, case workers, access workers, and care and protection workers.

#### **CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEMS ROYAL COMMISSION**

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection):** I have been advised of the following:

There were 29 positions (28.5 FTE) for which short-term contract extensions were given.

There were 11 positions that were not reappointed.

#### **CHILDREN IN CARE**

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (25 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection):** I have been advised of the following:

As at 30 June 2019, it is estimated that up to 49 children and young people in care were eligible for but yet to acquire an NDIS plan.

#### **PUBLIC SECTOR EXECUTIVES**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

No.

#### **SAFECOM REVIEW**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

No.

#### **FIRE STATION PFAS INVESTIGATION**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

The MFS offered voluntary blood tests to all current and former MFS staff who may have been exposed to firefighting foam containing PFAS substances. The initial round of blood testing was completed on 31 July 2019 and this involved a total of 722 PFAS blood tests from current and former staff.

At this stage, test results are not clinically meaningful, as serum levels detected by blood tests do not provide an interpretable measure of health risk.

#### FIRE STATION PFAS INVESTIGATION

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I received a copy of the report from the MFS on 5 March 2019.

#### METROPOLITAN FIRE SERVICE

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

The MFS Largs North Fire Station crews are temporarily housed at the Fort Largs Police Academy. The MFS are using four rooms including access to a common kitchen area at a cost of \$9,600 per month plus GST. These costs are funded from the MFS budget.

#### PUBLIC SECTOR EXECUTIVES

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

There is no statutory obligation to publish the remuneration information of Chief Executives on the Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment (OCPSE) website.

The decision to do so stems from an election commitment made by the Premier to deliver open and accountable government to the South Australian community.

The information was first published in October 2018 and relates only to chief executives of a department or attached office employed by the Premier pursuant to Part 6 of the Public Sector Act 2009. As the contracts of employment of relevant chief executives are maintained by the OCPSE, the OCPSE is responsible for updating and maintaining the published information as required.

#### EMERGENCY SERVICES

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have not had any concerns expressed by any of the chief officers or volunteer associations about the length of time taken.

#### METROPOLITAN FIRE SERVICE

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

As of 30 June 2018, MFS workforce data showed a total of 1,214 personnel, of which 65 were female.

As of 30 June 2019, MFS workforce data showed a total of 1,270 personnel, of which 75 were female.

#### PRISONER NUMBERS

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):**

Total Number of Women Incarcerated (5 year figures and trend)				
Year	Daily Average	As at 30 June	% change over previous year	Peak
2014-15	167	161	N/A	194
2015-16	176	198	18.69%	208
2016-17	210	216	8.33%	230
2017-18	225	225	4.00%	258
2018-19	203	199	-13.07%	229



**PRISON INFRASTRUCTURE**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** The female sentenced population is projected to increase from 100.39 to 140.3 (growth rate of 3.35 per cent) and the female remand population is projected to increase from 83.77 to 171.98 (growth rate of 6.68 per cent). Overall the female prison population is projected to increase at an annual compound growth rate of 5.39 per cent over ten years.

It is noted that the use and accuracy of prisoner projections is crucial to forecast future trends and plan appropriately so that the prison system is capable of accommodating future prison populations.

**YATALA LABOUR PRISON**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** The Department for Correctional Services has advised no.

**PRISON SERVICES**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

The project team is overseen by the Executive Director, Better Prisons, a former prison general manager, and was formed to have a specific skill set and appropriate qualifications to undertake the range of projects under Better Prisons.

This includes skills in the following areas:

- Custodial Operations
- Security and Emergency Management
- Human Resource & Industrial Relations
- Contract Management & Procurement
- Financial Management & Accounting
- Program Management
- Data Analysis
- Offender Development and Rehabilitation
- Communications
- Administration Support

**POLICE NUMBERS**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

The average number of full-time equivalent sworn police officers (including community constables) across the 2018-19 financial year was 4,727.3 FTEs.

**POLICE STATIONS**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

1. No.
2. Yes.

**APY LANDS POLICING MODEL**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** Yes.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

As has always been the case, any new initiative linked to Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) is required to come through to the South Australia Police NHW section, including application of the NHW brand.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

The Facebook page which was the subject of that correspondence had been created outside of the control of South Australia Police (SAPOL) and Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers Association of South Australia Inc. (NHWVASA). The Facebook group was using the name Pooraka Neighbourhood Watch and the four-headed logo which could indicate to members of the public that it had been approved by NHWVASA and by inference, SAPOL.

Due to the inextricable link between Neighbourhood Watch and SAPOL which has developed over many years, any posts, comments or shares could be construed as being supported by SAPOL and/or NHWVASA. This was particularly concerning as SAPOL had no control over the page or its content either through policy setting or capacity to moderate. It was deemed to be too great a risk to SAPOL's reputation and integrity to allow the page to continue operating as it was, so an email was sent to rectify this.

The Facebook page is still running, but under the name Pooraka Neighbourhood Area Awareness Group.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

The current common practice is that any 'new initiative' linked to Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) comes through to the South Australia Police (SAPOL) NHW section, including application and use of the NHW brand.

The guidelines regarding NHW branding, including the approval process, is currently being reviewed in the broader Community Crime Prevention Programs Manual (CCPPM) review which is underway.

The policy regarding the use of branding exists within the CCPPM and all crime prevention programs operating under the auspices of SAPOL refer to this Manual for the day to day running of the program. This Manual is currently under review by State Community Engagement Section, Governance and Capability Service.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** No.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

The Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers Association of South Australia Inc. (NHWVASA) has a constitution and regulations that are managed by the incorporated body.

Individual NHWVASA groups are guided by the Community Crime Prevention Programs Manual which was authored and is managed by South Australia Police.

Individual NHWVASA groups are not an incorporated body. However, these groups join together to create NHWVASA which is an incorporated body.

NHWVASA have a constitution and regulations which apply to administrative and business functions.

**CRIME STOPPERS SA**

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

The success of the South Australian Crime Stoppers program can be measured by the number of community contacts and the results obtained from the information that is actioned by South Australia Police.

#### CRIME STOPPERS SA

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** Yes.

#### EXPIATION NOTICES

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

The below table provides data of cannabis notices issued over a five-year period. What can be concluded from the data is that there has been a downward trend in the number of cannabis expiation notices issued over the previous 4 years:

FY	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
Notices Issued	9,616	10,038	9,457	9,212	8,300

#### DUGGAN REVIEW

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

1. Yes.
2. No, this document is cabinet in confidence.

#### PRISON SERVICES

In reply to **Ms BEDFORD (Florey)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

The online booking system for professional visitors will be fully implemented in 2020 across all South Australian prisons. A trial of an online domestic booking portal is planned for the near future.

#### PRISON SERVICES

In reply to **Ms BEDFORD (Florey)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

Currently if a professional visitor wishes to see more than one prisoner multiple visits can be arranged in a single booking depending on the availability at the particular site.

With regard to consecutive professional appointments, there is no requirement for the professional visitor to go back through the initial security process if the appointments are booked either in the morning or in the afternoon.

It is noted that the full implementation of the online professional booking system will allow consecutive appointments to be made in a more efficient manner compared to the current telephone booking system. The online booking system will also allow a professional visitor to see multiple prisoners by making one appointment online.

#### RACING INDUSTRY

In reply to **Ms HILDYARD (Reynell)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

The conditions of the grant offer relate to governance reform.

The three racing codes must ensure that they have a skill-based, independent board. A directors selection panel must be formed comprising five members, three of which are endorsed by the government. The Directors nominated by the directors selection panel will be referred to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing for endorsement.

The codes must also review their governance practices against accepted governance frameworks, like those published by the Australian Institute of Company Directors and ensure that their board documentation, processes and practices are consistent with these best practice guidelines.

#### RACING INDUSTRY

In reply to **Ms HILDYARD (Reynell)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

Questions relating to government revenue are to be directed to the Treasurer.

#### CIVILIAN PROSECUTORS

In reply to **the Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):** I have been advised of the following:

Civilian prosecutors and sworn police officers have different awards and employee entitlements and therefore do not have the same pay structure.

Police prosecutors are classified at the Brevet Sergeant level and when taking into account on costs for superannuation, payroll tax and prosecutors allowance, have an annual cost of \$121,700 (SAPOL Police Enterprise Agreement 2016 award for 2019-20).

Civilian solicitors are classified at LEG3 level and when taking into account on costs for superannuation and payroll tax, have an annual cost of \$111,900 (South Australian Modern Public Sector Enterprise Agreement: Salaried 2017 award for 2019-20).

#### HEALTHSCOPE

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** The Department of Human Services (DHS) has advised:

To the best of their knowledge, no DHS staff member has met with Healthscope representatives in the past 16 months.

#### HOUSING AUTHORITY

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** The SA Housing Authority has advised:

The reduction in cash reserves over the forward estimates is as follows:

SA Housing Authority Cash Reserves				
	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Opening Balance	771,726	607,072	512,305	344,240
Closing Balance	607,072	512,305	344,240	171,852
Movement	-164,654	-94,767	-168,065	-172,388

#### HOUSING AUTHORITY

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** The SA Housing Authority has advised:

The nine beds referenced are nine separate one-bedroom properties. Future properties will range from single bedroom homes to four bedroom homes to best meet the needs of each identified region.

#### HOUSING AUTHORITY

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** The SA Housing Authority has advised:

On the state government's commitment to provide 40 beds, the number of homes, or properties, that will be used to fulfil the commitment will be determined as properties are selected in each of the identified regions. Properties will vary by size from single-bedroom homes to four-bedroom homes to best meet the needs of each identified region.

The cost to upgrade the security on properties selected will be in line with current security upgrade costs. A full suite of upgrades cost approximately \$15,000 per property for a large home. The final cost will be determined as the beds are rolled out and will vary based on the size of the property and existing infrastructure.

#### **YOUTH JUSTICE SYSTEM**

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** The Department of Human Services has advised:

Youth Justice's case management and assessment practices were reviewed following enactment of the Youth Justice Administration Act 2016, to take into account relevant considerations, including gender. Further work is being undertaken in this financial year to further develop our policies and procedures, to ensure they appropriately cater to gender diverse young people in our service.

#### **VOLUNTEER SCREENING CHECKS**

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** The Department of Human Services has advised:

There have been no changes in regard to volunteers receiving free screening checks through the DHS Screening Unit or free National Police Certificates (NPC) provided by SAPOL through the Volunteer Organisation Authorisation Number (VOAN) Scheme.

All screening checks offered by the DHS Screening Unit are free for volunteers. They have been free since 1 November 2018.

Volunteers who work in positions where a DHS screening check is not required may obtain a NPC through SAPOL. If the organisation they volunteer for has a VOAN the NPC is free.

#### **REDUNDANCY PAYMENTS**

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** The Department of Human Services has advised:

Details of the redundancy payment to the former head of the Supported Accommodation Public Corporation will not be released as it is considered an unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

#### **HIGHGATE PARK**

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** The Department of Human Services has advised:

The Highgate Park site at Fullarton is subject to the terms and conditions of the Home for Incurables Trust.

As the Minister for Human Services, I am the trustee for the Home for Incurables Trust. As trustee, it is my legal obligation to ensure that trust property is applied towards the purposes of the trust. This includes a responsibility to ensure that all land and property subject to the trust is managed in the best interests of the trust. Any proceeds arising from the sale of land or property is to be used for the purposes of the trust.

#### **SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION**

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** The Department of Human Services has advised:

Aside from the redundancy payment to the former head of the Supported Accommodation Public Corporation, there are no other costs specifically incurred in relation to the disbanding of the public corporation.

#### **PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES**

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** I have been advised of the following:

Between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019, there were four executive roles abolished and six executive roles created within the Department of Human Services. They were:

- Director, Disability Community Services (SAES Level 1)
- Director, People and Culture (SAES Level 1)

- Executive Director, Corporate Services (SAES Level 2)
- Director, Legal Services (SAES Level 2)

The total employment cost for these four roles was \$823,650 (excluding on-costs).

- Chief Information Officer, Finance and Business Services (SAES Level 1)
- Director, Early Intervention Research Directorate (SAES Level 1)
- Director, HR, Wellbeing and Safety (SAES Level 1)
- Director, Organisational Development and Analysis (SAES Level 1)
- Director, Service Transfer (SAES Level 1)
- Executive Director, Strategy and Accommodation Services (SAES Level 1)

The total employment cost for these six roles was \$1,056,373 (excluding on-costs).

Between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019, there were three executive roles abolished and six executive roles created within the SA Housing Authority. They were:

- Director Strategy & Reporting (SAES Level 1)
- Director Finance (SAES Level 1)
- General Manager, People & Corporate Support (SAES Level 1)
- The total estimated employment cost for these three roles was \$441,691 (excluding on-costs).
- Chief Executive (EXEC Level 00)
- Director People and Culture (SAES Level 1)
- Executive Director Finance & Investment (SAES Level 1)
- Executive Director People & Safety (SAES Level 2)
- General Manager, Customers & Services (SAES Level 1)
- General Manager, People & Corporate Support (SAES Level 1)

The total estimated employment cost for these six roles was \$1,338,116 (excluding on-costs).

#### GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** I have been advised that for:

The Department of Human Services (DHS):

- In 2018-19, 11.5 FTEs with an employment expense of \$1,368,062 were employed to provide communication and promotion activities for the department
- 4.8 FTEs were seconded to the SAHA from 1 July 2018 until 30 November 2018, at an employment expense of \$212,594 as part of machinery of government changes.
- The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment costs:

Year	No of FTEs budgeted to provide Communication and Promotion Activities	Estimated Employment Expense
2019-20	8.8	\$1,111,712
2020-21	6.8	\$858,368
2021-22	6.8	\$871,244
2022-23	6.8	\$884,312

- The total cost of Department of Human Services government-paid advertising, across all mediums in 2017-18 was \$225,392
- The cost for government-paid advertising for 2018-19 was \$246,411

The SA Housing Authority (SAHA):

- At 30 June 2019, 6.8 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$323,159.
- The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment costs.

Year	No of FTEs budgeted to provide Communication and Promotion Activities	Estimated Employment Expense
2019-20	7.8	\$814,132
2020-21	6.8	\$712,056
2021-22	6.8	\$722,737
2022-23	6.8	\$733,578

- As an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed.

The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and are disclosed on the DPC website: <https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure>.

#### PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** I have been advised of the following:

Attraction allowances, retention allowances and non-salary benefits paid to public servants and contractors between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019:

For the Department of Human Services (DHS)

Position Title	Class	Allowance Type	Allowance Amount
Director Aboriginal Policy & Projects	MAS301	Attraction and retention allowances	\$23,547.15
Director Community Engagement & Grants	MAS301	Attraction and retention allowances	\$2,688.30
Director, Community Services	ASO803	Attraction and retention allowances	\$3,682.88
Director, Domiciliary Care	MAS301	Attraction and retention allowances	\$224.05
Director, Strategy & Partnerships	ASO803	Attraction and retention allowances	\$15,877.92
General Manager, Community Youth Justice	MAS301	Attraction and retention allowances	\$3,872.24
General Manager	MAS301	Attraction and retention allowances	\$4,600.63
General Manager, DES	MAS301	Attraction and retention allowances	\$9,968.14
Lead Software Developer	ASO603	Attraction and retention allowances	\$19,096.57
Manager of Employment Relations	MAS300	Attraction and retention allowances	\$448.05
Manager, Communications & Engagement	ASO801	Attraction and retention allowances	\$5,612.29
Manager, Interpreter & Translator Services	MAS301	Attraction and retention allowances	\$4,983.95
Manager, Management Accounting	ASO803	Attraction and retention allowances	\$8,304.61
Manager, Mimili Wellbeing Centre	ASO603	Attraction and retention allowances	\$9,034.79
Program Officer—Ceduna Street Beat	ASO404	Attraction and retention allowances	\$5,921.67
Project Manager	ASO704	Attraction and retention allowances	\$10,463.92
Senior Consultant Psychiatrist	MD029G	Attraction and retention allowances	\$3,247.82
Senior Practitioner	PO601	Attraction and retention allowances	\$293.01

For the SA Housing Authority:

Position Title	Class	Allowance Type	Allowance Amount
Business Analyst	ASO704	Attraction and retention allowances	\$21,661
Chief Information Officer	MAS301	Attraction and retention allowances	\$29,667
ICT Service Manager	ASO803	Attraction and retention allowances	\$23,323
Maintenance Coordinator	OPS503	Attraction and retention allowances	\$12,133
Manager Finance Account—BST Program	ASO803	Attraction and retention allowances	\$11,661
Manager, Far West	ASO803	Attraction and retention allowances	\$22,963
Manager, Far West	ASO803	Attraction and retention allowances	\$23,323
Manager, ICT Infrastructure Service	ASO803	Attraction and retention allowances	\$23,323
Portfolio Manager	ASO803	Attraction and retention allowances	\$23,323
Project Coordinator	ASO703	Attraction and retention allowances	\$10,554
Project Coordinator	ASO704	Attraction and retention allowances	\$10,831
Project Manager	ASO704	Attraction and retention allowances	\$21,661
Senior Business Analyst	ASO704	Attraction and retention allowances	\$21,661
Senior Business Analyst	ASO704	Attraction and retention allowances	\$10,831
Senior Systems Architect	ASO704	Attraction and retention allowances	\$18,954
Senior Systems Developer	ASO504	Attraction and retention allowances	\$13,215
Senior Systems Developer	ASO504	Attraction and retention allowances	\$13,215
Senior Systems Developer	ASO504	Attraction and retention allowances	\$13,215
Senior Systems Developer	ASO504	Attraction and retention allowances	\$13,215
System Developer	ASO504	Attraction and retention allowances	\$13,215
Systems Architect	ASO603	Attraction and retention allowances	\$14,451

Position Title	Class	Allowance Type	Allowance Amount
Team Leader	ASO504	Attraction and retention allowances	\$8,810
Tenancy Practitioner (Country)	OPS403	Attraction and retention allowances	\$10,839
Tenancy Practitioner (Country)	OPS403	Attraction and retention allowances	\$11,064

#### MINISTERIAL STAFF

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** I have been advised the following in relation to staff employed within my office:

- Ministerial staff employed as at 5 July was published in the *Government Gazette* on 18 July 2019.
- The following table lists public sector staff employed as at 30 June 2019.

Title	ASO Classification	Non-salary benefits
MLO—Housing	ASO704	Nil
MLO—Disabilities	ASO704	Nil
Office Manager	ASO704	Nil
MLO—Human Services	ASO603	Nil
Executive Assistant to Minister	ASO603	Nil
Briefings Coordinator	ASO404	Nil
Receptionist/Administration Officer	ASO203	Nil
Receptionist/Administration Officer	ASO203	Nil

- No staff were seconded from the department to my office as at 30 June 2019.

#### TERMINATION PAYOUTS

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** I have been advised of the following:

Six executive level employees have been terminated from the Department of Human Services, and nil executive level employees have been terminated from the SA Housing Authority between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019.

The total value of the termination payments made was \$1,388,261.05.

#### PUBLIC SECTOR EXECUTIVES

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** I have been advised of the following:

From 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019, the following new executive appointments were made within the Department of Human Services.

POSITION TITLE	SAES LEVEL
Chief Information Officer	1
Director, Early Intervention Research Directorate	1
Director, Incident Management Unit	1
Director, State Recovery	1

The total employment cost for these executive appointments was \$775,089 (excluding on-costs).

From 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019, the following new executive appointments were made within the SA Housing Authority.

POSITION TITLE	SAES LEVEL
Chief Executive	EXEC00
Executive Director, People and Safety	SAES02

The total employment cost for these executive appointments is \$687,960 (excluding on-costs).

Individual executive total remuneration package values as detailed in schedule 2 of an executive employee's contract will not be disclosed as it is deemed to be unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

#### GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

In reply to **Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale)** (26 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)



**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (Minister for Human Services):** I have been advised of the following:

The annual reports published for each of the agencies I am responsible for will contain this information.

#### PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

In reply to **the Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure that, in relation to the three implementation areas—or phases—being used for the transition to the new planning system:

- Outback areas – phase 1 areas – are the unincorporated areas of the state – those which are not within the area of a council – they comprise land to the north of Goyder's Line excluding Roxby Downs and Coober Pedy (both of which are in the area of a council) and all of the state's coastal waters along Adelaide's coastline.
- Regional areas – phase 2 areas – are the quintessentially rural areas of the state – those which are not part of Greater Adelaide nor within a regional city council area. These include all parts of the state that are contained within a local government area that can be characterised as rural in nature. The affected local government areas are identified below:

Barunga West	Grant	Renmark Paringa
Berri Barmera	Kangaroo Island	Robe
Ceduna	Karoonda East Murray	Roxby Downs
Clare & Gilbert Valleys	Kimba	Southern Mallee District
Cleve	Kingston	Streaky Bay
Coober Pedy	Lower Eyre Peninsula	Tatiara
Coorong	Loxton Waikerie	Tumby Bay
Copper Coast	Mount Remarkable	Wakefield Regional
Elliston	Naracoorte Lucindale	Wattle Range
The Flinders Ranges	Northern Areas	Wudinna
Franklin Harbour	Orroroo	Yorke Peninsula
Goyder	Peterborough	

- Metropolitan areas—phase 3 areas—are those parts of the state within the boundaries of our Greater Adelaide Councils, our regional city councils and the coastal waters along the Adelaide coastline. These include all parts of the state that are contained within a local government area that can be characterised as urban in nature, or contain areas that are urban in nature. The affected local government areas are identified below:

Adelaide	Mid Murray	Prospect
Adelaide Hills	Mitcham	Salisbury
Adelaide Plains	Mount Barker	Tea Tree Gully
Alexandrina	Mount Gambier	Unley
Barossa	Murray Bridge	Victor Harbor
Burnside	Norwood, Payneham & St Peters	Walkerville
Campbelltown	Onkaparinga	West Torrens
Charles Sturt	Playford	Whyalla
Gawler	Port Adelaide Enfield	Yankalilla
Holdfast Bay	Port Augusta	Metro Coastal Waters
Light	Port Lincoln	
Marion	Port Pirie'	

#### TERMINATION PAYOUTS

In reply to **the Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised of the following:

Adelaide Cemeteries Authority

No executive level employees have been terminated from Adelaide Cemeteries Authority since 1 July 2018.

West Beach Trust

No executive level employees have been terminated from West Beach Trust since 1 July 2018.

HomeStart

No executive level employees have been terminated from HomeStart Finance since 1 July 2018.

## DPTI

Two executive level employees have been terminated from DPTI since 1 July 2018.

Details of the separation payments of these former executive employees will not be released as it is considered an unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

## Renewal SA

No executive level employees have been terminated from Renewal SA since 1 July 2018.

**GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS**

In reply to **the Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** The annual reports published for each of the agencies I am responsible for will contain this information.

**PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure—

There are approximately 380 FTEs working on the DPTI capital program in 2019-20. This includes FTEs that work specifically on the capital program which are both directly and indirectly charged to capital projects.

Note that this excludes corporate support staff that are indirectly supporting the delivery of these projects. Also note that this FTE figure will change from year to year dependent on the size of the capital program and the nature of each capital project.

**PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure—

1. The forward budgets for the marine facilities levy for recreation and commercial vessels are:

Financial Year	Amount
2019-20	\$3.218m
2020-21	\$3.298m
2021-22	\$3.381m; and
2022-23	\$3.467m.

2. Clause 2.2 of the Operating Protocols (from 2018/19) of the South Australian Boating Facility Advisory Committee states that 'supporting infrastructure, such as access roads, lighting and public amenities are to be excluded from funding, unless it can be demonstrated that it relates to the three Strategic Priorities (Activating key boating hubs, Connecting key boating routes, Improving safety outcomes) and is critical to the successful delivery of the project.

**NORTH-SOUTH CORRIDOR**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure—

There are currently approximately 56 FTEs working on the existing north-south corridor projects including the Darlington upgrade, Pym to Regency, Torrens to Torrens and the Northern Connector.

This includes FTEs that work specifically on the north-south corridor projects which are both directly and indirectly charged to the project.

Note that this excludes corporate support staff that are indirectly supporting the delivery of these projects. Also note that this FTE figure may change dependent on the stages of the works from year to year.

**ADELAIDE FESTIVAL CENTRE CAR PARK**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure—

1. The \$30 million lease payment for state car park spaces was listed in the 2018-2019 budget papers as it was previously budgeted in 2017-2018.
2. The \$30 million lease payment was reprofiled to 2020-2021, to align with the forecast completion date of the car park. Therefore, the \$30 million does not appear in the 2019-2020 budget papers.
3. Please refer to the above responses.
4. Please refer to the above responses.

#### TRAIN NETWORK

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure—

In reference to Budget Paper 4 Volume 3 page 145, the 2019-20 budget for SA Public Transport Authority is \$555 million. Of the budgeted \$555 million, approximately \$223 million is to operate the train network. This amount includes the depreciation of rail assets.

#### PLANNING, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEPARTMENT

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure—

The department has not specifically spent any money on alcohol in the 2018-19 financial year.

#### RENEWAL SA

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised by Renewal SA—

1. In the 2018-19 financial year \$821,001 was spent on payments to the chief executive and the acting chief executive.
2. In the 2018-19 financial year \$1,410,137 was spent on total payments to executive staff at Renewal SA. Total payment for the 2017-18 financial year was \$1,582,740.

#### RENEWAL SA

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised by Renewal SA—

1. Mr Hanlon's salary was \$357,305
2. The acting chief executive's salary was \$355,615.

#### BUS SERVICES

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure—

Adelaide Metro Bus Contracts

- The new Adelaide metro bus service contracts have been designed around a contract term of eight years with a performance review at year 5.
- The performance review is based on nominated performance criteria.
- If the performance criteria are achieved or exceeded, the term is eight years.
- If the operator fails to achieve the performance standards, DPTI can elect to terminate the contract at the year 5 review.
- This termination is an election at DPTI discretion.
- In addition there is a two-year option exercisable in year 7 to extend the eight-year term by two years.
- The option is solely at the discretion of DPTI.

Regional Bus Contracts

The South Australian Public Transport Authority is set to review regional bus services and investigate potential reforms that will ensure long term sustainability of services that are affordable and accessible to regional communities.

A new regional services contract framework will be developed, focusing on the areas of funding, service development, procurement and contracting.

The new regional contract terms will be developed to ensure the best outcome for government, the communities and to ensure viability for the contractors.

#### SERVICE SA

In reply to **Ms BEDFORD (Florey)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee A)

**The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning):** I have been advised by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure—

The Agreement for these services is commercial-in-confidence and contains a specific clause relating to confidentiality requirements. Statutory obligations relating to this Agreement are per the Public Sector Act 2009. The parties also acknowledge and undertake to comply with section 139D of the Motor Vehicles Act 1959.

#### NATIONAL PARK RANGERS

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

The Department for Environment and Water undertook organisational reform earlier this year that included the review of 18 Construction and Maintenance Workers (CMW) positions.

The department went through a thorough assessment process that identified the work undertaken by the 18 CMWs employed at that time. This showed a duplication in work that was undertaken by others in the parks system, including rangers, volunteers, contractors and other staff.

The review identified that employees in eight CMW positions were delivering a work program that aligned with ranger positions in the operational services employment stream. These employees had also attained qualifications and experience, including authorisations under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972, relevant for a ranger position. Accordingly, these eight employees and their position transitioned from CMW stream to become rangers in the operational services stream.

#### HERITAGE PROTECTION

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

In 2018-19, as part of the \$12.09 million revenue there was one heritage-listed property that was sold for \$2.26 million (GST incl).

Heritage protections remain listed on properties when ownership is transferred.

#### FRIENDS OF PARKS

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

Individual Friends of Parks groups maintain their own membership details.

However, I can confirm that there are currently 125 Friends of Parks groups, consisting of 91 full member (Park) groups, and 34 affiliated groups, such as the Four Wheel Drive Association, Birds Australia and the Australian Deer Association.

#### NATIONAL PARK RANGERS

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

There has not been a reduction in the number of graduate ranger positions between 2018-19 and 2019-20.

**ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised that the breakdown of complaints received by the EPA for the 2018-19 financial year are as follows:

complaint type	2018–19
Air quality	325
Air and noise	31
Noise	162
Marine pollution	8
Site contamination	22
Water	147
Waste	165
Illegal Dumping	67
Other	150
Total	1,077

**ENVIRONMENT AND WATER DEPARTMENT**

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

Position title	Assignment of tasks
Administration officer	Regulation Directorate
Environment Protection Officer	Regulation Directorate
Senior Environment Protection Officer	Regulation Directorate
Senior Environmental Adviser	Regulation Directorate
Senior Environmental Adviser	Regulation Directorate
Licensing Administration Officer	Regulation Directorate
Senior Adviser Air Quality	Regulation Directorate
Technical Licence Coordinator	Regulation Directorate
Coordinator – Litter Program	Regulation Directorate
Adviser Site Contamination	Regulation Directorate
Senior Noise Adviser	Science and Information Directorate
Technical Officer – Air	Science and Information Directorate
Manager, Air Science Review	Science and Information Directorate
Senior Scientific Officer	Science and Information Directorate
Principal Environment Protection Officer	Science and Information Directorate
Senior Environment Protection Officer	Science and Information Directorate
Senior Technical Officer	Science and Information Directorate
Senior Project Officer	Strategy and Assessment Directorate
Senior Project Officer	Strategy and Assessment Directorate
Information Support Officer	Corporate administration services
Management Accountant	Corporate administration services
Manager Finance	Corporate administration services
Executive Liaison Officer	Corporate administration services
Finance Officer	Corporate administration services

**GREEN INDUSTRY FUND**

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

The revenue estimates in the 2019-20 state budget associated with increases to the solid waste levy take into account increases by the consumer price index (CPI) from 2020-21 and projected reductions in waste to landfill of four per cent per annum.

**GREEN INDUSTRY FUND**

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

Annual expenditure from the Green Industry Fund, administered by Green Industries SA (GISA), is approved in accordance with the state budget for the purposes outlined in section 17(5) of the act.

In 2018-19, GISA's total expenditure authority was \$40.505 million. This comprised \$21.833 million (53.9 per cent) for GISA programs and \$18.672 million (46.1 per cent) for climate change initiatives.

#### WASTE MANAGEMENT

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

Thirty councils do not have a food waste collection system or a green waste collection system that could be adapted to food waste.

#### SA WATER

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

The guarantee fees forecast for SA Water to be paid as part of the 2019-20 state budget for each financial year over the forward estimates are:

- 2019-20: \$98.2 million
- 2020-21: \$96.1 million
- 2021-22: \$99.2 million
- 2022-23: \$100.2 million.

#### SA WATER

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

SA Water and SA Health undertake a collaborative and largely preventative approach to assuring the safety of the drinking water supply.

I am advised that this includes SA Health's notifiable diseases program, which includes potentially waterborne pathogens such as Cryptosporidium. Any increases of disease rates within the community are investigated for their origin, including drinking water. SA Health would immediately notify SA Water of any detection of diseases with potential links to drinking water and further investigations would proceed.

Furthermore, I am advised that SA Water's extensive routine water quality monitoring program is also designed to test for specific pathogens which can cause illness, as well as other indicators of contamination. SA Water reports any detections to SA Health in-line with agreed incident protocols and timeframes.

#### SA WATER

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

The forecast operating expense excluding depreciation, interest and tax for SA Water in the 2019-20 state budget for each year over the forward estimates is:

- 2019-20: \$607.5 million
- 2020-21: \$564.8 million
- 2021-22: \$580.9 million
- 2022-23: \$588.6 million.

#### SA WATER

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

SA Water undertakes a SA Health approved and comprehensive routine drinking water quality testing program. At the Myponga Water Treatment Plant, this includes continuous online monitoring of plant performance, as well as monthly sampling for *Cryptosporidium* from raw and product waters.

I am advised that SA Water has adopted the Drinking Water Quality Management Framework principles in the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (2011), which provides guidance on the management of incidents and emergencies.

I am advised that SA Water currently publishes a comprehensive suite of water quality data in its Annual Report, on its website and on Data SA.

From time to time SA Water has detected *Cryptosporidium* in its water sources.

Prior to opening the Myponga reservoir for recreation, testing of a water sample from the Myponga system (post-treatment) undertaken on 12 April 2019 detected a single *Cryptosporidium* oocyst. Testing of a duplicate sample (post-treatment) undertaken at the same time was negative for *Cryptosporidium*.

Subsequent testing identified this oocyst to be a species of *Cryptosporidium* which was not infectious to humans.

#### ENVIRONMENT AND WATER DEPARTMENT

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised of the following

Between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019, there were four executive roles abolished within the Department for Environment and Water. These were:

- Group Executive Director, Climate Change (SAES2)
- Group Executive Director, People and Performance (SAES1)
- Director, Organisational Reform (SAES1)
- Director, Major Projects (SAES1)

The total employment cost for these four roles, based the last SAES appointed occupant, was \$730,502 (excluding on-costs).

Individual executive total remuneration package values as detailed in schedule 2 of an executive employee's contract will not be disclosed as it is deemed to be unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

#### ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised of the following

Between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019, there were no executive roles abolished within the Environment Protection Authority. During this period there were no executive roles created.

#### GREEN INDUSTRIES SA

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised of the following

Between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019, there were no executive roles abolished or created within Green Industries SA.

#### SA WATER

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised of the following:

Between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019, there was one executive role abolished within SA Water. During this period there were no executive roles created.

The abolished role was General Manager Strategy Performance and Innovation. The total employment cost for the role was \$344,204.72 inclusive of salary and employee-related on costs.

#### GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised that for the Department for Environment and Water

- At 30 June 2019, 16.23 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$1,844,649.
- The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment costs:

Year	No of FTEs budgeted to provide Communication and Promotion Activities	Estimated Employment Expense*
2019-20	16.23	1,900,090
2020-21	16.23	1,928,592
2021-22	16.23	1,957,521
2022-23	16.23	1,986,883

- As an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed. The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and are disclosed on the DPC website: <https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure>.

#### GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised that for the Environment Protection Authority:

- At 30 June 2019, four FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$440,080.
- The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment costs:

Year	No of FTEs budgeted to provide Communication and Promotion Activities	Estimated Employment Expense
2019-20	4	\$476,359
2020-21	4	\$483,504
2021-22	4	\$490,757
2022-23	4	\$498,118

- As an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed. The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and are disclosed on the DPC website: <https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure>.

#### GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised that for Green Industries SA:

- At 30 June 2019, 0.7 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$94,500 (including on-costs).
- The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment costs:

Year	No of FTEs budgeted to provide Communication and Promotion Activities	Estimated Employment Expense (including on-costs)
2019-20	1.0	\$131,000
2020-21	0.85	\$116,000
2021-22	0.7	\$101,500
2022-23	0.7	\$103,000



- As an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed. The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and are disclosed on the DPC website: <https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure>.

#### GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised that for SA Water

At 30 June 2019, 13.6 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$1,634,843.

The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment costs:

Year	No of FTEs budgeted to provide Communication and Promotion Activities	Estimated Employment Expense
2019-20	14	1,832,787*
2020-21	14	1,832,787*
2021-22	14	1,832,787*
2022-23	14	1,832,787*

\*2019-20 real term

As an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed. The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and are disclosed on the DPC website: <https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure>.

#### PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised that for the Department for Environment and Water

Attraction allowances, retention allowances and non-salary benefits paid to public servants and contractors between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019:

Position Title	Classification	Allowance Type	Allowance Amount
Program Manager, Dog and Cat Management Unit	ASO7	Attraction Allowance	\$6,151

#### PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised that for the Environment Protection Authority:

Attraction allowances, retention allowances and non-salary benefits paid to public servants and contractors between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019:

Position Title	Classification	Allowance Type	Allowance Amount
Manager, Site Contamination	PO5	Retention Allowance	20% of PO5(03) salary

#### PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised that for Green Industries SA:

Attraction allowances, retention allowances and non-salary benefits paid to public servants and contractors between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019:

Position Title	Classification	Allowance Type	Allowance Amount
Manager Policy and Projects	ASO8	Retention Allowance	\$5,567

**PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES**

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised that for SA Water

Attraction allowances, retention allowances and non-salary benefits paid to public servants and contractors between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019:

Classification	Allowance Type	Allowance Amount
SAW6	Retention	\$2,000
SAW8	Retention	\$2,916.67

**MINISTERIAL STAFF**

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised the following in relation to staff employed within my office:

- Ministerial staff employed as at 5 July was published in the *Government Gazette* on 18 July 2019.
- The following table lists public sector staff employed as at 30 June 2019

Title	ASO Classification	Non- salary benefits
Office Manager	ASO7	
Principal Policy Officer	ASO7	
Principal Ministerial Liaison Officer (DEW)	ASO7	
Ministerial Liaison Officer (EPA/GISA)(part-time)	ASO7	
Ministerial Liaison Officer (SA Water)(part-time)	SAW6	
Executive Officer	ASO6	Car park
Communications Officer*	ASO5	
Senior Correspondence Officer	ASO3	
Correspondence Officer	ASO2	
Correspondence Officer	ASO3	

\* Denotes maternity leave

**TERMINATION PAYOUTS**

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised of the following:

Two executive level employees have been terminated from the Department for Environment and Water since 1 July 2018.

The total value of termination payments including leave entitlements made for these positions was \$636,589 (excluding on-costs).

Details of the separation payments of these former executive employees will not be released as it is considered an unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.'

POSITION TITLE	SAES LEVEL
Group Executive Director, Climate Change	SAES2
Group Executive Director, Economic and Sustainable Development	SAES2

**TERMINATION PAYOUTS**

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised of the following:

No executive level employees have been terminated from the Environment Protection Authority since 1 July 2018.

#### TERMINATION PAYOUTS

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised of the following:

No executive level employees have been terminated from Green Industries SA since 1 July 2018.

#### TERMINATION PAYOUTS

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised of the following:

SA Water's Executive structure consists of its Senior Leadership Team (SLT), which comprises its chief executive and six general managers. One general manager separated from SA Water in the 2018-19 financial year.

Details of the separation payment of the former General Manager will not be released as it is considered an unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

#### PUBLIC SECTOR EXECUTIVES

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised of the following:

Since 1 July 2018, the following new executive appointments were made within the Department for Environment and Water.

POSITION TITLE	SAES LEVEL
Executive Director, Environment, Heritage and Sustainability	SAES1
Director, Water Infrastructure and Operations	SAES1
Director, Economic Development, Tourism and Commercial Services	SAES1

Note that these appointments were new positions that came into effect after 30 June 2019.

The total employment cost for these executive appointments was \$601,918 (excluding on-costs).

Individual executive total remuneration package values as detailed in schedule 2 of an executive employee's contract will not be disclosed as it is deemed to be unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

#### PUBLIC SECTOR EXECUTIVES

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised of the following:

Since 1 July 2018, no new executive appointments were made within the Environment Protection Authority.

#### PUBLIC SECTOR EXECUTIVES

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised of the following:

Since 1 July 2018, no new executive appointments were made within Green Industries SA.

#### PUBLIC SECTOR EXECUTIVES

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised of the following:

SA Water appointed a General Manager of People and Safety in August 2018 following the resignation of the previous incumbent.

Salary bands of staff are included in SA Water's annual report.

#### GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

In reply to **Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

Section 4 of DPC Circular 13—Annual Reporting details the use of the annual report template. The template includes sections for an organisational structure and changes to the agency to be included by each agency.

I refer the member to the annual reports published for each of the agencies I am responsible for.

#### SA WATER

In reply to **Mr BROWN (Playford)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

As part of its investigation, following consultation with the Department for Health and Wellbeing and the Office of the Technical Regulator, SA Water audited 46 dwellings in Mawson Lakes where an independent contractor constructed the water service. This audit determined that no other misconnections existed.

#### SA WATER

In reply to **Mr BROWN (Playford)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

As no other misconnections had occurred, no direct contact was made with local residents on the same recycled water system.

#### RECYCLED WATER

In reply to **Mr BROWN (Playford)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

The recycled water was tested for a number of health parameters, all of which were shown to be within Australian Drinking Water Guidelines values. SA Health has confirmed that there is no obvious causal link between consumption of recycled water and any report of illness in this instance.

I am advised that SA Health has been in contact with the resident and has advised them to seek medical advice from their GP if they have any concerns. SA Water has also maintained regular contact and have provided the same advice.

#### RECYCLED WATER AUDIT

In reply to **Mr BROWN (Playford)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

SA Water has since strengthened its processes to further mitigate the risk of cross-connections and misconnections occurring in future where households are supplied by both drinking and recycled water.

As such, in addition to conducting follow-up water testing when the meters are installed, audits are now conducted during construction to confirm correct water supply from the main to the water meter.

Further to this, and prior to the drinking water meters being activated, SA Water will check that the drinking water pipe and meter are connected to the drinking water mains. If SA Water is unable to inspect the service, the contracted officer is required to provide SA Water with photographic evidence confirming the services have been correctly connected.

#### SA WATER

In reply to **Mr BROWN (Playford)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

In relation to a misconnection which was servicing a property in Mawson Lakes, SA Water has advised that an audit of other properties in the same development confirmed that the systems, processes and capabilities of SA Water support compliance with the Water Industry Act 2012.

Further, since becoming aware of this isolated issue, SA Water worked quickly to rectify it so that the property was supplied with the correct source for its drinking water requirements. I understand that samples of the water were

tested by the Australian Water Quality Centre and found to not exceed the health limits of the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines, although aesthetic qualities were elevated, which is likely to have affected taste.

#### RECYCLED WATER AUDIT

In reply to **Mr BROWN (Playford)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

SA Water audited 46 dwellings in Mawson Lakes where an independent contractor constructed the water service. As this audit determined that no other misconnections existed no local residents on the same water supply were asked to perform self audits of their recycled water.

#### SA WATER

In reply to **Mr BROWN (Playford)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

Following the identification of this incident, SA Water conducted 46 audits of the water supply at the meters of the surrounding properties. This confirmed that no other properties in the surrounding vicinity were affected by this infrastructure misconnection.

#### WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT

In reply to **Ms BEDFORD (Florey)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

The following areas within the metropolitan area are not serviced by SA Water's sewer network and are serviced by Community Wastewater Management Systems (CWMS):

Tea Tree Gully Council area, includes parts of the following suburbs:

- Vista
- Highbury
- Hope Valley
- St Agnes
- Yatala Vale
- Fairview Park
- Surrey Downs
- Ridgehaven
- Redwood Park
- Banksia Park
- Tea Tree Gully

City of Onkaparinga Council area, includes part or all of the following suburbs:

- Sellicks Beach
- Silver Sands
- Port Willunga
- Willunga
- Maslins Beach
- Clarendon
- Morphett Vale

City of Port Adelaide Enfield:

- New Haven Village, Osborne

These CWMS schemes are not owned by the state government or SA Water, and are owned and operated by local government to provide wastewater services to residents.

#### TRADE, TOURISM AND INVESTMENT DEPARTMENT

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised:

1. The \$8.4 million for industry related programs and functions which transferred from the Department for Innovation and Skills, relates to:

- The planned cessation of time limited programs established under the former government (\$7.3 million), including Our Jobs Plan (\$3.8 million), Digital Shipyard (\$1 million), industry support (\$1 million), Centre for Business Growth (\$700 000), NDIS Coordinator-General (\$300 000), Strategic Industry Development (\$300 000) and Emerging Technology Interest Group (\$200 000), and \$1.1 million reduction in efficiencies made up of the cessation of minor programs.

2. The reduction in the net cost of services for the Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment between the 2018-19 estimated result and the 2019-20 budget of \$26.8 million relates to the following programs and operations of the department:

- \$13.4 million for lower contractual commitments in 2019-20 compared to 2018-19 for the Economic Investment Fund, which is closed to new commitments.
- \$8.4 million for industry related programs and functions which transferred from the Department for Innovation and Skills.
- \$2.1 million for a reduction in the forward commitments of the Health Industries Fund, which is closed to new commitments.
- \$1.1 million relating to the planned cessation of the Office of the State Coordinator-General on 31 December 2019, a time limited program of the former government.
- \$500 000 relating to grant funds carried forward from 2017-18 to 2018-19 for the South Australian Export Accelerator grant program.
- \$400 000 relating to the planned cessation of the Destination Adelaide program on 30 June 2019, a time limited program of the former government.
- \$150 000 for a reduction in the forward commitments for the International Research Co-operative Shandong project; and
- \$2.6 million in general efficiencies.

This is partially offset by the expansion of new trade and investment offices in global markets (\$1.8 million).

#### MINISTERIAL EXPENDITURE

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised the following:

1. As advised on 30 July 2019, the \$232 000 office refurbishment was for my ministerial office. Details of works carried out included:

- installation of wide, glass sliding door in reception to assist disabled access
- update staff kitchen and breakout area to ensure the office is meeting its OHS&W obligations, including repairing kitchen counter and flooring
- repair and re-paint all existing wall and column surfaces
- replace broken ceiling tiles
- install glass door to existing area to create an appropriate waiting room for high level delegates attending meetings
- repair and re-paint lift lobby walls and doors (costs shared with Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure) and;
- installation of glass sliding door to boardroom to let in more natural light.

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TOURISM COMMISSION

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised:

1. In 2018-19, the South Australian Tourism Commission engaged 28 social media influencers to support marketing campaigns.

In the 2019-20 financial year, there has been one influencer engaged.

**INVESTMENT ATTRACTION SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised the following:

1. Data covering the 2018-19 financial year has not yet been released.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics is scheduled to publish the data in September 2019 for the 2018-19 financial year.

**MINISTERIAL EXPENDITURE**

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised:

1. The increase of \$45 000 is due to standard indexation applied to the 2018-19 budgeted expenditure to form the 2019-20 budget.

**MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT CHANGES**

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised:

1. Since April 2019, three positions related to case management functions which transferred under the last machinery of government have been abolished with employees separating from the public sector.

**LANDING PAD PROGRAM**

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised:

1. The program has only been operational since 1 July 2019, and has received five preliminary expressions of interest.

**BRAND SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised:

1. Supporting the state brand logo is a core component of the Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment's remit as recommended in the Joyce review, therefore modelling was not required.

**TRADE, TOURISM AND INVESTMENT DEPARTMENT STAFF**

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised the following:

1. On 1 July 2018, the functional integration of trade and investment activities previously spread across several agencies, took effect with the formation of the Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment, therefore, there were no employees during the 2017-18 and 2016-17 financial years to report.

**TRADE, TOURISM AND INVESTMENT DEPARTMENT STAFF**

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised the following:

1. As of 30 June 2019, the actual headcount for the Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment is 137 employed.

**TRADE, TOURISM AND INVESTMENT DEPARTMENT**

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised:

1. The Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment developed a draft operating budget for state promotions ahead of the new chief executive commencing in August 2019.

The new organisational structure of the department, approved by the former acting chief executive, allocated 16 full time equivalent positions at an estimated annual cost of \$2 million to the state promotions function. This includes a new director role to lead the function.

### TOURISM

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised:

1. The division of funding across the whole-of-tourism marketing and various aspects of marketing were divided with 49.77 percent spent on digital marketing and 50.23 percent spent on traditional marketing.

### PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised of the following:

Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment (DTTI):

Between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019, there were seven executive roles within the Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment that were created or abolished. They were:

Abolished

- Chief Executive, Health Industries (SAES2)
- Executive Director, International Engagement (SAES2)
- Director, Future Industries and Advanced Manufacturing (SAES1)
- Director, International Development (SAES1)
- Director, Financial Services and Capital Markets (SAES1)
- Director, China (SAES1)
- Director, India (SAES1)

Total cost: \$1.422 million.

Created

- Director, Tech and Creative Industries (SAES1)

Total cost: \$148 000.

The total employment cost for these eight roles was \$1.57 million per annum (excluding on-costs).

South Australian Tourism Commission

Nil.

Adelaide Venue Management Corporation

Nil.

### GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised that for the Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment:

- At 30 June 2019, 14 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$1.2 million.
- The Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment has undertaken an organisational restructure effective 1 July 2019. The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment costs across the forward estimates:

Year	No of FTEs budgeted to provide Communication and Promotion Activities	Estimated Employment Expense
2019-20	16	\$1 826 000
2020-21	16	\$1 907 000
2021-22	16	\$1 923 000
2022-23	16	\$1 952 000

- As an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed. The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and are disclosed on the Department of the Premier and Cabinet website:



[https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure.](https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure)'

#### South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC)

- As at 30 June 2019, 105.6 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$10 562 000.
- The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment costs:

Year	No of FTEs budgeted to provide Communication and Promotion Activities	Estimated Employment Expense
2019-20	103.3 FTEs	\$10 428 000
2020-21	*	*
2021-22	*	*
2022-23	*	*

\*It is not possible to forecast future costs across the forward estimates, because budgets are set annually based on operational requirements linked to the strategic plans developed and approved at board level. Therefore, the forward estimates are subject to decisions regarding internal strategic allocation of resources. Any estimate beyond 2019-20 will be unreliable.

- The SATC does not conduct government advertising. The role of the SATC is to undertake domestic and international marketing campaigns that promote South Australia as a tourism destination.

However, as an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed. The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and are disclosed on the Department of the Premier and Cabinet website: <https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure>.

#### Adelaide Venue Management Corporation

- As at 30 June 2019, one FTE was allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$117,000.
- The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimates employment costs:

Year	No of FTEs budgeted to provide Communication and Promotion Activities	Estimated Employment Expense
2019-20	1 FTE	\$120 000
2020-21	1 FTE	\$122 000
2021-22	1 FTE	\$124 000
2022-23	1 FTE	\$125 000

- As an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed. The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and are disclosed on the on the Department of the Premier and Cabinet website: <https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure>.

### PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised of the following:

Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment:

Attraction allowances, retention allowances and non-salary benefits paid to public servants and contractors between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019:

Position Title	Classification	Allowance Type	Allowance Amount
Director, Financial Services	SAES1	Study Assistance	\$2700
Principal Policy Officer	ASO8	Study Assistance	\$7000-\$11 000 pa
Principal Policy Officer	ASO8	Attraction and Retention Allowance	\$23 322 per annum

South Australian Tourism Commission:

- Attraction allowances, retention allowances, and non-salary benefits paid to public servants and contractors between 1 July 2018 and 30 June 2019:

Position Title	Classification	Allowance Type	Allowance Amount
General Manager, Commercial Sales	Non-Executive Contract	Living Away from Home Allowance	\$360

Adelaide Venue Management Corporation:

- Not applicable.

#### MINISTERIAL STAFF

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised the following in relation to staff employed within my office:

- Ministerial staff employed as at 5 July 2019 was published in the *Government Gazette* on 18 July 2019.
- The following table lists public sector staff employed as at 30 June 2019:

Title	ASO Classification	Non-salary benefits
Office Manager	ASO8	Car Park
Ministerial Liaison Officer	ASO7	
Cabinet/Parliamentary Officer	ASO5	
Executive Assistant	ASO4	
Business Support Officer	ASO3	
Administration Officer	ASO2	
Administration Officer	ASO2	

- There were no staff seconded from the department to my office as at 30 June 2019.

#### TERMINATION PAYOUTS

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised of the following:

Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment;

Seven executive level employees have been terminated from the Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment since 1 July 2018.

The total value of the termination payments made was \$1.03 million.

Furthermore, one executive level employee did not receive a contract renewal when their contract expired at the end of June 2019.

South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC)

Nil executive level employees have been terminated from the South Australian Tourism Commission since 1 July 2018.

The total value of the termination payments made is therefore nil.

Adelaide Venue Management Corporation (AVMC)

Nil executive level employees have been terminated from the Adelaide Venue Management Corporation since 1 July 2018.

The total value of the termination payments made is therefore nil.

#### PUBLIC SECTOR EXECUTIVES

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** I have been advised of the following:

Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment (DTTI)

Since 1 July 2018, the following new executive appointments were made within the Department for Trade, Tourism and Investment:

POSITION TITLE	SAES LEVEL
Director, Technology and Creative Industries	SAES1
Chief Executive	CE

Individual executive total remuneration package values as detailed in schedule 2 of an executive employee's contract will not be disclosed as it is deemed to be unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

South Australian Tourism Commission (SATC)

Since 1 July 2018, no new executive appointments were made within the South Australian Tourism Commission.

Adelaide Venue Management Corporation (AVMC)

Since 1 July 2018, no new executive appointments were made within the Adelaide Venue Management Corporation.

#### GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

In reply to **Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth)** (30 July 2019). (Estimates Committee B)

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment):** Section 4 of DPC Circular 13—Annual Reporting details the use of the annual report template. The template includes sections for an organisational structure and changes to the agency to be included by each agency.

I refer the member to the annual reports which will be published for each of the agencies I am responsible for.