

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 3 March 2020

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.

Address in Reply

ADDRESS IN REPLY

Adjourned debate on motion for adoption.

(Continued from 20 February 2020.)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (11:01): It is my pleasure on behalf of the people of the electorate of Stuart to make my contribution to this Address in Reply debate. Let me start by saying that I personally thank His Excellency the Governor, Hieu Van Le, and his wife, Lady Lan Le, for the work they do, and I do that on behalf of my electorate. They work tirelessly. They work—I use the word 'professionally', but I do not mean in the sense of their doing it for the money—to an incredibly high standard and I especially appreciate the work they do in country South Australia.

As a country and outback MP, I know that people genuinely love the visits, whether they be formal or informal, by Mr and Mrs Le. I am continually impressed with how those two people can oversee the most formal and structured of gatherings that we have in our state and also be so down to earth, warm, friendly and easygoing in a country environment. The people I represent really do warm to that. That is not to say that the things they do in the country are easy, relaxed or frivolous, as most of them are actually very meaty, genuine, real and significant, but they do it in a way that is appropriate for the country lifestyle, and that is absolutely outstanding.

It was very good to hear the Governor's speech laying out the agenda for the government. I think it was quite appropriate that parliament was prorogued and that we were able to segment, if you like, the two halves of this four-year term in a very sensible way and for very pragmatic reasons. As I look through the Governor's speech, I will cover some of the things that seem most important to me.

Before I do so, please keep in mind that the Marshall Liberal government, and in fact our team when in opposition, has a very clear philosophy about wanting to support people who need support. That is one of the most fundamental philosophies behind our Liberal team in South Australia, but we know that we cannot do that as well as possible if we do not have a strong economy. We have a very strong focus on the economy so that we can deliver services. The stronger our economy, the lower our taxes can be, person by person or business by business.

The stronger our economy, even with lower taxes per taxpayer, the more the total tax income will be and the more money the government will have to support South Australians, whether it be supporting people on incredibly low incomes; whether it be supporting people with some form of disability that makes it very hard for them to earn money; whether it be people who are in accidents; whether it be support that flows through the education system, the health system or the police; whether it be in some of the really big, lumpy expenditures on infrastructure so that people can drive with as little congestion as possible around metropolitan Adelaide; or whether industry can thrive in our country and outback areas because the infrastructure they need is there.

The philosophy deeply ingrained in our government is that we need a strong economy so that we can provide all the services that South Australians need. It is not surprising that one of the first things the Governor mentioned in his speech was the cost of living for families—before that, he touched on bushfires, and I will come back to bushfires—and lowering the cost of living for families

in our state is one of our very top headline ambitions. It goes along with increasing employment and it goes along with providing better services. Reducing the cost of living is absolutely vital.

Lower costs, more jobs, better services: people have heard this from us for a very long time, for quite a few years now, from even before we came into government. Mr Speaker, let me make it very clear for you and this house: those priorities are not changing. Those three core priorities—lowering the cost of living, creating more employment and providing better services—are the things that we will continue to work towards to the very best of our ability.

It is also true to say that these are things that are never 100 per cent achieved. We know that. We are not trying to get past the finishing post. As low as we get the cost of living, we want it to be lower. As many people as we can get into work, we want more into work. As good as services can become, we want services to be even better. We are not pretending that there is a finishing line where we can say, 'Good, we have ticked those three things off.' It is a never-ending pursuit by our government. There are many ways that we will do that, one of which has been quite topical over the last few years—that is, to allow extended shop trading hours.

We have a crazy situation in this state where people want to work, people want to shop and business owners want to be open and provide a service, yet many of them are not allowed to because of the rules in our state. The completely bizarre situation was revealed a couple of years ago when some of the smaller traders were campaigning, or at the very least speaking vocally, against relaxing shop trading hour restrictions because they thought they would lose an advantage they have compared with some of the bigger traders, but it turned out that some of those smaller traders were trading outside their entitlement with regard to the rules and regulations about shop trading. That is quite a strange situation.

We have also had a situation where, when some of those traders were given the opportunity to take up temporary options to trade outside of the normal rules and regulations, they took that opportunity. They campaign against relaxing the rules but, when given an opportunity to temporarily trade outside the rules, they seem to take it every time. I do not mind any business operator focusing on what is best for their business. That is one of the things that he or she should do, of course, but we need to relax shop trading hours in our state so that we can improve services, grow our economy, reduce the cost of living and get more people into work.

Rate capping is another one of those issues that is quite contentious. We took a rate capping policy to the 2014 election, and we took it again to the 2018 election. We were successful at the election, but to date we have been unsuccessful in implementing the rate capping policy. The rate capping policy is not about trying to hamstring local government. I know that many in local government are not comfortable with this policy, but I also know that many in local government, and more and more in local government over time, are becoming more comfortable with it as they understand it a bit better.

Rate capping is not about trying to control councils or saying that you can or you cannot do this across a whole wide range of things. At its simplest, it is about saying that councils cannot increase their council rates in excess of a local government appropriate inflation rate, and they cannot do that without putting a case to the Essential Services Commission and receiving the ESCOSA blessing. When I have talked to mayors and councillors—many of them very good friends of mine who do not see the benefit of this policy for their council—they say, 'We'd never, ever get that blessing. Once you put in the rate capping, once you put in the local government CPI, sure, you would give us the chance to go and make a case but we'd never get it.' I say to them: you would get it if you could show that a strong majority of your ratepayers were in favour of what you are proposing.

To pick an example, let's say they want to increase council rates because they want to build a new swimming pool. If that required that rates be increased in excess of inflation to be able to make that investment in important local community infrastructure, particularly in country areas where typically we have very hot summers and we do not have all the services we would like to have, and if you can show that your ratepayers are happy to pay an increase in council rates in excess of the inflation rate, why would the Essential Services Commissioner not give the go-ahead to do that? It seems to me it would be crazy not to do that. It should be pretty straightforward. If a council wanted to increase rates in excess of inflation, and as long as you could demonstrate that a strong majority of your ratepayers were comfortable with that, you would not be hamstrung by this proposal.

While in government we have been unsuccessful in getting these two issues I have mentioned through parliament because the opposition and crossbenchers have chosen not to support them. I say very clearly that we are not leaving these issues behind, just as we are not leaving the issue of allowing our farmers on mainland South Australia to grow genetically modified crops—another very sensible, very practical and very popular move that we would like to make on behalf of the people of South Australia, which the opposition and crossbenchers have objected to.

I say to them: please think it through. Are you really going to stand in the way of our government doing what we know the people want us to do, what we know would be good for our economy and, when it is good for our economy, will actually then be good for the provision of services throughout the state to people? Do you really want to stand in the way of that? We are more than happy to accept suggestions. I know, for example, that the Minister for Local Government is revising his proposal for rate capping in local government. We are not beyond saying, 'Sure, if that's a good idea, we'll take it on board,' but the basic principles of what we know we need to achieve are not going to change.

Another principle that we took to the last election and that we are delivering on is a very significant infrastructure spend. It is the largest infrastructure spend that our state has ever seen: \$13 billion over four years. It is an enormous spend. As well as knowing that we are spending taxpayers' money in the right places so that taxpayers will benefit, I am also very pleased that we are delivering on some of the very specific commitments that we made with regard to infrastructure.

One of those key commitments is in my electorate of Stuart, namely, to duplicate the Joy Baluch AM Bridge in Port Augusta. This, of course, will be very handy for all local Port Augusta motorists, but it also has statewide benefits and interstate national benefits. It is a key piece of infrastructure for all heavy road freight going from Sydney to Perth or from Adelaide to Darwin. It is very important for the resources industry as well.

Another key piece of infrastructure that we pledged before the election and that we are delivering now is the duplication of the highway through Port Wakefield and building the overpass to improve the intersection of the Augusta Highway and the Copper Coast Highway. That piece of work is sometimes described unkindly as being something just to ease the traffic congestion on long weekends and on Easter and summer holidays when people from Adelaide are going to their holiday homes on Yorke Peninsula. As a Port Augusta-based MP, I would never support something like that, if that were all it was.

I think people will often quite unkindly forget that that intersection of the Copper Coast Highway and the Augusta Highway is notoriously bad: it has a disproportionate number of serious accidents and fatalities. In my observation, because I drive through there a lot, it has near misses as well. When I say 'near misses', I do not mean near miss fender benders: I mean near miss tragic accidents. It is not at all uncommon to see that happen, so we are going to upgrade that intersection and improve access, north and south, through Port Wakefield, for very good reasons.

You would know, Mr Speaker, that on the weekend the Minister for Transport, Planning and Infrastructure announced the coalition of three prime contractors, essentially, who will do the design and construct work for those two projects, but that is not all we are doing. There is lots of other work being done, both metropolitan and in the country. Approximately a thousand kilometres of country roads will be upgraded.

The most dangerous entire road in this state is the Horrocks Highway. We have a very strong focus on the Horrocks Highway, which, in my electorate of Stuart, will include upgrading the Spring Creek Bridge between Wilmington and Melrose. It is a bridge which, when two trucks or two caravans are passing in opposite directions, is very tight. I have to say, with an unskilled person behind the wheel, it is a very risky manoeuvre, so widening that bridge is very important.

Upgrading the rail crossing at Gladstone on the Horrocks Highway in my electorate is another very important piece of work that is part of this infrastructure spend. Gladstone is the largest inland grain-receiving silo we have in South Australia. I believe it is one of the largest inland grain receivers in the nation, actually so it is very important. It is highly trafficked at certain times of the year. The grain industry affects both heavy vehicle and rail transport. It is a lot of work. It is an enormously important pipeline of infrastructure coming through in that regard.

Returning to cost of living, we have already made very significant headway and we intend to make more headway. We have reduced payroll tax for small businesses; in fact, for small businesses with a payroll of less than \$1½ million a year there is now no payroll tax. We have reduced people's emergency services levy bills. We have pledged to and will, on 1 July coming, reduce the cost of water for South Australian water consumers. We have also reduced NRM levies and I congratulate the Minister for Environment and Water on his very good work in that regard, in relation to not only water costs but also NRM levies, and for his very good work to have the new Landscape SA Bill put through parliament as a key part of that.

The Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing has doubled the value of sports vouchers for families, which then goes directly to reducing cost of living for those families. We have introduced free screening checks for volunteers, and the Minister for Human Services has done tremendous work in that regard. It was something that amazed all of us on our team when in opposition, and I would like to think that when they were in government those opposite were amazed, but for some reason they were not able to address that adequately so that people volunteering in a wide range of ways to support vulnerable people, typically very old or very young people, needed to pay for and sometimes have multiple volunteer screenings and checks so that they could assure the organisation with which they were working that they were the right sort of people, or, more importantly, not the wrong sort of people. We have gone a long way in that regard.

One of the most important areas, and one which is key to me, is the delivery of lower electricity costs to South Australians. It is one of my highest obligations and it is one of my highest priorities in my work. We are doing that. We still have a lot more to do, but ESCOSA, independent of government, assessed that last financial year average electricity costs for households dropped 3 per cent on the year before, and that year was a per cent and a half lower than the year before that. After years of increased electricity prices forced on South Australians by the previous state government, the tide has turned. I do not, I cannot, I must not suggest that the work is done in that area, and I personally take on an enormous obligation in that regard.

We need to get electricity prices lower. We will get electricity prices lower. The tide has turned, but we need to get the tide moving swiftly in that direction, and we are doing that in many ways. We are not doing it by pursuing single, one-off, haphazard energy policies, as we have seen over the last several years. We took to the last election a very clear set of policies in energy, half-a-dozen-odd key components of energy policy, including interconnection with New South Wales, a household battery scheme, a grid-scale storage scheme, demand management, a range of other measures, and we are rolling them out.

I receive comments from the public and industry quite regularly that they are very pleased that our government set our policies before the election. We did as much homework as we possibly could. We got as much advice as we possibly could. We did everything that we could with the limited resources that you have in opposition to determine our policies, and then when we got into government we had the benefit of all the advice of the department.

We were able to actually allocate budgets to the election spending commitments that we had previously made, but we did not have to change our policies. We developed them further. We got to the implementation stage. Essentially, people are very pleased that we are not chopping and changing because one of the most important things we need in energy policy is a certain level of stability so that industry will invest. It is very easy for me as the minister to say, 'We're doing this, we're doing that and we're doing the other.' We are, but in energy policy and mining policy we are always doing it in partnership with industry and in partnership with consumers.

If we do not have policies that are attractive to industry so that they are willing to invest, then we do not have a supply side. If we do not have a supply side, then consumers have nothing. I say quite openly to energy industry gatherings that our government is overwhelmingly on the side of the consumer. We want them to get the best service and we want them to get the lowest price, but we recognise that if there is not an attractive, sustainable, long-term business model for the supply side then they will not be here, nothing will be supplied and consumers will have nothing.

We are very clear about that balance. We are overwhelmingly on the side of consumers but determined to make sure that we can attract investment. I am very pleased to see investment growing in South Australia in generation of all sorts. We are not wedded to this, 'It has to be all fossil fuels or

it has to be all renewables,' argument, which in my opinion far too many people all around the nation seem to want.

That fervour is fanned by activists and campaigners who have an interest in only one or the other and who are trying to make everybody take a side: 'What kind of an energy person are you? Are you a coal person or are you a renewables person?' That is absolutely ridiculous and completely unproductive. We need to use all the tools that we have at our disposal, all the fantastic, outstanding new renewable energy technology, which, by the way, provides the cheapest marginal cost electricity that we will ever see.

We also need to use the new technology in fast-start gas generation so that they are more efficient, they use less gas, they create less pollution and they can enter and leave the market incredibly quickly. We need to use storage at the household level and the grid-scale level. We need to use the really smart technology which we have at our fingertips these days and which is perpetually improving with regard to voluntary demand management so that consumers can choose to surrender—voluntarily surrender—some of the control of their demand for electricity in return for a financial benefit. They weigh it up; if they want to take that choice, they do it, and when enough of them do it everybody else benefits. Interconnection is absolutely important.

We are doing everything we can to get the cost of electricity down. On the mining side, on the resources side, another of my highest priorities, I am very pleased to say that the industry is actually in good shape. It is never perfect, but the industry is actually in good shape. Prices are pretty good from an industry perspective. We are seeing more and more activity in the Cooper Basin and in the Otway Basin in the South-East from the petroleum side of industry.

There is a bit of a conundrum there. Higher world prices for oil and gas encourage more investment, create more jobs and get more gas and oil out of the ground, which is all very positive, but of course higher gas prices, particularly, are not what we want from an electricity price perspective. There is careful treading to be done there, but jobs, lower costs and better services will all be delivered when we have healthy, sustainable industries. The petroleum industry is one of the most important in South Australia.

Another critical industry is broadly part of what we describe as mining, but if you break it up into petroleum and minerals the mining industry in South Australia is going very well. It is hugely pleasing to have received Canadian Fraser Institute's report last week, which ranked South Australia as the sixth most attractive jurisdiction in the world for mining companies—tremendous—up from 24 the year before, so a very significant improvement.

It is easy for people to say, 'The department is too slow, it's too cumbersome and it costs too much. It's just getting in the way. It's not helping me get my project up. It's slowing me down.' It is easy for people who are frustrated to say those sorts of things. The Fraser Institute said that our Department for Energy and Mining is actually one of the best in the world and doing an absolutely outstanding job helping projects get up at the moment. Again, we do this in partnership with industry.

BHP intends to expand the Olympic Dam mine and OZ Minerals is transitioning so well from Prominent Hill to Carrapateena and has delivered its first ore at the end of the last calendar year in such a short space of time. There is the Oak Dam investment and the things that we are doing as a government, including the Accelerated Discovery Initiative, the Gawler Craton challenge and other things that have not yet been announced. I am hopeful these things will make our state more attractive. They are all vitally important in creating jobs, creating industry and giving us a very healthy economy.

Mining exports account for a third of our state's total exports, an incredibly important industry and one on which we must—I must—work better with landholders. I accept that agriculture is our largest industry and probably will be for a long time. Mining is one of our strongest growth industries. Another one of my very high priorities is to improve the way the government leads those two industries to interact together.

There is an enormous amount of wonderful work that our government is doing, which I would be very pleased to talk about but, in the time I have left, I will just touch on bushfires. I have deliberately not spent a long time on this topic because many previous speakers have done a good

job on it. Nobody can ignore the fact that our state and, in fact, other states around the nation have been very seriously impacted by bushfires. We are on the recovery pathway. We are past the emergency stage and we are on the recovery pathway.

It was wonderful to be in the Adelaide Hills today with a mother and daughter, Nelle and Maddie, on their cleared block where they are going to rebuild a new home. They will get the support of council, the federal government and state government. In fact, the state government will give them a household battery to complement their new home build and their new solar installation, which they were going to have anyway. We are doing that for any one of the 188 homes around the state, in the South-East, Eyre Peninsula, Yorke Peninsula, Kangaroo Island and the Adelaide Hills. We are doing everything we can to support bushfire victims.

Mr BOYER (Wright) (11:32): Here we are with a fresh parliament opened and a golden opportunity for this now two-year-old government to set the agenda and deliver on the election commitments that they failed to deliver in the first session of parliament. It certainly was a long speech that the Governor delivered on behalf of this government. In fact, one would be forgiven for thinking that those opposite were conscious of just how bare their own policy cupboard was, so they instead added an extra 15 pages to the speech in the hope that nobody would notice.

I will say this, Mr Speaker: when you start using the achievements of the previous Labor government as a filler, people are going to notice. For example, Labor's virtual power plant, which, according to the Governor's speech, is a key plank in the Marshall Liberal government's renewable energy policy, is just one example of the thoroughly shallow policy platform of this government that after 16 years in opposition and already two years in government looks tired.

What we saw instead was the recycling of old policies that have already come before parliament and been rejected, due not so much to the stubbornness on this government's behalf to pass those key election commitments as to the fact they have such a limited and myopic vision for our state that they are still working off the same playbook that has been under the Hon. Rob Lucas's pillow since 1982.

We like to take the mickey out of our monarchy pretty regularly, but sometimes our monarchs or their representatives are called on to do some pretty awkward stuff on behalf of the government of the day, perhaps none more so than His Excellency Hieu Van Le, an incredibly decent and respected man, who had to utter these words on behalf of those opposite at the beginning of his address:

My Government is delivering on its commitments made to the people of South Australia at the 2018 election.

Costs to families and businesses are being lowered.

More jobs are being created.

And there is a continuing focus on providing better government services.

I think I speak on behalf of all those on this side of the chamber when I offer my heartfelt congratulations to His Excellency on being able to utter those words whilst simultaneously keeping a straight face. Honestly, what an absurd beginning to a speech!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Point of order, Mr Speaker: I have been listening carefully, and although the member is on the one hand recognising the important role of the Governor, he ought to be conscious of the fact that to reflect on Her Majesty or her representatives is not acceptable in this house. I was just trying to find the immediate standing order.

The SPEAKER: 121.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I would hope that the member would refrain from suggesting that the Governor is under some form of duress in providing his presentation to the parliament. That is completely disrespectful—

The SPEAKER: I have the point of order.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —to the Governor—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —and I would ask that the member refrain from doing so and, indeed, apologise when we visit the Governor on Thursday.

Mr PICTON: Point of order, Mr Speaker: for the minister to suggest that some apology needs to be given is an impromptu speech. This is a bogus point of order.

The SPEAKER: Thank you. I have the point of order. It is standing order 121—Irreverent use of the Sovereign's name or the Governor's name—as I took it. I will reiterate to members:

A Member may not use offensive or unbecoming words in reference to the Sovereign or the Governor nor may the Sovereign or the Governor be gratuitously referred to for the purpose of influencing the House in its deliberations.

I do not respectfully believe that we have met that threshold, but I caution the member and I will be listening very attentively to the member. I am sure that that was not his intent, but I thank the Deputy Premier. The member for Wright has the call.

Mr BOYER: As always, I appreciate the Attorney's wise counsel.

Mr Picton: She's always got a view.

Mr BOYER: Indeed. Of course, this speech was delivered not long after unemployment data had been released showing that South Australia had, at that time, the worst unemployment rate of any state in Australia and just days before it was uncovered that further cuts were being imposed upon the Service SA centre in the CBD. Nonetheless, this government thinks absolutely nothing of making remarks about how it is still focused on lower costs and better services. In light of those comments:

Can I say that the proroguing of parliament which we have just gone through and the ceremony for opening of a new session of parliament which we have gone through...is an indulgence on behalf of the Premier, and it is an indulgence he has inflicted on the South Australian taxpayer, and the South Australian taxpayer will have to pay.

Those are the words of the member for Schubert from 2015 after the then Labor government prorogued parliament. The difference, of course, is that the then Labor government moved forward after the Governor's speech, compared to what we are seeing now, which is that the Premier is so preoccupied with containing the infighting in his own party that he is completely incapable of delivering a fresh agenda for this state.

They say that if you do not create your own narrative someone will create it for you, and that is certainly true in the case of this almost two-year-old Marshall Liberal government. In the vacuum that has been created by this government's failure to implement any of its key election commitments, the narrative has already been written. But, even so, I for one do not believe that this government's abject failure to implement its own election agenda is the dominant feature of that narrative. Is it an indictment of the government? Yes, of course, it is.

But it is actually the host of cuts and savings measures that this government has handed down in its first two years that is its true defining feature, and that narrative is that this is a government that lacks compassion and this is a government that lacks empathy. How else could one explain a government that cuts more than 1,000 jobs in SA Health while simultaneously promising the South Australian public that it will improve waiting times and stop the explosion in ramping at our metropolitan hospitals?

How else do you explain a government that cuts bus routes and closes Service SA centres even when it continues to promise South Australians lower costs and better services? How else could you explain a government that uses hospital car parks as a revenue measure by increasing the cost of parking for staff by 129 per cent and the cost of parking for visitors and patients by, on average, 25 per cent?

How else could one explain this government's decision to cut funding for the SHINE SA sexual health clinics—clinics including one in the north of Adelaide that were providing vital health care around contraception, education and the testing of sexually transmitted diseases?

How else could one explain this government's decision to cut money to the Way2Go program, a children's road safety and bicycle safety program—a program designed to give students between the ages of nine and 13 the skills and know-how they need to ride safely and, later, on our roads?

The Minister for Transport had the audacity to come to Tea Tree Plaza recently and join the members for King and Newland for what appears to have been an announcement about extra O-Bahn trips during the Fringe Festival. I had messages from a number of residents that day who recognised the minister, probably from the stories about the pending closure of the Service SA centre in Modbury, who were understandably hopeful that this was the long-awaited announcement that the Marshall Liberal government would reverse their cut and make good on its promise to build a new park-and-ride at Tea Tree Plaza—a park-and-ride that was funded by the previous Labor government but forgotten about by this Marshall Liberal government. Indeed, it was noted by many that the Governor's speech included mentions of park-and-rides at Golden Grove and Paradise but nothing about Tea Tree Plaza.

It is odd in some ways, because this is a government that has shown itself incredibly willing to unveil plaques and cut ribbons on Labor projects. I have spoken in this place before about how Labor not only set aside funding but signed contracts with builders—contracts this government tore up soon after being elected.

The huge \$250 million STEM works program is another fine example of this. The Minister for Education has been busy in these past two years unveiling plaques and cutting ribbons on projects that were conceived, funded and built under the previous Labor government. This has been very convenient for the Minister for Education because, when you look beyond those Labor building programs, the cupboard is pretty bare.

There is, of course, the government's flagship education policy of moving year 7s into high school, which I have no doubt will end up being far more expensive than the government estimated, all predicated on a desperate need for a point of difference firstly in the 2014 state election and then the 2018 election and without any sound basis and data which show academic improvement for those year 7 students studying year 7 in a high school setting as opposed to year 7s studying in a primary school setting.

Of course, large amounts of funding set aside for the Building Better Schools program have now been moved from those projects that those schools chose and instead used to prop up the transition of year 7 into high school. They can do all this because at the heart of this government's philosophy is a lack of empathy for those people who are doing it tough. It comes back to what is almost, in my opinion, an intrinsically held belief amongst those opposite that if you are not thriving, if you are not successful, then it can only be through failings of your own, and it is not the government's responsibility to step in and support you when your dire circumstances are, according to them, of your own making.

I think that the value the Labor team places on empathy and compassion has been best exemplified by the member for Mawson during the catastrophic bushfires that hit our state in December and January. Members will be well aware of the actions of the member for Mawson across that period as he took it upon himself to reach out to people doing it tough, no matter their circumstances, and make a commitment to them to try and deliver whatever it was they needed, whether it be UHF radios, generators or, in many cases, a hug and an attentive ear.

I got to see this up close in January when the Hon. Kyam Maher and I spent the best part of 2½ days on the island with the member for Mawson. We joined him in getting our hands dirty a little bit and assisting a private landholder move fallen trees and spending a morning with BlazeAid pulling down fences that had been destroyed in the fires.

It is easy to say that politicians have no place doing these kinds of things, but in my experience it is less about the contribution that you make in terms of how many limbs you move or how much fence you roll up and much more about being able to connect on a much deeper level with people who are doing it really, really tough. One of the fundamental rules of human interaction is that, if you get to know someone on a more personal level, they will in turn feel more comfortable in seeking you out for support or, at the very least, opening up about how they are travelling.

The willingness the member for Mawson has shown to stand beside people, firstly as they fought the blaze and then as they confronted the aftermath, has encouraged many of the people he represents in this place to speak to him more candidly about their own state of mind and what assistance they really need. There cannot be many things more offputting than a pack of dark suits and ties being followed around by a TV camera, and anyone who fools themselves into believing that people who have just been through an incredibly traumatic experience in which they possibly lost loved ones or at least property will willingly open up in a setting like that is horribly mistaken.

My Address in Reply would not be complete without talking about this government's botched zero tolerance fruit fly policy. The Minister for Primary Industries is very fond of regaling us with tales of how successful it was, but in a speech that stretched beyond 7,000 words biosecurity was mentioned just once. In fact, the Marshall Liberal government's plans for biosecurity took up just one solitary sentence in the entire Governor's speech.

There can be only two possible reasons for this: either this government have absolutely no plans for biosecurity in this new session of parliament, or they are so embarrassed about the unmitigated stuff-up that was operation Yamba that they dare not mention biosecurity again. Of course, the minister himself is still ploughing on as if nothing happened, continually justifying fines of \$375 for people found with one piece of fruit or one vegetable, in many cases elderly people who did very thorough searches of their vehicles and voluntarily handed over the fruit or vegetables but because of inadequate signage, because of inadequate community education programs, did not realise that the zero tolerance policy was in effect.

We have seen now in freedom of information documents that were very reluctantly handed over by the minister's office that the reason the signage and education programs were so poorly executed was that this minister personally defied the advice of biosecurity executives in his own department to delay the commencement of the zero tolerance policy until all these vital elements of the plan had been implemented properly. On top of that, after repeatedly denying in this place that rotting fruit was left in bins for weeks near the Yamba quarantine station, those very same FOI documents showed that, in fact, again the minister's refusal to take the advice of people who knew better than he meant the policy was not ready to be rolled out.

Stubbornness seems to be a hallmark of this cabinet. We have seen some vintage examples of it already from the Attorney-General, who has still not introduced new laws to crack down on the misuse of nitrous oxide or nangas coming up to five months after voting down my private member's bill that would have done exactly that. So, because of the Attorney's pride, because of her refusal to acknowledge a good piece of legislation even if it does come from the other side of the chamber, there are still kids getting their hands on these nitrous oxide canisters and inhaling the contents. In fact, I have been sent images by members of this place in the last 48 hours of piles of disused empty nitrous oxide canisters around Hindley Street, so the problem is still very real.

Just last week we saw another rolled-gold example of the Attorney's pride getting in the way of her doing her job. Members may have seen new reports of a CBD jeweller conducting second-hand gold buying sessions at gaming venues in the Adelaide metropolitan region. When it was first brought to my attention by a concerned local resident of the north-eastern suburbs, I wrote to the Attorney, bringing it to her attention and asking if she thought the practice was legal and, if it was, what action she would be taking to stop it. More than a month later I received a one-page response from the minister that not only seemed to completely miss the point but also denied that there was a problem.

First of all, the Attorney seemed to think that I was inquiring about only one venue, but a cursory look at the jeweller's Facebook page would have shown that the sessions were far more widespread. Secondly, the Attorney claimed that because there did not appear to be any more sessions at this particular venue there was no need to take any action. Thirdly, the Attorney did not believe that the gaming licence holders had breached any conditions of their licence by permitting these second-hand gold buying sessions to take place on their premises.

So I will give notice later today of my intention to introduce a private member's bill to amend the necessary acts to outlaw this behaviour. I do not expect to have the support of the Attorney because this was not her idea and therefore, by definition, not worthy of pursuing. Nonetheless, I feel

that the people I was elected to represent in this place would expect me to take action when presented with a practice like this, which is quite clearly designed to take advantage of vulnerable people.

It would be foolish to think that this government's approach will change in this session of parliament, even after the commencement of a brand-new session of parliament. I fear that it is not so much a question of policy direction as a fundamental difference between our world views. Because of that, the South Australian public should brace for more of the same: more cruel cuts.

Ultimately, there is no agenda from those opposite because they believe that the government only has a very small role to play in our state. That is the great irony here: what might have been the longest Governor's speech in living memory served only to remind us all of what a narrow vision the Marshall Liberal government has for our state.

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (11:50): Today, I would like to rise to speak on the Address in Reply to His Excellency the Governor. I would like to thank His Excellency the Hon. Hieu Van Le as well as Mrs Lan Le for all their work and wonderful service to the people of South Australia.

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the impact of the terrible bushfires that have affected South Australia and, indeed, the nation. I would like to express my deepest sympathies to the family and friends of those who have lost loved ones, including those who came to Australia from the other side of the world to support us in our time of need. I would also like to share my sympathies with those who have lost homes, businesses, other property or livestock, and those who are managing the terrible toll that these fires have had on our native wildlife.

The recovery is a long and hard road but one I think the whole of the South Australian community, our nation and, indeed, others from right across the world are right behind. Through the terrible events we have seen in the last few months, we have also seen some of the best in our communities across South Australia and certainly within my own electorate.

Large parts of the communities in the Hills parts of my electorate, around Kersbrook, Forreston, Humbug Scrub, Sampson Flat, Millbrook, Chain of Ponds and parts of Upper and Lower Hermitage, know firsthand the terrible impact that fire has had following the Sampson Flat fire of early 2015; in fact, for many that recovery is still ongoing. Whilst there will be other opportunities in this place to cover some of the great support shown by volunteers, community groups and local businesses in the current fires, many people from the Hills area have shared with me the sense of responsibility they now feel to provide support for those communities affected in these recent fires, essentially returning the enormous support provided to them in 2015 when they needed it.

In March 2018, I was elected to this place as part of the Marshall Liberal government with a clear commitment to implement a strong plan that would create more jobs, lower costs and improve services for South Australians. Since the election, the Marshall Liberal government has sought to reform South Australia and deliver the kind of change that will bring benefit to our state now and also for decades to come.

Genuine reform takes time and commitment as well as a backbone to deal with difficult issues, including those that had been simply kicked down the road or hidden under the carpet after 16 years of the previous administration. In that period, we had a government that was more interested in attempting to win the daily news cycle with announcements dressed up to create the impression that more was actually happening than there really was and a preference for overpromising and underdelivering. South Australians were rightly sick and tired of politicians overhyping their achievements when in reality they knew that South Australia had a bad government that was running the state into the ground.

The Marshall government is doing the complete opposite. Having listened to our communities, we know that what they actually want is for us to just get on with the job we were elected to do—that is, to represent their interests in this place, keep our promises, work to deliver real, tangible outcomes and underpromise and overdeliver.

One of the most important projects in my community is the upgrade to Modbury Hospital. Prior to coming to government, Modbury Hospital had been progressively downgraded with some of the largest cuts to services occurring under the Transforming Health plan, which saw the stripping

away of services from hospitals such as Modbury and dramatically increasing patient transfers to other hospitals much further away. The locals will also tell you that even prior to Transforming Health other services, such as the maternity and paediatric wards, had been removed.

It is clear that in Newland many people actually chose to live in the area because they believed they would be living near a hospital that would provide the services they needed if they were in trouble. The previous government betrayed the local community and severely undermined trust. They increased patient transfers, forcing many people, particularly older members of the community, to drive further away than they were comfortable with in order to visit their loved ones in hospital.

Since being in government, we have wasted no time in working to turn around the fortunes of Modbury Hospital and the broader health system. We have reinstated multiday surgery at Modbury Hospital, allowing many patients who may have needed to stay in hospital only overnight to support their recovery to now have surgery done at Modbury. Unfortunately, under the previous government surgery had been downgraded to only day surgery, which had dramatically increased the number of patient transfers.

The Marshall government has also delivered on the long-promised but never delivered emergency extended care unit, which helps to take pressure off the emergency department and, in turn, other emergency departments around Adelaide. In recent times, I spoke to one of my local constituents who was very happy with the new facility and having their own private space.

There is much more work to do at Modbury and, late last year, along with the Minister for Health and Wellbeing (Hon. Stephen Wade), the member for King and the member for Florey, I was pleased to see some of the construction work currently underway. We saw some of the preliminary works on the new purpose-built palliative care ward and the new outpatient department, both located adjacent to where the main entrance had previously been.

The palliative care ward will see 20 individual private rooms with their own en suites. The palliative care ward will also have a new private garden adjacent to it. I must say that I have never heard a bad word spoken about the palliative care service, but it is clear that the current facility is somewhat outdated and in need of modernising. This wonderful service will now be even better able to serve the community in its new purpose-built facility.

We went to the first floor of the main building at Modbury Hospital to look at the work going on there. This is where the new expanded surgical ward and the high dependency unit are going. It had been completely cleared out, so quite a massive change is going on there. This expanded ward will allow for not only a greater complexity and diversity of surgeries but also a greater throughput, with more patients coming through. We also went up to the fifth floor where the new admin will be located. Currently, it is on the ground floor where the palliative care unit is going, and there is also a short stay general medical unit being built at the moment.

For those fortunate enough not to be admitted to hospital, probably the most obvious upgrade that has been occurring is to the facade. This is not only about making the hospital look nicer, as bits of it had, in fact, been falling off onto the ground below, to the point that scaffolding had been built around the base of the hospital to protect people on the ground from bits of the falling facade. It is certainly good to see that upgrade happening to not only improve the look of it but improve the safety of people walking around it.

These important upgrades to Modbury Hospital are in addition to other upgrades the government is implementing right across the health system, and that includes to the Lyell McEwin Hospital. Not long after the 2018 election, along with the minister and the member for King I was fortunate to visit the new interim short stay mental health unit and see its opening. The former unit had been closed in anticipation of a new mental health unit being built, but there was no interim solution, so instead these patients were required to stay in the emergency department, which was clearly not the appropriate place for them. We went to the election committing to build an interim facility and very quickly we put it in place to provide that interim solution.

We are also seeing expansion of the car parking available at Lyell McEwin Hospital. This is not only because of the massive expansion that is occurring in the emergency department that will increase its footprint, so we will also see a net increase in parking. One of the complaints of

constituents who have had to travel to Lyell McEwin Hospital is certainly the availability of parking, so I am really pleased to see that we are working to address that issue.

We are also reactivating the Repatriation General Hospital, which will see some very important services that will benefit the entire state being located there. This is on top of upgrades and work at Flinders Hospital, The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Noarlunga, also country health, which is very important, and much more. On top of what is actually happening in hospitals is the important work happening in the community and the different policies being implemented to help reduce the demand for our hospitals.

Priority care centres are an important part of that plan. These are for patients with non life-threatening injuries and illnesses who are deemed to be clinically stable and not in need of emergency department care. These priority care centres are community treatment centres that will continue to treat their current patients but will now also be supported to accept a specific cohort of SA Ambulance Service patients, offering an alternative to going to a public hospital emergency department. Initially, these priority care centres were located in key areas where there is the greatest demand for services that could be provided outside our hospitals.

There is also the home hospital program. This is for patients who present frequently to emergency departments who could perhaps receive the care they need in a more appropriate and comfortable environment. This involves linking tailored care within their home and the community. The pilot program was conducted in the north-east and this demonstrated a halving in the number of presentations to emergency departments by this cohort of patients. This is another program that when fully expanded will go quite a long way to helping reduce demand on our hospitals and treat those people before they need to go to hospital.

We have seen some positive signs in recent months with a decline in ambulance ramping, but there is no doubt that there is still a long way to go before we can be satisfied with what we have achieved in health. There is no doubt that we have righted the ship that had been heading hopelessly off course. I think we will see much better outcomes for people into the future. I commend the Minister for Health and Wellbeing for his work in this area.

Another very big issue that was raised with me prior to coming to this place was out-of-control electricity prices that households and businesses had faced in South Australia. Before coming to government, we saw South Australians suffer some of the highest power prices in the world. In fact, when we talk about issues that really resonate with our local community, I recall doorknocking in mid-2017 when there was an announcement that there would be a 20 per cent increase for some electricity customers. Almost every person I spoke to that day was talking about electricity prices, which really highlights the importance of this issue.

One of the critical things that had led to this problem was a disorderly transition to renewable energy. Whilst all of us on this side completely support the direction to renewable energy—there is no doubt that is where the world is heading and that is where we should head, and in fact there are some real benefits and advantages to us positioning ourselves to take advantage of those new technologies—that transition needs to be conducted in an orderly manner and planned in a methodical fashion, but that simply had not been the case. What we were faced with were situations where it was more about flashy announcements, creating the impression of action and photo opportunities without a proper and detailed plan for how we can make that orderly transition to renewables, particularly intermittent energy sources.

In contrast, the Marshall government is delivering on a comprehensive plan to reduce the price of electricity to increase reliability and stability of the system. This involves greater interconnectivity with the National Energy Market, household storage, support for grid-scale storage and demand management. The Home Battery Scheme is an important part of this plan. It allows households with solar panels to store their own power during the day. It has to be during the day because that is when the sun is up. It is particularly beneficial to those who are not home during the day, as they can then discharge the energy they have stored in their batteries during the evening.

This not only reduces the cost of the households' own electricity consumption but also takes those households out of that peak demand period in the evening, helping to take pressure off the system as a whole and reducing the wholesale price of electricity at those times, which will ultimately

benefit the entire state. This program has already had a fantastic take-up within my electorate. I believe that almost 120 households are already accessing the subsidy, with more than 70 of those having those batteries installed.

The interconnector with New South Wales is also progressing well. This is a very important initiative because at the moment South Australia is located very much at the end of the line. In terms of interconnectivity, we are reliant on Victoria, which can have some problems in certain circumstances. One example is the fact that we are reliant on one link, and that link can go down. Recently, there was some impact on the interconnector with some infrastructure damage in western Victoria.

Also, South Australian and Victorian weather patterns are often quite similar. As much as we like to criticise Melbourne's weather as being a lot worse than ours—and generally it is—if we are having a 40° day, or a really hot and dry day, then there is a pretty good chance that Melbourne will have a pretty hot day following that. That means that the peak demand can often be at similar times. This is quite different from New South Wales where Sydney's weather differs greatly from that of South Australia, so it is much less likely that we will have those similar issues with demand at the same time.

This not only helps us deal with days of a lot of demand, and we can supplement that with power from interstate—from New South Wales—but it also allows us to export excess renewable energy that we quite often generate. If it is a relatively cool but sunny day and there is a bit of wind around, then we are not necessarily using a lot of power but we will be generating a lot, and this is another way of being able to export that power. It helps with stability and helps to reduce that volatility in our local market, and that helps to stabilise the wholesale price of electricity. There has been modelling on the impact of the interconnector and on wholesale prices, and this is certainly going to be to the benefit of South Australians.

It is very easy to run a parochial political argument around doing it alone, putting up the walls and building everything here, but at the end of the day that will cost South Australians more, and I do not think that they will appreciate that. Our role is to work in the best interests of the state, and I think that greater interconnectivity is a very important part of helping to deal with not only the evolving nature of our generation mix but also the issue of high power prices.

Our plan is already beginning to see some real benefits in this area. Recently, the Australian Energy Regulator determined that the default market offer for electricity will be cut by between 4.4 per cent and 7.1 per cent. This means that 75,000 South Australian households and small businesses will see cuts to electricity bills from 1 July this year. Households on the default market offer will save on average \$85 per annum, households with controlled loads will save \$138 per year and small businesses will save on average \$691 per year.

The Australian Energy Market Operator's latest report shows that South Australians on market contracts can also expect to see cuts in the price of electricity. This is on top of the \$62 per annum average reduction in power bills for market contracts that occurred in the 2018-19 year as reported by the Essential Services Commission of South Australia. These achievements to date are not only examples of us delivering on our commitments to deliver lower costs, they also help create more jobs by reducing the cost of doing business and supporting household consumption.

By no means am I suggesting that the work here is done. The price of electricity has just started to turn downwards, which is a very positive start and a demonstration of the fact that our plan is working, but there is no question that there is still a lot more work for us to do in this area. This work is ongoing, and I would like to commend the Minister for Energy and Mining for his work in this area.

Another very important project for my local community is the opening up of our reservoirs for recreational activities. People love the outdoors and they love exploring the natural environment. We recently opened up the South Para Reservoir, on the northern edge of my electorate, for hiking, mountain biking, kayaking, fishing and all sorts of activities.

We have also removed the restrictions on kayaking on the Warren Reservoir, just up the road from there. It is important to emphasise that the South Para Reservoir is only 30 minutes from Tea Tree Gully, so it is not very far away. There is also work currently underway to open up the Hope Valley Reservoir for land-based recreational activities. This will likely occur at the end of this year and is a very exciting initiative of the Marshall Liberal government.

There were certainly plenty of people—before we came into government and, in fact, since—who said this could not be done, but we are doing what we said we would do and we are going about it in a responsible way. I am very excited and pleased to be part of a government that is not negative but has a positive and can-do attitude when it comes to getting things done. I would like to commend the Minister for Environment and Water for his work in that area.

We are also seeing the upgrade of the Chain of Ponds intersection at Kersbrook, the intersection between North East Road and South Para Road. There has been a lot of concern about this intersection in that part of the Hills; it has been a problem for a long period of time and has been long neglected. Right before the election there was a bit of a flurry of activity and talk about doing something about it, but unfortunately there were no detailed plans about what fixing it would actually be.

Since then the current Marshall government has completed concept designs for that intersection and is now working on the more detailed technical designs, and it is expected the work on this intersection will start later this year. There have been some challenges in improving the intersection, particularly with sightlines, given the difficult topography, but that work is progressing and I am very pleased to see that we are working to improve the safety of motorists using that intersection. Importantly, community consultation will come in the next few months.

Education has also been an important focus of the Marshall government and I am very pleased to see upgrades happening in many of my local schools. Banksia Park International High School is receiving \$9 million for various upgrades, and it is worth pointing out that Banksia Park International High School is one of the five entrepreneurial specialist schools. This program helps support schools to develop dedicated entrepreneurial spaces and resources, hire specialist staff and support engagement with business and industry. The program is well underway and a great assistant principal has been appointed to oversee it.

I was very pleased late last year to attend a great event with students who were working on a disaster recovery project that looked at all parts of the process, from identifying the problem, coming up with a solution, building a model using 3D printing—still a technology that blows my mind; it certainly did not exist when I was at school—and then marketing their solution. It was a very impressive project from the year 9 students.

The infrastructure built at that school will see additional learning areas, a new performing arts centre, an indoor/outdoor commercial kitchen and cafe, new covered outdoor learning areas, new heating and cooling systems across the school, upgraded disability access areas and upgraded facilities to support the school's international program. Just last week, I visited Modbury High School with the Minister for Education to announce designs for the \$7 million upgrade to that high school. This will see a new year 7 hub, wellbeing and technical studies areas and a new outdoor learning area. I know that the school community is very excited about it.

Broadband in schools has also seen massive improvements. We had some of the slowest internet speeds in the country, but under this government we now have some of the fastest. This is part of the government's \$8 million partnership with Telstra, which has delivered faster internet to all of my local schools.

We have had upgrades to crossings at Kersbrook Primary School and also Ridgehaven Primary School, improving safety for students travelling to and from school. We are also seeing upgrades to Paracombe Road, which is a project happening in partnership with the Adelaide Hills Council that will see upgrades to the one-kilometre stretch of road from Lower North East Road, heading east. This is to improve safety for local road users.

The Tea Tree Gully Toy Library received a \$100,000 commitment to provide greater funding certainty for them over the next four years. The toy library is an important local resource for many families. We are also seeing significant investment in our local sporting club infrastructure, including

\$350,000 for six new netball and tennis courts. The work for that should be coming online soon. This is for the Tea Tree Gully Tennis Club, as well as the Tea Tree Gully Netball Club and Banksia Park Netball Club. Tea Tree Gully Gymsports has its new sprung floor, which was part funded by the Marshall government.

The Hope Valley Sporting Club received a grant in the first round of the Grassroots Football, Cricket and Netball Facility Program, which will provide new unisex change rooms to support their teams. I visited the club with the Premier on the weekend, and they told us that they now have five women's football teams and one women's cricket team and certainly a lot more interest on top of that. Their change rooms had become quite outdated and not really fit for purpose, so these facilities will ensure that all members of the club have access to appropriate facilities.

The Tea Tree Gully athletics club is being supported for their new jumps track. The Tea Tree Gully BMX Club is getting new lights, which are particularly important during winter when the sun goes down a bit earlier. They will be able to extend their training and competition nights. The Tea Tree Gully Golf Club will be installing a new lift, which I am very pleased to support. It is a wonderful facility. Dimples Restaurant is very popular amongst a lot of local community groups that hold their meetings there, such as Rotary, Kiwanis and Lions. I know U3A held an enormous Christmas lunch. I attended with the member for King last year. Having a lift to get up to the top floor will certainly be very welcomed by the community.

There are many other exciting things that are happening. I would like to commend the Minister for Innovation and Skills for his work on increasing the number of traineeships and apprenticeships. The latest survey of the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) has seen massive increases in the take-up of government-funded apprenticeship and traineeship programs, as well as South Australian government-funded subject programs.

In the case of the South Australian government-funded subject programs, we are talking about increases of 18.7 per cent, compared with a national increase of 2.7 per cent, so enormous increases. This is really important in making sure that our state's young people—particularly young people but people of all ages—have the skills they need to take advantage of jobs that are coming, particularly in defence industries but also in many other sectors.

There are a lot of very exciting things happening at Lot Fourteen, particularly with the national Space Agency and other space companies that are coming and setting up shop there. The SmartSat Cooperative Research Centre is the largest space research project in the nation's history. This is really very exciting, particularly when you visit local schools and they see all the opportunities that are coming in the future. It gets kids really excited about studying science, which I find pleasing, as we are going to need a lot of people with those skills in the future. I think the excitement that generates really puts a sense of confidence in where South Australia is heading.

We often look back at things we may have been doing that we do not do anymore, but when we look at the opportunities for our children going forward into the future I think they really are very bright with what is happening particularly at Lot Fourteen but not only there. I would also like to congratulate the government on its investment in the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy, which is a \$9.6 million investment from the state government. This is to support critical research infrastructure in South Australia, which supports a whole range of different fields. It is incredibly welcomed by the sector, and I think it will have a very real benefit.

I am very pleased to be part of a government that is delivering on its promises. We went to the election, we made promises and we are now doing exactly what we said we would do. That is what the people asked us to do. There is plenty more work we need to do, and our team is very much up to that task. I, for my part, will certainly be working as hard as I can to ensure that we deliver all the benefits of lower costs, more jobs and better services for my community and South Australia more broadly.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (12:20): It is great to have the opportunity to speak, notwithstanding the fact that the honourable member must have thought this was a grievance debate—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Continue with your contribution.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: —since he continued past the allocated time in an unparliamentary way contrary to standing orders.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Lee, it has happened from time to time.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Yes, usually during grievances, sir, which is specifically provided for by the standing orders. Nonetheless, we find ourselves belatedly with the chance—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Lee, at the moment we are speaking to the Governor's speech.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Indeed, we are.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have that opportunity now.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I look forward to commencing, sir.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Continue.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: It is always a pleasure to have the Governor, His Excellency Hieu Van Le, come to this place. When I say 'this place', I mean the other place because we know that, after the unpleasantness in the 1400s, we do not accept sovereigns or their representatives into this specific place. Nonetheless, it is lovely to have someone of the Governor's standing come in. He is a remarkable person. I think it is impossible to find a South Australian who has had contact with the Governor who does not have gushing things to say about what a wonderful man he is, how hardworking he is and what an extraordinary contribution he makes to this state.

All of us, particularly those of us in this place who have the fortune of coming across him more regularly than most South Australians would, each have at least one anecdote where the Governor has done something truly remarkable in the conduct of his duties to enhance the position he holds and bring South Australians into closer contact with his position. We had a speech from the Governor to open this session of parliament, a speech from the Governor prepared by the government. The government heralded this as the big reset, the big recalibration, the big restart of the government's agenda.

It is curious to listen to the contributions from those opposite, who have been going on and on as if things have never been better, as if things are peachy and rosy in this state, which begs the question: why on earth is the leadership of the Liberal government claiming that it needs to reset if things are going so well? Of course, the honest answer is that things are not going so well. Things are not going so well for the government but, more to the point, things are not going so well for this state.

It was interesting to hear the member who has just concluded his remarks say that the Liberal Party made promises at the last election and that this Liberal government is now delivering on those promises because nothing could be further from the truth: they are not delivering on their promises. They continue to break their promises. They have broken their three fundamental promises, which they repeated literally ad nauseam, of lower costs, more jobs and better services—fail, fail and fail on all counts.

In relation to lower costs, there were extraordinary increases in fees, charges and taxes in the last state budget, which all those opposite have remained silent about. They are all happy, of course, to see extraordinary increases in people's motor vehicle registration costs. They are all happy, of course, to see extraordinary increases in hospital car parking fees. They are all happy, of course, even those members opposite who have come from local government, to see council rates increase because of the bin tax imposed by this government through the enormous hike in the solid waste levy.

All these fees, charges and increases—including the increase in business registration costs, the increase in the cost of migrants wanting to come to South Australia, the increase in public transport fares and the removal of the two-section public transport fares, the increase in costs for people wanting police presence at major gatherings and events, and the increase in expiations for high-risk offences which we were told was all about speeding drivers but is not about that at all but about small businesses that are not able to identify drivers driving one of their fleet vehicles having to pay an enormous increase in the corporate fee (and that is the bulk of the increase of that

charge)—have not met the lower costs pledge. All these increases have washed away any benefit from the claimed reductions in the emergency services levy.

They certainly have not delivered on the 'more jobs' mantra. More than 9,000 full-time jobs have been lost here in South Australia in the last 12 months. Most troubling is that all that momentum—which had been built in the lead-up to the last election in both economic growth and employment growth as the state recovered from the enormous shock of losing automotive manufacturing from this state by not only all Holden's operations ceasing but all the component manufacturers' operations being lost as well—has basically come to a halt. Employment growth over the last 12 months is not even 0.1 per cent. Jobs growth has stopped and we are losing nearly 10,000 full-time jobs.

The economic growth rate has nearly halved here in South Australia, so the economy is underperforming. You ask why. It is not because of coronavirus. It is not because of an issue that we have been confronting as a state, as a nation and as a globe for the last few weeks. We are talking about economic trends that have extended over more than the past 12 months. It is the decisions this government has made to withdraw government support for economic activity here in South Australia.

The government also promised better services. It is remarkable to hear those opposite, particularly those in marginal seats and particularly those in marginal seats in the north-eastern suburbs, claim that there are better services. They are actively trying to close down a Service SA centre, they have stopped the expansion of the park-and-ride facilities at Tea Tree Plaza and they are selling a TAFE campus at Modbury. How is that consistent with better services? The answer, of course, is that it is not.

I have not even mentioned the broken pledge of no privatisations. We have the privatisation of train and tram services on foot. We have the threatened privatisation of SA Pathology, remarkably as this state, like other states, is having to confront the potential pandemic of the coronavirus. We have also had the privatisation of the Adelaide Remand Centre. The poorer services, of course, continue with hospitals overflowing, the worst ramping ever and the bus and train cuts of \$46 million, the worst yet to come.

If you want to look at the lived experience of these broken promises, you only have to visit my electorate. You only have to visit the electorate of Lee to understand how this government's inability to deliver and this government's broken promises are punishing the community. We have had bus cuts now where whole communities within my electorate are not being serviced by bus services at all. We have had security guards removed from night-time train services. This strategy was specifically put in place to encourage people who feel vulnerable on public transport, including women, school students and the elderly, to feel more comfortable on public transport. That has been yanked from train services, particularly on the Grange line.

We have had the threat of privatisation of these services which, of course, most likely means a lower quality service or an infrequent service. As we have now found out through documents released through freedom of information requests, the government is actively considering closing or reducing train services on the Grange line. We have also seen the delay in The Queen Elizabeth Hospital upgrade.

Those members opposite, those marginal members I made reference to before from the north-eastern suburbs of South Australia, think that it is a big joke for Grange line commuters to potentially lose their services. They think it is fine because they have no knowledge of what exists west of West Terrace. They are not interested whatsoever.

The fact that they laugh about it, the fact that they call out about it and the fact that they conduct themselves in an unparliamentary way by laughing and sneering at the electors in my community is an outrage. I thought the member for King wanted to see an improvement in parliamentary standards. It is bad enough that everybody is sitting back while the allegations about the member for Waite remain unresolved, but now she is laughing and sneering at my constituents. Shame on the member for King.

You do not have to stop at The QEH upgrade being delayed—the \$270 million promised and funded by the former Labor government—because of course we have had the massive increase in hospital car parking fees. The new car park, funded by the former Labor government, was not only delayed but not even opened until the Labor Party called public attention to the fact that this apparently completed facility remained closed for no reason. It was opened hastily with higher car parking charges.

We have not even had a start on the intersection upgrade of West Lakes Boulevard, Cheltenham Parade and Port Road—a project funded by the former Labor government that was meant to be completed in 2018. Why has it not been done? This government is sitting on its hands, breaking its commitments to South Australians.

We hear that they have cut research funding for QEH cardiologists. Of course, rolling over once again to the federal Coalition government, which this Liberal government loves to do, and accepting the Gonski-lite funding deal for our schools means that Grange Primary School, West Lakes Shore School, Hendon Primary School, Westport Primary School and Seaton High School are receiving less money than they would under the original Gonski deal supported by the former state Labor government and fully funded by the former state Labor government.

They have delayed upgrades to Grange Primary School: rather than being at the front of the queue for those important upgrades to this wonderful school in the western suburbs—one that is bursting at the seams—they are now being delayed. They have been told that it might not be in the next three, four or five years. The \$20 million funded for the upgrade of Seaton High School has now been changed for this government's pursuit of putting year 7 into high school, rather than demolishing old buildings and building new ones for the existing school.

It is extraordinary that this government, through breaking all these promises, have also significantly changed this state's economic strategy. Rather than putting the state government's shoulder to the wheel to support South Australian businesses and industries in our economy to grow where they have genuine opportunities to grow and thrive in the face of competition from other states and other jurisdictions around the world, they have withdrawn government support for these areas. They have cut 29 job-creation and job-sustainment programs across South Australia. They said, 'No more will we pick winners,' and they cut funding.

Funnily enough, though, it was not too long before funding was quietly restored to the Economic Growth Business Fund. Rather than have a robust strategy where businesses could apply for government support in an open call to the whole state in a competitive process, where businesses would be funded up to \$50,000 in the first stage to have a robust business case demonstrating that they are worthy of government investment, they have just been handing money quietly to businesses without any such open call, without any open process, with no analysis, with no business case and with dubious benefits.

We cite, for example, paying Mitsubishi Motors millions of dollars to stay here in South Australia. Why? We cite giving \$42 million of taxpayers' money for a hotel at the Adelaide Oval. Why? How do you think the other hoteliers around South Australia feel who have to do the hard work to try to raise funds? Well, they cannot.

If you look at the analysis of the final years of the former Labor government and the performance of the first two years of the Liberal government, you find that this government has been failing on jobs. Jobs growth over the first two years of this Liberal government has been 0.8 per cent; over the last two years of the former Labor government it was 4.2 per cent. Annual jobs growth currently sits at 0.03 per cent. Economic growth has slowed to 1.4 per cent, down from 2.3 per cent in 2017-18. Annual state final demand sits at 0.2 per cent and has only grown 1 per cent since the Marshall government was elected. Over the last two years of the former Labor government, state final demand grew by 8.5 per cent.

Construction work has fallen through a hole. Our share of national exports has fallen through a hole. In the last 12 months, we now sit at 2.9 per cent of national exports; at the election, we were over 4 per cent. Retail trade has slowed and, most notably, it slowed in the month of December, the month when the great big experiment for deregulated shop trading hours was conducted by this government. The big reset, of course, is necessary for all these reasons because the government is

not performing well and the state is not performing well. The government is performing terribly and, as a result, so is the state.

So what is in the big reset? Almost completely nothing new. They are going to have another go at the shop trading hours. They are going to have another go at rate capping. We were told in the media only a day before the last Liberal Party love-in that rate capping was not back on the agenda: it was off. Then we hear, by press release, that it is back on. The government have no idea what is going on. Regarding GM crops, it will be third time, fourth time lucky perhaps, for the Minister for Primary Industries. I thought land tax was bungled over the last year, but nothing comes close to how badly the Minister for Primary Industries managed his attempts to get the GM crops legislation and associated changes through.

The Growth State plan is nothing new. The same industries, the same growth sectors that have been highlighted in previous state economic plans, including under Labor, have just been rebadged into a new economic strategy called Growth State. It is not really a reset but a pretty tepid reheat of the leftovers of the first failed two years of the Marshall government. It is just extraordinary from a political party waiting more than 16 years to get into office that you would think would be brimming with ideas about how to carry this state further forward and higher into a brighter future.

Not only did they not have those ideas, the tepid, small-minded ones they did have have failed miserably to carry our state forward. Rather than admit that, rather than reset the agenda, rather than actually find something after being in government for two years that might carry this state forward, instead they choose to reheat those failed strategies that have not worked over the past two years. One thing the government could be doing is actually getting on with some infrastructure investment.

Remember, just as the first federal budget of this Liberal government was being handed down, we were told that we were going to get \$1.4 billion for the future stages of South Road. It was front-page news—literally. How much was actually in the federal budget over the next four years, over the budget period? Only a tenth of that: it was only \$144 million. When the second federal budget was released, just before the federal election, we were told, 'Now we are going to get an extra \$1.5 billion,' and that it would be \$2.9 billion in total. How much of that \$1.5 billion was actually in the next four years in the budget period? It was not even 10 per cent; it was only 1 per cent—it was \$15 million.

We have been promised \$2.9 billion from the federal government for the future stages of South Road and how much was actually in the budget? \$159 million. That is blatant spin. It is blatantly misleading, but it is something that was celebrated by those opposite. It is something that was celebrated by this Liberal government. Time and time again, when it comes to any sort of relations with the federal Coalition government, when the state's interests are on the line this government rolls over.

They have rolled over in accepting this dud infrastructure funding deal. They rolled over, of course, about how badly we are being treated as the end state in the Murray-Darling Basin. We have been duded by those opposite sitting silently as former prime minister Tony Abbott and former federal treasurer Joe Hockey chased Holden out of Australia, meaning that we lost—and eventually, of course, Victoria then lost Ford and Toyota manufacturing operations—a major employer and a major industry out of South Australia.

We now see that we are right on the cusp of being duded for the deep cycle maintenance jobs for the Collins class submarines, losing jobs that are already here, jobs that are already underway. As I mentioned before, we also see the impacts on local schools in my electorate signing up blithely to the Gonski-lite funding agreement, which saw hundreds of thousands of dollars less come to South Australian schools. And what does this government and what does the Premier do? Nothing. They roll over and have their tummy tickled.

But, of course, this reset, this reheat has been completely overshadowed by the dark pall that hangs over this place as a result of the behaviour that occurred in this building on 13 December last year. There are still to this day, here on 3 March, nearly three months after 13 December last year, serious unresolved allegations about the behaviour of the member for Waite at more than one function. We learn from media reports that apparently there was one function in this place where

apparently some misdemeanours or misadventures took place by the member for Waite, if I can be so euphemistic, and then, of course, the attendance at a crossbencher party when very serious allegations, which have been aired publicly, are alleged to have occurred.

It is extraordinary that we can be here in this place three months on from allegations of one member of parliament slapping another member of parliament on the backside and still have these unresolved. What it has now created is a resigned acceptance amongst the community that they are held to one higher standard when it comes to this sort of misbehaviour in a workplace, and it is a higher standard compared with what—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Lee, there is a point of order.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I have listened carefully in the hope that the member might be moving on. The member is well aware that there is a matter under assessment by the Speaker, which has been suspended pending a police investigation in relation to the instance referred to.

I think that, whilst it is not unreasonable that the member could in this presentation make reference to the fact that an incident has occurred, I would ask you, sir, to remind the member that this matter is under police investigation and that we should not be doing anything in this house that might prejudice that investigation.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, Attorney. The matter that has been brought to our attention, again, by the member for Lee is under police investigation. The member has not been charged, however, so we need to bear that in mind. This particular topic has been canvassed in this place over a number of question times. It is reasonable for the member for Lee to want to talk about it, except that I do not think he should dwell on it. I think that we are talking to the Governor's speech here, and the member for Lee would do well to direct his comments to the Governor's speech.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: First of all, Mr Deputy Speaker, I thank you for your ruling. I am sure you would not agree, but I would regard the Deputy Premier's point of order as a completely bogus point of order. I have not made any reflection yet on how this matter has been handled whatsoever.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I understand that member for Lee.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: As a member of parliament, I am entitled to the full privileges and immunities that this place affords me. The point I am making, sir, is very clear—that those constituents I represent in this place are now in a situation where they are led to believe that there is one standard that applies to them in workplaces and another standard that applies to us. Some people may be comfortable with that: I am not.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Lee. Can I speak now? I take your point. I gave the Attorney the call on her point of order. She raised a point. My ruling was that even though there was a police investigation underway charges had not been laid, so you were within your rights. But, further to that, I also made the point that we are now addressing the Governor's speech. Thank you, member for Lee.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Thank you, sir. To place it in context, as I did already, the Governor's speech has of course been made at a time when the government seeks to reset the agenda at the same time that its agenda has got so off track, for example, because of how badly it handled the land tax reforms and of course, as we now find out, how badly handled this matter has been.

There may be members opposite who are comfortable with how this matter has been handled. For example, the behaviour was alleged to have happened on 13 December. The Premier told the media that he knew of it immediately and asked the member for Waite to apologise. He told this place as late as last sitting week that the first he heard about it was when he read about it in the paper on 4 January—conflicting statements.

We have had these changing stories, and with the effluxion of time here we are, more than three months later, and we have had a member who has at first come into this place, a workplace nonetheless where serious unresolved allegations remain about his conduct, including to staff employed by the parliament, and then, of course, subsequent decisions have been made—by whom

we are not sure—where he has not only excused himself from being a member of the Liberal Party but he has excused himself from even attending this place.

Mr PEDERICK: Point of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is a point of order, member for Lee. Yes, member for Hammond.

Mr PEDERICK: The member for Lee knows darn well that you cannot reflect on whether or not a member is physically in this place. That is an absolute fact, Mr Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Hammond, the fact is that the member for Waite has taken leave from this place.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order: the member for Waite has not sought the leave of the house to be absent.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: My apologies.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Point of order: with respect, Mr Deputy Speaker, there is a time limit upon which a member cannot be prejudiced in any way as a result of their non-attendance in the chamber without leave before the processes of by-elections become imposed.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are quite correct.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I made no comments about whether he was on leave or not, so I am not quite sure what this point of order is.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, that was my comment. You take a seat, please, member for Lee. I will hear the Attorney out.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: All I would ask the member to do is not to reflect on the absence of any member from the chamber at any time.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: When you are the Speaker, you can ask him to do that, but until then you can't.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Lee, you are sitting down; the Attorney is on her feet.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. If the member continues to contribute in relation to this debate, the Address in Reply, I ask that he not reflect on any member who is not in the chamber at present. That is all I am asking him to do. I would ask that that be abided by. It is in breach of the standing orders.

Mr BROWN: A point of order on the point of order: I hear the impassioned defence of the member for Waite by the Deputy Premier, but I think what the member for Lee was attempting to do was reflect on the public comments that the member for Waite has himself made about how he is not here, about how he intends not to attend the parliament.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Playford. I do not need this to turn into debate in its own right, given that we are speaking to the Governor's address. Back to the original point of order, which came from the member for Hammond, I have been listening carefully and I do not believe that the member for Lee has been speaking in this place about anything that has necessarily not been in the public arena. I believe that to be the case so, given that we are speaking once again to the Governor's speech, member for Lee, you will bring your comments back to addressing the Governor's speech, please.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Thank you, sir. Those of us who have been approached by constituents asking, for example, what on earth is going on in parliament at the moment, where these sorts of allegations can remain unresolved, find ourselves at a loss. We find ourselves at a loss because I cannot explain it to my constituents. I cannot explain it to those people who say, 'What would this mean, for example, if this sort of thing were to happen in my workplace, outside this place, in a professional environment? Would this stand?' Of course it would not stand.

How can we be three months on and it not be resolved? How could there have not been decisions immediately taken to make sure that this issue was dealt with expediently so that, whether

somebody is here or not, we would not have to still be discussing this; it would be resolved one way or another? And how can we be in a situation where so many members of the community start feeling that this place, which is meant to be the arbiter or the decider of what is wrong and right in this state, cannot get it right when it comes to this sort of issue?

The Deputy Premier says we need another commissioner to look into this, to look into MPs' behaviour. I would argue that what we actually need is some leadership and some action on this particular matter so that it gets resolved. First of all, we had the honourable member of the other place Rob Lucas conducting an investigation. We are waiting to hear back from that. Then we had a two-week delay from between 4 January, when it broke in the media, and 17 January, when the Speaker announced a gumshoe to investigate, and then there was some delay, and now we finally have a police investigation—three months on. That would not stand in any other workplace.

How, for example, do I speak to women in my electorate when they ask me questions such as, 'Well, what should I expect in a workplace if this behaviour were to happen to me?' Would there be, for example, a three-month delay before any action could be contemplated? Would it take weeks of the alleged perpetrator continuing to front up to the workplace before finally the leaders of the workplace adjudged that something should be done and the alleged perpetrator should be removed from the place? It is just extraordinary.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: The Deputy Premier can call out and interject as much as she likes, but she is the first law officer of this state, so people might ask questions about where her judgement was and what counsel she was providing, as the first law officer of the state, to the Premier about what action should be taken. We know that what is being told to everyone about this house is that it was either the Deputy Premier or one of her moderate faction colleagues who was responsible for backgrounding the media in the second half of December.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Lee, I am going to interrupt you here. You have four minutes left, probably 3½. I have asked you on a couple of occasions to bring your comments back to the Governor's speech. Now would be the opportunity to do that, to wrap up your contribution, without taunting the other side.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Perhaps I could make this contribution in the last four minutes. Perhaps like some others—in fact, only one other, according to the contributions I have heard or read in *Hansard*, the Leader of the Opposition—I could wish my fellow colleagues well for the year to come and for the remaining session. I would hope for the remainder of the session that, not only are we not confronted with this sort of behaviour in this workplace, but, regardless of what behaviour occurs in this workplace, I would hope that the leaders of this workplace would put the interests of victims, the interests of staff, the interests of those people who might be offended by homophobic or racist remarks and the interests, broadly, of the people of South Australia, first.

That is so that, when there are these sorts of allegations in this sort of workplace, something gets done about it, something meaningful gets done about it and something gets done about it quickly to send the right message to the community that we are not beyond the law. We are not some separate species of inhabitants here in South Australia and we should be held to the same account as everybody else because that is not what is happening at the moment.

We are being held separately by the poor action or lack of action that has occurred since the events of 13 December, and that is a blight on all of us whether those opposite recognise it or not. It reflects on all of us poorly throughout the community for that reason and it reflects on all of us in here as well. What message does it send to the employees of Parliament House when this sort of behaviour is alleged to have occurred? Nothing happens until it becomes public, when somebody gets shamed into doing something about it.

Even when they get shamed into doing something about it, what they do is designed to (a) obfuscate scrutiny, particularly during question time, and (b) sweep it under the rug as much as possible so that nobody can really get a handle on who knew what and when, particularly the Premier, the Deputy Premier and other people in positions of authority. It has been one of the most unsatisfactory, unseemly occurrences that I can possibly think of, and the reason it has got to that

level of unseemliness is because of how badly it is being handled. The Deputy Premier can sit there with a big smile on her face laughing and joking about it as much as she wants—

The Hon. V.A. Chapman: At least I am doing something about it.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: You are not doing anything about it. Did you ask the equal opportunity commissioner to investigate? You did nothing.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: All you did was leak it.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman: You did nothing.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The time has expired.

Motion carried.

Sitting suspended from 12:56 to 14:00.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: I welcome to parliament today the former member for Ashford, the Hon. Steph Key.

ANSWERS TABLED

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

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Speaker—

Auditor-General—

Adelaide Oval redevelopment for the designated period 1 July 2019-
31 December 2019, Report 1 of 2020

Consolidated Financial Report review, Report 5 of 2020

Examination of credit card use and management: City of Charles Sturt, Report 2
of 2020

Examination of credit card use and management: City of Playford, Report 3
of 2020

Examination of credit card use and management: The Coorong District Council,
Report 4 of 2020

[Ordered to be published]

By the Premier (Hon. S.S. Marshall)—

Regulations made under the following Acts—

Dangerous Substances—Dangerous Goods Transport—SACAT

By the Attorney-General (Hon. V.A. Chapman)—

Regulations made under the following Acts—

Building Work Contractors—SACAT

Plumbers, Gas Fitters and Electricians—SACAT

Second-hand Vehicle Dealers—SACAT

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

Regulations made under the following Acts—

Heavy Vehicle National Law (South Australia)—
Amendment of Law
Expiation Fees

By the Minister for Planning (Hon. S.K. Knoll)—

Regulations made under the following Acts—
Architectural Practice—SACAT

By the Minister for Education (Hon. J.A.W. Gardner)—

Regulations made under the following Acts—
Controlled Substances—Pesticides—SACAT
Health Practitioner Regulation National Law—Definition of repealed regulation
Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (South Australia)—Amendment of Law

Question Time

CORONAVIRUS

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:07): My question is to the Premier. Is the Premier thoroughly briefed on the government's planning for a coronavirus pandemic?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:07): Can I just say to the house that I have been extraordinarily impressed with the way SA Health has worked together with all government departments in South Australia to understand the issues associated with the coronavirus, to put plans in place and to look at various scenarios to make sure that we as a government can respond to whatever scenario is presented.

I would also like to thank Dr Nicola Spurrier, who is the Chief Public Health Officer in South Australia, for the way she leads her team (the communicable diseases branch), and also the way the state government has been working with the federal government. I think that we all realise that there was a meeting last week where all the different health ministers around the country came together to receive an update, if you like, from the federal government with respect to various scenarios.

I am absolutely convinced that we have put the plans in place to deal with any likely eventuality. As people would be aware, when this coronavirus first broke out we did not have pathology services in South Australia that could do the coronavirus testing. In fact, in the first instance there were only labs in Victoria and New South Wales—a total of three labs for the entire country.

I am very pleased to say that SA Pathology worked very quickly, very diligently, to provide that service in South Australia. They did that in an exceptionally short period of time. We now have those pathology services available. My understanding is that at the moment approximately 250 screenings are conducted every day. In fact, South Australia now has a regime in place where any person who is having respiratory tests done in South Australia will automatically also be screened for the coronavirus. I am not sure if this exists in other jurisdictions, but I understand that this is a very high level of screening.

Yes, we have now had three people in South Australia who have had the coronavirus and two, of course, were originally isolated within the Royal Adelaide Hospital. They no longer have the coronavirus. I understand they still have ongoing testing in South Australia, but they have been discharged from the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

We see that the coronavirus has now moved from being predominantly in China and in other Asian countries and now we see fairly significant outbreaks in the Middle East and also in Europe. I think that what Dr Nicola Spurrier says that we need to be alert but not alarmed. We don't need to panic in Australia, but what we do need to be is as prepared as possible.

My understanding is that the Senior Management Council are now meeting twice weekly. This is almost a standard item on their agenda so that all government departments can be working in a collaborative way to make sure that we keep the people of South Australia free from the risk of a significant outbreak in this state.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:11): My question again is to the Premier. Can the Premier assure South Australians that all necessary medicine, supplies and equipment have been stockpiled to ensure our health system is prepared for a prolonged coronavirus outbreak?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:11): I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his question. As he would be aware, there is no specific treatment for the coronavirus. That is being developed at this stage. We note that there have been Australian laboratories that have been doing work on this, but to date there has been no vaccine that has been produced, so there is nothing to stockpile from that perspective.

I think that the Leader of the Opposition may also be aware that today there was a significant announcement from the health minister and the human services minister with regard to the flu vaccine this year. We want to make sure that we send a message that the very best thing that we can be doing in this state to remain healthy at the moment is for people to have that inoculation, especially if they fall within those cohorts who are most susceptible to the flu. This year more than ever, it is extraordinarily important to make sure that we observe all the alerts that are being provided by SA Health, that we have that flu inoculation or vaccine if appropriate and that we take all necessary precautions in this state.

I certainly haven't had any indication that there is a shortage of any medical supplies that might be necessary. If that is brought to my attention, I will make sure that we do everything we can to make sure we are as prepared as possible in South Australia.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:13): My question is to the Premier. Is there sufficient personal protective equipment for SA Health staff to deal with a prolonged coronavirus outbreak?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:13): I haven't been made aware of any specific deficiency in South Australia, but I am happy to take that question on notice and follow it up.

JOB CREATION

Ms LUETHEN (King) (14:13): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is creating more jobs for South Australia?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:13): As people are aware—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —this is the number one focus of our government: creating sustainable, long-term, fulfilling jobs in South Australia. It is also fair to say that there are some fairly significant headwinds on the international, the national and also the state scene with regard to job creation, but we are not going to be deterred by that; in fact, we use this as motivation to redouble our efforts to make sure that we can keep as many people employed in South Australia and grow the jobs market.

We currently have in excess of 848,000 people employed in South Australia at the moment. I have great cause for optimism that we are going to be able to create more into the future. I would like to outline to the house, in response to the member for King's question, some of the programs that we are putting in place that will do exactly and precisely that.

Number one, we are very significantly investing in creating more apprentices and trainees in South Australia, making sure that we can transform the skill base that we have in South Australia to meet the projected needs that are coming our way. There is absolutely no point in burying our heads in the sand, like those opposite did when they were in government, when we saw the commencement of apprentices and trainees fall every single year virtually for the last four or five years. We accept

that that is the trend around the rest of the country, but we don't want to participate in that trend here in South Australia. We want to buck the trend; we want more people taking on apprentices and trainees.

I am very pleased to report that last year 700 companies in South Australia took on an apprentice or a trainee for the very first time in their company's history. That is something that every South Australian should be very proud of. We have an ambition to create a significantly higher number of apprentices and trainees in South Australia to meet those future needs. When the NCVET figures came out just two weeks ago, for the first three quarters of last year we had a 17.1 per cent increase in the number of apprentices and trainees in South Australia. That is something certainly to celebrate.

We also celebrate the fact that we are looking at creating more businesses in South Australia. This is one of the reasons why we have invested in Lot Fourteen and the contract that we have with Stone and Chalk in terms of start-ups and scale-ups in South Australia. They have been phenomenally successful, particularly in New South Wales and also in Victoria, where they have been into that market recently. They are now in South Australia. They already have 38 companies at Lot Fourteen in their incubator and accelerator, and we expect that to increase. In fact, the incubator and accelerator that we have authorised and funded in South Australia is larger than New South Wales and double the size of Victoria. I am sure it's going to create a lot more jobs.

Last week, I was down at the Naval Group. I was there in August last year and they had 110 employees. I was there on Friday of last week and they had 200 employees. That is a massive increase and they are well on their way to achieving their very significant ramp-up of 1,800, which is what they were telling me on Friday that they are expecting down there. So it is a massive increase in the number of jobs going into that defence sector.

There is the space sector as well. Dr Megan Clark, head of the Australian Space Agency, had a slide up at the space forum last week where she said that there are already 171 projects on the books for the space sector in Australia, with 31 per cent of \$1.6 billion coming to South Australia.

These are just some of the reasons—I have run out of time—why I'm confident that, despite the headwinds that exist in other jurisdictions and here in South Australia, we will weather the storm, we will focus on creating jobs and we will keep more South Australians here in our state.

The SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Kaurna, for the first five minutes of question time the opposition's behaviour was impeccable and I commend them for that. But, after that, unfortunately I have to call the following members to order: the member for Lee, the leader, the members for Light, Playford and West Torrens, the deputy leader, the member for Badcoe and the member for Hammond.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:18): My question is to the Premier. How many times has the Premier chaired the Emergency Management Council of cabinet to consider the state's planning for a coronavirus pandemic?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:18): I don't talk about how many cabinet committees I chair, but the Emergency Management Council is well prepared for all the likely eventualities in South Australia, but they are not the only people who are responsible for doing that work. As I outlined to the house previously, we have a good working relationship across the entire Senior Management Council, making sure that we are doing everything that we can possibly do to be prepared. We are looking at different scenarios. Some of them are unlikely but, nevertheless, we need to take the action to be as prepared as we possibly can be.

That's one of the reasons why the Chief Public Health Officer, looking at some potential scenarios, suggested some amendments to the legislation in the parliament that covers her powers. We were happy to progress those, and we are very pleased that the opposition has indicated their support to progress those matters.

We understand that this is unorthodox. We understand that the parliament usually takes considerably more time to consider some of these amendments to legislation, and that is why we are very pleased that we have had an indication from the opposition and from the crossbench that they

will consider those matters. If that progresses this week that would be absolutely superb and I think that it would show and demonstrate to the people of South Australia that all people in this place are concerned about the potential for the coronavirus in South Australia and that we as a parliament are prepared to take all actions necessary to ensure that we keep the people of South Australia safe.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:20): My question is to the Premier. Is the Premier satisfied that the government's stockpiles of medicines, supplies and equipment are sufficient so that our health system will not experience supply shortages during a potential coronavirus pandemic?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left, please! Member for Hammond, be quiet. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:20): I know that sometimes it's difficult to pay attention in question time, sir. I'm sure you are paying attention, but that question seemed remarkably like the question that came from the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr Malinauskas: They are different questions.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Completely different questions? We will look at that on *Hansard* and see how they were completely different. We know that Kevin Naughton is no longer employed. I don't know who is running the dream factory.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: Can the Premier please resume his seat.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Who is running the dream factory?

The SPEAKER: Premier, please resume your seat.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Premier, please be seated for one moment. Member for West Torrens, debate? Yes, I uphold the point of order in respect of the Premier. The question was pretty specific. Whilst I allow members to provide some relevant preamble, when we start talking about Kevin Naughton we are far off the mark, so would the Premier like to come back to the substance of the question, or has he finished his answer? He has finished his answer.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:21): My question is to the Premier. Has the government considered following the Queensland state government's lead to spend \$25 million to bring forward their purchases of medicines, gloves and masks to protect their state?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:21): As I have indicated to the house, we are staying abreast of developments with regard to the coronavirus. We are not in the business of creating panic and anxiety here in South Australia. We are working very cooperatively with Brendan Murphy, who is the Chief Medical Officer for Australia. He is working with Nicola Spurrier, our Chief Public Health Officer in South Australia. If they give information and advice to the government that that is the course of action that we should take, we will consider that information, but to this point in time there has been no such request.

Queensland can make their own decisions as to how they respond to the coronavirus, but I am absolutely satisfied that we have handled this potentially dangerous situation in Australia extraordinarily well to date and that we have played our part in South Australia. I do thank all those people within SA Health and, as I said, Dr Nicola Spurrier for the work she has done. I think she has done what she can to quell anxiety that exists in the community.

I particularly want to acknowledge that, when there was quite a lot of concern about whether or not people should be out in public, she made a decision that she would accompany me and the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, the Hon. Stephen Wade, to Chinatown for dinner on a Sunday night. So unconcerned was she about the potential health effects of that visit, she took her husband

and her son to that meeting. I think this was a very strong demonstration from the Chief Public Health Officer in South Australia and the Minister for Health that we have to be alert but we cannot be alarmed.

We cannot panic in South Australia. This is a time for careful considered action, and that is what is occurring at the moment. As I said, when Dr Spurrier suggested to the government that there were some changes she thought were necessary—amendments to the Public Health Act—we took those suggestions immediately to cabinet and cabinet made a swift decision. This is what we will do: when we are presented with evidence of action that we should take, we will consider it promptly and we will take decisive action.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Narungga, I welcome to parliament today, on behalf of the member for Heysen, former justice of the Supreme Court the Hon. Tom Gray QC, and Mrs Dianne Gray, and on behalf of the member for Kavel, Michael Bagshaw and Jeff McDonald. Welcome to parliament.

Question Time

JOB CREATION

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (14:24): My question is to the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government. Can the minister please update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is creating more jobs in our regions on regional infrastructure projects?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:24): I thank the member for Narungga for his question and note his presence on Sunday morning as we demonstrated very clearly to the people of South Australia that South Australia doesn't finish at Gepps Cross. The reason that we can say that hand on heart is that we have funded two massive projects to help deliver jobs in the north of our state.

It was great to be there with the winning contractors who are going to deliver two very important regional projects for us, those being the Joy Baluch AM Bridge in the member for Stuart's electorate and then the Port Wakefield duplication and overpass in the member for Narungga's brilliant electorate. What was exciting with these contractors—CPB together with Aurecon and GHD, as well as McMahon Services, their tier 2 subbie; and John Briggs from Intract—was the commitment by those businesses to delivering local jobs for local people who can deliver their own road upgrades up there in both Port Wakefield and Port Augusta.

Excitingly for these projects, we are talking about over 200 jobs that are going to be created over the life of this project and some \$320 million of a \$12.9 billion infrastructure plan that is funded over this next four years of the forward estimates, that is going to deliver thousands of jobs right across South Australia for South Australians and for work that is being conducted by South Australians. What was also exciting was the model that that we chose to take to deliver this project: an alliance model, one where the contractors—Aurecon, CPB and GHD—together with the department come together as an alliance to deliver this in a coordinated and collaborative fashion.

What that means is that we are able to help make sure that any issues with the project are dealt with early, that if there are savings that those savings can come back to the taxpayer and also give greater certainty then for contractors that they've got somebody to work with who is going to be open and honest. More than that, what it does is it also helps to deliver a superior outcome. What we have done in both of these cases is to listen very strongly to local community feedback. In talking to the member for Stuart and the mayors in his community—

The Hon. L.W.K. Bignell: You want some feedback from Aldinga? Duplicate Main South Road.

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

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —what we have been able to do is to enhance the design—for instance, especially around shared use paths along the side of that bridge—taking into account the

feedback. And, again, Rowan Ramsey, the member for Grey, also talked about the fact that it is a pretty dangerous bridge to walk over for locals.

In Port Wakefield, the big debate is really around how we duplicate and whether we create a bypass of the town or whether we put that duplication through the centre. Essentially, the design we've come to is one that melds the best of both worlds, making sure that we create that separation north of Balaklava Road but then bringing it back together south of Balaklava Road to make sure that the town of Port Wakefield gets the most out of this because, yes, there are jobs during construction—over 200 for these projects—but it is also about how those flow-on effects from improved tourism benefits happen down the road.

What is also extremely exciting here, especially for Crash Corner, is knowing that this notorious intersection is going to be wiped out in a couple of summers' time means that we can help to encourage further tourism to beautiful Yorke Peninsula and up to Spencer Gulf, and it means that we can create those downstream jobs that flow on from these kinds of infrastructure projects. Both projects are funded by this government in conjunction with the federal government, who are providing some 80 per cent of the funding—again, another example of what happens when two spheres of government work together, talk together.

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

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: Instead of just having a budget that has a pretend promise from the federal government, what we have put in our budgets is real money committed in the state's bank account to deliver these projects for South Australians.

The SPEAKER: The member for Hammond gesticulates. I can hear the member for Mawson and he is warned. Member for Kaurna.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:28): My question is to the Premier. Has SA Health provided any advice to the government on the need to purchase additional medicines, gloves and masks?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:29): I haven't personally received that, but I am happy to take that matter up with the Minister for Health and Wellbeing and come back to the house.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:29): My question is to the Premier. Are there sufficient face masks available for a pandemic for all health workers in both the public and private health systems?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:29): I refer the honourable member to my previous answers on this line of questioning.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:29): My question is to the Premier. What contingency measures is the government taking to ensure that normal operations of SA Health's existing commitments to elective surgery patients will continue if a coronavirus outbreak intensifies here?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:29): I've not been presented with any information that would suggest that elective surgery would need to be cancelled with anything like the projection for coronavirus extrapolating from where we are at the moment, but we've got to remain very nimble on this issue. This is a developing situation.

As I was saying earlier in my answer to the house, we have now seen significant outbreaks in the Middle East and also in Europe. This is a very fast-moving situation. What we need to do is be as prepared as we possibly can in South Australia. I am very pleased that the opposition is now seeing fit to ask questions in parliament—two weeks after this has been a fairly significant issue globally. They have finally got around to asking their first questions on this. It was, of course—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —a disgraceful situation when the Chief Public Health Officer, who had a huge amount of work to do—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —was forced to sit there while the opposition played political games in the Budget and Finance Committee, and our Chief Public Health Officer, probably one of the most important positions in the state at the moment, was made to sit there and wait when she had important work to do. It is a disgraceful example—

Mr PICTON: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: The Premier will be seated.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —of just how overtly political this hopeless opposition in South Australia is.

The SPEAKER: Premier, be seated for one moment. Member for Kaurana.

Mr PICTON: Debate.

The SPEAKER: The member for Kaurana on a point of order for debate. The question was about contingency options that exist in regard to elective surgery if the coronavirus continues, is the way I captured the question. It's a fair point of order. I have given the Premier some opportunity to provide some relevant preamble and I ask him respectfully to come back to the substance of the question.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The question was about preparedness. I think that obviously we have this forum for the opposition to ask questions of the government of the day and we also have committees that exist in the parliament, and in this particular case the Budget and Finance Committee was actually interviewing both the Chief Executive—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —of the Department for Health and Wellbeing—

Mr PICTON: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: The Premier will be seated one moment. Point of order for debate?

Mr PICTON: The question was about elective surgery. This is debate.

The SPEAKER: Yes, I have the point of order. I am listening to the Premier's answer.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: What I was saying was that there are plenty of opportunities to ask important questions.

Mr Brown: Why are you so nervous?

The SPEAKER: Member for Playford!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: They seem a little bit touchy on this subject—

Mr Malinauskas: Why don't you answer the question?

The SPEAKER: Leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —very touchy on this issue. But they had an opportunity because the Chief Executive—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Members on my left, I can't hear the Premier.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —of the Department for Health and Wellbeing and the Chief Public Health Officer were at the Budget and Finance Committee. They are in a unique position to be able to provide information to parliamentary committees on information that those opposite—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —see fit to ask. It was interesting that they didn't see fit to ask any questions on the coronavirus or our preparedness or, in fact, let the Chief Public Health Officer even speak.

Mr Picton: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: Premier, be seated. Has the Premier finished? The Premier has concluded his answer. Is there another question?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order, sir: the opposition were calling point of order and you ignored us, sir.

The SPEAKER: In my view, I believe that the Premier was wrapping up, which he did.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: No, sir, he was politicising a legitimate question—

The SPEAKER: Yes.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: —and you sat and watched.

The SPEAKER: The Premier has concluded his answer. I have made note of the member for Kaurna's point of order and I was listening carefully. When members on my left interject, it's a—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: We weren't, sir: we were sitting quietly.

The SPEAKER: Member for West Torrens, if you are going to argue back, you are giving me very little option on what I can do from here other than to name you. Members on my left, if you're going to call points of order, fine, but when there are interjections it's difficult to listen to what members are answering. I respectfully ask for those interjections to cease so that I can hear the answer; if not, it makes it very, very difficult to make a judgement call on the spot when there is that wall of noise.

JOB CREATION

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (14:34): My question is to the Minister for Innovation and Skills. Can the minister update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is creating more jobs and growing skills across the defence industry?

The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills) (14:34): I certainly can. I thank the member for Morphett for his question. Very interested in the defence sector is the member for Morphett. Being an engineer himself, he understands the importance of the skills that we need in South Australia so that we can have a thriving defence sector. The Marshall government is working closely with the defence industry. It's working with business and it's working with training providers to ensure that we have the skilled workforce that we need so we can deliver on the federal government's demands to build defence products here in South in Australia—the submarines and the frigates.

We have signed a memorandum of understanding between the state government and the Naval Shipbuilding College to share skills, workforce data and mapping so that we can work together to ensure that we know where the skills gaps are. We have established eight industry skills councils, and one of those industry skills councils is the defence, aerospace, IT and cybersecurity skills council, specifically for the defence industry. We do know that there are many crossover skills from many other industries, but this skills council has been developed specifically for the defence sector.

In our first year of office, the state government purchased 12 Soldamatic welding simulators. They are placed at the Advanced Welder Training Centre at Regency Park TAFE. That was opened by the Minister for Education and myself on 26 March last year. It is delivering a cert III in engineering fabrication, the first cert III in that field that has been endorsed by the Naval Shipbuilding College in

Australia. We are on top and in front of the game here in South Australia to make sure that we can deliver the skills that the defence sector needs to do that work here in South Australia.

There are over \$2 million of approvals in the Skilling South Australia funding relevant to defence industry jobs. The Ai Group's 4.0 Higher Apprenticeship Program is a diploma in advanced technology where you learn about mechanical engineering, robotics and cloud computing. If you wish to move on to an engineering degree after you have spent three years doing an apprenticeship, you can do that, obviously, but you will save one year of full-time study because of the diploma work you did through that new pathway—a brand-new pathway developed by this government—into the defence sector.

DXC Technology, a defence supplier, has developed an associate IT professional pathway into its diploma traineeship in IT, a new pathway through vocational education into an area that was otherwise only available to those with a bachelor's degree. We are making significant changes and making defence sector careers more accessible by working with industry to develop vocational pathways. New training pathways include apprenticeships, traineeships, higher apprenticeships, diploma-level vocational pathways, new cybersecurity traineeships in certificate IV and working with universities to develop new courses required by industry.

This is a brand-new development in vocational education in South Australia where off-the-job training is not just restricted to registered training organisations but also delivered by universities. So, as you can see, we are lifting the types of skills and the types of education you can gain through a vocational education pathway. We are securing jobs for the future and we started that early, unlike what we are seeing in Western Australia: a faux discovery, if you like, of skills training where they have gone backwards over the last several years in apprentices and trainees. We have seen nation-leading growth here in South Australia.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr PICTON (Kaurana) (14:38): My question is to the Premier. Has the government identified the sites for respiratory or fever clinics that will need to be opened to manage a coronavirus pandemic?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:38): I don't have that information, but I am happy to take that question on notice and provide an answer to the member.

TAFE SA PORT PIRIE

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (14:38): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Can the minister give the house an update on a question I asked in the last sitting of parliament, on 20 February, regarding his department talking to TAFE about utilising underutilised space facilities at the Port Pirie TAFE campus?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (14:39): I can say, in relation to the question that the member for Frome has asked previously, that we will have some information for him on that in the coming days.

FRUIT FLY

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (14:39): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, and I refer to my question to you at the death knock of question time on Thursday 20 February. Are you now in a position to inform the house if you, or anyone from your office or department, have waived any fines in relation to the new regime for fruit fly zero tolerance?

The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE (Chaffey—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:39): I thank the member for Florey for her question and, yes, it is an important question because this government is putting in protection on behalf of the \$1.25 billion horticulture industry. Since the zero tolerance has come into train, there have been some levels of I guess concern about receiving on-the-spot fines. Along the way, those fines, which people had not previously had enforced on them, have seen motorists who are bringing fruit into South Australia receive a \$375 on-the-spot fine. As to the number of fines that have been waived, that is something that I will continue to pursue and come back with an accurate answer.

FRUIT FLY

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (14:40): Supplementary, and again my question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development: so you can confirm that some fines have been waived?

The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE (Chaffey—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:40): No; as I said, I will come back with an accurate number, if there are fines that have been waived on behalf of zero tolerance.

FRUIT FLY

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (14:41): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Can the minister update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is creating more jobs and investing in key programs to protect our primary industries from fruit fly?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Hammond is warned, and the members for Elizabeth and Wright are called to order and warned.

The Hon. T.J. WHETSTONE (Chaffey—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:41): I thank the member for Hammond for his very important question. He, too, knows the importance of not only the primary industries sector here in South Australia but particularly horticulture and the importance that it presents to our economy and our bottom line. It is great to see that we have had a 2 per cent increase in the value of our primary industries and agribusiness, up to \$15.9 billion to the gross state product. That 2 per cent increase is also supported, employing over 115,000 South Australians, as well as the key contributor within horticulture.

As I have just said to the member for Florey, horticulture represents about \$1.25 billion and is one of our primary export sectors. It is critically important that we continue to support them and, in measures of biosecurity, to remain globally competitive and assure our customers that we are doing everything we can so that they are receiving pest-free products, food that is safe, and making sure that our customers are given that guarantee that South Australia is a fruit fly free state.

What I can say is that we are continuing to invest. Coming into government, we have continued to put quarantine bins on our arterial roads, entry points into the Riverland of South Australia and more random roadblocks. We continue to see a decline in the amount of fruit that is being collected at the random roadblocks. I think that's a great sign. We have appointed a Riverland fruit fly coordinator and installed new signage.

We have introduced the zero tolerance approach at the random roadblocks as well as the Yamba border quarantine station. To do that, we have employed and trained an additional 14 staff. What that means is that not only are we giving them the opportunity to be qualified biosecurity officers but it's protecting a vitally important industry into South Australia. It's not just the horticulture that we are protecting: we are also protecting one of the nation's great industries, and that's the wine sector, from phylloxera, which is one of the world's scourges with root disease, particularly in vineyards. Being phylloxera free is a badge of honour, and that's what this government continues to underpin.

It's also important to note that we have invested an extra \$2 million at the Yamba roadblock to increase safety and the run-off areas for motorists so that, if they are questioned, other motorists can travel past safely. There is also the \$500 million that has been further invested into the second irradiator at Port Augusta with the SITPlus program up there. The SITPlus program is world class. That program has been rolled out, breeding sterile flies up at Port Augusta. It is now being used here in South Australia, combating Queensland fruit fly outbreaks, as it has been rolling out in New South Wales and in Victoria, so it is very, very important.

It also should be noted that those on-the-spot fines are being enforced. It has always been a part of the rules and regulations, but now the zero tolerance approach is about enforcing. I might also note that we have also seen Mediterranean fruit fly outbreaks in the member for Enfield's electorate. Sadly, we have biosecurity officers on the ground, doorknocking, making sure that we eradicate that Mediterranean fruit fly as soon as possible.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:45): My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier agree with the health minister, who has just told the other place that we will have some challenges meeting some supply issues, and what is his plan to address those challenges?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:45): I haven't seen those comments. Obviously, the Minister for Health and Wellbeing has a far greater detailed understanding of the procurement issues and challenges which exist within SA Health.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Badcoe is warned. The member for Playford, he has been doing it all day.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: And I have every confidence—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Yes, members on my left, we have the question. Members expect me to hear the answer.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: I have every confidence that we will work through each and every one of those issues. As I have said, we have been working in a very proactive way to make sure that we can be as prepared as possible, and that's precisely what we are doing.

Mr Picton interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Kaurna is warned.

ADELAIDE 36ERS

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:46): My question is to the Premier. As the number one ticketholder of the Adelaide 36ers, does the Premier have confidence in the conduct of Grant Kelley as owner of South Australia's only NBL team, the Adelaide 36ers.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:46): I am very pleased to be a supporter of the 36ers in South Australia. I must say that the transfer of the games to the Adelaide Entertainment Centre has resulted in very significant increases in attendance. Obviously, the season didn't end exactly and precisely as everybody wanted it to, with the 36ers missing the finals this year.

I must say, I went to I think the final game for the year. Despite that fact that I think it was almost mathematically impossible for the 36ers to get into the finals, it was still a fabulous crowd. I think this demonstrates very clearly just how passionate 36ers fans are in South Australia.

Since coming to the current role that Grant Kelley has with the 36ers he has shown a huge amount of passion and support for basketball in South Australia, and I know that he has personally made significant investments into the 36ers team. As I said, I suppose he is as disappointed as anybody that there haven't been quite the results in terms of the finals appearances that they would have liked this year.

ADELAIDE 36ERS

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:48): My question is to the Premier. As the number one ticketholder of the Adelaide 36ers, what culture and values does the Premier expect from Grant Kelley and the Adelaide 36ers to present?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: Point of order, Mr Speaker: this is something that the government is actually not responsible to the house for. This is in relation to a private individual.

The SPEAKER: The Premier is not really responsible for the Adelaide 36ers and what they do and their culture. It's a fair point of order.

The Hon. D.G. Pisoni interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Minister for Innovation, the CFMEU has nothing to do with this matter, and you are warned. Is there another question?

MEMBER FOR WAITE

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:48): My question is to you, sir. Do you accept that your handling of the events of Friday the 13th 2019 in relation to the member for Waite has lowered the standing of the house in the minds of the public?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: Point of order, Mr Speaker: this question contains debate and argument and is out of order with 97.

The SPEAKER (14:49): Has lowered the standard—I think it's a fair point of order, but I'm happy to accept the question. Do I think my actions have lowered the standard? No, I do not. The member for Colton.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Sir?

The SPEAKER: No, we have moved to the member for Colton.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I move that standing orders be so far suspended as to enable me to move a motion forthwith of no confidence in you, sir.

The SPEAKER: Member for West Torrens, I clearly called the member for Colton. It is on the record.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: These have precedence, sir.

The SPEAKER: Member for West Torrens, I called the member for Colton. You did not have the call. The member for Colton.

BETTER PRISONS PROGRAM

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:49): My question is to the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services. Can the minister update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is creating more jobs as a result of the Better Prisons program?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:50): I thank the member for Colton for his very important question and note that again the Marshall Liberal government is very proud to be producing more jobs for South Australians. I know that the member for Colton is very passionate about producing more jobs. I think everyone on this side of the house is also very excited to be creating more jobs for South Australians, and it is something we are wonderfully passionate about delivering.

As we saw in his speech just the other week, the Governor outlined the government's agenda, and what a great agenda it is. The one thing that is for certain is that we are getting things done. We are delivering better services, lower costs, and, of course, creating more jobs. I am pleased to inform the house that the sod has been turned on the \$150 million Yatala expansion.

They don't like to hear about jobs on the other side, but over here that's what we are here for, and \$150 million in the Yatala expansion is a very, very good investment—one of the biggest investments in our prison system in a generation. We know on that side of the house it was all about rack 'em, stack 'em and pack 'em. On this side of the house, we are delivering a better prison system—more beds at the Yatala prison and also 40 more beds at the Adelaide Women's Prison.

Our Better Prisons Program is delivering a jobs boom for South Australia: more jobs at the Northfield site in construction, more jobs in the prison system. Also, 300 people will be employed at Yatala—300 more people at Yatala normally wouldn't be a good thing. No, these aren't prisoners: these are workers, people working on this site and it's delivering jobs as we said.

In addition, there are 270 new high-security beds at the Yatala prison for the men and, as I said 300 jobs at its peak in construction. We are investing in our corrections system and delivering more jobs for South Australia. This is an absolutely good outcome for everyone involved. I did point out that on that side it was all about rack 'em, stack 'em and pack 'em. Here we are delivering a better prison system, one that will get better outcomes, be able to facilitate better rehabilitation programs and make sure that people are prepared when they do leave prison to get back in the workforce.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: This government is committed to building that better system. They chortle away on the other side; they are not interested. Whenever we talk about jobs, they want to make noise, but we are here delivering for South Australia. The investment in these prison systems includes new technologies, investment in staff and a safe and efficient corrections system that will deliver better outcomes for all South Australians.

It was great to be out at the Northfield site the other day to turn the first sod and to just sense the construction that is in the air. People are excited. The workers out there were up and about. They haven't had this sort of investment in their lifetime, so it is going to be a good outcome. I talked about the significant construction going on at the Women's Prison.

One of the great things about this project as well—and I know that the member for Colton is very aware of this—is that this is delivering jobs and also delivering work experience for people within our women's prison system. They are learning skills, they are learning trades and they are learning skills that they can take to the outside when they leave the prison system, and that will help them get jobs as well. This is a big positive step forward for every one involved.

The Governor's speech also talked about a safe cells upgrade at the Remand Centre, and of course the member for Colton would be very interested in the 160 Remand Centre cells that have undergone a significant renovation to make sure they are in line with safe cell standards. We announced at the end of last year \$15 million for the rollout of the new offender management system—again, investing in making a better prison system.

On one side, rack 'em, stack 'em and pack 'em, on this side a better prison system that is delivering jobs and delivering better services for all South Australians.

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens.

Parliamentary Procedure

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENSION

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:54): I move:

That standing orders be so far suspended to enable me to move a motion of no confidence in the Speaker forthwith.

The SPEAKER: I have counted the house, and there being present an absolute majority I accept the motion. Is the motion seconded?

Honourable members: Yes.

The SPEAKER: Would the member for West Torrens like to speak to the motion for 10 minutes?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Yes, thank you, sir. I think the opposition has sat through enough of what we have had to endure from the way you have conducted yourself in the house, sir. Today is a prime example of the opposition attempting its very best to offer bipartisan support to a government—

The SPEAKER: Member for West Torrens, at this stage you are only moving to suspend the standing orders, so I ask you to speak to that suspension motion.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Yes, I am just reminding him. Let's not have anyone named. Member for West Torrens.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Thank you, sir. We want a vote of suspension of standing orders because we have lost confidence in the way you conduct yourself. We have lost confidence in the way you hold up ministers and especially in the way you conduct yourself when the Premier goes off script and blatantly breaks standing orders in order to try to make a political point.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Even now, while I am speaking, members are interjecting and the Speaker sits silently because the impartiality of the Speaker has vanished. Here we go again.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Point of order: standing order 104. The speaker should address his remarks through the Chair, and I think on this occasion he should have the courage to look at you when he says these things.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: I thank the minister for the point of order. I do not accept the point of order but I thank you for your contribution. I am listening to the member for West Torrens' contribution carefully.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Thank you, sir. I will address my remarks directly to the Speaker. Sir, we have lost confidence in the way you conduct yourself in this house. We believe that someone else would be better to conduct themselves as Speaker and we are asking for the house to suspend standing orders to let us have the debate.

There is a long precedence in this house of no-confidence motions being given the ability to be debated in the house by the opposition. Ultimately, what happens is the house will decide, but let us have the debate. Let us have the debate to talk about what we think are the inequities being inflicted upon us by what we believe is the tyranny of the majority and what we believe, Mr Speaker, is your inability to divorce yourself from your friends in your party room and your operations in this chamber.

This chamber is sacred. We are disappointed beyond belief in the way you have conducted yourself over the Sam Duluk matter, over the member for Waite, and the way you did what I believe can be categorised as everything you could do to protect the member for Waite. Sir, we believe that no longer do you have the confidence of non-government members of this parliament. We do not make up all the non-government members, but we wish to test that in the house. Let's see how the government goes.

There is long precedence in this house that if these votes are tied in matters of confidence the Speaker resigns. We will see, if the government has the courage to allow us a vote on confidence, whether this house indeed will be tied and whether it will require your vote to sustain your Speakership. Sir, if that is the case, there is long precedence in this house that requires resignation. It requires resignation for a number of reasons.

We have not done this for two years, despite overwhelmingly, time and time again, members on this side of the house being ejected for interjections when ministers have invited those interjections by blatantly and flagrantly breaching the standing orders to make a debating point. We have sat and watched the conventions of this house be trashed by minister after minister. We have watched as the tyranny of the majority attempts to suppress the minority from trying to do our jobs as parliamentarians.

We do not expect to win every vote; in fact, we accept the outcome of the election. We lost: the government won. They get to govern, but what we get to do is ask questions. What we get to do is shine a light. What we get to do is to use the privileges and immunities of this house for the benefit of South Australia. Good governments do not exist without good oppositions, and a good opposition can ask questions, unfettered, of the government without the protection of a Speaker trying to advance themselves within their party room. Quite frankly, sir, you have failed this test.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: You have failed the test, Mr Speaker, of an impartial judge. Even now, while I condemn the way you conduct yourself, government members interject and you allow them to do so. A real Speaker would stand up for the independence of this parliament. A real Speaker would not have conducted his own investigation into his mate, friend, colleague and party room member to try to cover up what is appalling behaviour in this parliament.

It has taken our South Australian police to intervene. It has taken a member of this house to go outside this parliament to try to get an inquiry into what occurred in this building. There are staff, Mr Speaker, who answer directly to you. They answer to you and they have no other recourse than

through you. The only protection they are afforded is the numbers in this house, and we are the minority.

But the minority today is speaking up and saying, 'We have no confidence in you. We want you out of that chair and someone else in.' Surely there is someone else on the government benches or someone else on the crossbench who could do the job better. That is why we need this debate today. We sat here asking legitimate questions about whether or not we would be adequately supplied for the largest pandemic to inflict civilisation since 1918. What are we told? That we are playing politics with it. After we offered bipartisan support to rush legislation through the parliament, they still mock us. They still try to make political points, and the Speaker sat quietly and watched this and even smiled.

I have to say that it gives me no pleasure whatsoever to do this, no pleasure at all—none at all. To be honest, I would like to have never, ever been put in this position. But what happened with the member for Waite and your conduct have led us to a tipping point, a tipping point that we can no longer stand. The question is whether the government have the courage to actually have this vote and have this debate, or will they again use the tyranny of the majority to enforce their dictatorship on this house?

If we are serious about this house functioning properly, you allow scrutiny and you allow debate. It makes you better ministers, it makes you a better government because you are on your toes and it actually helps the progress of the state. A poor opposition can lead to a poor government. There is the inverse—where a very good opposition exposes a poor government.

I have to say that today for me was the final straw. We decided before we walked in here today that we would give the government every opportunity to answer their questions unfettered, that we would do our very best to limit our interjections and only respond when provoked and, of course, we were provoked. What occurs is the immediate infliction of the majority on us. Not once are members legitimately called.

In fact, I know of opportunities and I know of times when members opposite are forewarned that they might be thrown out. I know that members opposite receive advance notice that that might be done. That is because the Speaker is attempting to show that he is impartial. Sir, you have failed that test and you have failed it miserably. What we want is a straight up-and-down vote on confidence in your behaviour, in your conduct as Chair and in your Speakership. We will vote as good jurors with our conscience clear that we believe you are no longer fit to hold this high office.

Indeed, sir, you have made public statements that in the event of a tie you will vote according to the practices and precedents of the house. You said publicly that on legislation you would vote according to the precedent and precedence of this house. Well, the precedent and precedence of this house on matters of confidence is that if it is tied the Speaker votes to remove himself from office. That is the precedence of the House of Assembly. That is the precedence of the House of Representatives. That is the precedence of the House of Commons.

Let's have a vote and let's see whether or not this parliament really believes that the Speaker has the confidence. Give us that opportunity, give us a suspension and let's have a straight up-and-down vote.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:04): The government quite clearly does not support the suspension of standing orders in this regard. The member for West Torrens has been in this place for quite a long period of time—I think 23 years at last count—and he would well know that we are talking here about the suspension of standing orders, which actually requires 24-person majority support in favour of a suspension of standing orders. There would have been other opportunities for private members to be able to make motions. That is not what this government has chosen to do.

Can I say from the outset that we have absolute and complete confidence in the work that you have done in this regard in terms of dealing with what has been a very difficult matter and a difficult time for everybody who has been involved in this situation after the events that occurred on 13 December. The reason we have confidence is that you have done things in a methodical, calm and appropriate manner, taking into account advice and also undertaking and preserving the traditions and the precedent that have been set around previous investigations.

What I find galling about the comments from the member for West Torrens is the fact that you are following the exact process that previous Speakers have used when investigating members opposite. We could have used opportunities to air those processes, but we have chosen—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —to be a responsible government and not to denigrate or degrade the use of this house for party political purposes, especially when something as serious as what is being discussed and as serious as what has potentially occurred is being talked about.

What the opposition is seeking to do here, especially coming out of the mouth of the member for West Torrens, makes it all the more galling, as he is somebody who had his hands over almost every single scandal that the former government presided over, whether that be Gillman, whether that be Festival Plaza, whether that be whatever deal went on with regard to electricity in Coober Pedy. The member for West Torrens had his hands on it all, yet he is the one members opposite get to stand up.

An honourable member: They look up to him!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: They look up to him, and he gets to stand up and make this argument. Anybody on that side of the house would have more credibility in making this argument than him, but that is because he is actually the de facto leader of the opposition. The Leader of the Opposition cannot control the member for West Torrens and allows him to use this place as a kangaroo court instead of doing what you have done, Mr Speaker, and go through due process, especially now that we are dealing with an investigation being undertaken by South Australia Police. South Australia Police are the ones who are now investigating this matter. They are an appropriate body to deal with this, certainly not the member for West Torrens.

Another thing I find galling is that the member for West Torrens is seeking to undertake this vote at a time when they are refusing pairs for the government. I would like to—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —recite some sage words:

Why do we have pairs? I will explain it one more time: so the will of the election is reflected in every vote in this parliament, so members who cannot be here do not leave their communities unrepresented because of illness or because they are doing important work on behalf of the state interstate or overseas, so that those communities are not valueless all of a sudden. If the government wins 24 seats—

we won 25—

the opposition wins 23 and two government members are doing Her Majesty's work abroad, does that mean we can just overturn the election result? No.

We have pairing arrangements to make sure that the will of the election is carried out for the term of the parliament—stable Westminster responsible government...

They are the words of the member for West Torrens not two weeks ago in this house. What he is seeking to do now is to move this motion at this time when they are abusing the conventions of this place.

The government has given full account of previous decisions that have been made and we have given full account of where we get things right and where we do not get things right, but what we have seen is petulance from the members opposite in this regard, especially the member for West Torrens, and it has been absolutely disgusting.

Another thing they continually do is bring bogus points of privilege to this place that you have systematically rebutted because they have no basis and foundation, yet they continue to do it—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: —because they are more interested in playing political games than getting to the bottom of the issue. In relation to any potential victims with regard to the incident that is being discussed here, I would have thought that the best way for that to be dealt with is through a process that is secure, confidential, at arm's length and something that can give everybody the opportunity to have their voices heard and understand that that voice is going to be heard confidentially, as opposed to what the member for West Torrens would like, and that is a kangaroo court, where everything gets played out through the media.

I do not think that that is the best way to go about it, and that is why I think that the best way is the way you have handled this matter, sir—appointing an investigator and now having suspended that investigation because South Australia Police are dealing with it, a body that is appropriate to deal with this matter, as opposed to the political game playing that those opposite would prefer to undertake.

Mr Speaker, another point I would like to make relates to the comments that you have made previously with regard to votes of this house, being that where there is a tied vote of the house you would vote to preserve the status quo. That is the situation that we have at the moment. That said, what the member for West Torrens fails to understand is that this is a vote to suspend standing orders, which actually requires an absolute majority. We will not stand here and try to preside over some kangaroo court. We will undertake the processes that we do and the processes that you, Mr Speaker, have in a calm, methodical, independent and arms-length way to make sure that we can deal with this issue seriously.

What I do know is that the member for Waite, who by the way has stood aside from all committees, including paid committees, has moved to suspend his own membership and sit on the crossbench, all consequences that have so far eluded the member for West Torrens in all his dodgy dealings in previous parliaments, a man who could abuse public servants with impunity and still did not lose his job.

The SPEAKER: I caution the minister about making personal reflections on another member.

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: I think that the member for West Torrens is both pot and kettle. We as a government will not be standing for it. We have complete confidence in the way that you have dealt with this process and we look forward to good, stable Westminster government continuing here in South Australia.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes 22
 Noes 22
 Majority 0

AYES

Bedford, F.E.
 Bignell, L.W.K.
 Brown, M.E.
 Gee, J.P.
 Koutsantonis, A. (teller)
 Mullighan, S.C.
 Picton, C.J.
 Wortley, D.

Bell, T.S.
 Boyer, B.I.
 Close, S.E.
 Hildyard, K.A.
 Malinauskas, P.
 Odenwalder, L.K.
 Stinson, J.M.

Bettison, Z.L.
 Brock, G.G.
 Cook, N.F.
 Hughes, E.J.
 Michaels, A.
 Piccolo, A.
 Szakacs, J.K.

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.
 Cregan, D.
 Harvey, R.M. (teller)
 Marshall, S.S.
 Patterson, S.J.R.

Chapman, V.A.
 Ellis, F.J.
 Knoll, S.K.
 McBride, N.
 Pederick, A.S.

Cowdrey, M.J.
 Gardner, J.A.W.
 Luethen, P.
 Murray, S.
 Pisoni, D.G.

NOES

Power, C.
Treloar, P.A.
Wingard, C.L.

Sanderson, R.
van Holst Pellekaan, D.C.

Teague, J.B.
Whetstone, T.J.

The SPEAKER: There are 22 ayes and 22 noes. Pursuant to standing order 180, as the votes are equal I give my casting vote with the noes. I note, however, that in this instance my vote is not of effect, as the motion before the house requires an absolute majority and that absolute majority does not exist. The motion therefore lapses for want of an absolute majority.

Mr Picton: It's a disgrace.

The SPEAKER: Was that the member for Kaurna who said 'disgrace' after the vote?

An honourable member: Yes, sir.

The SPEAKER: The member for Kaurna can leave for one hour under 137A. He is lucky not to be named.

The honourable member for Kaurna having withdrawn from the chamber:

The SPEAKER: Members, question time will continue, I am informed, for 13 minutes. The member for Finniss is seeking the call.

*Question Time***JOB CREATION**

Mr BASHAM (Finniss) (15:17): My question is to the Minister for Energy and Mining. Can the minister update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is creating jobs in the energy and mining sectors?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (15:17): Thank you, member for Finniss, for that very important question. Jobs, creating more jobs, is one of our very highest priorities, as well as cost of living reductions and better services. Providing more jobs is very important, and the energy and mining sector is a fantastic opportunity for us to do that. Agriculture has long been our largest industry, but energy and mining is our greatest growth opportunity.

Mining product already accounts for about a third of our total state's exports, and we are determined to do that. One of the ways that we have done that is by partnering with industry, working very closely with industry to make sure that they have as many opportunities as we can possibly arrange for them to be responsible, safe and productive in their industry. It's a great pleasure to note that the Fraser Institute in Canada only last week ranked South Australia as the sixth most attractive jurisdiction for mining in the world—in the world. This opportunity is largely based on the fantastic resources that we have here.

We have heard BHP say that they want to expand their Olympic Dam mine. We have seen OZ Minerals, to their great credit, extend the life of Prominent Hill and also get their Carrapateena mine up and running extremely quickly so well that they actually managed to deliver first ore just before the end of the last calendar year. Already, phase 2 expansion plans are being contemplated for that new mine. We have seen the Oak Dam West drilling discoveries. There are extraordinarily high grades of mineral in Gawler Craton.

We know that other very capable companies have tenements in exactly the same area. They are lining up to do very good work there as well. We know that petroleum continues to be one of our most important industries in South Australia. Companies like Santos and Beach and others lead the way nationally in many respects. They are very important employers, and they are all prepared for growth. Growing jobs in the resources industry is incredibly important.

In energy, we also have many tremendous opportunities. Energy is in a very important transition, as people would know, but we are very fortunate that both renewable energy generation

projects and the more traditional styles, particularly with new, modern, efficient, low-polluting gas generators, offer employment opportunities as well. The depth and breadth of the opportunity for employment in the energy sector is quite startling, whether that be in the Moomba area, whether that be in the South-East in gas exploration and gas production, whether that be here in Adelaide with generation or throughout regional South Australia with regard to wind farms and solar farms, or whether that be with the New South Wales-South Australia interconnector, which we are very optimistic will be built shortly.

We also have a very rich vein of opportunity in the high-tech industries. It's true to say that the high-tech management of all our energy generation and demand management offers another area of extraordinary growth opportunity for employment in South Australia. The Marshall Liberal government is focused on increasing jobs, and we are doing exactly that. We have more jobs in place now than when we came to office, and we will continue this important work.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (15:21): My question is to the Minister for Police. Has the minister briefed the Police Association of South Australia on the government's proposed new laws to make it easier to detain or quarantine people exposed to the coronavirus in South Australia?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (15:21): No, I haven't.

CORONAVIRUS

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (15:21): Why hasn't the minister briefed the Police Association, given the importance of this legislation to the—

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (15:22): The member inquires as to the consultation in relation to foreshadowed legislation—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: No, I am ready to answer the question. I'm sorry, do you have some more?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Deputy Premier, did you want the question repeated, did you say?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: If the member has some further aspect to that question I am happy to hear it.

The SPEAKER: Member for Elizabeth, you have the call, if you would like to ask a question.

Mr ODENWALDER: Point of clarification, sir: the Deputy Premier was answering the supplementary question; is that right?

The SPEAKER: Member for Elizabeth, just for simplicity, can we have the question again.

Mr ODENWALDER: Why hasn't the minister briefed the Police Association, given the importance of this legislation to the role of the police?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I am more than happy to answer the question because the member is raising an important aspect of the consultation in relation to foreshadowed legislation that has been announced by the Minister for Health. As the member would appreciate, there are a number of aspects in relation to emergency management, particularly of a health incident: police, obviously; health officials; and transport. There are a number of aspects of government enterprise that need to be considered. Perhaps the most significant initially has been the consultation with officers of my department and the Crown Solicitor's Office—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Leader of the Opposition interjects and he is warned.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —and the first and foremost immediate response to the inquiry as to how that could be legislatively attended to as a result of the requests of the leaders in health

for advice on this matter. The Premier has outlined significantly his indication of the need for that to be progressed expeditiously. In fact, I think he has acknowledged the support, in a positive way, of the opposition indicating their preparedness to expedite that, and we appreciate it. But the—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Leader of the Opposition is still interjecting, and he is warned for a second and final time.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: At this stage, all of the stakeholders, including police and including the Law Society—my understanding is that the final draft of that bill, which had been discussed with the opposition and crossbenchers yesterday, is being distributed today to various stakeholders so that we might have their immediate advice as to any other aspects we need to consider.

But I want to assure the member that certainly officers in my department were very busy over the weekend with officials in the health department to try to bring together as immediately as possible aspects of the new powers required, which are going to be presented to the parliament for consideration, their implementation and who is to operate that. Indeed, questions such as should persons other than the Chief Public Health Officer have powers in relation to detention, what review powers should be involved with the issue of warrants, and—

Mr Odenwalder: But I am talking about the people who are doing the actual work.

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

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I am getting to that, and that is, once the warrant is issued and/or the order has been made, what public health officials may be required and indeed what support officers of the South Australian police would give. They are matters which are all under consideration. They are matters of practical implication if and when the parliament does agree to progress the legislation which has been foreshadowed.

JOB CREATION

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (15:25): My question is to the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government. Can the minister update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is creating jobs through its \$12.9 billion pipeline of infrastructure works?

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL (Schubert—Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Local Government, Minister for Planning) (15:26): I would like to thank the determined member for MacKillop for his question and note his absolute passion in delivering jobs for his local community and, right at this very moment, the 50-odd people who are down there working to deliver the Penola bypass.

This is a project that those opposite stalled for years. The federal government was willing to stump up 80 per cent of the funds and all they had to do was say yes, but what did they say? They said no because they do not care about the people of the South-East. That is why the people of the South-East have voted continually for a change of government and now they've got one. And guess what? Now they are getting the Penola bypass that they so richly have deserved for such a long period of time. This is a project that I know is going to help to transform the South-East, especially around Penola, to help return Penola's main street to being a place to get a good cup of coffee and be able to enjoy a beautiful part of South Australia, as opposed to being a thoroughfare for heavy vehicles.

We are delivering thousands and thousands of jobs as part of our record \$12.9 billion infrastructure program over the next four years. That is some billion dollars above anything that those opposite could muster while they were in government, and this is what is going to help deliver stimulus to our economy at a time when we are seeing significant headwinds. In fact, there's a phrase that some members opposite keep using, referring to 'a valley of death' in civil construction. Well, the only valley of death in South Australia was when their federal mates forgot to order a maritime vessel for something like the six years that they were in government.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: Thank goodness for a Coalition government in Canberra delivering jobs in the defence sector. We are delivering a record spend over the next four years and some \$3.7 billion of that on road infrastructure, whether that be the some 200 jobs that are being delivered as part of the Alliance model at Port Wakefield and Joy Baluch, those upgrades there, or where we are also in construction at the moment on the Regency to Pym Street section of the north-south corridor. There are some 200 jobs there underway, under construction at the moment. Something we did when we came to government was secure the federal money to actually deliver the project, as opposed to having some fake number in a budget paper, as opposed to actually having the money in the bank account.

The Gawler line electrification, again something that those opposite tried to do for a decade and failed three times, we have actually now been able to deliver, with some 250 jobs out there delivering that project at the moment. What we will see come up very shortly is delivering the duplication to Aldinga on Main South Road. This is a project that I know is very dear to the hearts of everybody in South Australia, especially now in dealing with the aftermath of bushfires on Kangaroo Island.

It was only in the latest budget, in the 2019-20 budget, that the full \$305 million to complete that project was actually put inside the forward estimates to deliver that project. We are out there in the field at the moment, undertaking the planning work to get ready to deliver this project.

The Hon. L.W.K. Bignell: You said there would be bulldozers by 2019.

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

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: There were those who were out there trying to create a bit of muck and rake a bit of muck around in relation to the timing of this project, but I can say that we are delivering this project on exactly the same profile that the former government would have otherwise delivered this project, except they didn't put the money in the forward estimates.

The Hon. S.S. Marshall interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Premier!

The Hon. S.K. KNOLL: For the people of Aldinga, of Sellicks, for the people down on the Fleurieu Peninsula and the people doing it tough on Kangaroo Island, they can know that they have a government that is getting on with the job of delivering important road upgrades for South Australia and delivering thousands of jobs to underpin the South Australian economy.

Grievance Debate

MEMBER FOR WAITE

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (15:30): After the last hour, the question again has to be asked: why is this government and why is this place so terrified of scrutiny? We have had one of the most disturbing days in this place that occurred on 13 December, and for nearly three months now there has been an ongoing failure by everyone concerned to provide a straight answer about why more was not done and about why what was done was not done a whole lot better.

I do not need to remind anyone that it took from 13 December to 17 January—35-odd days—for some sort of robust inquiry finally to commence. In fact, I should not say 'robust' because it was not an independent inquiry. It was an inquiry to take its instructions from you, sir, so it was not fully independent. That meant that not only did the media, and hence the people who read the articles they publish, lose confidence in the quality and the independence of this investigation but, of course, so did all of us and so did the remainder of the state—a complete lack of confidence in a workplace, particularly this workplace, that this sort of behaviour could be alleged to occur and nearly three months on still not be dealt with.

Today, what you saw was the culmination, finally the overflowing of genuine frustration from us, despite having a number of question times, a number of opportunities given to us by this place to seek some honest, straightforward answers from those involved, particularly the Premier and you, sir, shut down time and again.

It is absolutely clear now that the reason why the investigation was called on 17 January is that it took two full weeks of the opposition and media haranguing you, sir, to finally do something. If this issue had not made it into the media, despite the best efforts of those in the moderate faction who were briefing them since 14 December, if this issue had not made its way into the public realm, nothing would have been done.

If this issue had not been handled in the way in which it was subsequently handled, including by procuring a private investigator, then the other member concerned, the victim of this alleged behaviour, would not have felt the need to go to the police. That is how badly it has been handled. Now, again, today, when we try to ask questions, when we try to make points about how not only are our questions not being answered but we are not receiving fair treatment in here, we get shut down.

If we believe that there is a lack of confidence on this side in your behaviour and your superintendence of the chamber and the government thinks opposite, and the government can exercise sufficient numbers to have its way once again, then why could we not have the debate? Why could we not for first time start examining these issues that are of such great concern?

All those opposite, perhaps even you, sir, may be quick to jump to the conclusion that this is all petty politicking, that this is us trying to make politics of it. Indeed, the member for Adelaide nods her head. Maybe she cannot see that there were actually employees of this place involved in the alleged behaviour. Maybe she cannot see that a woman, another female MP, not in this place but in the other place, in the Legislative Council, was the victim of the alleged behaviour and it still remains unresolved. What message does that send to the staff in this place? What message does it send to women and other workers in other workplaces around South Australia that they are held to a different standard from us?

Whatever happens in this place, that just goes. We are not held to the same standard. Well, I am not comfortable with that, and I know that the rest of us on this side are not comfortable with that either. It is very hard to try to explain to a constituent why something appropriate, something proper and something more expedient has not been done. I can't find a sufficient justification and, more to the point, we have not even been provided one yet by you or by the Premier, and that is not good enough.

I never thought I would feel ashamed to be a part of this place for this sort of reason, but I have to say that the events of the last few months have started to make me feel that way about this issue.

NEWLAND ELECTORATE

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (15:35): In March 2018, I was elected to this place committing to deliver a strong plan for real change that would deliver better services for households and families, reduce the cost of living and create more jobs. I am proud to be part of a government that is delivering on its promises.

One of the most important projects in my community is to deliver better health services by upgrading Modbury Hospital. On coming to government, Modbury Hospital had had services stripped away under Transforming Health, and now we are rebuilding and restoring key services. Within the first 12 months of coming to government, multiday surgery had been reintroduced to Modbury Hospital, significantly reducing interhospital transfers.

Last year, the long promised but never delivered extended emergency care unit was finally delivered by the Marshall government, helping take pressure off not just the ED at Modbury but also other hospital emergency departments. Late last year, I visited Modbury Hospital with the Minister for Health and Wellbeing and the member for King to see the work underway. We saw the space on the first floor almost completely cleared to make way for the refurbished and expanded surgical ward, which will support more surgeries and a greater range and complexity of surgeries to be performed, to be assisted by a four-bed high dependency unit, as we promised.

We also saw work commencing on the new outpatient department and 20-bed purpose-built palliative care ward adjacent to the main entrance of the hospital. Also coming is the new short stay general medical ward. We went to the election promising to deliver better health services, and the upgrade to Modbury Hospital is reversing damage done under Transforming Health and ensuring

that people living in the north-east and northern Adelaide Hills receive the health services they need closer to home.

The Marshall government is delivering lower costs for households and businesses through our energy policies, which have seen the price of electricity beginning to come down. We have seen the standard retail offer for households come down by \$62 on average, compared with the \$268 increase in 2017-18 under the previous government. And further savings are coming with an expected further \$138 coming off default market offers with controlled loads from 1 July.

A very exciting project being delivered in my community is the opening of our reservoirs to recreational activity. Already the South Para Reservoir has been opened, allowing kayaking, fishing, hiking, cycling and much more across a vast and beautiful space only 30 minutes from Tea Tree Gully. Just further up the road, the Warren Reservoir has become more accessible for kayaking, and I am extremely excited about the fact that the Hope Valley Reservoir will be opening up for land-based activities at the end of this year. This will see opportunities for walking and picnicking within that wonderful space that so many of us have been driving past regularly for years but have not had access to.

Banksia Park International High School and Modbury High School are receiving wonderful new facilities as part of the Marshall government's \$1.3 billion investment in our schools. A new performing arts centre and an indoor/outdoor commercial kitchen and cafe, plus more, are coming to Banksia High, and a new year 7 hub and new wellbeing and technical studies areas are coming to Modbury High.

We are helping our children get to and from school more safely with upgrades to the school crossings at Kersbrook Primary School and Ridgehaven Primary School. Moreover, we are improving the safety on our roads by upgrading the intersection of South Para Road and North East Road at Chain of Ponds. Whilst much talked about briefly before the election by the previous government, there were no plans. By contrast, the Marshall government is currently working on technical designs and will commence works later this year to help motorists in that part of the Adelaide Hills get to and from Kersbrook more safely.

Sports clubs like Tea Tree Gully Tennis Club, Tea Tree Gully Netball Club, Banksia Park Netball Club, Hope Valley football and cricket clubs, Tea Tree Gully Gymsports, Tea Tree Gully BMX Club and Tea Tree Gully Golf Club are benefiting from improved facilities and the government's support for grassroots sport and keeping our young people active and healthy. The government is lowering the cost for primary school children to participate in sports clubs like these by doubling the value of sports vouchers to \$100 per child. It has also been so popular that these vouchers have been expanded to also include swimming lessons and dance.

Over the past two years, we have been very busy delivering on what we said we would do and keeping the promises we made to the people of South Australia: delivering more jobs, lower costs and better services.

HURTLE VALE ELECTORATE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale) (15:40): On 8 February, I had the honour of attending a birthday celebration for Auntie Georgina Williams, who was celebrating her 80 years of wisdom and leadership. As everyone in this place will know, Auntie Georgina Williams is a Kaurna elder who provides irreplaceable and impossible to ignore advice around our past and guidance for our future. Our local community is indebted to Auntie Georgina for her life work and I look forward to celebrating more milestones with her in the future.

We thank Auntie Georgina for a number of things, including her significant work at Noarlunga Nunga Community Services Centre at Christies Beach in the 1980s, her role assisting the South Australian Museum staff in interpreting and understanding the song cycle of Tjilbruke, her role as a member of the Tjilbruke forum of councils about Kaurna heritage in relation to the Dreaming track of the song of Tjilbruke in the 1990s, her contribution as a steering committee member of the 'Best practice in working with Aboriginal women and children experiencing family violence' joint project for southern domestic violence and Nunga Mi:Minar Inc., her long-term involvement with Christies Downs Kindergarten, her long-term involvement in Neporendi, and many more really great projects and leadership episodes in South Australia. We thank you, Auntie Georgina.

Last weekend, Sunday 1 March was Clean Up Australia Day's 30th anniversary. I joined the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association in my electorate, which put in a lot of extremely hard work and dedication to our local community on a range of projects. We met them at the Woodcroft Library, which is the starting point for their clean-up mission in Hurtle Vale.

Cleanliness is a major part of the religion Islam, which teaches that cleanliness is half of faith and love of land is part of faith. Because of this, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association Australia has been participating in this event for the past 15 years and has regularly had some of the highest numbers of volunteers in the country registered to participate. This time, they had 190 members of the community volunteer their time to clean up at various locations in the Adelaide region.

We were fortunate enough to have them volunteer at four different allocated sites across Adelaide. In my electorate of Hurtle Vale, they regularly do the Panalatinga Road area, which runs down the centre of Woodcroft. The association was able to pick up and dispose of 80 huge bags worth of rubbish, a really successful and honourable outcome as a result of all the hard work and effort from the volunteers.

That is not all they are doing this week. The Ahmadiyya team will be participating in and collecting on behalf of the Red Cross this weekend, just another act of virtue and selflessness being performed by an incredible organisation. I thank the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association. I also thank everyone across Australia who participated in Clean Up Australia Day this year on the 30th anniversary and made Australia a cleaner and more beautiful place—if that is possible.

I would also like to touch on a comment that was made last sitting week in the other place by the Hon. Michelle Lensink, the Minister for Human Services. During question time in the other place, the Hon. Ms Lensink stated that I had rung her during the recent bushfire events—I did, in fact, seeking assistance—and said in relation to the member for Mawson, quote, 'Can you please just ring Leon because he is really annoying the rest of us?'

This purported comment is untrue and it is outrageous. I did call the honourable minister and I did ask her to call the member for Mawson because absolutely nobody from the government had contacted him, as the local member of parliament, during the bushfires, which had commenced a few days earlier. It has been convention for an indefinite number of years that the local member is contacted during a period such as this; but nobody, not the Premier, not the emergency services minister nor the human services minister, who is responsible for emergency recovery, contacted this member.

As for other things said during question time in another place regarding the member for Mawson, I think the minister needs to have a serious think about what was said and consider making an apology. It was unnecessary to denigrate the member for Mawson, who is one of the most compassionate and one of the best local members I know.

His dedication to the community of Kangaroo Island during the fires was exceptional. He was on the ground before any member of the government was there. He was getting his hands dirty during recovery and he continues to do so. Many of us would have been there also, but I was having surgery and could not attend. But the members from this side of the place visited as soon as they could to support the member for Mawson. The government needs to reflect on the way this was handled during the recent fires and the comments since.

HUNTINGTON'S DISEASE

Ms LUETHEN (King) (15:45): I rise today to speak about some important conversations I have had with locals in the King electorate about health services and Huntington's disease. People in King have told me that better services in health care are a key priority for them, and I am taking their hopes and concerns very seriously. They voted for change in 2018 after having what they had to say and their needs ignored for 16 years. Now I am taking every moment I possibly can to listen.

My constituents have taught me about Huntington's disease. It is a degenerative, incurable and fatal illness caused by the steady breakdown of nerve cells in the brain. They told me that Huntington's can cause involuntary movement, which is often associated with uncontrollable jerking or spasming of a sufferer's body. Other symptoms can include an impairment of coordination or balance, difficulty speaking and swallowing and sometimes cognitive or psychiatric symptoms.

The disease is caused by an inherited defect in a single gene of a person, and a person needs only one copy of the degenerative gene to develop this disorder. When a child is born, the newborn inherits two copies of every gene: one from the mother and one from the father. This means that a parent with a defective gene could pass on a copy of the defective gene or a healthy copy, resulting in each child having a 50 per cent chance of inheriting the gene that causes Huntington's.

Some people who carry the Huntington's gene are moving heaven and earth to avoid passing the defective gene on to their own children. Last year, when I visited King residents Adrian and Elinor Matthews of Yattalunga to learn more about their family's history of Huntington's disease, they opened up about their experience. Unfortunately, Elinor is a carrier of the disease and it has had a significant impact on her life. Elinor experiences involuntary movements within her muscles and balance issues, which have impacted the way she and her husband run their barramundi farm. Elinor's Huntington's gene has been passed onto the couple's daughter, who is now going through IVF in order to stop the gene in its tracks and ensure she does not pass it on to her own children.

As we are all aware, IVF is an extremely expensive procedure, but it does allow doctors to locate the defective Huntington's gene and discard any fertilised eggs that will carry the disease. My constituents tell me they believe that this process would help us create a healthier community in South Australia. However, due to the significant cost, many of those living with the gene cannot afford this procedure and may not go through with it. Adrian and Elinor believe that, if there were some way for those living with the Huntington's gene to receive funding support in order to go through IVF, the disease's reach could be significantly eradicated.

Recently while I was doorknocking, I met Salisbury Heights resident Linda Stachow, who has also been impacted by Huntington's disease. Linda's son is a sufferer of the disease and struggles in many ways with how it impacts his life. Linda told me her son receives NDIS funding. However, due to his high needs sometimes this funding does not adequately address the specialised needs of her son and other sufferers.

Not-for-profit organisation Huntington's SA and NT works with residents to provide support services to those living with the disease. Many sufferers can become isolated due to the effects of the disease. Huntington's SA and NT does all it can to provide outreach services to start the conversation with those impacted and to provide them with information on how to move forward with their lives. I thank them for their ongoing support to the community.

More can and, my constituents tell me, must be done to deliver better services to people and families impacted by this illness. It is important that we continue to shine light on how this incredibly complex and devastating disease is impacting our families. I certainly will continue to be a strong voice for real change and better services for people living in King and to explore what I can with my colleagues to help people get better health outcomes in South Australia. I thank my community members for taking the time to share their lived experience and their hopes with me.

TOURISM

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay) (15:50): I rise today to speak about the tourism industry and its strategic importance to our economy and job creation. The tourism industry in South Australia employs 39,000 South Australians, many of whom live and work in our regions. Recognised internationally as a growth industry, tourism is a highly competitive sector as countries vie for an increasing share of the growing market, as well as compete domestically for intrastate travel. In a nutshell, tourism equals jobs.

South Australia had a particularly grievous summer. As bushfires raged across our beautiful Kangaroo Island and Adelaide Hills and as smoke filled the skies, we grieved together as a community for the loss of life and livelihoods. As milder weather and some rain finally abated these catastrophic fires, we are now facing growing international concerns about the impact of the coronavirus. I have heard from people who had cancellations of bookings three years into the future because tourists feel that Australia is not safe and they are concerned that they would not be able to participate in all the things they want to do.

In a recent quarterly survey, the tourism industry of South Australia heard that eight out of 10 businesses were reporting a financial impact. They are doing it tough. South Australia's visitor economy was in sharp decline even before the bushfires and coronavirus hit, according to statistics

released by our very own tourism body. The barometer shows the visitor economy is at its lowest ebb since 2012, with a huge 51 per cent decrease in business outlook and a 34 per cent decline in business activity.

We know that businesses in bushfire-affected areas are reporting a downturn in visitors and, in some cases, are finding it necessary to lay off staff. Tourism is one of the few economic areas that can generate an economic stimulus if strategically primed by government. This government had 16 years in opposition to develop their own policy and agenda, and we have found that this government has run out of steam within its first two years of office. We may have a minister for tourism in name, but not in spirit. We need leadership at a time of crisis, and the tourism sector clearly feels abandoned by this government. In fact, I can summarise the government's tourism response so far: a hashtag, a focus on fossils and a letter to the royals.

So what happens after the initial sugar hit of the #BookThemOut campaign? If we look at Queensland, their state government came out and announced a raft of measures for the tourism industry. It included new marketing funding for domestic and international markets, reducing or waiving state government fees and charges. In Victoria, after their initial \$2 million campaign, 'A short stay goes a long way', they announced a \$5 million campaign for Visit Victoria to support marketing across Australia and also for international marketing to Vietnam, India, New Zealand and the US.

What this government needs to look at first is to make sure we get our fair share of the federal government's support package. We have heard nothing. We want our fair share of that \$76 million. We need to increase tourism marketing, to improve tourism infrastructure and tourism access, and to reverse the cuts to the Tourism Commission, the \$23 million cut from the budget. The silence is: deafening from the Marshall Liberal government. There appears to be no coherent plan in response to these massive headwinds facing the industry. My message to the Premier and the government is get on with it. We have tourism businesses and jobs on the line. We need to move fast and we need to get it right.

GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (15:55): More jobs, lower costs, better services. Here we are, two years in, and it is my privilege to talk about the great strides that have been made by the Marshall Liberal government over the course of the first two years of this government. We know that we have made significant strides on the job front: 13,000 more people in this state are in jobs and in training. I emphasise the matter of training because, in the process, we have resurrected the skilled training opportunities for young people in this state, so more jobs and more on the way as we create an enterprise culture in this state—Lot Fourteen, the Australian Space Agency, together with the record spend that is coming on infrastructure, just to name a very few statewide.

As to lower costs, it is hard to list all the significant measures that have already taken place delivering on election commitments that this government made at the last campaign. We have delivered lower taxes already, slashing payroll tax for small business, cutting in half the emergency services levy and reforming land tax to significantly reduce that burden. As well as that, we have significantly reduced household power bills.

Under Labor in 2017-18, as we know, there was an increase of more than \$268 to electricity bills. So far this new government has delivered \$62 in savings with more to come, and I applaud the work of the Minister for Energy in that respect. But it is in the day-to-day measures as well, from reductions in the cost of car registration, the increase in the availability of sports vouchers, taken up in great measure in my seat of Heysen I am very pleased to say, and in the delivery of free volunteer screening checks to name a few, so more jobs and lower costs.

I really want to emphasise the delivery of better services because it is a story that for my area of Heysen in the Hills ought to be trumpeted and trumpeted for years to come. It is an example of what this government has been able to achieve by governing for the whole state and by working toward the delivery of improved services for all people in South Australia and particularly in the Hills. I can think of no better example than the commitment that has been made to the reopening of Kalimna Hostel at Strathalbyn for aged residential living, and together with that, off the back of years of sustained work by the community in response to the sudden closure of Kalimna Hostel in February 2017 by the former government, the building of a long overdue 36-bed aged-care facility at

Strathalbyn. This will include an open ward, a memory support unit and new communal open spaces. It is due for completion in July 2021.

It is, I say, an extraordinarily good example of the better services that have been delivered by this Marshall Liberal government because it has involved listening to and working with the community towards a merits-driven outcome and it has reversed the trend towards a centralised, bureaucracy-driven regime that we saw on the other side in the dying days of the last government.

What we have seen is a generational investment in aged care at Strathalbyn. It is a story that should be told for years to come, it is a story that tells again of the great work that the community did 30 years ago in building the original Kalimna Hostel and it is a story of a government that is committed to backing communities and the region and improving the lives of all South Australians.

Parliamentary Committees

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General) (16:01): By leave, I move:

That the Hon. Z.L. Bettison be appointed to the committee in place of Mr Szakacs (resigned).

Motion carried.

Bills

EVIDENCE (REPORTING ON SEXUAL OFFENCES) AMENDMENT BILL

Final Stages

Consideration in committee of the Legislative Council's amendment.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I move:

That the Legislative Council's amendment be agreed to.

I rise to speak on the amendment and also within the envelope of the legislation which we presented to the Legislative Council and which they have returned seeking this insertion.

It is important to remember that the bill itself, when passed by the Legislative Council, had quite a long gestation period. It was to give effect to a 2011 review undertaken by the Hon. Brian Martin AO QC, which recommended substantially lifting restrictions against reporting on sexual offences, that is, the reporting or publication of those who are charged with sexual offences. The primary recommendation of the Martin report was that sections 71A(1) and (2) be repealed. However, this was not taken up by the previous Labor government at that time. Justice Martin, in his review, stated:

In my opinion the interests of a few who would be adversely affected by removing automatic prohibition currently mandated by section 71A do not justify the constraint of the principle of open justice affected by section 71A. To the extent that the few adversely affected by a publication of identity, their personal interests are outweighed by the greater public interest in adhering to an open system of justice.

He went on to say:

Removal of the automatic prohibition on publication of identity in these cases will remove the source of rumour and innuendo which currently accompanies the charging of the sexual offences in any cases which attract media interest. Publication of identity might also promote the possibility of witnesses coming forward.

So, of course, we progressed the bill under this government. I am immensely pleased to indicate that, although this amendment does confirm a pre-existing practice—namely, facilitating the person who has the responsibility for conducting the criminal investigation, which is usually a police officer or police officers—they must at the relevant time ensure that all reasonable efforts are made to notify the victim. That is a practice which has been enshrined in the amendment presented to us and which is already in place.

I am not certain as to the requirement about this being in legislation, or whether there is any lack of trust in relation to the police officers undertaking this and their commitment publicly to continue

to do that, or if there is evidence of a failure to do it that would justify us imposing this legislatively. It was raised by the member for Badcoe in the course of the debates we had in this place.

The position was made clear at that stage that this was not a matter in which there was any evidence whatsoever of a noncompliance, of some lazy approach or of some incapacity or inability, in one way or another, not to actually do the best they could to make sure the victim or victims were notified and that therefore there did not seem to be justification for it to be in legislation. Nevertheless, the other place have considered that matter and they see that as necessary.

What is concerning to the government is that the long gestation period of this legislation, which ultimately had to come into place—that is, the implementation of what Mr Martin reviewed back in 2011—we now know to have coincided with the rather tawdry history of a former member of parliament, indeed of the Legislative Council. I think he no longer has the title of 'honourable' because he has now resigned from the parliament, having been convicted of sexual exploitation cases. Mr Bernie Finnigan had at the time, back in 2011, been charged and his name was suppressed under this very legislation. In fact, the rumour quickly went out that Mr Finnigan's name was suppressed because of this legislation.

So it is very important to the government, even with this amendment, that we get the legislation progressed because it was scandalous to have a situation where there was an allegation that a member of the state parliament was charged with some kind of child predation/exploitation and everyone was under a cloud. I think at one stage there was reference to it being a he, and then there was reference to 'he' being somebody in the Legislative Council. There was this terrible period when a number of male members of the Legislative Council were under that cloud.

It is a deeply disturbing situation—where the suppression arrangements, which were designed for reasons I will not repeat, as they are all detailed in the original debates around the original legislation and canvassed by Mr Martin—to find that the government of the day's reluctance to progress Mr Martin's recommendations occurred at the very time and in the very year that one of their own had actually been charged and was getting the benefit of the secrecy allowed by the law as it currently is.

So it is really important to our side of the house—it took us years, obviously; we got into government in 2018 and we are very pleased for this to be early on our agenda and early on our commitment for transparency—that we progress this. We took it to the 2014 and 2018 elections. Members might recall that by the 2014 election Mr Finnigan's name had been disclosed and the shadow over the male members of the Legislative Council had been lifted. He had been identified, and he had sat in the parliament for a total of something like 4½ years before he finally had a trial in April 2015 and was sentenced in November 2015 by Judge Millstead. Of course, ultimately there was a disclosure of the name, but it was not an acceptable circumstance. There had been the rejection of a recommendation of a significant review and that simply was not acceptable to us.

Members are aware that adding in this amendment, and adding in this obligation that statutorily imposes a duty on the investigating party to take all reasonable efforts, will not detract from the principal obligation of there being full disclosure. It will also ensure, by virtue of the passage of the bill, that the automatic suppression orders imposed on proceedings involving persons accused of sexual offences will no longer occur. That is a triumph, clearly, for victims, advocates and people who have a right to know who has been accused of sexual offending in our community.

I am aware during this debate that the member for Mount Gambier has been a vocal opponent of this legislation, with the support of the opposition, in relation to the general thrust of this legislation. His views may be not translated or extinguished from the point of view of having any effect to try to stop this reform, but he takes the view that the reputational damage—if I respectfully paraphrase his position on this—is too high to allow publication prior to conviction. Therefore, he has maintained the position that this law should not pass and that this reform should not be advanced.

I would like to say from the government's point of view that we appreciate the opposition's—better late than never—indication of support from the member for Badcoe on behalf of the opposition.

Ms Stinson: We supported it from the beginning.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: No, I am talking about years later. This was a review that was done in 2011, just so the member is aware of this.

Ms Stinson: This bill we are talking about has been supported by the opposition the whole time.

The ACTING CHAIR (Mr Cowdrey): Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: The previous government advanced a bill with a minor reform, which we supported because it moved it a little way. We were very critical of the previous government. The member for Badcoe was not a member of that government, so I will give her the benefit of having some influence on the new assembly in opposition.

Nine years later, we are now passing a bill in this house with the support of the opposition, and I thank the member for Badcoe for whatever influence she might have had in relation to that because it is to be commended. Even if it is belated from our point of view, we say the previous law was not acceptable to us. In 16 years of Labor administration, clearly it was acceptable. Now, under this government, the newly formed opposition has accepted that it is simply not acceptable and we are getting on to move those amendments, and we are very proud of that bill.

The community's expectation and public interest in the transparency and the open justice system are obvious. The right to publish reports on sexual offences in South Australia, in line with other states, will now be achieved. It addresses the absurdity of the situation in South Australia where we can access news reports and social media posts regarding proceedings in South Australia which originate in other states. A contemporary example of this occurred with George Pell's trial. That is another one that is not over yet. Nevertheless, we can read about it where news agencies and social media outside Australia have identified him as the defendant, which are accessible over the internet. So we are living in a different age. Communication is available. Obviously, the internet produces other challenges for the confinement, distribution and publication, etc., of information.

We appreciate the right to have a fair trial and the rationale of the prohibitions of section 71A(1) and (2), as they protect the suspect or an accused person from being identified as an alleged sex offender before there has been a guilty finding or a court has determined that there is sufficient evidence to send the accused to a higher court for trial. The government has kept the prohibition against any publication that identifies a complainant or invites an inference as to the identity, unless the individual is an adult and wants to identify themselves. An added protection in this regard is the requirement that police, as we say, make all reasonable efforts with this particular amendment to inform the victims that the defendant's name can be published.

I had a number of submissions, and I expect other members, particularly the member for Badcoe, will have either reviewed or had put to them submissions about the importance of victims being aware of the publication coming up and having an opportunity to submit a case. Clearly, unlike the Bernie Finnigan case, in which there were no identified victims who were either related to or known to him, these were photographs and disseminated publications of children who were not, in my understanding, identified as having any relationship with Mr Finnigan but who became victims by virtue of their exploitation by being photographed and videoed in compromising circumstances—states of nudity, states of sexual acts and the like—all of which is, most fair-minded people would appreciate, simply not acceptable. It is certainly against the law. The viewing, dissemination, access and distribution of it are all completely illegal.

People sometimes even now say to me, 'Why is this as bad as touching or physically assaulting a child?' The reason is that somebody is photographing that child, somebody is exploiting that child, somebody is placing that image of those children for profit and distributing it for their own financial gain. That exploitation of children is completely unacceptable. That is why our exploitation laws, in addition to assaults on children, are at the very highest level of scrutiny and penalty. I just want to say again how important it is that we protect the children, protect the victims, including those who are photographed and have their images spread around the world for the profit and gross benefit of those who want to access it.

We also had a number of submissions and support from the Carly Ryan Foundation, Australia's Right to Know coalition and from media organisations. We had a very wide area of consultation, including the South Australian police, as I have referred to before, victims' groups, the

Chief Magistrate, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Courts Administration Authority, the Law Society, the Legal Services Commission and the Council for Civil Liberties.

Can I just advise the house, because this is always a question that is asked in relation to suppression orders, of some other good news for South Australia, and I will be very brief. Over the last 10 years there has been a steady increase and now a steady decrease in the number of suppression orders in South Australia. We were known for a long time as being the suppression state. I want to tell members how happy I am that, in looking at the 2018-19 reductions, last year (up to 30 June 2019) the total number of suppression orders was 171. From mid-January to July, it is about 117. In any event, we are on a steady reduction. That is a good thing.

We are now the third highest—Victoria is way out in front as being the suppression state. Whilst that is not a good thing, the fact is we are now down to I think a much more acceptable level of secrecy orders, as they have often been described. As the member for Badcoe is also a former journalist, she would appreciate the frustration of the imposition of secrecy as a result of suppression orders.

I have always taken the view that suppression orders do form an important part of the protection of our whole process. They particularly need to protect victims, for example, where the child who has been exploited or abused actually has a relationship with the offender. It might be a daughter or a neighbour's child or a niece or something of that nature. The disclosure of the name of the accused will immediately make public the likely victim, especially if it is the only child in that family household. We obviously have to balance all of that, and that is being considered in this legislation, but in addition to that we still need to have the protection of them.

I have just found that figure for those who want to follow this. In the nine months from 1 January to 30 September 2019—so it takes in the whole extra period—it is still down to 117 for Tasmania, 251 for Victoria in the same period and 120 for New South Wales. We are third in the latest data that we have. I am certainly pleased to see that there has been some arresting of what was otherwise, I think, an unacceptably continuing increase in suppression orders, which really were not justified given the profile of the types of offences that we had. With those few words, again, I thank the opposition for its support and indicate that we will be accepting the amendment.

Ms STINSON: I might take this opportunity to make a few remarks on this matter. Of course, as the Attorney has mentioned, the amendment that we see come down from the other place is the result of questioning in this place in the committee stage, and I think that is worthy of noting.

There were some detailed questions asked by me and others about the operation of the Evidence (Reporting on Sexual Offences) Amendment Bill, and I think this really is a good demonstration of the importance of having a strong opposition that does actually have a careful look at legislation that is put forward, runs the fine-tooth comb over it and really does assess it from all possible perspectives, in this case looking at it from the perspective of victims and looking at its operation on the ground and how the amendments that are put forward and the intention of those amendments is actually going to be reflected in the operations and the operational elements of the implementation of such an act.

I think that this is showing our parliament at work, showing that the processes of the parliament are resulting in rigorous outcomes and outcomes that are beneficial for our broader community. Because of those questions that I and others asked at the committee stage, we had the opportunity to formulate amendments that were put to the other place. Members of that place had the opportunity to have a look at them, and I believe the government adopted the amendment which we see coming back to us today. This amendment talks about all reasonable efforts being made to notify the victim about the expiry of a prohibition applying in respect of the publication of an accused person's identity.

The Attorney does make a good point in that you may well expect that that process would be adopted by the DPP, by police and by others who would be administering such cases and looking at such matters. However, in my experience covering the court system, it is important that these things are written down, and something like this is important to insert into legislation. I certainly do not think that this reflects any sort of lack of trust or the belief of any sort of laziness on the part of those who are involved in these cases.

In fact, it is quite the opposite: I think that our police and lawyers who are working in the justice system are doing an incredible amount of work, and this just spells out clearly what the obligations are and, if you like, reminds people working in that sector of the need for, and the importance that this parliament places on, victims being involved in such critical decisions or being notified of such critical decisions as to whether the accused person in their matter may have their identity revealed and any possible implication that may have for a victim.

I think it is important that that it is enshrined in legislation, and, of course, I and my colleagues on this side are certainly delighted to see that this amendment has been adopted in the other place and has come back down here and hopefully will have the support of the majority of this place to be entered into the act.

As many would know, in my past career I did quite a deal of work with victims of crime. In fact, a lot of the work of journalists is working with victims of crime whether that is at the time that a crime is committed or throughout the court process. Often, we do become very close to those victims. It is our job to understand the victim's experience and to be able to convey that to the wider public as part of a fair and balanced report of matters in front of our courts and in front of our justice system.

Of course, that does mean, I think, that journalists, as well as many others in the justice system, are in quite a good position to understand the impact of crime on victims, the importance of those victims having as much say as possible—there are some limits to that, of course—and as much information and involvement in the judicial process as can reasonably be had. For many victims, it is a very disempowering process to go through the courts system. Some do find it empowering, but often that depends on the outcome at the end.

In recent years, there has been a movement to involve victims more in the judicial process, to be more enlivened, I suppose, to the need for them to understand what is happening and to have a say wherever possible in what is happening so that they do not feel like they are being excluded from the very process that is meant to deliver justice to them and our community more widely.

From my work as a journalist, I have some knowledge about the impact of the court process on victims: the great uncertainty that goes with it, the long delays, the frustration, the stress and, really, the retraumatisation of victims through the court process. I think that this is one measure that can help to empower victims, to make sure that those who are working in the justice system turn their minds to the fact that not only should they but they are now actually obligated by law to try to locate victims and make all reasonable efforts to notify them about the expiry of a suppression order, so that they might seek their views on it or, at the very least, a victim realises that a suppression order or a statutory suppression will be removed and that may cause the matter to be in the media.

Practically, aside from meaning that a victim can give input to the police or the DPP about whether they think a suppression order should be extended, it really equips a victim to be able to take measures to protect themselves and to be able to say, 'Okay, this is going to be on the news tonight. I'm not tuning in to the news tonight. I'm going to protect my mental health and that of my family and make sure that, as much as possible, I'm not exposing myself to that retraumatisation through this process.' That is why I think this is really important and why I am so encouraged by the fact that this amendment has cleared the other place and hopefully will go through this place as well.

I also want to reflect on some of the Attorney's comments. I have to say I am very encouraged by her comments in regard to secrecy and openness amid allegations of sexual wrongdoing. I actually think that that is spot on. Certainly, when I was a journalist I was one of those people saying that suppression orders and that level of secrecy were not acceptable and that we should have a much greater standard of openness.

I think at this time, with where we find ourselves with the events of mid-December, we should be reflecting on those values and we should be trying as a parliament to make sure that we have openness and transparency about the things that happen in this place. There is obviously going to be a matter before the court concerning the member for Waite and we should be—

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Point of order: this again transgresses the fact that there is a police investigation and there are no charges that we are aware of. For the member to assert here that there are obviously going to be matters coming before the court is not something that is appropriate to be canvassed in this chamber.

Ms STINSON: I am happy to rephrase that.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Thank you.

Ms STINSON: We understand, of course, and it has been publicly reported, that the member for Waite has been reported.

Members interjecting:

Ms STINSON: That's correct, yes. The police have reported the member for Waite, which I think does throw up these issues of openness and transparency regarding matters that touch on issues of sexual misconduct. I think it is important, the sentiments that the Attorney expressed, albeit to do with a different circumstance, that we as a house reflect on the need for openness and transparency when such matters are raised and that we hold ourselves to a high standard in relation to those. I am certainly on record in my—

Members interjecting:

The ACTING CHAIR (Mr Cowdrey): Order!

Ms STINSON: To be fair, I have made my comments clear. I am certainly on record in my time as a journalist saying that there should have certainly been greater openness and transparency about those matters in the past. In fact, I was standing there in court, in the Magistrates Court, in the District Court, putting forward my applications for suppression orders to be removed.

I am certainly supportive of this legislation, and I am certainly particularly supportive of this amendment, which I think really does provide empowerment for victims and formalises the operational elements to ensure that victims are advised, if not involved, in decision-making around the application or withdrawal of suppression orders. I think that that is a very good thing. I would commend the bill with this amendment to the house. It certainly will have the support of all those on this side of the house.

The ACTING CHAIR (Mr Cowdrey): I will give the member the benefit of the doubt that there was a question contained in that contribution.

Motion carried.

Motions

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BUSHFIRES

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. S.S. Marshall:

That this house—

- (a) expresses its deep regret at the loss of life as a result of bushfires in South Australia so far this summer and extends its condolences and sympathy to the families and loved ones of those killed;
- (b) records its sorrow and support for those who suffered injury and who lost their homes, property and personal possessions;
- (c) praises the work of firefighters and other emergency services, volunteers and community members for their courage and sacrifice in responding to the fires and protecting our communities in this time of need;
- (d) recognises the profound impact on those communities affected and the role of governments and the South Australian community in assisting them to recover and rebuild at the earliest opportunity; and
- (e) appreciates the great generosity and support to the affected communities by all those who have contributed to the Premier's Emergency Relief Fund and other appeals.

(Continued from 5 February 2020.)

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (16:32): I rise to support the motion moved in this place by the Premier, which, in summary, expresses our support for those affected by the bushfires that have plagued our state in recent times and which also wishes them well in the recovery efforts that are ongoing around the state, including in my electorate and at Yorketown near Edithburgh.

This is an important motion that records our sorrow and support for families within communities who lost lives and for all those who have suffered and lost homes, property and personal possessions as a result of the bushfires across the state this summer season. It is also an important motion that rightfully praises the work of firefighters, emergency services, volunteers and community members.

I have stated in this place before that no praise can be high enough for the firefighters, volunteer and paid, who displayed inspiring bravery and commitment to the task of containing fires and saving lives and property. On 14 February, I was pleased to again visit Yorketown for a post-fire community check-in gathering, which provided another valuable chance to say hello, to check in with everyone and to see how the recovery from the ferocious fires in late November in that area of the Narungga electorate was going.

As I stated in parliament in my recent Address in Reply speech, the fires on SYP in late November, which burned more than 5,000 hectares across a 61-kilometre front, were just the start of a devastating season of bushfires of unprecedented scale that went on to burn some 12 million hectares across the nation, taking some two months and flooding rains in the Eastern States to finally extinguish. The news on 6 February that finally, nationally, all fires were declared contained was welcome indeed and a great relief. Whatever the size of the bushfires, the devastation is real for all, as are the shock and ongoing stress in the recovery period that stretches ahead for so many communities around our nation, including for communities on Yorke Peninsula.

The 14 February community event at Yorketown highlighted the ongoing impacts being faced on the road to recovering from what is a significant trauma felt by everyone—individuals, families and landowners—who has lost much and is soldiering on with the assistance of a great many people. The powerful rallying of communities of people digging in to help others has been staggering and inspiring, as have been the amazing efforts to raise funds for various appeals.

I commend the Yorketown Fire Recovery Centre Coordinator, Deb Richardson, for all her work done well over the past three months, and the local Bushfire Recovery Committee, which is chaired by Deb and features wonderful local contributions from people across the fireground, from Yorketown and all the way up to Maitland. There were a number of areas that burned on the peninsula during that period and most are represented on that committee.

I congratulate that committee on having already distributed over \$60,000 in donations raised locally. Amazingly, since I last spoke on this topic in this place only some three weeks ago, the tally of local funds has risen by an extra \$30,000, up to in excess of \$90,000, which is an amazing local effort and show of collaborative support.

A special moment at the 14 February community check-in at Yorketown was the presentation to the recovery committee by seven-year-old Amahli Ziersch of Kadina who, wanting to do whatever she could to assist the cause, collected bottles and cans and created a Go Fund Me page to raise funds for people affected by the fire. Her father, Damien, tells the story of their sitting at home watching the news and Amahli turning around and asking what she could do to help, and as a family they came up with this idea.

Through that initiative developed by her family and Amahli, and the hard work she put into it, she was able to present a cheque of \$825—a wonderful commendable effort at such a young age to help others. It was terrific to be on hand to see the fake cheque the committee had prepared for Amahli being handed over as part of the presentation. There was a real sense of occasion about the moment and it was really pleasing to see the smile on her face.

The whole family—her siblings, parents and grandparents—travelled down to see her present this wonderful, large, fake cheque to the recovery committee. The applause that greeted her upon doing so from the locals at Yorketown, who have been so appreciative of every effort but were particularly appreciative of such a young person raising such a significant amount of money for their efforts, was a really uplifting moment and it was really pleasing to be a part of it.

At the community gathering, there were also important information displays from PIRSA, the Department for Environment and Water, the CFS, SA Health, and the Salvation Army and Red Cross, as well as updates from Deb; from Yorke Peninsula Council mayor, Darren Braund; and from me. It

was important information not just for those who were there but for those who continue to be impacted by fires and those seeking information on how they can best assist those who have been impacted.

Many people across the SYP community and the peninsula as a whole have been pitching in where they can, and I have felt privileged to witness it firsthand. Having already described in this house the massive efforts of some 53 CFS brigades who flocked to Yorketown on 20 and 21 November to stop the catastrophe that was unfolding, I will not be too repetitive. Rightfully, so much has already been said about the firefighting assistance—the bravery, the exhausting effort and the volunteer spirit. Frankly, it has been unbelievable and, as I have already said, no praise is enough for these wonderful people, both volunteer and paid.

I will instead use this brief time that I have to focus on the recovery efforts underway, the government assistance and how important are assessments of how we can improve the management of such emergencies moving forward. With local recovery coordinator, Deb Richardson, appointed within 72 hours of the Yorketown fire and a recovery centre that remains open after actively assisting people to this day three months after the fire was contained, I commend those who ensure that assistance from the Department of Human Services was swiftly coordinated.

With initial personal hardships grants made available the day after the fires—such wonderful promptness in getting those grants out to the people who needed them so drastically—I advise that 374 of these initial emergency grants were distributed to people forced to evacuate at Yorketown and Edithburgh, totalling over \$175,000. That is a fantastic effort and, as I said, it was pleasing to see that distributed and made available so quickly to those people who needed it at that time. It was wonderful that they could have that help in such a devastating instance.

Next to work quickly were the Red Cross and BlazeAid, with the latter only just leaving the area on 23 February after continuously helping farmers with fencing for three months. Having been a volunteer for only one day down there, I would like to take a moment to properly acknowledge the contribution those organisations made to the recovery effort.

Over that three months, over 25 fire-affected properties with 250 fire volunteers, BlazeAid was able to rip out 253 kilometres of burnt fence—an extraordinary achievement—doing perhaps the most important job in removing some of the damage that can play on the minds of those farmers who have lost it all. It is difficult to go out and see kilometres of your fencing lying on the ground or burnt to a crisp. For those people to get out there and remove that fencing and take it away from the front of mind of farmers is wonderful, and 253 kilometres is an extraordinary length of fencing. Not only that, they also installed 162 kilometres of replacement fencing, an extraordinary effort, and I would like to take this opportunity to commend every single one of the 250 fire volunteers who went down there and contributed some of their time.

The mayor, Darren Braund, was kind enough to host the BlazeAid camp on the grounds of his church at Edithburgh. Those of us who have volunteered for BlazeAid before will be well aware of the fame of the camps, the camaraderie and the community we experience. There was a wonderful array of caravans and people there for the entire three months, and the mayor made available to them all the facilities of the church, the meeting rooms, the bathrooms, the kitchen area and the mess hall. It was a wonderful contribution and show of support from the mayor, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all the facilitation work he did to make BlazeAid happen.

Similarly, Karen and Graham Warren were the local convenors of the BlazeAid camp and every morning made sure that lunch was ready for people to take out, that there were teams of eight going to particular spots and that the love was shared equally around all those 25 affected properties. They did a mountain of work over the entire three months, and I bet Karen is finally sleeping well after being up before everyone else and being the last one there every night as well. Thank you very much to Mayor Darren Braund and to Karen and Graham Warren for the work they did in helping BlazeAid give such wonderful service down there on the fireground.

Following the arrival of Red Cross and BlazeAid came the disaster recovery payments and income support from the federal government jointly funded with state government initiatives. Later came the tax and fee relief measures made available by the state government, which have been welcome, as have the special considerations from the Valuer-General working with the State Recovery Office and Land Services SA, with fees waived to replace lost documents like driver's

licences and births, deaths and marriages certificates, legal advice, waste management assistance and financial assistance from the Yorke Peninsula Council.

The Volunteer Firefighters' Financial Support Program has also been appreciated, being compensation for volunteer firefighters who have put in extended time to volunteering this current fire season and incurred financial cost by doing so. I can attest that the state government's announcement last week of the availability of concessional loans to assist small businesses, primary producers and non-profit organisations impacted by the bushfires on Kangaroo Island and at Cudlee Creek, Keilira in the South East, and Yorketown on Yorke Peninsula to further assist in the rebuild and, importantly, to ensure small businesses impacted have every chance of continuing to operate while the region recovers, have also been well received.

These loans of up to \$500,000 are available to help businesses such as tourism operators restore and replace assets and property that have been significantly damaged in the fires. They also cover costs of salaries, creditors, rent and rates. This is an important scheme needed to assist small businesses in regional areas to stay in local communities and, crucially, continue to operate and employ local people. When announcing the concessional loans scheme, the Treasurer stated that small businesses and primary producers are the backbone of our regional economies and that the government is pleased to be able to support them as they get back on their feet in the wake of the devastating bushfires.

I am pleased, too, to announce that the Yorke Peninsula Council has qualified to receive \$200,000 from the National Bushfire Recovery Agency fund. This money is very much needed to assist council to restore the extensive infrastructure damaged or destroyed by the fires on Yorke Peninsula where homes were destroyed, along with more than \$1.7 million worth of crop and livestock. In terms of area losses across the YP Council, in November and December the Price fire burned 321 hectares, the Yorketown fire burned 5,017 hectares and a fire at Maitland on 20 December burned another 2,472 hectares, amounting to an affected area of almost 8,000 hectares.

These fire events have left the YP Council with a significant clean-up bill for recovery works, including road repairs and resurfacing, roadside tree cleaning, burned signage and road markers, restoring public spaces at parks and campgrounds (including fencing, picnic tables, landscaping and streetscaping), replacing and installing new concrete firefighting tanks for truck and plane-filling at Yorketown and Maitland airstrips, erosion control rehabilitation and replacing lost habitat and roadside vegetation corridors and 50 kilometres of roadside.

I expect the \$200,000 allocated will be very quickly spent, but it is a start. The Yorke Peninsula Council area also, pleasingly, qualified as an eligible LGA area to receive grants of up to \$75,000 for farmers and \$10,000 for small businesses from the jointly funded commonwealth and state disaster recovery fund to address the immediate costs of recovery. Importantly, it is a fund that does not close until 31 July this year.

Under the jointly funded Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements, multiple assistance grants have been made available. There are re-establishment grants of up to \$10,000 for the uninsured to re-establish homes, recovery grants of up to \$50,000 for small businesses to assist with clean-up and restoration, recovery grants for eligible primary producers, as well as other assistance available from the SA Bushfire Appeal and Red Cross.

Importantly, too, is that information and assistance are available in relation to mental health services, which will be a pressing issue in the months and years ahead. There is a recognised great need to assist people experiencing the grief and stress that naturally come with a disaster like a bushfire. There is also assistance with native vegetation and livestock, legal advice and mediation services if required.

At the 14 February Yorketown fire update gathering, I also took the opportunity to strongly encourage participation in the independent review into the 2019-20 bushfire season thus far that is underway, which was announced by the Premier on 28 January. It is hoped that as many people as possible who have firsthand on the ground experience of the fire events make submissions, including the CFS and all emergency services and responders, farmers, community members impacted and

organisation leaders. Such feedback from the very people on the ground who experienced the emergency is vitally important.

The review's specific terms of reference are valid and include identification of resource and equipment gaps, how to reduce ignitions, ideas to improve response actions and warning systems and much more. Many issues have been raised with me by locals and farmers on Kangaroo Island with whom I spoke when I visited, including ways to improve communication procedures, CFS vehicle-tracking technology and the need for tracking capacity, firebreaks management, assistance for fodder donors, water access and replenishment, and grants criteria and their rollout. All such information is relevant to the independent review for which submissions close on 22 March.

I would like to also commend the RAA for their Regional Safety Grants program and their recent allocations. In particular, I note the Yorke Valley and Northern Yorke CFS groups and the Yorketown CFS are among the 15 worthy organisations announced as successful applicants. I am advised that these local CFS personnel will use their allocations to purchase safety equipment, thermal cameras that detect flareups and identify hotspots and a mobile signal booster, all vital assets when it comes to fighting fires. Such support and provision of assets is vital. I commend again the RAA for this initiative.

I am pleased the Marshall Liberal government well recognises the need for such vital support and is offering multiple programs that have been welcomed and that are assisting in bushfire recovery in South Australia. Finally, on behalf of all the people who live and work in the Narungga electorate, I thank all those across the electorate who rallied at the height of the emergency, who are continuing to work hard in recovery and who are doing all they can to help the many locals impacted. A huge task lies ahead, but together we will recover. I would like to pay tribute to you all and commend this important motion to the house.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay) (16:49): I rise today to reflect on the tragic bushfire events that occurred in South Australia over the past few months. Last year, in the final week of parliament, we came together in this place to honour the brave volunteers, community service workers and emergency response teams who responded to the Yorketown fires at the end of November. Little did we know that, on our return to this place just two months later, we would again be reflecting on the horrific consequences of more catastrophic bushfires that resulted in the loss of life, homes and businesses. I think it is fair to say that our communities remain shocked and frightened at the scale of destruction unleashed by these bushfires.

The digital age means that every Australian has been able to get a deeper awareness of the sheer power and destructive forces that these fires can wield. Be it for good or bad, we have been able to witness firsthand footage of the devastation these fires left in their path. I am sure many people here have seen the video filmed by the Davis family on Kangaroo Island. As their home was overtaken by the fires, they remained trapped inside as a tsunami of fire swept past them. Their eventual escape, among other remarkable stories, was heroic in the extreme, though sadly their home and their business—a sheep and honey farm—were destroyed.

This capacity for us to see and hear the real impact of these fires has, I believe, led to one of the most significant and generous outpourings of charitable donations in our nation's history. As we collectively witnessed the suffering, pain and devastating loss of others, we felt moved to do everything within our power, big or small, to assist in some way. Of course, we got international focus, and I recognise the fact that other people in other countries put their hand in their pocket to support us.

Let me talk a little bit about the support for bushfire donations. One of the things that has really blown me away is the diversity of people across the Australian community who saw what happened in Yorketown, on Kangaroo Island and in the Adelaide Hills and put their collective belief together that they wanted to give back. Recently, I spoke about our Hazara community and how they asked me to come along to talk about the campaign that they had run. All up, collectively, \$120,000 was raised by this Afghan community in South Australia.

I followed other communities as well: the Vietnamese community have put money into the KI Mayoral Relief and Recovery Bushfire Fund, the Cambodian community have supported as well,

and just on the weekend our Sikh community gave money to the Gumeracha CFS to make sure that its fire siren is up and working.

While I talk about the diversity of this support, I can also talk about the many Australians and South Australians who contributed support to help people recover and get back. As many families across our state prepared for holidays and Christmas festivities, on 20 December the Cudlee Creek bushfires raged through our beautiful Adelaide Hills, impacting townships, including Brukunga, Charleston, Cudlee Creek, Gumeracha, Harrogate, Kenton Valley, Lenswood, Lobethal, Mount Torrens and Woodside.

We watched with horror as families walked the familiar winding Adelaide Hills scenic roads to escape with children, animals and a handful of possessions. We watched as football ovals, normally home to summer afternoon cricket games, suddenly became refuge points for evacuees. We heard with shock that approximately 30 per cent of Adelaide Hills vineyards were caught in the fire zone, with some losing everything, including their homes.

Udder Delights, the iconic Adelaide Hills cheese brand, lost all their stock due to heat and smoke damage although, thanks to the courageous efforts of firefighters, their factory, along with neighbouring Lobethal Bierhaus and Emmaline's Country Kitchen, were saved. I am sure children across South Australia, the country and perhaps the world have taken heart from the news that the amazing Big Rocking Horse, their beloved alpacas and other farm animals, and the iconic Melba's chocolate factory also survived the blaze.

As we waited anxiously each day for news, hoping to hear that the fires had been contained, a combination of heat and wind caused fires that had been burning on Kangaroo Island to spread catastrophically. The Duncan fire, which also began on 20 December at the northern end of the island, had been burning for some 10 days before lightning activity in Flinders Chase National Park caused the fire to break containment lines and, by 3 January, it merged with a fire on its eastern flank.

A combination of searing temperatures, low humidity and a series of unpredictable wind changes created a formidable and virtually unstoppable front that destroyed everything in its path. This became the fire we now know as the Ravine fire. By the time the Kangaroo Island fires were contained on 20 January, almost half the island had been impacted in some way. However, amidst the stories of despair and the tragic loss of life emerged equally inspiring stories of resilience and compassion.

We have read reports of the last of the Barristers wines being auctioned, raising more than \$10,000, only to be returned by the successful bidders, who donated it back to raise more funds; businesses such as the Ozone Hotel on Kangaroo Island making up sleeping cots in their dining room for evacuated Salvation Army volunteers; and the many, many emotional stories of animal rescue and recovery that have touched all our hearts.

I particularly note the work of the local member of Kangaroo Island, Leon Bignell, who kept us posted about how we could help and what was needed. Leon, alongside his son Conor, were on the ground listening to how we could help. Many of you here would have heard the story about the radios, that he put out the call and his call was answered. He has followed that up with other ways that people needed help. I have to say that I admire his dedication, and he was not alone, because we heard regular updates from the Mayor of Kangaroo Island and the Kangaroo Island mayoral fund was also established. I want to thank Leon for keeping us involved and making sure we understood about the devastation and what the people of Kangaroo Island needed and continue to need.

In my home of Salisbury, the Salisbury CFS, comprising approximately 35 volunteers, was on active duty during the Yorketown, Cudlee Creek and Kersbrook fires, and they sent four volunteers to Kangaroo Island to assist. They joined some 300 other firefighters and volunteers, only to be ably joined by more than 650 Army reservists, who remain helping with recovery efforts.

I would now like to talk about those recovery efforts. As the then minister for communities, I was involved firsthand in the recovery efforts of the Sampson Flat and Pinery fires. The one message I would share with people is that recovery is not a short-term prospect. Rebuilding homes, businesses and community infrastructure is essential, but it is only one piece of a complex pathway for a community to truly rebuild and heal.

People are still in survival mode. They are doing what needs to be done, managing the inevitable paperwork, navigating the relief funding, returning children to school and, in some cases, starting the process of rebuilding their homes and businesses. This is complicated by the fact that the resources needed to clear away debris and rebuild fencing, as well as for animal feed and veterinary supplies, are in high demand and people have to wait.

Once months have passed and the physical rebuild is well underway, that is only when we will see the emotional healing begin. I say to the government: we have had, unfortunately, experience in this area. After both the Sampson Flat and the Pinery bushfires, recovery centres were opened for some time because six months down the track we had new people come to us, reaching out. Many of these people do not have a high interaction with government services. They are very resilient, but sometimes when you reach out to them is when they will open up to you.

We encourage those involved in the recovery to continue to make sure that they are there, that they reach out to people and that they are there for them to talk, for them to know that they have someone who is willing to listen and to support them on this journey of recovery. Recovery involves more than bricks and mortar. Recovery is more than just financial support because along with rebuilding people's livelihoods comes rebuilding their resilience and their confidence.

The Adelaide Hills and Kangaroo Island are both jewels in the South Australian tourism industry crown. The fires hit during the peak season. Along with the South Australian Tourism Commission, the government launched the #BookThemOut campaign, encouraging locals and visitors alike to support these fire-affected regions. The opposition has recognised that this has been a very important campaign. It was important that we got the message out that, although impacted, these regions were still open for business. It was on this focus that our Labor leader made the decision that we would go and have a shadow cabinet meeting in January.

Travelling to Kangaroo Island only a couple of weeks ago, we went and spent time with local business operators. I particularly spent time with local tourism operators, from Emu Bay Lavender Farm, a commercial operation that harvests about 8,000 bunches of lavender each year, to Fleur and Fred Peters, who run the fine art gallery in Kingscote, where they had on display the most beautiful handcrafted jewellery. Probably my favourite was KI Spirits. It is Australia's oldest dedicated gin distillery, which, apart from using KI produce and generating a very, very easy to drink gin or two, supports other KI producers, including the local sea salt, skincare products, relishes and condiments, local figs and olives.

I thoroughly enjoyed my time on the island because we know there is so much to experience and enjoy. That is why I went back again for the KI Cup. There were many thousands of people at the KI Cup, and I have to say that people made sure they came along in their droves because they wanted to support Kangaroo Island. The weather was absolutely perfect, and while I have to say that my two out of seven races were successful that really was not the point of being there. The point was to show the people of Kangaroo Island that we were backing them in and that we were supporting them.

What we know is that tourism equals jobs. Tourism is a supergrowth industry and, despite the challenges of bushfires and now the headwinds of coronavirus, it remains one of this government's key levers to stimulate our economy. I have seen in the past week the Labor state government in Queensland put out its plan. The Victorian government first of all had a \$2 million plan short term and then announced a \$5 million plan.

I am waiting for the next tourism recovery plan. #BookThemOut has been a great sugar hit, and the people impacted by bushfires have more than been supported by this campaign, but we need more. We need leadership in this area because we know that people are cancelling bookings one, two and three years in advance. We know that winter is a time that we need to stimulate people to go to KI and up to the Adelaide Hills. We have proposed in opposition what we could do.

I have called out to the Premier to follow on from SeaLink's subsidy and continue to subsidise trips on the ferry to go to KI for the next six months because we want to say to South Australians, 'Holiday in your backyard.' We want to say to South Australians, 'When was the last time you went to KI? Put the kids in the car, drive down to Cape Jervis, take the ferry and enjoy KI,' but if the

government does not subsidise this ferry what is the stimulus to make people make this decision? So I call upon the government to subsidise the ferry to KI for the next six months.

I also call upon the government to support cooperative marketing because we need to know that these areas are open for business, not just the Adelaide Hills and KI but the whole of South Australia, because while it was fantastic to have international attention on South Australia they also thought the whole of Australia was on fire. This, combined with the headwinds of coronavirus, means that we have fewer international tourists coming here.

What we need to do is support these businesses that are hurting so badly. We should support them with cooperative marketing and enable them to advertise, but support them to do so. Most importantly, I call upon this government to reverse the cut to tourism—\$11 million in the first year and a \$12 million cut in the second year. This \$23 million cut was the deepest we have had. This \$23 million cut was biting, even before bushfires, even before coronavirus, and for the people of KI and Adelaide Hills tourism is incredibly important—important for employment, important for businesses.

So I call upon the Premier as the tourism minister, as the leader of this state, to reverse the cuts to tourism. The bushfires were devastating. We have a long way to go for recovery, but one way to do it is to support the tourism industry and the 39,000 South Australians employed within it.

Ms LUETHEN (King) (17:09): In our 2020 opening of parliament, the Governor of South Australia said, 'We think particularly of those who have lost their lives, including those who came from overseas to help us.' I also extend my heartfelt thanks to all those who have been supporting the rescue, recovery and relief efforts.

So many people, clubs and families have been involved. To all constituents in King, I take this opportunity to thank you for supporting the various bushfire activities and appeals. I have observed so many people volunteering their time to fight fires, to organise fundraising events and to give money. I know that cost of living was a key concern leading up to the 2018 election and cost of living continues to be a key pressure on families living in King, which is why I am so supportive of our Marshall Liberal government's real plan for change.

Since our bushfires, it has been incredible to see so many people giving what they can to help. It is heartwarming, it is generous and I say the biggest thank you. Giving financial donations will help disaster-affected communities recover, help people buy exactly what they need and result in spending locally. Every contribution, no matter how big or small, makes a difference to those most affected by this tragedy and every dollar donated directly to the SA Bushfire Appeal goes to those affected by the fires, with the South Australian government absorbing all administrative costs.

My mother, Maria Hannam, volunteers with the Red Cross and she has been telling me about her recent experiences both in the evacuation centres and during the outreach visits. She has described how the bushfire impacts each family differently. Because of this, what each family needs might be different, so money becomes really useful for them to be able to buy what they need most for their family. For those who have lost their homes, it is much more than that: it is the irreplaceable contents that make the house the family home—photographs of children and grandchildren and other memories of a family's life destroyed.

For our farmers, many have had to not only fight fires on their properties but immediately afterwards shoot and burn their stock. We are doing whatever it takes to support recovery and rebuilding work so that people and their communities can get back on their feet and recover their lives. Local recovery coordinators have been appointed. Mick Cerns, a friend of mine who lives in King and who is a forensic mental health specialist, told me about how he is taking part in the outreach as well and making sure people have every type of support they need.

I have been told stories of some people impacted who were just about due to have a baby, some people who have had their house and everything else burnt down and are battling cancer, some people who just need to get their kids back in school for something normal and have needed help with the uniforms they have lost, and some people who work in corporate roles and have lost all their work clothes. Each person's immediate and long-term goals differ and, therefore, so does the opportunity to support them in the way they need it now. That is one reason why this financial support has been so important.

I am heartened by the number of people who have looked into and taken action to support our local businesses in South Australia. We can all help by spending time and money in the fire-affected areas in South Australia. This directly supports those families, employees and small businesses in these regions, which is why our government has been promoting the #BookThemOut campaign. It was fantastic to see this up on the bridges at the Superloop recently for the whole world to see. It can take just a drive to Yorke Peninsula, a coffee in the Adelaide Hills or a short trip to Kangaroo Island, if people can afford it.

I have already spoken to a few local constituents in King who are off to KI in the next school holidays. I thank them, as this will mean a great deal to our local bushfire-impacted economies and families and businesses on KI. I, too, was on KI recently. So much of the island is untouched and so many of the attractions are new—new wineries, new gin distilleries. The same wonderful parks are untouched and they are supported by services provided by small family businesses. They need us to support them now.

I want to mention and commend the employees from BCF, who I also met on the KI ferry. They had joined together to take donations of tents and camping gear to people on KI and to have a close-up look for themselves at what else they could do and how they could help. What a great gesture from their business. I thank all people and businesses in King and across South Australia for reaching out to those affected by this summer's bushfires. We have a wonderful sense of community in South Australia, especially at times like this. I would also like to commend the many community local groups that have rallied together and volunteered their time to raise money for the bushfires.

Locally, and most recently, I wish to commend the One Tree Hill Soccer Club and the Tea Tree Gully City Soccer Club for planning and kicking off an annual soccer tournament of five games, which began between One Tree Hill Soccer Club and Tea Tree Gully Soccer Club on Saturday morning. Well done to both clubs for their collaboration to raise a huge amount of funds for our amazing CFS. A special callout to Phil Rough, Damien Kuypers, Jake Milka and Matt Else for your planning and leadership of this event. I know you were exhausted on Saturday night, but I am sure you think it was well worth it. Thanks to the hundreds of local community members for coming down to buy a sausage from the Modbury Lions. Thank you to the Modbury Lions for donating your time. Thanks to everyone who bought a raffle ticket and watched some really great games.

Thank you to the Premier for making time in his very busy schedule to attend the event and conduct the coin toss or 'toin coss' as some people have heard me say. It was wonderful to watch the young captains, Sierra and Teagan, represent their teams and make their call with the Premier. Sierra called heads and it was tails, so Tea Tree Gully chose their end.

The number of businesses and individuals who offered prizes, money, goods and services to the day was just amazing. Some of those who donated prizes include Programmed, Gas Works Modbury, Heating and Air Conditioning Specialist, The Grove, the City of Tea Tree Gully, Tea Tree Gully Golf Club, SportsPower Salisbury, me on behalf of the people in the electorate of King, The Crown and Sceptre, The Fox and Firkin, Adelaide Building and Pest Inspections (BPI), the South Australian Amateur Soccer League and Tenafeate Creek Wines, another King local.

All games were extremely competitive and I would like to thank both soccer clubs for coming down with so many supporters to the Tilley Reserve in great numbers to support the players and our local CFS stations. A cheque presentation will be held at both the One Tree Hill and the Tea Tree Gully CFS stations in the coming weeks, so stay tuned to hear the grand total of moneys raised. I cannot wait to see both clubs defend this shield next year in 2021 at One Tree Hill.

In addition, other clubs and businesses with local fundraisers who have let me know of their activities are to be commended, and some of these include United Sikhs of South Australia, Salisbury CFS, the One Tree Hill CFS and Hilltop Fresh Flowers. Thank you to our local CFS members from Salisbury, Tea Tree Gully and One Tree Hill for their sacrifice and service over this bushfire period. The devastation of the fires that swept through parts of Kangaroo Island and the Adelaide Hills is well known and it is important to recognise that this bushfire season has been a very long one.

From the beginning of November, there have also been major fires at Port Lincoln, on Lower Yorke Peninsula and at Keilira in the South-East. Even earlier than that, in September late last year our Country Fire Service personnel began a series of deployments to other states to assist their

firefighting efforts, while the first of this season's fire bans in South Australia was issued four months ago on 4 October.

Today, our parliament offers its deepest sympathies to the families and friends who lost their lives in fires, to those who have been injured in all this season's fires and to those who have lost their homes, other property and in some cases their livelihoods. Our thoughts are with all victims of the fire so far this summer. We share their shock and their anguish, and we will listen very closely to what they tell us about their experiences.

We will listen to what went right, what went wrong and what we need to do better now for the next time there is an emergency because there will be a next time. I will strongly advocate for practical steps that we can take that will help us prepare better and manage better our changing climate and our environment.

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (17:20): On behalf of the people of Florey, I want to add my support of the Premier's motion on the South Australian bushfires. In doing so, I acknowledge the tragic loss of life and extend condolences to the families and friends of those who have died in the recent fires. I would also like to extend get well wishes to those injured in the fires and to all who have suffered in the Hills, Kangaroo Island and the South-East at Keilira, especially those who have lost everything, those who have lost their livelihoods and those who are part of communities at the centre of the emergencies of the past months. We are thinking of you as you begin recovery from the trauma you have endured because of the fires.

We are thinking of all who have responded—the thousands who have worked so hard to curb the fury of extreme nature in those long weeks of the fire fronts. I want to acknowledge everyone who played a part, big or small, particularly all those who have been on the front line. Thanks to all our local responders: the volunteers of the Salisbury CFS and SES; the Tea Tree Gully CFS and SES, who are the brigades in my part of the north-eastern suburbs; and all involved in those services throughout the state, as well as all the MFS firefighters, paid members of the SES and CFS, and the heroic airborne firefighters, who are now so much an important part of firefighting.

Thanks, too, to SAPOL and our amazing health, paramedic and ambulance staff for their work. Thanks to all the NGOs and people at the centres that sprang up to assist people in shock and in need of immediate help or just a place to catch their breath. This was another front line. Thanks to those now stepping up: the BlazeAiders, animal carers and farmers. Farmers, some of them grappling with drought, have sent fodder. Thanks also to the Defence Force and members of the wider international responder communities. We have been so grateful for your help and stand ready to help you again as we have in the past.

Thanks as well to all who have led and taken part in fundraising activities. So often, despite immense loss and tragedy, natural disasters, such as these catastrophic fires, see our community come together united, selfless and imbued with solidarity and a shared sense of purpose because, while most of us were nowhere near the fire zone and cannot really imagine the terror of seeing a wall of fire coming towards us, or watch incredulously as a wind change either destroys or saves, we all want to be able to do something to help restore normality to lives and communities.

Members of my community in Florey have approached me, as they did after the Sampson Flat and Pinery fires, and asked what they could do, apart from making donations to one of the many appeals. I must say that there seem to be almost too many different appeals and that maybe it would be best to streamline this aspect, along with models of service delivery for the help available, sometime in the future whenever the reviews are taking place.

One thing that our community area hopes to promote when the time comes is to be part of Trees For Life's seed raising programs, perhaps as community volunteers or even by encouraging programs in schools so children can play their part in the recovery. While the best time for raising the many thousands of seedlings that will be necessary to regenerate our land and native habitat is a way off yet, we can get ready and learn what we need to do to successfully care for seedling vegetation in the months and years ahead.

In the aftermath of disaster, communities which have been devastated will need all the support we can offer them as they recover, rebuild and find in themselves new reserves of resilience. I want to dwell on that word: resilience. When I entered this place more than two decades ago, I ran

under the slogan or banner 'Community counts' because individual resilience in everyday life in the face of a crisis or setback relies on the sense of shared endeavour that comes from being part of a community.

The people of the Adelaide Hills, Kangaroo Island and Keilira will need us all to be there as they pick up the threads of their lives and look towards the eventual end of this extraordinary fire season and truly begin recovery. Throughout this state, there are communities who want to support them in that recovery. While we have not suffered the physical damage or interruptions to our lives, we share in our own way the mental impact of the new normal in which we all find ourselves: a climate that is changing in ways that alarm and confuse.

Of course, it is important for us to recognise this fire season has been extraordinary. Nothing about the bushfires that have devastated the state could be described as usual. Much of our nation has suffered because of fires which have started earlier, spread faster, burned longer and wider than ever before, and our thoughts are with those communities, too. As of 13 February, nationally we have lost more than 18.7 million hectares to fire and most tragically of all there have been 34 fatalities. Now, due to extensive and in some places flooding rains there are finally almost no fires burning across the country.

Over a billion animals are estimated to have perished, with some endangered species potentially wiped out as we see others, like the iconic koalas, being pushed to the brink. We have seen over 6,500 buildings destroyed and smoke haze in major cities to levels never before experienced, with Sydney blanketed for weeks on end with dangerous levels of air quality, equivalent to smoking 37 cigarettes a day. Even our Kiwi cousins were affected by our drifting smoke staining glaciers a dirty brown and turning the sky over Auckland a burnt orange while smoke drifted as far as Chile on the far side of the Pacific.

NASA analysis in January suggested over 306 million tonnes of carbon dioxide have been released into the atmosphere, close to 60 per cent of the total carbon dioxide emitted from Australia in 2018. This is a disaster with local impacts, national impacts and global impacts, and of course devastating human impacts for those families who have lost loved ones and property and suffered in other ways. Many, sadly, may never be the same again.

We can never be ready for every possibility but perhaps we can be better prepared and, in striving to reach that point, we can show we are capable of change and adaptation when circumstances demand it. We have lost lives in this fire and we can only hope and pray that the dreadful loss of life experienced in great fires of the past, like the Ash Wednesday fires that devastated South Australia and Victoria in 1983 and, more recently, Victoria's Black Saturday in 2009, will never be repeated.

For statistics like those to remain in the past, we must do more. We must improve emergency planning and response even further and I hope that in the review to come, there will be an honest appraisal and adoption of recommendations, and a clear analysis of what has changed since the recent Pinery and Sampson Flat fires and their reviews. We surely now know this nation cannot continue to doubt the impact of climate change on our land. We must at last have a plan that helps us to reduce our emissions and adapt to the changing weather patterns that will result from this warming climate.

We must also listen to, learn and adapt the wisdom and lessons of traditional Aboriginal practices. We ignore them at our peril. We owe it to those who have lost their lives and to those who have survived to give them all the support they need. There is so much to be done as the miracle of land, flora and fauna rejuvenation begins to take place. Those signs are now evident after recent, much welcome rain.

For now, at the very least, let's buy local as much as we can. For instance, can we use South Australian recycled products to meet the demand in fence posts? Could we source local mints for sale in this place as souvenirs? If we can, let's all travel to the untouched or now safe parts of the state and spend time and dollars there and get behind the #BookThemOut campaign, even if it is not time for us to have a break. I commend the motion to the house.

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (17:27): Late 2019 and the start of this year has been and continues to be a challenging time for many South Australians who are now working hard in recovery mode after the bushfires. The impacts have been felt by individuals, families, communities, livestock, the landscape, and our native flora and fauna across our state. I would like to add my condolences and sympathies to the families and loved ones of those who have lost their lives as a result of these bushfires. My thoughts are with you all at this difficult time. These personal losses that have resulted from these fires are both heartbreaking and substantial. My thoughts are with all of those who have experienced these fires and sustained personal and business losses and personal injury.

The Kangaroo Island and Cudlee Creek fires have been devastating for those communities and have directly impacted and touched so many South Australians. It is my sincere hope that those impacted can draw comfort and support from the efforts to assist made by their communities to help them emerge from what may seem like their darkest hour. I would like to acknowledge that the summer period has not spared other parts of our state from the impacts of fire.

From Yorke Peninsula to the West Coast and the Mid North, from Angle Vale to Angaston and from the Mid North to the Limestone Coast, there have been far too many people impacted. The common theme of all these fires across the state is the way communities have continued to react with kindness by taking action to help others, by going beyond the call of duty and by being generous with their time and their money. In this period, we have seen both the worst nature can throw at us and the best of human nature.

We can all do our bit to help these communities by visiting and spending time in any of the fire-affected communities and their fantastic landscapes. It will help boost their local economies and help their recovery. This summer, my electorate of MacKillop was not spared the impact of fire. There were numerous fires across the electorate that started in both December 2019 and January this year. Coonalpyn, Bunbury, Nangwarry, Keilira, Keith and Robe, just to name a few, are areas that required substantial efforts to bring fires under control.

These fires were responded to by farm firefighting units and CFS volunteers. They were underpinned by support from Country Fire Service, the Department for Environment fire crews and staff from across the region, many of whom had already been deployed since December to firefighting efforts in New South Wales and the Cudlee Creek and Kangaroo Island fires. The largest of these fires in MacKillop, which ultimately burnt more than 25,000 hectares, was at Keilira.

The Keilira fire started as a result of a lightning strike on 30 December. This was a fire fanned on that day by high winds and a wind change that turned a small fire front into a massive front that engulfed large areas of country. The difficult firefighting conditions grew the fire from an area of around 150 hectares to 15,000 hectares in a matter of hours. The responders to the Keilira fire included CFS volunteers and staff, farm fire units, DEW staff, the critically important aerial firefighting team, machinery operators who worked on the firebreaks and other emergency and logistical support services, as well as community groups and individuals.

These people all worked together to contain the fire, and they worked in a range of roles to provide coordination and support on that day and the days that followed. I have nothing but admiration for the courage of our firefighters, who I know went beyond the call of duty to work in the face of the fire head to protect assets. Neighbours helped neighbours. As a community, we are thankful that there was no loss of life on that day. The response was substantial, necessary and effective. I thank them all for their efforts.

The firefighting effort was appropriately acknowledged at the January community meeting held in Kingston for the Keilira fire, when it was noted by our regional CFS commander, John Probert, that the combined efforts on that crucial first day of the fire resulted in many properties and, no doubt, lives being saved. This included the rescue of three people who were trapped by the fire on Pigeon Flat Road. Our whole community is grateful for these efforts. This fire ultimately impacted more than 20 properties over a 25,000-hectare area, causing damage and loss of valuable fodder, fences, livestock, native wildlife and vegetation, farming infrastructure, outbuildings, several uninhabited houses and, sadly, the Bin Bin homestead.

I thank the community and PIRSA, who assisted in addressing the terrible task of euthanising injured animals. This is an agonising and difficult task for anyone, and I thank everyone for their

efforts in supporting those impacted. This is the second largest fire in the last three years and the third in seven years to impact the community, and their attitude to rebuilding and getting back on their feet is a testament to their strength and resilience.

As I have said before in this place, one of the key issues highlighted by the Keilira fire is the need for better mobile coverage. Keilira has long been identified as a mobile blackspot area. I will continue to advocate to address this issue, to support both the business operations and the safety of this and other rural communities across my electorate. We are now in recovery mode from these fires, a time when people and businesses are seeking to get on with the task of fencing, rebuilding and business planning and to get on with their daily lives again.

The three levels of government and their agencies are stepping up to the challenge before us. Funding support, including rebates and concessions for impacted people, delivered by our state and federal governments has been appreciated and welcomed on the ground by impacted individuals. I would like to extend my thanks to the federal member for Barker, Tony Pasin, for his advocacy during this period and to our state Minister for Human Services, Michelle Lensink MLC, for her response to the call for support for fire impacted areas across the state.

In our fire, we lost only one house that was inhabited at the time. It was a family home. I had a phone call from the minister one or two days after the fire to make sure that everything was alright and that everything was rolling out. I was not sure where the family who had lost their home on Bin Bin Station was. I was given contact numbers by the minister so that the family who had lost their house could call the minister's department to make sure that they had everything covered. It was appreciated: they did appreciate and acknowledge that the minister was there to back them up in their hour of most need.

I know that they are rebuilding, I know that they have a house to rebuild and I know that right now they are living in a vacant house on a neighbouring farm where another family used to live. There is nothing worse than when individuals lose everything, all their worldly possessions, their business is on its knees and they do not have even a bed or a house or home to stay in. No doubt, this was seen, observed and felt by many other individuals and families.

Houses were lost in other fires, and I know that it is important to respond swiftly and quickly to resolve issues and get people back on their feet in some shape or fashion so that they can move forward immediately after the event and in the following weeks and months. I am grateful to the Kingston District Council for taking a leading role in the bushfire recovery coordination for the Keilira fire. I know that this effort comes on top of a busy work program for this relatively small regional council, so I thank them, their staff and Mayor Rasheed for the leadership they have shown at this time.

I would also like to acknowledge the support of the City of Charles Sturt, which helped the Kingston District Council with clearing the affected trees along the roads and in the reserves in the days that followed the fire. I know that this support was gratefully accepted and appreciated. The area had been completely burnt out by fire. The trees on the verges that hang over the road had all been burnt, and no-one really knew the state of those trees and whether they were a danger to passing traffic.

The expertise came from the City of Charles Sturt, and they went along with spray paint and more heavy gear, such as chainsaws, and dropped the trees down so that anyone passing through the area would not be affected by falling trees and the roads would stay clear. It was a time-consuming job; I know that they spent more than a week marking all those roads. Having that expertise on board was very much appreciated by the council.

A coordinated effort between a range of agencies is now being sustained to ensure that affected people are well supported. Industry organisations and local businesses are also providing support to ensure that advice on livestock health and containment and other advice are on hand to minimise damage to the fragile fire-affected landscape. There is of course also the generous ongoing support of the local and regional community, be it through fundraising, volunteering, time spent cooking for BlazeAid or donating fodder. It is all helping the recovery effort.

A great day was 11 February, when all our agencies held a successful drop-in session at Keilira for the affected landowners. This session provided an opportunity for landowners to come along and ask questions and ensure they were across the funding and concessions on offer. It was well attended and offered information and support to affected landowners.

One of the outcomes was that the Drainage Board was there as part of the recovery because there are a lot of drains through that area and the Drainage Board owns the fences. The fences can be either internal fences or boundary fences, and they are also part of the solution of re-fencing Keilira. With the drains that go through these areas, the fences need to be rebuilt. It is good to see all these agencies coming on board and making sure that landowners know what is available to them, which fences need to be erected, who is paying for what, who is clearing away the old fences and who is to do the work. The more information that comes forward, the faster people move ahead on this.

People from DEW were also there to talk about how much native vegetation can be cleared away from fence lines and what seems to be fair and what is not. All I can say is that the more information that was fed to the landowners of Keilira, the more comfortable they felt about moving ahead and doing the right thing.

Most drains down our way are fenced on both sides of the drain, and one of the ideas that came forward for these drains was to have only one fence on one side of the drain. This is only for when there is an internal drain, not a drain on a boundary fence. The fence on the other side can be left out completely so that the stock can access the side of the drain. This also manages the vegetation around the drain so that it is actually grazed.

A lot of these drainage areas are fenced off and they cannot be grazed as well, so they actually add to the fuel load. One idea is to only have one fence where stock can graze and maybe even to cross to the other side to graze both sides with a ford type of thing or a couple of culverts. Another idea was to build a slope on the drains so that if stock do get into the drain and the water, they can get out, because these drains are very steep but only two metres deep.

Other support delivered included a successful soils management workshop held in early February, which was run to provide advice and support to help landowners with their recovery efforts. There are also important connections that regional communities have. The weekly summer catch-up at the Keilira Tennis Club has become an important time for many affected landowners to get together over a beer or a chop and debrief, socialise and support each other. BlazeAid is doing great work across the state, and their work at Keilira is no exception. I had the pleasure of spending a day with BlazeAid volunteers earlier this month on working to replace a boundary fence on one of the impacted properties.

I would also like to take time to highlight a significant fundraising effort initiated through the Naracoorte community. A local business, MiniJumbuk, in coordination with the Lions and local schools, is again running its Dollars 4 Doonas campaign. For every \$50 raised, a family who has lost their home in the South Australian bushfires will receive a quality wool bedding package. Our local migrant community has helped kickstart this fundraising effort with a huge \$15,000 donation to this program. It is wonderful to see our community come together to help those in need.

What is really interesting about Dollars 4 Doonas is that the community has to come up with \$50 to help MiniJumbuk give a family a \$500 bedding package. There are two points about that: (1) some people have never experienced the quality of what MiniJumbuk have to offer, which is high-quality bedding; and (2) this comes along two, three or four months down the track when everyone thinks they have been forgotten and suddenly they get this beautiful bedding package. They can receive more than one per household. The family gets these packages. It really does go a long way. Everyone sees the early initiatives of all the fundraising and support, but weeks and months down the track, when you still have not got a house to live in and you might be living in some other accommodation, when these sorts of packages come along later it really is heartfelt and appreciated.

When it rolled out through Victoria, MiniJumbuk had people come back to Naracoorte for months and years to say, 'Thank you very much for that donation,' which they received when they were burnt out. They then sometimes bought some things and paid their dues to say, 'Thank you very much for supporting us in our hour of need all those months after.'

I belong to a business that has been burnt out three times, one of those times being in the Woolumbool-Keilira area. I make the really strong point that they lost significant stock. Right across the state, PIRSA has gone along to do that tedious, arduous and quite horrific job of euthanasing livestock that have been burnt. However, it was known through our employee base and those who suffered this that it actually takes months to recover from the loss of your livestock. I am talking about significant numbers of stock, and it is probably due time. Our manager said that he still felt the loss of his stock that he lost 12 months ago, and he had lost two or three thousand sheep. They were some of his best breeding stock. They were stud sheep. I know it takes considerable time.

I say out loud in this parliament and out there in the local community that, just because we might be one or two months down the track, it does not mean that we are not still needed to support, encourage and make sure that we are moving on. I also want to note that the Keilira fire is considered the forgotten fire because it has not been in the media and maybe has not had the attention of the other fires, like Kangaroo Island and the Adelaide Hills.

There are a couple of reasons I think this has happened. One is that we did not lose the number of family homes that both those fires did. It also did not affect the number of individuals. I think we only had about 20 to 25 individual families and businesses affected at Keilira, but we know there were hundreds of family homes that were lost and businesses that were affected by the Kangaroo Island and the Adelaide Hills fires.

That is appreciated, but this is what I say to everyone out there: it is wonderful to have the community support, it is wonderful to see the donations, it is wonderful to see tourists getting out there to see what Kangaroo Island and the Adelaide Hills have to offer, but there is nothing better than them getting back on their feet, back into business and back living like they were before the fires. The faster they can do that, the faster we all recover as a state, as a community and as individuals and families as we move forward.

One of the things that I keep telling my Keilira people is that, although they feel that they may be missing out, I am going to make sure that they are first on their feet, first back into action, and that I get their fences up and the infrastructure back on. The winter rains will come, we will be growing grass again and these businesses will return to what they do best, and that is agricultural businesses around Keilira.

I know the recovery efforts in Keilira and in the other areas of the state will take the community some time. It is my sincere wish that these people take advantage of the assistance on offer and look after themselves and their neighbours as they get back on their feet. I commend the motion.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (17:45): I would just like to make a small contribution to this debate in support of the motion. I will not be speaking for long, as I do not want to repeat what other honourable members have already said. It has been covered quite extensively in some other speeches. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the contribution made by the member for Mawson in this parliament in terms of his firsthand knowledge of the fires on Kangaroo Island and also what other members have said in terms of fires in their own local electorates.

One thing I would say in supporting this motion is that in paragraph (a) my personal preference would be to replace the word 'regret' with 'sadness'. I think the word 'regret' does not actually express the right emotion we are trying to convey in this matter. That is a minor issue, but I would prefer to use the word 'sadness' than the word 'regret'.

While this motion deals with South Australia, I would also like to acknowledge the loss experienced by people in other states in other fires. Without trying to prioritise one or give one fire more importance than another, it would be fair to say that some of the fires experienced in New South Wales have had a greater impact than in our state. Irrespective of whether the fire is large or small—and I think this is the point the member for MacKillop was trying to make—for every person who is affected by the fire, it has an impact on them and it is very deeply felt.

In some ways, when we stand here and offer our condolences and sympathy to those people who have lost property, possession and also life, sometimes words are inadequate to fully convey the crisis in this matter. It is not only the loss of life and loss of property but, for many who have

survived it, it is the loss of memories. When you lose all your personal possessions, it is not just those material things but all those memories. When you reflect upon it, we are but our memories in most cases. Our memories make us who we are today. Some people have lost photographs and other things that actually bring back those memories, so it will be very hard for those people to recover from these fires. Sometimes some people just do not recover.

I also add my praise for the firefighters and other emergency service workers not only across the state but from interstate. There are people from interstate who came and fought fires here. Equally, there were firefighters and other volunteers and emergency service workers who went interstate. I am aware, for example, that a number of firefighters and emergency service workers in my electorate travelled to both Kangaroo Island and New South Wales. Some are doing a couple of tours of those fronts to help out there.

I would also like to acknowledge the contribution made by the Local Government Association in coordinating the Local Government Functional Support Group. This group of individuals within the Local Government Association helped to coordinate the local government response across the state, across the fires, not only helping to organise equipment such as graders, bulldozers and other equipment but also helping to organise relevant staff to assist on the ground as required. I know the Local Government Association and local government across the state made a very big effort and contributed to fighting these fires and supporting their local communities.

One of the things I heard on the ground when I visited not only Kangaroo Island but other areas of the state is that one of the biggest issues apart from physical injury is the mental health and wellbeing of people. Certainly, I heard a number of times that the mental health and wellbeing of people will be an issue that those communities and individuals will have to tackle for some time. It is important that we as a community, and particularly the government, ensure that there are resources on the ground to support those communities in their recovery.

I would also like to acknowledge the generosity of the community at large not only in terms of their donations to various funds and in terms of goods but also their generosity in supporting these communities. In some way, the #BookThemOut campaign is a sign of support for those communities affected by the fires in the sense that people are putting their dollars where they are needed in those communities to help rebuild those economies.

While we may think people's personal circumstances in terms of their physical wellbeing and mental wellbeing are most important, if you have lost a business and there is no income, it would have a major effect on your mental wellbeing and that of your family, not only directly but indirectly. There is obviously a huge impact on people who lost their farms or lost their vineyards, but all those businesses in those localities who rely on those businesses and people in a secondary way are also affected by these fires. With those few comments, I support the motion and recommend it to other members.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. S.K. Knoll.

Bills

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC HEALTH (CONTROLLED NOTIFIABLE CONDITIONS) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

At 17:53 the house adjourned until Wednesday 4 March 2020 at 10:30.

*Answers to Questions***POLICE STAFFING**

1 Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (6 February 2020). Can the minister provide the entire current executive structure for SA Police, including names, positions and remuneration?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing):

Surname	Given Name	Position	Total Remuneration
Stevens	Grant	Commissioner of Police	\$479,862
Williams	Linda	Deputy Commissioner of Police	\$344,746
Bamford	Noel	Assistant Commissioner, Security & Emergency Management Service	\$271,677
Dickson	Paul	Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Operations Service	\$285,482
Duval	Scott	Assistant Commissioner, Operations Support Service	\$271,677
Fellows	Linda	Assistant Commissioner, Human Resources Service	\$285,482
Harvey	Peter	Assistant Commissioner, Crime Service	\$271,677
Newitt	Philip	Assistant Commissioner, Governance & Capability Service	\$271,677
Parrott	Ian	Assistant Commissioner, State Operations Service	\$271,677
Fahy	Bryan	Assistant Commissioner*	\$292,618
Cameron	Hamish	Director, Information Systems & Technology Service	\$271,320
Johinke	Stephen	Director, Business Service	\$296,044
Hartmann	Ian	Manager, Financial Management Services Branch	\$193,800
Kochergen	Karen	Manager, Physical Assets Service Branch	\$175,000

*currently on leave pending retirement

COUNTRY POLICING REVIEW

2 Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (6 February 2020). Can the minister provide an update on the progress of the promised country policing review?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I am advised:

The South Australia Police Regional Review (the review) is an internal review conducted by the Commissioner of Police. The review has resulted in the development of a proposed regional policing model. An internal consultation paper regarding the proposed regional policing model was released to the workforce on 10 February 2020. A period of formal consultation will now take place. The consultation period will continue until 30 March 2020.

COUNTRY POLICING REVIEW

3 Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (6 February 2020). When will the country policing review be complete?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I am advised:

I refer the member to the tabled response to House of Assembly question on notice No.2.

COUNTRY POLICING REVIEW

4 Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (6 February 2020). If the country policing review is complete:

- (a) When will a report be made public?
- (b) What were its recommendations?
- (c) Which of those recommendations will the government adopt?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I am advised:

(a) The South Australia Police (SAPOL) Regional Review (the review) is an internal review conducted by the Commissioner of Police. It is a matter for the commissioner to decide on the release of the outcome of the review.

(b) The review resulted in the development of a proposed regional policing model.

(c) The review was not undertaken at the request of the government and it is therefore not a matter for the government to adopt the recommendations. The commissioner is responsible for control and management of SAPOL.

TAFE SA

In reply to **Ms BEDFORD (Florey)** (6 February 2020).

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education):

1. TAFE SA's provision of the Certificate III in Individual Support was audited by the Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) in its 2018 compliance monitoring audit. This audit included a review of compliance with all aspects of classroom and practical training.

ASQA's audit resulted in a compliant outcome and, as the member for Florey has rightly identified, ASQA issued TAFE SA with the maximum accreditation possible, being for seven years.

2. As a registered training organisation, TAFE SA complies within the ASQA 'standards for RTOs 2015' to ensure that students receive training assessment and support services to meet their individual needs. Students enrol in courses for a range of personal and professional reasons, which may include completing an entire qualification or it may include completing on certain units of competency from a qualification. Either outcome is supported by TAFE SA.

TAFE SA monitors the currency of all its trainers and assessors through its Centre for Educator Practice, which has strategies in place for enabling and tracking both vocational (industry) and educational currency.