

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 11 November 2020

The **SPEAKER** (Hon. J.B. Teague) took the chair at 14:00 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.

Bills

STATUTES AMENDMENT (FUND SELECTION AND OTHER SUPERANNUATION MATTERS) BILL

Message from Governor

His Excellency the Governor, by message, recommended to the house the appropriation of such amounts of money as may be required for the purposes mentioned in the bill.

Parliamentary Procedure

ANSWERS TABLED

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

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Premier (Hon. S.S. Marshall)—

Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board—Annual Report 2019-20
Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board—Actuarial Report for the Construction Industry Long Service Leave Fund—2019-20
Electricity Industry Superannuation Scheme—Financial Statements—2019-20
Electricity Industry Superannuation Scheme (ElectricSuper)—Annual Report 2019-20
Employment Tribunal, South Australian—Annual Report 2019-20
Funds SA—Annual Report 2019-20
Lotteries Commission of South Australia—Annual Report 2019-20
Parliamentary Superannuation Board, South Australian—Annual Report 2019-20
Police Superannuation Board—Annual Report 2019-20
ReturnToWorkSA—Annual Report 2019-20
Southern Select Super Corporation—Annual Report 2019-20
Superannuation Board, South Australian—Annual Report 2019-20
Regulations made under the following Acts—
Return to Work—Exclusions

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

Director of Public Prosecutions, Office of the—Annual Report 2019-20
Electoral Commission of South Australia—Annual Report 2019-20
Equal Opportunity Commission, South Australian—Annual Report 2019-20
Public Advocate, Office of the—Annual Report 2019-20
Regulations made under the following Acts—
Real Property—Fee Notice—(No. 2)
Sentencing—Discounts
Summary Offences—Custody Notification Service (No. 2)

By the Minister for Planning and Local Government (Hon. V.A. Chapman)—

Architectural Practice Board of South Australia—Annual Report 2019-20
Outback Communities Authority—Annual Report 2019-20

West Beach Trust—Annual Report 2019-20
Local Council By-Laws—
City of Marion—No. 9—Commencement

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

Carclew Inc.—
Annual Report 2018-19
Annual Report 2019-20
Education Standards Board (Education and Early Childhood Services Registration and Standards Board of South Australia)—Annual Report 2019-20
History Trust of South Australia—Annual Report 2019-20
TAFE SA—Annual Report 2019-20
Windmill Theatre Co. (Australian Children's Performing Arts Company)—Annual Report 2019-20
Regulations made under the following Acts—
Controlled Substances—Poisons—Real Time Prescription Monitoring

By the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport (Hon. C.L. Wingard)—

Regulations made under the following Acts—
Railways (Operations and Access)—Operations and Access
Rules made under the following Acts—
Road Traffic—Light Vehicle Standards—Motor Bikes and Other Matters

By the Minister for Environment and Water (Hon. D.J. Speirs)—

Regulations made under the following Acts—
National Parks and Wildlife—Co-Management Boards—Dhilba Guuranda—Innes National Park

By the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services (Hon. V.A. Tarzia)—

Witness Protection Act 1996—SA Police Report pursuant to Section 28, 2019-20

Ministerial Statement

SACE PSYCHOLOGY EXAM CANCELLATION

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:06): I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Earlier today the SACE Board chief executive, Professor Martin Westwell, advised me that due to unforeseen technical issues arising while the SACE Psychology electronic exam was already underway it had to be cancelled. The nature of the technical issues is under investigation, and Professor Westwell will be providing a further update to the community later this afternoon. The experience for students undertaking the examine was unacceptable.

Students will not be required to resit the Psychology exam. Instead, the SACE Board will put into action their contingency plan for an event such as this, which provides for the student to receive a derived result for the 30 per cent of the grade that would otherwise have come from the examination result.

Today's Stage 2 Psychology exam was to have been the 10th electronic exam to take place in South Australia. Last year, the SACE Board successfully conducted Stage 2 English Literary Studies, Modern History and Psychology exams without any problems. So far this year, electronic exams have been successfully undertaken in Biology, English Literary Studies, Geography, Legal

Studies, Modern History and Indonesian (Continuers). Across both years more than 10,000 students have had a successful experience with one or more electronic exams.

Nevertheless, the 2,720 SACE students who worked so hard in preparation for this Psychology exam today, only to first experience these unacceptable technical difficulties and then have their exam cancelled, will be rightfully upset. I am disappointed in the technical failure, as are we all, and I have conveyed that disappointment to the SACE Board, who I know feel keenly for these students.

There are two remaining electronic exams scheduled for this year: Stage 2 Nutrition, on Thursday afternoon; and Stage 2 Tourism, on Friday afternoon. The SACE Board will make a determination later today as to whether to proceed, and they will communicate that decision with students and schools as soon as possible once it has been confirmed.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:10): I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: At the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918, the guns fell silent on the Western Front. This moment in time marked when hostilities ceased on the Western Front, and today has become synonymous with solemn commemoration and reflection for generations across the last century.

In the weeks before Remembrance Day in 2018, I had the privilege of visiting the Western Front in France. I went to the Heath Cemetery, a short drive from Villers-Bretonneux. There I was honoured to be able to place a cross at the gravesites of three South Australian soldiers. To stand on the Western Front and to honour our soldiers at the place where they served and many had fallen—men unknown to us today but to whom we remain enormously indebted 100 years later—was remarkably humbling.

Today and every day, we acknowledge and remember the brave South Australians who paid the ultimate sacrifice and those who returned home bearing both the physical and psychological scars of war. Today, we also remember the many families who mourned deeply and also the families who supported their loved ones in the months and years after coming home.

At 11 o'clock today, many across the state stopped to acknowledge the service and sacrifice of those who served in World War I. South Australians gathered at small services at schools, memorials and individually, in our regions and across Adelaide, to show how the events that transpired over a century ago are still very much part of our social fabric.

Today is also about recognising all those who have served in subsequent conflicts and peacekeeping operations. I take this opportunity to acknowledge all those who are currently serving and their families who continue to make sacrifices every day to ensure the security of our nation. Today, we bring your service to the forefront of our collective minds and we say thank you.

The year 2020 is also the 75th anniversary of Victory in the Pacific and Australia's involvement in World War II. On 15 August 1945, while there was an understandable outpouring of jubilation and relief that the war was over, there was also a palpable sense of loss and grief across communities for those who would not be returning.

This pain can still be felt 75 years later and, on days like today, should be acknowledged. So whether you served in the First World War or in a conflict since, we the people of South Australia say: thank you for your service; we are forever in your debt and you are forever in our minds. Let us never forget.

Question Time

STATE BUDGET

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:13): My question is to the Premier. How does the government explain running a \$2.6 billion deficit this financial year while the budget forecasts zero percentage jobs growth?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:13): We were very proud on this side of the house yesterday to hand down yesterday's budget, which delivered for this state the single biggest shot of economic adrenalin that this state has ever seen—a \$4 billion stimulus, all designed to create jobs. This was a jobs budget, and that's exactly and precisely what will be delivered.

Those opposite can quibble about the methodology which has been determined over a long period of time, where we put forward what the jobs growth will be. It's a very different methodology from that used in the commonwealth. In fact, if we were using theirs, it would show a 4.75 per cent increase. I bet they would still complain about that because they hate what we're doing in South Australia, which is putting the people of South Australia first, creating jobs, backing business, building what matters.

The things that matter to the people of South Australia are jobs—absolutely focused on jobs and spending money, and we are very proud of spending that money. We are not ashamed of spending that money; in fact, we wear it as a badge of honour because there are plenty of other jurisdictions around this country—in fact, around the world—whose economies have stalled. Many of them have not only slowed but gone backwards, and we are not going to be doing that here in South Australia.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: We are putting the people of South Australia first, and we will be creating 19,000 jobs from the massive investment that we are making in infrastructure in South Australia of \$16.7 billion. I'm going to say it again: \$16.7 billion worth of infrastructure for the people of South Australia, which is going to improve our entire state. From the most remote outback setting right through to the centre of our CBD, we are spending this money to create jobs and to avoid the economic apocalypse which is facing much of the rest of the world.

The SPEAKER: Before I call the leader, I call to order the member for Playford and I call to order the member for West Torrens.

STATE BUDGET

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:15): My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier acknowledge that his own budget papers forecast zero per cent employment growth in the current financial year?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:15): I did point this out in my last answer, but I am very happy to stand up and talk about our budget—our jobs budget—any day of the week, all day, every day because it's good news for the people of our state.

The Leader of the Opposition asked the question how the methodology was determined in terms of the jobs growth. We take a 12-month period here in South Australia and we look at the next 12 months. That's the methodology that has been used by Treasury for an extended period of time. It's a prudent methodology, quite different from what was put in place by federal Treasury, which takes, if you like, a point in time at the beginning of the year and projects forward.

What I can tell those doubting Thomases opposite is it's already working because we have been investing not just since yesterday, but right back from the very first stimulus package that we put in place—the first stimulus package in the country; and we were proud to put that money on the table, and we have been spending money and they hate it. They hate it, but we have created tens of thousands—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —of jobs in South Australia, tens of thousands of jobs since we were in the—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The leader is called to order.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —clutches of the coronavirus, which meant that there were heavy restrictions in South Australia. Let me tell you, sir, that at that time the people of South Australia were very concerned about what lay ahead for them, what was going to happen with their jobs, their livelihoods, their homes, their families, and we made a decision right then that we were not going to be broken by the coronavirus. We were going to lean into the opportunity, we were going to spend money to support jobs in South Australia and that is what has happened ever since.

Yesterday was a further massive shot in the arm for our state which takes to a total in excess of \$5 billion worth of economic stimulus that we have introduced, all designed to preserve jobs in South Australia and to create new ones. And guess what? It's already happening.

EMPLOYMENT FIGURES

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:17): My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier estimate that in June 2021 there will be the same number of people employed in South Australia as there were in June this year?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:18): I refer the leader to my previous answer.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for West Torrens is warned.

STATE BUDGET

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:18): My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier stand by his comments delivered after last year's budget, that Treasury's default employment growth figure is 1 per cent?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:18): I don't have access to that information. Can you quote it again, thanks?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Sure. Does the Premier stand by his comments last year, after the delivery of last year's budget, that Treasury's default employment growth figure is 1 per cent per annum?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: I don't have the information with regard to the context of that quote, but what I can say is that the budget—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —which was handed down yesterday, seems to be upsetting them so much. I don't know why they are so upset about it because it has been very well regarded by the people of South Australia, who want a government that is going to lean in and support them during difficult times.

Sir, I know that you support a bit of compare and contrast, so I think it's only fair for us to look at the last time we had a major economic problem that confronted this state, this country and the world: the global financial crisis. Those opposite were in government. What did they do? Did they put in massive economic stimulus? Absolutely not. They sacked public servants, they cut budgets and they postponed or cancelled capital projects. This is like pulling the handbrake on an economy just when your economy and your people need you the most. So, by contrast, we wear this as a badge of honour, spending money—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens is warned for a second time.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —at a time when we know the interest rates are at historic lows, absolutely historic lows. This is exactly and precisely the right time to borrow money to invest in jobs, and that's what our jobs budget yesterday was all about.

STATE DEBT

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:20): My question again is to the Premier. Can the Premier advise the house how many jobs were created as a result of the state government increasing government debt by more than \$10 billion in their first two budgets prior to COVID-19?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:20): We know that we had a record employment number back earlier this year and, of course, that was prior to COVID. We were well on the way to improving—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —the situation that we had inherited from those opposite. We were well on the way to achieving what we needed to, with record employment in South Australia, but, like the rest of the country and like the rest of the world—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader will cease interjecting.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —we had a major setback with the coronavirus, and some jurisdictions covered from that; some did not invest. We did invest and, very proudly, we were the first jurisdiction in the country to put money on the table, firstly, to support those people who were doing it extraordinarily hard and, secondly, to make sure that we could preserve as many jobs as possible. So that's precisely what we did.

One of the first things that we did was to provide cash grants to those small businesses in South Australia that were significantly affected by the coronavirus; in fact, we handed out \$186 million worth of immediate cash support to those businesses. And I have been stopped in the street—stopped in the street—by small business owners who said to me that this was absolutely critical for their survival.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: That money came in record time and it helped them pay their rent, pay their staff, pay for supplies. It gave them hope. It gave them hope that they had a government that cared about their circumstances, which were dire. Thankfully, as a state we have done extraordinarily well from a health perspective, and that has meant that we have been able to lift the restrictions, and so many of our businesses, because they got over that bridge of April, May and June, have been able to rebound.

Not every business is in this situation, and so there still is stimulus and support, which is required, which will be required for some businesses for an extended period of time, but we've got to be doing everything we can to support the overall economic rebound from the coronavirus, and that's what yesterday's budget was all about.

The SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Lee, I call to order the member for Lee and I warn the member for Playford.

STATE DEBT

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:22): My question is again to the Premier. How many projects have been delivered as a result of the state government increasing debt by more than \$10 billion in their first two budgets prior to COVID-19?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:22): We are very proud of our first two budgets and we are extraordinary proud of our third budget, as we will be of our fourth, fifth and seventh because the people of South Australia want a government which is actually investing in jobs creation in South Australia—absolutely investing.

Let me tell you, now is about the best time to invest in creating jobs in the history of South Australia. We know that our interest rates are at record lows. We have advice now received from Dr Philip Lowe, the Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, and also Dr Steven Kennedy, who is

the Secretary to the Treasury here in Australia. They have made it very clear that we have an obligation—an obligation—to be preserving jobs here in Australia during this particularly difficult period of time. The Reserve Bank have done their work at reducing interest rates to historically low levels and also signalled—

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order.

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier will resume his seat. The member for West Torrens on a point of order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 98, sir: the minister must answer the substance of the question. The question was about how many projects had been delivered as a result of the state government increasing debt by \$10 billion in their first two budgets, and the Premier is speaking about the RBA.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: And the corona.

The SPEAKER: Order! There's no point of order. I've been listening carefully to the Premier's answer in addressing the question in the context of the first two budgets. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: We are very proud of our first two budgets. These were budgets which I think set what we needed to do for South Australia. We fixed up a lot of the mess that we inherited from those opposite. Where they were downgrading services at Modbury Hospital, we have leant in and invested at Modbury Hospital. Where they were closing hospitals, like the Repat hospital, we have been investing in that precinct, creating a fantastic precinct—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader is warned.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —a genuine health precinct in the southern suburbs. We have finally got on and delivered the money for the Gawler line electrification, something they promised, took off the table, promised, took off the table and we put it back on the table. And guess what? We are actually delivering it. As I was saying, now is a very good time to be doing that.

When we look at the interest cost, and this is very important, from our increased borrowing, this year it's \$134 million lower; next year, \$200 million lower. Yes, we are increasing our debt and I know those opposite don't like this. I would like to know what their solution would be to preserve as many jobs as they possibly could in South Australia. We are increasing our debt in South Australia, but it is coming at a much, much reduced cost for the people of this state. It's affordable at the moment but, most importantly, it preserves jobs in a very difficult climate. That's what our budget was all about, creating as many jobs as we possibly could—a great jobs budget.

STATE BUDGET

Ms LUETHEN (King) (14:25): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier please provide a further update to the house on how the Marshall Liberal government's 2020-21 budget will create jobs, back business and build what matters?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:26): It's a bit of a theme for today. I appreciate this opportunity and I thank the member for King for her excellent question. COVID has challenged us, but it has not broken us. Yesterday, we nailed our colours to the mast, delivering the single biggest economic adrenaline shot in the history of South Australia. We did this exactly and precisely to preserve and to grow as many jobs as we possibly could: creating jobs, backing business and building the infrastructure that we need to.

Yesterday, we announced that, over the forward estimates, \$16.7 billion worth of infrastructure would be built in South Australia. The people of South Australia will see a lot of hard hats, a lot of high-vis and a lot of overalls right across South Australia. Tradies will be busy and the people of South Australia will get the infrastructure that they need.

I want to make it very clear that I am very pleased with some of the excellent infrastructure investments that are going to be made. Take for example the work that's going on in the Minister for Education's department: \$30,000 going to every single preschool in South Australia. Between \$20,000 and \$80,000 for immediate maintenance projects is going out to every single school in South

Australia and that's on top of the massive build that he currently has underway: \$1.3 billion going into schools in South Australia, all to be delivered before the end of the 2021-22 year. That's the focus, and that is getting boots on the ground, getting the hard hats, the high-vis and the overalls active—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —and underway over the next two years to preserve as many jobs as we possibly can. Sir, in addition to the \$10,000 that we put out in round 1 to help small business in South Australia, you would note that last week we announced a further round of \$10,000 cash grants to those businesses that are still doing it tough. We want to make sure that we help as many businesses as possible in this state, so that is another \$10,000 that will be going out there and, for the first time, a further grant of \$3,000 to sole traders and partnerships who do not employ staff in South Australia.

I heard from the Treasurer yesterday that only after announcing this a few days ago there have been hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of applications for this vital cash that will support businesses and support employment in South Australia. He has made a commitment to get that money out in the next three to four weeks so it will be there in the bank accounts before Christmas, supporting business and supporting employment in South Australia.

That's not where it ends because we are very proud in yesterday's budget to provide a further \$233 million relief for payroll tax in South Australia, often referred to as a tax on jobs. At a time when we need as many jobs as possible, we are relieving that massive pressure on businesses in South Australia with a \$233 million waiver—not deferral, but waiver—here in South Australia. So you will find small business in South Australia defined as a business with up to \$4 million worth of turnover. Eligible businesses will not pay a cent of payroll tax for a 15-month period—an incredible stimulus. We have also been able to deliver a removal of the payroll tax for trainees and apprentices for anybody who signs up from yesterday right through to 30 June—another major improvement.

There are so many elements of yesterday's budget, but they are all around a central theme, and that is economic injection into our economy to stave off that terrible economic catastrophe that is enveloping the world at the moment. We are creating jobs, we are backing business and we are building what matters.

STATE DEBT

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:30): My question is again to the Premier. How long will it take to pay off the \$33 billion of debt announced in yesterday's state budget? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain my question.

Leave granted.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Last year, the Treasurer stated that the debt, forecast at more than \$21 billion at that time, would not be paid off in his lifetime.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:30): Well, of course, much depends on how the world responds to the coronavirus, and nobody has a crystal ball. That's one of the reasons why, when Treasury provide their estimates, we do it over a four-year period—not over a six-month or 12-month period but over a four-year period—because we have some certainty with regard to what is likely to happen within that period.

It is impossible to predict exactly what is going to happen in eight, 10, or 12 years' time. Nobody was predicting that we were going to be hit this year not only with terrible and punishing droughts and bushfires but then with COVID-19. However, what we have in South Australia at the moment is a government which remains nimble, remains flexible but, most importantly, remains focused on the people of South Australia, preserving jobs and creating new ones.

STATE DEBT

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:31): My question is to the Premier. What does the Premier believe is a sustainable level of debt, as set out in the budget's fiscal targets?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:31): I thank the honourable member for that question; it is an important question. Further to my last answer, we are living in very changed times. You would never have heard the Reserve Bank Governor or the Treasury Secretary out there telling state governments to go for broke in terms of borrowing money, but that is exactly and precisely the advice we have received.

The Reserve Bank Governor, Dr Philip Lowe, has made it very clear that he expects stimulus at the subnational level, and that's precisely what we have provided. We have provided \$2 billion in our first two packages and we have provided a further \$2 billion worth of state support in yesterday's budget but, when you actually add up a lot of the projects that were agreed to and put into our budget yesterday, a lot of it comes with some federal government money. A lot of our projects are supported on a fifty-fifty basis, some on an eighty-twenty basis, so our \$4 billion ratchets up to \$5 billion when you consider that.

This is a massive economic stimulus. Of course, this would not be sustainable if we had interest rates of 6, 8, 10, 12 or 14 per cent—but we don't. We don't have those interest rates here in South Australia; in fact, what we have now are interest rates at historic lows, even if we take those loans out over a 20-year period. One of the reasons why we in Australia, and particularly here in South Australia, are getting that capital in at a very low rate is because we have been able to demonstrate that we are a safe place to invest. Australia is seen as a stable government that is a safe place for international money to come.

Similarly, here in South Australia, since coming to government we have been able to recover some of the ground lost under the previous government with regard to our ratings. We have been able to recover that ground, and that sends a message to those wanting to invest here. So we haven't had problems in Australia like many other countries around the world. There has been some quantitative easing, there has been some Reserve Bank intervention in terms of quantitative easing, but mainly the capital markets in Australia over the last four, five and six months have recovered. That is good news, as we need to borrow money.

The Treasurer made it clear in his statement yesterday that he has borrowed \$6.6 billion recently, but the average cost of that capital, the interest cover on that, has been well, well below—as I have already answered in the parliament today—significantly lower than anybody would have been predicting.

It is a fair enough question to ask what is going to happen in the future, but the more important question is: do we have a government that can respond to the changed situation and put the citizens first? As I pointed out in my previous answer, when the previous government were also faced with economic peril that enveloped the globe they pulled the handbrake on, they sacked public servants, they cancelled projects, they deferred projects and they cut budgets. That is exactly the wrong type of attitude to take.

This was very clear. Dr Steven Kennedy and Dr Philip Lowe made it clear that the automatic stabilisers in the budget should be ignored in this case. We shouldn't be leaning into that. We should be making sure that we can provide that fiscal support exactly and precisely when it is needed. Australia finds itself in a very unique position because we have been fiscally prudent over a long period of time under multiple flavours of government, Labor and Coalition, at the federal level. We have had low debt as a nation and that's provided us with an opportunity to support economies and jobs during these times, and that's exactly and precisely what we are doing.

STATE DEBT

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:35): Supplementary to the Premier: what level of debt becomes unsustainable for the budget?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:35): We have just brought down our budget, so I think we have made it very clear what we believe the optimal position for that debt cover is. We have been encouraged to increase our debt, particularly around projects that will provide that fiscal stimulus and support over a two-year period.

We have been encouraged by those in the federal sphere to make sure that the money that we spend is targeted but also that it's temporary. It doesn't create some ongoing expectations for future budgets but gets in and provides work. That's why a lot of our projects have been maintenance

projects, projects where we can get in and spend very quickly, as well as keep some work for not just the first six months of the coronavirus but the 18 months that come after that.

So we have nailed our colours to the mast. We have put down our financial document. It's called the budget. It was delivered here yesterday around about this time. I hope you were awake. It was a good budget. It outlined what we thought the sustainable debt level was. We have heard a lot of complaints about the debt level from those opposite, but what would they be cutting?

Members interjecting:

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: What projects would they be removing? What jobs would they be forsaking in South Australia? We are very clear: we are here for the people of South Australia.

The SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Lee, I call to order the Minister for Police, the Minister for Education and the Deputy Premier.

NORTH-SOUTH CORRIDOR

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:37): My question is to the Premier. How much more debt will need to be accrued beyond the \$33 billion outlined in yesterday's budget to fully fund the state's funding commitment to the \$8.9 billion upgrade to the north-south corridor?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:37): Well, this will be discovered in next year's budget. We do this in four-year cycles. We have said very clearly that this is a very important project for South Australia; in fact, this was a project that was first envisaged, would you believe, before I was born. This was the original MATS scheme, which unfortunately was sabotaged by successive Labor governments in South Australia. The acquisition of the land, which was paid for—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —by the people of South Australia, all that work, that pre-work, was done—flogged off. Tough times, so they just flog off an asset here in South Australia. We saw it time and time again with their previous administration, but we know that this is a crucial project for the people of South Australia.

It's the largest infrastructure project in the history of the state. It's an important project. Although it has been a long time in coming, we are very proud to be the ones who are going to be delivering it. The remaining 10.5 kilometres are, of course, the hardest. Who would have thought those opposite would leave the hard part to last? It beggars belief, but that's what they did. We are up to the challenge. We are very happy—

Ms Cook: A one-way expressway. Who would have thought they could stuff up the easy part?

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Hurtle Vale is called to order.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —for this challenge. We know that this is going to be an expensive project for the people of South Australia. We believe it will be \$8.9 billion. We have already announced \$5.4 billion, which will take us up to the completion of stage 1 of this final 10.5-kilometre stretch. There will be more money required, but it is an important project. What are those opposite suggesting? What are they suggesting—that we cancel it?

Members interjecting:

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: They say, 'Get on with it.' I must say—

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —I'm a little bit confused about what's going on over there. I wonder whether they're a little bit confused about what's going on over there. Let me tell you, sir, yesterday I understand they came out and said they support our plans for the north-south corridor, even though it's a complete 180-degree turn from where they were prior to the last election.

Mr Malinauskas: We were too busy delivering and building things.

The SPEAKER: The leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: You see, sir, they completely and utterly ruled out tunnels here in South Australia. In fact, two former ministers in this area, with two separate studies in 2012 and 2014, made it clear that tunnels weren't an option. They wanted this lowered motorway, which would have cut off east—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —and west. It was very clear, sir. We came to government and we went straight to the department, 'What plans have been done?' We were told that not a single cent—not a single cent—was in the forward estimates for the 10.5—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader will cease interjecting.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Believe it or not, the Northern Connector is not in that 10.5 final stretch. I don't know what you studied at school, whether you did geography, whether you know north, south, east and west, but let me tell you—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —sir, the Northern Connector has nothing to do with the last 10.5 kilometres.

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: It has nothing to do with it.

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat. The member for Lee on a point of order.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Point of order, Mr Speaker: not only does the Premier seem highly agitated but he keeps referring to you in his response to the question that I asked him, which of course is unparliamentary.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier will direct his remarks through the Chair. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The Leader of the Opposition was getting a little bit confused and I'm happy to help him because he thinks that the Northern Connector has something to do with that last 10.5 kilometres. Let me tell you—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, the leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —where that last 10.5 kilometres is. It's between Darlington and the Torrens and it is a complex area. It is a complex area to deal with.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Point of order, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat. The member for Lee on a point of order.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Standing order 98 again: the Premier was asked how much more debt will need to be accrued to fully fund the state's funding commitment to the \$8.9 billion north-south corridor upgrade. How much more debt?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left! I'm well aware of the question the Premier was asked. The Premier is in the course of answering the question. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: This is a very important question. It's talking about the debt that is going to be required to finish the largest single infrastructure project in the history of South Australia. It doesn't surprise me that those opposite don't want the details that I'm trying to provide here because when they were given the opportunity to work on some of the details when they were in government they did nothing. Not a single cent hit their forward estimates for the final 10.5—not a single cent—so I think they would be quite interested in the answer to this question. Not a single piece of documentation existed, so the cupboard was bare.

I want to congratulate the former minister and the current minister on the work they and their departments have done to advance this very, very important project that will significantly enhance our productivity as a state and remove—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Get on with it. It's extraordinary, sir, that they don't want to hear about this project.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier's time has expired.

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:42): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier advise the house how much debt will need to be accrued beyond the \$33 billion outlined in yesterday's state budget to fully fund the Women's and Children's Hospital project?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:42): It's another very important project and a very big contrast between what we are offering there and what those opposite promised. Let me refresh the memories of those people here. In 2013, we went out and said that we would be making sure that we had a co-located Women's and Children's Hospital with the new Royal Adelaide Hospital. Those opposite matched that, but then soon after the 2014 election they said, 'No, that's not exactly what we meant. We are going to split the Women's and Children's Hospital into two.'

That's not what the clinicians advised, so what we are doing, by contrast to the advice that they received that informed that decision after the 2014 election and also in contrast to the way that they went about setting up and delivering the new Royal Adelaide Hospital, is that we are listening to clinicians.

There is a lot of detailed work because it is very expensive to the taxpayers if you get this wrong. If we need to have a case study on that, just take a look at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. We have had to spend an extraordinary sum of money, which should be outlined in this chamber at some point, fixing the problems associated with the new Royal Adelaide Hospital. Now we've got the new Royal Adelaide Hospital, so that is there. What we don't want to do is repeat the problems and the significantly high cost problems that the previous government had with the new Royal Adelaide Hospital with the new Women's and Children's Hospital, so we are sitting down and we are doing that detailed work.

You would have seen, sir, in the budget that was delivered a further increase in the budget for the Women's and Children's Hospital. That won't be the total budget. We want to make sure that we get a world-class facility here in South Australia, so it won't be the total budget but we have made sure that over the forward estimates we have fully provided for what we believe will be the very best outcome for women and children in South Australia.

NORTH-SOUTH CORRIDOR TUNNEL

Mrs POWER (Elder) (14:44): My question is to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Can the minister update the house on the announcement by the Treasurer yesterday that the Marshall Liberal government will build what matters and deliver the last piece of the north-south corridor?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:45): I thank the member for Elder for her question about this single biggest job-creating infrastructure piece in South Australia, creating jobs in our state.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Those on that side might not want to hear about it, but on this side we do because we know jobs are important. This project will be generational changing. As the Premier pointed out, the hardest part has been left to last.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Generational changing.

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

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: We are doing the toughest piece: the 10.5-kilometre stretch that those opposite ignored for far too long, and we are excited. Up to 4,000 jobs will be created on this project. It will deliver more jobs than we have ever seen before in an infrastructure piece that South Australia has come to put their hands on.

It's important that we give the people an idea of the scale of this project. Again, it was outlined yesterday by the Treasurer: \$8.9 billion for this project. I am told it's almost three times the size of the new RAH—that's without the repairs we have had to do—and around five times the size of the desal plant. It's more than 10 times the size of the Northern Connector, and that was of course the biggest project that Labor delivered. It is 10 times the size of the Northern Connector, if you can believe it, and 35 times the size of Regency to Pym, the project that we are undertaking at the moment.

This is going to be a highly significant project for South Australia. I was out in the field today talking to some engineers and they were incredibly excited about the young people out there who they believe will actually get into engineering to be a part of this project; that's how exciting it is. I know, again, speaking to people on the ground, that the 10-year pipeline of works here means that they will have jobs and they will have work for many, many years to come. This will be a game changer for South Australia. The two-tunnel project is an absolute winner and people can't wait to see it delivered.

This 10.5-kilometre stretch from the River Torrens to Darlington will be transformed over the next decade and it will create jobs as we build what matters for South Australia. But this project isn't just about jobs: it's more important than that. This will finish off the 78-kilometre stretch from Gawler to Old Noarlunga—again, the toughest part being delivered by this government. We didn't step away from it like they did; we rolled up our sleeves and we attacked this problem and we attacked this project.

You will bypass 21 sets of traffic lights along this new stretch and save 24 minutes in travel time—that's right: 24 minutes of travel time. It will remove 110,000 cars from South Road every day. It will improve the east-west connectivity—the Premier spoke about that—and that is incredibly important for those communities down there in the member of Colton's electorate. Again that movement east-west, as well as giving that free flow of traffic north-south, is what is so incredibly important.

With our hybrid plus project, we have saved the Thebarton Theatre—I know that the community was very excited by that—and the Queen of Angels Church was saved; a number of significant historical monuments and buildings there. Of course, we know that on that side when they had a look at this back in 2012 and 2014, they were looking at putting a big chasm through the middle of South Road. They were going to divide those communities and put a big wedge of open motorway through that section. That would have decimated that community. But when we looked at that model we thought, 'No, we can do this better.' In fact, we have saved 480 properties through the tunnelling project, which I think is fantastic.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman: Did you get a letter from the member for West Torrens?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: The member for West Torrens hasn't thanked me yet, but I'm sure he will.

The SPEAKER: Order, the Deputy Premier!

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Corey, I am glad every day you are there—every day. Don't change anything.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: This project will be delivered in two stages. Stage 1—

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for West Torrens will cease interjecting.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: The member for West Torrens may not care about this project, but I know that South Australia does. Stage 1 of the south tunnel is six kilometres with four kilometres of tunnel. Stage 2, of course, will have two kilometres of tunnel. This is a once-in-a-generation opportunity for South Australia. I know the state is excited. We are building jobs and we are building what matters.

HORROCKS HIGHWAY

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (14:49): My question is to the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure. Can the minister advise when the final design for the proposed works on the Horrocks Highway will be available for the public so that they are aware of the project? With your leave, sir, and that of the house I will explain a bit further.

Leave granted.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: On 16 October last year, we were advised that work was actually underway in relation to the design of the work, and there were already existing maintenance plans in place for this road in terms of resealing. Would this involve all works, including maintenance and the reconstruction of the Horrocks Highway?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:49): I will take the finer detail of that on notice, but what I will say to the member is that we have been doing a lot of work around this, and the Premier talked earlier about our stimulus money that we invested in roads in South Australia way back when COVID-19 first happened.

We did put in that first tranche of stimulus money, and I commend the previous minister for delivering some \$145 million worth of projects, and about \$50-odd million—maybe a little bit more than that—went into the regions. I think it was \$54.9 million, but you're right: \$55 million, a significant injection into projects, and, again, a lot of those are focused around road safety.

You would have seen in the budget yesterday some \$268 million going into road maintenance across South Australia because, if you can believe it, when we came into government we were left with a \$750 million road maintenance backlog from those opposite. No-one is probably surprised, but a lot of that work that needs to be done is in the regions.

In fact, I was driving the Horrocks Highway and the Barrier Highway just on the weekend and to see the work that needs to be done is just mind-boggling, and we are out doing that work. We are profiling for that work and delivering that work. The money rolled out yesterday is stimulus money for projects that we are doing in partnership with the feds. We are putting in some \$42 million, I think, combined with the federal government money to deliver \$210 million worth of works into the regions, which is vitally important.

We are out there doing that planning, doing that design work now, and there are different sections along the roads we want to be delivering for that community. We are doing that in conjunction with the federal government, and that is some \$210 million. We've got \$58 million to improve roads in the city. I know Marion Road, Anzac Highway and Fullarton Road are all being improved with that resurfacing because these roads were left to go to rack and ruin. That work, that safety work, is across the regions—again, the Horrocks Highway is one, the Barrier Highway is another, the Stuart Highway is another and so is the Princes Highway.

There are shoulder sealing works being done. The audio tactile works—that is the audio tactile line marking we know is so important from a road safety perspective—as well as the barriers are all being attended to. So, the finer detail on the Horrocks Highway I am pretty happy to get back to the member on, to talk through which stages and which processes are being done as we speak.

HAHNDORF TRAFFIC IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:51): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier advise the house how much additional debt will need to be accrued beyond the \$33 billion outlined in yesterday's state budget to fund the remaining state government commitment for the Hahndorf traffic improvement project outside the forward estimates?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:52): This is a very important project, and there is definitely work to be done on this. We know that this is something that the federal government, the local state members and the local federal member all share as a very important priority project, but there is no detailed design work that has been completed, so we are moving as quickly as we possibly can. As soon as that work has been done it will be shared, obviously, with the community, but it will also inform the specific timing and quantum of that budget.

MAIN SOUTH ROAD DUPLICATION

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:52): My question is again to the Premier. Can the Premier advise the house how much additional debt will need to be accrued beyond the \$33 billion outlined in yesterday's state budget to fund the remainder of the state's commitment to the Main South Road duplication project stages 1 and 2?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:53): I thank the member for his question. Again, I refer to the excitement surrounding this project and what the Treasurer had to say yesterday. I know he was asked about this on a number of occasions. This is a project that, again, will extend beyond the forward estimates. We've got a significant amount of money in the budget, and the Treasurer has made it very, very clear that we are committed to this project and we will be delivering this project, and that will be worked through with the federal government.

We have had great success in the past bringing forward commitments from the federal government to actually deliver against projects. We have settled on the concept design, and that has the two tunnels in it as we have outlined, and we will be working with that profiling as it goes forward. To the Treasurer's point yesterday—and I was delighted to hear him say it—we are committed to delivering this project, and we will deliver this project.

SCHOOL FUNDING

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (14:53): My question is to the Minister for Education. Can the minister update the house on how South Australian students are benefiting from investment in education right across our state?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:54): It's a great pleasure to have this question from the member for Newland, who is a regular caller and correspondent in relation to supporting students, schools and preschools in his area. I am sure that he is as excited as many of them will be. From Banksia Park to Kersbrook, from Ardtornish to Modbury, all the public schools and preschools in his seat, and indeed around South Australia, will benefit from the budget handed down yesterday in terms of \$30,000 grants for every preschool in the government system in this state.

This builds on the work of the \$20,000 grants which they have been happily spending over the last four or five months since we announced that first round for urgent maintenance projects or ways to lift the preschool. For every school, there is a grant between \$20,000 and \$100,000, with the quantum of the grant dependent on a number of things: the size of the school and particularly whether the school has missed out on other recent infrastructure projects. We'll be providing that information to schools and indeed members of parliament soon.

I know the member for Newland has done this actually because I have been with him when he did it, but can I encourage every member of parliament to reach out to your preschools and learn about some of the amazing work that they've been doing with those modest grants of \$20,000—but, nevertheless, important and significant—that have enabled urgent construction work or maintenance work to be done, which they value tremendously and lifts the work that is done in those preschools and schools.

Beyond this week's budget—which, of course, also provided a further opportunity for non-government schools to also leverage the non-government schools grants and loans scheme, which

was established before the election and an extension of that has been welcomed—there are some dramatic improvements that have happened in education. The member asked not just about the investment—the input, if you like—but also about the benefits, the outcomes in education.

Of course, that is something that our government takes seriously, not just what we put in, although I identify we have dramatically increased recurrent funding in education and we have dramatically increased capital funding in education—both are at well and truly record levels and well and truly above the settings and the quantum announced by our predecessors before they left—but also how that money is spent is perhaps as important if not more important, and the outcomes to be achieved.

The investments that we have made are in the places where it matters in education, in things that will lift educational performance to help us fulfil our objective to support every student in every classroom in every school in every town and suburb in this state to fulfil their potential, to lead successful lives where they can find the thing that they are passionate about and love doing in their life and do that and go after it and succeed in it and live their best lives.

That means investing in literacy and numeracy programs in the early years. I gave credit at the press conference last week and I have given credit in this house before to the former minister, the member for Port Adelaide, for instigating a trial of the year 1 phonics check, the first state government to do so in 2017. That was a worthy trial. The opposition (us at the time) were supportive of that and we were supportive of a rollout. I was pleased that before the election, the Xenophon party committed to a further trial but the Labor Party also agreed to roll it out to all schools. That has happened, and that has seen early years literacy achievement grow dramatically in the two years since we introduced it in 2018.

But that means that the language program, the Aboriginal education program, the music education program, the entrepreneurial education program, the VET reforms for vocational education—all of those other things—are having dramatic impacts; students are benefiting, schools are benefiting, and that means that the people of South Australia will benefit for many years to come.

NAIDOC WEEK

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (14:58): My question is to the Premier in his responsibilities in Aboriginal affairs and reconciliation. Can you provide the house with information about the 2020 NAIDOC SA Award winners, particularly Lifetime Achievement winner, Professor Peter Buckskin?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:58): I thank the member for Florey for her question on NAIDOC Week this year. As I have previously informed the house, NAIDOC stands for the National Aboriginal and Islander Day Observance Committee, and it can trace its origins back to the 1920s. For many years now, NAIDOC Week has actually occurred in July but for very obvious reasons associated with the restrictions around the coronavirus this year, it was transferred through to November. This year it is being held this week starting on 8 November and finishing on 15 November and it is really a wonderful week of celebration of the history, culture, language and achievements of Aboriginal Australians.

The member is quite right. On Monday this week, the Adelaide City Council hosted and held the annual NAIDOC SA Awards. This is an important recognition for a large number of people from the Aboriginal community in different categories. Categories can vary from gender—males and females—and elders, right through to sports men and women and people who provide great leadership at schools, and then each year the award culminates in what is known as the Lifetime Achievement Award. This year, it was presented to Professor Peter Buckskin.

Professor Peter Buckskin would be known to many people in this chamber. He is an outstanding South Australian, a proud Narungga man from Yorke Peninsula. He started off his career as a schoolteacher, but he has made an extraordinary progression ever since. He has served as a ministerial adviser, he served as a superintendent within our school systems, and he has worked in the state system and the federal system. In fact, in 2001 he was presented with the Public Service Medal for the contribution that he has made. Education has been a great love and a great passion of his, and of course now we know that he is employed as the Dean of Aboriginal Engagement and Strategic Projects at the University of South Australia.

I first came to know Professor Buckskin in his role as one of the co-chairs of Reconciliation SA. I was very proud to serve on that committee for eight years between 2010, when I was first elected to the parliament, right through until 2018, when I was kicked off the committee. The reason I was kicked off was that apparently the minister responsible for Aboriginal affairs and reconciliation cannot be on the board of Reconciliation SA, so it was with great reluctance that I relinquished my role on the Reconciliation SA board. He has had several co-chairs during that period: originally, the Hon. Robyn Layton and, most recently, the Commissioner for Children and Young People in South Australia, Helen Connolly.

Reconciliation SA does an excellent job. They are promoting reconciliation in SA, and this is exactly and precisely Peter Buckskin's great contribution. He is one to listen, he is one to educate people, he is one to bring people together, and I think that he is a very, very worthy winner of the 2020 NAIDOC Lifetime Achievement Award.

Can I also update the house that usually during NAIDOC Week we present a series of Premier's awards for contribution across various spheres. This year, we will not be presenting it during NAIDOC Week; it will be delayed until December. In particular, this year we will be honouring those people who have protected their communities during this coronavirus, and it was felt that this time was one when the maximum number of people could come down, many of them from very remote parts of our state.

We have much to celebrate within our Aboriginal communities right across this state. NAIDOC Week is a great opportunity to do this, and I hope that everybody gets the opportunity to attend one or more events.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (15:02): My question is to the Premier. Why was the Premier and the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport required to wear hard hats and high-vis vests yesterday at a press conference and the media attending were not?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:02): That would be something you should really refer to the occ health and safety people on the site. WSP did the work—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Lee is warned.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: It's really interesting: what we now have is a situation where Labor are out there trying to downgrade the health and safety on site. It's incredible. I think I'm going to have to probably report this. I'm probably going to have to report this incredible breach. We have to follow, and we on this side of the chamber take very carefully—

Mr Boyer interjecting:

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

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —any request to wear PPE, and that's exactly and precisely what happened. Obviously, we were getting much closer to the drilling rig which was there to take the geotechnical samples. The members of the press who were kept—

Mr Malinauskas: Why weren't the media?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Well, the members of the press were kept considerably further away from right up against that drilling rig, but these are questions that you can quite perfectly ask.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: At least arms-length.

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Lee!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: If you want to doubt and subvert the instructions of people who are trying to protect lives in South Australia, then go straight ahead. I invite the member to go straight ahead and make that suggestion to them. But the reality is that we on this side take our responsibilities in terms of occ health and safety extraordinarily carefully and, when requested to wear PPE, that is exactly and precisely what we do.

SACE PSYCHOLOGY EXAM CANCELLATION

Mr BOYER (Wright) (15:04): My question is to the Minister for Education. Will the minister apologise to 2,720 SACE students who had their Psychology exam cancelled today?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:04): I thank the member for the question. As I said in my ministerial statement, it's absolutely appalling that this has happened; it's unacceptable. The CE of the SACE Board, in his earlier statement, explicitly apologised, and I'm happy to join him in doing so.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES, WESTERN SUBURBS

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (15:04): My question is to the Minister for Education, representing the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Will the minister update the house on public health services in Adelaide's west?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:05): I am very happy to have this question from the member for Colton, who talks regularly about the importance of The Queen Elizabeth Hospital to his community whenever he has the opportunity to speak to any minister, indeed, particularly, I know, the Minister for Health. It's perhaps with that in mind that I am very pleased the Minister for Health happens to have provided me with some information this morning, which I am happy also to share with the house.

Also, in reflecting on that, it's worth noting that Labor, when they were in government—and, by my recollection, the Leader of the Opposition was probably the health minister at the time—promised that there would be a stage 3 redevelopment of The Queen Elizabeth Hospital. In fact, so keen were they, allegedly, on this at the time that they cancelled that promise and then they promised it again and then they cancelled it again.

This government, the Marshall Liberal government, takes a different approach to public policy. When we make a commitment to the people of South Australia, we mean it and we do whatever is in our power to deliver it. When it comes to the health and wellbeing of our communities, communities such as the member for Colton's in the western suburbs, we are working very hard to take a project, to get it right and then to work on its delivery, not as Labor did—

Mr Picton: Delayed for two years.

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

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: —and announce it when it suits for electoral purposes and then cancel it and then announce again when it suits for electoral purposes and then cancel it. Ultimately, at the end of 16 long years in government, a long litany of failure where the Transforming Health experiment on the people of South Australia, perpetrated by those opposite, was seen to have failed, this government is now taking steps to deliver it.

We know that Labor downgraded services at The QEH as part of Transforming Health. In contrast, we are investing. In fact, we as the Marshall Liberal government have returned 24/7 cardiac services to The Queen Elizabeth Hospital and we have invested \$4 million to upgrade the cardiac cath labs. Unlike Labor, who promised and then cancelled, we have already completed the first phase of stage 3 of the stage 3 redevelopment, being the multilevel car park.

As part of the Marshall Liberal government's commitment to clinician and community engagement, we have been consulting on the further phases of the stage 3 redevelopment. Imagine for one moment if—rather than the former government's approach of ignoring clinicians, listening instead to whoever was selling whatever product on the international convention circuit at the time and pursuing issues like Transforming Health—they had spoken to clinicians during the period of government. We might not have got into the problem the Leader of the Opposition as Minister for Health and his predecessors found themselves in.

We have listened to feedback from the clinicians. We are expanding the scope of the project to deliver the services that the west needs. We will increase treatment bays at the emergency department from 31 to 46. An extra operating theatre will be added, increasing total capacity to 12. A new 14-bed ICU will be built, and we are investing an additional \$50 million to support this added

work, bringing the total budget to \$314 million. Labor's plan, by contrast, had no extra treatment bays and they were going to cut ICU capacity under Transforming Health.

Mr Picton: Wrong, wrong, wrong!

The SPEAKER: The member for Kaurna is warned.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Construction works will begin in the second half of next year and are expected to be completed in 2024. This is just another example of the Marshall Liberal government delivering better services, supporting Adelaide's west, after Labor's cuts and neglect over 16 long, long years.

Mr Brown interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Lee, I warn the member for Playford for a second time.

VICTOR HARBOR ROAD DUPLICATION

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (15:09): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier advise the house how much additional debt beyond the \$33 billion outlined in yesterday's state budget will need to be raised to meet the state's funding commitment for the Victor Harbor duplication project beyond the forward estimates?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (15:09): I thank the member for the question. We have done a considerable amount of work on this project, and the Fleurieu package was announced yesterday, which is for further works to happen here: \$185 million was announced in yesterday's budget, which we are very proud of, of course. We are already looking at stage 1 of Main South Road and already there is a stage 1 in progress for the Victor Harbor Road as well.

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

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

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: With this extra money that those previous had never seen or put forward for this project, we think we can deliver far better outcomes for the community. We will be working with the community and we will be consulting on what that might look like very shortly. Having this extra injection will improve the amenities for the people of that southern region.

A little bit like the north-south corridor, the Darlington to Torrens project, what we have done is we have looked at this and modelled this looking for the best solution for that community. It is the north-south connection, but again it's the east-west connection, which is used more by the local community. That's something we will go back and talk to them about.

We were very fortunate in the recent federal budget and then again through our state budget that this extra money was made available. We think we can deliver an even better outcome for the people of the south on those two roads. We will go back and talk to the community about that and make sure that we do that planning and get that planning right. Again, I know those opposite talked about a lot of projects but never actually did the works and did the planning works and that's what's disappointing. You have to do that work—

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

The SPEAKER: Member for Mawson!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —to get that planning in place. The people of the south, the people of those southern regions, would be disappointed—

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

The SPEAKER: The member for Mawson is warned.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —that they were neglected for so long. Again, in the budget yesterday it really was great to hear the Treasurer stand up and talk about the extra money that we are putting into the South Australian economy. This is at a time when we know South Australians are doing it tough on the back of COVID-19. It is a really tough time out there and we need to be investing

in jobs. To hear the Treasurer—I know my colleagues on this side of the chamber almost got sick of me talking about the \$12.9 billion figure that we were talking about in the lead-up to the budget.

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: But wait, there's more.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: But wait, there is more.

The SPEAKER: Order, the Minister for Education!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: I won't list that figure again. I won't mention it. The figure you will hear from me is \$16.7 billion—\$16.7 billion. Again, that's a number those opposite have never thought about or heard about or seen injected into the economy and we are going to be delivering the projects that are really important for the people of South Australia. Again, we have already talked about the Torrens to Darlington project, the 10.5 kilometres, which is a vital project for South Australia. We are very proud to be delivering that.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: The member for West Torrens chortles away. He has hidden and scurried away from this project for an incredibly long time. But that's okay, we are delivering it—a tough project and we are delivering it. We talk about Main South Road and we talk about the Victor Harbor Road. We are investing more money into that as well.

I have mentioned the regional road safety element too. We know that too many lives are lost on our South Australian roads. We want to make sure we are doing everything in our power to improve that for South Australians. We are investing in improving the safety of our regional roads. I mentioned before \$210 million worth.

When it comes to roads and road projects, we have already talked about Golden Grove stage 2. Can I commend the member for King for her tireless work, her advocacy to deliver for Golden Grove stage 1. She has been out in the community pushing for this project and we are delighted that she is now delivering on Golden Grove stage 2.

I was actually out on the street corner with her when this announcement was made and we were waving some posters and thanking the people. I tell you what, I have never seen a hero's welcome for the member for King like we saw on the side of the road. They were honking and cheering and calling her name, and I commend her for her great advocacy into her community. Of course, the South Eastern Freeway as well: \$35 million—

Mr Boyer interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Wright is warned.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —is going to improving that. We are doing the managed motorway at the moment, but more money is going into that freeway. You will see roadwork signs around the place. You will see a lot of that as we go forward but, remember, we are building what matters for South Australia and we are delivering jobs for South Australia—and we stand by that.

Grievance Debate

CORONAVIRUS

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (15:14): Today is 11 November. Not only is it an important day for all Australians, being Remembrance Day when we remember those who gave their lives during the Great War, the greatest conflict the world had seen, but it is also eight months since the government first announced its stimulus package to try to combat the economic impacts of the coronavirus.

There was \$350 million announced, and two weeks later a further stimulus package was announced of \$650 million. This was described as urgent, and the Premier told South Australians that this money needed to be rolled out to get South Australia through the next six months. You can imagine our surprise when, six months after that date, the Auditor-General reported and told South Australians that less than one-quarter of that \$1 billion had actually been spent on economic stimulus funding.

Our state had already been shamed on the front page of *The Weekend Australian* as having the lowest economic stimulus package in the nation—worse than Tasmania, worse than the Northern Territory and the ACT. The Auditor-General also confirmed that it was not only the lowest but the slowest. In the meantime, we had thousands of small businesses crying out for support from the state government, particularly those in the hospitality industry who, to this day, still suffer crippling restrictions on their operations and struggle to maintain their businesses as viable.

Yesterday, the state budget was handed down. We had been promised that yesterday's budget would turn all this around, that running a \$2.6 billion deficit in this financial year alone would stimulate the economy and get South Australians back to work. The only problem is that the same budget papers point out that the government itself expects no jobs to be grown over the course of this financial year—a \$2.6 billion deficit for not one extra job.

We are also told, of course, that state government debt will now escalate to \$33 billion—an extraordinary amount, a further \$10 billion increase on the \$10 billion increase we were told of last budget. Yes, that is right: in the last two budgets this government has forecast a \$20 billion increase in the state's debt. No-one in this community begrudges this government the option of running budget deficits, taking on state debt in order to combat the economic impacts of the coronavirus. In fact, we here in the opposition, as well as everybody else in the community, have been actively encouraging the government to do that over the last eight months.

Finally it is great they have listened and, going forward, we have some stimulus measures that we are told will support the economy. Our complaint is that the last \$10 billion in debt this government racked up has delivered nothing. No new projects have been completed and barely any projects have even been commenced; in the meantime, our state has suffered the slowest economic growth in the nation and the lowest jobs growth in the nation.

The Treasurer seemed giddy yesterday in handing down his state budget. He said, 'Now I know how Paris Hilton feels when she goes on a shopping spree.' Well, I guess as the saying goes, 'You're only as old as the pop culture reference you quote.' What an extraordinary thing to say. In the first budget, he was proud to have ice in his veins; now he is comparing himself to Paris Hilton. Of course, all this is cold comfort to those tens of thousands of South Australians who still find themselves out of work. There are 165,000 South Australians who are either unemployed or underemployed—the greatest number in our state's history.

This government says it is going to rack up \$33 billion in debt to roll out projects to get South Australians back into work but, as we have just seen in question time, the Premier has not even fully funded the \$9 billion north-south corridor upgrade he is promising, the circa \$2 billion Women's and Children's Hospital project this government has been touting, even other major transport projects like the quarter of a billion dollars that is meant to be spent somehow—we do not know how—beyond the wit of the transport minister up in Hahndorf to create jobs, or the Main South Road duplication, which the transport minister just erroneously told the house contains tunnels.

This is a budget that needs to deliver jobs for South Australians right now: not in two years' time, not—helpfully—around the next state election, but right now, and this government's own budget papers say that this government has failed to do that.

Time expired.

EDUCATION SYSTEM

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:19): I am really pleased to have the opportunity to talk to the house about some of the investments that the government has been making in educational projects and importantly some of the outcomes that are being achieved. I am interested to hear from the shadow treasurer that the government stimulus projects are not supported by Labor because he says that the debt is too much, the borrowings are too much. The pandemic obviously has not occurred in the minds of the shadow treasurer and the Labor Party.

Of course, the level of debt and the level of investment in this budget are commensurate with the challenge at hand. I also note that the Labor Party's blinkers are clearly well and truly on when they say that none of the projects promised under this government or announced in budgets have happened. There are literally hundreds of projects in the education department alone that have been commenced and completed in the last couple of years.

This year alone, we announced 380 programs in preschools for maintenance opportunities and more than 100 extra school maintenance projects. Tens of millions of dollars have been invested in projects where shovels have been in the ground, paintbrushes have been on the walls and roofing tilers have been on the roof (I do not think that one is going to catch on). The work has been done, the jobs have been delivered and those preschools and schools have been upgraded. That has been an outstanding outcome for those schools, those preschools and those students.

When we think of the young people of South Australia, we want a couple of things. We want them to be safe, well, protected, cared for and looked after when they are at school, preschool or in any childhood setting, in any service setting. We want them to get a great education. We want the facilities that they are in to have the dignity they deserve to give them the dignity they deserve, and we want the delivery of the content—whether it is the curriculum, the project or the service—to be of a very high quality.

We want it to have an impact on their future. We want them to be able to achieve throughout their lives in the areas that draw their passion, that impact their love. It is absolutely a commitment of this government to give our children those opportunities and give them what they need so that they can succeed in life. I talked a little bit in question time about literacy and numeracy, and I want to talk a little bit more about that.

During 2018, the South Australian government delivered the first phonics screening check to all government students in year 1 across the state. It was the first time that had been done across a whole state ever. I note that the hundreds of schools in South Australia that have now done it three times, since the third term of 2018, are being joined by more than a thousand schools across Australia who are taking up either the New South Wales and Tasmanian governments' trial or the commonwealth's free voluntary phonics screening check for schools.

They are doing this because they can see the dramatic impact it is having in South Australia on the teaching of literacy, the teaching of reading and writing, in our schools. Phonics is not the only thing. It is not a silver bullet, but it is one of the six key things that enable every child—not just those children who are doing well without the support but every child—to have the best chance of learning to read, to be able to decode the language so that when they are confronted with text they have not seen before they are able to form that word and read that word. Then, when they get to more complex texts, they can enjoy them because they can understand them.

In 2018, after 16 years of Labor, the government was confronted with a schooling system where everyone was working very hard and they were doing their best. There were people working with love and with passion in their hearts to support their children, but there was no consistent understanding of the best way to teach kids to read, so we had only 43 per cent of our students in year 1 meeting the 28 out of 40 expected achievement for our children in South Australian schools.

That lifted to 52 per cent in the second year, and this year it was very pleasing to announce a couple of weeks ago or maybe last week that that had lifted again to 63 per cent. There is still much more work to do, but it is a dramatic step forward from 2018 when we came into government. Those results have surprised many teachers and principals across the system, and that has led to them having a look at the science of reading, what works in schools and what has worked in other schools. They have changed their practice. Schools are now working on whole-school literacy approaches.

We have had professional development, which the government has provided and which teachers have warmly embraced. We have given them the TRT time to enable them to do that professional development and do the checks. Then, for the 37 per cent of students who are not at the mark where we want them to be, we have also provided the opportunity for them to get that specialist intervention. There is so much more to do but, by goodness, our education system is on the right track, and I am so proud of our teachers and our schools in South Australia.

Time expired.

SUPERLOOP ADELAIDE 500

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay) (15:24): We know that this has been a bad year for those in the tourism and hospitality industry, but the hits just keep coming. Like many South Australians, I was shocked that our much-loved event the Superloop Adelaide 500 has been axed

by this government. We know that we were coming up to the last part of the contract because I had been asking questions of the previous Minister for Tourism and now the current Minister for Tourism: 'What are we doing? Have we signed it? Have we guaranteed that first race?' But I never believed, even in this difficult time of COVID, that it would just be gone.

My concern here is the lack of judgement and the lack of leadership. Labor has made it very clear: we want to support this race. We want to support this major event in our calendar that brings great vibrancy, and we did something about it when our Labor leader signed that MOU because he wanted to guarantee it for South Australians—the more than 15,000 who signed a petition to say that we want it back. This is not something you can just cut up. We know that you gave away the Grand Prix, but this? What are you doing?

But let's talk about the economic impact. Let's talk about the 60,000 fewer nights we are going to get because not only will we not have the Adelaide 500 but the Tour Down Under is not going to go ahead as it did previously. That will leave a \$100 million hole in our economy and, particularly, it is going to impact the Adelaide CBD.

The key point of my discussion today is not the decision that Labor has made to bring this back; that is out there and that is supported. My point is a failure of leadership. We have already seen cuts to the tourism budget. We have seen budget 1 and budget 2 of this government. We also saw a pattern of behaviour where we saw funding cut, which meant it cancelled the Adelaide Fashion Festival and the Adelaide Motorsport Festival and we know that Adelaide's Australian International 3 Day Event was only given one year of funding to go ahead, so forgive me for questioning the behaviour.

I question the leadership here because you have a pattern of behaviour where you cut festivals that were small, diverse and going well and now you make this decision to cut the Adelaide 500 with no notice. I do not even think that you told Supercars. You told them after you had gone to press. They believed they were negotiating a way forward with you. What kind of reputation does that give us? What type of reputation does that give South Australia as a place to invest for events in the future?

We know that the Illuminate Festival has been announced. It is sketchy on the details: 'It is going to be in winter. We want it to be like this.' That is fine, but it takes a long time for a festival, for a major event, to be successful. Earlier this year, it was wonderful to celebrate 60 years of the Adelaide Arts Festival and the Adelaide Fringe Festival. We know the economic contribution they make every year, but that has taken decades and decades to build up. Even those events that have started and built up take time to get there, so to make this announcement that you have axed events with nothing to replace them is a failure of leadership.

The Premier announced that he is going to establish an events advisory committee. Do you not think that perhaps you would have got these people together with great ideas about how to diversify events before you made the decision to get rid of a significant event?

It is a failure of leadership, and what we will see is the impact on tourism and hospitality, not just this summer coming but in the future, where you have not adequately replaced those major events.

WORLD TEACHERS' DAY

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON (Morphett—Member of the Executive Council, Minister for Trade and Investment) (15:29):

Here in parliament today, I take the opportunity to speak about World Teachers' Day and the fantastic work that some of our educational institutions do not only in South Australia but in my electorate of Morphett. World Teachers' Day was held on Friday 30 October, and it is widely recognised as a day throughout all of Australia when we acknowledge the hard work that teachers do to teach our future generations. In Morphett, I took the opportunity to visit some of our schools and thank them in person.

It has really been a very challenging year for teachers, with COVID impacting heavily on the way we go about life and also the way we go about teaching these students. In March, when COVID hit South Australia, one of the schools in my electorate, Sacred Heart, was the first school in South Australia to have a student affected by COVID. Immediately and with great diligence, they were able to cauterise this. Any children who could have come into contact were sent home, and not

only did it close down the middle school in Morphett but also, importantly, it made them think about how they offered a curriculum where students were having to learn from home.

Not only were teachers having to devise a curriculum in person for during the school day but at the same time and in parallel they were having to come up with an online curriculum, fielding questions from parents who were at home looking after their students. It was interesting to hear some parents even commenting to their teachers that they saw them in such a new light and with more respect, even saying that they did not realise that year 6 maths could be so hard.

I commend those teachers. Of course, they were nervous times, but we are thankful here in this state that we were able to keep our students in the classroom; they came back in term 2. I think that has really had a great impact not only on the students' learning, so we thank the teachers for that, but also on the parents, so the parents could be productively employed at their business and again, as I said, not having to help their children with their maths homework.

In Morphett, there are over 15 preschools, primary schools and high schools just within a 15 square kilometre radius. Many of them really are fantastic and I love visiting all of them. One of those schools, St Mary's Memorial in Glenelg, is one of the oldest schools in my electorate. It is over 150 years old, having had its 150th birthday only last year. They are a growing school, and you often see the children going for beautiful beach walks along Glenelg beach, especially when it is sunny, and passers-by always comment on how well behaved they are.

As I said, the school is 150 years old, and just recently it has increased: it used to be a reception to year 5 school; it has now become a reception to year 6 school to cater for year 7s moving into high school. That has meant that its student body has grown to over 370 students, and that has necessitated an upgrade, so it was fantastic that, coinciding with World Teachers' Day, I was asked to go along to open their new three-storey extension, the St Thomas Aquinas building.

The children certainly love it. The year 6s led the service there, and I should mention Sadie, Gus and Angus. The year 6 choir sang both verses of the Australian national anthem and did so with gusto. I should certainly commend the year 6 teachers, Ms Trimboli and Ms Patterson, who were fantastic. It was also fantastic to see all the teachers, and I think the school really understood the gravity of this day. It was a \$5 million upgrade, and I am thankful to say that the state government contributed \$1 million to Catholic Education, which in turn saw fit to choose this upgrade of St Mary's.

I commend their principal, Mr Nat Izzo, who has been there since 2005. He has seen this school flourish and grow. It has not only just had the extension of the St Thomas Aquinas building just opened, as I said, on World Teachers' Day, but only a few years ago it saw another extension. Their old Rosary Cottage, which was around from the early days of the school, was upgraded to the staff admin centre and then further student classrooms were put in place.

It was fantastic to be there for their great day. I acknowledge all the teachers for how they went about it. As I said, they all dressed accordingly. I should mention Mr Luke Slattery, who was dressed in his finery. I commend St Mary's for its fantastic school environment, as we commend all teachers in Morphett and South Australia.

SHADOW COUNTRY CABINET

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (15:34): Today, I would like to bring to the attention of the house a visit by the shadow cabinet to the Barossa region last week. There were a number of elements to the shadow cabinet meeting, including a business breakfast and a number of presentations by local government and business organisations. Also, there was a community forum and visits by shadow ministers to various sites throughout the region.

What I would like to concentrate on in this griever is the presentations because I think they provide a good overview of the issues confronting the Barossa Valley at the moment. The first presentation was undertaken by Bim Lange, the Mayor of the Barossa Council. He highlighted key issues, such as water security and freight movement, and gave an overview of what they call the Big Project, which has a 35-year horizon and which is based on a long-term, prioritised and costed plan for investment in the council region. It includes things like accommodation, culture and culinary precincts, sports, tourism and major events facilities, as well as a cycling trail, the Adelaide Wine Capital Cycling Trail. This council obviously has a bold vision for its region.

That was followed by the Light Regional Council, with Mayor Bill O'Brien and Brian Carr, the CEO. This council highlighted the issue of water security and what is required in terms of investment to make water a secure resource for the long-term economic development of the Barossa Valley. The mayor also talked about plans and the potential for The Drovers Way, which is a proposed tourism trail from Seppeltsfield to Anlaby Station.

That presentation was followed by the Town of Gawler mayor, Karen Redman, who unveiled master plans for a \$155 million sporting precinct in Gawler. The precinct would connect the Gawler Oval, Princes Park, Essex Park and the Gawler Showgrounds site to form what would be a new high-quality attraction for sportspeople and tourists in the region, amongst other things.

Jon Durdin, the Chair of Tourism Barossa, was the first from the business organisations to make a presentation to the shadow cabinet. Jon emphasised the importance of business operators contributing to the overall improvement of the tourism industry. Tourism operators provide firsthand referrals to visitors about the experiences the Barossa offers. His other key messages were that there are gaps within the industry, particularly in terms of funding support. He also acknowledged that we must ensure we build and capitalise on the Barossa brand and do more in that space to grow visitation to the region.

James March, the CEO of the Barossa Grape and Wine Association, talked about some of the top issues for the Barossa's peak wine industry body, which included reliance on exports to China. They are concerned about how the new China policy may impact on local growers and wine exporters. He raised the issue of water security. He talked about how we need to ensure recovery of domestic tourism, which will help the Barossa, as well as destination marketing and also protecting the Barossa brand, which is very important—in the same way that most famous wine regions throughout the world have protected their brand by making sure they are clean and green, which is one thing this government is not capable of doing.

The shadow cabinet also met at the Barossa Cellar, the home of the Barossa Grape and Wine Association. It is run by the Barons of the Barossa to showcase local world-class wines, as well as generate a lot of visitor traffic and provide an opportunity to educate global wine enthusiasts about the Barossa brand. Anne Moroney, the Chief Executive, and the Deputy Chair, Rolf Binder, of Regional Development Australia: Barossa Gawler Light Adelaide Plains, listed a number of key projects they believe will unlock investment in the Barossa area. Again, they mentioned water security as the number one issue in that regard.

Nicole Hodgson, a co-chair of Seppeltsfield Road Business Alliance, said their priorities as an alliance of businesses along Seppeltsfield Road are marketing the destination as a premium wine and tourism precinct combined with food, wine and accommodation experiences and events; creating a 15-kilometre off-road walking and bike trail linking Tanunda to Greenock; and water was again mentioned as a priority for the Barossa's Eden Valley area.

Jessica Greatwich from the Krondorf Road Cellars Alliance gave a presentation and talked about looking forward to delivering a cultural and historical walking tour that would pick up on the culture and history of the region. When I have further time on another occasion, I will complete my report to this parliament.

Time expired.

KING ELECTORATE ROAD UPGRADES

Ms LUETHEN (King) (15:40): As the local state member for King, I rise today to update the house on the \$50 million of investment that our local community have fought hard for and won to build safer roads in and around Golden Grove. I am thrilled that our government is delivering on its commitment to upgrade stage 2 of Golden Grove Road. I am so excited that stage 2 works worth \$30 million have commenced and will create another 70 jobs locally.

Whilst our Marshall Liberal government committed \$20 million toward stage 1 works, we are committing an extra \$30 million towards stage 2. That is \$50 million of investment that our local community fought hard for over many long years. Stage 2 works will focus on Golden Grove Road between Kunzea Way and Park Lake Drive. Intersections will be upgraded to ease congestion and reduce bus travel times on the road.

We will work to improve traffic flow with additional through lanes on Golden Grove Road and turning lanes. Stage 2 involves upgrades including Golden Grove Road/The Grove Way/Yatala Vale Road signalised intersection upgrade with a second right-hand turn lane from The Grove Way approach; on-road bike lanes in each direction; kerbs and gutters, drainage, road resurfacing, as well as new and upgraded road lighting; improved pedestrian facilities including new footpath and pedestrian crossing facilities; and indented bus bays.

Even more good news is that CATCON, which is a local business that employs many local people, has secured the second stage of the \$30 million stage 2 Golden Grove Road upgrade. Thank you for the terrific work, leadership and collaboration of David Baker, Nathan King from CATCON, and George Panagopoulos and Surinder from the DIT team. The Golden Grove Road upgrade means more jobs and better services in our local community. We are also backing local businesses with this upgrade.

I look forward to updating my community further on the exciting news this week about the Golden Grove park-and-ride upgrade too. So much good news happening in King. The things that matter to my community matter to me, and I urge the community to keep their feedback coming.

On Friday 25 September, I had the pleasure of attending the annual general meeting of the Tea Tree Plaza mall walking group held at Caffe Primo in Tea Tree Plaza. The group currently has 184 active members, and in the past year membership grew by 11 people. Thank you to the vice-president, Jillian Buckerfield, who took charge to officially conduct the elections of office-bearers at the AGM.

Congratulations to the following office-bearers of the Tea Tree Plaza mall walking group who were elected for two-year terms, including John Jarrad as president; Bill Castle as treasurer; Angela Highland as assistant secretary; and Carol Van Kalken as a committee member. It was pleasing to see that all nominations were carried unanimously at the AGM. Local King star and group member, Carmen Walker-Galpin, successfully moved an amendment to the constitution to allow the executive of the committee, in the event of an unforeseen situation or circumstance such as COVID, to delay the AGM for a period of up to two years, given our recent 2020 pandemic experiences.

The following people were recognised at the AGM for their excellent contributions during the COVID-19 lockdown:

- Jillian and Renata, for organising the handout and delivering some of the AGM papers, which saved money and postage;
- Renata, for sending out birthday cards during the lockdown as a way of keeping in touch with members; and
- Carol, for keeping in contact with members to check on their wellbeing.

At the conclusion of the AGM, coffee and pancakes were enjoyed by all at Caffe Primo.

Mr Speaker, thank you for the opportunity today to speak about the Golden Grove Road upgrade and the Tea Tree Plaza mall walking group. I am proud to be working with the Marshall Liberal government to continue to create jobs, build safer roads and ensure that people living in King have access to better health care closer to home. Together, we are making our community safe and strong.

Time expired.

Bills

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION (DISPOSAL OF PFAS CONTAMINATED SUBSTANCES) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 14 October 2020.)

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (15:47): I rise today to make a contribution on the bill that is before the House of Assembly. This bill, as members would be aware, was introduced into the House of Assembly on 23 September 2020 by the member for Mawson and seeks to amend the Environment Protection Act. The amendment bill seeks to restrict the granting of an environmental authorisation for the disposal of what is commonly known as PFAS under the Environment Protection Act 1993.

Members would be aware that PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals that have been extensively used in consumer and industrial projects since the 1950s. They were used to manufacture non-stick coatings and products that require resistance to water, heat, fire, stain and weather, and in some types of firefighting foam. It is often in the contamination that has come from firefighting foam that the use of PFAS has been most prominent in the public domain to date.

There are currently no landfills in South Australia licensed to dispose of PFAS-contaminated waste. There is, however, an application from Southern Waste ResourceCo to receive, treat and dispose of solid PFAS-contaminated waste at its existing EPA-licensed landfill in McLaren Vale.

The amendment bill seeks to restrict the granting of an environmental authorisation for the disposal of PFAS-contaminated substances if a landfill depot is located or proposed to be located in whole or in part of the Greater Adelaide Planning Region, within the meaning of the Planning Development and Infrastructure Act 2016, or within 50 kilometres of land used for the business of primary production, or within a township or five kilometres from the boundaries of a township.

I inform the house that the government intends to oppose the amendment bill in this house for the following reasons. There is an Intergovernmental Agreement on a National Framework for Responding to PFAS Contamination. The Intergovernmental Agreement on a National Framework for Responding to PFAS Contamination is a national agreement between the commonwealth, states and territories which aims to deliver risk-based responses to PFAS contamination that prioritises the wellbeing of affected communities and the protection of the environment.

The intergovernmental agreement complements existing guidance and legislation that works to protect human health and the environment from harm caused by chemical contaminants. The intergovernmental agreement was originally signed by the former Premier of South Australia, the Hon. Jay Weatherill, in February 2018, when the member for Mawson, the deputy leader, the leader and the member for Kaurana were members of the cabinet.

The intergovernmental agreement includes a number of appendices that address health and environmental protection as well as advice and communication within affected communities. The PFAS National Environmental Management Plan is included as one of those appendices to the IGA. The PFAS National Environment Management Plan was developed by the heads of EPA in Australia and New Zealand and provides nationally agreed guidance on the management of legacy PFAS contamination in the environment.

The PFAS management plan has a focus on all parties taking all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimise potential environmental harm from PFAS-related activities and contamination. These actions include ensuring PFAS waste, contaminating materials and products are effectively stored or remediated to prevent release; ensuring proper disposal of PFAS-contaminated waste, for example, by properly characterising waste and sending it to facilities licensed to accept it; and undertaking appropriate monitoring to check the effectiveness of management measures implemented.

The management plan has also created a framework for how offsite disposal to landfill sites would be managed. The South Australian EPA has taken this information and used it to develop the landfill disposal criteria for PFAS-contaminated waste. The EPA has taken a precautionary approach and adopted only the two most conservative acceptance criteria included within the PFAS management plan and its landfill disposal guideline.

South Australia also has a strong regulatory framework that enables considerable assessment to be given to landfill proposals from their design and location, the waste that it will receive and the necessary controls to protect the health of humans and the environment over the life of the activity. A landfill proposal firstly requires development approval under the PDI Act and, once that has been obtained, assessment for an environmental authorisation under the Environment Protection Act can be finalised for the operational aspects of the landfill activity.

The EPA's assessment of landfill development applications includes consideration of the soil and hydrology at the proposed site; separation distances to sensitive receivers, particularly from an air and water impact perspective; the nature of the proposed waste types to be disposed of; and design, construction and management details that will affect potential pathways for contamination of surface and groundwater resources.

Since the PDI Act already imposes the framework for assessment of location and design risks, the inclusion of such criteria in the Environment Protection Act, as proposed by the amendment bill, would be duplicative and unnecessary. The EPA has strict criteria around the disposal of PFAS-contaminated waste and will approve an application only if landfill operators can demonstrate they have appropriate mechanisms and engineering in place for testing, handling and disposal of this waste. The approach is consistent with the EPA's existing requirements for the disposal of waste contaminated with other chemicals to control and mitigate the mobility of contaminants to the environment.

Any blanket ban on the disposal of PFAS-contaminated substances at waste depots within the Greater Adelaide region within 50 kilometres of land used for primary production or within five kilometres of a township, as proposed in the amendment bill, is likely to exclude the disposal of such substances at almost any location feasible in South Australia.

Removing the ability to provide an environmental authorisation under the Environment Protection Act to landfill sites in South Australia that have suitable controls to manage the waste and minimise the environmental harm from PFAS-contaminated waste would force any contaminated waste to be contained on site—surely, a perverse outcome—or sent interstate for treatment and disposal or disposed of illegally in an uncontrolled manner. Further, disposal of PFAS-contaminated soils to a lined landfill cell allows the contamination to be monitored in a controlled environment.

In contrast, soils contaminated by PFAS can be found on various commercial and industrial sites around South Australia and are often where unknown quantities of PFAS have been released to the environment, such as firefighting training areas or airports. On these contaminated sites, PFAS can leach out of the impacted soils and enter groundwater or surface water bodies. These situations present an uncontrolled risk to human health—for example, through groundwater bores used for drinking water—or the environment in, for example, river ecosystems.

In conclusion, I have every confidence that the EPA has the capacity and the resources to rely on the relevant science. This is what we must rely on. We rely on the EPA to make decisions to keep us safe on a day in and day out basis, and they do so relying on the best available science. As a consequence, the government believes that the regime and the framework that is in place to deal with applications to dispose of PFAS is adequate, it is strong, it is evidence-based, it is science-based, it is robust and the independent leadership of the EPA in dealing with these matters is something that this government backs.

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:56): I rise to speak on this bill and in support of the member for Mawson's piece of legislation that he is proposing to parliament. I think it is a very great pity really that we have reached this stage of having to put forward a private member's bill, which clearly, as we now understand, is not going to be supported by the government and therefore will not pass this chamber and will not become law.

It is a pity because we are dealing with what I think we can all agree is a very serious problem: the problem of a contaminant that is found widely, has been used extensively and its appropriate disposal is yet to be clearly identified and agreed upon. Over the last few years we have come to better understand the extent of the problem of PFAS and yet I think it is safe to say that we are yet to be in agreement across the world about the best way to manage that problem.

In that context, what would have been a better approach I think from the government perspective in the last couple of years in recognising that we do need to work out how to manage this large amount of soil that has been contaminated and caused severe risk to human health, including to people close to members of parliament here, was to have determined a process with the EPA of identifying appropriate locations and appropriate methods of disposal. Instead, what we have had is a preparedness simply to have an application made.

It is, at this stage, entirely lawful for a company that disposes of waste that is very close to the precious food bowl of McLaren Vale to put in such an application. It is also entirely understandable that that community is horrified that that application has been made, that rather than the government seizing the challenge and looking for a positive solution, they have sat back and waited to receive an entirely inappropriately located application.

Not only is there a degree of passivity there to say, 'We will wait and see who wants to dispose of it. It's this one so we better have a look at. We are not going to rule it out of hand despite its proximity,' but also the capacity for the community to engage in that process has been so truncated as to be almost non-existent. I will have to gaze around into the backbenches to be reminded of the number of premises that were officially asked by the EPA for comment: was it six, nine, three, eight? A tiny number were actually contacted and told this was happening. The rest of the McLaren Vale and Aldinga community had to wait to hear about it through the media, through the good offices of their local member, through word of mouth. The EPA was not required to let the community know that such a serious application had been made.

What that means is that you have a community that is not only outraged at the proposition, not only frightened that it might be approved, but also feeling completely disregarded by the instruments of government that ought to be reaching out, asking and listening and working with them. Fortunately, they have an excellent local member in the member for Mawson, who set up a public forum. I attended that, along with some of my colleagues, including the member for Kaurana and, of course, the Leader of the Opposition. There were well over 300 people there—

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

Dr CLOSE: There were 348 people there—we had to know the precise number because the COVID circumstances meant it had to be organised extremely carefully—and they were extraordinarily respectful. The EPA came, and good on them for coming; good on the minister for not banning them from coming like he did for my sand forum in Semaphore a year or so ago—

The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:

Dr CLOSE: He probably couldn't stop them coming in this instance, so that is probably just as well. The EPA turned up, and they are excellent. The EPA people are very good people. They are thoughtful, knowledgeable and respectful, and they listened carefully to what was being said. However, there was no legislation that required them to listen and there was no government policy that required them to listen, nothing that required them to engage in this process. It is just that they are good people and they showed up.

What we heard were very serious concerns from the local community and incredibly well-educated concerns. There were concerns from people who had experience in this field of work, who are aware of the risks of saying yes to a proposal like this so close to where people live, so close to where people grow food and make wine, so close to where primary industry absolutely depends on the safety and cleanliness of the local environment.

The minister has said that this is not to be supported, and I gather he is, at least in part or possibly just pointscoring, relying on something that was signed up to some years ago by the previous government. I am not sure that is good enough, to simply always look backwards and say, 'Well, if something was agreed to a few years ago and at that time it seemed it was a reasonable approach, then that must be forevermore.' We are finding out more about this material, and we are finding out more about how it can and cannot be safely disposed of.

I happen to know that the member for Mawson would rather stop this than have a political win. He would rather do something for his community and, had there been amendments to this legislation or even a willingness to take on the body of the legislation and make it a government bill, he would have been amenable to that. If there had been ways of amending this legislation so that it reflected some of the concerns the minister raised yet still addressed the deep and absolutely legitimate concerns of the community, then the member for Mawson and this side of the chamber would have absolutely been up for that.

Unfortunately, what we have had is delay for some time and now a no. Where does that leave the people who live in McLaren Vale? I imagine they would be pretty frightened. They have asked recently if they could maintain their genetically modified free status, and they have been invited to do that by a piece of legislation supported by the government, but they have been ignored,

overturned. Now they are asking if they can be listened to about the security of the food supply, security of their economic prosperity, the security of the safety of their children who are growing up in this area. The answer appears to be, 'No, we don't like the version that has been put up and we're not prepared to talk about any other version.'

That must be pretty frightening for the people of McLaren Vale—and not only the people of McLaren Vale. How about the people of Port Adelaide? If it does not happen in McLaren Vale—or even if it does—is it going to happen in the Lefevre Peninsula, is it going to happen up in the Barossa, is it going to happen anywhere in a place where people live, where they grow food, where they depend on that for their livelihood? We do not know, but we think it must be possible everywhere because this government does not seem to be prepared to have some limits to how and where this material can be disposed of.

I find that very disappointing, and I would like to congratulate the member for Mawson on his initiative in standing up for his community.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (16:04): I would like to speak briefly in support of this bill. I will not cover all the ground that has been covered really well by the member for Mawson and also the member for Port Adelaide. The member for Port Adelaide hit on an issue that I think is very important.

When you understand this decision by the government to oppose this bill and you put it together with the decision to oppose or reject the 11 councils' bid to have their areas remain GMO free, you soon get a picture of this government's inability to understand some of the issues at hand, not only in the area where the member for Mawson lives down at McLaren Vale in the wine region but also in other important food-growing and wine regions.

I listened very carefully to what the minister said. In part, I would have to say I agree with some of what he said, but what is important is what he did not say, what he did not talk about, in the same way the Minister for Primary Industries did not talk about the importance of perceptions around brands for the state and particularly those two regions—the area of McLaren Vale, where the member for Mawson is, and the Barossa region. The economies of those two areas are based on food and wine, and those two areas are based on their strong brands in not only the state and nationally but also internationally.

Those brands depend on certain things because they are competing with other food and wine brands internationally. They are reliant on their brands being seen as clean, green environments—that the food is safe to eat and that the wines are safe to drink—and premium regions providing premium food and wine. That is inconsistent with two decisions this government is making; one is about rejecting the GMO free area. The minister says that by rejecting the 11 councils he still leaves it up to individual farmers or wine growers to make their own GM free decision, but that does not help with the brand.

The brand is not one farmer, one grapegrower, one winery: the brand is the region. That is the brand. It is quite misleading to suggest that allowing each individual farmer to do what they want protects that brand—it does not. It does not protect the brand. The brand relies on the whole region being consistent, and this is true for this current bill. It was true for GMO free and it is also true for this current bill because the reality is that this sort of facility would do great harm to the brands in McLaren Vale and also the Barossa.

For those across there to ignore that very important factor I think suggests that either they do not care and they have given up on these two regions or they do not understand, in which case they have not engaged with the communities, business organisations and peak organisations in their regions. I am only a recent comer to engaging the Barossa region, but the message I get very clearly from the people I have spoken to from industry is that their brand is so important. They need to protect their brand and they need to develop it further.

As I said, this will do nothing to enhance the brand of the McLaren Vale region, the Barossa, the Clare region or any food and wine region in this state. There are other areas we can consider that do not have the same impact on the livelihoods of people. It is a retrograde step to reject this bill. I would certainly ask members on the government side to think about that because I think this bill is a sensible way to progress this issue.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (16:09): Firstly, I would like to thank all those who made contributions and put on the record my extreme disappointment with yet another Marshall Liberal government decision that is a real kick in the guts for the people of McLaren Vale and the wider area through Aldinga, Sellicks Beach, Port Willunga and Willunga.

This is a ridiculous proposition where we would allow PFAS, this deadly toxin, to be taken from sites across South Australia and Australia, brought across state borders and dumped into one of the major food bowls of the world where we have premium produce that gets shipped out to the rest of Australia and to the world on a daily basis. It is an industry that employs thousands of people and is made up of hundreds and hundreds of small and large businesses.

There is no-one in McLaren Vale who thinks this is a good idea. I was at the Remembrance Day ceremony this morning and it was what everyone wanted to talk about. We had 348 people turn up to a public meeting last month. I would hazard a guess that that is the biggest community meeting in South Australia since March this year when COVID caused lockdown and smaller crowds.

I introduced this bill on 23 September this year. The following day, I wrote to the Premier and to the environment minister and sought their cooperation to get this bill through. I was happy for them to make any sort of changes to the bill that they wanted. I would have been happy if a government bill was put up, not just to protect my backyard and the residents and businesses that I represent but to protect every resident of South Australia.

Since we started bringing people's attention to this, it has not become just a McLaren Vale issue. I can tell each and every one of you that, if you represent the people of King, if you represent the people of Colton, if you represent the people of Newland, Davenport, Waite or Schubert, if you are the local member for Elder, if you represent the people of Brighton or Hallett Cove or any other of the 47 electorates in South Australia, you expect people to get up and be angry about this.

I have firsthand experience, with my son having exceptionally high doses of PFAS in his blood system. His mother has well over 200 parts per billion and then we have her husband, who is a firefighter at Largs Bay, who took eggs, fruit and vegetables to the family house that they thought were organic and now they are living with a timebomb. When is the cancer going to hit them? Is it going to be five years, 10 years, 15 years or 25 years? The people of McLaren Vale expect better from this government.

Yesterday, the agriculture minister came in here and said, 'A committee told me to reject McLaren Vale's bid to remain GMO free.' It was a bid that said the damage to the McLaren Vale food and wine industry would be \$25 million a year, but the Minister for Agriculture said a committee told him to reject that bid because there was no evidence so he rejected it.

We had the environment minister come in and say, 'We have the EPA running the show.' The EPA did not even want to consult with the people of McLaren Vale. They said they could not have a community meeting, so they brought people in on 30 July this year and sat them down with the proponent. This is like turning up and the judge is sitting there with the perpetrator of a crime and you are the victim. You turn up and there is the judge sitting cosily in the witness box. This whole procedure is a disgrace.

Even the EPA says they are acting within the law. If the law needs to be changed, it has to be all 47 of us in here and 22 people upstairs to change the rules because it is not good enough to have the people of our state, the waterways of our state and the soil of our state poisoned by PFAS from commonwealth sites, such as the RAAF base at Edinburgh and places around Australia. We will take this every day, every week and every month to the next election.

Do you know what my parents and grandparents used to say if I did something wrong and I blamed someone else, like a committee—I did not have a committee; it was a mate next door or something like that—'If little Jimmy told you to jump in the lake, would you jump in the lake?' Show some leadership, Steven Marshall and your ministers, please. The government is elected by the people of South Australia to represent those people. The Westminster system always declares that the buck stops with the minister, so please grow a pair and act responsibly.

The SPEAKER: The member for Mawson's time has expired.

The house divided on the second reading:

Ayes.....20

Noes 22
Majority 2

AYES

Bedford, F.E.	Bell, T.S.	Bettison, Z.L.
Bignell, L.W.K. (teller)	Boyer, B.I.	Brock, G.G.
Brown, M.E.	Close, S.E.	Cook, N.F.
Gee, J.P.	Hildyard, K.A.	Hughes, E.J.
Koutsantonis, A.	Michaels, A.	Mullighan, S.C.
Odenwalder, L.K.	Piccolo, A.	Picton, C.J.
Stinson, J.M.	Szakacs, J.K.	

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.	Chapman, V.A.	Cowdrey, M.J.
Cregan, D.	Duluk, S.	Ellis, F.J.
Gardner, J.A.W.	Harvey, R.M. (teller)	Knoll, S.K.
Luethen, P.	McBride, N.	Murray, S.
Patterson, S.J.R.	Pisoni, D.G.	Power, C.
Sanderson, R.	Speirs, D.J.	Tarzia, V.A.
Treloar, P.A.	van Holst Pellekaan, D.C.	Whetstone, T.J.
Wingard, C.L.		

PAIRS

Malinauskas, P.	Marshall, S.S.	Wortley, D.
Pederick, A.S.		

Second reading thus negatived.

**AGEING AND ADULT SAFEGUARDING (DISAPPLICATION OF TRANSITIONAL PROVISION)
AMENDMENT BILL**

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 1 July 2020.)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (16:21): In the shadow of Oakden, the Marshall Liberal government has been committed to upholding the rights of all vulnerable adults, ensuring that they are able to live a life free from abuse and neglect. This is an important right for all South Australians.

All vulnerable adults deserve to have their rights safeguarded and to live a life of dignity and autonomy as far as is possible or practical. That is why, in the lead-up to the state election in March 2018, the Liberal Party made a commitment to introduce legislation into the parliament within its first 100 days of forming government.

In 2011, on the other hand, legislative reform in relation to adult safeguarding was raised in the findings of the Closing the Gaps report, written by Professor Wendy Lacey. The former government failed to act over seven years. This government acted within 100 days, and that unit was established with an important legislative function which focuses on prevention and early intervention.

When the bill was passed in 2018 it was proposed that the definition of a 'prescribed vulnerable adult' within the transitional provision of the Ageing and Adult Safeguarding Act 1995 be expanded, from 1 October 2022, to include vulnerable adults living with a disability. The transitional provision was included to ensure that, as a new service with unknown service demand, it was not

overwhelmed, and to allow the unit time to establish appropriate and effective client pathways and procedures.

As a result of ongoing promotion and strengthened relationships with organisations across a range of sectors, awareness of the unit has increased considerably. I think that some members talked about it in their newsletters, and anyone who has not should. This, as well as the implications for older people as a result of isolation due to COVID-19, has meant that the number of reports to the unit has increased, as has the complexity and time spent on individual cases. That certainly mirrors what we have found in the domestic and family violence portfolio where again we were asking people who were vulnerable to be at home and to isolate. In the first instance, while we did not necessarily see an increase in contacts to our crisis line, we certainly saw very quickly an increase in complexity of cases. The majority of reports made to the unit involve instances of financial abuse, often coupled with emotional and/or psychological abuse. However, there has been a noticeable recent rise in the number of reports relating to neglect, which the unit is well placed to investigate and respond to.

In response to the tragic death of Ann Marie Smith, the Minister for Human Services established the Safeguarding Taskforce, co-chaired by Dr David Caudrey and Ms Kelly Vincent. The purpose of the task force was to examine existing gaps and areas that need strengthening in safeguarding arrangements for people living with a disability, and to provide recommendations to the state government for immediate reform. The final report of the task force, presented to the government on 31 July 2020, recommended extending, and I quote:

...the scope of the Adult Safeguarding Unit to include younger adults at risk of abuse prior to 2022, commencing with people with disabilities.

Within a week of the final report being received, the government promulgated a notice in the *Gazette*, which expanded the Adult Safeguarding Unit's legal mandate to enable it to respond to reports of abuse of adults living with a disability effective as of 1 October 2020, some six weeks ago. Expanding the legal mandate aligns with community expectations that vulnerable adults with a disability are safe and have the support they require.

The government's swift and strong response to the task force's recommendations make the amendments put forward in this bill redundant and no longer necessary. For those who are interested, the gazettal is titled Declaration by the Minister for Health and Wellbeing—Prescribed Vulnerable Adult and is dated 6 August 2020.

Mrs POWER (Elder) (16:25): I want to rise and speak on this very important issue in terms of what we are doing around protecting and safeguarding not only vulnerable adults but vulnerable children. We know that all vulnerable adults deserve to have their rights safeguarded and to live a life of dignity and autonomy as far as possible or practical.

South Australians will certainly not forget what happened with Oakden and the horrific circumstances that surrounded that. It was in the shadow of Oakden that we came into government in 2018 and, as a government, we committed to upholding the rights of all vulnerable adults, ensuring they are able to live a life free from abuse and neglect. It is an important right for all South Australians. That is why we not only came into government with that clear vision but we also made a commitment during the election campaign prior to forming government to introduce legislation into parliament within our first 100 days of forming government.

In 2011—and the minister spoke about this—legislative reform in relation to adult safeguarding was raised in the findings of the Closing the Gaps report written by Professor Wendy Lacey. The former government failed to act over seven years; we acted within 100 days. We established an Adult Safeguarding Unit within the Office for Ageing Well under the Department of Health and Wellbeing. The unit has an important legislative function that focuses not only on prevention but early intervention as well.

When we passed our bill in 2018, it was proposed that the definition of a prescribed vulnerable adult be expanded within the transitional provision of the Ageing and Adult Safeguarding Act 1995 to include vulnerable adults living with a disability, from 1 October 2022. The transitional provision was included to ensure that as a new service, with an unknown service demand, it was not overwhelmed, and to allow the unit time to establish appropriate and effective client pathways and procedures.

As a result of ongoing promotion and strengthened relationships within organisations across a range of sectors, awareness of the unit has increased considerably. This, as well as the implications for older people as a result of isolation during COVID-19 restrictions has meant that the number of reports to the unit has increased, as has the complexity and time spent on individual cases.

That certainly mirrors what we have found in the domestic and family violence portfolio, where again we were asking people who were vulnerable to be at home and to isolate. In the first instance, while we did not necessarily see an increase in contacts to our crisis line, we certainly saw very quickly an increase in complexity of cases.

The majority of reports made to the unit involve instances of financial abuse often coupled with emotional and psychological abuse. In my time doorknocking, people shared with me some really heartbreaking and horrific examples of how emotional abuse has shown up not only in their family but also in the family of somebody they know. There has been a noticeable recent rise in the number of reports relating to neglect which, fortunately, the unit is well placed to investigate and respond to.

We all recall it was not that long ago that we learnt, as a community, of the tragic death of Miss Ann Marie Smith. In response to this tragic death and circumstances, the Minister for Human Services established the Safeguarding Taskforce, co-chaired by Dr David Caudrey and Ms Kelly Vincent, and I know the Minister for Human Services again acted very quickly in establishing that task force and making sure we had the right people around the table to really look at what needed to be done.

The purpose of the task force was to examine existing gaps in areas that needed strengthening and safeguarding arrangements for people living with a disability, and to provide recommendations to the state government for immediate reform. The final report of the task force, presented to the government on 31 July 2020, recommended extending the scope of the Adult Safeguarding Unit to include younger adults at risk of abuse prior to 2022, commencing with people with disability.

As I mentioned, whilst we are talking about adult safeguarding, we are also working to make sure that all people regardless of their age, but particularly those who are vulnerable—people with disability—have the appropriate safeguarding arrangements put in place. Within a week of the final report being received, this government put a notice in the *Gazette* that expanded the Adult Safeguarding Unit's legal mandate to enable it to respond to the reports of abuse of adults living with a disability, effective as of 1 October 2020.

Expanding the legal mandate aligns with community expectations that vulnerable adults with a disability are safe and that they have the supports they require. Our government's swift and strong response to the task force recommendations makes the amendments put forward by the member for Hurtle Vale redundant. However, I would like to acknowledge and commend her attention and care in this space and her work with vulnerable people.

We have heard it said often in this place that a society can be measured by how it responds to its most vulnerable people. I certainly think the Marshall Liberal government is doing all that it can—all that is practical and possible—in terms of our response to all vulnerable people, of all ages, of all circumstances. The budget handed down yesterday by the Treasurer made a number of announcements reflecting our commitment not only in what we say but in the actions that were taken in order to make sure our most vulnerable South Australians are cared for, that they receive the support, that they are protected and, importantly, that they are empowered to go on and live the best life possible for them.

Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale) (16:32): I thank members who have contributed. The majority of the words that all members have spoken have been relevant to the debate and sympathetic to the idea that there are many more than the defined 'vulnerable people' living within our community who need support.

I reiterate that the Office for Ageing Bill, creating an adult safeguarding unit to respond to instances of elder abuse, was a concept that originated under the Labor government. It came as a result of recommendations from the elder abuse committee, which I co-chaired and ran with Ms Kelly Vincent and on which several members of the Liberal opposition at the time sat. We worked closely

with people like Wendy Lacey to come up with concepts that would better protect vulnerable people in the community.

During the debate on the legislation that was tabled here in parliament under this current government, Labor successfully moved amendments enabling the unit to investigate some systemic issues, which we are grateful for. These issues relating to abuse systemically can be dealt with under this particular piece of legislation. I note that on 1 October there has been a change to the definition of a vulnerable person under the *Gazette* to include someone with an intellectual, psychiatric, cognitive, neurological, sensory or physical impairment, or a combination of them. This is a good step to broaden the scope of the Adult Safeguarding Unit, but it governs only those people deemed within these parameters. It seems a folly, to me, not to cover all adults and let the experts who work in the safeguarding unit decide whether or not they fit within their scope.

It provides that next level of safeguarding, that next opportunity for something to be picked out or picked up and acted upon. Given some of the horror that people with disability and older people are being subjected to, as evidenced by the royal commissions that we have seen, no doubt I am not an island when it comes to people coming to my office seeking assistance and mediation with providers and other people in the community. I feel that this simple amendment to the bill is really not too much to ask in a year during which people have been extremely vulnerable, not just because of COVID but because of their circumstances and, broadly, a system that is not working all the time.

This amendment would allow the unit to investigate instances of abuse of all adults who are deemed vulnerable regardless of their age. As such, I commend this bill to the house and seek all members with a conscience regarding this to support this amendment bill.

The house divided on the second reading:

Ayes20
 Noes22
 Majority2

AYES

Bedford, F.E.	Bell, T.S.	Bettison, Z.L.
Bignell, L.W.K.	Boyer, B.I.	Brock, G.G.
Brown, M.E.	Close, S.E.	Cook, N.F. (teller)
Gee, J.P.	Hildyard, K.A.	Hughes, E.J.
Koutsantonis, A.	Michaels, A.	Mullighan, S.C.
Odenwalder, L.K.	Piccolo, A.	Picton, C.J.
Stinson, J.M.	Szakacs, J.K.	

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.	Chapman, V.A.	Cowdrey, M.J.
Cregan, D.	Duluk, S.	Ellis, F.J.
Gardner, J.A.W.	Harvey, R.M. (teller)	Knoll, S.K.
Luethen, P.	McBride, N.	Murray, S.
Patterson, S.J.R.	Pisoni, D.G.	Power, C.
Sanderson, R.	Speirs, D.J.	Tarzia, V.A.
Treloar, P.A.	van Holst Pellekaan, D.C.	Whetstone, T.J.
Wingard, C.L.		

PAIRS

Malinauskas, P.	Marshall, S.S.	Wortley, D.
Pederick, A.S.		

Second reading thus negatived.

RETAIL AND COMMERCIAL LEASES (DESIGNATED ANCHOR LEASE) AMENDMENT BILL*Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 1 July 2020.)

The SPEAKER: Members leaving the chamber, do so quietly. The member for Schubert.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order, sir. The member for Florey was on her feet well before the member for Schubert was.

Members interjecting:

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

Mr KNOLL (Schubert) (16:42): I rise to speak to the Retail and Commercial Leases (Designated Anchor Lease) Amendment Bill and to provide some remarks on this as someone who has had a history of dealing with retail and commercial leases in my previous life.

What the bill seeks to do is to essentially provide an obligation upon a landlord to renegotiate rents with specialist tenants in the event that an anchor tenant leaves a centre. I can understand the intent behind the bill. Anchor tenants are very important to help bring foot traffic to any sort of shopping centre, and specialist tenancies do rely on that foot traffic and they use that foot traffic to get people through their own doors.

This is a dynamic that exists in shopping centres right across South Australia and a dynamic that exists right across the country and, indeed, in many parts of the Western world. We do know that there is an interesting dynamic that exists between anchor tenants and smaller specialties subtenants. That relationship is interrelated. The anchor tenant needs those smaller specialty shops and those smaller specialty shops need that anchor tenant. As I said, the anchor tenant provides the foot traffic.

In terms of making shopping centres work, it is often the case that specialist retailers pay a per square metre rate that is often many times the per square metre rate that an anchor tenant would pay. That speaks to the various power imbalances that exist in the relationship between an anchor tenant, often a major supermarket chain or a major department store chain, the power of the landlord and often the diminished power and influence of the specialist retailer. So I can understand why the bill is being brought here: to try to understand and potentially rebalance the relationship between those various parties.

I think this bill is misguided and may, in fact, have unintended consequences in what it seeks to achieve. I understand that what it seeks to achieve is to provide greater power and a greater rebalance towards smaller specialist retailers, but what I think it will end up doing is actually costing smaller specialist retailers more because of the way this amendment bill has been structured.

We saw a situation under the former government where they unilaterally changed the rules. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

The SPEAKER: Leave follows automatically, member for Schubert.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

*Motions***HOSPITALS, CAR PARKING**

Mr PICTON (Kaurua) (16:45): I move:

That this house—

- (a) condemns the Marshall Liberal government for its massive increases in hospital car parking costs for patients, families and hospital staff;
- (b) notes that these cost increases are a blatant broken election promise;
- (c) condemns that nurses and cleaners will face increases of 129 per cent in car parking costs, effectively a cut to their take-home pay; and

- (d) condemns the 20 per cent cost increases at public hospitals for patients and families, and the removal of the two-hours free parking at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

There was a very clear election promise from the Marshall government at the last election; it promised more affordable hospital car parking for patients and their families. That is now a completely broken promise.

That election policy clearly stated that the Marshall Liberal government, if they were elected, would be cutting the cost of parking at public hospitals. They said that the cost of parking at public hospitals can quickly become a significant expense for patients, their carers and visitors and that this is especially the case for people who have to make frequent or prolonged visits to particular hospitals. They outlined a policy—in particular, they went on to outline it in the *Adelaide Advertiser*—where the then opposition health spokesperson, Stephen Wade, said that people were being 'fleeced' by hospital car parking charges. He said:

The cost of car parking at Adelaide's metropolitan hospitals is a significant financial burden on many patients, carers and relatives at what is often a very difficult time...The high cost of car parking at our hospitals adds unnecessary stress...Affordable car parking fees will help ease the financial and emotional strain of people attending hospitals as patients, carers or visitors. Trying to complete a hospital visit within a strict time frame can interfere with a person's capacity to support a loved one...It's affordable to provide them immediate relief from a grotesque increase in charges at the RAH.

The promise was very clearly to reduce hospital car parking rates by \$3 million. This, of course, was before the election. The government was then elected on the basis of that promise.

What the people of South Australia cannot stand is when people are very clearly told, in a policy before the election, that there will be more affordable car parking and then, within a year or so afterwards, there is a policy released that does the exact opposite: there is a budget revenue measure that completely breaks that election promise and hikes up the cost of car parking for patients, family members and, importantly, hospital staff as well.

That election promise was completely obliterated before the eyes of the South Australian public. It is a completely broken promise because, instead of a \$3 million cut to hospital car parking fees, we had a staggering \$33 million increase to hospital car parking fees. Not only does that affect patients, family members, carers and visitors, it also affects our hardworking staff, our nurses, our orderlies, our cleaners, the other staff within the hospital system, who have no other option but to park at the hospital to get to work to care for people, to look after people, in our public hospital system.

For staff members, the increase worked out not at 2 per cent, not at 5 per cent, not even at 10 per cent and not even at 50 per cent. The increase per year for our hardworking staff members of the health system worked out at 129 per cent. That is a staggering increase, a staggering broken promise. It means for every nurse, every cleaner, every orderly and everyone who works in the kitchen an increase of \$725 per year just to get to work, just to go there and care and look after and help support the public hospital system. That is nothing other than the Premier, Rob Lucas and Stephen Wade putting their hands in the pay packets of those nurses and other staff and taking that \$725 per year from those staff members.

For patients, we saw increases ranging between 14 per cent and up to 25 per cent on hospital car parking for visitors. These are people who are seeing their loved ones. These are people who are going to outpatient appointments. These are people who are going there to care for people who might be in hospital for a long time. They might have to go a number of different times per day. They might have to go every week or so for follow-up appointments. All of them are being stung now by this blatant broken promise at the last election that has seen them facing these dramatic increases in hospital car parking.

You cannot usually get to our hospitals other than going to the car parks because we know that at the same time the government has been setting about cutting bus trips as well. We also know that a lot of the time people are in hospitals at odd hours, and particularly our staff work there at very odd hours around the clock. They cannot catch public transport to and from work. If they finish a late shift at 11pm, 12am or 1am, there is not going to be a bus to take them to the many various locations that they might live. They need to drive to work; hence, this is basically taking their money out of their pay packet and giving it back to the government.

Staff members across the health system have been outraged by this. Patients across the health system have been outraged by this. We have had many thousands of people contact us, sign petitions and write to members of parliament, outraged about these increases and this broken promise. To add to this, at The QEH, where a new car park has been built and the existing car park is about to close, they will take away the two hours of free car parking when that existing car park closes at The QEH.

There is a double effect: not only do they have the up to 25 per cent increase in costs for people to visit the hospital but they are also removing the two hours free. At The QEH, there are a number of different times. If you are there for over two hours to visit someone or to go to an outpatient appointment, your cost changes from \$7.50 up to \$21, then the government increased it again from 1 January up to \$24. The increase for somebody at The QEH for a two to three-hour stay has gone from \$7.50 to \$24.

There are so many people in our society, in the western suburbs in particular, who cannot afford to pay \$24 every time they go to hospital. That is a big sting to them, particularly at a time when we are seeing a number of the social supports being removed. This is an attack on those people, a blatant revenue-raising measure on those people in the western suburbs. We had another increase as well that happened just in July this year. There was no announcement about this, but they increased further the Royal Adelaide Hospital parking costs, which meant that there was an up to 25 per cent increase for patients and visitors.

The daily car parking rate for five hours or more at the Royal Adelaide increased up to \$30, and it had been \$24 only just over six months before that. Before the election, we had Stephen Wade complaining about the cost of parking at the RAH, saying that people were being fleeced with hospital car parking costs and saying that it was adding a significant burden to people, now afterwards here we have him increasing those costs, adding more burden and fleecing people more. When they are in quite dire need sometimes in needing hospital care, they are being stung and stung.

We have also seen weekly car parking rates increase again for long-stay patient families at many other hospitals, such as Lyell McEwin Hospital, Modbury Hospital, The Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Flinders Medical Centre, by 21 per cent. In December 2019, it was \$38 for weekly car parking for long-stay patients. That has now increased to \$46 at those hospitals as well.

This is an absolutely disgraceful policy. There is absolutely no justification for it whatsoever, particularly when it comes to the 129 per cent increase for staff. What is the justification that the government has offered? On the issue of patients, they said, 'Labor failed to increase hospital car parking previously, so we had to step in and increase it.' I am sorry, but you were the ones complaining that it was too high previously and now you have jacked it up by up to 25 per cent across the board. We kept those prices down. You are the ones increasing them. It is completely against your election promise.

The only justification or spin that they can come up with for the 129 per cent staggering increase for our hardworking nurses in the health system is to say, 'This is now akin to if you got a public transport card for a month and that is an equivalent cost for them.' Let's look at a couple of factors about that. One factor is that people cannot catch public transport to these hospitals if they are doing a night shift.

Hospitals are 24-hour operations. Firstly, those staff working around the clock should not be putting themselves in the position of potential safety risks and, secondly, there are not the bus routes to get them home when they are finishing a night shift, or perhaps even starting a shift, well after our public transport system provides for, so that is a completely bogus argument. This is nothing other than a complete revenue measure.

There has never been a time when we have, as a community, as a country, as a world, been more acknowledging of the hard work of our health professionals. Nurses, our allied health professionals and all the other staff, including cleaners, who work in hospitals have never been valued more, so it is completely unfathomable that the government would continue with this policy.

We did force them into a position where they have now offered free hospital car parking during the pandemic. We called for that on 29 March. Two weeks after that, they announced it; however, they capped it at a dollar value of \$101 per month. Many staff do not even get access to

these staff car parking passes, particularly at the Royal Adelaide Hospital where the daily cost is \$30 per day, so that is going to crank up to \$100 very, very quickly. In June 2019, CALHN told *The Advertiser* that only 3,778 of the 6,500 RAH staff had a permit, so clearly there are a number of staff in that category who are not going to get access to that.

But what we saw very clearly in the state budget yesterday is that this is going to end off a cliff. This is only going to exist for this financial year, so there are only a few months left when staff will have access to this cheaper car parking. After that, they are back onto these 129 per cent increases and back onto that extra \$725 a year that is being taken out of their pay packet and given to the state Treasury, the Premier, Rob Lucas and Stephen Wade. Very clearly, there is a huge betrayal of the people of South Australia here. Very clearly, we have a government that is out of touch with those people who use hospitals and those staff who use hospitals. The fact is they are not going to be able to use public transport.

About a month ago, we even had the indignity of the health minister revealing that early planning for the new Women's and Children's Hospital was going to involve a cut in car parking. One of the biggest complaints of people at that hospital at the moment is the lack of car parking available and the government is planning to cut the car parking instead of increasing it. He said, 'That's fine. People might choose to catch public transport.'

How out of touch would you have to be with the lives of families across South Australia to think that, if you have a loved one, a little kid, who needs to go to hospital, you are going to catch the bus to get there? How out of touch would you have to be? That is completely the wrong idea, but this is consistent with this out-of-touch idea on hospital car parking.

We are going to fight this every way up to the next election, but we should have this motion passed by this house. If the government were fair dinkum about their promises at the last election instead of wanting to obliterate them as they have done in the past budget, then they would support this motion, support scrapping these huge increases for families, for nurses, for allied health professionals, for other staff, and make sure that it is more affordable, as they promised, instead of a whopping \$33 million more expensive and return to the days when they said it was going to be cheaper rather than more expensive. I hope we will see some courage from those members of the Liberal Party, but somehow I doubt that will be the case.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: Before I call the member for King, I recognise the presence in the gallery of Michael and Domenica Ferarro who are guests of the member for King and the Minister for Environment and Water. Welcome to you.

Motions

HOSPITALS, CAR PARKING

Debate resumed.

Ms LUETHEN (King) (17:00): I move to amend the motion, as follows:

Delete all words after 'That this house' and insert the following words in lieu thereof:

- (a) recognises the importance of hospital car parking in safeguarding access to health services for patients, families and staff, including by managing supply and demand for car parks;
- (b) notes that the Rann Labor government introduced standardised metropolitan hospital car parking charges in 2010 without any provision for free parking in multistorey car parks;
- (c) commends the Marshall Liberal government for delivering on its election commitment to make hospital car parking more affordable for frequent users and their carers and by having the cost of the weekly car park pass at the Royal Adelaide Hospital;
- (d) recognises the Marshall Liberal government's ongoing support for hospital workers during this pandemic through the provision of free car parking and other transport support; and
- (e) notes the Marshall Liberal government's significant capital expenditure in providing modern undercover multideck car parking facilities for patients, families and staff.

I must commence speaking to this motion—

Mr PICTON: Point of order: I regret to rise on a point of order; however, by seeking to amend the motion and taking out all the words except for 'That this house' and then introducing a completely separate motion with completely different objects, the member seems to be outside the remit of standing orders.

The SPEAKER: The amendment, as put by the member for King, has been received and accepted. There is no point of order. The member for King has the call.

Ms LUETHEN: I must commence speaking to this motion by making it abundantly clear that I honour the compassion and hard work of our frontline healthcare workers in these challenging times and, as a history lesson, share with this house that the introduction of hospital parking fees for staff was announced by the Rann Labor government in 2010, a fact conveniently forgotten by those opposite.

Standardised fees commenced under the Labor government at Modbury Hospital from 15 August 2011 and at Lyell McEwin Hospital from 17 October 2011, according to SA Health. In February 2012, the Public Service Association challenged hospital car park fees for staff in the Supreme Court. In June 2012, the PSA claim was dismissed by the state Supreme Court. Labor was so committed to hospital car parking fees that they defended their fee schedule in the highest court in the state, and after this public parking fees were not increased until 2019.

A media release by Treasurer Rob Lucas MLC in May 2019 stated that fees had not increased since 2011 in most cases. Under the Marshall Liberal government, all patients and visitors can park free of charge for two hours in the open-air car parks at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Hampstead Rehabilitation Centre, Modbury Hospital, Noarlunga Hospital and the Lyell McEwin Hospital. Today, public fees for the open-air car parks at all metropolitan hospitals, except Flinders Medical Centre, the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the Women's and Children Hospital, are payable by the hour as follows: zero to two hours, free; two to three hours, \$3; three to four hours, \$6.

At the same time, the Marshall Liberal government has delivered savings for average households from 1 July this year of approximately \$200 per year on SA Water bills, an average saving of \$163 per year from reductions in the ESL and \$158 on electricity bills. South Australian households are on average \$800 a year better off since the last election when you add up the cost-of-living pressures we have slashed.

The government also delivered on its election commitment to bring the cost of weekly parking permits at the Royal Adelaide Hospital in line with other metropolitan sites, and there are numerous exemptions for parking outlined on the SA Health website which support all South Australians. For example, patient permits allow free parking for patients undergoing chemotherapy, dialysis and radiotherapy treatments and are provided directly by SA Health. The emergency drop-off car parks are free. With regard to our local hospitals, fee exemptions apply at both Modbury and Lyell McEwin hospitals for:

- a new exemption for parents and carers of babies and young child patients who are required to attend the hospital for clinical reasons at least once a week for a period of at least four weeks;
- parents or carers of palliative care, paraplegic, quadriplegic, chemotherapy, radiotherapy and renal dialysis patients; and
- other relatives or carers on application to the health facility manager for exemptions.

Other ongoing fee exemptions at both hospitals are:

- volunteers approved by the health facility manager or delegate; and
- bicycle parking in designated locations (excluding motorcycles).

Car park fee exemption applications may also be made to the car parking officer at the site. I am very proud to report that the Marshall Liberal government is investing significant capital expenditure in modern undercover multideck car-parking facilities for consumers, visitors and staff. This includes \$20 million for the construction of a new multilevel 500 space car park at The Queen Elizabeth

Hospital, which officially opened on 1 December 2019, and a \$7 million extension to the Lyell McEwin Hospital car park, creating many more additional car parks.

The recent extension to the existing multistorey car park at the Lyell McEwen Hospital was opened to the public in June 2020, providing an additional 205 undercover parking spaces over five levels. The new car-parking facilities provide full weather protection to user and include appropriate passenger movement systems, and appropriate lighting and signage systems are integrated within the hospital security and CCTV systems to ensure high levels of security.

This is an important step forward in looking after the safety of patients and staff parking at our hospitals. Despite increases in fees, fees charged remain well below commercial car parking rates and remain favourable when compared to other jurisdictions for public hospital car parking. Revenue raised from the car parking fees at metropolitan and public hospitals is used to support operational activities, including car parking maintenance and upgrades, with all additional revenue raised from fees reinvested to provide better health services.

I have had feedback that it can be difficult at times for hospital staff to access an available park on arrival to work. I take this feedback seriously, and this issue has been escalated to the minister for attention in future car parking reviews. It is a difficult situation at Modbury, with competition from car parking coming from patients, visitors, staff and nearby popular Tea Tree Plaza shoppers, the city commuters and the expanding workforce of datacom. If the parking were open and free in the hospital car park, we could find that the car parks would disappear even faster, which would present a serious problem for staff and patients.

In a response to COVID-19 in April 2020, the state government announced free car parking and public transport for hospital workers in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic; additionally, the government will reimburse staff who park off site up to \$101 for their expenses. This arrangement remains in place and clearly demonstrates our government's support for frontline staff.

I commend and thank the SA Health staff across South Australia and particularly in my local hospitals, Modbury and Lyell McEwin, both in terms of the job they have performed this year and the risks they were taking in terms of dealing with the COVID crisis, even volunteering to go interstate to help in Victoria. Not only did frontline health workers rally to the cause but they did this knowing their colleagues overseas were dying. I thank our SA Health staff; they are exceptional. I receive positive feedback about them from my King constituents frequently.

In the 2020 budget announcements, our commitment to keeping South Australians safe and strong continues. In terms of COVID preparedness, we will provide additional inpatient beds: \$19.7 million has been committed to create an additional 278 beds. Regarding COVID preparedness PPE, as part of our strong plan to protect South Australians, we are investing \$93.1 million to enable South Australian company, Detmold, to manufacture 45 million masks. This will create more jobs and means that our frontline healthcare workers have the protection they need to safely provide South Australians the care they need.

Backing our strong plan to protect South Australians, we are also investing \$83 million to enable SA Health to deliver a strong public health response to the global pandemic, including funding for testing, contact tracing and hotel quarantining. We are providing COVID support for our frontline staff.

I am running out of time, but if I had more time I would talk about the amazing investments that are happening locally around King, in Modbury Hospital and Lyell McEwin. We will continue to invest and support our workers.

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (17:11): Of course, the member for King cannot do that because it would not be about parking, would it? I rise to oppose the amendment to the motion, not because I do not like some parts of it but because I would just like to inform the house I actually moved the first motion in a Labor caucus to try to have the first three hours free, and no charge between 6pm and 6am, working on the theory that if you are at the hospital during those hours you are there for a really good reason—someone is sick—and you should not be charged in the first place.

Modbury Hospital, of course, does not have its own multideck car park yet, but I would like to put on the record some information I have been sent by one of the staff members at Modbury Hospital just so everybody knows there are other and alternate positions in this debate. The staff member states:

I'm writing to talk about car parking at Modbury Hospital. Modbury is going to increase next year— that is, the parking charge—

with [doctors] nurses, cleaners, [orderlies], office staff, patients, visitors and more. Plus our car parking is going to increase in [January] from \$1300 [a year] (full time rates pp) to [no-one has told us yet]. So the government can put a car park in—

This is why they are raising it: the staff think this is because you want to put a car park in—

and make a lot more money to pay for it. [It] is not fair that we have to pay for car parking and not [be guaranteed] a park—

As the member for King says, there is great competition for these parks—

so this means [staff at the hospital] have to park in the streets or [Tea Tree Plaza] and get a fine [and] so paying twice. We also have government cars parking in our parks out the back of the hospital—

And this is something that should be fixed and I would hope the members for both King and Newland look into this—

when they have their own car parking spaces. Every day [there are between] 10-12 government cars [in our car parks] and their car park is empty.

So you can see parking is a vexed problem at Modbury Hospital and it is not just the number of car parks; it is the cost of the car park. I think it has been turned into a business. It is a very unfortunate state of affairs, and I think for people to postulate and say they have done the very best they can, when in actual fact we know election promises have not been kept fully, is an unfortunate state of affairs. I am letting you know, sir, I will be voting against the amendment and for the motion.

Mrs POWER (Elder) (17:13): I rise today to support the amended motion. Now more than ever we are aware of the vital contribution of our incredible doctors, nurses and healthcare workers who are keeping our community safe and healthy. They have been on our frontline as we combat COVID-19 and protect the health of all South Australians.

I think I can quite confidently speak on behalf of all of us in this place and in my local community when I say we are so incredibly grateful for their exceptional work in helping us make South Australia one of the safest states in one of the safest nations in the world in the face of this pandemic.

Without a doubt, the Marshall Liberal government acted swiftly and decisively in our response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It was essential that we protect our community, and that included protecting and supporting our hardworking doctors and nurses and all the health and hospital staff on the front line. These are the workers who put themselves at higher risk in order to fight this pandemic and care for the health and wellbeing of others. They work day and night for the good of everyone in our community and continue to do so throughout the uncertain threat of the virus.

The Marshall Liberal government responded swiftly to support these crucial workers and introduced free car parking for hospital staff. In fact, in yesterday's state budget \$17 million over two years has been provided for transport relief for hospital staff. Hospital workers who do not have a car or prefer to use public transport to get to work were also being provided with free travel on South Australia's public transport system. Hospital staff can access free parking across all South Australian metropolitan hospitals and receive reimbursements up to \$101 per month for non site-related car parking.

We are supporting our doctors and nurses to do their incredible work, and we are also working hard to ensure that they are protected while they do it. The Marshall Liberal government is also investing \$93.1 million this financial year in personal protective equipment for our frontline health workers. This will enable the purchase of five million medical masks and 40 million level 3 barrier protection surgical masks to support SA Health's response to COVID-19.

Proud South Australian company, Detmold Australia, which many of us might know from the coffee cups they make and we get to enjoy our coffee in, is using its own local facilities to manufacture and supply the additional face masks—an absolute credit to them. This has allowed for an uninterrupted supply and allows SA Health to support hospitals and healthcare workers, service

delivery agencies, aged-care providers and non-government organisations. The safety of our health workers is a priority of this government, and we are protecting those who have done so much and have done such an incredible job in helping to protect us.

We have invested \$330 million over three years of both commonwealth and state funding to protect the health and wellbeing of South Australians in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and to support our frontline workers. Looking after doctors, nurses and healthcare staff is part of the Marshall government's strong plan to keep South Australia safe and strong, and free car parking for the doctors, nurses, cleaners and receptionists at our metropolitan hospitals is only one of a series of initiatives that we have put in place.

For example, we have also given frontline health workers a free flu vaccination to help protect them from the flu whilst fighting the COVID-19 pandemic. The Health Heroes Hotel initiative provides a welcome sanctuary for health workers to rest, to give them peace of mind that they are minimising any risk to their families and to support them during this time. We will continue to support our healthcare workers who are doing such an amazing job to help keep us safe and strong, and I would like to take this opportunity to commend them all.

Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale) (17:18): I rise to speak on the motion from the member for Kurna regarding hospital car parking. I will of course be supporting this very hardworking member's motion. I started working in the healthcare sector obviously when I was three, because I worked in the healthcare sector for about 28 years, and I have been here for a few years, and I have been subjected to car parking charges for only some of that time.

As a student nurse at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, I did not pay for car parking. Sometimes it was a challenge to get a car park and you had to park over at the shopping centre and move in. As time went on, governments recognised that the safety of healthcare workers is vital and invested in onsite multistorey car parks at hospitals, and that was truly welcomed.

The point has to again be made that the current Treasurer in the other place, Mr Lucas, was the instigator and implementer of hospital car parking charges under the Olsen government, if I remember correctly, during the nineties. That caused us great pain, but nowhere near the pain of the charges that started appearing through that term, as private contractors started to push their weight around in terms of fees.

For highly qualified nurses, it is obviously not a big percentage of their income, but there are a lot of people significantly impacted. They are people on minimum wages, people working in kitchens, cleaners, hospital orderlies, porters. These are vital workers, essential workers, who are still fighting for their rights in terms of pay and enterprise bargaining agreements, and the Treasurer has not come to the party. People on lower incomes are still paying high fees and will face them in the future, although I know that we managed to get some good relief during the COVID period, and for that I am really thankful.

You can negotiate with the government. When you are a backbencher and it affects your constituents, you can negotiate with the minister of the day. I have two examples of that from when I was a backbencher in the Labor government during the period of the development of the car park to be seen from outer space, at the southern end of Flinders Medical Centre—the enormous car park. I was able to negotiate with then health minister, Jack Snelling, to get a reduced parking cost, and I believe from memory it was a 50 per cent reduction in the cost of car parking for people who chose to park off site at the Tonsley precinct.

The original proposition was also put up by the Department for Transport, I believe, for a bus to transfer people to and from the hospital and car park at Tonsley after hours. It put them at risk, to some degree, because it was dropping them off at the back of the area, or the front and they had to go to the back—my memory is vague. At the time, it was a safety issue.

We had to do battle with two ministers to get changes made. Fees were reduced. At 5.30 in the morning it is dark. After a 12-hour shift in intensive care, in emergency, maternity, it is dark when you finish at dinnertime, so you do not want people being dropped off anywhere and having to walk just 500 metres. Just 500 metres is a long distance to walk at night.

Those things were negotiated as was the original plan, as recommended, for one less storey on the car park, from memory. Given lots and lots of consultation and my deep connection with the thousands of healthcare workers who continued to contact me about this and that, those people

reached out to me then and made the case without any scientific reasoning, which we were able to put through, that this car park would be full by 2.30 in the afternoon and not able to be accessed by all afternoon shift workers.

We managed to get an extra storey put on it. That is a bit of a journey of negotiation and change that can happen. I say these things because I urge backbenchers, when the time comes to reinstate these full, elevated car parking fees, to use your voice to speak to your ministers in cabinet to argue for the safety and dignity of healthcare and essential workers who are accessing these car parks.

If you cannot get their attention on that, then draw their attention to the people, the many thousands of people who are attending outpatient appointments, visiting relatives, visiting very sick friends and providing that only point of contact. Again, sure, there are some allowances. Some dispensation is offered to family members and some of the members might not be aware of that. You may have people you know visiting very unwell people in hospital at the moment. Make sure they talk to the staff on the ward and see if they qualify for any sort of reduced rates when it comes to car parking, because they are there to use—sadly, not for enough.

For some, the impost of paying \$15 or \$20 for visiting a loved one in hospital, when you are on disability supplements or aged-care payments, is just too much to bear. It is not enough to just sit there and allow these awful increases to stay in place. These can change. With a budget where debt is racking up to record levels, these small things are very small revenue issues. They do not make a difference to the bottom line in the big scheme of things.

If there was ever a time to appeal to Treasurer Lucas, who now feels this whole shopping expedition is like the Paris Hilton journey, talk to him about car parking being part of that shopping trolley, part of that money that can be spent on people as a way of closing the gap of inequity. There is very little in this current budget that addresses the inequity of poverty and where people with low incomes are sitting within our state.

With JobKeeper and JobSeeker payments and other supplements set to drop, I think it is a good time for you to start making a case to look at these small things in terms of our state budget and say, 'Rob, it's time. They're good people and they deserve a fair go, so let's see these car parking costs go down.' I thank the member for Kaurana for his representation and I know in your hearts that you agree with this. I commend the motion.

Mr PICTON (Kaurana) (17:27): I thank members for their contribution, particularly the member for Hurtle Vale and the member for Florey. I oppose completely, categorically, the amendments being moved by the member for King.

I think it is disappointing that we have in the contributions from the member for King and the member for Elder a defence of the position of the government where they have torn up their election promise and are imposing these disgraceful fees not only on patients, carers and families but also on nurses, allied health professionals, cleaners and orderlies in our hospital system. There is a 129 per cent increase for staff and a 25 per cent increase for patients and their families. That is the position that the member for King and the member for Elder are today defending.

They are, in fact, moving an amendment to congratulate the government on its actions in relation to hospital car parking. I do not think that the people who live in the member for King's electorate and the member for Elder's electorate are congratulating the government on these increases. I do not think that they would look at that as appropriate representation for them in this chamber, that they would come in here and give the government, the Premier, Rob Lucas and Stephen Wade a pat on the back for making it more expensive for their family to get to hospital, for making it more expensive for nurses and allied health professionals to get to work to save people's lives in our hospital system and to basically cut their pay while they are saving people's lives.

This is a very clear broken promise and these members—the member for King and the member for Elder—are today defending that before the house. Clearly, this is not strong advocacy on behalf of those communities. I think those communities are looking for those members to be strong advocates and to speak up for the communities in the north-eastern suburbs and the inner southern suburbs.

They have not seen that today: they have seen silence and also a defence of the government on these massive increases, which are completely against the platform they were both elected to this house on. They were elected on a platform—the government called it their 'strong plan'—and this is completely against that. They promised they were going to cut hospital car parking fees by \$3 million and they have increased them by \$33 million. That is the legacy that the government, including the member for King and the member for Elder, have left.

Clearly, people in those electorates need to consider the record of those members in supporting those increases when they next vote. Are they supporting members who back increases in hospital car parking fees, who back these increases and who have not stood up for their communities against them, who have not raised their concerns but who instead have come here to try to defend them in the house? That is an important question those electors will face in 16 months' time—whether to give the member for King and the member for Elder another four years on the job.

I would argue that they have not stood up for their communities. I would argue that, in coming here to defend this disgraceful broken promise, it is a slap in the face to those families who need hospital care, to those nurses, allied health professionals, cleaners, orderlies, you name it, who need to pay more—\$725 a year more—to get to work, a 129 per cent increase to get to work. If that is what the government have done after they have—

An honourable member interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr PICTON: —passed a promise, when they promised to cut car parking fees, and apparently all the members are happy with that, if they get re-elected what are they going to do? How much will they put them up next time? They put them up 25 per cent for patients last time; are they going to put them up another 25 per cent? They put them up 129 per cent for staff last time; how much are they going to put them up now—another 129 per cent?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my right!

Mr PICTON: Maybe they will put them up 200 per cent, or maybe they will put them up 300 per cent. Clearly, electors will judge them on their record, the member for King and the member for Elder, in terms of what has been delivered by this government on the election promise that was completely broken and on the increased fees for patients, carers, nurses, allied health professionals. Who knows what the increase will be if they get re-elected.

The house divided on the amendment:

Ayes 22
Noes 21
Majority 1

AYES

Basham, D.K.B.	Chapman, V.A.	Cowdrey, M.J.
Cregan, D.	Ellis, F.J.	Gardner, J.A.W.
Harvey, R.M. (teller)	Knoll, S.K.	Luethen, P.
McBride, N.	Murray, S.	Patterson, S.J.R.
Pederick, A.S.	Pisoni, D.G.	Power, C.
Sanderson, R.	Speirs, D.J.	Tarzia, V.A.
Treloar, P.A.	van Holst Pellekaan, D.C.	Whetstone, T.J.
Wingard, C.L.		

NOES

Bedford, F.E.	Bell, T.S.	Bettison, Z.L.
Bignell, L.W.K.	Boyer, B.I.	Brock, G.G.
Brown, M.E.	Close, S.E.	Cook, N.F.
Gee, J.P.	Hildyard, K.A.	Hughes, E.J.
Koutsantonis, A.	Malinauskas, P.	Michaels, A.

NOES

Mullighan, S.C.
Picton, C.J. (teller)

Odenwalder, L.K.
Stinson, J.M.

Piccolo, A.
Szakacs, J.K.

PAIRS

Marshall, S.S.

Wortley, D.

Amendment thus carried; motion as amended carried.

INTERNATIONAL ARTIST DAY

Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (17:37): I move:

That this house—

- (a) acknowledges the international day of the artist on 25 October;
- (b) acknowledges the vital role that artists and arts organisations play in our society and economy and in shaping our state identity; and
- (c) recognises the detrimental effect of the Marshall Liberal government budget cuts on the arts sector in South Australia.

I rise today to celebrate the international day of the artist, which was held worldwide on 25 October. For many artists, their working life can be a struggle artistically but particularly economically, with arts workers earning an average of just \$43,000 a year. This year, as the world battles COVID, that struggle is especially acute. The arts have been among the worst hit professions in the world, and that includes in Australia and right here at home in South Australia. Many creatives have been underemployed or lost their jobs entirely. Others have had to expend their limited savings to establish new ways of making a living from their creativity.

COVID has also highlighted, not just for arts devotees but also for those who might not consider themselves avid arts consumers, the true and uplifting value of artistic expression. That has manifested itself in many ways, from the creative displays we have seen on front fences as children draw and paint their way through lockdown to the online musical and theatre offerings we have soaked up as crowd limits were imposed and venues forced to close. For the artists themselves, professional training and rehearsals have gone online.

Overseas, we have seen heartwarming displays of community unity, as tenors in Italy sing from apartment blocks, choir performances are constructed from a distance via recording and clever editing to our television talk shows being hosted from the very famous hosts' own sheds or backyards. There is no doubt lockdown has enabled artists time to create and an explosion of new work is now starting to make its way into the public arena, at least in places that are getting back to business, such as South Australia; though it is important to remember that not all of this work has been remunerated.

There are performances like Australian Dance Theatre's show, *The World's Smallest Stage*, which I was lucky to see a few weeks ago, which featured a dozen or so vignette performances within a confined elevated stage space of maybe three metres by three metres, much like you would have in your own lounge room. Each was created at home under lockdown. There was quite a diversity of performances, but each one of them was thrilling for the audiences, and of course we all loved being back in a theatre and being able to absorb the talents of our fellow residents.

In times like COVID, we have seen downloads of music, movies and TV shows reach new highs. There has been a huge demand for arts at the same time as its creation and performance has been so challenged. Of course, artists are used to being resilient, inventive and resourceful, but the pressure this time around has been quite extreme and our artists should be commended for their perseverance not only for their own livelihoods but for the light that they have brought to each of our lives at this dark time.

When there are disasters in the world, for example last summer's bushfires, it is often artists who step up. They run fundraising concerts and free exhibitions and some comedians even raise millions of dollars via Instagram. It does beg the question now in their hour of need: who is stepping up for the artists?

This week, NAIDOC Week, I would like to mention the contribution of Aboriginal artists. Certainly, in South Australia, the contribution First Nations artists make well exceeds their population. Of course, there are too many First Nations artists to name and to commend and all of them do deserve particular congratulations on creating their art in the particularly difficult circumstances we have found, particularly those in remote areas, but I would like to highlight a bloke who has had an absolutely stellar year.

Vincent Namatjira has been a star for some time here in South Australia, scooping up the Ramsay Prize last year. This year, despite all of the challenges, he scored the peak national artistic prize, the Archibald. He is an artistic gem, of course, but also an inspiration to people of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal background. His work is provocative and challenging and I think greatly contributes to our national history, our sense of identity and the ultimate goal of reconciliation. His work is absolutely confronting, but it is incredibly important.

I was thrilled to catch up with Vincent at his APY lands' art centre in August, when I visited a number of art centres on the lands. I warmly commend him, his family and his community for his artistic achievement and the quiet yet powerful contribution he makes to our lives.

Briefly, on art centres, it was a joy to be able to be in communities across August when I visited the APY lands specifically to look at the work of art centres. I am very grateful for a great number of artists and art centre managers spending some time with me and inviting me into their workspace and their communities so that I could see what really goes on and the work that they are doing.

On days I was in the art centres, it was apparent that they are not just art centres: they are health clinics, social hubs, drop-off points, economic drivers and even counselling services, and they also provide world-famous art. We do need to do more to support them. I would like to acknowledge Ku Arts, APY Collective and the Art Gallery of South Australia; they are doing such magnificent work with those art centres to bring their art to us here in Adelaide and right across Australia and the world.

The third part of my motion is about the lack of funding support for the arts in the last few years under the Marshall Liberal government. Over the previous two budgets, we saw \$31.9 million axed over four years in the Liberals' first budget, followed by cuts totalling \$5.4 million in last year's budget. In a sector that is not flush with funds, that is a lot and it certainly has hurt. Our major arts organisations—and our little ones, too—have struggled to meet those aggressive savings targets.

The abolition of Arts SA is a shame and a stain on this government's commitment to the arts. I cannot tell you how many artists and arts workers have raised this with me. Splitting up the sector between three different agencies has also caused disruption and I have certainly received a lot of negative comments from artists, organisations and arts workers about the necessity for this and the difficulty they now face communicating with government.

I believe the cuts have made the impact of the coronavirus all the more harsh, with no buffer to absorb the sudden shock to the sector. The arts and entertainment sector has been decimated by the coronavirus restrictions, with thousands left jobless and a full recovery expected to take years. ABS data revealed that the arts sector is the second hardest hit sector after food and accommodation, with a 27 per cent drop in jobs since the crisis hit. The Grattan Institute also released a report finding that up to 75 per cent of arts workers nationally would lose their jobs during the crisis.

Arts companies were forced to shut to comply with group gathering limits, social distancing requirements and domestic and international travel restrictions. While we are seeing some aspects of our arts economy getting back on track—and we commend our health workers for the amazing work they are doing on that front—many, including our Mad March events, are still severely restricted and there remains a big question mark over what March will look like in the arts sector.

One cannot help but think that if greater investment was made rather than cuts in the past two budgets, our sector might have proven more resilient and better able to cope and recover. The Arts Industry Council of South Australia called for a \$10 million injection of funds from this government in response to COVID very early on. In June, in front of the Budget and Finance

Committee, the Arts Industry Council chair reported the dire impact on the state's arts sector. We heard that one in three arts and recreation workers had lost their jobs since 14 March, job losses increased in May rather than reducing, and South Australia had the highest percentage of arts jobs and wage loss in the nation.

In June, the alarm bells were ringing loud and clear, yet the rescue package to the required bare minimum of \$10 million took a lot longer than that. That funding was very slow coming and there are questions about how much of the promised funding has actually hit the hip pockets of artists so far. Gallingly, the Premier, who is also the arts minister, failed to fight for unemployed arts workers to join the federal JobKeeper scheme or offer any similar state-based income support as other states did. Put simply, when those arts workers needed support the most, the Liberals let them down by excluding them from the JobKeeper scheme and delaying support.

We know that the arts is a major economic driver in this state. About 16,000 people are or were employed in the sector and it drives millions of dollars into our state coffers. The 2019 Deloitte Access Economics report on the economic contribution of screen, music and craft shows that in value-added terms every dollar of direct activity supports another dollar indirectly in other industries. The creative industries cluster contributed a total of \$285 million in value added to the South Australian economy in 2017-18 and in total supported more than 3,600 jobs or full-time equivalents.

The direct economic contribution in 2017-18 was almost \$154 million, with some 2,300 FTEs across the industry, while the indirect economic contribution totalled \$131 million and some 1,200 jobs. On these figures, that means that every two jobs in the creative sector supports a job in another industry elsewhere in the South Australian economy. The music sector comprises the largest share of the creative industries cluster, contributing \$170 million in value added and some 2,300 FTEs in the 2017-18 year.

I recently spoke in this place about the contribution of the screen production sector to our state. In real terms, the sector contributed \$120 million and we know that there is potential for this to grow. While game development and craft represent smaller sectors, they are sectors that have the capacity for significant growth.

The Marshall Liberal government must take advantage of the opportunity and fight for South Australia's share of a \$400 million incentive scheme to attract blockbuster film productions to Australian locations. The federal government claims 8,000 short and long term jobs will be created—jobs that are desperately needed in South Australia as we hit high unemployment.

I would like to take a moment to reflect briefly on some initial thoughts in regard to the budget, which of course was only released yesterday, and I will be looking at it further and making a further contribution to this place once we get across the detail. However, I was encouraged to see the expansion of the post-production rebate program which of course started under the previous Labor government.

There have been a number of productions both under that previous government and under this one that have taken advantage of that, and that is certainly to be commended. In the budget announced yesterday was an expansion of that program to the video game sector, albeit only for two years; however, I think that is to be encouraged and something I hope we will see outcomes from, particularly job creation, in the next year or two.

There was also additional funding for the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre and obviously we welcome that. The reason we welcome that is that for quite some time, Labor has been saying that that project is underfunded and that it absolutely needed a revision up. If we look at similar projects interstate, some of them have price tags up to \$400 million.

If we are really talking about a landmark venue that is a tourist attraction of national quality (albeit not being called 'national') then \$150 million was always looking a little on the shy side. We of course await being able to see the final business case. It may be the case that further funds are required in order to ensure that we have a truly outstanding facility that reflects what we want here in South Australia but is also a drawcard for people nationally and also internationally.

The final point I would make is that we have long heard, since last year, about a creative industries strategy. This creative industries strategy was meant to be released earlier this year but

appears to have stalled right when struggling creatives most need support and investment. Surely this long-awaited plan should provide state-level financial stimulus for the struggling sector immediately.

The Hon. S.S. Marshall interjecting:

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

Ms STINSON: Well, gee, it got a lot of attention, didn't it? It got a lot of attention. That's crazy. We have been told for months—

The Hon. S.S. Marshall interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier will cease interjecting.

Ms STINSON: Yes, thanks. It seems clear that there is no significant budget investment along with the creative industries sector—so fantastic was it that no-one even noticed that it was released. I look forward to seeing what is being put forward for the creative industries sector at this time when they most need government support.

Time expired.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (17:53): I move to amend the motion as follows:

Delete all words in paragraph (c) and insert the following words in lieu thereof:

- (c) recognises the significant stimulus measures announced by the Marshall Liberal government to support recovery of South Australia's arts and culture sector.

As has been pointed out, International Artist Day is held on 25 October each year and this is a tremendous opportunity for us to recognise the wonderful artists that we have here in South Australia in what can only be described as a very, very difficult year. It is been a difficult year for many people struggling with the coronavirus but probably none more so than our artists in Australia. We are not immune from that in South Australia despite the fact that we have done extraordinarily well in tackling the coronavirus and we have had, if you like, lower level restrictions than many other parts of the country and other parts of the world.

Our artists have been significantly hit, especially in the early days, and I am talking about April, May and June. In that period of time we initially put out our immediate response to support artists in particular—\$1.5 million. When we put that grant funding round out we were overwhelmed with applications, and we were very pleased to extend that out to \$2.9 million as our initial COVID stimulus for the sector.

We then set about talking to the sector about what types of support they needed on a longer term basis, and we were very pleased to receive extraordinary input from the sector, in particular the Arts Industry Council of South Australia. I would like to genuinely thank them for the input that the entire sector had to our plan. There was also the advocacy work of the National Association for the Visual Arts (NAVA). Both those organisations had input. We then released our plan: the \$10.2 million arts recovery package. I think that this was the best, most focused package that exists anywhere in the country, and I genuinely want to thank people for that work. Our artists are extraordinary in South Australia.

The shadow minister told us about her recent visit to the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara lands. In particular, she spoke about the art centres there. We have been very pleased to provide significant additional funding to make very important repairs to those art centres. Most recently, I visited Tjala Arts in Amata. I had been to Ernabella Arts in Pukatja, Iwantja Arts in Indulkana and Kaltjiti Arts in Fregon. I met with some of the most fantastically talented artists that exist anywhere on this planet. They were operating out of a very deplorable standard of studios left to us by the previous government.

In this most recent year that has just passed, we put \$200,000 into Iwantja Arts, \$51,000 into Kaltjiti Arts, \$88,000 into Tjala Arts, \$53,000 into the Mimili Maku Arts centre, and then we also put a further \$60,000 into Ernabella Arts and \$150,000 into Ninuku Arts, and funding for a further second project in both of those: \$70,000 for new kilns at Ernabella Arts for the fabulous ceramicist there and new amenities in Ninuku Arts. It took that total contribution to \$880,000 worth of new amenity on the

APY lands to support those artists, to bring non-welfare money onto the lands but, most importantly, to celebrate their wonderful culture, their 65,000 years of stories and songlines that they are sharing with the world. For that we are very grateful, but the good news does not stop there, sir.

As you would be aware, the budget came down yesterday and we have addressed a longstanding issue left idle by the former government over an extended period of time, and that is the proper appropriate storage of the treasures of our institutions in South Australia. We put in place \$86.5 million over the next five years to build a state-of-the-art facility and to transfer some of these absolutely irreplaceable priceless treasures that we have in our collections, whether it be our collections in the Art Gallery of South Australia, the State Library, the History Trust or, of course, the wonderful South Australian Museum.

We put \$2.3 million into country theatre upgrades. I know the member for Chaffey is very pleased because the Chaffey Theatre in Renmark has been given the go-ahead for an upgrade, as has the Varcoe Foundry building adjacent to the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre in Mount Gambier—two very important projects. I would like to commend the member for Chaffey and also the member for Mount Gambier for their advocacy for country arts and upgrading the facilities that we inherited from the previous government.

We have also put \$31.2 million into the public realm works for the Festival Plaza. The previous government did half the job. They fixed up some of the interior to the building; we are now having to go back and retrofit some of that. Most importantly, you need to have that environment around so we put another \$31.2 million in to do that properly, and work is well underway in that space. In addition to that, we put in another \$50 million for the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre. This will be a world-significant facility that will showcase the wonderful achievements, the culture, the history of Aboriginal Australians. This will certainly be quite spectacular.

There are many, many things that I could talk about with regard to our fabulous artists. One thing that gladdens my heart is the ability that these organisations have had to pivot in these difficult times to develop new product, to develop collaborations, which we love, and now of course we are seeing the fruits of that work during this difficult period with productions, with almost universally sold-out performances, whether it be the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra; Patch Theatre; the Adelaide Film Festival; Restless, with their 34 sold-out productions at the Art Gallery of South Australia; the Australian String Quartet at Ukaria; Slingsby's performances; Gaslight's performance; or the Tarnanthi exhibition, which is currently underway at the Art Gallery of South Australia.

We thank, we honour, we recognise the artists in South Australia. We know that this has been a difficult year. They have had the support of this government, and they will continue to have that support well into the future.

Sitting suspended from 18:00 to 19:30.

Mrs POWER (Elder) (19:30): I rise today to support the amended motion:

That this house—

- (a) acknowledges the international day of the artist on 25 October;
- (b) acknowledges the vital role that artists and arts organisations play in our society and economy and in shaping our state identity; and
- (c) recognises the significant stimulus measures announced by the Marshall Liberal government to support recovery of South Australia's arts and culture sector.

International Artist Day is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the work and contribution of local artists and the impact art and culture has on our communities on so many different levels. From street art to local exhibitions, to statues and sculptures we see every day, to a huge array of performance artists so widely celebrated and enjoyed during the Fringe Festival every year, our art and artists make our state wonderful and worthy of its title the Festival State.

Art can have such an impact on our life, whether it brings us pleasure, meaning, confronts us or empowers us to see a reflection of life in ways other than our own. Personally, I have enjoyed supporting a number of local artists and businesses in my electorate. I would like to take a moment

to commend Bond and Lane, a fantastic cafe in Colonel Light Gardens, which goes the extra mile to support artists and strengthen our community by hosting a number of art workshops.

Lou and Molly and the incredible team at Bond and Lane have hosted a Watercolour with Wine workshop with the incredible Nicole Black. Nicole Black is an amazing watercolour artist who has done a number of community murals, working in partnership with local government. In fact, if you visit Bond and Lane today, you will see a beautiful mural painted by the wonderful Nicole Black displayed on the wall to the left as you enter.

I also recently attended a workshop at Bond and Lane cafe, which was about bringing people together to learn new skills and create great ceramics. It was a gift for my husband. He loved it as much as I did. The workshop was led by Fruzi, an Adelaide-based artist best known for her quirky portraits on wood, but she also teaches ceramic and illustration workshops. Bond and Lane is just one of the many cafes in my wonderful electorate that is supporting local artists. I would like to also acknowledge Local Crowd, The Pantry and a number of cafes that support local artists by displaying their art and making it available for sale.

Like the arts, so many sectors have been hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. We know that art brings people together but, unfortunately, the restrictions we had to have in place to keep South Australians safe have made bringing people together to share and enjoy art very difficult. Obviously, and rightly so, keeping South Australia safe and strong is a priority of the Marshall Liberal government. While the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic continue to be felt, we want to see a thriving arts sector. We are supporting it to be the thriving arts sector that it deserves to be.

In the 2020 state budget, released yesterday here in this place by the incredible Treasurer, our Marshall Liberal government is investing significant stimulus measures to support the arts sector to restart and recover. Mr Speaker, as you would already be aware, this includes \$10.2 million for an Arts Recovery Fund. This will provide grants of up to \$20,000 for individuals and \$100,000 for groups and organisations. This funding is specifically focused on creating employment for professional practising artists through collaboration and partnership between artist and art organisations, theatre and festival reopening and digital innovation.

The budget also saw an investment of \$5.4 million over two years for the Post-Production Digital and Visual Effects Rebate scheme. I believe that earlier the opposition was complimenting the work we are doing there. As they are aware, this helps to drive investment in the South Australian sector and support job creation. It also enables us to expand the scheme arranged by the South Australian Film Corporation to include video game development. We are also investing an additional \$50 million to bring total funding to \$200 million for the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre at Lot Fourteen. Earlier today, the Premier had quite a bit to say on this, and I thank him for his vision around Lot Fourteen and his commitment to the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre and the Aboriginal arts more broadly.

This financial year, \$2.3 million will also be spent in country theatre upgrades because we, on this side of the house, know that #RegionsMatter. We are supporting local arts and theatre in our regional areas as well. This includes \$1.5 million to complete the upgrade of the Chaffey Theatre in Renmark and \$800,000 for the conversion of a building space adjacent to the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre in Mount Gambier so that it can be transformed into a thriving artist hub and a flexible performance space, which we know is really important.

Of course, there is \$31.2 million over four years for the public realm works as part of the Festival Plaza upgrade occurring at the moment for a range of works around the Festival Centre and Parliament House, bringing the total Festival Plaza works to \$214 million. This Festival Plaza upgrade will make this South Australian venue even more attractive for hosting art and cultural events and is a proud symbol of our arts sector and South Australia being the festival state.

These are just some of the ways that the Marshall Liberal government's significant stimulus measures will support recovery of South Australia's arts and cultural sector. To all our artists out there, our local artists, our recognised and world-renowned artists, to all of them I say a massive thankyou for all you do in inspiring us, challenging us, making our lives better, making our state better. You have such an important role to play in the fabric of our society and making sure that that fabric is one that is colourful and rich. To all of you, thank you. It has been a difficult time. The Marshall Liberal government has your back and we look forward to supporting you to do what you love and to do what you do best.

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (19:37): I rise today to support the amended motion put to this house by the Premier:

That this house—

- (a) acknowledges the international day of the artist on 25 October;
- (b) acknowledges the vital role that artists and arts organisations play in our society, economy and in shaping our state identity; and
- (c) recognises the significant stimulus measures announced by the Marshall Liberal government to support recovery of South Australia's arts and culture sector.

I thank the member for Badcoe for highlighting the international day of the artist and providing the opportunity to highlight the importance of arts to our state, its economy and the investment of the Marshall Liberal government in the arts sector.

The arts is a sector in much need of relief as a result of the current COVID-19 health crisis. Many sectors have been hit hard by the COVID-19 health crisis and the necessary restrictions that have been required across the community, business and industry sectors of our state. The impacts have been significant in the arts and culture sectors. They, like those in the tourism and hospitality sectors, have been hit hard.

It is apt that we take time to reflect on international artists day, held on 25 October each year. The day, founded by Chris MacClure in 2004, is a chance to celebrate the work and contribution of local artists and the impact of art and culture on our society. When considering my contribution to this motion, I think the importance of arts and culture to our society was well put in the Tatiara District Council's Tatiara Cultural Plan 2020-21, where they state:

Building our cultural vitality enhances our quality of life, our well-being, our resilience, our connection to our community and makes a significant contribution to the sustainability of our society.

The period of time we are currently facing is one when we should be looking to the wellbeing and resilience of our communities. The arts in South Australia are celebrated across the state—in Adelaide, in our regional centres and in our small regional communities. Our communities all have a need and, rightly, should have the opportunity to access and experience the richness and diversity of arts and culture. The arts are important for our lives and our wellbeing, and can also be important attractions and events that generate and support local and regional visitation, economic activity, and social activity that connects people.

Despite the pandemic and the pressures that has brought, this year the arts sector, like many other sectors, has shown an ability to pivot and to deliver things in a different way and a safe way. The traditional South Australian Living Arts Festival (SALA), held annually in August, was able to proceed this year, albeit in a modified format, with artists and communities delivering smaller, onsite exhibitions, presentations, podcasts and gallery walk-throughs in an online format.

In the MacKillop electorate, we are fortunate to have a lively and vibrant arts sector that both celebrates our local artists and attracts exhibitions and artists from across the state and, more widely, Australia. The Walkway Gallery in Bordertown is just one of our galleries that works closely with Country Arts SA to provide art and cultural experiences for the community of the Tatiara area, the travelling public and the Limestone Coast more broadly.

The history of the gallery is that it was founded because of demand by the community. When the council chambers were renovated almost 10 years ago, the Tatiara District Council was petitioned by the community to include space for a gallery. It is a professional standard gallery, and that has enabled it to be the first regional gallery to exhibit the work of Ben Quilty from the Art Gallery of South Australia in 2016. A beneficial partnership with Country Arts SA has enabled linkages to the Art Gallery of South Australia and has supported making this art accessible to our regional community, when once it was accessible only to those who visited the city.

The Walkway Gallery has an impressive patronage, with annual visitation figures as high as 30,000 people. This patronage is impressive, given that the population of the council area is just over 6½ thousand people, or 6,700. COVID-19, and in particular the border closure and its impact on through traffic from Melbourne, has had a significant impact on the gallery. During this period this

gallery, too, has pivoted to encourage the regions' youth into art through operating workshops for local artists and using the gallery as an impressive display space for their work.

There are other successful art stories from my electorate, with Naracoorte Art Gallery also boasting an enviable art collection. Last year, the gallery partnered with the Naracoorte Caves to celebrate the 50th anniversary of a megafauna discovery in the caves. This partnership enabled the Naracoorte Art Prize to be delivered, which included a \$10,000 prize judged by an international panel of judges. More recently, the gallery helped our region's young artists celebrate SALA through conducting a competition and exhibition celebrating students of the Limestone Coast.

The Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival is yet another event that celebrates art in the electorate. The festival has a long, proud history, and is well supported by local business and local wineries, with its annual May program envied by many regions. The festival started 29 years ago, in its earliest form, and shines a light on the arts and attracts families, local businesses, the old and the young. A key feature of the festival is the awarding of the John Shaw Neilson Art Acquisition Prize. This annual award, named after Penola's famous poet, is open to all emerging and established artists throughout Australia, with entries required to be inspired by the works of John Shaw Neilson.

I am aware that the committee is committed to working towards the 2021 Penola Coonawarra Arts Festival and I, like many in the community, look forward to the fun and vibrancy of the return of this event in 2021. Of course, there are many other galleries across the electorate that are important hosts to many and varied local forms of art, from Millicent to Robe and Penola in the seat of MacKillop.

To give a little bit of history and a sense of what local regions and towns can do is the example of the town of Walcha in New South Wales. I had the opportunity of living in Armidale for 2½ years, and Walcha is a little country town based mainly on livestock, sheep and cattle that is really a service town of the New England tablelands. Back in 2004, it was turning into what could be called an art town for those living in Armidale (20,000 people) and Tamworth (about 50,000 people). Everything about the town was turning towards art. It was beyond its time in that sense, nearly 20-odd years ago.

It was a great example of public art invigorating a local community in the township. Walcha, according to its own narrative, is known as the public art capital of Australia. Silo art in regional South Australia has rejuvenated many small towns across our state. In MacKillop, this includes distinctive works on the Coonalpyn silos. Since the 2017 painting of these silos, many others have followed, from Cowell to Karoonda, Kimba to Tumby Bay, Waikerie to Wirrabara. That may sum it up. With that, I commend the amended motion to the house.

Debate adjourned.

Bills

STATUTES AMENDMENT (FUND SELECTION AND OTHER SUPERANNUATION MATTERS) BILL

Introduction and First Reading

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (19:45): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Southern State Superannuation Act 2009 and the Superannuation Act 1988. Read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (19:45): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

This bill seeks to make amendments to the following acts for the purpose of making amendments to the superannuation arrangements provided under those statutes: the Southern State Superannuation Act 2009 (Triple S Act) and the Superannuation Act 1988. The main proposal dealt with in this bill is the introduction of choice of fund and portability for members of the Southern State Superannuation Scheme (Triple S). Triple S membership is currently mandated for the majority of South Australian public sector employees, despite this fund not always being favoured by some such employees as the fund of their choice.

In addition, the longstanding requirement for mandated Triple S membership no longer aligns with general community standards to provide freedom of choice to public servants regarding their superannuation in the same way that applies to private sector employees. Triple S is also the last open exempt (accumulation) superannuation scheme in Australia that does not offer choice of fund to its members, with equivalent funds in other states all doing so. I seek leave to have the balance of the second reading explanation and the explanation of clauses inserted in *Hansard* without my reading them.

Leave granted.

The Bill therefore introduces a proposal whereby members of Triple S will generally be permitted to direct their government superannuation contributions (including salary sacrifice contributions) to an eligible superannuation fund, rather than to Triple S. The Bill also incorporates the current ability to elect to direct employer contributions to Super SA Select into this regime and provides that any person who has already done so is still included. However, the Bill does not contemplate 'full' choice of fund under the *Superannuation Guarantee Administration Act 1992* (Cth) (SGAA), but instead introduces a 'state-based' arrangement. The facility has therefore been designed to fall within the scope of the existing exemption applicable to government employers from full choice of fund, as contributions will continue to be made, even to the selected fund, pursuant to the Triple S Act (being a law of the state). For example, even if a member makes a fund selection, government employer contributions will still continue to be made pursuant to section 21 of the Act, on the same basis that they are made in respect of Triple S members; namely the same contribution rate, generally on the full salary of a member, with the same definition of 'salary' applicable to Triple S members. This also ensures public sector employees are treated equitably in terms of employer superannuation contributions, regardless of whether they are members of Triple S or another complying fund of their choice.

Where a member makes a fund selection, the Bill provides for them to request that their entire accrued balance will be transferred to the selected fund, in which case membership in Triple S would cease. However, members may instead request a portion of their superannuation to be rolled over to the selected complying fund ('portability'), or take no action at all, in which case their full accrued balance would remain in Triple S. In both cases, their Triple S membership (and any insurance coverage they hold) would continue. In addition, the Bill provides that members may only select one fund at a time. They can make subsequent elections for their superannuation to be directed to another fund (including the direction of their government employer contributions back to Triple S), subject to special timing restrictions. The insurance entitlements of such persons will be addressed by regulation.

The Bill also seeks to introduce 'portability' for members of Triple S, which will enable them to rollover/transfer their accrued superannuation balance to a complying fund of their choice. This is subject to a minimum amount being retained at the time of transfer, (which will generally be set by the Board, other than in the case of prescribed members, which will be set by regulation). Currently, the ability to exercise portability is generally restricted to those members who have terminated public sector employment. However, if a member exercises portability, it would be the responsibility of that member to ensure that sufficient funds are held in Triple S, via ad hoc voluntary contributions or rollovers to Triple S, to maintain administration and insurance premiums. If they do not, then this will impact their Triple S insurance and membership. This is particularly relevant for those who have also made a fund selection and would thus no longer have regular employment contributions coming in to Triple S to sustain their account.

The Bill has particular implications for prescribed members of Triple S (Police and SA Ambulance). Given the nature of the employment of these members and the inherent risks associated with these occupations, Triple S insurance is of significant importance. As a result, employer contributions and compulsory member contributions will continue to be required to be made to Triple S (noting they will also continue to have the ability to direct these contributions to Super SA Select, Super SA's taxed superannuation fund). This will ensure that adequate funds remain in Triple S to sustain premiums in respect of their mandatory insurance. Prescribed members of Triple S will, however, be permitted to exercise portability, subject to minimum amounts being retained in Triple S that will be set by regulation. Operational Ambulance members will also be impacted the same way.

The second part of the Bill concerns the Super SA Board's employment powers. Pursuant to section 10(3) of the *Superannuation Act 1988*, the Super SA Board makes use of the staff of the Department of Treasury and Finance, as an administrative unit of the Public Service, to administer the superannuation schemes for which it is responsible. Section 10(1) of that Act also permits the Board to employ staff directly with the approval of the Minister to assist it in carrying out its responsibilities under that Act (ie administration of Lump Sum, Pension and SA Ambulance Service Superannuation Schemes). Such employees will not be public service employees. However, this employment power does not extend to the employment of staff in connection with the other Act for which the Super SA Board is responsible, the *Southern State Superannuation Act 2009*. This Act governs the administration of the state's main public sector scheme, Triple S. The final part of the Bill therefore seeks to make amendments to the *Superannuation Act 1988* to correct this anomaly in order to extend that employment power to those engaged in the administration of that Act also.

If the Board employs one or more staff directly, the Bill also makes a number of other consequential employment changes. Firstly, Super SA (as a branch of Treasury and Finance) also administers a number of other superannuation schemes, for which the Super SA Board is not responsible. In this regard, the governing legislation of those schemes provides that the relevant boards responsible for their administration may make use of the staff of an administrative unit of the public service (eg the Department of Treasury and Finance). However, the *Superannuation*

Act 1988 currently provides that any person employed by the Super SA Board is not a public service employee. The Bill therefore clarifies that in the event that such staff are employed by the Super SA Board (rather than DTF), those employees will also be permitted to assist in the administration of those other schemes.

The Bill also provides that the Board is not a 'national system employer' under the *Fair Work Act 2009* (Commonwealth) in respect of any such person, to assist in ensuring that employment conditions would be subject to the *Fair Work Act 1994* (SA) (as is currently the case for public sector employees). Also, should the Board determine to employ Super SA's Chief Executive Officer directly in the future, the terms and functions of the appointment have been specified (rather than the existing arrangement of that role being appointed by the Department of Treasury and Finance).

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

This clause is formal.

2—Commencement

Although operation of the measure will commence on the day of assent, the majority of the provisions will commence on a day to be fixed by proclamation.

3—Amendment provisions

This clause is formal.

Part 2—Amendment of *Southern State Superannuation Act 2009*

4—Amendment of section 3—Interpretation

This clause inserts new definitions of *fund* and *fund selection*. The latter term is defined by reference to proposed section 21C(5), which is inserted by clause 10. The definitions of *salary* and *salary sacrifice contribution* are also amended to take account of the fact that some provisions of the Act referring to salary may apply to former members of the Triple S scheme who have made fund selections.

5—Amendment of section 5—Employer contribution percentage

The amendments made by this clause are consequential on amendments made to section 20 of the Act that mean that a member who has made a fund selection may make contributions to their selected fund rather than to the Treasurer.

6—Amendment of section 15—Other accounts to be kept by Board

Section 15 sets out account keeping requirements that apply to the Board. This clause amends the section so that the Board is not required to maintain accounts of employer contributions paid to another fund pursuant to a fund selection.

7—Amendment of section 19—Membership of scheme

This clause recasts section 19(2). The effect of this amendment is that a person who makes a fund selection and opts to roll over all amounts standing to the credit of accounts maintained by the Board on their behalf to the selected fund is not a member of the Triple S scheme. This operates subject to section 21H, which allows for a person who has made a fund selection, and opted to rollover all amounts, to return to the Triple S scheme.

8—Amendment of section 20—Contributions

Section 20 as amended by this clause will provide that a member who has made a fund selection cannot make contributions to the Treasurer as a deduction from salary but may, if the Board is continuing to maintain a contribution account on behalf of the member, make monetary contributions to the Treasurer.

9—Amendment of section 21—Payments by employers

Section 21 imposes an obligation on employers to make payments on behalf of members of the Triple S scheme. This clause proposes amendments to section 21 that are consequential on the fact that a person who has made a fund selection may cease to be a member of the scheme. If a person's superannuation arrangements have been transferred to another fund under section 21C, the employer is required to make payments to the person's selected fund rather than to the Treasurer.

10—Insertion of Part 3A

This clause inserts a new Part.

Part 3A—Portability and fund selection

Division 1—Interpretation

21A—Interpretation

Section 21A provides definitions of a number of terms that are used in Part 3A.

Division 2—Portability

21B—Transfer of funds

This section provides that amounts standing to the credit of one or more accounts maintained by the Board on behalf of a member may, at the option of the member, be transferred to another complying fund. This general rule operates subject to certain matters set out in the section.

Division 3—Fund selection

21C—Member may direct employer contributions to other fund

Section 21C applies to a person who is a member of the Triple S scheme if—

- the person's employer is required to pay an amount to the Treasurer on behalf of the person under section 21; and
- the person is not a member of the scheme solely by virtue of an arrangement under section 6 with a participating employer; and
- the person is not excluded from the operation of the section by the regulations.

A person to whom the section applies may, by giving a notice to the person's employer, direct the employer to make payments required to be made by the employer on behalf of the person under section 21 to an eligible fund specified in the notice. The notice is a *fund selection notice* for the purposes of Part 3A and a person who gives a valid direction makes a *fund selection* for the purposes of the Act.

21D—Effect of fund selection

If a person makes a fund selection, the liability of the person's employer to make payments on behalf of the person under section 21 will be determined in accordance with that section. This means that the person's employer will be required to make payments to the person's selected fund rather than to the Treasurer.

This section also provides that all amounts standing to the credit of accounts maintained by the Board on behalf of a member who has made a fund selection may, at the option of the member, be rolled over to the member's selected fund. This does not apply in relation to a police member or a member of a prescribed class.

21E—Employer obligations

This clause sets out the circumstances in which an employer of a person to whom section 21C applies must provide the person with a fund selection notice.

21F—Matters affecting eligibility of funds

If the fund specified by a person who has made a fund selection ceases to exist, ceases to accept contributions or ceases to be an eligible fund, and the person does not, within the prescribed period, give their employer a new fund selection notice specifying a different eligible fund, section 21 then applies as if the person had not made a fund selection.

21G—Change in employer

A direction given by a person under section 21C(3) continues to operate despite the person commencing employment with another employer that is also required to make payments on behalf of the person under section 21.

21H—Person may elect to return to Triple S scheme

A person who has made a fund selection may direct their employer to make payments required to be made by the employer on behalf of the person under section 21 to the Triple S scheme. If the person's membership of the scheme has ceased and they are eligible to be a member of the scheme, the person will become a member of the scheme.

21I—Immunity from liability

This section provides that no liability attaches to an employer or the Board in connection with action taken in compliance with a direction under Division 3 of Part 3A.

21J—Employer to report to Board

This section requires an employer of a person who has made a fund selection to report to the Board on matters relating to the fund selection.

11—Amendment of section 24—Employer benefits and contributions if person on leave without pay

This clause makes consequential amendments to section 24.

12—Amendment of section 28—Confidentiality

This clause makes a consequential amendment to section 28 of the Act so as to enable certain confidential information to be divulged to a person responsible for the administration of a fund—

- that is a selected fund for the purposes of a fund selection; or
- to which amounts are to be, or have been, transferred on behalf of a member under Part 3A, provided the information is divulged for purposes related to the administration of the Act.

13—Amendment of section 30—Regulations

Section 30(4) of the Act authorises the making of regulations that provide for administrative charges to be fixed by the Board. The amendment made by this clause prevents the fixing of charges in connection with the making of fund selections.

14—Amendment of Schedule 1—Transitional provisions

Schedule 1 clause 12 of the Act sets out certain entitlements for a person who became a member of the Triple S scheme by virtue of section 14(2a) of the *Southern State Superannuation Act 1994*. As amended by this clause, clause 12 will cease to apply to such a person if the member makes a fund selection. Furthermore, if an amount standing to the credit of an account maintained by the Board on behalf of such a member is at any time transferred to another fund under section 21B, the retirement benefits to which the member would be entitled under the regulations are to be determined for the purposes of clause 12(2) of the Schedule as if the transfer had not occurred.

Part 3—Amendment of *Superannuation Act 1988*

15—Amendment of section 8—Board's membership

Section 8(2) of the *Superannuation Act 1988* prevents a person who is employed in duties connected with the administration of the Act or the *Southern State Superannuation Act 2009* from being eligible for election as a member of the South Australian Superannuation Board. This clause amends the section so that a person occupying the position of chief executive officer of the Board can be eligible to be elected as a member of the Board.

16—Insertion of section 9A

This clause inserts a new section.

9A—Chief executive officer

Section 9A provides for the appointment by the Governor of a person nominated by the Board as the chief executive officer of the Board. The person is to be appointed for a term of up to 5 years and is eligible for reappointment. The chief executive officer's remuneration is to be determined by the Board.

17—Amendment of section 10—Staff of Board

Section 10(1) of the Act provides that the Board may, with the Minister's approval, appoint staff to assist it in carrying out its responsibilities under the Act. As amended by this clause, the provision will also refer to the Board's responsibilities under other Acts. A person appointed under the section may assist in the administration of other superannuation schemes or funds established or administered by the Board, or otherwise assist the Board in the performance or exercise of any other functions or powers.

Section 10 as amended will also include a declaration that the Board is not a national system employer for the purposes of the *Fair Work Act 2009* of the Commonwealth.

18—Amendment of section 21—Reports

Section 21 as amended by this clause will require the Board's annual report to the Minister to include prescribed information relating to the remuneration of the chief executive officer.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Brown.

STATUTES AMENDMENT (NATIONAL ENERGY LAWS) (STAND-ALONE POWER SYSTEMS) BILL

Introduction and First Reading

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (19:48): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the National Electricity (South Australia) Act 1996 and the National Energy Retail Law (South Australia) Act 2011. Read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (19:49): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

I seek leave to have the second reading speech and explanation of clauses inserted in *Hansard* without my reading them.

Leave granted.

Over recent years, it has become evident the energy sector is constantly evolving. It is essential the regulatory framework that supports Australia's energy market can adapt and respond to technological advancements to operate in the long-term interests of consumers.

New technologies and the falling costs of renewable generation and batteries

have the potential to deliver energy services to customers through alternatives to traditional grid connection, at a lower cost and with improved reliability, and with other benefits such as reduced bushfire risks. One such alternative, is a stand-alone power system—an electricity supply arrangement that is not physically connected to the national grid.

When a distribution network service provider needs to upgrade its distribution network, it may now be more efficient to service a group of customers using a stand-alone power system, rather than undertake the required network upgrade. These cost savings, arising from the use of more efficient stand-alone systems will help lower costs for all users connected to the distribution network through lower network charges.

Currently, the National Energy Laws do not adequately support distribution network service providers to implement a stand-alone power system rather than a network upgrade. This may be inhibiting the use of the most efficient technological solutions to supply some customers.

The *Statutes Amendment (National Energy Laws) (Stand-Alone Power Systems) Bill 2020* I present to you today, seeks to implement changes to the National Electricity Law and National Energy Retail Law to facilitate the provision of stand-alone power systems by distribution network service providers, where it will be more efficient than a traditional network solution.

The Bill does not introduce a national regulatory framework for stand-alone power systems owned and operated by parties other than the distribution network service provider. The application of the new framework is expressly limited to stand-alone power systems which include a distribution system owned and operated by a distribution network service provider. The framework is only intended to cover stand-alone power systems used by distribution network service providers as an alternative to grid supply where it is economically efficient to do so.

The regulatory framework applicable to third party stand-alone power systems is being considered separately.

The framework will not apply in a jurisdiction unless that jurisdiction chooses to opt into the new stand-alone power system framework by amending their local Regulations. The Bill provides each jurisdiction discretion in how to apply the framework, for example they may apply it to a specific area within the jurisdiction or by reference to a particular distribution network service provider. A jurisdiction could use this opt-in framework to stagger the implementation of the framework in their jurisdiction.

The framework is only meant to cover stand-alone power systems owned and operated by a distribution network service provider as determined by the application of the framework in that jurisdiction.

A key policy principle associated with the new stand-alone power system framework is that customers are not disadvantaged where a distribution network service provider determines it is more efficient to supply them through a stand-alone power system.

The Bill achieves this principle primarily through definitional changes, which extend the consumer protections in the National Energy Retail Law to customers of a stand-alone power system under this framework.

Definitional changes also ensure that these stand-alone power systems are considered part of the national electricity system, thereby extending the national electricity objective and the National Electricity Market to these systems.

Customers are also protected by the extension of economic regulation by the Australian Energy Regulator to the network component of the stand-alone power systems.

The Australian Energy Market Operator's power system security functions and powers are not, however, extended to the stand-alone power systems by the Bill. This is because no current or future power system security role has been identified for the Australian Energy Market Operator in relation to these systems.

The Bill provides for the South Australian Minister to make the initial detailed rules governing these stand-alone power systems. The Bill provides for any future amendments to these rules to be progressed through the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) rule making framework.

I commend the bill to the Chamber.

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

2—Commencement

3—Amendment provisions

These clauses are formal.

Part 2—Amendment of *National Electricity Law*

4—Amendment of section 2—Definitions

Various amendments are made to definitions for the purposes of the measure.

5—Insertion of section 6B

New section 6B is inserted:

6B—Regulated stand-alone power systems

Regulations under the application Act of a participating jurisdiction may provide that for stand-alone power systems to form part of the national electricity system.

6—Amendment of section 11—Electricity market activities in this jurisdiction

7—Amendment of section 15—Functions and powers of AER

These amendments are consequential.

8—Insertion of section 90EB

New section 90EB is inserted:

90EB—South Australian Minister to make initial Rules relating to stand-alone power systems

The South Australian Minister is empowered to make initial Rules relating to stand-alone power systems.

9—Amendment of section 114—AEMO to ensure maintenance of supply of sensitive loads

This amendment is consequential.

Part 3—Amendment of *National Energy Retail Law*

10—Amendment of section 237—Subject matters of Rules

This amendment is consequential.

11—Insertion of section 238AB

New section 238AB is inserted

238AB—South Australian Minister may make initial Rules relating to stand-alone power systems

The South Australian Minister is empowered to make initial Rules relating to stand-alone power systems.

12—Amendment of Schedule 1—Savings and transitionals

A transitional provision is inserted for the purposes of the measure.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Brown.

STATUTES AMENDMENT (TRANSPORT PORTFOLIO) BILL*Introduction and First Reading*

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (19:50): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Criminal Procedure Act 1921, the Expiation of Offences Act 1996, the Fines Enforcement and Debt Recovery Act 2017, the Harbors and Navigation Act 1993, the Motor Vehicles Act 1959, the Rail Safety National Law (South Australia) Act 2012 and the Road Traffic Act 1961. Read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (19:51): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

The government introduces the Statutes Amendment (Transport Portfolio) Bill 2020 with the aim of making a number of changes to South Australia's transport and associated legislation so that the laws work more effectively and efficiently for our community with a particular focus on road safety.

The bill makes a number of changes to the Road Traffic Act 1961 and to the Motor Vehicles Act 1959, with consequential changes to the Harbors and Navigation Act 1993, the Rail Safety National Law (South Australia) Act 2012, the Criminal Procedure Act 1921, the Expiation of Offences Act 1996 and the Fines Enforcement and Debt Recovery Act 2017. This bill will cover a number of matters and they include drug and drink driving amendments that:

- extend the blood alcohol concentration (BAC) presumptive period from two to three hours;
- restrict the post-incident consumption defence;
- allow the use of de-identified blood and oral fluid samples for research purposes, including research into other types of drugs that may affect a person's ability to safely operate a vehicle; and
- enable nurses to take blood samples in metropolitan Adelaide for the purpose of the transport acts.

They also include driver licensing amendments that:

- exclude licence suspensions from minimum period requirements;
- streamline the process to nominate another driver; and
- increase the unregistered/uninsured subsuming period.

They also include parking ticket amendments that enable parking fees to be paid by smart phone or other electronic devices and amendments that control the display of offensive material on a vehicle; roadside drug testing and police powers to allow for drug test screening to support police searches of persons and vehicles; and the prescription of fees to more easily manage the process with which fees are set.

I seek leave to have the remainder of the second reading speech and explanation of clauses inserted in *Hansard* without my reading them.

Leave granted.

I now take this opportunity to outline to Members each of the proposals in the Bill, and how they will significantly benefit our community.

1. Extend the blood alcohol concentration (BAC) presumptive period from 2 to 3 hours

This proposal is made under section 47K of the Road Traffic Act.

Evidentiary breath analysis results are currently valid for the 2 hours preceding the analysis. This is known as the *presumptive period*. Where the analysis occurs more than 2 hours after an incident, for example a road crash, Forensic Science SA is required to provide a retrospective estimate of the BAC at the time of the incident. This is known as the *back calculation*.

Research conducted by Forensic Science SA indicates that there is minimal difference between the actual analysis result (taken sometime between 2 and 3 hours after the incident) and the retrospective estimate of the BAC at the time of the incident. The actual analysis result in the second to third hour is marginally less (0.0066 BAC) than the retrospective *back calculation*. The variation between the third and fourth hour, however, was on average 4.3 times higher than the difference between the actual analysis and probable BAC for the second to third hour. That is, an actual analysis performed between 3-4 hours was moderately less (0.0287 BAC) than the retrospective *back calculation*.

Increasing the presumptive period to three hours would reduce Forensic Science SA's *back calculation* workload by approximately 30%.

2. Restrict the post-incident consumption defence

This amendment is made under section 47GA of the Road Traffic Act.

Currently, the Road Traffic Act provides a defence to a charge of drink driving where the driver can satisfy a court that he or she consumed alcohol between the time of an incident and a breath test. This defence is designed to ensure that drivers are only convicted for drink driving where the alcohol is consumed *prior* to the incident, and not after.

South Australia Police has been unable to contest the defence due to lack of resources (e.g. sourcing expert evidence) and consequently does not elect to prosecute some offenders.

Forensic Science SA is required to perform a back calculation when the defence is used, attributing to approximately 40% of its back calculation workload.

Removing the defence will assist in the prosecution of repeat offenders who use the defence as a 'loop-hole' to avoid prosecution.

No other Australian jurisdiction has this defence.

3. The use of de-identified blood and oral fluid samples for research purposes, including research into other types of drugs that may affect a person's ability to safely operate a vehicle

This proposal is made under clause 8 of Schedule 1 of the Road Traffic Act.

Over 10,000 blood and oral fluid samples are submitted to Forensic Science SA for drug testing each year. Since 2006 the Road Traffic Act has provided that these samples must not be used for a purpose other than that contemplated by the Act, that is, the prosecution of offences. Currently in South Australia, drug testing of blood and oral fluid samples is limited to only the three prescribed drugs: cannabis, speed/ice, and ecstasy.

It is proposed to allow blood and oral fluid samples to be used for research into other types of drugs that may affect a person's ability to safely operate a vehicle. This in turn would support an evidence base for a variety of other matters such as: targeted education campaigns regarding the impact of drug use and driving performance; the improvement of drug driving policies through the identification and monitoring of drug trends; legislative changes to prohibit other drugs to improve road safety; and furthering forensic research and methodologies.

Currently, the samples collected are processed by a designated analyst and only tested for the three prescribed drugs. Under this proposal, a second independent analyst will then delete all unique identifiers including name, date of birth, address and postcode and any other information that has the potential to match the sample to an individual, other than age and sex. The edited de-identified list will be saved and forwarded to a third independent analyst for further analyses where it will be screened for a wide range of prescription and illicit drugs.

De-identified blood and oral fluid samples may be used for similar purposes (i.e. research) in several other Australian jurisdictions. Legislation in the ACT clearly allows this use of samples for research purposes, while in both Victoria and Queensland may perform research in collaboration with their respective police forces provided appropriate ethics approval has been obtained.

In the interests of protecting personal privacy, research projects undertaken in South Australia would be reviewed by the Forensic Science SA Ethics Committee and the relevant University Ethics Committee if the research project was a collaboration.

4. To enable nurses to take blood samples in metropolitan Adelaide for the purposes of the transport Acts

This amendment has been made under Schedule 1 of the Road Traffic Act; Schedule 1A of the Harbors and Navigation Act; and section 21 of the Rail Safety National Law (South Australia) Act.

Currently, nurses' remit for taking blood samples for the purpose of transport Acts is haphazard and potentially confusing. For example, nurses cannot take blood samples in metropolitan Adelaide for the purposes of the transport Acts. They can however take samples from drivers outside metropolitan Adelaide in most situations, except when the person is admitted to hospital after an accident. And, they can only take samples from vessel operators outside metro Adelaide when the person is unable to take an alcotest, breath analysis, drug screening or an oral fluid analysis.

It is proposed to allow registered nurses and nurse practitioners to take blood samples in all situations across the entire State. This will create greater certainty amongst nurses regarding authority to take blood, and it will assist SAPOL and authorised officers to facilitate the taking of samples within the required time, which is no more than 8 hours after the giving rise to the requirement that the person undertake the blood test. It will also provide the ability for members of the public who wish to challenge the first set of results showing a positive reading for alcohol, to obtain a blood test in a timely manner, and within the required time, as a doctor may not always be readily available.

The amendments will create a uniform approach across the Transport Acts in both metro and non-metro areas.

To ensure clarity for those in the medical profession where blood samples may be taken in these circumstances, the definition sections of the Acts being amended state that the term 'registered nurse' also refers to 'nurse practitioners'.

5. To exclude licence suspensions from minimum period requirements

This amendment is made under Part 3 of the Motor Vehicles Act.

Disqualification and suspension have the same effect, in that they remove a person's authority to drive.

However, the Motor Vehicles Act currently only excludes periods of licence disqualification from counting towards minimum requirement qualifying periods and does not take into account periods of licence suspension.

Under the proposed amendments, the Registrar of Motor Vehicles must take into account periods of both disqualification and suspension when determining qualifying periods that count towards the minimum period that a driver must hold a licence or a learner's permit.

For example, a provisional P1 licence holder needs to have held a valid driver's licence for a minimum of 12 months before they can proceed to a P2 licence. Under the existing provisions, if a driver had their licence suspended for 6 months, they would still be deemed to have met the P1 qualifying period after 12 months, despite not being authorised to drive for six of those months, as periods of suspension are currently not counted. The proposed amendment will address this issue.

6. Nominate the driver

This amendment is made under sections 79B and 174A of the Road Traffic Act.

Offences detected by camera result in an expiation notice being sent to the registered owner of the vehicle in the first instance. If the owner was not the driver at the time, he or she has been able to nominate the driver by completing a statutory declaration, which, up until now, must ordinarily be witnessed by a Justice of the Peace or an enrolled lawyer.

This amendment will simplify that process by providing an alternative nomination procedure, which would be supported by similar penalties for providing false information.

By enabling the nomination to be in a manner and form determined by the Minister, it allows the capacity for an online nomination system in the future. The statutory declaration process will be retained for the relatively small number of suspected fraudulent nominations.

Changes to section 174A of the Road Traffic Act in the Bill will also allow for the nomination process to operate for certain parking offences in Part 12 of the Australian Road Rules and for regulation 66 of the Road Traffic (Miscellaneous) Regulations. This is for parking offences where the owner of a vehicle is deemed to be the driver of the vehicle at the relevant time. Vehicle owners are currently required to complete a statutory declaration to provide details of the actual driver at the time of the alleged offence.

Due to this amendment, consequential changes have been made to the Expiation of Offences Act, the Criminal Procedure Act, and Fines Enforcement and Debt Recovery Act to include nominations, along with statutory declarations.

7. To increase the unregistered/uninsured subsuming period

This amendment is being made under clause 2, Schedule 1 of the Motor Vehicles Act.

The Motor Vehicles Act currently provides for a subsuming period during which a person cannot be issued with a second or subsequent camera detected expiation notice for unregistered/uninsured driving if detected again within 7 days. This allows time for the first expiation notice to be prepared, mailed, received by the owner and acted upon. Increasing the subsuming period would formalise SAPOL policy and practice in not issuing a notice for a second or subsequent offence occurring within 14 days of the first offence.

Several years ago, SAPOL has noted that less frequent postal delivery provides insufficient opportunity for a person to be aware of the first offence and to take action to re-register. SAPOL changed its practice in February 2016 to allow for a 14 day subsuming period.

8. To enable parking fees to be paid by smartphone or other electronic device

This amendment is made under the regulation making power in section 176 of the Road Traffic Act.

Currently, the regulation making power in the Road Traffic Act section 176(1a)(c) only speaks to parking fees being payable by a *parking ticket vending machine*. The City of Adelaide's Smart Parking Project allows drivers to source and pay for on-street parking via a smartphone app, or other electronic device. The system locates and navigates drivers to available parking; it provides information on the parking bay control; it allows payment via the app; it sends a reminder when the time limit is about to expire; and provides the ability to 'top up' parking to the maximum time limit.

To be certain that councils can charge fees via an app or other electronic device, it is proposed that the power to allow them to do so should be broadened, and clearly included in the legislation.

A person using a smartphone for this purpose must ensure they are complying with Australian Road Rule 300 (relating to the use of mobile phones) at all times.

9. To control the display of offensive materials on a vehicle

This proposal is made under the Motor Vehicle Act.

Following complaints from members of the public about vehicles displaying sexist, discriminatory or otherwise offensive advertising in breach of an advertising standards code, the responsible Ministers of the Transport and Infrastructure Council, on 2 August 2019, nationally agreed for each jurisdiction to amend their relevant legislation with the aim of removing vehicles with offensive advertising from Australia's road network. It was agreed that the legislation would be based on Queensland's Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act, which was amended in 2017, to introduce sanction for offensive advertising on vehicles.

Most of the complaints received related to a company known as 'Wicked Campers'.

The amendment relates to commercial vehicles only because the Registrar only has the power to take the prescribed actions if an advertising code breach is given by Ad Standards. The Advertising Code only applies to an advertiser or marketer and therefore only applies to offensive material that is provided by a commercial organisation.

Offensive material may be placed on motor vehicles by individuals and these will not be captured by the amendments as they are not placed by an advertiser or marketer. In these cases, sections 7 and 33 of the Summary Offences Act 1953 will apply and South Australia Police may pursue their powers to prohibit the exhibition of indecent or offensive material. Section 7 of the Summary Offences Act criminalises behaving in an 'offensive manner' in public, and section 33 criminalises various acts in relation to 'indecent or offensive material', including hiring out the material or exhibiting or depositing it in a public place. These laws are considered sufficient for private vehicles at the current time.

This proposal is consistent with the Queensland legislation in that it (amongst other things):

- Provides the Registrar with a discretionary power to cancel a vehicle's registration following a determination by Ad Standards;
- Requires the Registrar to cease action against a motor vehicle's registered owner or operator where Ad Standards has withdrawn an advertising code breach notice;
- Does not allow a refund of any part of the registration fee where a registration is cancelled.

Specific to South Australia, these amendments account for natural justice principles by allowing for the Registrar's decision to be appealed to the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal; and allowing the Registrar to refuse to enter any transaction with the vehicle's owner.

Ad Standards, which deals with complaints about offensive advertising for business related vehicles, is an independent, non-government entity, whereby its Board applies a Code of Ethics, published by the Australian Association of National Advertisers. The Code seeks to ensure that advertisements and other forms of marketing communications are legal, decent, honest and truthful, and have been prepared with a sense of obligation to consumers and society, including a sense of fairness and responsibility to competitors.

The Board is independent of, and held in good regard within, the advertising industry. While its decisions are subject to review and are not enforceable, these amendments empower the Registrar to act if the vehicle's registered owner refuses to modify or remove the offensive material at the request of the Board.

10. To allow for drug test screening to support police searches of persons and vehicles

This amendment is made under schedule 1A, clause 8(2)(a) of the Road Traffic Act.

Currently, a positive drug screening test from a driver at the roadside is not able to be used as justification to conduct a search of a person or vehicle. SAPOL must form a 'reasonable suspicion' that a person has an illegal substance or equipment in their possession before they can undertake a search.

Police officers currently take into account a variety of factors to assist in forming 'reasonable suspicion' required for a search, such as the behaviour of a driver, any confessions made by a driver, the location, time of day or visibility of any drug in the vehicle.

It is an offence for a person to have on their person or in their vehicle a controlled substance under the Controlled Substances Act 1984. The current search powers in the Road Traffic Act are not defective. However, there is no power in the Road Traffic Act to rely on the results of a drug screening to undertake a search in order to enforce an offence against the Controlled Substances Act. If passed, this amendment will not provide an automatic authority for a police officer to search the person or their motor vehicle where they return a positive roadside drug screening test. Instead, the amendment will allow the results of the test to be used as an additional factor in forming 'reasonable suspicion' and therefore the power to search the person or their vehicle in relation to an offence against the Controlled Substances Act.

Since 2018, following a positive drug screening test, SAPOL collects an oral fluid sample which is sent to Forensic Science SA for analysis. That analysis will confirm the presence of drugs in the driver's oral fluid before an offence is charged. The results of the analysis are sometimes not available for several weeks. The results of the drug screening test would be only one factor for the police officer to take into account when forming a reasonable suspicion, because of the potential for a negative result when tested by Forensic Science SA.

11. The prescription of fees

At the current time, fees under the Road Traffic Act, Harbors and Navigation Act and Motor Vehicles Act are set by regulations made under each of those Acts. With the operation of the Legislation (Fees) Act 2019, it is now

possible to set these fees by a fee notice instead. From 1 July 2020, many fees under various pieces of legislation swapped to fee notices, without amendments to the relevant legislation being required, for example, fees under the Passenger Transport Act.

No changes to the three Acts are needed to allow for fees to be set by fee notice instead, but Parliamentary Counsel have taken this opportunity to make changes to expressly provide in each piece of legislation that fees may also be set by fee notice for the Road Traffic Act, Motor Vehicles Act and Harbors and Navigation Act. The regulation making powers to set fees in each Act have also been retained.

So, in the future, it will be possible to set fees by either fee notice or by regulations under the three pieces of legislation.

I commend the bill to members.

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

2—Commencement

3—Amendment provisions

These clauses are formal.

Part 2—Amendment of Criminal Procedure Act 1921

4—Amendment of section 52—Limitation on time in which proceedings may be commenced

The amendment made by this clause is consequential on the amendments to section 79B(2) of the *Road Traffic Act 1961* made by this measure.

Part 3—Amendment of Expiation of Offences Act 1996

5—Amendment of section 11—Expiation reminder notices

6—Amendment of section 11A—Expiation enforcement warning notices

7—Amendment of section 16—Withdrawal of expiation notices

The amendments made by these clauses to the *Expiation of Offences Act 1996* are consequential on the amendments to section 79B(2) of the *Road Traffic Act 1961* made by this measure

Part 4—Amendment of Fines Enforcement and Debt Recovery Act 2017

8—Amendment of section 22—Enforcement determinations

The amendment made by this clause is consequential on the amendments to section 79B(2) of the *Road Traffic Act 1961* made by this measure.

Part 5—Amendment of Harbors and Navigation Act 1993

9—Amendment of section 4—Interpretation

This clause substitutes the definition of *medical practitioner* and inserts the definition of *registered nurse*.

10—Amendment of section 71—Authorised person may require alcotest or breath analysis

This clause inserts references to registered nurse so that a registered nurse as well as a medical practitioner may take a sample for testing purposes.

11—Amendment of section 72—Authorised person may require drug screening test, oral fluid analysis and blood test

This clause inserts references to registered nurse so that a registered nurse as well as a medical practitioner may take a sample for testing purposes.

12—Amendment of section 73—Evidence

This clause substitutes references to 2 hours with 3 hours. It also inserts references to registered nurse wherever there is a reference to medical practitioner.

13—Amendment of section 73A—Breath analysis where drinking occurs after operation of vessel

This clause amends section 73A of the principal Act to define the term *relevant period* that is used in subsection (2).

14—Amendment of section 73B—Oral fluid analysis or blood test where consumption of prescribed drug occurs after operation of vessel

This clause alters the meaning of *relevant period* in section 73B of the principal Act.

15—Amendment of section 74—Compulsory blood tests of injured persons including water skiers

This clause amends section 74 of the Act to provide that a sample of blood under the section may be taken by a medical practitioner of a registered nurse. It also modernises and updates other aspects of the provision

16—Amendment of section 87—Evidentiary provision

This clause updates a reference to a complaint with a reference to an information.

17—Amendment of section 91—Regulations and fee notices

This clause amends the Act to expressly accommodate the prescribing of fees by notice under the *Legislation (Fees) Act 2019*.

18—Amendment of Schedule 1A—Blood and oral fluid sample processes

This clause amends Schedule 1A to broaden the capacity for samples to be taken by registered nurses as well as medical practitioners. It also makes some changes to the requirement to send, or keep copies of, certificates referred to in the Schedule. A further amendment is made to provide that evidence relating to a drug screening test, oral fluid analysis or blood test is not admissible other than in proceedings for an offence against the principal Act, an offence involving the operation or crewing of a vessel of an offence against the *Controlled Substances Act 1984*.

Part 6—Amendment of Motor Vehicles Act 1959

19—Amendment of section 5—Interpretation

This clause amends section 5 to provide that for the purposes of the Act (other than section 81A), in determining the period for which a person has held a licence, learner's permit, foreign licence, interstate licence or interstate learner's permit, any period during which the person's licence or permit has been suspended under the Act or another law of this State is not to be taken into account (unless the suspension came into operation before the commencement of this provision).

20—Amendment of section 24—Duty to grant registration

This clause amends section 24 of the principal Act so as to give the Registrar power to refuse to register a vehicle if the Registrar has made a decision under proposed section 71C.

21—Amendment of section 58—Transfer of registration

This clause amends section 58 of the principal Act so as to give the Registrar power to refuse to transfer the registration of a vehicle if the Registrar has made a decision under proposed section 71C

22—Insertion of Part 2 Division 13

This clause inserts section 71C into the principal Act

Division 13—Miscellaneous

71C—Powers of Registrar in relation to offensive material displayed on motor vehicles

Proposed section 71C gives the Registrar certain powers as a result of an advertising code breach notice for offensive material in relation to a motor vehicle.

23—Amendment of section 81A—Provisional licences

This clause amends section 81A to provide that for the purposes of that section—

- (a) in determining the period for which a person has held a P1 licence or P2 licence or whether a person has completed a P1 qualifying period or a P2 qualifying period, any period during which the person's licence has been suspended under this Act or another law of this State is not to be taken into account; and
- (b) in determining the period for which a person has held a non-provisional licence or non-provisional interstate licence, any period during which the person's licence has been suspended under this Act or another law of this State is not to be taken into account,

unless the suspension came into operation before the commencement of this subsection.

24—Amendment of section 81AB—Probationary licences

This clause amends section 81AB to provide that for the purposes of that section, in determining the period for which conditions imposed under this section have been effective on a licence, any period during which the licence has been suspended under this Act or another law of this State is not to be taken into account (unless the suspension came into operation before the commencement of this subsection).

25—Amendment of section 81E—Circumstances in which licence will be subject to mandatory alcohol interlock scheme conditions

This clause amends section 81E to provide that for the purposes of that section, in determining whether the mandatory alcohol interlock conditions of a person's licence have been effective for the prescribed period, any period during which the person's licence has been suspended under the Act or another law of this State is not to be taken into account (unless the suspension came into operation before the commencement of this provision).

26—Amendment of section 81G—Cessation of licence subject to mandatory alcohol interlock scheme conditions

This clause amends section 81G to provide that for the purposes of the section, a person ceases to hold a licence if the licence is suspended under the Act or another law of this State, and in determining a period for which mandatory alcohol interlock scheme conditions have applied in relation to a person, any period during which the person's licence has been suspended under the principal Act or another law of this State is not to be taken into account (unless the suspension came into operation before the commencement of this provision).

27—Amendment of section 83—Consequences of certain orders or administrative actions outside State

This clause amends section 83 so that if the Registrar becomes aware that a person's licence or other authority to drive in another State or Territory has been suspended, the Registrar must refuse to issue a licence or learner's permit during the period of suspension. It also amends the section to provide that if the Registrar becomes aware that a person's licence or other authority to drive in another country has been suspended, the Registrar may refuse to issue a licence or learner's permit during the period of suspension.

28—Amendment of section 98MD—Only persons directed by police to proceed to or be present at scene of accident for purposes related to removal, wrecking or repair

This clause makes a related amendment to substitute a reference to 'complaint' with a reference to 'information'.

29—Amendment of section 98O—Persons who may ride in tow-truck

This clause makes a related amendment to substitute a reference to 'complaint' with a reference to 'information'.

30—Amendment of section 98Z—Review by Registrar

This clause inserts a reference to proposed section 71C.

31—Amendment of section 98ZA—Review by Tribunal

This clause provides that a person aggrieved by a decision under proposed section 71C or who is dissatisfied with a decision on a review under section 98Z may seek review under section 34 of the *South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2013*.

32—Amendment of section 137A—Obligation to provide evidence of design etc of motor vehicle

This clause amends section 137A of the principal Act by including 'appearance' in the list of matters that the Registrar or an authorised officer may require evidence of from the owner or operator of a motor vehicle.

33—Amendment of section 142—Facilitation of proof

This clause makes a related amendment to substitute references to 'complaint' with references to 'information'.

34—Amendment of section 145—Regulations and fee notices

This clause amends the Act to expressly accommodate the prescribing of fees by notice under the *Legislation (Fees) Act 2019*.

35—Amendment of Schedule 1—Evidence obtained by photographic detection device

This clause amends Schedule 1 clause 2 so that the period during which offences are subsumed is increased from 7 days to 14 days.

Part 7—Amendment of Rail Safety National Law (South Australia) Act 2012

36—Amendment of section 9—Interpretation

This clause deletes a definition for the purposes of the measure.

37—Amendment of section 12—Conduct of preliminary breath test or breath analysis

This clause expands the capacity for a sample of blood to be taken for testing purposes by a registered nurse in addition to a medical practitioner.

38—Amendment of section 13—Conduct of drug screening tests, oral fluid analyses and blood tests

This clause expands the capacity for a sample of blood to be taken for testing purposes by a registered nurse in addition to a medical practitioner.

39—Amendment of section 14—Breath analysis where drinking occurs after rail safety work is carried out

This clause alters the meaning of *relevant period* for the purposes of section 14 of the principal Act.

40—Amendment of section 15—Oral fluid analysis or blood test where consumption of alcohol or drug occurs after rail safety work is carried out

This clause alters the meaning of *relevant period* for the purposes of section 15 of the principal Act.

41—Amendment of section 16—Compulsory blood testing following a prescribed notifiable occurrence

This clause amends section 16 of the principal Act to enable a registered nurse to take a sample of blood for the purposes of the provision.

42—Amendment of section 17—Processes relating to blood samples

This clause broadens the capacity for samples to be taken by a registered nurse as well as a medical practitioner. It also makes some changes to the requirement to send, or keep copies of, certificates referred to in the provision.

43—Amendment of section 18—Processes relating to oral fluid samples

This clause amends section 18 of the principal Act to changes to the requirement to send, or keep copies of, certificates referred to in the provision.

44—Amendment of section 20—Evidence

This clause amends section 20 of the principal Act to increase the period of time referred to from 2 to 3 hours. It also makes related amendments to include references to registered nurses.

45—Repeal of section 21

This clause repeals section 21 of the principal Act.

Part 8—Amendment of Road Traffic Act 1961

46—Amendment of section 5—Interpretation

This clause inserts definitions for the purposes of the measure.

47—Amendment of section 22—Proof of lawful installation etc of traffic control devices

This clause makes a related amendment to substitute a reference to complaint with information.

48—Amendment of section 47D—Payment by convicted person of costs incidental to apprehension etc

This clause makes related amendments to substitute references to complaint with information.

49—Amendment of section 47E—Police may require alcotest or breath analysis

This clause inserts references to registered nurse.

50—Amendment of section 47EAA—Police may require drug screening test, oral fluid analysis and blood test

This clause inserts references to registered nurse.

51—Amendment of section 47GA—Breath analysis where drinking occurs after driving

This clause amends section 47GA of the principal Act to substitute the term *relevant period* that is used in the provision.

52—Amendment of section 47GB—Oral fluid analysis or blood test where consumption of prescribed drug occurs after driving

This clause amends section 47GB of the principal Act to substitute the term *relevant period* that is used in the provision.

53—Amendment of section 47I—Compulsory blood tests

This clause amends section 47I of the principal Act to enable a registered nurse to take a sample of blood for the purposes of the provision.

54—Amendment of section 47K—Evidence

This clause amends section 47K of the principal Act to increase the period of time referred to from 2 to 3 hours. It also makes related amendments to include references to registered nurses.

55—Amendment of section 53B—Sale and seizure of radar detectors, jammers and similar devices

This clause makes a related amendment to substitute a reference to complaint with information.

56—Amendment of section 79B—Provisions applying where certain offences are detected by photographic detection devices

This clause amends section 79B to alter the process for nominating another person as the driver of a vehicle involved in the commission of an offence detected by means of photographic detection devices. It replaces the requirement to furnish the Commissioner of Police with a statutory declaration stating the name and address of some person other than the owner who was driving the vehicle at the time of the alleged offence with a requirement to give the Commissioner of Police a nomination stating the name and address of some other person who was driving the vehicle.

57—Amendment of section 110C—Offences

This clause makes a technical change to substitute a reference to 'prescribed circumstances' with a reference to 'circumstances prescribed by regulation'.

58—Amendment of section 170—Disqualification where vehicle used for criminal purposes

This clause makes a related amendment to delete a reference to complaint.

59—Amendment of section 172—Removal of disqualification

This clause makes a related amendment to delete a reference to complaint.

60—Amendment of section 174A—Liability of vehicle owners and expiation of certain offences

The amendments made to section 174A by this clause alter the process for nominating another person as the driver of a vehicle involved in the commission of the offence and are largely analogous to the amendments to section 79B(2) of the Act made by this measure.

61—Amendment of section 174E—Presumption as to commencement of proceedings

This clause makes related amendments to substitute references to complaint with information.

62—Amendment of section 175—Evidence

This clause makes related amendments to substitute references to complaint with information.

63—Amendment of section 176—Regulations, rules and fee notices

This clause amends section 176 of the principal Act to enable the making of regulations to allow a council to fix fees for parking to be payable by the operation of an expanded range of electronic devices or methods.

64—Amendment of Schedule 1—Oral fluid and blood sample processes

This clause amends Schedule 1 of the principal Act to make changes to the requirement to send, or keep copies of, certificates referred to in the Schedule. It also makes provision for the use of a sample of oral fluid or blood for research for certain purposes according to limitations specified by the provision. A further amendment enables the results of a drug screening, test, oral fluid analysis or blood test to be admissible for certain proceedings specified by the provision.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Brown.

APPROPRIATION BILL 2020

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 10 November 2020.)

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (19:53): What a year that we have faced as South Australians. The government has had to produce a budget in that environment that will provide a stimulus to the state's economy and provide lasting and significant benefits to South Australians.

But picture our situation in February this year and what was about to befall us. We had just survived bushfires in four major regions across South Australia. People's lives had been lost, their livelihoods smashed and their homes incinerated. We had some enormous challenges as we then faced what was going to be happening around the world in the following months. The rest, as we all know, has created an enormous challenge for us.

As Attorney-General, one of my first jobs was to ring the Coroner and talk to him about what we might do in the event that the pandemic resulted in a significantly high number of deaths in South Australia. How would his court manage? How would we deal with multiple potentially contaminated deceased? We discussed the use of freezer containers as portable mortuaries and it was a serious issue on the agenda.

In hindsight, although we planned for the worst, thankfully this was not required. Very significant attention was given to how we were going to protect our pathologists in dealing with the deceased, who might be carriers. I learned that the coronavirus was able to survive death and continue to live in the body for a period of time. Those were the sorts of things we had to have been agile enough to pick up, assess and make decisions on.

For me, dealing with how to create a safe environment to get South Australians through this was quite a new frontier. That was clearly the priority of the government. We then crafted a budget that has been announced, that had to deal with how we were going to get the whole of South Australia into the next era of financial security, employment and continued opportunity.

Before I outline the features of this budget as they relate to the Attorney-General's Department and other areas of responsibility, I want to thank the courts—in particular, the Chief Justice and members of his council—for ensuring that we were able to continue to operate an important arm of the trilogy of executive parliament and our judiciary. This was ably supported by agencies such as the DPP and the Legal Services Commission, for which I am responsible.

There was an early introduction and adaptation to enable jury trials to resume in a COVID environment. We had to have an enormous technology uplift, and it is a huge credit to all of those who worked in that regard. Consumer and Business Services worked night and day to be able to provide relief to people who had anything from a trade licence issue to dealing with liquor licensing reforms, the management of gambling revenue, and with the financial fallout of the loss of businesses and commercial obligations in tenancies. The Small Business Commissioner and Commissioner for Consumer and Business Services were under the pump during those months, and I thank them.

Finally, can I say that nothing would have been able to be done legally without the Crown Solicitor's Office. The team within that office have worked—I am yet to tally up the millions that have been spent, which nobody has paid for, but we have had to carry so far—to meet the obligations of legislative and regulatory reform.

They also made sure that, whether we were fighting in the High Court, as we did last week in relation to the application before the High Court—Mr Walker was representing a restaurateur in Victoria in order to challenge the validity of that legislation. He suggested there was an implied freedom of movement; I am pleased to say that idea was smashed. The legitimacy and validity of state legislation, and the implementation of directions to keep residents within those regions safe, was upheld. I thank our Solicitor-General for his excellent management in relation to those matters.

It has been a busy and challenging year. This time around in the budget, we have introduced an increase in the victims of crime levy of 50 per cent. People know what the victims of crime levy is all about: the bad people who commit offences and are convicted have to make a direct payment into a fund. Since 2011, there has been no increase to this levy. This increase will help offset the increase in payments from the VOC Fund, which increased from \$25.7 million in 2016-17 to \$35 million in 2019-20. I have not been known to be a spendthrift but I can tell you that I think I have been generous in the application of funds, including ex gratia payments, from this fund.

There is an enormous list of agencies—I will not go into go through them during this contribution—which that Victims of Crime Fund supports, including funding for a homicide support team. There is also funding for Yarrow Place, which provides support to those who are victims of rape and sexual assault. There is a long list of them and this should not be overlooked: compensation for those who are deserving of support, given the physical assault or trauma they have suffered as a result of a crime.

Included in the compensation, payments have been increased from \$13.3 million to \$19.9 million over the same period. I remind members that we also put \$146.6 million from the VOC Fund in 2017-18 to meet the anticipated costs of participating in the National Redress Scheme. I am still in awe of the Premier. One of his first acts as a Premier was to sign up to the national scheme. That increase in the levy will be used to assist the victims of crime as its purpose. I think about \$11 million has already been paid out of the fund in relation to applications that have been made, but members might recall this is a 10-year fund from which parties can come forward to seek redress.

There is a range of spending initiatives in this year's budget that I am proud to outline, including \$14.2 million over two years to increase the AVL capacity across the justice sector as part

of the Digital Restart Fund, which will improve remote access to justice, through improving and increasing the use of AVL, and provide jobs to local IT suppliers and installers, apart from creating new jobs, as an example of the government backing the businesses that we know are in desperate need of support.

We have allotted \$638,000 in 2020-21 and \$523,000 per annum thereafter for point-of-entry searches and improved security measures in regional courts. I was pleased to announce this recently in Port Pirie and ensure that we bring up the level of support and security to what we enjoy here in the city. It will reduce the risk of harm to members of the judiciary, court staff and court users in regional areas and provide a boost for regional business providing the upgrades and is an example of the government backing business again to create new jobs.

There is \$546,000 to undertake disability access at the Supreme Court, which will see the installation of new ramps, signage, automatic doors and an access bathroom. This will also assist a number of South Australians and make our courts more accessible for people with disabilities. Works will be undertaken by local businesses—again, another example of us as a government backing business. I remind members that years ago our own Chief Justice returned from Europe in a wheelchair and could not even get into his own courtroom. This has taken years and years. We have made it a priority under this government to make sure that we have accessibility to our court services for those with disability.

There is additional funding of \$941,000 for the Deputy Coroner to reduce the backlog of cases in the Coroners Court. This will provide comfort to many South Australians who are grieving the loss of a loved one and waiting for that final determination. We have assigned \$11.6 million over three years to upgrade the facade of the Sir Samuel Way building. As a newly minted Minister for Local Government and Planning, I can say I am also very proud that this has been part of the heritage of our state and that we will ensure this will be there as a precious resource for future generations. It is apparently designed on some French fashion house but, in any event, it has a long history and it is a history we cherish.

In 2018-19, \$43.5 million was outlaid to purchase the site from Funds SA. This further investment ensures ongoing preservation of the historic building and will provide again for local tradies. There is \$200,000 per annum to Crime Stoppers. This is a group that has come to us over a number of years and this government has put its money where its mouth is: \$800,000 over four years, the first of its kind for this not-for-profit organisation to detect and reduce crime. Ongoing funding will allow Crime Stoppers to expand its operations across South Australia, including measures to stop rural criminal activity. Crime Stoppers helps SAPOL keep the community safe by collecting vital information about criminals and suspicious activity. For those who do not know, it provides a telephone service at SAPOL to enable the community to work with SAPOL and assist in this regard.

There is \$1.4 million to the Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) and a further \$884,000 to OPA and SACAT in 2020-21, and \$1.4 million ongoing will address increased requirements relating to the case management and formalisation of arrangements for NDIS clients. Additional funding of \$884,000 will also be provided to address the increasing guardianship orders. There is \$1.1 million to OPA and SACAT to manage increased requirements and activity levels for the authorisation of restrictive practices. This can be anything from restraining somebody from entering an area to, as they say, sometimes shackling in a circumstance where management is necessary at that other level.

In planning and local government, my new area of responsibility, there is \$100 million on the table to invest in local infrastructure projects. This is to be matched dollar for dollar with local government. That leverages \$200 million to vital job creation over the next two years. This new Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program will fund the construction of new community infrastructure facilities and the upgrade of existing facilities. I have made it abundantly clear to mayors and CEOs across the state: 'Pull those programs out of your top drawer and let's get cracking on this because it is a win-win situation.'

There is \$15 million in grant payments from the Planning and Development Fund. This is in addition to the usual estimate of about \$14 million a year to undertake projects that contribute to the revitalisation of reserves and parks, linear parks, coastal reserves, trails, riverbank precincts and town squares. Projects are jointly funded with local councils on a fifty-fifty basis. I can tell you there are no Manchurian pear trees in this lot; there are real benefits to communities, which they identify

as priorities. There is a total of \$22.7 million paid into the Open Spaces and Places for People in 2019-20 and a further \$20.4 million to be allocated in 2020-21. The grant round has opened and I have sent letters just this week to all the agencies, namely, the local governments across the state.

There is \$9.1 million over two years for municipal services in Aboriginal communities. The funding, often called the MUNS program, will ensure 15 Aboriginal communities in regional South Australia continue to receive basic municipal services, waste collection, road maintenance, landscaping, vet services and necessary water, wastewater and airfield maintenance. The funding also provides the urgent repair and renewal of MUNS-related infrastructure and again will generate local employment and local jobs stimulus in this regard.

The program will be overseen by the Office of Local Government and supported by a cross-agency MUNS advisory group including representatives from the Department for Infrastructure and Transport, the SA Housing Authority and the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation).

There is \$3 million over two years to provide consolidated flood mapping data development planning. This project will support emergency response agencies and the planning approvals process for delivering consistent and contemporary flood mapping through a modern digitised system that maps flood risk and consequence in step with other Australian jurisdictions. We will be catching up and it is not before time. It is part of the \$150 million Digital Restart Fund, and I am proud to say that our government is getting on with this.

There is \$1 million to implement the Local Government Information Network. Basically, this is to set up a website to provide communities with information on their council's performance so that they can actually have some direct capacity to compare performance relative to other councils. That is an important performance comparison which the LGA has welcomed and which we are pleased to be offering the funding for. In the government's response to the final recommendations of the inquiry the Premier committed to:

...invest in a new initiative to release critical information and data about all councils, their services, functions and operations, in a single, accessible and user-friendly website. Ratepayers will be able to see how their council performs in key areas across time, and in comparison with other councils.

Thank you, Premier. I am sure South Australians will appreciate that transparency and the effective use of those funds.

Can I also advise of \$2.4 million over three years to the Electoral Commission, which will implement a number of improvements to election processes, including new learning systems for temporary election staff, additional staff for increased engagement with Aboriginal electors and upgrades to the online electoral results platform. This includes electronic roll mark-offs in polling booths, an online portal for candidate lodgements and the ability to apply for a portal vote for phone or online. This is again from the Digital Restart Fund.

There is \$3.7 million over four years for electoral reforms—another initiative being funded from the Digital Restart Fund. This will enable ECSA to undertake several reforms, including electronic roll mark-offs in polling and pre-polling booths, the creation of an online portal for candidate lodgements and the ability to apply for a postal vote online or over the phone. These are major initiatives, and I know they will support the Electoral Commissioner and his staff in the 21st century.

For my own electorate of Bragg, I feel very privileged to represent the people of Bragg. I have been very concerned that my constituency, along with other South Australians, has an opportunity to reset the cost structure. The government's record investment in parks will get a further \$17 million boost in this budget to improve nature-based tourism across the state. The new funding takes total investment in our parks under our government to more than \$130 million—the highest amount in the state's history.

As part of this \$130 million investment, \$3 million will go to upgrading the Mount Lofty precinct, including trails, amenities and an overflow car park, and there is an additional \$1 million for the Cleland Wildlife Park to build a new purpose-built koala hold facility. It is a wonderful facility that people across the state and international visitors enjoy, and I am very proud to say that geographically it is the biggest entity in my electorate. I do not think many people live there who vote, but I have lots of beautiful wildlife.

Funding for education continues to grow, with the budget delivering a massive boost for schools and preschools. On the border of my electorate is Glenunga International High School. It will receive over \$12,000—this will accommodate year 7s into high school—to support future growth in the number of students enrolled and improve general learning areas. Very soon that will be the largest public high school in South Australia, and I am very proud that it is able to provide services to families in my electorate.

There is \$35 million to upgrade and resurface the South Eastern Freeway between the Tollgate and Crafers. This will make the freeway safer and smoother for all motorists. Importantly, every road improvement ensures that we get home earlier, we get to work quicker and we are actually able to enjoy all the good parts of our life more efficiently. Other initiatives announced in the budget include:

- \$10,000 cash loan grants for small business and not-for-profit organisations that employ staff, with significant payroll and land tax relief;
- \$3,000 cash grants for eligible businesses that do not have employees;
- \$5.7 million in payroll tax relief for employers who take on a new apprentice or trainee;
- \$18 million to allow households to continue to invest in larger batteries, lowering their household costs;
- \$13 million to support further works, if required, to deliver Project EnergyConnect, the interconnector between SA and New South Wales; and
- construction of the state's largest solar farm, and another big battery in a 10-year power deal, saving the state \$12.8 million per annum.

The state budget will continue to fund key commitments from the government to deliver cost-of-living relief for hardworking families. Let's just look at those:

- emergency services levy reductions, \$90 million a year;
- abolition of payroll tax to all small businesses, \$44 million per year indexed; and
- huge land tax savings of more than \$200 million over three years for investors.

Essentially, even on the cost of living for a family of two adults and two children, we are looking at savings in excess of \$800 a year just from their own personal budget.

The other opportunities that come with these initiatives mean they have much greater opportunity for job security, business viability and growth for the rest of South Australia because every one of us has a responsibility and a duty to provide for and support those who cannot support themselves—and that is government and all of us as individuals who are in a position of secure employment and able to assist others. So I congratulate the measures. They are sensible, they are strategic and they address an unprecedented challenge we have faced in a very difficult year. I commend the state budget 2021 to the parliament and seek its positive consideration and support for the same.

Time expired.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: I recognise the presence in the gallery this afternoon and earlier this evening members of the student representative council of Wilderness School for 2021 and Mrs Rosie Broderick, guests of the member for Flinders.

Bills

APPROPRIATION BILL 2020

Second Reading

Debate resumed.

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (20:14): It is a great pleasure to be able to rise this evening to make a contribution on the bill that is before the house. This is a bill that will position South Australia for economic, social and, to an extent, environmental recovery as we come out of a very difficult season. Both bushfires and coronavirus have wreaked havoc across South Australia and Australia and, in the case of coronavirus, across the world in 2020.

The Marshall Liberal government and Treasurer Rob Lucas have worked incredibly hard to ensure that the 2020 state budget turbocharges our state to be best positioned to come through these difficult times and come through the other side stronger than we were before. This is a real turning point for our state; it has to be. We have been hit by a number of crises this year. We had the bushfires and then we had the health crisis and the economic crisis wrought by coronavirus.

This budget seeks to settle things in this state and give us a launching pad towards sustained recovery and economic resilience. It is a big budget. It takes on a substantial amount of debt, but it has to. This is the right time to borrow. Interest rates are obviously at historic lows, so it is absolutely the responsibility of a responsible government to borrow and to apply funds to projects that will keep South Australians in employment now, that will set up South Australians for employment in the future and that will invest in high quality strategic and productive infrastructure that will enable South Australia to have that launchpad to not only recovery but also an extended period of sustained growth heading into the future.

I am proud of this budget. I am proud to have seen the way the government has worked to ensure that, right across the board, economic, social, environment and community are built up as a consequence of this budget. I have every confidence that South Australian businesses and the residents of this great state will grab hold of the opportunities this budget creates, will run with them and will be part of a real recovery story for South Australia.

I am also exceptionally proud that this budget applies more funding than ever before to our natural environment. We are so proud of our environment in South Australia. I come across people day in and day out who, like me, love our natural environment. We do value it. When we talk about building what matters, which is a bit of a theme for our state budget, one of the things that matters to South Australians is the natural environment, the natural world. It's part of our DNA. It creates the very character, the fabric, of our state and ensures that the lifestyle, the livability, the things that we see as being inherently what South Australia is all about—the natural world, our national parks, our coastline, our wilderness areas, our expansive outback—are the things that make South Australia what it is.

We have to invest in them. We have to invest in them in the face of a changing climate. We have to deal with pest plants and animals that unpick their resilience. We have to create opportunities for South Australians to get into the natural world, to enjoy it. It is only with the opportunities to access natural world—to experience it, to smell it, to touch it, to experience the uniqueness and the vitality of it—that people will come to love it and want to fight for its protection, its reinvigoration and its nurturing, and that is what this budget does.

This budget is the strongest state budget we have ever had in terms of climate action. It puts dealing with climate change at its heart and seeks to set us up to reduce emissions over time. Of course, not only do we have a target of net zero emissions by 2050, but we have that interim target announced by Governor Hieu Van Le in his speech opening the parliament in February this year of 50 per cent reductions in 2005 emissions by 2030. That target gives us that interim goal to work towards. We need a pathway to get there and this budget enables a whole range of initiatives that will help us get to that 2030 target and will certainly set us up for success for 2050 as well.

These initiatives stretch across my portfolio and into the portfolio held by the Minister for Energy and Mining as well. I want to go through some of those climate action initiatives that sit in the energy and mining portfolio because they are so important, the big ticket initiatives that will help that transition to a low or no-carbon society and set this state up for success when aiming for both the 2030 and 2050 goals.

We made a significant announcement around developing the hydrogen industry here in South Australia. This is an industry that we believe has immense potential to service the world's hydrogen needs. We know there are countries such as Japan and Korea, not that far from Australia, certainly in our Pacific region, that are hungry for hydrogen. South Australia can provide that resource. That will, in turn, provide many clean, green jobs here as well as part of our decarbonised

economy. I am excited by the fact that the budget applies significant funding towards our hydrogen strategy, getting that still embryonic industry off the ground and then pushing it forward so that it does create jobs and it can satisfy that hunger for this clean, green fuel, not only in Australia but overseas as well. The potential there is immense.

I am also excited that this budget extends our Home Battery Scheme, a scheme that we introduced following our formation of government in March 2018. This is a scheme that not only reduces cost pressures at the household level but, importantly, creates stability within our fairly fragile energy grid. That program has gone very well to date but we want to extend it because the more people who have home batteries installed, the more stability is found within the grid, which enables us to deploy energy when we need to, or choose not to draw from the grid when it would be difficult to do so. The extension of the Home Battery Scheme is something that I think is really an excellent strategy.

It was also great to see in the budget the announcement of the government's energy contract, purchasing renewable energy as used by the government of South Australia for our facilities and us going into that deal with the private sector, which will not only provide the energy but, as part of the deal, will see a solar farm constructed at Cultana on Eyre Peninsula and the development of a very large battery, the Playford utility battery, located at Port Augusta.

That really creates a triangle of renewable energy in Spencer Gulf and is really one of the most significant places, not only in Australia but in the world, for renewable energy, right here in South Australia. The communities of Whyalla and Port Augusta in particular are shedding the past, the old clothing of dirty energy production, particularly that coal-powered power station that was formerly at Port Augusta.

They are shedding that history and embracing this exciting new cutting-edge clean, green provision of energy and giving themselves an economic and employment future as well. It is incredibly exciting for both those towns to see that transition away from the old and embracing the new and also connecting a little bit of the energy heritage, the manufacturing heritage, the fact that they create things. They can continue to create things, whether that is energy production through renewables or perhaps manufacturing, creating products through low or no-emissions energy production. We know there is demand for that both in Australia and overseas, and the opportunity, the potential, for a town like Whyalla to create green steel and export it to the world is abundant.

The budget also includes \$60 million to help government buildings transition to more energy-efficient processes, whether that be lighting or retrofitting of their existing infrastructure. This will help government demonstrate that it can lead the way, that government is best practice. It is one thing expecting businesses and the community to transition, but government has to as well, government has to lead the way. This is what that \$60 million in energy-efficient retrofits for government buildings is all about, government reducing its costs, government leading the way in, again, that green energy transformation that our state is really pushing the boundaries with.

I want to talk about electric vehicles in our transition to a new energy future. We know that one of the statewide changes we need to reduce our emissions, going into the future, is ensuring that our vehicles are transformed to either electric vehicles or hydrogen vehicles. So the budget included \$18.3 million towards a charging infrastructure network right across the state to give people confidence that they can invest in electric vehicles and can do so knowing they can head out into more regional parts of the state and not be left high and dry.

While that might not necessarily be the case, on most occasions it is important to create that confidence so people do not see that as a barrier to purchasing electric vehicles. We also announced the transition of the government fleet to electric vehicles. Because of the quick turnover of government-owned vehicles, that will enable us to establish an electric vehicle second-hand market. That is so important for that broader penetration of the market with electric vehicles.

There has been some commentary about the introduction of a charge or levy, so to speak, for electric vehicles. That is a difficult decision for the government to make. Of course, all states and territories across the nation will likely move in this direction in the coming weeks and months. We are the first mover on it, but it is a necessary thing to do. We need to—and I think we will be—rapidly

transitioning to electric vehicles in the coming years, and by the 2030s we want these to be the product of choice. With that, fuel excise will drop away dramatically.

So this levy is necessary. Some say it is a disincentive, but in my view that is a mischaracterisation. We need to make this transition and we need to do it at the beginning. We know we will accelerate towards more and more electric vehicles into the future, so let us get it right from day one. Let's not bring in that levy down the track: let's do it now. That is what good governance is all about. Yes, it is a difficult decision to have made, but we really need to do it.

There are a few naysayers. I saw the Conservation Council make a comment that it was not the right thing to do, and the electric vehicles peak body said that as well, but we have to do it. I cannot make any apologies for that. It was a difficult decision, but sometimes government requires difficult decisions.

The other part of this budget I am exceptionally proud of is our historic investment in our parks. South Australia is blessed that 21 per cent of our state is held within our parks. That is a huge area; if you add it all together it is the size of the United Kingdom. It is a phenomenal area to be protected, and it is protected for our wildlife, our flora and fauna, and often our heritage and cultural items that are held within these parks as well, places of significance to our traditional owners.

Our parks are something to be proud of. Our parks are something that stimulate our economy because people visit them, particularly in regional South Australia. One of the great things about our parks is that they stretch from one end of our state to the other. In my job as the state's Minister for Environment I get out there and see our parks whenever I can. I know that has not always been the case with previous ministers for the environment, but I want to get out there and visit as many of our parks as possible. There are 356 parks in our state. While I am the minister, I hope to get to as many as I can.

Just a few weeks ago, I went over, way over, to the Nullarbor National Park near the Western Australian border. We have parks on Kangaroo Island. This weekend, I head over to Innes National Park at the foot of Yorke Peninsula, and last week I was at some of the Eyre Peninsula national parks. We are just so fortunate to have these great parks and we want to share them with people. We want to create parks that are safe and accessible and can be set up in such a way that they have a reasonable level of amenity—good toilets, good pathways, good picnic and barbecue areas and decent, safe camp sites—and safe and sensitive access to iconic locations.

We are investing a huge amount in our parks through our Parks 2025 program. Off the back of bushfires, we announced \$22 million in Parks 2025, and this budget includes a further \$17 million. In fact, it takes our capital investment, plus a bit of operational investment through prescribed bushfires and cool burns in our parks, to \$130 million since we formed government. The parks part of my portfolio was withered, forgotten and run-down. Our ranger service had been reduced from around 300 to 93; in fact, it fell as low as 88 around 2016 and 2017. It was only 93 when we took office.

We have reinvigorated the National Parks and Wildlife Service. We have increased the number of park rangers to 133, and we have established a volunteer ranger workforce working alongside the National Parks and Wildlife Service and our incredibly important friends groups to sustain our national parks. What we have done is created pride and respect for our National Parks and Wildlife Service, and we are backing that now by lifting the amenity of our national parks. I am not going to apologise for making our parks more accessible. I will not lock up our national parks.

There are many wilderness areas and more inaccessible areas in our national parks than there are accessible areas but, where there are accessible areas, where we want to take people in to experience nature—to fall in love with nature and, as I said earlier, then become great advocates for our environment—I want us to be making that investment. All across the state, that is what we are doing. This budget includes funding for Innes National Park. It includes funding for the Eyre Peninsula national parks.

The Deputy Speaker will be delighted by that news—money going in to lift the amenity of parks in his electorate, such as Lincoln National Park, Coffin Bay National Park and some of those offshore islands held within our park system as well. It is a great part of the world over there. The Mount Lofty precinct, with Cleland Conservation Park and Cleland Wildlife Park, will be invested in.

We will be investing in the Mount Lofty Botanic Garden, an incredible and very Instagrammable part of our state that has huge visitation. We will be lifting the amenity there.

We are going to create a world-class mountain biking and hiking destination at the heart of Fleurieu Peninsula. We are investing in the parks on Kangaroo Island. They were fire ravaged in the west end. We will be rebuilding those. We will be rebuilding them stronger than before and more relevant and exciting than before. We will also be providing funding for projects in the east end, the part of the island that was not impacted by fire but where we want to create visitation opportunities. We will be putting funding into the Antechamber Bay area, bridging Chapman River. We will be putting money into the Cape Willoughby precinct and Cape Gantheaume as well, lifting the amenity and creating sensitive visitation experiences.

The budget includes funding for the Southern Flinders and the Northern Flinders Ranges. It includes funding for the Mount Remarkable precinct, which we want to be a destination for mountain biking as well as for hiking and other forms of visitation. We see huge opportunity there in the Southern Flinders Ranges. We are investing in the Nilpena fossil conservation park in the Northern Flinders Ranges and also the Wilpena area around Ikara-Flinders Ranges National Park. There are so many opportunities through this budget to lift the amenity of our national parks, to show pride in them, to encourage people to visit our regions and to get not only conservation wins but economic wins as well.

This budget has investment in our national parks like never before. This government has \$203 million of new investment included in the budget. I am happy to table this graph because I know we should not use props in these speeches. I will table this graph that really shows the huge spike in investment in the environment portfolio. It is historic. We are looking after our parks. We are looking after our natural environment. We are creating a climate-resilient South Australia and I am incredibly proud of this budget.

The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (20:34): I, too, rise to speak on the Appropriation Bill. What a fantastic budget we have. In light of the COVID pandemic, this is the budget that we truly had to have. This is all about creating jobs, backing business and building what matters. We are investing a record of \$16.7 billion in job-creating infrastructure projects over the next four years. This is an extra \$3.8 billion over last year's budget. Spending will be on local roads, major sporting facilities, schools and hospitals and is expected to create over 19,000 jobs.

In education, there will be \$37 million spent over the next two years on government schools and preschools for priority maintenance works, in addition to the \$32 million already provided in the 2019-20 year that was over and above the department's usual maintenance spent. This will include grants of between \$20,000 and \$100,000 for government schools and an extra \$30,000 for every government preschool to engage local tradespeople to deliver priority maintenance works. That is on top of the \$20,000 they already received this year.

In health, there is a \$676 million increase in health dollars, with the Marshall Liberal government reaffirming its commitment to a new world-class Women's and Children's Hospital, co-located with the Royal Adelaide Hospital, by budgeting \$685 million over the forward estimates for the landmark build. This is an additional \$50 million on top of the sustainment works on the current location that will be delivered by government, and that will include at the current site a new specialist care baby unit and a paediatric emergency department upgrade.

In mental health, there will be an extra \$15.1 million to support the mental health of South Australians throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. The Marshall Liberal government is providing better services closer to home, with a \$14 million investment to establish and operate an adult mental health centre in Adelaide. The centre will deliver cutting-edge, out-of-hospital care, with community-based organisation Neami National selected as the service provider. The mental health centre will be established in the CBD and link people with community mental health services and non-government mental health crisis services that can provide follow-up care at home or in the community.

Funding of \$5.3 million over two years for the Statewide Wellbeing Strategy, which encourages South Australians to open their world to sports, arts and physical activities during the pandemic, has also been secured. The Marshall Liberal government is investing more than

\$130 million in South Australia's parks in the state budget 2021—the most in the state's history. The Marshall Liberal government's Parks 2025 initiative is boosted to a total of \$44 million over four years to improve park infrastructure and conserve our natural landscapes and wildlife across South Australia.

The Adelaide Botanic Gardens will receive \$9.2 million over three years for a range of capital upgrades. These include investment in night lighting, new public toilets and other activation upgrades, making the gardens more accessible to visitors and a more flexible location for community and cultural events. Critical roof and building works for the heritage-listed Goodman and Tram Barn A building, as well as utility upgrades, including a new irrigation system at Botanic Park, will also be included.

In arts and culture, an additional \$50 million has been committed for the Aboriginal Arts and Cultures Centre, bringing the total budget to \$200 million, which includes \$85 million in federal money under the Adelaide City Deal.

A new \$86.5 million arts storage facility will be purpose built to preserve millions of dollars' worth of state collections from cultural institutions, including the Art Gallery, the SA Museum, the State Library and the History Trust of South Australia. This will create up to 170 jobs during construction and ensure the millions of dollars' worth of art, artefacts and collections are stored in a safe and secure facility.

In addition, \$204 million of sport infrastructure funding will invest in upgrades to our key stadia and facilities, as well as expand support for local recreational infrastructure. Kickstarting the project is \$44 million for stage 2 of the Memorial Drive Tennis Centre. This project will build on the momentum of stage 1 and continue the transformation of one of the nation's most iconic sporting precincts. This major project will drive international tennis to our state and includes:

- increased seating capacity of 1,500, bringing it to 6,000;
- space for concerts and festivals;
- digital infrastructure to host future e-sports events;
- elite training and recovery facilities; and
- improved access to the Adelaide Oval precinct.

This will significantly build upon an already thriving area of the city and also has the potential to create a hub for the global e-sports phenomenon. We are investing \$25 million in expanding the grassroots sporting facilities grants program. We are backing business through a second round of \$10,000 cash grants, with lower payroll tax and land tax relief, and the additional support of tourism and events, building better parks and sporting facilities.

Other small businesses that do not employ staff, such as sole traders or partnerships, and that are suffering due to COVID-19 can also apply for the \$3,000 cash grants. There will be \$233 million in total payroll tax relief for thousands of eligible businesses. We are also investing \$13.4 million to roll out a statewide electric vehicle charging network.

We are also investing in support for our rough sleepers, which affects my electorate of Adelaide. The Marshall Liberal government is investing an additional \$13.6 million over three years to help reduce homelessness in South Australia. Each year, 60 rough sleepers with complex needs will be housed in new specialised and supported accommodation at a cost of \$2.3 million. A portion of the Holbrook public housing site at Brooklyn Park will be redeveloped with case management support provided for tenants.

Forty Aboriginal elders at risk of homelessness will have access to new housing thanks to a \$4 million grant provided to Aboriginal Community Housing Limited for the development of culturally appropriate accommodation in Bedford Park. These initiatives build on the unprecedented efforts to house 250 South Australian rough sleepers during the COVID-19 pandemic and provide them with ongoing support through the \$7.3 million funding injection. This government is committed to building what matters, and these developments will provide much-needed support for some of South Australia's most vulnerable.

The Marshall Liberal government is building what matters, with a record maintenance blitz on thousands of run-down public homes well underway, and \$10 million of planned public housing capital maintenance has been fast-tracked to boost the South Australian economy in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and has supported more than 160 jobs.

Upgrades to 1,400 properties, including new kitchens and bathrooms, and improvements to common areas, lighting and security, paving, painting and horticulture works are almost complete. There will be a \$1.1 million investment in the South Australian Housing Authority to help fund the Street to Home project in 2020-21. Street to Home supports people sleeping rough in the Adelaide CBD with a range of services, including rehousing and health care.

There will be huge hip pocket savings to everyday mums and dads, including massive reductions in average household water and sewerage bills, with an average of a \$200 saving a year; cheaper ESL bills, at an average of \$163.60; cheaper electricity, at an average of \$158 in savings; and reduced car registration costs, through lower CTP insurance premiums. For a two-car family, this will mean a saving of \$200. Swimming and sports lessons vouchers will be raised from \$50 to \$100. For a typical Adelaide household of two children and two cars, this equates to a saving of around \$820 in their personal annual budget.

In child protection, there will be \$124 million extra invested over the next four years to accommodate anticipated increases expected. We continue to progress the strategy of growing the number of placements in family-based care and improving outcomes for children and young people. The government is continuing to invest in additional early intervention programs and working across government to provide coordinated support to families at risk.

As part of the Marshall Liberal government's \$120 million restart fund, \$670,000 has been provided in the 2021 budget for the placement management system initiative. The placement management system will provide real-time visibility of placement capacity, current occupancy and availability of options. This will ensure an increased number of children and young people will be better matched to the most suitable placements. The Marshall Liberal government has delivered more frontline workers in child protection and reduced the number of vacancies through successful broadening of qualifications policy training and increased recruitment.

Even though debt will increase significantly, the estimated interest costs for general government sector debt over the next three years will be \$440 million less than estimated in last year's budget due to the very low interest rates that are now available. This budget is about creating jobs, backing business and building what matters.

Mrs POWER (Elder) (20:46): I also rise to speak on the Appropriation Bill 2020 and commend the Treasurer for one of the most important state budgets of our time. It is a budget that is breaking records. It is a budget that is striving to break through our economic challenges and keep South Australia ahead of the curve. We stood here in our parliament earlier this year, only nine months ago, speaking about our responses to the devastating bushfires that changed the South Australian landscape in more ways than one. We saw communities devastated and land burnt and blackened, not only in our great state but all across our country.

At that time, South Australians came together. We supported one another, we pitched in, we donated to help communities that had lost everything. We began to rebuild. Then the world was rocked by COVID-19 and we were forced to stay apart. It has changed our lives in ways that I think none of us really ever imagined or ever thought was possible. We were isolated, we were shut down, friends and families had their work hours reduced and some even lost their jobs and livelihoods. Businesses have struggled to stay afloat through no fault of their own.

Combined with the impacts of the bushfires, we were faced with the greatest health and economic challenge of our time. The Marshall Liberal government had a strong plan to keep South Australians safe and, fortunately, acted swiftly and decisively to protect the community, to save jobs and to save businesses. South Australia is now one of the safest states in the safest nation in the world.

But we are not quite out of the woods yet. With this budget, the Treasurer has demonstrated the strength of this government's response, jump starting our economic recovery and creating thousands of jobs. It is delivering a record infrastructure investment, a record \$4 billion state stimulus

and driving down the cost of living for households and businesses, putting more of their hard-earned cash back in their pocket when they need it most.

This budget is delivering for all South Australians, and I am so pleased that it is delivering for my local area. The 2020 state budget delivers the \$851 million tradies package to deliver a pipeline of construction works that will create jobs for a wide range of trades. This is just the tip of the iceberg in our plan to create jobs.

A \$76 million housing construction stimulus package will support the housing industry and we are expanding the Starter Loan eligibility criteria to enable those on modest incomes to access an interest-free loan for up to five years through HomeStart. Opportunities to promote community and affordable housing are also being considered as part of this funding. It is funding that does not just create jobs; it is about helping more people to afford homes.

Exciting news for local communities is the \$200 million of funding that has been unlocked for the Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program. This will help build more of the things that I know matter to residents in my local electorate, such as parks, playgrounds, walking trails, and improving community centres and performance spaces—all those things that make our already great neighbourhoods even better to live in.

This government is also building what matters through our record \$1.3 billion education build, delivering world-class facilities and supporting the learning of every student in our state. As the state member for Elder, I love getting out and visiting my local schools. I know what funding support will do for schools like Colonel Light Gardens Primary School, Clapham Primary School, Clovelly Park, Westbourne Park—all of them. A small amount of money can really go a long way and make it even better for students in my local area.

Outside of primary schools are our secondary schools that are attended by so many students in my electorate. Unley High, to which a good part of my area is about to be rezoned as of next year, Springbank Secondary College and Hamilton Secondary College are all receiving incredible upgrades that will give the schools a real boost.

An extra \$12 million over three years is also being invested to help attract new events to South Australia to support events, arts and culture in our wonderful state. More support for the hard-hit arts sector is vital in this time. The Arts Recovery Fund will support theatres and festivals to reopen and support the employment of professional artists through collaborations and partnerships. This includes grants of \$20,000 for individuals and \$100,000 for groups and organisations. We are indeed the festival state—a worthy title for our great state. Only a few hours ago, I was talking in depth about all the work we are doing to support the arts sector and commending our local artists.

So many of the wonderful businesses in my electorate of Elder without a doubt have been doing it tough. They have responded with innovation and with hard work and have done an incredible job, and this budget really recognises that. It not only recognises the local businesses in my electorate but also really backs businesses all across South Australia, working hard to support them to help them keep their lights on, to keep their doors open and to keep hardworking people in jobs.

Thousands of South Australian small businesses and not-for-profit organisations will be eligible for a second \$10,000 cash grant. Just to name one local charity—there are obviously lots of incredible local charities in my electorate doing a great job—MarionLIFE have shared with me what the first round of cash grants did in supporting them to change the way they would reach out and work with people in suburbs like Mitchell Park, Clovelly Park and St Mary's—great suburbs in the electorate of Elder.

We are also lowering costs for businesses, with payroll and land tax relief to ease the burden and provide incentives to hire more staff. Of course, one of the headline announcements from this budget that will benefit residents who live in my area is the single biggest infrastructure investment of any government in our state's history. I am sure people have heard us say that we are building what matters—because what matters to you matters to us as a government.

This also includes the \$8.9 billion investment for the completion of the north-south corridor. It is such an exciting announcement. I have had so many residents asking, 'What's happening with the north-south road corridor? When is it going to get done?' They know the hardest part of that 10.5-kilometre section of the corridor was left to the Marshall Liberal government to rise to the challenge and really do the work that the opposition failed to do. The final plans involve not one but

two tunnels and a solution that will minimise the disruption to many families, individuals and businesses. Importantly, it will also preserve heritage in iconic places, which I know is important to many of my local residents.

This design will create up to 4,000 jobs at a time when we need it most and, for those who are travelling along the north-south corridor, they will save 24 minutes per trip—so less time stuck in traffic, more time doing the things they love. That is something that is so important, and it is a big driver behind our road upgrades right across the state. We have the same thing happening at the Springbank Road intersection, where people are going to be able to move through that intersection more quickly and more safely, with less time in the car and more time doing the things that they love. That is what we are all about.

There is \$204 million to upgrade and expand sport and recreation facilities, from the Memorial Drive Tennis Centre to grassroots facilities across the state. So many incredible local grassroots sporting clubs have spoken to me about the lack of investment they have had over 16 long years of a Labor government. Their facilities, understandably, need to be upgraded and I am really pleased that we are putting those funds in the budget to support them to be able to do what they do. Incredible volunteers give so much to their sporting clubs, and they just need some support along the way.

This budget also includes \$1.7 billion for new and upgraded health infrastructure, of which the Repat and Flinders are receiving significant funding to provide better health services closer to home for residents in my local community. We went to the election promising that we would reopen the Repat, we would reactivate site into a thriving healthcare precinct, and we got on with doing that job from the moment we were elected. With each budget since we have formed government, we have continued to invest in that site. We know how important it is to South Australians, not just in my local area—obviously, the Repat is in my electorate—but all across South Australia. We heard from South Australians about how important the Repat site is, and we are keeping the spirit of the Repat alive.

COVID-19 has challenged us but it has not beaten us. Together, we have thrown everything at this virus to save livelihoods and, importantly, to save lives. That is why this budget is not just about job creation: it is about caring and it is about people. In addition to a raft of other initiatives already announced by the Marshall Liberal government over recent weeks, we are committing an additional \$4.1 million to further support vulnerable families impacted by COVID-19. This funding will provide tailored financial counselling and loans to help people avoid permanent financial crisis, boost existing financial resilience and wellbeing services and fund non-government organisations in the food relief sector.

As the Assistant Minister for Domestic and Family Violence Prevention, helping to ensure women, children and families are supported and safe has been an absolute priority of mine and I know that it is a priority of the government, of the Premier, of the Attorney-General and of the Minister for Human Services, with whom I have worked very closely in this space.

COVID-19 has posed unique challenges. Funding support from the federal government enabled a swift response to support frontline service providers, which we continue to support as a state government. The teams at Women's Safety Services, Embolden and OARS—so many great organisations—do incredible work at all times but particularly at this time, supporting those who have been impacted or are at risk of domestic and family violence. To all of them I say thank you.

In this budget, our focus remains on funding domestic violence prevention measures as well as reducing the impact and supporting those who have been impacted. We are committing \$3.75 million over four years to continue the Domestic Violence Disclosure scheme which we introduced. It has had an incredible response and, importantly, is helping people to make informed choices and is ultimately preventing domestic and family violence from occurring.

Our funding also includes developing and implementing a new early support counselling service for perpetrators of domestic violence. It is currently funded through commonwealth funding, and it is really important that we keep that work going. We are continuing the lifesaving personal protection app, which links at-risk South Australians directly to South Australia Police. Again, that was one of our election commitments that we implemented, and we have seen that it has had a really

important impact in helping women to feel safer. This is in addition to the \$11.9 million suite of measures to respond to and tackle domestic and family violence that we already committed to in our first budget.

There is no doubt that we as South Australians have stared down the greatest health and economic challenge of our time. The 2020 state budget will not only accelerate our economy to create the jobs we need but also help us in our work to keep all South Australians safe and strong. The Premier sent a clear message echoing the Prime Minister's words to all South Australians: we have your back, we are working hard for you and we will continue to make sure that our state does all it can to keep South Australians safe and, of course, keep us strong, so that our everyday lives are all the better for it. I commend the bill to the house.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (21:00): I rise to speak to the Appropriation Bill that we have before us for the budget running in 2020-21. I must say that I am so pleased to see this massive infrastructure spend of \$16.7 billion coming into the state so that we can build our way out of the issues raised by COVID-19. I really do commend the Treasurer, the Hon. Rob Lucas in the other place, because it certainly is not in his nature to spend money like this. I know that from advocating for projects in my electorate, where we have worked hard to make sure we get funding, so I know how fiscally responsible the Treasurer is. He also knows that we need to do something to bring this state out of the issues raised by COVID-19.

It is a massive spend, and it will be absolutely fantastic as we move forward from what has happened to the state with the impacts of COVID-19 which, by the way, we have done such a great job of combating. Sadly, four people have lost their lives, but it could have been a lot worse. It has been tough, and I say that as a border MP having to manage border communities, which I know only too well through football, especially my border community of Pinnaroo and Murrayville. My boys have been playing up there, but they did not play this year in the Mallee league because of COVID. Those border communities have really done it tough. They are people in extended communities, people with children in schools and universities on the wrong side of the border, because that is their will. Let's hope that we get those kids home as soon as we can, especially well before Christmas.

I want to talk about the \$4 billion of economic stimulus we are putting into the challenge arising from COVID-19 and the bushfires that have impacted our state and certainly impacted our state yesterday. I note there were many fires on Yorke Peninsula in the member for Narungga's electorate that were helped out with timely rain. The CFS and farm fire units did such a great job in containing those fires and fires in other places as quickly as possible.

These total stimulus measures are for \$4 billion. This package will also leverage an additional \$1 billion of commonwealth, local government and business spending. As part of that economic stimulus package, we see the Business and Jobs Support Fund and Community and Jobs Support Fund, \$795 million; support for the community and community infrastructure, \$747 million; support for our educational institutions, \$657 million; tax and fee relief, \$592 million; economic and business growth, \$354 million; investment in road infrastructure, an extra \$317 million; investment in our assets, \$297 million; the Digital Restart Fund, \$120 million; and investment in health infrastructure, an extra \$118 million, which gives us \$4 billion.

In responding to bushfires and COVID, there is \$330 million. That is a combination of commonwealth and state funding to protect the health and wellbeing of South Australians in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic and support frontline workers. When we look at creating jobs, backing business and building what matters, we see the investment in infrastructure, which has gone from \$12.9 billion to \$16.7 billion, up by almost \$4 billion over four years.

The north-south corridor is to be completed in 10 years, by 2030, with a combination of tunnels and at-grade sections, and \$8.9 billion is the estimated cost of that solution for that north-south connection. This is the toughest bit, over 10 kilometres, and it has been left to us to fix this problem as part of the north-south corridor. It could have been fixed with the MATS Plan decades ago, but we have bitten this one off and we will chew it. We will do the two tunnels that are involved and lower those road sections that are different sections. Some are a kilometre long and some are 1.1 kilometres as the ramps that lead into these tunnels.

This is such a fantastic solution that lessens compulsory acquisition and also saves some of those great institutions such as the Thebarton Theatre. It is a massive job, the biggest infrastructure job ever taken on in this state, a small state by population measures, and it just goes to show that

we are serious about getting this north-south route fixed. It is exciting and I think will create 4,000 jobs over the life of the project. I know that contractors and other people to be involved in this project are rightly excited about it.

The investment in road infrastructure is \$6.9 billion over four years. I reflect on projects in my electorate that have already been taken on as election promises since the last election in 2018, roads like the Browns Well Highway and the Ngarkat Highway, where hundreds of kilometres of shoulder sealing and barrier work are being put in so that we can get these road back to 110 km/h. They are already rated for road train status and it will make them so much safer. I am really proud that we are investing \$72 million in eight roads. These two roads take over half that funding to get that vital freight route fixed along the edge of our state with Victoria.

The tradies package is a boost in infrastructure spend of \$851 million over two years, with a focus on jobs. This is absolutely vital. In fact, with the things we have in place already at the moment with the commonwealth and state housing grants, where people can get up to \$40,000 each, you can barely find a trade that is not busy, not flat out, and that is absolutely what we need to help build our way out of this COVID crisis. Here we see another massive amount of funding so that we can move forward into the future.

We have the allocation of \$685 million towards the new Women's and Children's Hospital that will sit adjacent to the Royal Adelaide Hospital. It is absolutely vital to put these health units next to each other, get the build right, use the money appropriately, talk to the clinicians and get it absolutely right.

There is \$305 million for bushfire response and recovery. I must say that it is great to see that a lot of the recommendations of the federal and state inquiries have been heeded. I wrote to both in regard to what we need to do about proactive management and cold burns. We do need to take proactive management so that we do not see these massive fires that happened not just in this state but along the east coast.

We had fires pretty well all round the state, obviously notably in Kangaroo Island and Cudlee Creek. Harrogate in my electorate was badly hurt, but there were also fires at Keilira in the South-East and fires at Carcuma out the back of Coonalpyn and in other areas around Kingston and far more areas. When fire rears its ugly head it is good to see that we also have investment going in there to take that on into the future.

We look at the land tax relief resulting from the 2019-20 budget land tax reforms, plus the additional COVID-19 support measures of \$233 million. Sport and recreation infrastructure planned includes upgrading Hindmarsh Stadium in Adelaide, \$45 million, and the Memorial Drive tennis courts, \$44 million, which is \$204 million over four years. There is increased funding of \$124 million over four years for children and young people in care.

The local government infrastructure partnership program will provide grants of up to 50 per cent of the cost of projects, resulting in at least \$200 million of investment and \$100 million over two years. At the new memorial wall at Milang I ran into Glenn Rappensberg this morning, when we were paying our respects to those who have served this great country and those who are serving. I truly do, as everyone here does, pay my respects to those who have served this country, people who are prepared to lay their life on the line. You cannot have more respect than for those who are prepared to do that as their duty to their country. Councils are certainly excited about the co-funding going in to support more infrastructure builds moving forward.

We have a skills and job trainer package for workers to reskill or upskill of \$87.9 million over two years, and round 3 of small business grants, available from 9 November and extended to non-employing small businesses operating from commercial premises, is \$82 million this financial year. I had a constituent who, because he did not employ people directly, was not eligible for the \$10,000 grant. The \$10,000 grants will be available for those who were eligible in the past, but for those who do not employ there are \$3,000 grants to help them along as well in these COVID times, and I am really pleased with that outcome.

I talked about the housing construction stimulus package earlier, and support for the sector when it transitions from the stimulus impact of the HomeBuilder Grants and the expansion of the HomeStart Starter Loan is an extra \$76 million.

Kangaroo Island bushfire recovery, to replace damaged government assets, is \$45 million over three years, and grants for maintenance projects for government schools and preschools is \$37 million over two years. I note that in my seat of Hammond there will be over \$1 million going to schools in that program, and that they will be truly welcomed.

Then we look at what we are doing with parks, and I commend Minister Speirs' Parks 2025, conserving our natural landscapes and wildlife, taking total funding to \$44 million over four years. That is \$32 million allocated there over four years. This is fantastic work happening in our parks, making them more available for people and improving the visitor experience, especially because at the moment we have to travel locally more than ever. I certainly noticed that going up to a farm stay or a station stay just north of Hawker at Mern Merna Station on the October long weekend. The number of people travelling internally in the state is fantastic.

I have talked a lot about the infrastructure spend and what is going on, and these things will affect all our electorates right across the state and assist them in moving forward. However, in regard to particular things destined for my electorate, there is \$52 million for upgrades to the Dukes, Spencer and Riddoch highways. Obviously, in my electorate, the Dukes Highway will be taking a fair lump of that money.

We have \$37.6 million for the Sustaining Riverland Environments Program, delivering the Murray-Darling Basin Plan outcomes. This is absolutely vital for the health of the river. It is just so good to see the northern rains and the southern rains in the basin, but it has been so dry. It is so dry that for the catchment just to catch up it just gets wet because the water soaks in. It takes time to get that water flowing down all the creeks and tributaries of both the northern basin and the southern basin. We must keep fighting to make sure we keep all the ideals of a freshwater recovery for the River Murray front of mind.

As I indicated before, we are getting a major lump of the \$37 million for priority maintenance at government schools. We are getting over \$1 million of that in the seat of Hammond. Another place that is dear to my heart is the Strzelecki Track, which is a track I have been traversing since 1982 when I worked up in the Cooper Basin for a couple of years. There is \$135 million going towards sealing the Strzelecki Track, which is a great project that I think should have been done before. We are taking it on.

We know this project is expected to cost \$180 million. I am sure that other revenue sources, including a possible contribution from the private sector, will be investigated to fund the remaining portion. As part of that—and I saw this work when I was up at Innamincka in July with my youngest son, Angus—there was \$6 million towards the sealing of Adventure Way from Innamincka to the Queensland border. That is a section of about 29 kilometres. I saw the roadworks that were happening up there in July and ran into the trucking operators who were carting heavy road base from Whyalla up to Adventure Way.

As luck would have it, if anyone has done any outback travelling on the Strzelecki, as has happened on my latest two trips in the last 10 or so years, we had a bit of rain. We packed up and went to leave Innamincka, and they said, 'You'll get held up down at Merty Station.' I was not even sure where Merty Station was, but we took off because the green sign was on saying the Strzelecki was open. Sure enough, we got down to one of the few kilometres of sections on the Strzelecki right down to Lyndhurst that are bituminised, and there were eight road trains pulled up. They said, 'You're not going any further; she's too wet.'

I think I had one of the funniest couple of days of my life. We were forced to stay there and, when the truckies saw that we had the barbecue on board, we were the caterers. I acknowledge Christine from Merty Merty Station, who brought in some light refreshments and beef so that we could eat. Some truckies from one of the oil camps came in and dropped some more off. Jono, Alan, Tony and the others who were camped there for that couple of days: I say g'day. It just goes to show what can happen when the Strzelecki gets wet.

It did not take a lot of rain to hold us up. It is absolutely vital we get more efficient so that we can get more freight carted from the Adelaide end instead of coming out of Brisbane. When Adventure Way is finished being sealed at least to Innamincka, it will be bitumen all the way to Brisbane. Eventually, we will have a sealed route from Adelaide through to Brisbane. I must say that the Strzelecki, even as a dirt road—and some of it is in the gibber country; you have to take it pretty

easy—is in pretty fine nick, but when it gets wet you just have to stop, literally to keep that road in operation.

As we got closer to Lyndhurst, there was a place (I think it was called Art Baker; I will have to check that) where a lot of road trains had stopped, carting drill pipe, fracturing sand and other materials up to the basin. They just had to stop until it dried out a bit more before they could go through. It is one of those vital projects. We look at the Cooper Basin that has been providing gas to this state and this country for well over 50 years and note what Santos and other companies, such as Delhi Petroleum, Beach Petroleum and a whole range of others, have contributed in that field.

I want to commend what we have done as a government and commend the Treasurer for having the foresight to make sure that we can put this amount of money on the table so we can get this state working appropriately. There is \$16.7 billion, which will be a once-in-a-generation budget—the biggest budget that this state has ever seen but the budget that we need. It is the budget we are putting in place to build our way into the future and out of the disaster affecting the world that has been COVID-19, even though we have managed COVID so well here. I commend the Appropriation Bill to the house.

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON (Morphett—Member of the Executive Council, Minister for Trade and Investment) (21:20): I also take the opportunity this evening to speak in parliament about the Marshall government's 2020-21 state budget. It is a budget that is unashamedly about jobs. It comes at a time of significant health and economic challenges here in South Australia and in the world more broadly. The year 2020 started with bushfires here in South Australia and throughout other parts of Australia and then, at a global level, we were all faced with the COVID-19 pandemic, which, as I said, has had a significant effect nationally and also an even greater effect internationally.

To that end, we saw the biggest fall in economic growth that this nation has experienced. Figures from the June 2020 quarter show that the national economy suffered its biggest fall since records began, a negative 7.4 per cent growth, with our two biggest states in Australia, New South Wales and Victoria, suffering growth setbacks of negative 8.6 per cent and negative 8.5 per cent respectively.

Here in South Australia, we had the lowest restrictions and, thankfully, the highest rate of compliance, but even then we suffered a negative 5.8 per cent growth. Compare this to what is happening throughout the world and internationally in developed nations and the falls have been even larger. Across the US, Europe and other countries, they have suffered falls of 12 per cent, 15 per cent and even 20 per cent.

So here we are today with the Marshall Liberal government delivering one of the most significant budgets that this state has ever had in its history. It really does need to be about jobs. If we have learnt anything from past recessions, it really shows that, if we need to regrow our economy, it needs to have an associated growth with jobs, otherwise unemployment takes many years to recover.

Our government was the first state government to launch a massive economic stimulus package in response to the COVID-19 crisis, and it was all about helping to save jobs and businesses. Importantly, this budget will continue to fund wherever it is necessary to make sure that our health response is looked after, but it is also now shifting to provide an even greater focus on how we can assist in our state's economic recovery.

We have the Reserve Bank Governor, Dr Philip Lowe, urging state governments to borrow more to fund stimulus and infrastructure projects, largely due to the historically low interest rates. At the same time, the Reserve Bank has pledged to take action to maintain that position of low interest rates. In his speech in this house, the Treasurer indicated that even 20-year bonds, as recently as September, had significantly reduced interest rates at 2.29 per cent.

The government, when it went about framing this budget, really decided that this budget needs to jump start the economy and provide a massive financial adrenalin shot through the largest ever stimulus package in this state's history—a \$4 billion state stimulus package, which will create thousands of local jobs over the next two years. Importantly, these stimulus measures are time limited, so they do not lock in ongoing government spending.

Alongside this \$4 billion economic stimulus, the Marshall government is also investing in productive infrastructure through a record \$16.7 billion infrastructure spend. In so doing, the Marshall Liberal government is creating jobs, backing business and building what matters.

When we were first elected in 2018, we were elected with a clear commitment to lower costs for households and businesses throughout South Australia, and this budget continues to deliver significant cost-of-living relief for households and businesses. That is fantastic news for the people of Morphett as they cope with the cost of living. One example is the emergency services levy. This will be the third budget where we provide an ELS remission of \$90 million this year, in conjunction with the previous years of \$90 million and \$90 million. This saves the average household approximately \$163 per year.

With regard to water, from 1 July this year average household savings were approximately \$200 per year on SA Water bills and this budget continues that. In relation to car registration, each car can save an average of \$100 on registration due to the CTP reforms that have been put in place. To help families with kids, we are continuing to double our sports vouchers from \$50 to \$100 to primary school-age children.

At the same time, we continue to implement policies which will drive down electricity prices. The Treasurer noted returns have already resulted in average savings of \$158 to households each year. These reforms mean that a two-child, two-car family in Morphett will be saving more than \$800 a year since the election a mere two years ago.

With regard to education, the families in Morphett are very interested in all our local schools; we have 15 in our community. Funding for education continues to grow under the Marshall Liberal government, with the 2020-21 state budget delivering another massive boost for our schools and preschools. The government is building what matters through our record \$1.3 billion education build, which will provide more jobs for South Australians while at the same time delivering world-class facilities and also, importantly, supporting the learning of every student in our state.

Significantly, more than \$1.1 billion of the program's total investment is set to be spent before the end of the 2021-22 financial year, which will provide an enormous boost to the state's economy at such a vital time. Key investments in education as part of this budget include \$37 million over the next two years for school and preschool priority maintenance works, providing grants of between \$20,000 and \$100,000 for government schools and grants of \$30,000 for every preschool to engage local businesses and tradies.

That is fantastic news for our schools—Glenelg Primary School, Ascot Park Primary School, Errington Special Education Centre, Kilparrin, the South Australian School for Vision Impaired and Plympton International College—as well as our preschools, Dunbar Terrace Kindergarten and Ascot Park Kindergarten.

As I spoke about earlier today, on World Teachers' Day I visited some of the schools in my electorate alongside the education minister (member for Morialta). One of the institutions we visited was the Dunbar Terrace Kindy, and we were given a fantastic tour by the kindy's director, Ms Alexandra Scott, and two of her staff, Chess and Vicki. They were able to show us some of the upgrades they undertook with the \$20,000 the Marshall government provided to preschools as part of its first stimulus package. This went into providing a brand-new play platform and a fairy garden that the kids really do love. Prior to that, the government also provided funding to fix their leaking roof.

There is no doubt that this additional \$30,000 of stimulus will be able to go towards improving the outdoor area where the kids can play and enjoy their time at kindy. Importantly, the preschools will employ local tradies to perform this work. In addition to the education stimulus, an additional \$11.6 million has been allocated for non-government school sectors to help improve their facilities.

Again, I spoke in parliament today about the \$1 million that was put towards the St Mary's Memorial School upgrade. Another fantastic local school in Morphett, Our Lady of Grace, has received over \$800,000 to help them with significant infrastructure refurbishment for classrooms to assist them to transition from R-5 to R-6 to take in that year 6 cohort. I recently went on a tour with their principal, Josette Charles, and she showed me what these upgrades are going to look like.

Another great school in the electorate of Morphett, St John the Baptist, is receiving \$2.4 million to refurbish and extend their existing two-storey classroom block. Again, this will help

increase the capacity for their students and also provide flexible learning spaces. I have talked about how schooling is appreciated in Morphett, but of course many locals in Morphett certainly live and also work in the electorate.

The first stimulus package that we delivered very early provided small business support of up to \$10,000 grants to many of these small businesses. Overall, \$186 million was provided to 18,700 businesses. This kept them going and employing locals. Having walked down Jetty Road in Glenelg and spoken with these business owners, I know that this lifeline allowed them to keep paying their electricity bills, utilities and council rates when little or no income was coming in.

Things are improving for some of them, but there are still some businesses that are challenged and still on JobKeeper, and so this budget announces a further \$82 million in small business grants of \$10,000 to assist these businesses. Additionally, it also looks to provide \$3,000 grants for sole businesses that work in commercial premises.

However, we also know that if we can reduce costs to businesses then they can reinvest that money into their businesses, which allows them to grow and then employ people. One way we have done this as a government is to eliminate payroll tax for small businesses with a payroll of less than \$1.5 million. This budget continues that policy with further relief on payroll tax, land tax, water prices and also electricity costs. The government is providing \$233 million in total payroll tax relief for thousands of eligible businesses. This includes the introduction of an extra six months' payroll tax waiver for businesses with grouped annual wages under \$4 million, which is fantastic for them. That money can then be invested in employing new people and allowing them to grow.

In addition to this, the government has introduced historic land tax reforms, where we slashed the top land tax rate from 3.7 per cent to fall in line with the national average of 2.4 per cent. This delivers over \$200 million of land tax savings to 92 per cent of mum-and-dad investors and also 75 per cent of company groups over the next three years, which is fantastic news. Instead of repelling investment out of this state, it now gives the opportunity for investors to come into this state. We know that we have below national average cost of land and cost of property here in South Australia, but now that we have removed that big handbrake on land tax it will cause a flow of investment into this state.

If I could talk about one such company, a company called Aspen announced to the ASX (they are ASX listed) they have just purchased land in Mount Barker to the value of \$4.5 million, and the slashing of land tax from 3.7 per cent down to 2.4 per cent was a significant factor in their decision-making. As I said, our agenda as a government has always been focused on making the business environment here more competitive and attractive to investment, and so this budget continues on with that. It is all about creating jobs for South Australians and attracting investment here. We are now considered one of the most cost-competitive jurisdictions in Australia to do business, with lower business costs, taxes and, importantly, a great lifestyle.

Our great health response has been a magnet for young people to come back here, obviously where they are safe, to their parents because of situations in the other states. This has been helped by the fact that they can work from home, and they have now seen the opportunity to work remotely but with the ability to work effectively and online and connect with key markets. This allows some exciting opportunities for our state going forward, and it is really the government's focus to turn around that net interstate migration and turn around that young talent leaving the state.

This is the perfect opportunity to get those talented young South Australians—even talented young Australians who want to see a future for themselves in South Australia—and set up the business environment to do that. This budget certainly backs that in by concentrating on growing jobs and also, importantly, creating the right investment conditions. Just recently, a fantastic example of this is one of the world's largest technology firms, Accenture. It established their defence and cyber innovation centre here, to be known as the Accenture Adelaide Hub, which is expected to create up to 2,000 jobs and inject \$1 billion into our economy at a time when we really need it the most.

This is going to help drive and transform our state's economy in the future growth sectors of defence, cyberspace and high-tech but, importantly, it will attract that key young talent here in South Australia and give them every reason to try and stay here in South Australia. But of course we still have to recognise the challenges around jobs because we know from the global pandemic that jobs

growth and economic recovery have been impacted, and the budget papers forecast a zero per cent growth in employment in 2021 because of the devastating effect on jobs from the start of the pandemic.

In terms of these estimates, it is important to note that the SA Treasury estimates employment growth on an average of a 12-month cycle for the budget. If you compare this with how the federal government go about these things, they employ their growth figures by basing them on the employment in the quarter directly before their budget—so April May and June from one year—and then compare it with the next. If we look at 2020, these were really the worst months in terms of COVID and, as a result, when we look at how the federal government project their national growth rates, they look to have employment growth rate of 2.7 per cent.

Labor have tried to latch onto this. They have tried to be tricky and tried to compare apples to oranges to say that our 12-month average growth rate is below the federal rate of employment growth based on that really massive dip in three months. Had we as a state followed that same methodology, our employment growth rate for 2020-21 would have been 4.25 per cent, which is significantly greater than the national average and really goes to the fact that as a state, because of our great health response, our economy has been able to be opened up much earlier and that has allowed us to grow our jobs rate significantly more than other states on the eastern seaboard.

But there can be no denying that jobs still need to be the focus and there is no doubt that this state budget is a jobs budget. We are backing in business and also building what matters to create those jobs. Of course, we will not be distracted from this, and we will be focusing on our strengths and focusing on those key sectors where our state has a competitive advantage and where we can lean in to continue to grow our state.

One of the ways we do that is through our Economic and Business Growth Fund, and it is fantastic news that this budget looks to lock in and boost that fund. We are investing an extra \$220 million over the next four years into this key Economic and Business Growth Fund. This will attract further job-creating investment into South Australia and also encourage the growth of new and existing industries here in South Australia, especially in our key growth sectors where South Australia has that competitive advantage I mentioned before.

There will be \$60 million each year in the first two years, followed up by \$50 million in the next two years. That is going to be vital to lift the overall ecosystem here in South Australia. We also know that we have to try to sell not only to ourselves, with a state population of 1.7 million people, but to Australia, with an audience and consumer base of 25 million. We also need to look into our near neighbours in the Pacific and India, where billions of people live. We need to grow our exporters and grow our markets, and that will have a significant impact on our state's economy.

To that end, we are really encouraging export sectors in this budget. One of those is looking at those bushfire-affected businesses that were exporting and how we can help them recover. We are providing a grant program of \$200,000 in 2021 for those businesses which had been exporting but which were in those fire-affected regions of the Adelaide Hills, Kangaroo Island or Yorke Peninsula.

We are also looking to assist marketing South Australia's international education sector. International students really add to the vibrancy and multiculturalism of South Australia but, importantly, when they go home they understand South Australia and can provide a key link to conduct business into South Australia. That is why we are really backing in international education, which is worth about \$2.15 billion to our state's economy. In fact, for every three international students, it creates one full-time job here in South Australia.

We are looking to put in \$1 million over the next three years to develop and execute an international education global marketing campaign. Already, because of our health response, we have seen fantastic interest in South Australia. Enrolments in our South Australian institutions are up 5 per cent on this time last year, and that is with a global pandemic in between times, compared with the national average, which is 4 per cent down. Again, we are using our strengths from our health response to try to attract what helps to grow our economy and boost our vibrancy here in this state.

We are also looking at backing a virtual business matching program. I spoke about backing in exporters here to help them grow their business by providing \$1 million over the next four years to

fast-track the development and delivery of these virtual business matching programs across our state's key priority sectors.

If I had more time, I could talk about some of the great work we are doing from a foreign direct investment point of view, really backing in our renewables. If we look at foreign direct investment into South Australia for 2020 to the month of August, we are up 15 per cent of the national percentage, so we are well above our population share of that 6 per cent to 7 per cent, really showing how investment is coming in. They have seen what this government is doing and they are backing our state in.

I finish off by noting that this budget is one of the most significant budgets in our state's history. We understand that. We know that it is all about creating job. It is around backing business in to make sure they can create jobs. It is also about building what matters for South Australians for the long term, so that we have something to show for it, but create jobs at the outset.

Ms LUETHEN (King) (21:40): I am so proud to rise and speak on the 2020-21 state budget. I firmly believe that our Marshall Liberal government is the right government to make strong plans for this state's economic recovery, and I thank the Treasurer and his team for creating a robust plan for this recovery. On this side, we are passionate about and have the skills needed to deliver on a long-term plan and the discipline to ensure we retain our budget to surplus in four years' time.

No-one ever envisaged in 2020 that we would confront a challenge as momentous as a global pandemic. Of course, the COVID-19 pandemic came immediately after the worst bushfires in the history of our state, and since March thriving businesses have closed, thousands of workers have lost their jobs and some South Australians fell ill and, tragically, four lost their lives despite the best efforts of our intensive care nursing staff and doctors who worked around the clock to save them.

In the eight months since COVID hit, the government has thrown everything at our response in order to save as many lives as we could and to save as many jobs and businesses as we could. This budget continues to fund what is necessary to keep our great state safe and strong. This budget not only plans to keep South Australians safe, to deliver jobs, to back businesses and deliver what matters to South Australians, but also invests in our parks and natural environment more than ever before. Our government will now maintain our health response and will now provide even greater focus on whatever is needed to assist our state's economic recovery.

The economic context for this budget has been outlined by the Governor of the Reserve Bank, Dr Philip Lowe, who has strongly urged all governments to provide massive financial stimulus through investment in publicly funded infrastructure. The focus of this budget is on economic recovery and on creating jobs and inspiring confidence in businesses and households. We have a clear plan and vision for how to implement policies required for economic recovery.

Last week's survey by Business SA showed record jumps in business confidence to levels higher than existed just prior to the pandemic, which is such an encouraging sign. The government has decided that this budget needs to jumpstart our economy through the largest ever economic stimulus in our state's history: a \$4 billion state stimulus package that will leverage another \$1 billion in commonwealth and local government and business stimulus. This total stimulus package will therefore inject more than \$5 billion into our state's economy.

The emphasis of this \$4 billion state stimulus package will be on projects that can be completed or significantly completed within two years. This two-year state stimulus package will assist not only our state's economic recovery post COVID-19 but also a transition to the exciting jobs of the future in defence, space, cybersecurity and related advanced technology industries.

In terms of economic recovery and creating jobs, South Australia has a significant competitive advantage, in that we have a locked and loaded commonwealth government commitment of at least \$90 billion in defence investment, offshore patrol vessels, Hunter class frigates and Attack class submarines. This is an unprecedented pipeline of jobs and business opportunities right here in our state for decades to come.

Jobs have already been created, but we will see a significant acceleration of thousands of jobs over the next two to five years. Furthermore, our Minister for Innovation and Skills has said our government is backing business to create jobs, and this is again the key focus of this budget: to

support a skills-led economic recovery. For example, companies that employ new apprentices and trainees will have the associated payroll tax on those eligible positions waived for 12 months in a major Marshall Liberal government boost for local skills training and jobs in the wake of COVID-19.

The significant tax incentive contained in the state budget 2020-21 will apply for apprentices and trainees who commence a relevant contract of training from this week until 30 June next year. The state budget 2020-21 also includes an additional \$88 million over two years to deliver more training through the JobTrainer Fund, a national partnership agreement with the commonwealth government. The state budget 2020-21 expands on the public sector traineeship program, providing an extra 750 trainees in aged care, disability care, cybersecurity, as well as apprentices in the housing construction sector.

It will be good news to our local business leaders I have been speaking to that a small to medium enterprise business advisory service will be established through a \$5 million investment in 2020-21 to support small and medium enterprises to establish personalised business advice, assisting them in developing sustainable and robust expansion strategies and plans. Since the 2018 election, the government's clear policy plan has been that long-term and substantial economic growth and jobs will be achieved by ensuring the costs of doing business in South Australia are nationally and internationally competitive.

Further, payroll tax relief of \$233 million is outlined in this budget. All small and medium enterprises and businesses with annual Australian group wages of up to \$4 million will pay no payroll tax for the period from April 2020 to June 2021. The 2020-21 budget continues to deliver significant cost-of-living relief, driving down the cost of average household bills. Lower costs: that is what we promised South Australians and what we continue to deliver.

Water and sewerage bills: from 1 July this year, average households are saving approximately \$200 a year on their SA Water bills. In June, the government took the first opportunity to revise down the value of SA Water's regulated asset base, delivering huge savings for South Australians. Emergency services levy reductions: the 2020-21 budget continues to fund emergency services levy remissions of \$90 million a year, leading to cheaper ESL bills. The savings in 2020-21 for an average household is \$163.60. Compulsory third-party reforms result in a \$100 savings per car on average. When I am out doorknocking, most of the time I see at least three cars in each driveway, so that is a good saving for those households.

Sports vouchers: the budget continues funding for the doubling of sports vouchers for primary school-age children's swimming lessons and other sports participation up from \$50 to \$100. Transport relief for hospital staff provides hospital staff with free car parking and public transport during the coronavirus pandemic. Hospital staff are able to access free public transport, free parking across all SA metropolitan hospitals and receive reimbursements of up to \$101 per month for non site-related car parking.

Cost of Living Concession: households that receive the Centrelink JobSeeker payment received a once-off boost of \$500 as part of the 2020-21 Cost of Living Concession. For eligible home owners, their 2020-21 payment of \$215.10 became \$715.10, and eligible tenants received \$607.60. Rent relief and support for landlords providing relief: the rent relief scheme provides for two rounds of grants up to \$1,000 to residential landlords who reduced the rent of a tenant experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Landlords can also receive up to a 50 per cent reduction on their 2019-20 land tax liability on affected properties where they have provided relief to affected tenants or lost income due to a vacancy.

Lowering electricity bills: electricity reforms introduced by the government have resulted in an average saving to households of \$158 per year over the last two years. The budget invests an additional \$18 million into the government's Home Battery Scheme to support consumer choice for larger home batteries. More than 13,000 households have signed up for a subsidy to install a home battery system, which drives down the cost of their electricity, delivering further savings and alleviating pressure on the grid. This, along with measures like the SA-New South Wales interconnector, will continue to deliver savings to households. All these reforms mean that a two-child, two-car household will be saving more than \$800 per year since the election just two years ago. The size of these household savings far outweighs the impact of some increases in fees and fund charges announced last year.

Businesses and tradies are also set to get a boost with a \$37 million government school and preschool maintenance package. The initiative will provide grants of between \$20,000 and \$100,000 for public schools and grants of \$30,000 for every government preschool to hire local tradespeople to provide maintenance work at their sites. The government's stimulus already provided \$20,000 to government preschools as well as additional maintenance works in government schools, such as Salisbury East High School, and there is more to come. Other projects include:

- \$100 million in road maintenance to improve road safety, which will unlock an additional \$168 million of commonwealth funding for small-scale road safety projects;
- \$40 million to upgrade boat ramps, jetties and road bridges;
- \$44 million in Parks 2025 projects, including tourism and visitor facilities in the Flinders Ranges, Eyre Peninsula and Yorke Peninsula; and
- \$10 million for works at the Botanic Garden and the Torrens Parade Grounds.

The more significant funding commitments also include:

- \$82 million for a second round of \$10,000 grants for small businesses and not-for-profit organisations adversely impacted by COVID-19 and a \$3,000 grant for owner-operated small businesses conducted from a commercial premises but do not employ staff, funded from the Business and Community Jobs Support Fund;
- a \$220 million increase for the Economic and Business Growth Fund;
- a \$245 million increase for the Business and Jobs Support Fund and the Community and Jobs Support Fund;
- \$100 million from the Community and Jobs Support Fund for a local government infrastructure partnership program, which after matched funding will fund at least \$200 million of projects;
- \$76 million for a housing construction stimulus package from the Community and Jobs Support Fund, designed to support the sector after the HomeBuilder stimulus wanes;
- \$60 million for capital upgrades to government buildings to improve energy efficiency and deliver long-term electricity savings;
- \$320 million expanded non-government schools loan scheme, which will be interest free for the first five years and low interest rates for the remaining term.

It is with much excitement that I acknowledge on behalf of the people living in King the additional \$30 million for Golden Grove Road stage 2 and an extra \$25 million for the \$33 million Golden Grove park-and-ride. These are projects that people living in King have been asking for for a very long time. These are important upgrades and requests that came directly from my King community and I have lobbied hard to achieve a commitment from my colleagues to deliver what matters most to my King community.

In addition, one of the industry sectors that has been most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic has been the tourism and hospitality sector. Whilst the easing of restrictions in South Australia has assisted the viability of many businesses, there is no doubt there are significant challenges for some businesses in the sector. The government has therefore decided in this budget to fund a tourism and hospitality sector support package.

This budget includes significant increases in funding to secure new major leisure events and conventions to further drive future visitation and to protect and create jobs in the sector. An extra \$12 million over three years has been provided to help attract new events to South Australia. One such event will be Illuminate, which will run over two weeks and three weekends in July and is being led by homegrown creative leaders.

This budget also commits \$10 million per year, or \$40 million over four years, to continue existing levels of funding available for events and conventions. The government has also committed

to reallocating millions of dollars per annum from Adelaide 500 funding to these funds to attract new events and conventions that can run all year long, creating jobs all year long.

The government is also committed to more than \$120 million over four years for tourism marketing. It should also be noted that tourism and hospitality businesses significantly impacted by COVID-19 will be major beneficiaries of the payroll tax relief and Small Business Grant scheme outlined in this budget.

As we emerge from the pandemic and seek to grow jobs in this sector in the future, public and private investment in improved tourism visitor experiences is essential. The \$40 million resort and visitor centre at Monarto that will provide the biggest safari experience outside of Africa is one example, and this budget's further funding boost for Parks 2025 is another. The budget also commits another \$50 million to the \$200 million Aboriginal Arts and Culture Centre at Lot Fourteen, which will be a major visitor experience boost for our state.

Last year's Mid-Year Budget Review committed \$12.9 billion over four years for a record infrastructure program. Consistent with the recommendations of the Reserve Bank and many other stakeholders, this budget further increases funding by \$4 billion. This budget now allocates a record \$16.7 billion over four years for the biggest public sector infrastructure program in the state's history.

This record \$16.7 billion of funding is designed to build what matters, and \$7.6 billion is allocated to road and public transport infrastructure and \$3 billion to health and educational facilities. This budget allocates \$204 million over four years to progress the implementation of the state's Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Plan. This investment is a gamechanger for sport, and was developed after widespread consultation by the government with individuals and organisations across the state.

The clear message to the government was that people welcomed past investment in major sporting facilities such as Adelaide Oval, but they now wanted a focus on community and state level facilities. This is certainly so in King, and I encourage King's sporting clubs to collaborate with me, to collaborate with local councils, to put forward long-awaited projects in our local community that will increase participation in sports for our community.

This budget allocates an extra \$35 million over the next two years for community sporting and recreational facilities in both the metropolitan area and the regions. Additionally, the state Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Plan identifies a number of existing state sporting facilities that need significant upgrades to ensure South Australia can be positioned as a premier sporting destination.

This budget commits \$44 million for implementing stage 2 of the Memorial Drive Tennis Centre redevelopment. This investment will build on the momentum of stage 1 and continue the transformation of one of the nation's most iconic sporting precincts into a state-of-the-art arena for sporting, arts and entertainment events. The redevelopment, which will be completed by the end of 2021, includes four new grandstands to increase seating capacity to 6,000. This budget also commits \$45 million to bring Hindmarsh Stadium up to a contemporary elite sports standard that is suitable for bidding for elite national and international level events.

The government's record \$16.7 billion infrastructure program is a mix of stimulus-type projects, which will be completed or significantly completed within two years, and long-term projects that the government has promised to deliver. One of these long-term projects is the completion of the most complex part of the north-south corridor project from Darlington to the River Torrens.

When we were elected just over two years ago we discovered that, under the Labor government, no business case had been commenced or completed, not a single dollar had been allocated to this project in the budget forward estimates other than for a planning study. Over recent months, dozens of different options for this project have been considered and rejected, and the government has now decided on an option that combines two separate tunnels and lowered and surface motorway sections. This project will be creating up to 4,000 jobs. It will be the biggest ever job-creating infrastructure project in South Australia's history and will be completed by 2030.

Other projects benefiting the north include \$15 million for the expansion of the Gawler Hospital Emergency Department, \$11.5 million over four years for MFS fire appliances, \$7.2 million over four years for CFS fire truck replacement, \$18.7 million over three years to consolidate the provision of youth custodial services in a single site at Cavan, \$9 million over the next three years for antiflood measures across the Gawler River and—it is worth repeating—\$30 million for Golden Grove Road stage 2 and \$25 million of extra funding for the Golden Grove park-and-ride.

The government continues to spend record amounts on education and skills development and will be employing an extra 1,768 full-time equivalent employees. This budget provides \$3.8 million over four years for domestic violence measures and many other ways we are looking after the most vulnerable people in South Australia because every person matters in this budget. I commend the budget to the house.

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (22:00): It gives me pleasure to rise in support of what has been quite a historic budget. It is great to see that the Marshall Liberal government has recognised the importance of stimulus in dealing with not only COVID-19 but the bushfires we had previously. Sadly, they have had a detrimental impact on many regions, particularly the Adelaide Hills. I know the member for Kavel has been quite impacted, as have the member for Heysen and the members for a number of electorates throughout the Adelaide Hills, at Cudlee Creek, etc.

Kangaroo Island was devastated. The opportunity, the visitor economy and the agriculture economy were absolutely smashed. This budget has significant stimulus. I will not dwell too much on the overarching aspects of the budget because I am more interested in what it means for the great electorate of Chaffey. I think the stimulus has seen great initiatives and sensible initiatives. I want to pay tribute to not only the Treasurer and the Premier but the entire cabinet team for what they have stumped up.

This is not just about this annual spend; this is ongoing in the forward estimates. What it will see is a legacy that will last perhaps a decade, and this will lead to bigger, better and greater economic outcomes. We have seen the great work of the health system in South Australia. It is almost a global advantage. I have many friends around the globe who have watched South Australia and who have greatly complimented the safety we enjoy.

What we are now looking at is a budget that is giving great prosperity and great hope to business, creating jobs not only through tax incentives but through the over \$16 billion infrastructure spend. I must pay tribute to the frontline services in the health system, those nurses, doctors and every person who has been part of protecting every South Australian. Whether it is performing a COVID test, treating people who have been infected or the frontline services of day-to-day measures, they have been there day and night keeping South Australia attended to and making sure that we are safe.

In education, South Australia was one of the first states to implement open schooling, open education, so that children could go back to school early and not have to be homeschooled. It proved to be successful. Not only the transition team but, back in the early days before the transition team was commissioned, Professor Spurrier, Grant Stevens and the Premier's office did an outstanding job in providing leadership and guidance through the education system.

Of course, the police have done an outstanding job as a frontline service operation, and they have kept our borders secure and continue to stump up and keep South Australia safe. In some way, I feel that people have been a little complacent and a little spoilt by not having to endure lockdown and some of the hardships. We have seen the significant impact of COVID, particularly on the elderly, who have been most impacted by this pandemic. It has shown us that both the police and emergency services have come to the fore in keeping South Australia safe.

The bushfires impacted our primary sector, and I pay tribute to the primary sector that has stood up through COVID-19. It has continued to farm, to harvest, to process, to put food on the shelves and to make sure that there has been a 24/7 supply for the increased demand through our retail and wholesale outlets. I think it shows the importance of what agriculture has meant and, through the stimulus, I think agriculture will be the shining light.

The government continues to stump up significant amounts of investment into infrastructure and some of the incentives to keep job creation bubbling along. The greatest renewable industry in the world is agriculture, and what we are seeing is that it has continued to stand up, to provide food and to provide jobs. I think that it really is a great testament to that sector.

I will touch base a little bit on what the budget has meant to the electorate of Chaffey and the people of the Riverland, the Mallee and the surrounding districts. We have seen money put into making sure that our court system is upgraded and safe, and it is great to see that the Berri courthouse will have funding.

Regarding biosecurity, I know that, in my previous role as minister for primary industries, I was very, very proud of the implementation of the zero tolerance approach, and the government has continued to pursue that, making sure that we keep our horticulture and primary sector safe from biosecurity threats. We know that the pressure on our borders is ever increasing, and what we are seeing now is that this budget has continued to stump up the money needed to keep our great state of South Australia fruit fly free.

But it is not just fruit fly; it is about keeping all those pests behind our borders. The wine industry is one of our greatest economic drivers here in South Australia, and in my electorate of Chaffey we are the engine room of the wine industry. We produce in the order of 60 per cent of South Australia's wine crush. This year, we produced 70 per cent of South Australia's wine crush.

In my electorate, I have one family wine business, a vineyard and processing plant that produce more wine than Clare, the Barossa, the Adelaide Hills, McLaren Vale and Coonawarra put together. That is one family business, and it just shows the importance of what that one family business means to the wine sector not only here in South Australia but nationally.

We know that South Australia produces about 70 per cent of the nation's premium wines, but the Riverland produces up to 70 per cent of our exports with entry-level wine, class D grade wine. You have to remember that more wine in Australia is put into a cask than is put into a bottle. Not many people realise that. When most people think about wine, they think about a bottle of wine but, as I said, the box was invented in the Riverland and it is still a great economic stay in today's climate.

I think the biosecurity initiative is a great thing. We have seen the continuation of our border protection at Yamba. We have money in the budget to mirror what we have at Yamba over at Ceduna. As the Deputy Speaker is very aware, the pressure from the west coming into South Australia has been profound this year. Mediterranean fruit fly has engulfed metropolitan Adelaide. Over 250 suburbs have been put under a quarantine restriction. That shows how vulnerable any state is, but particularly South Australia, in being fruit fly free.

It is great to see that there is money in the budget to upgrade that border crossing and continue what we pride ourselves on—that is, being fruit fly free. It is a market advantage and puts more money on the bottom line for our horticulturalists. Just as importantly, it is an initiative on which we should hold our head high. We are the only mainland state in the country that is fruit fly free. The world has been watching for more than a decade and can see that South Australia is marketing a reliably fruit fly free product they can purchase at a premium price. Again, I commend the budget.

It is great to see that there will be more money put into grassroots sports. That means there will be more money going into small regional communities. I have seen a number of sporting clubs in Chaffey that have been the beneficiaries of this government's sporting initiatives, whether that is the footy, cricket and netball program, the Active Club program or the voucher program. These initiatives are all really essential for those small community sports programs so that they can keep on keeping on. We know there is more pressure on the viability of some of these small country towns to keep their sports teams on the park, and this initiative will go a long way in keeping them moving along.

We continue to see health initiatives. I am very happy to see the new MRI machine going into Riverland General Hospital. That is a great initiative. It will keep people in the region so that they can have those scans undertaken in their own town or in their own region and not to have to travel to Adelaide. They do not have to get into a car and travel for three or maybe four hours; they can actually go to the general hospital, have their scans and head home. I commend that great initiative.

The South Australian Cancer Council is to construct a purpose-built 120-room accommodation. That is music to any regional MP's ears. People who are under stress and coming for cancer treatment are now going to have a new facility that will accommodate them. It will not only take off the pressure of looking for accommodation but also help comfort them when they are going through the stress and trauma of cancer treatment. That is a really great initiative.

In the water portfolio, it is great to see that \$37.6 million has gone to restore some of the FLOWS Initiative between Lock 6 and Lock 5. There are areas where we have a large creek network. We have Chowilla, we have some of the Pipeclay regulators and we have a lot of the Amazon Creek networks. There is Bulyong and many, many creek networks between Lock 5 and Lock 6 that are critical to the health of the River Murray. It is great to see that some of that \$37.6 million will go there.

We have some ageing infrastructure at Lock 3. Once upon a time, I had a vineyard I developed at Lock 3. Not being able to hold water back behind Lock 3 has proven to be a significant challenge for the department. If they do want to bank water up behind Lock 3 to spread water out over those flood plains, they cannot do that at the moment because the lock is unstable, so there will be money spent on Lock 3.

There are also initiatives with the native fish fund. It is of paramount importance that we make sure that we can actually breed our own fingerlings and have that hatchery facility here in South Australia so that we can stock our reservoirs and rivers, not only for the opportunities for recreational fishing as a pastime but also for creating a stimulus for anyone who wants to travel to the outer urban areas into those reservoirs to catch a fish, or whether we stock the river and people can come up for one of the great river holidays. I think it is a great opportunity.

I would also like to commend the significant amount of investment into tourism. Up in the Riverland, tourism is one of the great growing economies. Destination Riverland should be commended for the guidance and leadership they have given our region over time. What we are seeing now is that this government is investing more into regional tourism. Nature-based tourism is a great complement to what we have always enjoyed, but now we are investing, we are opening up more parks and we are putting in more walking trails and bike trails.

We are giving opportunities to those tourism operators to explore the boundaries of what they can do with their current business or whether they can build on what they are already doing to give people those experiences. I urge anyone: if you are looking for a really good nature-based tourism experience, come up to the Riverland, explore the River Murray, explore the river network and explore some of the beautiful flood plains that we have on offer.

Of course, the Regional Growth Fund has been very good to the regions of South Australia and the Riverland has also enjoyed the fruits of the RGF. The Berri Hotel development has received \$1½ million towards a \$7 million development at the Berri riverfront. Torrens Valley Orchards have received a significant amount of money to upgrade misting and irrigation on their cherry farms so that they can counteract some of the weather challenges. Some of those weather challenges might go from one extreme such as frost to the other extreme when we have extreme heat, which can wreck a crop. Twelve months of growing a crop can be wrecked in one of those weather events.

Of course, the Cadell prison has been well documented, with \$3 million allocated to the dairy. The dairy is a vertically integrated business model in the Cadell prison. It gets those prisoners out into the dairy where they can upskill, not only milking cows and packaging that product but also providing milk to other prisons and other businesses. They are also now providing cream and some of those raw products into cheesemaking and other private enterprise that I think really have the opportunity to deal with what is some of the primary sector's shortages of that raw product.

We know that there are many areas within South Australia that are looking to supply more raw product into value-added dairy products and this is just another way. I was recently there with the Minister for Correctional Services. They are looking at also breeding a dairy herd, and I think that is a great initiative. This \$3 million will go a long way towards helping with that.

I must say that this budget does help the electorate of Chaffey in many aspects. What we are seeing now is that we are putting more of a focus on regional support, making sure that the regions are continuing to be the engine room of a food economy and a beverage economy. What we are seeing now is more agtech and more opportunities for the regional centres to be a stimulus or, I guess, a hub-and-spoke approach. I know that the Loxton Research Centre is currently enjoying a huge amount of investment. In one of my most recent overseas trips to the US, we brought back business to South Australia. They have set up business at the Loxton Research Centre and they are now providing a service to agriculture and horticulture.

I think there are many positives to talk about with this budget. We have talked about courts, we have talked about biosecurity, and we have talked about all things sustaining Riverland environment programs. This is about jobs. This is about dealing with something that we have never had to encounter before. We are putting a stimulus in place so that we can give confidence to those job creators, to industry, to the primary sector and to South Australians that this is a government that

is about caring for the future. We are not closing programs, we are not raising taxes: we are creating a stimulus to make sure that South Australia is a powerhouse in attracting foreign investment.

It is about attracting investment into South Australia so that we can create more jobs and deal with a stimulated economy, and deal with South Australia as a place to go to, a place to live safely. This is a government that has shown its colours and done an outstanding job, and I commend this budget, I commend the Treasurer and I commend the Premier for his leadership. With what we have seen over the last couple of days, South Australians are very confident that this is a government for the future, this is a government to create employment, create jobs and put a stimulus there for a decade or more to come.

Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (22:20): This is the most important budget since the Second World War and the largest stimulus package in South Australia's history. As we continue our recovery from the devastating bushfires in our community and from COVID-19, a record amount will be invested in the Adelaide Hills. As you are aware, the Cudlee Creek fire was the most significant natural disaster in the Hills since Ash Wednesday. It absolutely lives on in the memory of individual home owners, business owners, families and community leaders. Everybody across the Hills has been affected in different ways and COVID-19 has affected every person in the state in every stage of their life.

Mr Speaker, as you are well aware, the massive funding injection that this budget delivers for the Hills is very welcome. There is a \$250 million package to provide a traffic solution for Hahndorf—\$200 million from the commonwealth and \$50 million from the state. Members who have earlier served in this place, including your own predecessor, the Hon. Isobel Redmond, were strong voices. Other members have been a strong voice, you have offered your strong voice for this project, the community's voice has been heard, and a solution will be delivered for a town that is an absolute gem in the Hills and an absolute gem in our tourism and visitor economy offering.

There is \$35 million over three years for enhancements to the pavement surface on the South Eastern Freeway—that is much needed—and \$15 million for safety improvements in the Heysen Tunnels. There is \$28 million across four years for increased hazard reduction burns to be shared between Kangaroo Island and the Hills. There is an additional \$7 million dollars for the Nairne intersection upgrade, bringing the total funding for the project to \$12 million. There is, of course, \$12 million being invested for a heavy vehicle access route on the north-south freight route.

There is additional funding for the Service SA presence in Mount Barker. I know, and everybody in our community knows, that that is a much-needed service and one we are looking forward to being able to access more easily locally. There is \$4 million for the Strathalbyn aged-care lifestyle facilities and you, Mr Speaker, of course, have been closely involved in lobbying for that funding. There is \$3 million for an upgrade of the Mount Lofty Botanic Garden precinct, including car parking and additional paths; \$1 million to upgrade the visitor centre and other general improvements at the Cleland Wildlife Park; and some improvements to safety at the Mount Barker courthouse.

As earlier mentioned, the budget has also focused on much-needed bushfire response and recovery investment and a \$305 million package has been provided to assist our community as well as Kangaroo Island and other communities throughout the state affected by bushfire over the recovery period. Across our state, there is record investment in infrastructure, jobs, education, the COVID-19 response, and sport has of course been a key focus for funding as well, including:

- \$330 million of commonwealth and state funding to protect the health and wellbeing of South Australians during the COVID-19 pandemic and to support frontline workers;
- \$21.2 million over four years to support the SA Police COVID-19 response;
- an \$851 million tradies package to deliver a pipeline of work for tradies over two years, including, as earlier mentioned and emphasised quite rightly by the member for King, \$37 million for all government schools and preschools to undertake maintenance work utilising local businesses and trades; and
- a \$204 million sport and recreation infrastructure plan, including an expansion of the grassroots facilities program and regional facilities program to include many sports.

Local councils across the Hills and the state will be able to tap into a \$100 million local government infrastructure partnership program, with grants of up to 50 per cent for local government infrastructure projects.

I earlier mentioned the Nairne intersection upgrade and the additional funding that has been provided. It is important for me to reflect this is a project that has been needed in my community for many years. I am very proud that we are delivering it. I think it is important to emphasise that a property acquisition process has been underway, and I am advised that four properties at the location will require full acquisition, five properties will require a partial acquisition and at the present moment an agreement has been reached with five of the nine properties to ensure that the project can proceed.

The decision by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport to realign Woodside Road means that a more complex solution is required. It cannot just be traffic lights, it cannot just be a roundabout. There needs to be service relocation and then a realignment at Woodside Road with Saleyard Road and of course, Mr Speaker, as you are aware, Saleyard Road continues to Nairne primary school. Safety is absolutely crucial at that intersection.

As the President of the Nairne and District Residents Association, Kimberley Franklin, has said, the Nairne community has welcomed the additional funding and she is very pleased that there has been steady progress made on those acquisitions. The department has published a construction time line for the project subject to reaching final compensation agreements with home owners.

I mentioned at the outset that this is an historic budget, an historic stimulus, a very important stimulus at a time when it is much needed. I commend the Treasurer and of course the Premier for their leadership.

The SPEAKER: Is there a member who might draw attention to the state of the house?

An honourable member: Mr Speaker, I draw your attention to the state of the house.

A quorum having been formed:

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Brown.

HEALTH CARE (SAFE ACCESS) AMENDMENT BILL

Final Stages

The Legislative Council agreed to the bill without any amendment.

At 22:30 the house adjourned until Thursday 12 November 2020 at 11:00.

*Answers to Questions***NO JAB NO PLAY**

In reply to **Ms BEDFORD (Florey)** (10 September 2020).

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

As at 26 October 2020, the Department for Health and Wellbeing does not have any outstanding correspondence to the member for Florey regarding the No Jab No Play legislation.

The Department for Health and Wellbeing has provided considerable information and support to the Member for Florey and the applicant with regard to meeting the requirements of the Early Childhood Services Immunisation Requirements (No Jab No Play).

It should be noted that information regarding the legislative changes was published on the SA Health website on 6 June 2020 and key stakeholders, including community groups, government and private organisations, were made aware of the publication of the information and the early childhood immunisation services requirements.

CHILD PROTECTION

In reply to **Ms HILDYARD (Reynell)** (22 September 2020).

The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection): I have been advised:

Upon discovering evidence that a crime may have occurred, the Department for Child Protection took immediate and appropriate action in ensuring that South Australia Police was notified and that the young victim was provided with a range of supports.

Practice guidance is in place to empower departmental staff to take swift and appropriate action in circumstances such as these, and I support the approach that sees decisions about the safety and protection of children in care being made as close as possible to the child.

The chief executive was first made aware of this matter when the sentencing remarks were made public.

CHILD PROTECTION

In reply to **Ms HILDYARD (Reynell)** (22 September 2020).

The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection): I have been advised:

The Debelle inquiry recommendation relating to notifying the minister of allegations of sexual misconduct (Recommendation 7) applies to 'a person employed in any capacity at a school'. The former South Australian government accepted the recommendation and implemented it through policy, which ensures that the Minister for Education is notified of such incidents. The recommendation did not relate to residential care homes nor to persons with no employment relationship with the state government.

CHILD PROTECTION

In reply to **Ms HILDYARD (Reynell)** (22 September 2020).

The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection): I have been advised:

The Department for Child Protection was not advised of, but rather discovered that a crime had potentially been committed. As soon as the discovery was made, South Australia Police was contacted and supports were promptly and appropriately put in place for the young victim.

CHILD PROTECTION

In reply to **Ms HILDYARD (Reynell)** (22 September 2020).

The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection): I have been advised:

The Chief of Staff to the Minister for Child Protection was first made aware of the specific circumstances of this case following the sentencing remarks which were made on the 14 September 2020.

CHILD PROTECTION

In reply to **Ms HILDYARD (Reynell)** (22 September 2020).

The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection): I have been advised:

I refer to my answer in the house at 14:25.

CHILD PROTECTION

In reply to **Ms HILDYARD (Reynell)** (23 September 2020).

The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection): I have been advised:

Most children and young people in residential care of high school age are given mobile phones. In accordance with departmental policy established in 2015, decisions to provide mobile phones are made on a case-by-case basis, taking into account age, developmental age and maturity. Mobile phones are an important way for children and young people to maintain family and other social connections, as well as being important for safety.

The department manages the costs of mobile phones for children and young people in DCP residential care. For children and young people in NGO residential care, the service provider has the responsibility to manage these costs within contract funding provided by the department.