

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 17 November 2020

The **SPEAKER (Hon. J.B. Teague)** took the chair at 11:00 and read prayers.

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

Parliamentary Committees

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (11:01): I move:

That the committee have leave to sit during the sitting of the house today.

Motion carried.

Bills

APPROPRIATION BILL 2020

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 12 November 2020.)

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (11:02): I rise to make a contribution to the Appropriation Bill this year. As I was preparing my notes for last week, and we did not quite get there, I was reflecting on the fact that this is a very different response that I am making than I would have expected to make after a budget. Now, the following week, I am making an even more different contribution, given the events of the weekend.

This year, of course, as has been noted by previous speakers, has been entirely dominated by the COVID response. When the year first began I was convinced that this year would be all about reflecting on the horrific bushfires we saw over the summer, on KI and Cudlee Creek particularly, and the ongoing inquiries that ensued from those terrible bushfires. The Keelty review was announced by the government, and at the same time the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements was announced.

It was my expectation—and I was saying at every forum I was speaking to, whether it was the branch members or others—that I expected that to be the dominant conversation this year because it was so important and those bushfires were so surprising to many people in their ferocity, and the response they required, and so ferocious that they prompted a royal commission and also state inquiries across the nation into what we should do next.

I had many opportunities to visit the various firegrounds. After the fires, I should note, I visited KI on several occasions and the Cudlee Creek area on many occasions, speaking to volunteers, fires and also the local community about the affect it was having on them. I was incredibly impressed by the way all the agencies pulled together on Kangaroo Island particularly, and the previous minister is here and he would have seen the way the different agencies—the state agencies and the ADF—worked together so well. The New Zealand Defence Force also worked so well in preparing the response and responding to those fires.

The new CFS chief, Mr Jones, who arrived in October last year, I think, really got a baptism of fire, and I want to state my absolute admiration for the work he has done since his arrival. I know there was speculation in some quarters that he may not be the right person for the job, but I was never of that view.

I wanted to leave it to see what he would do and, from all reports—whether I talk to people on the ground or people within the CFS, the volunteers, from the top to the bottom—I hear nothing

but good reports. My own interactions with him have been nothing but positive and enlightening, and I want to thank him publicly for the work he did—

The Hon. C.L. Wingard: You're welcome

Mr ODENWALDER: —in leading much of the response on Kangaroo Island. The previous minister says, 'You're welcome.' It was your appointment, was it, minister?

The Hon. C.L. Wingard: I think if you go back and check you'll see that I signed off on the contract, yes.

Mr ODENWALDER: You made that appointment on your own?

The Hon. C.L. Wingard: Yes, I accepted the recommendation.

Mr ODENWALDER: Noted—the minister claims responsibility for the appointment of Mr Jones, who did an excellent job, there is no doubt about that, as did the other agencies, as I said: the police, the MFS, the SES, the Australian Defence Force and also the New Zealand Defence Force.

Then, of course, as has already been observed, COVID-19 hit. In a way, given the ferocity of the fires over December and January in particular, as disastrous as it was it could have hit at a much worse time. It could have hit while those fires were still in progress and we would have been in a much more serious situation in February, March, April than we were. We can at least be thankful for that.

However, COVID-19 really did dominate the headlines in that first part of the year so much that the response to the bushfires, particularly, was completely subsumed. Of course, the work continued. The Keely review continued to do its work, and the royal commission continued to do its work and called witnesses from the state agencies. Funnily enough, COVID-19 gave me a chance to follow that royal commission perhaps more closely than I ordinarily would have, and I will get to the royal commission and Keely review observations a bit later.

I have already praised Mr Jones and the CFS for their response to the bushfires, but I would like to put on record my admiration for the police commissioner in his role in dealing with COVID-19 and, of course, Nicola Spurrier, the Chief Public Health Officer, and her amazing contribution in this pandemic. Not only did the police commissioner and his team, as well as the health responders and their teams, do a good job but the police themselves, the troops on the ground, have done a remarkable job both in responding to parliament's and the State Controller's directions to monitor borders, conduct compliance checks and those sorts of things, and in their professionalism and attitude towards the work. It set them apart from some of the responses we have seen in other states.

I do not want to make any judgement, but we have seen what appeared to be some pretty heavy-handed tactics by the police in some other states while enforcing what is the law. We have not seen anything like that here. What we have seen is, first, a very high level of compliance from the general populace and also a very even-handed approach from the police—and, hopefully, latterly from other public servants who have been drafted into that compliance check-type of response.

I do want to put on record my admiration for SAPOL and the calm and compassion its members have brought to their job. It is not an easy job: at any given time something like at least 10 per cent of the operational police force is involved entirely in some sort of COVID response. These are not people who just do compliance checks as part of their ordinary shift; these are people who are dedicated to the COVID response, whether it is on the borders or whether it is doing compliance checks, guarding hotels, that type of thing.

The leader and I were privileged to go and visit the border earlier this year—all the months seem to bleed into one. We visited the Princes Highway border control at Mount Gambier and we saw some of the work they were doing and their professionalism, not only with the police but with the ADF and others. It was a surprise to me to see some of these really young ADF guys down there, who it is fair to say did not quite understand what their authorities might be but were pleased to be there doing something practical in terms of the COVID response.

Of course, the police response was very professional. It is that professionalism that not only has kept South Australians safe but has also encouraged a level of compliance that we may not have seen so much in other states where the police have been seen at least to employ some more heavy-handed tactics.

The health response and the emergency management response have been almost beyond criticism, and we on this side, as the leader has outlined, have worked very hard to be constructive and supportive of the government every step of the way, and we have offered suggestions up along the way in terms of what the government could be doing in their COVID response. Now that there is a real threat of a second wave—and again the health and police response has been excellent—we again are very supportive of government measures, but we again reserve our right to make constructive suggestions to the government about how that response could be handled.

I have faith in the police commissioner as the State Coordinator to run these things and in Nicola Spurrier in charge of the health response. What remains to be seen—and this has been delayed by the onset of what may be a second wave, and we all hope it is not—is the economic response and the shadow that hangs over the economic future of the state. Members before me have made much more useful contributions to that debate than I could, but I do just want to add my voice to the concern about the tax on the uptake of electric vehicles in this state.

Getting back to the Royal Commission into National Natural Disaster Arrangements, it was very clear from the opening paragraphs and all the way through the report that every sensible commentator recognises that the climate is changing and it is changing fast. Sadly, the bushfires we saw last summer, and the other natural disasters that followed, are becoming the new normal; they are what we need to expect, respond to and prepare for in the future. In that environment, to impose a tax on something that may well go a long way in the future to mitigating our emissions that affect climate change seems to me to be complete madness.

I will get back to the Appropriation Bill at hand. As I said, we have been a constructive opposition. Every step of the way, particularly in this COVID response, we have supported the government when it has been sensible and we have tried to nudge the government in certain directions when we think they are not doing the right thing. In that spirit, I want to give credit where credit is due. I think there are some problems in this budget in terms of public safety, and I will get to those, but I want to reflect on some of the measures which, at first glance at least—before questioning in estimates—appear to be positive moves.

Of course, you cannot argue with \$21 million of new funding over four years to increase SAPOL's response to COVID. As I have outlined, the response to COVID has been second to none. Police resources have been stretched; there is no doubt about that. I think the commissioner is on record talking about some of those problems. So far, we have not seen anything disastrous amount from that, but it shows that any further investment in the particular COVID response is to be welcomed. However, in responding to COVID we cannot forget that crime still goes on, that public safety is still an issue, that the threat of bushfires goes on. All these other things are still bubbling away in the background, no matter how consumed we and the media are with the COVID response.

In that context, it is still baffling that the government would press ahead with \$38 million worth of cuts to the operational budget of SAPOL. Despite investments in COVID and other places, which I will get to—as I said, I want to give credit where credit is due—it does seem to me that this will be the perfect environment for the new police minister to rewrite this government's public safety message, hit the reset button and reverse or halt the expectation that SAPOL needs to make such sweeping cuts to its operational budget. I will of course be exploring this in estimates, but that is the overarching response to this police budget: a failure to recognise the opportunity that this is the time where we could put those things aside, hit the reset button and reverse those cuts.

It is interesting to see that after 2½ years of inaction there has been some action taken on various things that we on this side have been calling for since day one of being in opposition. There is the welcome announcement that Crime Stoppers has been re-funded to a certain extent. Decisions were made in early 2018 to fund Crime Stoppers from government. It was the last remaining Crime Stoppers outfit in the country not to receive direct state government funding.

The previous government made a decision to fund it to the tune of \$960,000 over four years. As the previous minister will be aware, for the past 2½ years we debated whether they should receive

this funding again. Again, giving credit where it is due, the current minister has seen the need for Crime Stoppers funding so they can run—

Mr Boyer: Good minister.

Mr ODENWALDER: Certainly it is a breath of fresh air, member for Wright. I hope it is a sign of things to come. I hope it is a sign that the government might be taking public safety a bit more seriously. I would have expected a bit more. They withdrew \$960,000 and replaced it with \$800,000 (indexed) after 2½ years of delay and confusion about where it was coming from. But again, to give credit where credit is due, that has now been included in this budget.

Similarly, with ballistic vests, the previous government set aside funding for a rollout of ballistic vests for every operational police officer and tasers for every police officer. Do not forget that police officers are still rolling around with one taser per crew. The Police Association of South Australia particularly do not think this is ideal and nor do I. I think police officers should all have access to a taser as part of their operational suite of options.

The government has finally put some money aside for vests. We have seen delay after delay in the trialling of these vests. It is still unclear as to when the last of these vests will be rolled out. It may be beyond the next election when some police officers finally receive their ballistic stab-proof vests. There is still no sign of any funding for tasers. Again, I say that in this environment, when the government is looking to fund certain things, you would think that health and public safety would be at the top of that list. Sadly, they are not.

As I said, we have seen a good COVID response, with \$21.2 million of extra funding to SAPOL for their COVID response. That is excellent; however, in the process, I think the government is forgetting about public safety in general. We see it, too, in the emergency services portfolio. In response to the Keelty review, we see some funding for extra CFS trucks. That is a good thing.

I hesitate to call this a 'bouquet', but there is some funding for MFS trucks over four years. Clearly, this is not enough. There are clearly many, many MFS trucks still rolling around. While they may be adequate to respond to metropolitan fires, they do not have the adequate burnover protection to respond to peri-urban fires, which they will be increasingly called upon to do, as pointed out by the Keelty review and backed up by the royal commission. There is a lost opportunity there in terms of properly funding the MFS.

There is also a failure in the government to restore funding to farm firefighter units. As I go around, as I did last summer, and as I have begun to talk again to volunteers, to CFS volunteers, there is a general level of praise for farm firefighter units. There is some genuine concern among some people that oftentimes farm firefighting units are not employed in line with correct CFS protocol and sometimes they may go offline and the CFS commander, or whoever is commanding the situation, may not know where they are at any given time. I admit that is a genuine problem but that is a problem of management for the government.

To simply withdraw funding and not recommit any funding for the replacement or the acquisition of farm firefighting units, I think is another missed opportunity. For those who do not know, farm firefighter units are essentially large water tanks with pumps on the back of utes employed by landholders themselves, who may or may not be members of the CFS.

They can look after their own land, they can look after their neighbour's land and they can respond to major fires, as they did in Sampson Flat, Pinery, Cudlee Creek and Kangaroo Island. The previous government committed funding to farm firefighting units. This government, in its first budget, withdrew that funding and we have not seen any funding for it since, and I think that again is a missed opportunity.

Going to the Attorney-General's portfolio, I had a quick look and there does not appear to be any new funding to replace the City Safe CCTV program. This was to enable the City of Adelaide to renew and restore both the software and the hardware in its CCTV coverage, which keeps so many people safe in our city, particularly in places like Hindley Street. Again, this is a lost opportunity.

Again, the government could have used this budget as a health and public safety budget. It could have put some money into solving the problems that the member for Kaurana has outlined in the health system, and the ambulance system particularly, and it could definitely have been used as

an opportunity to approach the last 2½ years of inaction on public safety measures. It is not just inaction. We saw in the first budget deep cuts to public safety and what we have seen since then is no effort to address those. In the grievance, I might go back to giving credit where credit is due, but thank you for your time.

Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale) (11:22): I rise to contribute to the Appropriation Bill. Obviously, the budget this year is on the background of significant hits to our community, on the background of the fires over summer and then COVID through this year—a pandemic like we have never seen in our generations. Some of the most vulnerable people have been hit back-to-back with both of these things and are really struggling to recover. Clearly, this week is not going to help from a wellbeing and mental health point of view and I am sure there are many people in our community who are feeling anxious right now.

It is a good time to reflect on how well we, as a community, have done throughout the pandemic and how compliant and cooperative everyone has been, and are being this week, in terms of ensuring that they are tested, following precautions, sticking to the rules and understanding that we have to be agile in this environment. So I have confidence that this will be something that will pass again; we will get on top of it. For those people who are struggling, people who are vulnerable, know that there are people who are here in the parliament who are looking at ways to improve the circumstances, to assist and provide opportunity. But of course, reach out if there is anything we can do to help you.

As the opposition shadow for human services, I have a lot of areas within my portfolio that give me a sense of responsibility to every person in our state, particularly to vulnerable people in terms of holding the government to account, protecting and providing for people in times of need. One of the biggest areas in the portfolio is housing. Housing is a basic human right. We should not, in our society, be seeing the numbers of homeless people that we are seeing, and continue to see, on our streets. Housing and shelter are core and central to wellbeing. You cannot access education, health care, jobs—I have spoken in this place many times about this—and you simply cannot achieve a level of self-actualisation without having shelter.

It is contingent on the government ensuring that their policies and strategies are effective. Last year's budget saw what the government tagged as a stimulus package, which was designed to provide some much-needed housing in our community. Later in the year, we saw the announcement of the housing strategy, which had been developed on the background of consultation with the sector, we are told, and it had some outlines for a vision for the future around providing housing options. I will talk more about that in a minute. It really was devoid, though, of public housing investment or conversation, which I think is a great shame.

However, this stimulus package from last year's budget was announced over and over again. It has been announced repeatedly under different headlines and different pitches to the media. Again and again during the pandemic, it is touted as new money. It is being talked about as new stimulus. This is not new money; this is money that was announced in the budget last year.

Again, there was a \$75 million package announced that was to be used for a whole range of maintenance and other items, and we saw some money from that brought forward and announced as a stimulus package. It should be noted as well that that was \$75 million over 10 years. I think the public and the pundits, the people in the sector, are clever enough to know that if you announce something over 10 years it is probably not worth a lot of money, and really it is not.

It is disappointing that it is continuously being announced as new stimulus money but it is actually not. During the pandemic, we could have done with a big stimulus on housing and maintenance as a way of providing some assistance to stimulate jobs lost because of the pandemic, but this is not what we are seeing.

In fact, the \$42.5 million stimulus package last year was actually cash reserves. It was receipts from the sale of further public housing properties and, to add insult to injury, during questioning in one of the very hardworking Budget and Finance Committee meetings—I think it was around 30 June this year—we actually got the revelation that the government had only spent \$5.8 million of the \$42 million that was announced the year before.

This is really not good enough, particularly given (a) the climate that we are in, where we need to see money going into the economy and being invested in jobs and (b) there are people who

are desperate to have work done on their homes, public homes. It is not good enough to only spend \$5.8 million out of \$42.5 million. It is not good enough to reannouce the reannouncements continually and try to label them as new dollars. I am not sure what it is stimulating. Anyway, we have estimates coming up, so I am sure we will be able to ask some questions.

There is no money for housing, no new money for public housing, no new money at all for community housing, and no new money for maintenance of the nearly 15,000 properties that are on the maintenance backlog list under the public system. All of this is coupled with the federal government completely ignoring housing as well in their budget, apart from some capital investment fund that will see community housing providers that are in a sound economic state able to borrow money. I think it is a lost opportunity in an environment where debt is being racked up to the eyeballs, debt that will be paid off by our grandchildren's children, an opportunity lost to really invest in South Australia and South Australia's future.

What we did see during the pandemic was the housing of people who were homeless or couch surfing. People who had unstable housing at the time were offered the opportunity to access hotel accommodation through the CEARS program. I commend the government for acting on this and rolling that program out. It is very important. Similar programs have been rolled out across the country, so it is good to see that South Australia also did this.

However, the plan to transition these people out of those hotel rooms has been deficient. There have been people moved from hotel accommodation into public housing but, if you look at the big picture, people who were on the waiting list were pushed back so they could get people out of hotel rooms and into public housing. There were actually no new opportunities found, and there were no new builds and no new housing strategy that was developed, which again is a lost opportunity.

There was capacity to tweak the system and look at more creative options for housing, but this has not been investigated in the budget either. We heard a lot of talk about affordable housing, which is okay if you can afford it. There is no evidence that people from public housing are able to afford to move into these affordable homes, so I look forward to seeing how that strategy is going to operate. There is no talk about that in the budget.

In terms of homelessness numbers, it is key to point out that at 30 September there were 129 people sleeping rough on the streets of Adelaide. So, while there has been a program designed to house people during the pandemic, we now have a potential second wave and we are not seeing an investment in creative options for these people. They are just on the street, so that is not good. I wonder what is going to happen as we move on through the next weeks because these numbers are obvious. We see them every day when we walk through to Parliament House.

I have not spoken to a single person in my visits to any of the support services and other centres who accesses these services who wants to sleep rough. It is not a choice to be on the street. It is not a choice they want. There simply needs to be more creative options applied and more work done.

While there is in the budget the usual NAHA funding that is being rolled out for homelessness services, and we have seen a small injection of money in terms of early intervention for homelessness services, it is not enough. We are not seeing any change in the numbers. What we have seen are all the eggs going in one basket, investing in a model of homelessness services called the Glasgow Model, which I have spoken about in here and which we will be monitoring.

We have seen that a joint letter has been signed by the sector and sent through to the head of this homelessness program, Ian Cox, with a number of issues being raised because this model relies on a whole range of things. It relies on alliances working together. It relies on the sector running these alliances. There is no extra money to provide administrative resources for those people to do this. It relies on outsourcing from government the administration of services within those alliances.

Worryingly, there is an alliance that has been built between the south and the city, so the city does not have its own program, which makes no sense to me because homelessness is a very different operation in the inner city. It is very, very different, and that is why the Zero Project is so important to monitor and move on. What we are seeing is that southern homelessness services are being pulled into one alliance, and this is going to see cuts. Without a doubt, this will mean cuts to services.

With the tyranny of distance, in terms of our rural regional and remote sector, such as the APY lands, the Far North, the Riverland, etc., how will a model from Glasgow, this condensed, urban, tight-packed region, be tweaked and used to be appropriate within South Australia's diverse land? I cannot imagine the stress the sector is under, particularly in the regions, trying to work out how they are going to manage this because it relies on a whole range of things, and it relies on face-to-face visits and meetings and consults. While we are a bit clever with Zoom and Teams and so on, it is not the same.

I am also really concerned about the lack of public housing. There is not any additional public housing being built. In fact, the numbers we have seen come back from the Chief Executive of SAHA, Mr Michael Buchan, confirm that the numbers in public housing over the next five years are going to fall. They are actually reducing. For all the rhetoric and the huff and puff happening about stopping the sale of public housing, stopping the reduction in numbers, the forecast is for hundreds fewer public houses to be available over the next five years. That does not support a Glasgow model either because you need increased exit points, and that simply is not going to happen.

One positive thing that has come out of the letter that was put forward is in relation to the rushed tender that was supposed to be done in such a very short time frame over Christmas—that is, opening in December, closing in late January. You would not want anyone who normally writes your tenders and does all your administration work to have to take annual leave or have any annual leave plans because there would be no-one there to do this. Thankfully, there has been an extension of one month for this tender writing.

This last year or so, they have made a habit of putting out tenders, putting out contracts for people to bid for, putting short time frames on them and then leaving them sitting there for months without announcing them. I do not know what the rush was, but at least they have given them another month, which I think is a good thing.

Another issue I want to comment on is youth justice. The minister has been able to secure a bit of money in there for youth justice, which I am pleased to see. It contains \$18.7 million over three years to consolidate youth detention sites. Goldsborough Road, Cavan, will be the key site and Jonal Drive, which I do not believe has been used pretty much over the last year anyway, will be closed, and we will see that happen over the next few years.

We will watch to see how that happens and how the land is used and what is done with that site because there are certainly some options I can think of that it can be used for that will support youth justice. We do not just want to see it closed and a couple of extra beds put in somewhere, or a few extra facilities, with no thought about what that land could be used for. We have to invest in our young people who go into the system because the younger people go into the justice system, the more likely they are to remain recidivist or continue on as part of that system for the rest of their life. We all know that here, so we know that this has to be done properly.

Many children detained in the youth justice centre live with disability or they are neuro divergent or they have extremely bad health or dental health issues. We need to make sure they are being looked after, so we will be watching all these programs as they roll out. The consolidation of the centre needs to be done in a way that all these needs are met because otherwise it will have huge consequences on the lives of these young people.

We have seen an undermining by the Marshall Liberal government of the successful Community Youth Justice Program, which is being outsourced, privatised. We are not happy about that. It is not broken, so why change it? The people working in that sector are very upset and very disappointed to see that is happening. I think the successes of the outcomes are being put at risk by this privatisation, particularly in terms of Aboriginal young people, who are shamefully over-represented in youth justice, as well as in a whole range of health and justice issues throughout our community.

I think that the privatisation of the community service will have a particular effect on young people, a particular effect on Aboriginal young people and a particular negative effect on young people in the regions. I think we need to continue to try to stop this shameful privatisation from going ahead. We have to maintain cultural awareness front and centre in terms of everything we do in youth justice.

There are a couple of little bits of pieces that happen, little bombs that are there are within the budget. We know that there are some fees going up. We know there are some levies going up. I am sure that people will find this out as we go along. One of the main things that has been pointed out lately is some ridiculous cuts to events—the Clipsal 500, for example, and we saw 300-odd people out the front on the steps of parliament this Saturday just gone protesting about that.

Having run a marginal seat on nine votes whose constituents are front and centre and in love with the Clipsal, I just want to give a bit of advice to the member for King. I know your electorate is front and centre, top of the tree in love with the Clipsal as well. King is a seat that loves its car racing. I think you need to do some work behind the scenes, otherwise your people are going to let you know all about it. We love our cars in the deep south, and I know that King is the same. I think we need to see a bit of work there—otherwise it will be a gift, thank you very much.

Why on earth would you put a tax on electric cars? We should be incentivising these types of vehicles that are much better for our environment, particularly where we have got charging points where we can use renewable energy. It makes no sense: it is a tiny piece of low-hanging fruit that really makes no sense. From my point of view, again, that is something where the government has just not read the room.

This was a budget of jobs. There is no jobs growth. I think people will start to see it for what it is over the next six months or so. Of course, we are going to have a budget hitting us in the next six months again, so I am sure we will be back talking about it very soon.

Mr BOYER (Wright) (11:42): I would like to begin by echoing the words of the leader and other members of this place who have made contributions on this Appropriation Bill. I offer my thanks to all those who have kept South Australians safe during the global coronavirus pandemic. I would also like to offer some more specific thanks to our teachers and school, preschool and childcare staff who stayed at work, teaching and caring for our children, while so many other people were and, in light of the events of the last 48 hours, are again being asked to work from home.

I offer that thanks not just as the shadow minister for education but also as the member for Wright and as a father of three young daughters, all of whom are in the very early days of their public education. It was not without some feelings of guilt—and I am sure they were shared by other members of this place—that I would drop my daughters off at school and leave them in the very capable hands of those staff. I found it difficult on multiple occasions to find the words to properly and sincerely convey my thanks to them for the sacrifices they were making. Nonetheless, I offer that thanks again now, particularly in the light of the events of the last 48 hours.

The first thought that occurred to me after eagerly reading these budget papers on Tuesday was: what is actually new in terms of funding in this budget for public schools? The Treasurer has proclaimed many times, both in this chamber and publicly, that this is a big spender budget, but what is actually new for public schools, and how much of the capital infrastructure funding is still from the previous Labor government?

Under that previous government we more than doubled our investment in public schools between 2002 and 2017. In fact, funding per student in public schools between 2002 and 2017 increased from roughly \$7,600 per student to about \$16,400 per student. Fundamentally, we did this because we believe that a high-quality public education for all South Australians is a right; it is not an optional extra for those people who can afford it.

We invested \$250 million in 139 new science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) labs to prepare students for the jobs of the future. We planned to create about 1,700 jobs through our Building Better Schools program, which was to go towards the upgrade of 91 schools across the state. But I note that a considerable amount of the money put towards those 91 upgrades has actually been siphoned off by this government to cover the cost of the move of year 7 into high school, which I along with other members of the opposition have been saying since the last election was grossly underfunded by this government in its pre-election costings.

We also built a new high school, Adelaide Botanic High, and initiated the processes for new schools in Aldinga, Angle Vale and a new secondary school in Whyalla too, which I had the pleasure of touring for the first time with the member for Giles just recently. I would like to offer my thanks to the minister for continuing with this project, and I believe the member for Giles has also offered his

thanks. I think the people of Whyalla and those on this side who were part of initiating that process were very thankful that the current education minister continued with it. Labor also provided additional funding to independent and Catholic schools, as well as \$11 million a year in infrastructure funding.

But, going back to the original question, what is in this budget new for public schools? Alarming, the waitlist for a spot in a disability unit—sometimes called a special unit, sometimes going under names different to that as well—is long and it would appear it is growing longer. We all know that students with disability need specialised support. They should not need to join a queue in order to get the same kind of inclusive education that other kids take for granted.

I think it is an outrage that for many of these young people who have already had to face an incredibly long list of challenges in their very young lives they are now fighting along with their parent or parents to get that support they need to be included in our public education system. Of course, this budget was the opportunity to fix that waitlist, and it is an opportunity that has gone begging. I think it speaks volumes about the priorities of this government when it comes to education that that was not the first cab off the rank in terms of where there needed to be a new injection of funds.

I mentioned previously that it was Labor that initiated the new schools in Aldinga, Angle Vale and Whyalla, and when we did this we also expanded the number of special options placements for students with a disability and we ensured that further places would be created in those preschools and schools. We did this because we are serious about an education system that is inclusive, accessible and affordable for all South Australians, regardless of their circumstances.

That brings me to the additional \$30 million of cuts to the education department handed down in this budget. As the leader said so succinctly in his budget reply, after \$11 million of savings announced in this government's first budget, \$48 million of savings announced last year and an additional \$30 million announced in this budget, the point at which these cuts can be absorbed by the department and not flow on to classrooms has well and truly passed. The truth is, no matter what those opposite try to tell us, these cuts are going to hurt schools, they will hurt staff and they will hurt students.

Do not be fooled by this government's rhetoric that an additional \$30 million of savings, on top of the savings measures already handed down in previous budgets, can be sucked out of the department without having an impact on the classroom. For this reason, I think it is incumbent upon the minister to be up-front and transparent with teachers, school staff, parents and the South Australian public at large about just where that \$30 million in savings is going to be found.

The Department for Education plays a very important role in our children's education; we all know that and we take it for granted. The support they offer in a whole heap of different ways—mostly behind the scenes—to schools, site leaders and classroom teachers enables those classroom teachers on the frontline to do exactly what we want them to do, and that is to teach our kids, not to be tied up in administrative tasks that divert them from spending that one-on-one time, not just for their own children but with other children who possibly have a few more challenges in terms of their reading and writing.

In relation to TAFE, I think slowly but surely the Marshall government's plan for it is now being revealed. It started not long after the 2018 election with the closure of three campuses in metropolitan Adelaide: Parafield, Tea Tree Gully and Port Adelaide. It continued with the cancellation of TAFE courses and it is now culminating in interstate registered training organisations being allowed into the South Australian market and, in cases, being eligible for grants from South Australian taxpayers to pick over the bones of TAFE and run some of the courses that have historically been offered by TAFE in South Australia.

This is another prime example of the Marshall Liberal government saying one thing before the election and doing something completely different after it. It honestly beggars belief that at a time in South Australia when we have 165,000 South Australians either unemployed or underemployed, this government takes an axe to the public training provider. From my reading of the budget papers, and certainly this is something we will be spending considerable time on in estimates with the minister, there are \$33 million worth of efficiency measures for TAFE still sitting on the books.

Incredibly, just months after we learned of the horrific case of neglect of Ann Marie Smith and halfway through the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety, we heard that our state's public training provider, TAFE, will no longer be offering courses in Certificate III in Individual

Support (Disability) or Individual Support (Ageing) in metropolitan Adelaide. This budget confirms those cuts.

It is my grave fear—and I know that many people on this side of the house share this fear—that if courses that train people to provide essential services such as disability and aged care are left for the for-profit private sector to run, we face the very real possibility of a drop in the quality of these courses. In turn, that will have a detrimental impact on the lives of our most vulnerable people, people such as Ann Marie Smith, who rely on the graduates of those courses to care for them.

Before I conclude, it would be remiss of me not to offer my thoughts on this budget insofar as it pertains to the seat of Wright and the north-east more broadly. Apart from the ongoing upgrades of both Modbury and Lyell McEwin hospitals and Golden Grove Road—all of which are welcome projects, but all of which are projects that were announced by the previous Labor government—there is not much new spending in the north-east.

Public transport and the O-Bahn are hugely popular within our community. That is why there was outrage at the government's policy earlier this year, which would have changed the public transport landscape in the north and north-eastern suburbs for the worse. Along with other MPs from all over the state, I was inundated with concerns from residents; people who had never contacted a member of parliament before were reaching out to voice their concerns about the dramatic cuts to bus routes and the closure of bus stops.

This leads me to the North East Public Transport Study that began way back in 2018. It was tasked with looking at extending the O-Bahn to Golden Grove as well as new park-and-ride options. It has been a long process—over two years—to see any semblance of action actually stemming from this study. We did, however, get a comment from the former Minister for Transport in an article in *The Advertiser* last year stating that the study did in fact recommend extending the O-Bahn to Golden Grove. However, we are now informed by the new minister that the study does not recommend the extension. It should be noted that only an executive summary has been released so far. I am yet to see the release of the full report.

Residents, of course, were promised that their voices would be incorporated within this study. There were community stalls held all over the north-eastern suburbs at shopping centres, with quite a lengthy feedback period allowing residents to submit their thoughts. I personally attended these stalls, but, here we are some two years later and that community feedback is still secret. I look forward to the minister and department making good on this Premier's commitment to be an open and transparent government by releasing the North East Public Transport Study in full so residents in the north-east can see what their tax dollars have paid for over the last two years and to see whether or not the study does recommend extending the O-Bahn any further.

These budget documents show that the upgrade to Golden Grove Road is now going to cost \$31 million, up from the initial \$20 million. Works on the remaining section of Golden Grove Road from the intersection of Yatala Vale Road and The Grove Way to just north of the Surrey Downs shopping centre are welcomed, but it looks as though the opportunity to upgrade the intersection of Park Lake Drive in Wynn Vale and Golden Grove Road has been missed. This is a high-traffic intersection that is badly congested during school drop-off and pickup times, and there is no better time to upgrade that intersection than whilst the intersecting part of Golden Grove Road is also being upgraded.

Finally, regarding park-and-rides, the government has come out all guns blazing on the Golden Grove park-and-ride as if the residents of the north-east have forgotten that they actually promised to expand this bit of key infrastructure before the state election. I can only assume they think that if enough noise is made about this re-announcement residents will forget that there is still no commitment for a new park-and-ride at Tea Tree Plaza.

All in all, when it comes to education, TAFE and constituents in the electorate of Wright in the north-eastern suburbs more broadly, this is not the grandiose or generous budget that the Treasurer would have us believe. If I were to characterise it, I would say it is a package of re-announcements, a lot of delays and backflips. I think this government is fooling itself if it thinks that South Australians are not able to see that for themselves.

Ms MICHAELS (Enfield) (11:55): I rise also to speak on the Appropriation Bill. I had hoped that the Marshall Liberal government would come out with a budget that would finally realise the urgency of the stimulus that we need in South Australia. I had hoped the budget would start the bounce-back that we need now for the recession that we are in. I had hoped that this budget would support small business, as the backbone of our economy, to keep people employed now, and I had hoped that this would be the start of creating new jobs in South Australia now. But, unfortunately, nothing is happening now with this budget.

Even the touted extension of the small business grants for sole traders is almost worthless. So many sole traders, particularly a high proportion of women, work from home or run mobile businesses. The criteria required for the small business sole trader grant necessitates them having commercial premises and a turnover of at least \$75,000. Again, many sole traders in this state do not meet either of those criteria.

Some obvious examples include the lovely gentleman who comes to mow my lawn. He is a franchisee. He has told me that many people have started mowing their own lawns now that they are home a lot more because of COVID. He has been impacted. He obviously does not have a commercial premises and will not qualify for the grant. There is a lady who has a small nail salon in Enfield. She is also a sole trader. She does have a little shopfront but she does not meet the turnover test of \$75,000.

Also, I have a friend who started her own HR consulting business last year. And, guess what? Small businesses are not investing money in staff development and writing HR policies at the moment; they are barely keeping afloat. Again, she is a sole trader impacted by COVID, but because she works from home she is not able to access this grant, which, I must say, at only \$3,000, is pretty pathetic. Other examples include mobile dog groomers and food vans that have been severely hit, particularly around the CBD. Small suburban travel agents have been smashed by COVID. Rather than an attempt at a \$3,000 grant, perhaps a simple 'stay local, book local' campaign would have helped them a lot more.

The nature of the businesses run by a majority of sole traders means that the extension of the small business grants to them, in reality, is largely meaningless. At the same time, those many small businesses are facing an increase in government fees and charges. This is the worst time for hikes in car registration costs, tradie licence fees and liquor licensing fees. There has been no support shown for small business in this budget. In combination with higher costs, that is the effect of this Marshall Liberal government budget right now.

On top of that, funding has been cut to Hub Adelaide and there is no real support for other mum-and-dad small businesses or any forward thinking on planning for industries that we know are going to face a potential cliff with the situation that is occurring in China right now. There is no support for the wine industry, whose exports into China will be impacted, and parts of our fishing industry and now our forestry industry are being impacted. We know more pain is coming for those sectors, yet nothing has been done to address that in this state budget.

My colleagues in this place have spoken about the long delays in infrastructure spending. Infrastructure spending has been highlighted by the Premier and the Treasurer as the centrepiece of this budget, but the reality is that real jobs are not coming for quite some time and we are risking local subcontractors hitting the wall and going bust well before any jobs eventuate from this.

The most disappointing thing in this state budget is the lack of vision for this state. Other than having some tunnels, I cannot actually tell from this budget what the Premier's vision is for this state. Yes, we are dealing with a pandemic, and the last 48 hours have shown us the uncertainty we are facing. Yes, we need stimulus, but we need the stimulus now to get ourselves out of it. Beyond that, where are we heading as a state? Where is the targeted money for building successful industries in South Australia? Where is the plan for the population growth that the Marshall Liberal government says we need?

Where is the long-term plan to grow the jobs and get the investment we need in South Australia to succeed? Unfortunately, to me, this budget looks like a bandaid with no sensible long-term plan for this state. We need to spend money encouraging locals to buy local services and goods, and we need a serious attempt at investment attraction. We have people all over the world looking at Australia as a place to come and live and, as far as I can see in this state budget, we are doing nothing to make sure that South Australia is number one on their agenda.

We cannot ignore the long-term issues, either, that South Australia is facing. These issues existed way before COVID and will be there long after COVID. Dealing with the most vulnerable people in our community, we have seen significant delays in promised public housing building. We need to give people the dignity of a stable, decent house with the opportunity for dignified work. Those issues have both been largely ignored in this state budget, nor is there anything that deals with the elephant in the room, which is our ageing population and the impact that will have on our health system in the long term.

All of this has been largely ignored in a budget that achieves very little in the short term. We also need a plan for repaying the massive \$33 billion plus debt we are facing, and there is nothing in the budget that indicates to me what that long-term plan is. Unfortunately, the Marshall Liberal government did not take the opportunity to integrate short-term policies to deal with the impact of COVID with a plan to deal with the long-term vision for South Australia, and that has disappointed me greatly.

Mr Deputy Speaker, I draw your attention to the state of the house.

A quorum having been formed:

Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (12:04): I rise to speak on the Appropriation Bill. I want to start by expressing my appreciation for all those who have been working hard to deal with the COVID crisis, both since March and in this latest outbreak. This is certainly a budget shaped by those global forces of a pandemic. I also acknowledge the Public Service for its considerable work on this budget, a budget that is really unlike any other, at least since the GFC.

This is a budget with an incredible level of spending. The government's response to where we find ourselves financially is to spend. Considering the times we are in, little issue can be taken with a stimulus approach; indeed, it is one Labor employed to great effect during the GFC and an approach we have called for this year. However, spending on this scale must result in outcomes. It is essential that this largesse delivers both short-term and long-term benefits, addressing the challenges we face in the short and longer term.

In the short term, it needs to deliver jobs, and generating those jobs has very real impact on the long-term futures of our citizens. In the longer term, it should, where possible, set up our state for a more prosperous future. At this expense, I think our community expects more than simply a sugar hit. Sadly, job creation does not flow from the very handsome numbers in these budget papers. There is a zero per cent jobs growth forecast in the budget: that is a concern to me and also to the people I represent. They want to know that, if so much of their taxes are being spent, it is securing a result: a result for their family, for their neighbourhood and for their state.

My other concern—and I suppose this is a personal as much as a professional reflection—is that net government debt will increase to \$33 billion over the forward estimates. With a number of projects not fully accounted for in the budget, for example, South Road, which needs another \$4.45 billion, that is likely to increase from there. The Treasurer has told us that he will be long gone from this planet by the time the debt is paid off. He was referring to last year's budget figures, I believe, when he made those comments.

Of course that means that my generation and the ones after that and after that will bear the burden of paying this off. Even if that is necessary, it is a stressful prospect and there needs to be a plan on how to come out the other side of that, and that has not been articulated by this government or in these budget papers so far. I would like to turn to some particular aspects of the budget that affect my beloved electorate of Badcoe.

The seat of Badcoe, on the current boundaries at least, spans South Road, from Richmond Road at Keswick to Daws Road at Ascot Park. This section is 5.7 kilometres long, of the total 10.5 kilometre stretch to be completed on South Road. When there is little traffic, it will take about seven minutes to drive that stretch from Richmond Road to Daws Road. With traffic, in theory it is 22 minutes, but in my experience it can often be a lot longer.

This entire 5.7 kilometre stretch is to be upgraded in either phase 1 or phase 2 of the announced works program, and it is disappointing that major works will not begin until 2023, well after the next election. Only then will we start to see the 4,000 jobs promised by this project, and that

is a long way away from the job stimulus our state needs now and I suspect will need even more desperately as the JobKeeper program winds down.

There is no doubt at all that this stretch of vital road infrastructure needs upgrading to cope with modern conditions and to see the completion of the north-south corridor vision. There is also no doubt that tunnels were a popular idea and welcomed by most Badcoe residents, including me. There is a variety of reasons local people preferred tunnels—chiefly, so that fewer homes, businesses and community facilities were compulsorily acquired and also so that character and heritage homes and long-established buildings are preserved.

There are also hopes that it will create greater unity between our suburbs like Glandore and Black Forest, which are currently divided by the existing four-lane South Road, but we are in jeopardy of being divided by a much wider breach. Many people also want to see further greening of our area, which is severely lacking in open green space, and this project represents an opportunity for that to happen.

It also represents a chance for some local issues to be resolved. Chief among those is the gauntlet that children run each morning getting across South Road to go to school at Black Forest. I am forever nervous watching children cross the road there, and earlier this year (thankfully, it was during the school holidays) we were petrified to see a car career off the road at the pedestrian crossing and veer around the metal barriers to where children would ordinarily be waiting to cross the road. It is issues like this that could be addressed with the South Road upgrade. But the proposed hybrid-plus model does not mean a tunnel for everyone in my electorate. For some there will be a sunken roadway, for others a surface roadway.

According to reports, there will be a 4.3 kilometre southern tunnel from Darlington to just south of the tram bridge over South Road, which many in my area would know as the Black Forest tram overpass or tram stop 6. There will be one kilometre of lowered motorway under the tramline and Anzac Highway, which is the existing Gallipoli Underpass; two kilometres of surface motorway from Anzac Highway to just south of Richmond Road; and then a lowered motorway under Richmond Road.

The questions for people in my area are: where exactly is the road going; what land will be taken up for the on and off ramp and what will be acquired to simply create the room to build the road or tunnel? People in my community are rightly asking whether Richmond Primary, Black Forest Primary, Warriappendi School and even St Anthony's School will be affected, or even be bulldozed, to make way for the new road. If their school does survive, in whole or in part, they are concerned about school drop-off points and safe access, access to school ovals, pedestrian access for children to walk to school, and whether school sizes will be reduced.

Schools like Black Forest are also due to have work start from the Building Better Schools money allocated under the former Labor government. This \$5 million school improvement was delayed under the current government and parents are now asking if those works will go ahead as planned, be put on hold or indeed be cancelled completely. Parents are rightly asking if money should be spent on new classrooms and learning spaces if they will be pulled down. Equally, they want their children to get the best facilities and get what they deserve and have long been promised.

Likewise, businesses are unsure if they are to be included or directly impacted by the route, or if their businesses are even viable amid the construction phase. Churchgoers of St Anthony's on South Road want to know if their lovely church will remain near the Emerson crossing, and those at the Wayville Uniting Church on Oban Avenue just behind Black Forest Primary School are also searching for some answers. In the past week, I have had a flurry of calls from my constituents asking these questions and many more. So, while the government may have answered one question about whether tunnels will be built, it has led to many more questions that need to be answered.

Since becoming the local MP, I requested a briefing on South Road by the then minister but I did not receive a response. I hope the response from the current minister is much more cooperative. I have again requested a briefing so I can help keep my community up to date on what will be a complex and time-consuming project that will dominate our community's landscape and our conversations for another decade. I hope to hear from him soon.

Considering that the planned community consultation sessions about South Road have today been cancelled, I think it is even more important that the local MP representing the area most

affected by the project is kept up to date and is in a position to advise constituents about the project and how they can have their say. After all, my community elected me as their representative precisely for purposes such as this: to help inform them of the impact of government decisions and to advocate in their interests.

I really do think that community consultation is important and I hope this government will see the good sense in communicating with the local MP and our community at large about this incredibly important infrastructure project. The uncertainty around the project since 2018 has impacted people's lives in a very real way. Their ability to make decisions in the interest of their families, community groups and businesses has been stifled. Now that a rough plan has been announced, it is important the community is kept abreast of developments and has the opportunity, at the earliest time, to contribute their own ideas.

My community is one that is well informed and engaged on current issues. Locals have thought very deeply about South Road for many years: after all, it is their home. I would urge the government to listen to the great ideas that local people have about this almost \$9 billion project and how it can help improve the quality of life in our area, rather than diminishing it.

It is also important that decisions are made as thoroughly and as expeditiously as possible in order to allow people to make important decisions in their own lives—decisions like where to send their kids to school, whether to renovate their home, whether to buy or expand a business, or whether to join a local community or sporting club affected by the new route.

The fact is there are a number of buildings and blocks of land along South Road that have not been invested in, not rented out or cannot be sold because of uncertainty about the road's future. As the local MP, I am calling for as much certainty as quickly as is feasible for my community and true and thorough engagement with our community and its local leaders.

I want to turn to the question of sports funding, which is of relevance to my area as well. The decision a few years ago to limit sports funding to football, cricket and netball projects was condemned by my community and the many sports organisations that subsequently found it much harder to access funds. I welcome the sports funding rounds in this budget.

Many in this place would know of my commitment to sports infrastructure in my own community. I was pleased to help open Goodwood Oval's new clubhouse a few weekends ago. I fought really hard for that funding from the previous Labor government before I was elected, gathering hundreds of signatures and dragging endless ministers to the site to make my case and that of my community.

The sports minister attended the opening, and I am sure he was equally impressed with the end product—an excellent facility to take us into future decades. Our local leaders, including Craig Scott, Warwick Potts, Jason Scroop and many others, deserve recognition for their years of work to make this happen.

I have also been pleased to advocate for and secure funding for sports and recreation facilities at Weigall Oval at Plympton, Ascot Park's Active Elders and the Millswood Bowling Club, as well as a new home for the local Forestville Hockey Club at the upgraded Women's Memorial Gardens Playing Fields when that is completed. I was also really pleased to assist the Plympton Halifax Calisthenics Club at North Plympton to get a new polished timber floor.

I am hoping that the funding available in this budget will assist more community level sports groups in Badcoe, such as, for example, the Millswood Croquet Club. The club has been working in recent years to raise funds for a new clubhouse to replace the small and ageing facility that it has had for many, many decades, and the members of the club should be commended for the support they have so far managed to rally. The club's President, Stewart Kingsborough, even jumped onto ABC radio last week to argue his case directly with the Treasurer on air.

The club is after just \$250,000. It hopes that such funding will help attract more players to its club and make life a bit more comfortable for its 80-strong existing membership. I have certainly hit a few balls through the hoops myself at the Millswood Croquet Club, sometimes more successfully than others, and there is nowhere better to be, especially in summer. There are issues to be worked

through with this project, but funding would be welcome, especially now that more than just three sports can apply under this funding.

I am hoping that the mistakes of the past, when it comes to sports funding, will not be repeated in the new rebadged grassroots program; however, it is concerning that the same unfair co-contribution model that saw overwhelming numbers of projects go to Liberal-held seats remains at the project's core.

In total, just six Labor electorates received funding from the 47 successful bids under the controversial Grassroots Football, Cricket and Netball Facility Program. The \$6 million round 2 funded no clubs in Labor electorates, while the \$5 million round 3 saw just one of 15 projects in a Labor electorate. The government's required 50 per cent co-contribution is skewing grants towards those with the most money; many community clubs simply cannot afford the huge cost and their players are missing out.

Under Labor, all clubs got a fair share of public funding. Projects were fully funded and decisions were based on merit, not postcodes. Like its predecessor, I am concerned that the grassroots program is unfairly geared towards wealthier areas, meaning kids from lower income areas are missing out. Certainly, if we look at the Millswood Croquet Club, which is after \$250,000, there is no way that club is going to be able to come up with \$125,000 itself. No matter where you live, you should be given the opportunity to participate in sport and be able to access appropriate facilities that support participation.

Moving onto the area of the arts, in the arts portfolio we have seen cuts detailed in the last two budgets under this government totalling \$46.3 million for the arts sector. Although belated, it is encouraging to now see funds being expended through the Arts Recovery Fund to address the perilous impact of COVID on the arts sector. Indeed, it is the second-hardest hit sector in our state, with up to 27 per cent of jobs lost in the sector during the peak of the COVID job cuts. The \$10 million Arts Recovery Fund is welcomed, although of course that represents less than a quarter of the funds that this government has stripped from the arts since coming to office.

Looking specifically at the arts and cultural policy support budget lines, because of course there is no Arts SA anymore, we can see that eight workers in the arts are losing their jobs, with FTEs reducing from 63.2 to 55.1 in this year's budget, so it seems the destaffing and the defunding of arts sadly continues.

In short, considering the depth of the impact on the arts and the continuing restraints on the sector, meaning it is unlikely to fully recovery for years to come, it does seem that more could be done for the arts and it does seem to me that there is a missed opportunity for some creative thinking and for some long-term investments in arts and art creation to aid the arts economy.

In relation to the Aboriginal Art and Cultures Centre, an additional \$50 million has been tipped into this project. I have to say, as I have already said in this place, that I am not surprised about that considering that for some time Labor has warned that this project was either underfunded or would not be the landmark building that we were told it would be; so that investment is, of course, welcomed.

Despite being completed in August, the long-awaited business case has been kept secret and not released publicly, leaving us to only ponder what that might say. We, of course, call for that to be publicly released. But what we do know is that the delivery date has again been delayed. Just last week, Diane Dixon, the Lot Fourteen project manager, told ABC radio that the project will not be delivered by the Premier's promised 2023 deadline but will open two years later in 2025. That is yet another delay to this project and very disappointing.

Speaking of delays, the budget papers also reveal a delay for the delivery of the Adelaide Festival Centre project. There is now not only a blowout in the cost but the delivery of the project that was fully funded under the previous government has been pushed out from June 2021 to June 2023, two years longer and after the next state election.

The budget papers do feature rather a few Labor-era projects that are underway and, indeed, one that has been completed. In addition to the Festival Theatre project underway, there is the Maj. I was pleased to tour the completed Her Majesty's Theatre a few months ago with Labor leader, Peter Malinauskas. She is a truly beautiful theatre, Mr Speaker, and if you have not been there, I would urge you to visit at the earliest possible opportunity.

It has been a pleasure to see a few shows there, including the State Opera's *Summer of the Seventh Doll* just a few nights ago. The experience, I suppose, has been made even more special by the fact that I think that was the only performance now that restrictions are back in place and measures have had to be taken to curtail theatres. Let's hope that the latest restrictions on arts events can be safely dropped again soon so that more people can enjoy this fantastic facility.

In relation to planning, the most glaring omission from the budget is Treasury funding the overdue Planning and Design Code. Due to the delayed implementation of the code under this government, that has seen a cost blowout. Those staff have to be paid from somewhere and that somewhere, under this government, has sadly been the Planning and Development Fund, commonly known as the open space fund.

I addressed the Local Government Association's AGM on this issue a few weeks ago and was glad to see that its members subsequently passed a motion to raise their voice on this issue and lobby the minister over the misuse of the fund, passing a motion that was supported by 95 per cent of its delegates.

In the other place, Labor and the Greens continue to raise this issue and support the disallowance of the regulations that enable the raiding of this fund to continue to happen, and it is shame that that is necessary. Obviously, it would be much more fruitful for the minister to use her sway to obtain funds for the cost blowouts—admittedly largely the result of decisions or indecisions under her predecessor—to gain Treasury funds for this cost overrun and to leave the open space fund for funding open space.

Lastly, I want to talk about the Labor leader's commitment on this side of politics to oppose the proposed new electric car tax. I myself very proudly drive a hybrid and I hope to have an electric vehicle in future. There are many people in my electorate who are environmentally minded and try to do whatever they can within their means to make environmentally sensitive decisions in their daily lives.

While there are currently only a handful of people in my area who drive fully electric vehicles that I am aware of, there are many with hybrids and, indeed, many more who plan or aspire to buy a greener car in future. There is no doubt that a new tax will only act as a deterrent for people to purchase an electric vehicle. The proposal has been slammed by the industry, with Electric Vehicle Council chief executive, Behyad Jafari, saying the new car tax would actively discourage people from buying electric cars and would send a message to the sector to move away from South Australia and do their business elsewhere. I am really proud that this side of the house is standing up against this short-sighted decision and making it clear what we stand for.

In conclusion, while this budget may foreshadow a cash splash, it is important that the money actually hits where it is needed: investing in long-term social, environmental and economic outcomes for our state and, vitally, generating the jobs we so desperately need right now.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (12:24): I rise to make a small contribution to the debate regarding the Appropriation Bill. My colleagues have covered a lot of the space in this debate, and I will not repeat some of their comments, but I endorse a lot of the comments they have made about the general approach for the budget and also the issues regarding the delay in the delivery of infrastructure projects.

We have heard time and again for the last couple of years, particularly in the last 12 months, about an X-billion dollar infrastructure plan. We have heard that a number of times. Like a lot of people in the street, I would like to see the budget rather than just hear about the budget, and certainly we have not actually seen much of the budget on the ground.

The budget is an important economic and social statement. It outlines the priorities for the government, in terms of its economic strategy and economic policies, and also its social policies and what it sees for the future of our state. I acknowledge that the pandemic poses new, additional challenges to any government of the day, whether it be at the state or federal level. While I take that into account, the pandemic also provides great opportunities: the things we previously did not do or did not think about we can do now—and the things we can invest in, the things we better understand about our community, our society and our economy.

Regrettably, this government has chosen to use the pandemic as an excuse for some of its failures rather than to use it as a way to change the thinking on the ground in our community in the way we need to do things. I will give you just one example, Mr Deputy Speaker. We have been told time and time again by the Treasurer, the Premier and others that the \$33 billion debt we will have as a state is due to the pandemic. The reality is, though, that we already had a debt somewhere between \$10 billion and \$12 billion before the pandemic hit this state and our nation. So to suggest that the pandemic is the sole cause of our debt is misleading.

Then we were told that part of that debt was to invest in infrastructure for the future. That is a noble plan, but where do we see this happening on the ground? A number of speakers from this side have already indicated that a lot of the projects where ribbons have been cut in the last 12 months have been projects, particularly in my own electorate, which were funded by the previous Labor government. That said, they could not even deliver the projects in a proper way because there had been a number of lingering issues related to some of the projects in my electorate.

I welcome and acknowledge the \$15 million upgrade of the emergency department at the Gawler Health Service. I would like to say more about that, but it is difficult to say more because I do not know what the plans are and I do not know what the timing is, and it has been very hard to find information about those two things, to the point where I understand a lot of decision-makers in the local health service there do not know either.

There was this big announcement, but a lot of people involved in the health services in Gawler were unaware of what has been planned, what is proposed and also when it will be delivered. So, while I welcome that, I would like to get more details to make sure that the project is delivered on time and that it is a project we actually need in Gawler.

While that funding for the hospital is very important and certainly needed, a hospital is only as good as the people who can get to the hospital. One of the issues we have in Gawler and also the Barossa, it has been brought to my attention, is ambulance services. Only recently I had a case brought to my attention where a school student was very ill at school, and it took an hour and a half to attract an ambulance to the site. So delayed was the ambulance service that the school principal contacted my office to see if there was anything we could do to actually get an ambulance to this student, who was obviously in need of health care. That has been a growing concern.

The lack of resources for ambulance services means that, on a number of occasions, the town is without an ambulance service, and that is also true for the Barossa from what I hear when I speak to paramedics in the region. There are times when a patient has to be taken to the Lyell McEwin, to the Royal Adelaide Hospital, or wherever. There is no backup service in the region, and that means that people need to wait unacceptable times, which is putting their health and their life at risk.

Then we look further at what is happening in Light, and I would like just to reflect on a couple of things that have happened in the last few years to paint a picture about how this government has treated the electorate of Light. First, we had the VORT program closed in Gawler. The Vehicle On Road Testing scheme was shifted from Gawler to Elizabeth, and I still do not have an explanation as to why that was the case, given that there was not a shortage in demand for the services. Certainly, it means now that young people in the local area have to travel longer distances to get the service.

Also, people outside Gawler have to travel even further. People around Mallala, Wasleys and those sorts of areas, who used to come into Gawler for the testing now have to go to Elizabeth as the closest site. The government has closed that service, which has incurred additional costs not only to the individual involved and their families but also to the driving schools because often they incur additional costs, which they pass on for the testing.

If that was not enough, one part of getting a licence these days is to do your Hazard Perception Test, which is an appropriate thing to do, but not when you have to wait three or four months to do the test, and that is because of a cutback in services to Service SA. This is a test you do online and does not take that long, but there are people in my community waiting to get their Ps, for example, who now travel to Port Pirie to do their Hazard Perception Test, which is just inappropriate. Again, that means additional cost for families and additional cost for young people because the wait times in our community have blown out under this government to very unacceptable levels, and young people have brought those cases to my attention.

One thing I talked about a bit earlier is how the pandemic can not only pose challenges but also present opportunities. Certainly, this government has used the opportunity of the pandemic to close certain services down under the cover of COVID-19. It is closing down the Housing SA office in Gawler. Housing SA, by its very nature, services the most vulnerable in our community—people who need housing support. Now they have to go to Elizabeth or Salisbury for support.

It is interesting that, without any fanfare, the government has decided to close that office down. We now have people, who are generally on low incomes already and who probably have a whole range of other issues in their lives, being forced to drive further or to travel further and incur additional costs to get basic housing support and advice.

Also, if that was not enough, the government is now going to close the Community Corrections Centre in Gawler, which is very important. It was actually opened by the previous Labor government and the Hon. Mr Koutsantonis when he was the minister. Part of that strategy was to ensure increased compliance with community orders by placing these centres out in the community rather than forcing people to come to one location.

The idea was to make the community safer by making people comply with their various orders and making it easier for them to comply with their orders, which I thought was a really good thing to do. This is related not just to Gawler but to the Lower Mid North and even Yorke Peninsula, etc.—areas where people would actually come into those centres to report, to do courses or a whole range of other activities related to their community orders.

That is very important because we want to make sure that we help people get back on track in their lives. As a society, we are safest when people do not need to commit crimes or do not commit crimes, and we do that by making sure that they can comply with their requirements set by the courts, which society expects them to do. By closing down the centre, it just makes it harder for people to comply with their orders, and it may mean that at a later date more people may be in gaol than need to be.

A week or so ago, one of my constituents forwarded to me an email that had been sent to her and one of her children. Her son is doing a construction course through TAFE, and they were told that the government is going to improve construction education by only making it available further south; that is, they are closing it down in the north. TAFE students now cannot actually do face-to-face construction training. Young people cannot do their trade qualifications in the northern suburbs. It has been shifted to one site 'because you will get a better outcome'.

This is very interesting because one of the things TAFE has done very well in the past was to be accessible. It would make it easy to attend school and to attend TAFE. A lot of people attend TAFE as part of their secondary education these days, and now they have to go past the city of Adelaide to access these courses. So we have additional costs for those young people, and additional time, and often these people also work part-time to make ends meet, which means they are travelling further, right across the city, and have less time to work part-time to support themselves, etc.

In the example I have provided, we have a government now that has made life much more difficult for people living in my electorate. It has closed down the VORT scheme for young people trying to do their testing, it has closed down the Housing SA office that makes it easier for the most vulnerable to access services and it is closing down the Community Corrections Centre, making it harder for people to comply with community orders and do the right thing. The government is closing down training courses in construction in the north, which means that young people have to go further south to do that. Where are our tradies of the future supposed to come from if they cannot actually access the training opportunities?

When you look at these things, a bit of a pattern develops. It appears the government has an operation in mind to shut down Gawler in some ways. It has certainly shut down all the public services in Gawler. What are the common themes? Well, it reduces access to services. It increases costs to the families and the people affected. There is an impact on family. There are impacts on community safety because people cannot comply with orders.

All these public services closing means public servants are not coming to the town to work. If public servants are not coming to the town to work, there is less activity in the town and the cafes,

eateries and shops lose customers. Not only are they closing down services but they are having a negative impact on small businesses in the town, and that means it also impacts on the viability of our small business sector in Gawler. At this time, given the pandemic, one thing our community does not need is fewer people working there. We need people to work there and to spend money there to keep the economic activity in our town.

If we look wider to some of the Barossa areas, we can see some emerging themes there as well. As I have been traversing the area quite a bit in recent times—it is a beautiful part of the world—some of the themes have been developing from what people have spoken with me about. The need for a hospital is obviously an important issue in the Barossa. It has been around for a long time—I am not going to suggest that that need for a hospital has only been while the Liberals have been in government—and it was also there when we were in government. I remember Minister Snelling putting a case out there regarding the need for a hospital and what the conditions would be for a new hospital. A number of people at the time opposed that plan, and the hospital did not go ahead as a result of that plan.

There has been a flurry of activity in recent days by the Liberal Party in the Barossa about a hospital—a flurry of activity and announcements—but when you pick up the budget, what do you find in the budget? What do you find in the budget for a hospital in the Barossa? Despite a whole range of commentary from the Liberal Party about what they are going to do in the Barossa in relation to a new hospital, there are zero dollars in this budget for a new hospital in the Barossa—zero dollars.

What does that mean? There are zero dollars in the budget for 2020-21, there are zero dollars in the budget for 2021-22, there are zero dollars in the budget for 2022-23 and zero dollars for 2023-24. Not only this year, but for the forward estimates there are zero dollars in this budget. Despite what the Liberal Party has been saying in the Barossa, it is not matched with dollars in this budget. What does that mean? It means that obviously the Liberal Party is planning on some pre-election announcement for a hospital.

People in the Barossa are going to realise that there is nothing in the budget for it, so where is this money going to come from in 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 if it is not in the budget? That is what it will be: it will be just an election gimmick designed to hold onto the seat without any money in the budget. Then we were told there was a business case for the hospital. By the government's own admission that business case has been ready for some time.

Does the government make that business case public? No. Does the government use the business case as a way of engaging the community or of having a conversation with the community about the proposal and whether it fits the needs of the Barossa people? No. What does the government do? It just keeps telling people that it is coming. In fact, they were promised that work would start on this hospital in this term of government.

Mr Knoll: No, they weren't.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: Well, I read it in *The Leader* so it must be accurate.

Mr Knoll: It wasn't accurate.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: I read it in *The Leader*, so that must have been accurate.

The Hon. D.J. Speirs: That's a good rule of thumb—the media is accurate.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: So the Liberal members are saying *The Leader* is fake news; is that what they are saying?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Light, don't respond to interjections. You are nearly there.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: The member for Schubert says on this occasion *The Leader* got it wrong. Well, I do not recall the member for Schubert actually writing in and saying that.

Mr Knoll: I did.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: Did you?

Mr Knoll: Yes.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: The story was repeated just recently.

Mr Knoll: And we wrote to them again.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: I don't remember seeing it.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Light, you have three minutes.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: I do have three minutes and I will use those, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Mr Knoll: The same amount of time he has been interested in the Barossa.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Schubert is called to order.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: It's actually probably 20 minutes more than you have been.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Light!

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: At least I actually spend more time in the Barossa—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The member for Light will continue with his contribution. The member for Schubert will cease interjecting.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: Yes, Mr Deputy Speaker. I am actually enjoying this—not only me but a lot of people in the Barossa are enjoying this too. Another thing I would like to mention in terms of the Barossa is that water is a major issue, and there is some money in the budget to undertake a water investigation through the primary industries department, I understand. I will be very keen to see how that money is going to be spent and what it is for, because water security has been raised by people in the community.

Public transport has been raised by people. We had a huge fanfare this year. Keoride was announced by the then minister, this fantastic new public transport system, but then it was cut back by 75 per cent within months. That is the pattern of this government: big fanfare announcements and then they just shut things down; just shut things down and shut people out and there is no fanfare when they do that.

Another issue that has come up is homelessness in the community. Unfortunately, that is a growing problem according to the non-government agencies I have spoken to in the Barossa. It is a problem that is not going to be tackled, and it is certainly not tackled in this budget to help people. It did not help that during the pandemic only homeless people or rough sleepers in the city were helped, not in the regions.

One thing I would like to finish on is the \$10,000 grants. I had a constituent in my electorate who lodged an application for a grant. He was doing it really tough and met all the criteria, but the application was a few days late and he was rejected. Now the Treasurer has reintroduced it. It did not help that small business.

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (12:44): I also rise to speak on the Appropriation Bill and, in doing so, I acknowledge the very challenging circumstances that we have faced as a state and as a nation, starting with the bushfires—serious bushfires—especially for some of the communities in the Adelaide Hills, Kangaroo Island and elsewhere in our state, followed by COVID and the impact it has had.

Let us all hope the current challenge we are facing with COVID-19 proves to be relatively short lived, that our contact and tracing mechanisms will be fully operational and get on top of it. Of course, as the opposition we have expressed our support for all of the endeavours taken to ensure this does not get out of hand. Everybody here has their fingers crossed that the processes in place will work and work effectively.

When I look around my electorate and at the budget, it is a bit of a mixed picture. Parts of my electorate have done it incredibly hard because of COVID-19, and they have had not much in the way of assistance from the state government, and this appears to have continued in this budget. Some of the more remote communities in my electorate, such as Coober Pedy, which is predominantly dependent these days upon tourism, have been particularly hard hit. Coober Pedy always faces lean pickings in the summer and then expects, in the cooler months of the year, to have

a significant influx of tourists, both international and national, to come to have a look at that unique community.

Coming out of summer, to be hit by COVID-19, the lean pickings continue, and now we are entering into summer again. The community of Coober Pedy has been an incredibly hard hit. Very few tourism operators in Coober Pedy have been benefited from grant money available at a state level. That is incredibly disappointing and partly a function of the criteria used, and that criteria has seriously disadvantaged a lot of small businesses in Coober Pedy.

When I look at some of the big issues across the electorate and, indeed, across regional South Australia, in the health area especially, I think it has once again received slim pickings from the budget. There are one or two things that I should acknowledge: the announcement by the South Australian Cancer Council of an upgrade in accommodation for cancer patients in Adelaide I think is very positive. Many people from regional South Australia have to come to Adelaide for various aspects of their treatment, so to see the accommodation upgrade is a positive step.

For many years, I have been of the view that the PATS system needs further improvements. Once again, we see no improvement to the accommodation or travel allowance provided. That hits country people hard and it becomes a disincentive. When it comes to mortality and morbidity rates in country communities, for a range of factors they are not as good as those in the metropolitan area in general, so barriers to access have a detrimental impact.

I have been a consistent critic of some of the ways in which PATS operates when it comes to continuity of care. For someone who might have been seeing a specialist in Adelaide for many years—and a visiting specialist might come into the regions—the expectation would be to see the nearest specialist. In the case of many country communities, that would be the visiting specialist, but that lacks continuity of care.

With visiting specialists, you often cannot guarantee ongoing service to a particular community. That is always going to be a hard one to address. There is some conflict there because we want to see visiting specialists in regional communities to avoid the need to go to Adelaide and, better still in some fields, specialists living in communities, as they used to do in our major communities once upon a time. There is a conflict there. I acknowledge it is a conflict. It requires some subtlety in addressing it, but there needs to be greater flexibility on the part of PATS when it comes to delivering continuity of care.

It is not a state government responsibility, but when it comes to primary health services there is still a very significant shortage of GPs in country South Australia. It is not because there is a shortage of GPs nationally; it is just that they are concentrated in our metropolitan areas and especially in our more affluent areas. I think it is incredibly unfortunate when we see small regional councils having to fund practices in order to get GPs to set up in their communities.

I think the state government should be doing far more in that area, but ultimately it is the federal government that should be doing far more when it comes to ensuring that people in regional South Australia have access to GP services. My longstanding position has been that, until we address the provision of Medicare numbers and make that provision on the basis of an assessment of health needs in communities and population ratios, we are not going to be able to address this maldistribution.

In the immediate lead-up to the budget, a number of announcements were made about Whyalla. They were very positive announcements. The most positive interpretation is that it indicates a degree of strong bipartisan support. One of the announcements was about the Eyre Peninsula Gateway Hydrogen Project. I have been an advocate for hydrogen going back quite a few years, before the road maps and the initiatives of this government, arguing that Whyalla is the most sensible place in this state to develop a hydrogen hub for a whole range of reasons.

In the lead-up to the budget, there was an announcement about some funding for H2U. The member for Flinders, the Deputy Speaker, would be aware that they were originally looking down at Port Lincoln. At that stage, the then government allocated a \$4.7 million grant plus a \$7.5 million loan to that particular project down near Port Lincoln. Prior to all that, back in 2015, I had written to our government at the time about Whyalla being a hydrogen hub, and that was in the context of job losses in Whyalla.

Unfortunately, at that time, despite efforts on my part and the part of the Melbourne Institute, we could not get any particular interest back in 2015 from the private sector in funding a study, in conjunction with some local money, to have a look at Whyalla as a hydrogen hub. I think H2U have made a sensible decision in looking at Whyalla as the site for their hydrogen project, the initial 75-megawatt electrolyser, with the intention of producing about 40,000 tonnes of ammonia a year.

For people who are not fully aware, green ammonia is one step beyond green hydrogen. We use the electrolyser to create hydrogen then, if we want to take it that step further, we can create ammonia with the addition of nitrogen. Ammonia is essentially three parts hydrogen to one part nitrogen. My argument back in 2015, when we were losing jobs in Whyalla, was that we needed to use our renewable energy resource as a driver, as an input, into manufacturing in this state.

Clearly that step to ammonia makes a lot of sense, given that we can produce both fertilisers and explosives, and there are a number of other applications for ammonia, including as a carrier for hydrogen and export, because it is simpler to export ammonia at this stage than it is to export hydrogen. The other big plus about Whyalla is the steelworks, and it was good to see Gupta come on board and talk about hydrogen and green steel (and we have a way to go there).

A potential big customer for hydrogen in this state down the track is the steelworks. It will be Sweden that will have the first renewable-based hydrogen production, leading into green steel, with the intention of having a fully commercial plan by 2025, with the Germans also having a number of pilot plants at the moment. There is a strong future for hydrogen in our state, but we have to get our skates on. The money that has been committed to date has largely been money committed by the previous government as part of its hydrogen road map.

I have no doubt that the current minister is committed to hydrogen. The federal government has said some positive things about it and the state government said positive things about it, but in this state we need to take serious action, given the scale of some of the projects that have been pushed in Western Australia and elsewhere in Australia. We have some incredibly major advantages, especially given our level of renewable energy production, and that is a legacy and a foundation that the previous government left to this government. Let's have a strong bipartisan approach to developing a hydrogen industry in this state.

Of course, it needs to link in with some of the other strategies that were part of the history of the previous government—the magnetite strategy. I know that in the Middleback Ranges—and these are not JORC reserves, but are highly likely—there is probably over a billion tonnes of magnetite, which is used as the feedstock for iron and steel production in Whyalla. In this state, we have over \$10 billion tonnes of JORC reserves, so we do have the potential to have a long-lived steel industry in this state, adding wealth to this state and at a scale larger than we have it now.

I wrote to the Premier and the Prime Minister early in the days of COVID to point out that the only integrated steelworks in the country that produces structural steel and rail is at Whyalla. We do not want to be dependent upon overseas supply for that particular fundamental product. A lot of things are going for Whyalla at the moment when it comes to steel production.

One of the disappointing things about the budget for the unincorporated areas, for Roxby Downs, Coober Pedy and Kangaroo Island, is that there is no reinstatement of the registration concessions that those communities used to receive. They received those for good reason, given the cost of transportation in those far and remote areas of our state. To see something like that overturned, after being there for many, many years, and through governments both Labor and Liberal, was a pretty low act.

Another thing that did not figure in the budget, which was disappointing, was the Augusta Highway. It has been called the deaf corridor. The number of people who are killed and seriously injured is deeply concerning, so the duplication of that highway is something we need to seriously entertain. There has been mention of electric vehicles, and given this stage of electric vehicle penetration—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Giles, while you do have some time left, I might suggest that you seek leave to continue your remarks.

Mr HUGHES: I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

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 Speaker—

Auditor-General Reports—Examination of the management of road asset maintenance:
City of Salisbury Report 15 of 2020 [Ordered to be published]
Local Government Annual Report—
Cleve, District Council of 2019-20
Elliston, District Council of Annual Report 2019-20

By the Premier (Hon. S.S. Marshall)—

Regulations made under the following Acts—
Electricity Corporations (Restructuring and Disposal)—Restructuring and
Disposal—Mining at Leigh Creek

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

Legal Practitioners' Fidelity Fund—Law Society of South Australia Annual Report 2019-20
Legal Profession Conduct Commissioner—Annual Report 2019-20

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

Regulations made under the following Acts—
Development—Lapse of Consent or Approval
Planning, Development and Infrastructure—
General—Lapse of Consent or Approval
General—Planning and Development Fund (No. 2)

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

Energy and Mining, Department for—Annual Report 2019-20
Energy Market Commission, Australian—Annual Report 2019-20
Technical Regulator, Office of the South Australian—(describing operations in the
electrical, gas, plumbing and water industries) Annual Report 2019-20

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

Teachers Registration Board of South Australia—Annual Report 2019-20

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

Regulations made under the following Acts—
National Parks and Wildlife—Fee Notice—Lease Fees

Question Time

CORONAVIRUS TESTING

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:03): My question is to the Premier. Have you received any update from SA Health this afternoon, and can you inform the parliament how many have tested positive today and how many people are currently in isolation?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:03): I presume the leader is referring to the Parafield cluster. If that is the case, then there were 17 that we updated the people of South Australia about yesterday, and then this morning, overnight, we had a further infection that was notified. SA Health is still working through the total number, but we will be providing an update to the people of South Australia at 3.15 today.

CORONAVIRUS TESTING

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:04): My question is to the Premier. Is the Premier considering any additional measures to assist those South Australians who are currently queueing at testing stations for, reportedly, up to 10 hours?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:04): Yesterday, we did expand our capacity within our testing stations, especially those at Parafield Airport, Elizabeth and also Magill and Victoria Park. My understanding is that yesterday we had a near record day in terms of the number of people seeking to be tested. There were in excess of 5,300 who went through one of our sites, plus what would have happened in the private sector. We haven't got an update on that number yet, but I think yesterday was probably very close to, if not, the record ever in terms of the number of tests that were sought.

The people of South Australia were very patient. There were very long queues at some of those yesterday, but I'm assured by Dr Tom Dodd, the clinical lead within SA Pathology, that they are working through those and expanding the capacity as quickly as they possibly can.

CORONAVIRUS TESTING

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:05): My question is to the Premier. Will the Premier consider establishing any 24-hour testing sites across Adelaide, similar to some others that have been applied interstate, to address the long waits and people who have been turned away from testing stations?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:05): We will do whatever is possible to do, but there are two issues: one is the taking of the samples and the other one is processing through the capacity. We have very significantly increased our capacity in terms of being able to process the coronavirus PCR swabs. I think the processing capacity still presents us with a capacity constraint, but I'm happy to check that matter.

In all matters like this, we accept the advice of SA Pathology with regard to the way that we set up and run the testing. They have done an outstanding job. They are recognised not just around Australia but globally for the quick way they have responded. If they do seek to open longer hours, that is immediately granted, as per yesterday when we increased the time that those testing stations were open right through to 8 o'clock last night.

CORONAVIRUS TESTING

Mr PICTON (Kaurana) (14:06): My question is to the Premier. Will the Premier consider establishing any additional testing sites in the northern suburbs, in addition to the one mobile testing station that was established at Parafield that has currently experienced significant waits?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:06): I think I just answered that with the previous question. SA Pathology look after this area and, if they come to us with a request to do so, that is exactly and precisely what we will do.

They came to us early enough with the suggestion to have the very first drive-through testing facility here in Australia. We moved with that very quickly. We now have two of those drive-through testing facilities that are very, very well established, plus the ability to pop up additional mobile testing facilities as well as a range of facilities in hospitals and clinics right across metropolitan and country SA. We will continue to work with SA Pathology and the excellent clinicians who have kept South Australia very safe and who have responded very quickly to the need for testing.

Don't forget that, when this coronavirus first broke out, there were only two labs in the entire country that could process these swabs, and South Australia set up in a matter of weeks a very, very high-level testing capability in this state. We are very proud of the work that SA Pathology do and we look very favourably on any requests that they have for us in terms of expanded services.

CORONAVIRUS TESTING

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:08): My question is to the Premier. Will the Premier consider providing bottled water or other amenities for people who are waiting up to 10 hours at testing clinics?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:08): I noticed yesterday that, in the public advice that was given, we did message that there were extended waits and that people should provision for that wait but, again, if we are advised by SA Pathology that they believe that this would be necessary then that's precisely what we will do.

CORONAVIRUS TESTING

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:08): My question is to the Premier. Is there any provision in testing clinics to triage high-risk people who need priority testing, such as close contacts or people with pronounced symptoms?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:08): Yes, absolutely. As I was saying, yesterday there were in excess of 5,300 people who had their sample or had a test undertaken in South Australia, but it's very much a prioritised regime in terms of the processing of those specimens. Some of those specimens were taken in the home so that we don't have people who are at a very high risk and likelihood because they have been very close contacts of people who are already infectious commingling with other people who maybe have just developed a respiratory symptom. We have been very clear on that.

Obviously, those we have put into isolation who are close contacts of somebody who has already been infected are the priority cases, and their tests are processed in a very rapid way. Some people have extrapolated. We announced this morning that, with the tests that had already been processed, there was only one new infection overnight, so many people were saying, 'Well, that's great. Maybe the entire problem is over.' Well, that's not the case.

We have put very many hundreds of people into isolation at the moment. We all know that the incubation period for this disease can be up to 14 days, so we still do have an anxious wait to see what the true situation is in South Australia, but there is more and more data coming in all the time, and we look forward to the update from SA Health at 3.15 this afternoon.

CORONAVIRUS, SUPPORT PAYMENTS

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:10): My question is to the Premier. Will the Premier ensure that parents of children who have been asked to quarantine from affected schools will be eligible for COVID quarantine support payments?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:10): I don't have the detail of that, but what I can say is that we've got a generous regime in terms of compensating people who are adversely affected from the need to follow a direction to isolate. So it's a \$1,500 payment there, and for those people who are required to undertake a test and, if you like, isolate whilst waiting for that result there is a \$300 payment. I am happy to chase up that question. I think it is a very reasonable question and I will get back to the member.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:10): My question is to the Premier. How does the Premier definitively know that there was not a breach in hotel quarantine, as he said this morning? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PICTON: This morning on SAFM the Premier said, and I quote, 'I just want to emphasise there has been no breach in our hotels.'

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:11): There is just simply no suggestion that there has been a breach, and that was the advice that I had been provided with. I think we have seen in other places around the world that there have been some very significant breaches. We are very proud of the way that we run our quarantine hotels in South Australia.

We subjected ourselves to the independent audit that was done on a national basis by Jane Halton and her team. We came through with flying colours. There were no red flags whatsoever.

In fact, we were held up as an exemplar for what best practice looked like in terms of the hotel quarantine arrangements.

The Chief Public Health Officer is extraordinarily busy at the moment, but it's her opinion that the disease has probably been transmitted via a hard surface rather than the traditional way that the disease has been transmitted, which is through close personal contact or aerosol droplets. If this is the case, then I suppose it opens up a whole body of other concerns that we have with regard to this disease.

We have read about this in other jurisdictions, but this is probably the first time we have a really significant concern here in South Australia. Obviously, it will be fully investigated, but we've got a very, very high standard of control and supervision within our hotels that are looking after these people. We are very proud of what we have been able to achieve in South Australia but, as we know, this is a highly contagious disease, and in this instance there has been a situation where one of the workers at the hotel has contracted the disease.

Part of the complexity of this particular case is that the people who contracted the disease, the three people working at Peppers, did not display the normal symptoms, so it was not until one of the family members who was a close contact of one of the workers at Peppers contracted this disease, went off and had themselves tested that we knew about it.

I am very grateful that that was the case. I am very grateful to this person, who went off and got themselves tested, and the family for the very high level of cooperation they have provided to the contact tracing team. Their full cooperation and their detailed knowledge has allowed many hundreds of people to be put into isolation and really do everything we can to trap this disease from spreading even further.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:13): Supplementary question to the Premier: in what manner was the advice to the Premier regarding that there was not a breach of hotel quarantine? Was that verbal advice, was it written advice, or is the investigation still ongoing?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:13): That was verbal advice.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE WORKERS

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:14): My question is to the Premier. How does the Premier definitively know that the virus was transmitted via a surface to the cleaner and not to the two infected private security guards?

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

CORONAVIRUS, PARAFIELD CLUSTER

Ms LUETHEN (King) (14:14): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier update the house on what measures the government is taking to address the Parafield COVID cluster?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:14): I thank the member for King for her excellent question. I said last week that COVID had challenged us but it had not beaten us, but there is no doubt that we now face the biggest challenge that we have had since the outset of the coronavirus.

The good news is that we have world-leading health experts and world-leading systems here in South Australia that have already kept us safe and strong in the past, and I am quite sure they will do exactly the same thing into the future. From the start of this pandemic, the approach of this government has been to listen to the health experts and then to put their advice into action as quickly as possible, and that has meant that we have remained in front of this disease.

I can advise the house that we are acting swiftly and decisively to stop the spread of the Parafield cluster. As outlined in a previous answer, we have significantly increased the capacity of our testing, especially in the vicinity of Parafield. We had more than 5,300 people who got tested yesterday.

Testing is absolutely critical and the good news is we have an excellent team at SA Pathology, led by the clinical lead, Dr Tom Dodd, who is overseeing this. We also want to thank the private pathology services in South Australia, in particular Clinpath and ACL, for their efforts in processing tests throughout the pandemic but in particular yesterday when there was a very significant surge.

Importantly, the government has very significantly increased our contact tracing team. The lead in that is Professor Katina D'Onise. Also, can I just alert the parliament to note that Air Commodore Margot Forster has also gone into this team to strengthen our focus on that contact tracing. They have been working around the clock. I know for a fact that they were still doing contact tracing after midnight on Sunday night. In fact, I know one person who was providing information to the contact tracing team at 1.30am.

This has been an incredible effort from Professor D'Onise and her team and we are very, very grateful for that. They have had to remain, if you like, match fit during a period where they haven't had a lot of contact tracing to do, so they have been doing a range of exercises to make sure that they are ready for exactly and precisely this situation, and now of course we are seeing them in action.

I would also like to acknowledge the great support of the Western Australian health team, who have been providing some additional services in terms of contact tracing, just as we did with Victoria. Western Australia uses exactly the same systems that we use, so they have offered their services, and my understanding is that we have taken them up on that.

Obviously, yesterday I announced that we would suspend all international flights into South Australia for the remainder of this week. This was a decision by Australian Border Force on our recommendation and we are very grateful for that. Yesterday, I spoke to the Prime Minister and he offered additional ADF support. Already yesterday there was an additional 20 ADF support provided, and my understanding is today that will flex up to 45 additional ADF support during this period.

With regard to aged care, which was a real problem in Victoria, can I just assure this house and the people of South Australia that we have a very different protocol from other parts of the country and other parts of the world. If anybody does become infected within one of our aged-care facilities—and I emphasise right now that there hasn't been a positive test of a resident in an aged-care facility in South Australia—they would be removed and taken to the Royal Adelaide Hospital or an appropriate hospital here in South Australia because we do recognise that this is a much higher level of risk here in South Australia.

We have changed our restrictions. We have gone in hard and early so that we can stay ahead of this insidious disease here in our state.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr PICTON (Karna) (14:18): My question is to the Premier. How did the virus emerge from the Peppers hotel if, as the Premier says, there was not a breach of hotel quarantine?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:18): I have gone through this before, and I am very happy to go through it again because I do understand that it is of great interest to the people of South Australia. What we know about this at this stage is that it was very likely that the person who contracted this disease was in fact a back of house worker within Peppers, most likely to have contracted the disease from the infection that remained on a surface.

They took this home and it spread to their family. In fact, 15 members of the same family have now been positively identified as living with this disease. It is very likely that that back of house worker also transmitted the disease to two of the security officers, so 17 in total, and then this morning I reported there was a further one from all of the tests which were taken yesterday. I do not believe this constitutes a breach. In fact, we have gone through all the details with regard to the way that we conduct ourselves at Peppers, and we believe that it meets the very high standards that we have set for ourselves in accordance with those procedures and protocols agreed with the AHPPC and the national cabinet. That is evidenced by the fact that, very recently, with that Jane Halton report, we were really held up as an exemplar for what best practice looks like.

We are not concerned that there was a breach; however, of course, after this event is over, there will be time for a more fulsome investigation. But at this stage my 100 per cent focus is on

getting in front of this disease. We are wanting to do everything we can to stop it in its tracks. We can all see what the effects are—the devastating effects—if we go into a second wave in South Australia. It will be devastating on individuals, on families, on businesses, on our reputation as a state, so we are going to be doing everything we can to stop it in its tracks.

We have accepted the advice that has been offered by Professor Nicola Spurrier and the team at SA Health with regard to changes to the restrictions. We know that these are going to be very punishing on businesses and individuals in South Australia, but the consequences of not stopping this disease are very much more problematic for our state in the future. So we have accepted those recommendations, we have put them in place as quickly as possible and we hope the people of South Australia will continue to work with us. If yesterday is any indication, we know that the people of South Australia are with us.

Yesterday morning in the media we were very positively messaging that we were asking anybody with any respiratory symptoms whatsoever, whether that be a sore throat, a runny nose, a head cold, a loss or a change in the senses of smell or taste, to go and immediately get themselves tested—and that's precisely what people did in record numbers yesterday. More than that, when we speak to the Communicable Disease Control Branch, when we speak to the people in the contact tracing team or the people in SA Health, when we are asking people to go into isolation—and we know that this is a big ask—we are getting 100 per cent acceptance, 100 per cent cooperation.

The people of South Australia want to do the right thing by their state and this is a real show of the character of the people of South Australia who want to get on top of this. They do not want to see what is happening in other parts of the world at the moment. They want to stop this disease dead in its tracks, and they are going to be doing every single thing that they can to make sure that that's a reality.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE WORKERS

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:22): My question is to the Premier. Is there any chance that the original infection was to either of the two private security guards and not to the cleaner?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:22): I refer the member to my previous answer.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:22): My question is to the Premier. Who is undertaking the investigation into the origins of the outbreak from hotel quarantine, and will that be a fully independent investigation? With your leave and that of the house, sir, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PICTON: This morning on ABC News Breakfast, health minister Stephen Wade said that 'investigations are underway into the hotel quarantine origins of the outbreak'. Earlier in question time, the Premier said it will be fully investigated. He also said that after this is over there will be time for a more fulsome investigation.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:23): I'm happy to ask Stephen Wade that question, but I would assume that that investigation will be conducted by SA Health.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:23): Supplementary: is there currently an investigation underway, as the health minister said, or will there be an investigation after this outbreak is dealt with, as you have told the house today?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:23): I think I have made this reasonably clear, but on every single infection that comes through we do a review of the likely source of that infection. That happens as an ordinary course: we try to work out the epidemiology of the infection. Of course, that is already happening. In addition to that, with regard to the broader question and the operation of hotel quarantine, I would expect that there will be a further broader investigation into what occurred at Peppers because we are really concerned that, if there is a surface transmission potential in South Australia, this would be, if you like, a first for our state that I'm aware

of. I think it is of great concern, and it might mean that there need to be further changes. We have already enacted some changes with regard to our protocols within the quarantine hotels.

Previously, we were abiding by the AHPPC advice, which was for no mandatory testing but a mandatory declaration for all people that are working there that they don't have any symptoms. This was identified as best practice. In fact, some jurisdictions have had mandatory testing, and many workers have thought, 'Well, I might be developing symptoms, but I've got a test coming up on Saturday, so I just won't subject myself,' and in the meantime go and spread infection across their workplace or back out into the community.

So best practice was identified as a declaration on a daily basis that there are no symptoms, and if people did develop symptoms while they were at work they were immediately isolated. Their PCR test would be administered by SA Health and they would wait in isolation until they got that test result. That has served Australia extraordinarily well, and I think it is acknowledged as best practice. The difference with this case is that the three people who became infected at Peppers did not have symptoms, so they quite rightly signed a declaration saying, 'I don't have any symptoms and I can come to work.' It really wasn't until the mother of one of those infected went off to get herself tested that we could get on top of this and identify this as a cluster.

This is why Professor Nicola Spurrier said she would like to, for this very reason, have belt and braces. She would like to continue with the mandatory declaration on a daily basis and, in addition to that, have a mandatory test on a seven-day basis. You would note, sir, that in New Zealand they have a mandatory test on a 14-day basis, and South Australia now has a mandatory test on a seven-day basis, on a weekly basis. We're the only place in Australia which has this mandatory test. We can't be too careful, especially when we consider that it's very possible and plausible that the person in this case, which was the origin of this infection spread, achieved this infection from a surface.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:26): Supplementary question to the Premier: given the heightened risk associated with medi-hotels and their workers, why wasn't there the so-called belt-and-braces approach prior to this infection?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:26): Again, sir, I feel like the questions are coming and I'm just repeating the answers that I have provided in the previous answer, but I'm more than happy to go through it. The AHPPC advice was very clear, and best practice was to have a mandatory declaration on arriving at work. When the AHPPC had gone and looked at what was happening in other jurisdictions around the world, they found that having a weekly or fortnightly test actually didn't offer the protection that the daily declaration offered in Australia, so for this reason that was the standard. That is the standard that is adopted by every jurisdiction around Australia.

What has occurred with regard to this infection is that the mandatory declaration of any symptoms didn't work in this instance because there were no symptoms. This is uncharted territory, and that is the reason why we now have the daily declaration for any symptoms prior to people beginning any work, the protocols if people develop symptoms while they are at work and, of course, the additional metric of a weekly test, the first anywhere in Australia.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:28): Further supplementary question arising out of the Premier's original answer: does the Premier definitively know, or does the government definitively know, if this infection was contracted through a surface, or is there just an assumption being made that it was through a surface?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:28): I just refer the leader to my previous answers on this question.

STATE BUDGET

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (14:28): My question is to the minister representing the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Can the minister update the house about how the recent state budget will deliver better health care closer to home for elderly residents in the Adelaide Hills. With your leave, sir, and that of the house I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PEDERICK: The recent state budget contained an extra \$6 million of funding for aged-care services in Strathalbyn in the Speaker's electorate.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:28): It's a pleasure to have this question from the member for Hammond, who I know takes a deep interest in health issues for people in country South Australia, in his electorate and, indeed, in nearby areas to his electorate, regions such as the Adelaide Hills. Sir, I know that this question is of interest to you because it's similar to a discussion that you and I had in this building not more than a week ago, when we were talking about the benefits to people in Strathalbyn and throughout your electorate of some announcements in the state budget.

It's a pleasure to have the opportunity to talk about that in the chamber today, thanks to the member for Hammond's question. I can advise the Speaker that subsequent to our discussion I took the opportunity late last week to avail myself of some information from the health minister, and I'm happy to share with you some of that information that the health minister was very happy to provide about your constituents.

Sir, you know, as do all members of this house, that the Marshall Liberal government is building what matters when it comes to supporting the health and wellbeing of all South Australians. Absolutely a key concern for many South Australians in regional South Australia is the opportunity to have care delivered closer to home. Since coming to government, we have already delivered \$140 million worth of investment to address the backlog in country capital works left after the previous government's 16 years.

In this year's budget, we have additionally committed more than \$40 million in further individual projects across South Australia, improving the delivery of health services. Also, of course, one of the matters related to stimulus spending such as this is that it creates jobs close to home at a time when those jobs have never been more needed. More than \$35 million of this \$40 million investment in health is going to be spent in regional South Australia.

As the member for Hammond rightly drew to my attention and that of the house, there is a \$6 million particular investment in the Adelaide Hills in the Strathalbyn community. Expanding the Strathalbyn aged-care lifestyle facility in which this government has already invested \$11.4 million, we are adding a further \$4 million, taking this project, which is so important to residents in your electorate in the town of Strathalbyn, sir, to a total value of \$15.4 million, a significant commitment that that community has been looking for, I would suggest, for many years.

The additional funding will provide support services for the facility to provide exceptional aged care to members of the Strathalbyn community. A new kitchen and laundry, to be used by both the aged-care facility and the hospital, will be built within the undercroft. The new 36-bed residential facility expansion, set to include a 24-bed open ward and a 12-bed memory support unit, all with single bedrooms, will deliver quality aged care in a modern environment for elderly South Australians to support them to live and age well. The purpose-designed facility will also feature private ensuites for residents, communal open areas and dedicated outdoor spaces to provide a welcoming home for residents and their families.

Sir, I know you will also be very pleased to hear that a further \$2 million has been added to the redevelopment of the Kalimna Hostel, tripling our original commitment in the election of \$1 million to provide additional aged accommodation for people in the area who need it. This will also fulfil another election commitment, demonstrating the government's determination to deliver better services for the people of South Australia. I know that the people in your community will welcome this news, sir, as will you, but I promise you it is no more than they absolutely deserve.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE WORKERS

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:33): My question is to the Premier. When was it that the Premier voiced his concerns about hotel quarantine workers not undertaking seven-day testing consistent with cross-border communities, as he said on ABC radio yesterday? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PICTON: Yesterday, on ABC radio the Premier said, 'I did query that situation, but I was provided with advice that what we were doing was based on best practice at the time.'

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:33): I don't recall when I had that conversation, but often I'm presented with thoughts from people who have suggestions on how we should be handling this disease. We have made a decision right from day one to defer to the experts in South Australia, and we have been very, very well served by the experts within SA Health, both within SA Health as an organisation but, in particular, the public health administration unit, which is headed up by Professor Nicola Spurrier.

I often take these suggestions to the public health administration and they provide feedback on that. In this instance, when I asked that question they were able to provide and point me to the detail that the AHPPC had done on this work and the reasons behind why we didn't have that mandatory test in place.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE WORKERS

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:34): Supplementary to the Premier: was that conversation that the Premier had before or after he was informed of the case on Sunday morning?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:34): It would have been before, but I don't recall.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE WORKERS

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:34): My question is to the Premier. How frequently were hotel quarantine staff subject to testing over the past three months?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:34): I don't have that detail but, as I have outlined, there has been no mandatory testing regime in place. What there has been, though, is the mandatory declaration on attending work. I don't know how many people were ultimately tested while they were at work, but I do believe that we have a robust system, and the evidence of that is that it was independently audited. One of the things we have done differently here in South Australia is also to look at people who work across multiple sites, especially in the aged-care sector, and we have been able to limit that.

All of these decisions that we have made have been made on the expert health advice to minimise the risk. We have learned from things that have happened in other jurisdictions around the country and around the world, and we have come back and we have constantly looked to update our procedures. In this instance, we have changed the testing regime at our quarantine hotels. We have now implemented a seven-day mandatory test on top of the other arrangements that were previously in place.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE WORKERS

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:36): My question is to the Premier. What is the total number of times that hotel quarantine staff have been tested over the past three months?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:36): I refer you to the first sentence of my previous answer.

SPORT AND RECREATION

Mrs POWER (Elder) (14:36): My question is for the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. Can the minister update the house on how the recently announced Grassroots Facilities Program and the Regional and Districts Facilities Program will build what matters and help South Australians access quality recreation, sport and racing activities and facilities?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:36): I would like to thank the member for Elder for her interest in this area—and how important it is that we are building what matters to ensure that our grassroots sporting communities are supported, especially through these difficult times.

Sporting clubs, as we know, are the heart and soul of many of our communities, and it is actually the volunteers behind those sporting communities who are the reason they thrive as they do. We know they give their time and energy so generously to help athletes of all ages and all

experiences to get out there and participate. In this time as we deal with COVID, the health officials have told us how important it is to be exercising and staying fit where we can. Not only does sport help people stay fit and stay healthy but it is also great for social interaction at sporting clubs and sporting facilities.

We know that, during the period when COVID first came on the scene, people being forced away from these locations were doing it tough because they weren't getting out and socialising with people in their community. That element of bringing community together we also know is very, very important, and that's why we have committed to investing in our community sporting facilities. Since coming to government, the Marshall Liberal government has already invested more than \$150 million into facilities, equipment and programs for this type of activity to continue.

This past weekend, we released our state sports infrastructure plan, which is an outstanding plan to drive South Australia into a golden era of sporting success over the next 20 years and build the infrastructure that we will need. It is a road map to deliver what South Australia needs. The plan is a dynamic document, so it allows us to be nimble and respond to opportunities that present themselves to South Australia across that time. More than ever, we are living in a time when it is important to be nimble.

One of the key things that was identified in this plan, when we consulted very widely, was that people want facilities that are safe, high quality and well designed. They will attract people to those facilities, from grassroots right through to the elite levels. To kickstart this investment, our government has put forward \$35 million towards grassroots facilities. We know the great success we have had with our Grassroots Football, Cricket and Netball Facility Program, taking \$15 million of taxpayer money and turning it into more than \$60 million of facilities across South Australia.

Well, we have increased that: we have now put \$25 million into the grassroots program and we are including all sports across the board. This will be a great opportunity for sports to apply—

Ms Bedford: Calisthenics.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Calisthenics is even included, for the member for Florey. We know how important it is that we get these sports involved. They did have an opportunity before through the Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program, but this is an extra program, an extra \$25 million that's going in.

An extra \$10 million is going in as well over the next two years to the Regional and Districts Facilities Program. That allows groups of a bigger size to come together—two or three different sporting groups to come together and invest in something quite substantial. This money is over the next couple of years to really inject into our sporting arenas and our sporting areas from the grassroots right the way through.

What we have on the table over the next 12 months is \$24 million to invest into sport—\$44 million over the next two years. That is \$44 million to go into sport within our community, because we know how important that is. It is wonderful to be delivering what matters for the people of South Australia.

Can I just finish by adding that over the weekend we did announce all our Active Club programs as well. That was some \$2.5 million to give a little injection into all those clubs out there that have been doing it tough through COVID so they can reboot and come out the back end. We know how important it is. Grants of between \$1,000 and \$3,000 in communities right across South Australia are really the key to kickstarting sport back in this state at that community level. Again, as we can see from this money we are investing, it is so important to be building what matters.

FRUIT FLY

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (14:40): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Can the minister inform the house if the source of the outbreak of Jarvis' fruit fly now living in South Australia has been traced, what action has been taken to prosecute the offending distributor of mangoes, and the difference between Jarvis, Mediterranean and Queensland fruit flies?

The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:41): I thank the member for her question. I will need to seek some further

information to come back to her and to understand the complexities around her question in relation to the species of flies. I will come back to her with a response.

FRUIT FLY

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (14:41): Supplementary: in the meantime, can the minister update the house on the efficacy of treatment of the outbreak of Mediterranean fruit fly in the Adelaide suburbs and whether the December lifting of quarantine is still on track?

The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:41): Again, I thank the member for her question. The treatment of fruit fly eradication is something that we as a government take very seriously and we have done enormous work in this space. In particular, we have been looking at the releasing of sterile flies into the region to make sure that we minimise the breeding potential in those regions.

We are looking at one of the largest, if not the largest, outbreaks in the state's history, which has been occurring across the northern regions of Adelaide. We are continuing to work in this space to make sure that we can do everything we can to get this region back out of those restrictions and we will continue to do so.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE WORKERS

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:42): My question is to the Premier. Were the two private security guards and cleaner who tested positive ever subject to proactive tests and, if so, when was their last negative test?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:42): I don't have that information. I am happy to get that information.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE WORKERS

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (14:42): My question is to the Premier. Have all hotel quarantine staff, including private security guards, now been subject to proactive tests this week since the outbreak emerged?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:43): I am happy to get a full, detailed brief on that.

SEAFOOD INDUSTRY

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (14:43): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Can the minister please update the house on how the state government is investing in the future of seafood in South Australia?

The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:43): I thank the member for Narungga for his important question, and I know he has been a strong advocate for fishers in his electorate. The Marshall Liberal government values the seafood sector and is building what matters to the sector.

Earlier this month, I was pleased to announce that the Marshall Liberal government is building what matters by investing in a \$16 million upgrade to the SARDI Aquatic Sciences Centre at West Beach. We are committed to growing our seafood industries, and this project will help us achieve that. It is vital we have the best science when it comes to our fish stocks. We have some of the best seafood scientists in the world and these upgrades are necessary for our facility to remain world leading and to support our scientists and all the sectors that rely on that science.

We are lucky in South Australia to have a thriving recreational fishing sector, premium seafood available for consumers and some of the most sustainable commercial seafood sectors in the world. South Australia is a premium seafood state. I am proud this upgrade has been funded by the state budget. That work includes infrastructure upgrades to the seawater intake pipes, building a new facade to replace the highly damaged glass brick wall and restoring the facility's roof.

The intake pipes needed upgrading as they are currently damaged, which compromises the facility's current and future intake capacity. There is no alternative seawater supply to the site, meaning the pipe is essential to supporting the government's research projects in breeding snapper fingerlings for release into the gulfs, as well as the longstanding oyster breeding program. This

pipeline also provides seawater to the Adelaide Zoo's seal enclosures, the Robarra barramundi fingerling facility, live lobster processes and the University of Adelaide.

The new facade will also be welcomed by SARDI staff. It was so run-down that a bandaid of Perspex was required to be placed over the shattering glass bricks to minimise the safety hazard for people working in the facility. I visited the facility a few weeks ago for a Minister's Recreational Fishing Advisory Council meeting. I inspected the glass brick facade and it was extraordinary to see the neglect of this important asset that had been occurring.

We are fixing the facade and investing in the seafood sector. The building works will involve up to a hundred contractors during the planning, construction and delivery of the project. This new investment will complement a 450 square metre vessel and equipment storage shed that PIRSA has already begun constructing on the site, funded by its annual capital program budget.

The Marshall Liberal government is building what matters. This upgrade is a much-needed confidence boost for our seafood sector. We are investing in the scientific facilities which help drive sustainable seafood industries into the future while still protecting the environment. The Marshall Liberal government is building what matters to keep South Australia safe and strong, back in business and creating jobs. Planning for the upgrade works is underway, with construction expected to begin in early 2021.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:46): My question is to the Premier. Did Professor Spurrier or anyone in SA Health raise any concerns that they have had in the past fortnight about the risks of medi-hotels with the Premier, anyone in the cabinet or in the Premier's office?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:47): Not specifically with me, but certainly what we have seen in recent weeks is an increasing number of people with infections in our medi-hotels in South Australia. If we go back six or eight weeks, it was zero every day; as of Friday, we had 17 in our hotels out of the total of 77 across the country. These numbers move around a lot. We have increased our capacity here in South Australia, so I think we are well and truly playing our part in the national repatriation of Australian citizens, and we have seen a spike.

One of the things that we did do was to look at the country of origin for those flights to see if there was something that we could learn from that. In fact, there was nothing which stood out from that data. We are playing our part in the national repatriation. I completely reject any suggestion that the volume is to do with this particular incidence.

Certainly, the information that has been provided to us was that it was a surface transmission. That could occur with one person; it could occur with 50 people on a site or 200 people on a site. It does mean that we have had to think about the protocols that we put in place here in South Australia and adjust them, and that's exactly and precisely what we have done.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE WORKERS

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:48): My question is to the Premier. On how many occasions have hotel quarantine staff, private security guards or government employees breached infection control protocols in the past two months? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PICTON: On 12 September 2020, it was revealed in *The Advertiser* that there had been 62 breaches of hotel quarantine procedures identified since April, including 17 breaches regarding personal protective equipment.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:49): I don't have a detailed answer to that. I'm happy to go and get it, but the fact that we do keep an information log on every single, even very minor, breach I think is an important element of our quality assurance within those hotels, and all South Australians should be very pleased that we do have and monitor the performance.

I know that there has been a lot of concern regarding PPE. This is an area in which even the professionals need to constantly update their skills. Certainly, I know that in recent weeks there has been a great focus on the use of PPE within our hotels. This is something we are constantly looking

at and identifying even minor breaches through an internal audit process and an external audit process. When we identify those breaches, we take corrective action immediately.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:50): My question is to the Premier. Have any private security guards, hotel staff or government staff been subject to dismissal or sanctions for protocol breaches in hotel quarantine and, if so, how many?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:50): I thank the member for Kaurna for the question. As the minister representing the Minister for Health, I will seek an answer from the Minister for Health and bring it back directly to the member in the house.

BUSINESS AND EXPORT INITIATIVES

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (14:50): My question is to the Minister for Trade and Investment. Can the minister please update the house about how the Marshall Liberal government's budget is supporting business investment and exporters. With the leave of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr McBRIDE: With the bushfires earlier this year, followed by the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic, conditions for South Australian businesses and exporters have been very difficult.

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON (Morphett—Member of the Executive Council, Minister for Trade and Investment) (14:51): I thank the member for MacKillop for his question. MacKillop is a key export region for the state and very important, so working through these challenging global economic conditions that we face is really important not only to the member for MacKillop but I think to everyone here in this house.

As I said, we are faced with challenging global times, so the state budget that was brought down only last week really is one of those very important budgets in the state's history. Even this week, of course, we were reminded that we need to be ever vigilant in how we go about our health response so that we can overcome that and have positive economic conditions here in South Australia.

The state budget really looks to address those key issues in our economy. Some of those include a second round of grants to our small business sector. Those \$10,000 grants were so important initially. There was over \$186 million in the first stage and this budget looks to provide another \$82 million to small businesses and also, importantly, look at expanding that to sole traders operating out of commercial premises. It's very important. I commend the Treasurer for looking into that.

Another thing we need to help reinforce and help our business community here is to try to lower costs where we can. There has been significant work in this budget around payroll tax—\$233 million of payroll tax relief for those businesses here in South Australia. That is money that they can then invest employing people and creating jobs.

Land tax is another important element here. Of course, there were significant land tax changes brought in by this government, taking that top tax rate from 3.7 per cent down to 2.4 per cent, and what effect has that had? That attracts investment. Only in October, Mr Speaker, you would be interested, the Aspen Group announced they are purchasing a significant land parcel here—over 11 hectares—and spending \$4 million of their money in our state. We have competitive prices here—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON: —in South Australia, but removing that handbrake of land tax brings investment into the state. That is very important. We will continue on in that vein. But it's not just me, of course, that could tell you—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Lee!

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON: —that business confidence across the board has increased. Just last week, Business SA brought down their survey into business expectations here in South Australia for the September quarter. It was a record jump, the biggest jump they have had over the last 20 years, really supporting what we have done. That is before the work we have done in the budget. The NAB have also done business confidence surveys. Their small business sector, again, shows us in positive territory, so this is all good and helping business here in South Australia.

In terms of helping exporters, which of course the member for MacKillop is very interested in, one of the initiatives in this year's budget is a virtual business matching program. There is \$1 million to be put towards setting up what will be a digital website to help connect our exporters to global markets.

I have spoken before in the chamber about our trade offices. We have key on-the-ground market intelligence based out of these trade offices co-located with Austrade, whether it is in China, Japan, Dubai, Malaysia, the US or the UK. They are significant markets for our produce and fresh food exporters to be able to have access to. This will bring it together by having a digital, modern approach so that our businesses reach a global market. That is just one of the ways this budget is helping our businesses here in South Australia, because we know that is going to create jobs.

FUEL PRICE MONITORING

Mr DULUK (Waite) (14:54): My question is to the Attorney-General. Can the Attorney please provide an update to the house on the fuel app tender process for a private data aggregator and specify when South Australians will have live and up-to-date petrol prices available to them?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (14:55): I am very happy to do that. I thank the member for Waite for inquiring, and I thank him for continuing to take an interest in this matter. Yes, I had a meeting with the Commissioner for Consumer and Business Services, Mr Dini Soulio, only a week or so ago, and he confirmed to me that that is progressing.

Obviously, I am not privy to the circumstances and detail in relation to that tender process, but I am advised that there has been significant interest, and I take that to mean more than one, which was always the worry. I remember during the debate on this matter there were certain members who took the view that they would make statements about a certain operator in Queensland that has been contracted by the Queensland Labor government as being in some way unsuitable for the work to be done.

It seems that was a concern of hers during the debate, but nevertheless I understand that. Notwithstanding that, it hasn't seemed to put people off. They are lined up and we are expecting a resolution of that before Christmas, as previously advised.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:56): My question is to the Premier. Will the Premier release all reports and recommendations the government has received from Jane Halton AO regarding the SA hotel quarantine program and, if not, why not?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:56): That report was released some time ago, and I think everybody would have access to that. I think it was probably about six weeks ago.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (14:56): Supplementary to the Premier: if the report is on the website, can the Premier draw the attention of the house to where reference is made to the so-called 'gold star' in relation to the South Australian hotel quarantine in relation to that report?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:57): The report has been released. I was in the national cabinet which authorised its full release. If the member is having any trouble accessing it in any way, shape or form then please let us know. Obviously, that was accompanied with a presentation at the national cabinet where, as I said, we had a detailed presentation on the performance of the states, and it is fair to say that South Australia did extraordinarily well.

I don't know why those opposite are doubting our performance in South Australia. I don't know why they are casting aspersions on the excellent operations of SA Health in South Australia. I think that the people of South Australia have a very high confidence level in our health professionals in South Australia, and it's about time the South Australian opposition joined in.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

ENERGY EFFICIENCY INITIATIVES

Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (14:57): My question is to the Minister for Energy and Mining. Can the minister update the house on the Marshall Liberal government's energy efficiency initiatives and the flow-on impacts to employment?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:58): Thank you to the member for Flinders for this important question. He, like all of us, is working incredibly hard to get the cost of electricity down, make it more reliable and make it cleaner.

Yes, \$60 million was allocated in the budget handed down one week ago today to upgrade and make more energy efficient government buildings across the state—a very significant program because \$60 million will actually create 400 green jobs in this area. It is very important work, and that will also help with regard to environmental responsibility.

It will help with COVID economic recovery. Every single job is an essential job as far as we are concerned, so to create 400 jobs in this way will be a huge benefit. It will, of course, also save taxpayers' money, because it will reduce by about \$7 million per year the amount of money the government spends on behalf of taxpayers towards its electricity bills. This is a very positive policy all around. I thank the Treasurer for his support in this area. We take this responsibility very seriously. This is about creating jobs, about reducing emissions, about saving money for the taxpayer and about continuing on with that three-pronged approach: cheaper electricity, more reliable electricity and cleaner electricity.

We are using our leverage when we spend taxpayers' money to the very best advantage of taxpayers that we can. This has been seen in the recent announcement of the 10-year government supply electricity contract, so all the electricity that the government purchases being tendered to South Australian company ZEN Energy. We've got a very good price on electricity on behalf of the taxpayer. We will save approximately \$13 million per year in that, and that's ahead of the \$7 million through this additional initiative.

We also use that leverage to contract the delivery of a 280-megawatt solar farm near Whyalla, so again creating more jobs in the construction and bringing more renewable energy into South Australia and, importantly, as well as that solar farm, a 100-megawatt battery near Port Augusta. You will have heard the Premier say for years—in fact, years in opposition, let alone in government—that we cannot just keep building renewable energy generation in South Australia; we need storage and other smart technology to go with it. The Premier was saying this for years in opposition, and we are delivering exactly that.

We don't need any more wind farms on their own because when it's windy we have a lot of electricity and it's very cheap. We need wind farms that can work in with other important assets, like grid-scale storage, so that we don't have the blackouts of the bad old days, so that we continue to see the reduction in prices that we see at the moment: a reduction of \$158 over the last two years in the cost of electricity for the average South Australian household, in stark contrast to the \$477 increase that we saw in the two years leading up to the last election.

We are fulfilling our responsibilities to the very best of our ability, making electricity cheaper and more reliable and cleaner. We are doing it in many ways, including this \$60 million investment in improving all government buildings across the state.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr PICTON (Kurna) (15:02): Were any specific recommendations made by Ms Jane Halton regarding the SA quarantine program and, if so, what were the recommendations and what action resulted?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:02): I'm not quite sure why you are referring to recommendations. You are trying to ask me to point you towards the recommendations made to South Australia. I have never made any suggestion that there were recommendations to South Australia. Perhaps you could point me towards that.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (15:02): My question is to the Premier. What is the value of the contract with MSS Security, which provides private security guards, including at the Peppers hotel, for hotel quarantine, and was there an open procurement process or what was the procurement process for signing that contract?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:03): I thank the member for Kaurna for the question. I will take that question on notice, seek an answer from the Minister for Health and bring back that answer to the member and the house.

CORONAVIRUS, HOTEL QUARANTINE

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (15:03): My question is to the Premier. Were there any requirements under the contract with MSS Security, which provided private security guards to the Peppers hotel, for training and the expertise of private security staff?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:03): For the sake of administrative convenience, when finding an answer in relation to the previous question I will also inquire as to that matter in the same answer.

Grievance Debate

CORONAVIRUS

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (15:04): I think the collective hearts of South Australians sank on Sunday afternoon when news started to emerge about the prospect of further COVID cases in South Australia coming out of a medi-hotel. I principally want to address the way the opposition intends to conduct itself during this ongoing threat to the safety, health and wellbeing generally of the South Australian community.

This is not the first instance in Australia in recent times we have seen an outbreak of COVID-19 disseminating from a medi-hotel. Of course, that is exactly how the second wave originated in the state of Victoria only a few months ago. That risk translated to an extraordinary loss of life. Approximately 800 good people in Victoria lost their lives as a result of that second wave. Throughout that crisis, the rest of us around the rest of the country observed the way the public debate ensued, and we were paying close attention to the conduct of Premier Daniel Andrews and, of course, the Victorian opposition leader, Michael O'Brien.

Those on this side of the house will be conducting themselves very differently in comparison with the way Mr O'Brien conducted himself along with the Victorian opposition. In South Australia, the parliamentary Labor Party will be seeking to provide bipartisan support to this government as we continue to navigate this difficult journey in regard to the emergency health response.

We are exceptionally grateful for the leadership being shown by Professor Nicola Spurrier and, of course, the State Coordinator, Grant Stevens, in trying to put into place every possible action that we can to keep South Australians safe. Throughout the entirety of this pandemic, their leadership has stood us incredibly well, and our faith remains in them to guide us through this next chapter in a difficult stage. As an opposition, we will provide bipartisan support to the government in this endeavour principally because we want the same thing that the government wants and that every other South Australian wants: to keep our state safe, healthy and, indeed, if possible, prosperous.

One of the most heartbreaking images we saw throughout the course of this pandemic was the snaking queues of hardworking Australians, and indeed South Australians, going around the corner of Centrelink offices around our great nation—people finding themselves in the unemployment queue who would never have contemplated that possibility ever before in their lives. We want to prevent that from occurring again here in South Australia to the extent that it already is. We do not want a bad situation to get worse, which is why it is so fundamentally important that right now at this

point in time we get on top of this outbreak as quickly as we possibly can, and the opposition stands ready to provide support to the government in that regard.

Part of our function as the opposition in the pursuit of that objective of course is to ask questions of the government—indeed, to ask pertinent questions of the government, as we have endeavoured to do here today. We will continue to ask questions and we will continue to raise constructive ideas, as we have throughout the entirety of this pandemic, to make sure that every last thing that can be done is being done.

I solicit examples of where this has occurred previously, whether it be the call to close South Australian borders, which we called for and the government subsequently closed; whether it be the call for mandatory testing around the border crossing of Victorians, which we called for and was subsequently implemented; or whether it be the call for harsher penalties for those people who disobey quarantine requirements. We called for it and the government responded. There may yet be other examples of such constructive suggestions from the Labor Party that will be taken up by this government. That is the way that we will conduct ourselves. I reiterate: we all want the same thing.

There is no-one in this house and there is no-one in this state who does not want to see this government and its officials succeed in the pursuit of keeping South Australians safe. Only once that health threat has been dealt with can there then be a thorough examination, indeed a potential prosecution, of what went wrong, how it went wrong and what led us to this situation, but now is not the time. Now is the time for constructive, thoughtful dialogue, which is exactly what this opposition will continue to do.

LANGUAGES IN SCHOOLS

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:09): Languages in our schools are a very important part of the curriculum offering. Indeed, the Marshall Liberal government, over the last 2½ years since coming into government, has sought through our Languages in Schools strategy to enhance the offering of languages in our schools, particularly through this program in our public schools, but not just in our public schools.

Of course, it is a challenge in many parts of the English-speaking world to identify the value of learning languages as part of the school curriculum. I think it is beholden on all of us, as members of this parliament, as community leaders, as people who engage regularly with school communities, to encourage principals, community members, parents and others to see the value in our languages, to help with our young people's capacity to see the world from a different perspective, to have the capacity to access their cultural heritage if they are from a non-English speaking cultural heritage background. For our Aboriginal learners, language is a point of cultural pride, and being able to reclaim some Aboriginal languages is part of the work that we are doing in our Aboriginal education strategy.

I thought it would be useful at this point to update the house on some of the delivery of the Languages in Schools program. During COVID-19, there has been some impact. Indeed, teacher and student language immersion scholarships for travel to international destinations have been placed on hold for obvious reasons. Fifteen schools and 26 teachers spanning 11 languages have received scholarships to date and will be supported to recommence appropriate travel arrangements once it is determined safe to do so.

Round 1 of the Languages Professional Learning Program was successfully delivered face to face in 2019 to 172 teachers across 44 schools and two of our community language schools. Round 2 was adapted this year to be delivered online because of COVID. There are currently approximately 150 teachers completing that program online, including 12 teachers from community language schools. Enhancing the experience of children and young people while they are in these language classes is part of the way in which we will increase the number of our children and young people choosing to learn a language when they get into junior secondary and then senior secondary school at a time when it is no longer compulsory to do so.

Over a successive period of years, from year 8, we have seen the number of students studying languages diminishing dramatically. So getting that turnaround, if you are judging by year 12 numbers, will take some time because you can study the year 12 language only if you have done it in year 11, and you can only do it in year 11 if you have done it in year 10, and so forth—you get the idea, sir. That means we need more and more of our year 8s choosing to learn languages at

year 9. They need to have a good experience of language learning in their early years, and their parents and schools need to value the benefits to the student of those languages and also the potential outstanding job employment benefits.

I particularly want to commend the School of Languages, an outstanding institution in our public education system, for some of the work they are doing. There are two particular programs, one of which has been introduced and one of which has been dramatically expanded as a result of the Marshall Liberal government's election commitments.

In relation to Languages Alive!, which is a holiday program particularly targeted at primary school students, we have seen those holiday programs conducted across South Australia, including in regional areas. They have continued this year. In the October school holidays, Languages Alive! was offered to primary students over five days for seven languages, including Arabic, Auslan, Chinese, French, Italian, Nepali and Spanish. The other program is Let's Talk!, a new program for senior secondary students to really help them nail the complexities of their language studies. They study seven languages over two days, including Chinese, French, German, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese and Spanish.

The students reported that they were terrific programs. For Languages Alive!, 88 per cent of students reported (and this is the quote) that 'it was awesome', 10 per cent enjoyed it 'a lot' and 2½ per cent enjoyed it 'a bit'. In learning about other languages and cultures, 81 per cent reported that they improved 'heaps' and 51 per cent reported that they improved 'a lot'. For Let's Talk!, 51 per cent of students engaged said that it 'exceeded expectations', 49 per cent said that it 'met none' and were disappointed, and 74 per cent will attend it again.

I also identify the Innovative Language Program Grants and the expansion of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program. They are going well. The program grants are now being assessed, and I look forward to seeing the research reports. Of the IB schools, Roma Mitchell is a year ahead of schedule and next year will start offering the diploma, and Unley, Aberfoyle Park and Norwood Morialta are on track, as planned, to deliver this in 2022.

Further work is being done at the Open Access College and across the education department. I commend all our language teachers in South Australia and give a special shout-out to all parents who have encouraged their own child to study languages. I know all members of parliament will join me in doing so.

Time expired.

CALISTHENICS 2020

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:14): COVID has had a dramatic impact on sports in general, and I would like to particularly acknowledge the work of calisthenics clubs and the remarkable work they have done to adapt their year around restrictions that have been put in place to keep all of us safe. The calisthenics year sees mostly girls work on their cali skills under the direction of highly capable and creative coaches, crafting them into routines developed to use those skills and encourage artistry, poise, confidence, discipline and teamwork.

Calisthenics is one of the most well-organised sports I have ever seen. The administrators of the sport have developed protocols for every aspect, from health and safety of participants to a well-defined program for adjudicators and club officials. Cali teams travel and compete all over Australia normally and the national competitions, held on a rotational basis throughout Australia, are an amazing event.

Every MP should make themselves familiar with the skills and artistry of calisthenics and, as well as supporting mainstream sports, look at the minority sports that have so much to offer. Calisthenics is probably second only to netball in terms of girls' mass participation but has a much lower profile. Theatre make-up and costuming are part of the overall picture needed for a stage presentation in what is a very creative performance showcasing many skills.

Much has been said over the years about costumes in calisthenics and the ubiquitous sequin. Costuming of the 21st century has moved on significantly, and I remember well the display of costumes from the beginning of calisthenics here in Adelaide, which started nearly 100 years ago. On the night of the gala dinner, there was a great display of memorabilia and tributes to people such

as Esme Dobson, who made a great impact on me and my then co-CASA patron many years ago, our former colleague Jane Lomax-Smith. Esme was a great character who knew almost every girl who competed for decades, by both their birth and married names, and all their families and children they had, and she maintained a great interest in all things calisthenics until her death.

I have known many wonderful people in my time as an MP, and the very first cheque I presented in 1997 was to the Ridgehaven Calisthenics Club, still in existence today under principal Tracey Emes. Ridgehaven had a great group of parents in those days and still does. Tracey has been involved with the club for many years and she is a teacher par excellence. She is inspiring to all around her and is supported by all in the club. Her daughters Britt and Kaylee are both coaches and performers and her husband, Darren, and extended family have all been involved in calisthenics. Tracey is a remarkable leader.

On Saturday night, I attended Ridgehaven's end of year presentation night, and the depth of talent at the club meant there was also an afternoon tea event for the tinies—our smallest competitors. The gala evening dinner was followed by a disco dance for the juniors, subbies, inters and seniors. After all, calisthenics is only a step removed from dance sport, a discipline, along with cheerleading and aerobics, that has become popular in recent years.

Ridgehaven also caters for masters competitors, as many of the girls go on with cali well into their adult lives, returning to the sport after they have had their own families for health, recreation and competition with the friends they have made and stayed in touch with since their earliest days in the sport.

Lessons for calisthenics have had to be delivered by Zoom this year as restrictions began to kick in. The amount of work involved in instructing and evaluating each girl's individual performance cannot be understated and the fact that clubs such as Ridgehaven had successful years in 2020 is a real testament to the club coaches and administrators, not to mention the girls themselves and their families who support them through tuition and performances.

As far as performances are concerned, I must mention here my own granddaughter, Jade, has become a tiny at the Happy Valley club this year. This is another club I can say takes great care of each and every child while providing a great atmosphere for families.

Performance is part of why cali is such a popular sport. During the darkest days this year, one of the senior Ridgehaven coaches, Brooke Brown, took it upon herself, under the banner of BB Eisteddfod, to hire space at the Adelaide Convention Centre to stage a cali and dance spectacular. This was a huge undertaking held over three days and provided clubs and individual competitors with the chance to break out of lockdown and do what they do best. It was very well supported by over 800 performers and attracted a large entry in both dance and cali sections.

Competitors came from all over metro Adelaide and regional South Australia—from Mount Gambier, Port Augusta, Port Pirie and Whyalla. The BB Eisteddfod team worked with the Convention Centre to ensure all government COVID-19 restrictions and recommendations were met—no mean feat—while still making sure it was an event that could be enjoyed by participants and spectators alike.

Appropriately spaced audiences were thrilled to get back to watching the artistry and creativity of both individual and team performers that is so closely associated with this wonderful sport. Brooke is to be congratulated on her ingenuity and tenacity in delivering on her vision. I know she would like to thank everyone who assisted: the sponsors, the donors, the businesses who supported the event in many ways and the volunteers who gave freely of their time over the three days. Part of every cali performance is the photography and recording of performances, both of which are an integral part of improving every girl's skill levels.

EYRE PENINSULA FREIGHT

Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (15:19): It is now just about 18 months since the railway on Eyre Peninsula hauled its last grain. In May 2019, the final carriage rolled from Cummins into Port Lincoln, which marked the end of an era, really. No-one was sadder than I to see that happen, but unfortunately the two companies involved, Genesee & Wyoming and Viterra, were unable to reach agreement on an ongoing contract, thus the train ceased. It meant that all the grain on Eyre Peninsula from then on was to be hauled by road, which added near enough an extra million tonnes to the road freight task on Eyre Peninsula—not insignificant.

As a result of that and a combination of both state and federal funding, some \$32 million was committed in the last budget round for road upgrades on the lower part of Eyre Peninsula, which has seen the biggest increase in road freight. It took some time for the \$32 million to be visible to local residents and truck operators. Certainly, DPTI were actively involved in site assessment and consultation with the local councils involved, myself as the local state member and the member for Grey, Rowan Ramsey. We were well involved with that consultation process and provided our own thoughts and recommendations.

A lot of work went into the preparatory work, and we have now seen much of the shoulder sealing begin over the last few months. The extent of that is through the Wanilla down to the Tod Highway-Flinders Highway turn-off, a particularly winding and narrow part of the road. Shoulder sealing had been occurring north of Karkoo. I have talked about this stretch of road many times in this place, the Tod Highway north of Karkoo, between there and Kyancutta. A lot of work has been done between Karkoo and Lock, particularly, and also some work between Lock and Kyancutta.

The corners have been concentrated on in the first instance. I congratulate DPTI and the subcontractors on the work they have done because they have certainly improved the road no end. There is still work to do. There are many places where the Tod Highway is still very narrow. Right at this very moment, the trucks are on the road. It is harvest time. People need to be very cautious about the way they approach their driving, as the truck drivers do as well—my congratulations to them.

Not insignificantly, it has meant an increase of truck traffic through downtown Port Lincoln through Liverpool Street. The trucks are getting longer. Certainly, there are some B-triples on the road now. That is all part of the efficiency drive, that the trucks are bigger. They have a flexibility and convenience that rail could never offer. Those trucks are travelling through Liverpool Street.

Some of that \$32 million is going to be dedicated to work in downtown Port Lincoln on Liverpool Street, where trucks are traversing roundabouts and ultimately entering the Viterra site. Viterra also have spent money on the marshalling yards. I have not visited there for a time, but essentially they are moving to be able to cope with and cater for the huge number of trucks that will now be delivering. Harvest time is a critical time. There are many trucks on the road.

Throughout the rest of the year we are theoretically seeing more trucks, but the reality is that the trucks will be running just when the ships are in port and when shipping is due because those strategic sites that were established by Viterra some 15 years ago in both Tumby Bay and Cummins have proved very effective at holding grain up country. They are huge delivery sites; in fact, I think the site at Cummins is probably the second largest or even vying with Gladstone to be the largest receival site in inland South Australia. An extensive amount of grain is to be delivered and hauled.

Interestingly, there has also been work done on the east-west road, the Birdseye Highway, between Lock and Cleve, and Cleve and Cowell. Of course, T-Ports have opened their barging operation at Lucky Bay. That has in some ways changed the grain flow, and I see companies are actively buying into that site again this year. Harvest is underway. I hope it is up to expectations for everybody, all those growers on Eyre Peninsula. Please, during the harvest period, stay safe.

WAKEFIELD REGIONAL COUNCIL

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (15:24): Today, I would like to talk about the Wakefield Regional Council and the great work they have recently been involved with. Just recently, there was an incident where an elderly couple, who were both suffering from severe medical issues, had been living in a caravan at caravan parks in various locations across the Mid North and had been asked to move on from those parks by the operators and locals.

I will not reveal their identities at this stage because they did have some mental health issues and were really struggling. As I said, they had some medical disabilities. They eventually came to a historical Rochester roadside stop, between Clare and Brinkworth, just inside the Wakefield Regional Council boundary.

The council received several complaints from locals about their continued stay in this location. The council, as the local authority, could have issued a notice to vacate; however, upon understanding the issues with these people's health and also their financial situation, the council

discussed this issue with me. Together, we worked with several non-government agencies, including SAPOL, to achieve a very great outcome for everybody involved.

As it was, the people involved were also traumatised from being shunted from post to post and from caravan park to caravan park. They were very emotionally impacted. Local SAPOL handled the whole situation with great dignity. They had a very low visual presence at the time when the non-government people had discussions with the people involved. The reason I say that is that the sight of a police officer in uniform or in a police car at that particular point may have aggravated these people's mental health issues. The local superintendent, with his people, took this on board and attended without a marked car and in plain clothes.

The partnership with these people also involved medical practitioners and SAPOL Yorke and Mid North—especially Senior Sergeant Andrea Wilson—working with Uniting Country SA, Housing SA and other people specialising in mental health. They were able to achieve a great result. By working collaboratively, we were all able to achieve a great outcome for these people. They were able to get suitable and affordable accommodation where they could actually keep their pet dog. If they had to get rid of their dog, that would have traumatised them even further.

I hear from some councils that certain issues may not be core council business. Whilst this particular issue may not be core council business in the normal terms, it was very heartening to see the personal feelings that were expressed by the CEO, the mayor, and particularly the staff at the Wakefield Regional Council about this issue and their concerns for this particular family.

The staff themselves even took water and food to these people at their location, as their vehicle was not working and there was no running water or any power at the site. I might also add that it was at a time of very hot conditions. Even though the council staff did not know these people personally, they really took to heart the trauma and the hardships that had been felt by these two elderly people.

There are times that councils state that an issue is not theirs but is a state issue or a commonwealth issue and just say to that organisation, 'You handle it.' I must admit that Wakefield Regional Council showed empathy, showed emotion and showed very loving care. I might also add that Wakefield Regional Council arranged and paid for these people's vehicles to be removed from the site and put into a storage facility, something they did not need to do or that is under any legislation. The reason I say that is that the caravan was virtually unlivable and both cars were not going, so the council itself paid for those to be put in a storage facility.

To all staff at Wakefield Regional Council, including the management, I say a very great thank you for your compassion, together with all the other non-government organisations involved in this great opportunity. It just goes to show that if we can work collaboratively, in unity and in one direction, we can achieve great results.

As I said earlier, quite often I hear from local governments, state governments and other organisations, 'It's not my business. It's not my concern; it's somebody else's.' I have to honestly say that Wakefield Regional Council are very proactive and very community minded. I cannot say enough thanks to them for allowing these two people to be able to get good accommodation—I think they actually got some affordable accommodation for about two years in the Kadina area. Again, I want to thank everybody for their great efforts. This was a great achievement and a great result for both these elderly people.

CORONAVIRUS

Ms LUETHEN (King) (15:29): I rise today to speak about the Marshall Liberal government's determination and commitment to work with our community to keep South Australia safe and strong. Until this week, South Australia had been enjoying a successful recovery, coming out of the significant restrictions imposed at the beginning of the pandemic.

As a state, we have put up a strong fight against this disease, and it has been our community working together, adhering to restrictions and making sacrifices, that is the reason we have been able to experience such a positive response to the virus. If we continue to work together to prevent COVID-19 from getting into our community, that will be how we will get through this latest health threat.

This cluster is a reminder to all of us that we cannot be complacent about this highly contagious virus. As I have been out in the community lately, I have been reminding people who try to shake my hand that we must not get complacent. This virus is like a possible catastrophic bushfire: we need to work together and prepare our homes, keep our grass cut low and stay on top of the latest fire alerts to protect ourselves.

I understand people may be feeling nervous and disappointed right now. As a government, we are throwing absolutely everything at this situation to get on top of this cluster and to keep our community safe. The Premier today updated us that 100 per cent of people who have been requested to go into isolation and to get tested have complied—what a wonderful result.

Today, I will outline three important pieces of information for my local community. Firstly, stay on top of the latest information. We can all do that by reading the sa.gov.au COVID-19 website or by calling the COVID hotline on 1800 253 787. Secondly, the last thing we want is for any South Australian to make a choice between putting food on the table and protecting our community from a second wave. That is why in this budget we have made up to \$1,500 available for each eligible person who may have been instructed to self-isolate or quarantine. Details of this scheme can be found on the sa.gov.au site under 'Financial support for individuals'.

The scheme is designed to further strengthen the state's fight against this pandemic and a potential second wave. Thirdly, as a reminder for our small businesses of the second round of cash grants available, this includes a \$3,000 cash grant for eligible businesses that do not employ staff and are operating from a commercial premises and doing it tough. This information is also available on the treasury.sa.gov.au site.

We are committed to supporting South Australians through our state's COVID recovery. This can certainly be seen in the state budget. An extra \$15.1 million will support the mental health of South Australians through the COVID-19 pandemic. The Marshall Liberal government has already boosted funding for mental health by almost \$20 million since the 2018 election and spends 10 per cent more than the national average on mental health services.

Our government has responded to the biggest health challenge of our time by delivering a budget that is focused on protecting the physical and mental health of South Australians both now and into the future. To keep safe those who are keeping us safe, we are investing \$93.1 million to enable South Australian company Detmold to manufacture 45 million masks. This is creating more jobs and means our frontline healthcare workers have the protection they need to safely provide South Australians with the care they need.

Health is a key issue raised by people in my electorate and that is why it remains a key issue for me to champion on behalf of people living in King. That is why, locally, great things are happening for people in the electorate of King. Modbury Hospital is undergoing redevelopment and this investment of \$96.6 million is creating 160 local jobs per year.

At the Lyell McEwin Hospital, the building projects are underway, with an expansion and refurbishment of the emergency department to increase capacity and improve patient flow. This upgrade is creating 71 jobs per year and \$58 million investing. We are building what matters and delivering better health services close to home for people living in King. We are committed to keeping our community safe and strong.

Parliamentary Procedure

SITTINGS AND BUSINESS

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (15:34): I move:

That the house at its rising adjourn until Wednesday 25 November 2020 at 10.30am.

Motion carried.

*Bills***SPENT CONVICTIONS (DECRIMINALISED OFFENCES) AMENDMENT BILL***Introduction and First Reading*

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (15:35): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

I am pleased to introduce the Spent Convictions (Decriminalised Offences) Amendment Bill 2020 after its speedy passage through the Legislative Council. The bill amends the Spent Convictions Act 2009 to expand and improve the system for spending convictions for historical homosexual offences. With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I seek leave to have the remainder of the second reading speech and explanation of clauses inserted in *Hansard* without my reading the same.

Leave granted.

South Australia was the first jurisdiction to introduce a legislative system for removing historical homosexual convictions. The *Spent Convictions (Decriminalised Offences) Amendment Act 2013* introduced a new category of spendable offence called a designated sex-related offence, known as a DSRO. A DSRO is an offence involving consensual sexual activity between adults, or, in some cases, consensual activity between 16 and 17 year olds.

The application to spend a DSRO is made to a Magistrate under section 8A of the Act. Section 8A can be used to spend a range of sex offences, including DSROs. However, different factors apply to the decision to spend a DSRO. The main consideration to spend a DSRO is whether the conduct constituting the offence has ceased, by operation of law, to be an offence. If so satisfied, the Magistrate may spend the conviction.

Spending as a DSRO gives substantial benefits not given to other spent convictions. Generally, spent convictions can be revealed in a range of circumstances set out in Schedule 1 of the Act, including in relation to parole proceedings, character tests, screening units, and working with children and vulnerable people. By contrast, the Schedule 1 exceptions do not apply to a spent DSRO. For all purposes, the convicted person must be treated as if the conviction had never occurred. The conviction must not be revealed.

Mr Speaker, this was a ground-breaking reform at the time. However, a review of the legislation prompted by the LGBTIQ Roundtable in 2019, hosted the Minister for Human Services, has revealed some deficiencies in the current regime. This Bill makes numerous changes to make the system fairer and more accessible.

The Bill removes the requirement for a person to complete a 10 year crime-free period before they can have their historical homosexual offences spent. Whilst this test is appropriate for other offences spent under the Act, it should not apply to historical homosexual offences. The person should be entitled to have the conviction spent because, simply, it was wrong to convict them in the first place. Their subsequent criminal history is therefore irrelevant. It is demeaning to require them to submit evidence of good behaviour in order to have the conviction spent.

The Bill also moves applications to spend DSROs into their own section, so that it is no longer dealt with in the same section as non-decriminalised sex offences. The two applications are fundamentally different. Non-decriminalised sex offences will continue to be spendable under section 8A at the discretion of a Magistrate if no term of imprisonment was imposed for the offence and if the applicant has completed the crime-free qualification period.

DSROs will be spent under a new section 8B. Most importantly, spending a conviction under section 8B is not a discretionary exercise. If the criteria under the section are made out, the applicant is entitled to have the conviction spent.

Mr Speaker, the Bill also expands the definition of DSRO, allowing more people to access the system for spending decriminalised sex offences. Under the current definition, the sexual activity must have occurred between two adults or near-adults. This definition therefore excludes minors who were victims of what would now be considered grooming. In the past minors could be convicted of homosexual offending, and they are presently unable to spend the conviction because the sexual activity was not between adults.

The Bill remedies this by adding more classes of offences to the definition of DSRO. The expanded definition covers the specific homosexual sex offences repealed in 1972 and 1975, as well as their common law equivalents. It also covers attempts to commit homosexual offences, and contains a power to prescribe more offences by regulation, provided the offences involve consensual sexual activity between persons of the same sex. The key feature of these new categories is that they do not require the parties involved to have been adults.

To ensure that only decriminalised sexual conduct is spent under this section, the Bill requires the Magistrate to be satisfied that 'the conduct engaged in by the person or constituting the offence would not, at the time an application is considered, constitute an offence under the law of the State'.

To make it clear, if an adult male and a minor were previously convicted of the offence of buggery, both might apply to spend their conviction under s 8B, however only the minor would meet the test of his conduct no longer constituting an offence. The adult could still be convicted today of unlawful sexual intercourse, and therefore would not be entitled to have the conviction spent under s 8B.

The Bill also allows for spending homosexuality-related offences, other than sex offences. In the past, homosexual people would be charged with general 'offensive behaviour' crimes for conduct such as showing affection with a person of the same sex in public or wearing clothing considered inappropriate for their sex.

These are not sex offences, and therefore can currently be spent automatically after completing the crime-free qualification period. However, these spent convictions are still subject to the exceptions in Schedule 1 and therefore not properly protected from disclosure.

The Bill will introduce a new section 8C to allow persons to apply to have a conviction for a 'public decency and morality offence' spent by order of a Magistrate, which will give people who were convicted of these offences enhanced privacy protections. Applicants will be entitled to have the conviction spent if they can show that:

1. The person would not have been charged with the offence but for the fact that the conduct was suspected of being, or being connected to, homosexual activity; and
2. The conduct would not, at the time an application is considered, constitute an offence under the law of the State.

This test will allow the Magistrate to consider the context and background of the offending. For example, if the charge was 'offensive behaviour', the Magistrate would consider whether the conduct would still be considered offensive today. In most cases, it will not, as in contemporary Australian society, two men or two women holding hands in public is no longer regarded as offensive or immoral. Once spent by a Magistrates order, these offences will not be subject to the exceptions in Schedule 1.

Finally, the Bill provides that specified next of kin or legal representatives may apply to spend the historical homosexual conviction of a deceased or incapacitated person. This amendment follows national best practice; every other jurisdiction allows applications to clear a homosexual offence from the record of a deceased person, and most also allow applications on behalf of incapacitated persons. It can be of great personal comfort for the surviving partner or family to be able to remove the conviction.

Mr Speaker, I commend the bill to members and seek leave to insert the explanation of clauses into Hansard without my reading it.

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

2—Commencement

3—Amendment provisions

These clauses are formal.

Part 2—Amendment of *Spent Convictions Act 2009*

4—Amendment of long title

This clause amends the long title of the Act consequential on the amendments contained in the measure.

5—Amendment of section 3—Preliminary

This clause amends the definition of *designated sex-related offence* to add to the categories of offences that are designated sex-related offences for the purposes of the Act. The proposed additions are:

- an offence against section 69, 70 or 71 (other than section 70(1)(b) or (c)) of the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935* before its repeal by the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act Amendment Act 1972* (No 94 of 1972);
- an offence against section 69 (other than section 69(1)(b)(ii) or (iii)) of the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935* before its repeal by the *Criminal Law (Sexual Offences) Amendment Act 1975* (No 66 of 1975);
- an offence against any other provision, prescribed by regulation, that involves consensual sexual activity between persons of the same sex;
- an offence against the common law substantially corresponding to an offence referred to above or an offence referred to in paragraph (a);

- an offence of attempting, or of conspiracy or incitement, to commit an offence mentioned in a paragraph of the definition of designated sex-related offence.

This clause amends the definition of *eligible sex offence* to remove the current reference to designated sex-related offences. This amendment is consequential on the inclusion of proposed section 8B in clause 8 under which designated sex-related offences will be separately considered.

This clause inserts a new definition of *prescribed public decency offence* which means an offence against public decency or morality by which homosexual behaviour could be punished (but does not include a sex offence). This amendment is consequential on the inclusion of proposed section 8C in clause 8.

6—Amendment of section 5—Scope of Act

This clause amends section 5 of the Act consequentially on the amendments proposed in clause 8.

7—Amendment of section 8A—Spent conviction for eligible sex offence

This clause amends section 8A of the Act to remove references to designated sex-related offences which are to be considered under proposed section 8B in clause 8.

8—Insertion of sections 8B and 8C

This clause inserts new sections 8B and 8C.

New section 8B provides for convictions for an offence to be spent on order by a magistrate if the magistrate is satisfied that—

- (a) the offence is a designated sex-related offence; and
- (b) the conduct engaged in by the convicted person or constituting the offence would not, at the time the application is considered, constitute an offence under the law of the State.

New section 8C provides for convictions for an offence to be spent on order by a magistrate if the magistrate is satisfied that—

- (a) the offence is a prescribed public decency offence; and
- (b) the convicted person would not have been charged with the offence but for the fact that the conduct engaged in by the person or constituting the offence was suspected of being, or being connected to, homosexual activity; and
- (c) the conduct engaged in by the convicted person or constituting the offence would not, at the time the application is considered, constitute an offence under the law of the State.

9—Variation of Schedule 1—Exclusions

This clause amends clause a1 of Schedule 1—

- (a) to substitute a reference to section 8A with a reference to 8B consequential to clause 8; and
- (b) to provide that where an order is made under new section 8C that a conviction for a prescribed public decency offence is spent, the exclusions set out in Schedule 1 do not apply in respect of the offence.

10—Variation of Schedule 2—Provisions relating to proceedings before a qualified magistrate

This clause amends Schedule 2 of the Act—

- (a) to specify the persons who, in addition to a convicted person, may apply for a spent conviction order to be made in respect of a conviction for a designated sex-related offence or a prescribed public decency offence; and
- (b) to make other amendments consequential on the measure.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Gee.

Resolutions

PARLIAMENT WORKPLACE CULTURE REVIEW

The Legislative Council informs the House of Assembly that it notes paragraph 1 and agrees to paragraphs 2, 3 and 4.

*Bills***APPROPRIATION BILL 2020***Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading (resumed on motion).

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (15:37): I believe that when I concluded before the adjournment I was about to talk about electric vehicles. Before getting onto that, once again question time had some points of interest, especially the question about energy. I am always interested about questions to do with energy. What can I say but that you are incredibly fortunate as a government that we laid the foundation for these falls in energy prices with our strong commitment to renewables and our strong commitment to storage across a range of different fields.

I remember very clearly all the disparaging remarks from the federal Liberals in relation to the big battery in this state, but the current government had the good sense to see the wisdom of expanding the big battery. We also now have AGL with its commitment to a 250-megawatt battery at Torrens Island. They are great initiatives that clearly demonstrate the direction we are moving in and how out of step the federal government is.

I am not one to have a really strong go at the current government because I think that in a lot of ways this state has an essentially bipartisan policy when it comes to energy, even though some of us do not like to admit it. That is building on the fantastic legacy that we left the incoming Liberal government.

The current government is committed to 100 per cent renewables, and potentially further than that given the potential for hydrogen in this state. In a lot of ways in regard to energy, when it comes to a fall in prices, when it comes to the right direction to pursue, the current government has been kissed on the arse by a rainbow courtesy of the former government.

As I said, I recognise now the significant overlap in direction. I would like to point out though that the initial SIMEC ZEN deal off-take arrangement (it is now ZEN) was also a Labor government initiative. I would say that the \$60 million commitment to energy efficiency when it comes to government buildings is a worthwhile initiative. However, it should be really concerning as a nation as a whole that, as a country, we have essentially dropped the ball when it comes to energy efficiency, if we ever had it in our hands in the first place.

We lag behind a lot of other countries. When you look at some of the things that need to be done, the stuff that needs to be agreed to on a national basis through COAG in terms of some of the energy efficiency measures, we end up as a state, as have other states, pursuing a lowest common denominator approach.

Before the adjournment I was speaking about electric vehicles, and as someone from the country I probably have a particular perspective when it comes to electric vehicles. I do believe they are going to be the future, and possibly there is going to be a contribution from hydrogen as well when it comes to our transport sector, and that future will come with greater speed as the capital costs of the vehicles decrease and as the range increases.

All of that is going to happen, and the beauty for this state with electric vehicles is that it will break that nexus, that dependence that we have on overseas oil. We see in this country that refineries are closing. Another one is about to close at Kwinana in Western Australia because it cannot compete when it comes to economies of scale.

The thing about importing fuel is that we pay world parity pricing, and as a country member I watch those fuel prices go up very quickly and come down very slowly. Prices sometimes go up to \$1.50 a litre, so when we move to electric vehicles the recurrent costs of having an electric vehicle will be significantly less than the cost of maintaining and running an internal combustion engine.

At the moment the policy position of the government leaves a lot to be desired, notwithstanding some relatively minor commitment to put in place some infrastructure. The announcement about a tax on electric vehicles, both a distance-related one and a fixed charge one, is not the way to go when you are starting at a very low base level when it comes to the penetration of electric vehicles in this state.

We should possibly be looking at taxation regimes nationally down the track when there is far greater penetration, but at the moment to put in place what is essentially a disincentive for the uptake of electric vehicles is not the way to go. At this stage we should be ensuring that we put in place incentives because, in the long run, as electric vehicles do penetrate, it is going to deliver a far cheaper form of transportation for the bulk of the Australian people and people here in South Australia compared with the current conventional approach to vehicle transportation.

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:43): As the grandmother of the house I can definitely say this is a state budget with big numbers and lots of zeros that I never expected to see. I have listened to lots of appropriation speeches over the years, in opposition and in government, and heard many where only the best bits or only the worst bits of a budget are discussed.

I want to take a broad view and make some observations on the impacts, especially for the people of Florey. It is a record-setting budget for debt and deficit delivered at a time when the mantra of debt and deficit has been used as a potent weapon for decades. It is a budget delivered at a time when a pandemic recession, just as in the 2007-08 global financial crisis before it, has made people vulnerable and life and times so volatile.

Who would have thought we would ever see a South Australian Treasurer delivering a \$2.9 billion deficit and state debt exceeding \$33 billion? Budgets always seem to lead to pea and thimble scenarios, so we must all hope this budget delivers on at least some of its stated aims. It is true there are few options and economic stimulus is the only responsible choice, so the best way to judge the merits of this budget is not at the macro level but in the detail of what projects and initiatives economic stimulus is delivered and directed toward.

When we compare this projected economic stimulus with actual expenditure in last year's budget, a picture emerges showing a heavy bias in favour of significantly increased business and industry support, while increased boosts to operating expenditure on education, community health, old age and transport have already been wound back.

Put simply, the various new announcements in this budget disguise underlying cutbacks to what many would say is essential spending on services. In short, the underlying mindset of this budget seems grounded in old habits, and I worry what it will mean if there are cuts to essential services for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in the community while there is political cover to do so. I can only hope I will be proven wrong, because the one thing we should be doing right now is looking at a fiscal reset, not just stimulus to business as usual.

Like all South Australians, I hope we will have the strength and resolve to be able to withstand the new COVID wave and continuing global shocks. Frankly, for many of my constituents in the north-east, business as usual can never be considered good enough anyway.

Does this budget take timing into consideration—the timing, merit and readiness of the big spending projects? It could prompt some of the more cynical political observers to think the happy coincidence of big spending mid-COVID is great for those merely having a keen eye on the election cycle. What awaits us in the future is really in the realm of crystal ball gazing. We are told and have to accept that the level of this economic stimulus is temporary because the economy will bounce back. That is a promise we have heard before and perhaps more so than ever it is a high-stakes rationale.

South Australia can and will recover, but the length and ease or otherwise of the path of recovery will depend on the choices made now. We should be honest, especially in this place, with ourselves and with our community about how hard this recovery will be, even if, as we have seen reported in the media recently, an efficacious vaccine is widely available to Australians in the new year. I note the federal budget's economic projections on which this budget relies depends on this happening.

We know from past recessions that the effects of unemployment are long lasting, and we also know the ongoing global impacts of this pandemic will not be neatly concluded because a viable vaccine becomes available. This virus will likely be with the population of this planet for some time and its disruptive effects will remain a threat to the global economy—history repeating itself—just as it did with the flu pandemic after the First World War.

When I spoke during the Address in Reply debate earlier this year, I spoke of the sense of frustration and disappointment so many people I meet express about our political system. I spoke

about the need for this parliament to live up to the expectations South Australians have of us, the need to lift the standard of debate and open up our minds to new ideas and new thinking wherever those ideas or thoughts may originate. At that stage, COVID-19 was still a flickering concern to the north of us in Asia, and the summer of catastrophic bushfires was not yet over.

Since then, 2020 has turned out to be a year many of us will be very glad to see behind us, just as 2019 was before it. As the extent of the threat COVID-19 posed to Australia became clear, we have seen the best and worst of our political system on display. We have seen governments come together and rise above partisan politics, working hard and harmoniously through the national cabinet process, which is an example perhaps of how our federal constitutional mechanisms could work better.

We have also seen policies and programs rolled out with great speed at all levels of government and with the cooperation of business, unions and NGOs to lift up unemployment benefits, house rough sleepers, provide small business support, legislate rent relief, promote hygiene practices and social distancing, establish quarantine protocols and deliver widespread virus testing. Thank you and well done to all staff involved in preparing this national and state response and to the frontline workers who continue to deliver it.

But we have also seen political pointscoring and partisanship at its worst, here in parts of Australia and internationally, exemplified by the continuing chaos of the pandemic response of the United States in particular, and echoed locally by the blame game and buck passing between federal and state governments. It is a sad reflection on the state of our democracy that, despite the grave need to lift our standards, our political leaders were unable to maintain the united front that the nation deserves.

Even before the pandemic hit here, our domestic situation and society were facing grave economic challenges. With constant demands on the everyday cost of living, household budgets were under pressure, wages were flatlining and jobs were scarce. In the wake of this pandemic's recession, unemployment and underemployment have become an even greater concern for my community in the north-east. Unemployment, which at the last census stood at 8.9 per cent in the electorate of Florey, has risen steeply since, and I fear the consequences, even if the situation does not deteriorate any further.

We now face the dilemma in the community of encouraging people to access food parcels so that they have money to pay the costs of accommodation and other essentials, particularly now that the JobSeeker payment continues to plummet back to the levels of the dark old days. I worry we could end up winding back to the state-sanctioned enforced poverty levels that no-one could live on for very long without dire consequences.

That is why I will continue to pursue the important agenda I outlined at the outset of this year's sittings: to work on the cost of living, to protect and sustain local services and to make sure the north-east gets its fair share of funding for new services and improvements to existing services—building a better north-east, a project close to the heart of my constituents. As part of this agenda, I also want to build on community actions, such as the success in blocking the mooted closure of the Modbury Service SA office, particularly because of the impact this loss of service would have had on those on the wrong side of the digital advance—and the digital advance is a topic I want to expand on shortly.

Like many South Australians, the people of the north-east are patient but they have long memories. After constant cuts and underinvestment in their communities, they have little trust left in governments or political parties of any persuasion who promise the world so many times but invariably deliver considerably less. They are unlikely to have much faith in this budget unless they see proof and outcomes in their daily lives.

Sadly, while this budget is big and touts big numbers, it barely scrapes the surface when it comes to reversing damage done after decades of cutbacks, penny pinching, privatisation, underinvestment, underemployment and a lack of job security, which has been the legacy of various governments—damage which has left fundamental weaknesses in our social fabric and which this pandemic recession is now exposing. It is, though, an important start and must be backed up by results on the ground, particularly in the local north-east communities I represent.

The funding initiatives to allow schools to get on with maintenance backlogs are very welcome, but they only go part of the way to address glaring issues. For instance, I have toured public schools with broken machines and equipment from the sixties, decommissioned but still on site because it is too expensive not only to replace them but to even have them removed.

The untied maintenance grants of between \$20,000 and \$100,000 for each public school will in some cases do a lot, but will leave a lot left to do in others. I must say here how grateful I am for the voluntary work of governing councils at our schools and childcare centres in leadership and planning at their sites. Much more needs to be done to address the residualisation of public schools and the undermining of a public TAFE sector, both of which will be vital to the training and retraining of workers as we recover from this global crisis.

I have already made representations and spoken to the Minister for Education about the multitude of issues which schools in the north-east experience. I know he cares, and I hope to see improvements going well beyond what this budget contains so parents can have confidence in a bright future for their children.

A crucial issue for the people of the north-east is housing affordability, housing inequality and housing insecurity. While the \$75 million housing stimulus measures are very welcome, they effectively target moderate-income households and are unlikely to help those on very low incomes. This is exactly why we need to dramatically boost the role of the Housing Trust.

Similarly, ongoing initiatives for rough sleepers are modest and do not match the scale of homelessness. The response to provide emergency accommodation during the initial phase of COVID-19 showed we can deal with homelessness and that a zero target is achievable and vital. I want to acknowledge the great work of SACOSS and thank them, the Adelaide Zero Project and the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness for their continuing advocacy. They have all shown we can do this, and this pandemic has shown that we must.

We need to do much more to improve the public and social housing supply and housing diversity so that people at all stages of life can find a home that suits their needs and their income. This budget could but does not do more to tackle endemic levels of housing disadvantage, inequality and insecurity for young people and seniors as they age, and it fails the test when it comes to tackling our growing public housing backlog.

It is well beyond time for this state to return to the Playford vision of affordable housing as a driver of business investment and jobs growth, but the Housing Trust has been reduced to a shell of its former self and nothing in this budget instils confidence that this long-term declining trend embraced by all recent governments will be reversed. For so many people in the north-east and beyond, this is a desperately important public policy imperative that remains unmet.

In a recession which has been widely recognised for its disproportionate impacts on women and young people who are the most likely to be in insecure work after decades of casualisation and labour market deregulation, there is little in this budget to create jobs and inspire confidence in them. Just saying we are creating jobs does not make it so. There are so many variances to take into account. 'Jobs, jobs, jobs' is another one of those three-word slogans—they sound good but what do they actually mean or achieve?

The government's gamble on a tradie-led recovery will certainly offer work in one particular sector and plenty of high-vis photo ops, but whether the trickle-down effect will help those in highly feminised industries, such as health care, childcare, aged care and disability care services, or youth-dominated sectors, such as hospitality and tourism, is yet to be seen.

ABS Labour Force data for September 2020 shows the impact of this recession on the South Australian workforce, particularly on women and young people. At one point in June, the female unemployment rate was 9.2 per cent compared with 8.5 per cent for men. While the statistics seem to indicate a recovery in some female jobs, the old problems of insecure casualised work remain.

More generally, while we have seen a welcome return of jobs over recent months as lockdown measures have been lifted, South Australia's unemployment profile remains weak. At 58 per cent, our employment to population ratio, seasonally adjusted, is the lowest of any jurisdiction bar Tasmania—even lower than Victoria, which is still coming out of lockdown—while at 11.1 per cent our seasonally adjusted underemployment rate is the highest of any state bar Victoria, which, again, is still recovering from its lockdown. Of course, headline unemployment at 7.1 per cent

is an improvement to be welcomed, but with a labour force participation rate of just 62 per cent—again, just over Tasmania's—we know real levels of unemployment are much higher.

In short, we must recognise South Australia continues to have a relatively fragile economy, and by moving so strongly to support traditional male dominated industries this budget has missed an opportunity for a reset. For so many who have lost their jobs or their businesses in Florey, or are about to, this budget does not do enough fast enough.

One of the many weaknesses in our social fabric this pandemic has highlighted is the digital divide. For many years, the shift to online delivery for information services and cashless digital transactions has come at the expense of those without digital capacity or resources. The Australian Digital Inclusion Index, prepared by RMIT and Swinburne University, paints the wider picture. Measuring a range of factors, South Australia lags behind the national average in many parts of the state, including regional communities, and in the lower income suburbs of the metropolitan area digital inclusion falls even lower.

COVID-19 has made the digital divide even more stark for the most vulnerable in our community, those who have limited financial means, little or no family or other support, or simply have a hard time navigating technology. This has been a concern for many years for SACOSS, Jane Musared at COTA and Ian Henschke in his national role as spokesperson for National Seniors. Once again, this budget has missed an opportunity.

The \$120 million Digital Restart Fund, while marketed as a tool to promote digital inclusion, in fact does very little. It is largely a program designed to help government agencies put data and information online, but it does little to help the digitally disadvantaged in our community from building their digital capacity.

In our most disadvantaged schools, not all families can even afford to purchase books let alone a laptop or decent home internet. This is also a reality for many workers whose lack of affordable digital access means working from home is not really an option. In health, while governments have at last fast-tracked telehealth options, the benefits are unavailable to those who lack affordable digital access or capacity, and going to your local library for these personal services is simply not a solution. We need a digital inclusion strategy for our state, perhaps even digital inclusion legislation. Sadly, this is not something which is even on the radar of this budget, but we all live in hope it will appear some time soon.

This budget fails to recognise decades of privatisation, outsourcing and asset stripping of the public sector by all sides, meaning we are left with a depleted capacity to respond and rebuild in the wake of this global crisis. Frank and full advice is either not available or not sought. That said, there are a number of commendable initiatives in this budget: the rollout of new money to support shovel-ready local infrastructure programs, new money to support community and sporting clubs and new money to support schools, apprenticeships and small business. Upgrades to Hindmarsh Stadium, Memorial Drive tennis centre and the Aboriginal culture gallery and the upgrade of storage facilities for the state's valuable collections are wonderful but show a bias towards particular types of sporting and cultural activities.

Where is the investment to help preserve one of the few remaining medium theatres, the Royalty Theatre? The Royalty Theatre has a dual role in that it supports the state's vibrant calisthenics community, a girls' sport that, along with netball, is a major participation sport. And, I might say, funding to support the Aboriginal cultures gallery, while welcome, will have most value if it is matched by funding needed to sustain Aboriginal culture and redress the disadvantage and dispossession persisting today.

As we see so often, this budget has a collection of reannouncements and refashioned ideas, many pushed off into the distance and too few to overcome the valley of death so many in industry have warned about, pointed to and say is already here.

Reannouncements, such as the Modbury Hospital upgrade, is welcome of course, but I would have preferred the upgrade was completed without acute services being removed and seeing public operating lists outsourced to private hospitals. A recent report in *The Advertiser* I am yet to fully investigate advises surgery at the Women's and Children's Hospital is also being done at private hospitals. This is a very worrying trend.

It worries me, like so many others in the north-east, that things in health are not as they seem or should be and not happening in the way we expect. Our healthcare workers and paramedics do an amazing and fabulous job but cannot deliver with one hand tied behind their backs.

The standout example of the reannouncements is the north-south corridor, a project which seems to go on and on without end—quite literally. I look at the north-south corridor project and I shudder to think of the disruption and dislocation it will produce.

While the government has made a virtue of the fact its revised model will reduce the number of properties to be compulsorily acquired, the experiences of the 90 householders along Portrush Road, including one couple who had the guts to stand up for their rights, is a salutary reminder that compulsory acquisition is not a pleasant process and the government does not ensure the department responsible acts in a model and conscionable way. This must change. I will talk more about transport in communities in the grievance debate to follow.

Speaking of communities, I would like to mention the importance of volunteers in our communities, particularly the cohort of mostly older men and women making up service clubs, and the value of their unpaid work. Service clubs, such as the wonderful members of the Modbury Kiwanis, have provided many opportunities and services for decades and their demise should be the subject of an inquiry.

I know volunteers do not necessarily want to be remunerated, but their out-of-pocket expenses are growing and sometimes mean they have to re-evaluate the level of their contributions. As more and more older workers are unable to find paid work and are directed to volunteering, this does need to be rethought.

This budget does indeed represent a turning point in the history of our state, but it could end up being a missed opportunity to reset and reprioritise the terms and debate around agendas of our state and political debate. In so many ways, it feels like a budget grounded in economic forecasts that do not seem to meaningfully reflect the reality of people struggling in communities in electorates across our state.

Sound bites using words recently entered into modern jargon—words like 'snap-back' and 'pivot'—will not help the over 55s or young workers who have never had a job and have no likelihood of getting the full-time employment they need to establish themselves at the beginning of their lives or the huge over-representation of Indigenous people in unemployment queues.

Sadly, for my constituents in the north-east, there is not much difference in this budget from the many before it. There is little that instils long-term confidence or inspires hope—in short, little to deliver long-term change in their lives. They see real-time fuel pricing delayed and, unfortunately, those who are victims of crime re-victimised as the service they came to rely on remains poorly serviced while levy increases are used to offset the balance sheet elsewhere.

There are definitely some good initiatives I hope to pursue with the government, particularly initiatives suggested from the work already done with the Better North East project, knowing trust in any of the promises made is difficult until we see evidence on the ground. One such case, being the \$20 million redevelopment at Valley View Secondary School, is still waiting to get off the ground.

We have been told the trickle-down economy will one day work so many times now no wonder the people of the north-east are cynical until it is proven. I can only hope, as delivery of some of the unallocated stimulus funds unfolds, evidence will emerge while we wait for the longer term implications to take root.

Bill read a second time.

Estimates Committees

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining)
(16:04): I move:

That this bill be referred to estimates committees.

Motion carried.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: By leave, I move:

That a message be sent to the Legislative Council requesting that the Treasurer (Hon. I.R. Lucas), the Minister for Human Services (Hon. J.M.A. Lensink) and the Minister for Health and Wellbeing (Hon. S.G. Wade), members of the Legislative Council, be permitted to attend and give evidence before the estimates committees of the House of Assembly on the Appropriation Bill.

Motion carried.

Appropriation Grievances

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (16:04): I move:

That the house note grievances.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (16:05): In my contribution to grievances, I would like to add some more comments to what I started last sitting week in relation to the general state of the Barossa area and also report on feedback I have received from people in the Barossa, particularly through the shadow country cabinet held recently. When I last spoke on this matter, I was going through and providing information to the house about the presentations given to the shadow country cabinet by a range of business and community organisations.

One of those was the Krondorf Road Cellars Alliance. The speaker on behalf of the alliance was Jess Greatwich from Krondorf Creek Farm. Jess talked about the alliance, which is a newly formed local business association of cellar doors along Krondorf Road. I have also now been invited to undertake a cultural and historical walk, to be hosted by Jess, regarding the history of Krondorf. I understand that by undertaking this walk I will get a better understanding of not only the culture and history of Krondorf but also the soul of Krondorf, if you like. I am looking forward to undertaking that tour.

Jess is also one of a number of people who have raised with me the importance of finding out more about the traditional Indigenous owners of the land, the Peramangk people, and their history. Unfortunately, their history is not well documented. Certainly, a growing body of research is being undertaken, which needs to be brought together to paint a fuller picture of the Peramangk people and their association with the land and country there.

One of the other speakers at the presentation to the shadow country cabinet was Mr Simon Taylor, who was at that point in time still the chair of the Southern Barossa Alliance. The Southern Barossa Alliance is an important voice for the Barossa, particularly the southern parts. It encompasses the area of the old District Council of Barossa before the mergers took place, I think in about 1999, to form the new Barossa Council.

The Southern Barossa Alliance provides a voice for that part of the region. It also ensures that people understand that the southern Barossa is still part of the Barossa, trying to educate the community about the important role the southern Barossa area plays. The alliance is quite a unique organisation and is an umbrella group, if you like, for a number of community and business organisations. It provides leadership to those organisations and has a very important role in facilitating ongoing dialogue between them. More importantly, it advocates on their behalf.

I was very pleased to be able to attend recently a business networking function at Barossa Helicopters, which is owned by the Kies family, and a number of local small businesses networked to promote the importance of businesses in the southern Barossa area. One of the issues that has been outlined is that, since the opening of Gomersal Road and the upgrade of Sturt Highway, the number of tourists going to the southern Barossa area has reduced, and they are trying to rectify that. That is an important matter that I think needs attention.

One of the other groups that made a presentation to the shadow cabinet was the Tanunda Business Group, with the chair, Shelley Cox, and Tania Shirgwin. This newly formed Tanunda Business Group aims to support the 'brand Barossa' vision and act as a facilitator and lobbying group to help grow businesses in the town of Tanunda.

They have put together a listing of every business in Tanunda—there are approximately 235 businesses at this time—and they undertake ongoing surveys with the business community to make sure that they have a full understanding of how they can support the small business community in Tanunda.

One of the findings of their recent survey is very interesting: they found that around 75 per cent of small businesses in Tanunda did not receive any rent relief from their landlords during the first COVID-19 shutdown period. You may recall that the Barossa was also a hotspot for a little period of time, so those businesses in that area were particularly heavily hit, particularly around hospitality and retail generally. That is an interesting fact: even though the provision was made for rent relief, it did not always occur.

Business owners have also indicated they would like to see improvements to the main street, including street signage, car parking, more planter boxes and benches. Tanunda is a very attractive town with a very attractive main street, but what the businesses are trying to do is just improve it a bit more and attract more tourists and visitors to the area.

We also had presentations from Mr Neil Retallick, the Managing Director of the Barossa Co-op. He proposed that there should be a Barossa Valley exhibition to celebrate the history of the Barossa Valley from the time before European settlement and to learn about the Indigenous people, the arrival of the first settlers from England, Scotland and Germany, and to also get a better understanding of their farming techniques and how they came to grow grapes in the region, which is now the leading producer of shiraz in the world. The idea of this exhibition would be to reinforce the brand of the Barossa.

Just as an aside, the Barossa Co-op is Australia's largest and longest standing retail cooperative. It started in 1944 as a general store, selling a range of goods and services from a single store in the main street of Nuriootpa. It is now a hub of nine retail businesses, including food, home retailing, Mitre 10, Foodland, Betta Home Living, Toyworld, Sportspower, etc. It employs over 300 people and makes a contribution of \$16 million to wages in the region.

At 30 June 2020, it had 21,181 members, with a total share capital of more than \$4 million. It is also a very community-minded group, and in the past 12 months it has handed out over \$108,000 to local community organisations. One of the good things about the cooperatives and a number of community clubs in the Barossa is that they actually reinvest a lot of the profits they make into those communities.

Neil is also a board member of Foundation Barossa. Since 2002, Foundation Barossa has informed and engaged the broader community about the benefits of community giving. The foundation supports young Barossans who have a barrier, whether it be physical, financial, cultural or any other sort of barrier, to access education. They value the importance of education by supporting these young people through secondary and tertiary education.

They also support arts, cultural and educational pursuits, contributing to a healthy community. The total funds invested are just under \$2 million. One of the tasks they have now taken upon themselves is to support families and people who are homeless and sleeping rough in the community. They are now undertaking quite a bit of fundraising to assist with that program.

One of the last presentations was by Mr Lyndon Stoll, the chair, and Councillor Kathryn Schilling, board member of Nuri Futures. Nuri Futures is actually the business and town committee for Nuriootpa, and it works in partnership with business, community and government for the long-term economic and community development of the Nuriootpa town centre.

The group has done a tremendous job managing the historic property Coulthard House, which now hosts community events in the grounds of the home built in 1854 by William Coulthard, who tragically died before it was completed. While Coulthard House and its surrounds are owned by the committee, it is designed to be a community space. People can hold conferences there and use the gardens for weddings and other functions, and it is a major asset for the Nuriootpa community.

One thing I have noticed is that residents of the Barossa are very keen to be an inclusive society, so we need to make sure that government policies support inclusion and do not exclude people by having policies that act against people being able to participate in society.

Time expired.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (16:15): With the passage of this year's budget, and given that last week was NAIDOC Week, I thought that this would be a useful time to reflect on the Marshall Liberal government's Aboriginal Education Strategy, which

of course attracts significant investment out of our annual budget, and give the house an update on some of the matters within the Aboriginal Education Strategy.

There have been some very special events in the past few days which I have been pleased to participate in or at which I have been represented by other members of the government. These have reflected on achievements of some of our Aboriginal learners and the opportunities now available to them. I also want to touch base on those matters.

We launched the Aboriginal Education Strategy in December 2018 at Le Fevre High School, if memory serves me well. Professor Peter Buckskin, who was one of the co-chairs, along with the department's chief executive, Mr Rick Persse, and the advisory committee put together this strategy. They were supported by a range of Aboriginal educational leaders, such as Professor Lester-Irabinna Rigney, April Lawrie (now Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People) and a number of others—Chris Matthews jumps out at me.

Professor Peter Buckskin described one of the key challenges we have as a state and as a community as not just preparing our children for school, as we have always put some effort into, but preparing our schools for the children coming in. It is particularly important for our Aboriginal learners that we have an understanding of their cultural needs and an understanding of some of the reasons we see a disparity in outcome in educational achievement.

Our ambition is intentionally very bold here. We have an ambition to lift educational achievement so that there is no deficit in this space and that we close that gap. It is a bold ambition. I honestly think that we are making great strides forward. There is a long way to go, but I know that every member of this house will support the ambition being put here. We will also work not just on that large vision and ambition but on achievable policies, which we are undertaking every day, every week and every month of every year.

The Aboriginal Education Strategy has three particular aspects: firstly, Aboriginal children developing foundations for success in the early years; secondly, Aboriginal children and young people excelling at school; and, thirdly, Aboriginal young people being on pathways to success. On the third aspect in particular, I will probably spend a bit more time also reflecting on the connection between our strategy for connecting students across our school system into pathways through reforms to vocational education and training.

We are making sure that we are setting young people up for success and giving them the skills and opportunities they need, whether it is a contract of training or a VET pathway into an area where there is definitely going to be a job at the end of it. This is supported by strong career counselling that will ensure that they go into any of these VET pathways or VET programs with a strong understanding of what job opportunities there are at the end of it.

It is worth noting that in this year's budget there is an \$86 million commitment to a new storage facility for our cultural collections. An enormous part of that is Aboriginal cultural heritage that has been bequeathed to or collected by the South Australian Museum and the Art Gallery. The current storage facility is such that four years ago we saw rain damage to priceless Aboriginal artefacts. We saw damage when there was a break-in at the storage facility, the temporary storage facility that we have had for decades. We saw damage when there was a break-in that set off the sprinkler system.

Our Aboriginal South Australians deserved much better then and they have deserved much better for a long time. In this budget, we have an \$86 million commitment to build a purpose-built, world-class facility to support that and the new Aboriginal cultures gallery. All of these cultural facilities will, of course, benefit from an enhanced Aboriginal workforce.

It was a great pleasure yesterday to be able to join Douglas Gautier from the Festival Centre at the South Australian Museum, led of course by Brian Oldman, and Richard Ryan from the Bridging the Gap Foundation to launch a new traineeship for Aboriginal young learners to get a two-year traineeship in cultural work. The Festival Centre and the Museum are going to be taking on trainees. The point I made then is that I hope this program will expand because there are going to be many jobs for Aboriginal young South Australians in these cultural areas.

But I digress. I want to start with the literacy and numeracy aspect, which is so important for all learners. We have departmental project officers working directly with leaders and staff in 372 schools and preschools, which is particularly important for Aboriginal students with regard to the Aboriginal team in learning improvement.

Yesterday, I was told about the sort of work project officers are doing with the Port Augusta West Primary School, where they are working intensely with the Aboriginal education teacher to co-plan and co-design whole school staff development in reading based on the school assessment data. It is worth noting that the percentage of Aboriginal year 1 students who met or exceeded the expected phonics check achievement increased by 11 percentage points this year, which is great news. There is still more to go, but it is great to see that achievement. Across the two years of the check, Aboriginal learners have increased their outcomes by greater than the state average.

The Aboriginal Learner Achievement Resource has been developed to support school leaders in raising achievement in literacy and numeracy for all Aboriginal learners. A key focus of the implementation has been upskilling the Aboriginal workforce to engage families in the literacy and numeracy learning of their child to better understand their role in literacy and numeracy improvement. For example, schools within the Berri portfolio are actively working to improve learner achievement by tracking and monitoring student progress and improving the collection and use of data to inform planning and learning.

In regard to strengthening language and literacy, online personalised learning plans for Aboriginal students were launched in June this year. Staff have worked with schools to develop culturally responsive resources and promote the importance of the plan to support ongoing growth and achievement. More than two-thirds—indeed 70 per cent—of our Aboriginal learners now have an online learning plan.

Aboriginal community language and cultural partnerships have resulted in funds being distributed to five Aboriginal language organisations and an Aboriginal RTO to support continued community-led work in the Adnyamathanha, Bunganditj, Kurna, Narungga and Ngarrindjeri languages, including developing language-specific content for the framework for Aboriginal languages and Torres Strait Islander languages and certificate courses in Aboriginal languages.

Aboriginal languages program initiatives have resulted in a steady growth in numbers of students studying Aboriginal languages in South Australian government schools since the implementation of the strategy. It increased to 4,700 students in 2019, 5,100 students in 2020 and we are on track for 5,900 students next year, which is great news.

In relation to science, the rollout of the Aboriginal Contexts in Science initiative has meant that the scientific practices of South Australian Aboriginal nations are being brought into the classroom for the first time. Starting with the Kurna, Ngarrindjeri and Narungga nations, local science teachers are working with Aboriginal communities, the department, the South Australian Museum and ACARA to demonstrate the connections between Aboriginal science knowledge and ways of knowing with core science concepts in the Australian Curriculum. Currently, 17 teachers from 11 schools are working and focused on delivering this.

The Dame Roma Mitchell Scholarships continue and have been underway for a number of years. I commend the work that the former government did prior to our original learning strategy, but it continues to grow to 393 across all schools in the state. I congratulate two students who graduated in 2019. In May this year, they were recipients of the Dame Roma Mitchell Scholarship and received the Chief Executive's Reconciliation Award for achieving the highest ATAR among the state's Aboriginal students. They are Rachel Greenwood from Seaview High School and Akaysha Hill from Adelaide High School and I cannot wait to see what they achieve in the years ahead.

The Workabout program has been expanded to ensure that Aboriginal students can utilise their skills to successfully move from study to employment, training and further education. In Port Lincoln, for example, Workabout now has 10 Aboriginal students who have gained employment this year.

The South Australian Aboriginal Secondary Training Academy (SAASTA) has been expanded, and on Friday it was great to do the first graduation of the partnership between SAASTA and Carey Training. About a dozen students have done that cert II in building. Some of

them now have an apprenticeship, some of them are about to get tapped on the shoulder to start an apprenticeship and all of them will have a head start in the building industry.

The Clontarf Foundation is a program that has been introduced by this government in Port Lincoln, Whyalla, Port Augusta and at Ocean View College, and indeed it has seen significant and dramatic improvements in attendance at all those sites. All the principals, even those who were not completely sold on the concept to start with, love it, because they are seeing improved attendance and genuine job outcomes.

I also want to commend the team and the department for their work to build an Aboriginal workforce plan and culturally responsive framework that is responding to the needs of our Aboriginal staff and looking to grow it and value their efforts and value their knowledge, and we will continue to support the Aboriginal learning strategy. Our Aboriginal learners deserve nothing but the best opportunities to succeed in life, and I know that every member of this parliament would support that goal.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (16:25): The budget came out last week, and while a massive debt was announced unfortunately there were very few job opportunities in the local area that I represent, particularly jobs that are ready to go right now. The fault there has to be sheeted home to this government because there are projects like the duplication of Main South Road from Sellicks through to Seaford that were announced as far back as 2017 in our final Labor budget.

The duplication was funded to go ahead, and here we are more than three years later and still no work has begun. In fact, the land has not even been bought for this project to go ahead. When we have Premier Marshall out there saying, 'This is all about jobs, jobs, jobs,' what have these people been doing for the past two almost three years they have been in government? Absolutely zilch!

The people of South Australia deserve better, because we are facing some extraordinarily hard times at the moment with the job losses and the business losses that we have seen since COVID-19 hit South Australia and the world earlier this year. At the moment, of course, we have a new cluster—the Parafield Gardens cluster—and I wish everyone all the very best in terms of fast action, quick action, to close down this cluster.

I want to commend the people of South Australia who have done a terrific job, being tested in record numbers, Professor Spurrier, the police commissioner, the government and the opposition. I think that everyone has got in and worked really hard to make sure that, if there is any possibility of minimising the spread of this latest cluster, no stone will be left unturned.

There are many things that we as a community can do to stop the spread of COVID-19. It has been a little bit disturbing in recent months to see the complacency that has crept into our community. One of the areas that makes it really easy for the transmission of this COVID-19—and let's remember it does not get around on its own: it can be spread only by human beings—is by people shaking hands and hugging.

Since March this year I have not shaken anyone's hand. That goes against every instinct in my body. I love shaking hands normally, but do you know what I love more than shaking hands? I love my 79-year-old mother who is in a nursing home. I have not hugged my mother since March this year because we have to do the right thing and protect those vulnerable people in our community.

You know what else I love more than shaking hands? I love the people I represent, particularly those vulnerable people. One thing that makes it hard to continue to not shake hands is not just the instinct that that is what we have done all our lives, but it is the ridicule that you get when you do not do it. It is the laughter. It is sometimes the anger. I had a woman in my electorate office last week really have a crack at me because I would not shake her hand. She said, 'COVID doesn't exist. We don't have any COVID here.' I said, 'Well, we do. It's in our hotels.'

It could get out. We hope it does not, but it could get out, and if we minimise the risk and change our behaviours accordingly it means that our friends and our family members who have jobs, particularly in the hospitality industry—the hotels, the restaurants and the cafes—have a better chance of staying open if we all take actions that will help prevent the spread of COVID-19. There are some things that inexplicably we cannot stop, but there are behaviours that we can modify and change to better the opportunities.

I apologise to those people who are upset with me that I have not shaken their hands since March. On Friday night, when I was on the island, the Mayor of Kangaroo Island said, 'We shake hands here on Kangaroo Island.' Well, you know what happened on Kangaroo Island before Easter? We were trying to close Kangaroo Island down because it has one ventilator on the island, it has a really vulnerable population and I could not go there for seven or eight weeks as the local MP because I did not want to risk taking COVID-19 over there.

We all have to be a little bit sensible. This is not some sort of macho, 'I'm going to go around and shake everyone's hand really hard,' type of thing. This is something we need to do to make sure that we can try to keep our fellow South Australians safe. I hope that we can get on top of this latest outbreak. I think we all have to follow the advice of the police commissioner, of Professor Spurrier and of the government because everyone is working as hard as they possibly can.

There are things that need to be done at the level of the authorities and the government, but there are other things that we can all do as community members to keep our community safe and to keep our loved ones safe so that we can continue to go to cafes and restaurants, we can continue to go and visit our loved ones in nursing homes and we can get back to going to funerals, weddings and church services because these are important things. We just need to work out how we go about it.

There are some other measures that possibly could be taken, too, if we look interstate at things they have done there. We have been exemplars in South Australia in many ways, but I was in Queensland a month ago and at every cafe and every bar I went into I had to scan a QR code, my phone automatically filled in my details—it took only a few seconds—and then when I left I checked out. It makes it really easy to trace who has been in a certain place at a certain time. I am not sure whether that could be looked at here as well, but we probably need to be looking at every other jurisdiction to ensure that we have the best possible things.

I know there are some people on talkback radio who are worried that the QR code is going to give away all their secrets and stuff like that. I do not think it is a great secret if you go to the pub on a Thursday night, or a cafe on a Tuesday morning, or a restaurant over the weekend. We have to get serious about this, don't we, and say that for the greater good we sometimes have to give away information that really is not exactly classified. I hope that we can take on some of these measures.

For example, I went to The Triffid concert venue to see Ball Park Music. Not only did they have the QR code you scanned to go in but they had cabaret-style seating as well. You sat around tables of four, six or eight and you had to make a booking, and I was there with family members. Not only did the QR code get you into The Triffid but there were two QR codes on the table, and one was for your drinks. You scanned your QR code and on your phone came up Shaw and Smith savvy blanc, a jug of beer, some Pirate Life cans of beer. You ordered all your drinks on your phone and they brought a tray over to your table so there was no gathering around the bar, being in lines, touching strangers; it was all brought to you.

There was another QR code to buy your merch, so at Ball Park Music I bought a yo-yo, a couple of caps and a couple of T-shirts for Christmas presents. I hope none of the rellies are watching because they might be getting a bit of Ball Park Music merch for Christmas. This is the sort of innovation we have seen come out of this pandemic. It is well worth our having a look at that—whether it is as a whole, as a government, or just as individual cafes, restaurants and pubs—because we need to do everything we possibly can to keep businesses going, to keep people employed and to keep people safe.

I congratulate Professor Spurrier, the police commissioner and all those hardworking health professionals who are out there doing all this testing, around the clock almost, and those in the labs who are analysing those tests. I also congratulate and thank those security guards and everyone else working in these quarantine hotels. They have been under an enormous amount of stress. Their families have had their lives turned upside down by all of this as well, and we wish them all the very best.

I hope that we can shut down this latest cluster as soon as possible so that we can get back to where we were just over a week ago here in South Australia, enjoying some of the best lifestyle of anywhere in the world. We have done a really good job here since the beginning of the year when

COVID first appeared in South Australia, and it would be nice to get this under control so that we can get back to the lifestyle we were enjoying up until a week or so ago.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I'm pleased to hear that yo-yos are back, member for Mawson.

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (16:35): There is no doubt that the Marshall Liberal government's 2020 state budget is one of the most important budgets in our state's history. We are living through what we hope is a once in a generation pandemic, and it has been a challenge for all South Australians. This budget shows that the Marshall Liberal government is acting and that we are creating jobs, backing business and building what matters through a record \$16.7 billion infrastructure spend and \$4 billion in stimulus.

While COVID has challenged us, it has not beaten us. We have together stared down the greatest health and economic challenge of our time, and we are tackling it and getting through it in true South Australian spirit. The government has acted swiftly and decisively to keep South Australians safe and our economy strong. We are doing everything in our power to ensure as many local jobs as possible survive through this economic challenge, and that is exactly what this budget aims to address.

On the creating jobs front, one of the things that stood out for me from this budget is the investment in significant job-creating stimulus programs. We will see steelcaps, hard hats, high-vis and overalls sported all over the state thanks to \$4 billion in economic stimulus with programs that include job-creating infrastructure, business tax relief and up-front cash payments. The \$851 million tradies package is a pipeline of work for tradies over the next two years. The \$88 million skills package is focused on reskilling, upskilling, jobs for school leavers and skilling workers with businesses, all done in partnership with the federal government.

We are backing business to sustain employment, our government is backing local businesses and we are continuing to deliver significant cost-of-living relief for many hardworking families and businesses. There are many things that we are doing in this regard: firstly, delivering a second round of \$10,000 cash grants helping businesses to keep the lights on, the doors open and people in jobs. We are lowering costs through payroll and land tax relief to ease the cash flow burden and provide incentives to hire more staff. We are providing tourism and event support and funding to help secure new and additional events, building better parks and supporting sports infrastructure.

Locally, we are doing a lot of work in my electorate to entice people to shop local, to help keep doors and small businesses open, through our Colton Business Directory initiative. We have some incredible businesses right on our doorstep, and it is just a matter of connecting people to those businesses. This support in this budget will go a long way for many of those businesses in my local area, and I look forward to chatting to them and sharing the many fantastic incentives and programs available to them through this budget.

We are also building what matters. This government is most certainly doing that. We will see incredible investment and the most investment we have seen in our state's history. I know you have already heard it a lot, but it is an incredible number—\$16.7 billion. We have over four years 19,000 jobs, and we will be upgrading roads, major sporting facilities, schools and hospitals. We will be completing the north-south corridor with two tunnels and creating upwards of 4,000 jobs, saving many people 24 minutes a trip on their north-south journey. More importantly for my local community, it will ease congestion from west to east, making it easier and quicker for my community to commute in and out of the city.

Sports infrastructure upgrades include the Memorial Drive tennis centre, Hindmarsh Stadium and, importantly, Priceline Stadium for our young and aspiring netballers, and also many grassroots facilities. These investments will turbocharge our post COVID-19 economic recovery in the short and medium term. I am sure they will be well received by many South Australians.

On a local level, this budget is also jam packed with many great programs and incentives that will benefit my local area, something I know will be well received. Many of our coastal communities will be excited by the \$20 million allocated over the next three years to deliver marine infrastructure upgrades, including \$10 million for jetties and \$10 million towards boating facilities and ramps, including the West Beach boat ramp.

Another significant commitment was to the SA Aquatic Sciences Centre, located in West Beach. This initiative provides \$16 million over two years for critical upgrades. The facility was built in 1985 and is home to the Aquatic Sciences Research Division of the South Australian Research and Development Institute. The upgrade will replace ageing infrastructure at the site, including seawater intake pipes in the local area.

Another local coup from this budget is for the historic Vickers Vimy aircraft relocation, something I have spoken about on a number of occasions in this place. The Marshall Liberal government has provided a \$2 million grant to the Adelaide Airport to fund the relocation of the historic Vickers Vimy aircraft to the new terminal extension next year. This grant matches the \$2 million commonwealth government grant, and it is a major win for South Australia's cultural heritage and tourism and will serve to educate generations to come of our state's pioneering and aviation history.

Another important area this budget addresses is education. Funding for education continues to grow under this government, with the 2020-21 budget delivering another massive boost for our schools and preschools. Key investments in education include \$37 million over two years for school and preschool priority maintenance works, providing grants of at least \$20,000 for government schools and grants of \$30,000 for every preschool to engage local businesses and tradies.

Locally, I will be glad to see the preschools in my electorate—Baden Pattinson, Barbara Kiker, Fulham Park, Henley Community and West Beach—all receive \$30,000 to go along with the \$20,000 grant that was received and spent last financial year. I have been out to many of those preschools and seen the works that they were able to undertake to refurbish many ageing assets, and it will be fantastic to see them added to.

The schools in the area—Fulham Gardens, Fulham North, Henley Beach Primary, Henley High, Kidman Park, St Leonards and West Beach—will also be receiving maintenance funding. I know a number of those schools have projects already earmarked for that money. I am certain this funding will be greatly appreciated and will allow each of them to prioritise maintenance work and provide many local businesses and tradies with work. But it does not stop there.

We also have an additional \$11 million for the non-government school sector to improve school facilities, doubling the infrastructure funding previously made available to this sector. We are also continuing funding to be delivered for key school improvement measures, including the government's Literacy Guarantee, languages in schools initiatives and entrepreneurial specialist programs.

We are incredibly proud to be investing record funding in education, as we continue to do the job of improving educational outcomes for students transitioning from year 7 into high school and delivering a generational upgrade of schools across the state. With a young child of my own soon to start his education journey, I am proud to know that we are investing in necessary upgrades to improve schooling and pre-schooling for children right across South Australia.

Another area of investment is The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, where we saw an increased investment and scope for the stage 3 project, which is already underway. Increased scope includes the ICU, emergency beds and surgery capacity across those areas. The preliminary works are already underway. The car parking and the cath lab refurbishment has already been completed and the main building will see work begin next year.

This really does underline the Marshall Liberal government's commitment to health services in the western suburbs and is a stark contrast with what we would have seen The QEH look like under Transforming Health, where services were ripped out of that hospital and a downgrade was on the plans.

This budget is one that we can all get behind. There is something in this budget for all South Australians. We are facing the greatest health and economic challenge of our time and we are getting through it. I support this budget wholeheartedly. I believe that it will create jobs, that it will back business and is most certainly going to build what matters for all South Australians now and into the future.

Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham) (16:45): I rise in this contribution to pose a question on where the jobs are in this budget—jobs now and jobs in the future—and where the plan is for future industry.

As the member for Croydon, the opposition leader, mentioned in his budget reply, it is quite extraordinary that with \$2.6 billion of deficit this year this budget delivers exactly zero new jobs this financial year, zero net growth. That is a stark contrast with the rest of the country—2.75 per cent projected growth—even including states that have been hit terribly hard by the COVID pandemic, including Victoria. How on earth will this budget help our economy grow?

There is no doubt that we as a state and as a community, as we stand here today, face enormous economic and social challenges. What we need is a plan for jobs growth, not just jobs maintenance. The most recent South Australian Centre for Economic Studies report released recently made a series of quite stark predictions for South Australia. Amongst them was that SA unemployment will rise by 10 per cent by June 2021 and remain high into 2022. Coupled with that, economic output would not recover for another year, high household debt would continue and, whilst mining activity has remained resilient, workforce pressures continue.

Beyond the direct impact of these lockdown measures, of course, we are at times flapping in the breeze of international economic headwinds. However, the negative outlook for businesses here in this state, as the Centre for Economic Studies put it, is stark. They state:

The sharp contraction in output and incomes in the June quarter will not be entirely reversed for several quarters at least. This means that some parts of the community will have to adjust to lower incomes for an extended period of time and governments will need to ensure that the burden is shared as equitably as possible.

They say that some economic activities will never resume. Of course, high debt levels mean that households have limited and diminishing capacity to spend in our local economy at a time when buying local and supporting local has never been so important.

The centre also goes on to say that employment is and is likely to be one of the last things to recover in a recession. The unemployment rate is expected to climb to 10 per cent in June 2021 before easing only slightly to 9½ per cent in June 2022. We know this, the Centre for Economic Studies knows this, Treasury certainly know this, as evidenced in their projections across forward estimates, the Treasurer knows this and the Premier knows this.

But what does this budget deliver? It delivers zero jobs growth in 2021. That should alarm us all, but as a state that manufactures and as a state that makes things we should be deeply concerned. When I say we are a state that makes things, I do not reflect just on our proud history of manufacturing but on the 64,000 people who work in manufacturing today. My own electorate of Cheltenham, of course, has played a critical and proud role in this state's manufacturing past.

General Motors Holden operated first in Woodville, where operations began in 1924. The Philips factory in Hendon opened in 1947. Pope Products, incorporating Simpson and Electrolux, were in Beverley from as early as 1935. It is not just the tens of thousands of jobs and people, western suburbs residents, who worked in these industries, but it would be pretty hard to find a migrant in the western suburbs who does not have a first or second-hand connection with these industries. They were great nation builders, and they created great jobs for our community.

My concern, my worry, is not only as the local member for Cheltenham but as a father, as a number of members have reflected in this place, as they do amongst their own families. I am the father of a five year old and a six-month-old baby. Where are their jobs going to be? What industries, what careers, what professions? There is every chance that the jobs they may find one day do not yet exist. They may not have been created or the innovation has not yet taken place, but one thing is for sure: there is nothing in this budget that will get us onto the path of innovating, creating and finding those new industries.

This budget lacks industry policy. It does not even talk about industry policy. I am not sure from recollection if the Treasurer from the other place even spoke of industry policy in his budget speech delivered to this place. Where are those jobs, and where are those industries of the future? Where is the Holden, where is the Philips, where is the Pope, where people can look forward to carving out a career in an industry with not just a job but, what has historically been the case in these manufacturing industries, a good job? They are safe jobs, secure jobs, not casual, not part-time and certainly not exposed to some of the risks of labour hire. They are secure jobs that someone can look forward to carving out and relying upon to start a family, buy a house and contribute back to our community.

Another disturbing and worrying aspect of this budget is that we are no closer to major infrastructure projects in my electorate of Cheltenham starting any time soon. There has been a litany of delays across major projects, not just in my electorate of Cheltenham but in the member for Port Adelaide's electorate and also in the member for Lee's electorate. Two of the state's biggest infrastructure projects that have been discussed somewhat, not only by the members of this place but certainly in the budget itself, are the completion of the north-south corridor as well as the Women's and Children's Hospital.

To be frank, these projects will be no more than ideas on these pages for the remainder of the term of this government. There are no major works on these two projects. As the Leader of the Opposition has pointed out, if the government had not wasted its first 2½ years, failing and taking no action on these major infrastructure projects, then we would not be facing the call right now to fast-track these shovel-ready projects to invest in jobs in our community, in our state and certainly in the western suburbs.

The \$250 million for the stage 3 development of The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, the hospital that I was born at many years ago and which sits right in the heart of my electorate and in the hearts of many others in my electorate, has now been delayed by over two years. This funding was secured, provided by the then Labor government back in 2017. According to SA Health's own publications, when this project will start we simply do not know. We have heard 2021, but we also heard mid-2019; we also heard 2020 and now we are hearing 2021.

We should not be here speaking about fast-tracking. We should be here seeing the next project—those that have been thought through and those that are being innovated in this budget. Sadly, what we are seeing in this budget is more of the status quo and a lack of big thinking.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (16:55): Until there are effective vaccinations available and there is widespread immunity, we will continue to deal with a situation that can certainly change rapidly. This fact makes responding to this pandemic particularly difficult. Although we have and will continue to implement measures to support individuals, businesses and communities to stay afloat in particular circumstances, the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic makes the job of government somewhat challenging at the moment.

Whilst I believe that there is always something to be learned from looking back at our history, the combined health and economic impact of this crisis certainly has no equal. For example, there have previously been V-shaped, W-shaped and U-shaped economies and recessions; however, the current crisis certainly does not align with any of them. A paper by the IMF identified three phases of the economic aspect of the pandemic:

1. Widespread lockdowns, where the focus of the response is devoted to the health and emergency services response to the pandemic and providing lifelines for the most affected people and businesses.
2. A gradual reopening—the phase we are currently in—where public health certainly remains the priority; however, with restrictions easing, we are also taking steps to do what we can to kickstart our economic recovery.
3. The post-COVID recovery, when vaccines are widely accessible and uncertainty begins to fade.

As much as we hope for the swift development of a vaccination—I am sure it is coming, and there has certainly been encouraging news in recent weeks—the reality is that we still remain in the second phase for the foreseeable future.

I have heard it suggested that the current situation is something like the shape of a square root symbol at the moment, where there was a sharp decline as the impact of the pandemic was most severely felt, followed by an initial boost as restrictions initially eased, which may then give way to a prolonged period of modest growth. It is during this period that governments certainly have to establish the foundations for economic recovery. To encourage growth, governments should be implementing targeted stimulus measures that will encourage a resumption of activity.

As the Treasurer noted in his address last week, Reserve Bank Governor Dr Phillip Lowe has urged all governments to provide massive financial stimulus through investment in publicly

funded infrastructure, which is what we are doing. The IMF similarly encourages governments to invest in public infrastructure works, which is what we have done. Just as we have followed the advice of our health experts through this period, our economic recovery will be targeted and designed to create more jobs and confidence.

The budget includes the single biggest stimulus package by a state government in our history. We are more than doubling our initial stimulus spend and leveraging a further \$1 billion in commonwealth, local government and business funding. Our measures are targeted to keep people in work and create new jobs for South Australians, whether it is the \$10,000 grants for small businesses and not-for-profits or \$233 million in payroll tax relief and \$16.7 billion in infrastructure investment. The measures in the budget are designed to support jobs growth in a productive and meaningful way—take the \$268 million worth of immediate road maintenance and upgrade works.

Speaking of road upgrades, one that is dear to my heart and certainly to my community is the \$3.6 million upgrade of the intersection of Silkes Road and Gorge Road, ignored by the former Labor government for 16 years. We are getting on with it and we are going to get it done. My community has been calling for that for a long time.

There are also many more features of this budget I would love to speak about, particularly those around my ministerial responsibility. We know that our police men and women do a range of amazing work day in, day out, 24/7, 365 days a year. This pandemic has really emphasised how much they do for us. We know that every single day up to 600 (and sometimes even more) sworn and non-sworn police across South Australia are at the moment working on Operation COVID-19. They are helping to control this pandemic, whether it is at the border, at Airport operations and processing travel applications, or running compliance checks on individuals and businesses.

These officers are undertaking an array of duties and the diversion of personnel and resources has been significant. The state budget includes more than \$21 million to increase police resources so that SAPOL can continue to respond to COVID-19. This funding boost will support SAPOL to accelerate the recruitment of 72 cadets and recruit 54 protective security officers and employ SES and CFS volunteers on a temporary basis to assist with COVID-19 operations.

We are also making sure that those who protect us are themselves protected by investing in new high-tech vests that are stab and bullet resistant. This follows on from our successful trial. We are also spending \$34.9 million to transform SAPOL's remote connectivity capabilities and upgrade key operational systems. We are going to give the police the best technology possible to keep themselves safe and agile and also keep the people of South Australia safe as well.

We are certainly supporting the adoption of new deterrents to make sure South Australians are safe and responsible on our roads. We saw the announcement about the \$19.4 million allocated to install fixed mobile phone detection cameras. I am proud to say we are the first South Australian government in history to provide direct funding to Crime Stoppers SA, with more than \$800,000 over the next four years for the organisation. We know they have helped to resolve over tens of thousands of crimes throughout their history.

In Corrections, we are proud that South Australia has the lowest recidivism rate of the nation, but we are not content to pat ourselves on the back; we want to do even more. We are committed to continuing to improve our correctional services system, making sure that people return to the community as productive members of society where they can and that they can become better people with better skills when they leave our prison system. To that end, we are funding a \$2.8 million pilot of a high-intensity treatment program, and we hope that will deliver specialist case management and treatment to offenders who are subject to ESOs.

Those involved will receive specialist mental health support, housing assistance and also drug and alcohol rehabilitation where appropriate. We have also committed \$500,000 to develop a business case for a new rehabilitation prison in South Australia. It will be an absolute game changer if one day we can build that rehabilitation prison as well. We obviously have a duty to rehabilitate prisoners wherever we can so that they can make their way back into society when it is safe for the community for them to do so and also in their best interests.

Of course, I could not discuss the budget without speaking about our amazing emergency services volunteers and staff. I touched on the massive \$97.5 million investment we are making in

response to our independent bushfire review. We are the first jurisdiction in Australia to undertake that review, and we are proud of our response to protect lives and property—whether it is the allocation of funds to help with automatic vehicle location so that we can see where our trucks are, \$7.2 million to replace heavy firefighting appliances or helping to deliver \$11.5 million for new MFS trucks. They have 12 new trucks on order and there are certainly more to come. Obviously there have been some delays due to COVID, but that is unfortunately where we are at the moment.

We are doing everything we can to ensure that we help the MFS and give them the tools they need to keep South Australians safe. We are employing additional full-time CFS staff members to help volunteers, and for the first time ever we are going to see a dedicated full-time CFS staffing presence on Kangaroo Island, which is going to be absolutely massive and also a game changer. There will also be an additional counsellor employed to ensure that staff and volunteers receive the care and support they need. We do appreciate all they have been through and we wish them well before the bushfire season. Hopefully, it does not look anything like it did last summer.

In road safety, as I mentioned earlier, the budget includes more than \$268 million of funding for shovel-ready road maintenance and upgrade projects. It is no secret that well-maintained and modern roads lead to better road safety outcomes for road users. Our package includes \$10 million for audio tactile line marking, which is proven to alert drivers that they are drifting out of their lane, and there is also money for road safety barrier works. Obviously, these can prevent vehicles from colliding with roadside hazards, such as trees and Stobie poles and other hazards.

I will take the opportunity in the remaining 30 seconds I have to talk about some of the projects we have delivered in my own electorate. I have already mentioned that we have been able to deliver on funding to fix the Silkes Road-Gorge Road intersection. This builds on the Newton Road-Graves Street intersection that we also completed in March this year.

The Campbelltown City Soccer Club have their new synthetic pitch, the Hectorville Sports and Community Club have money for their female change rooms, the Max Amber Sportsfield have their lighting upgrade, the Paradise park-and-ride has also been built and of course we fixed the planning residential flat size allocation in the Campbelltown Development Plan, so we are getting on and we are doing lots in our local electorate as well.

Time expired.

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (17:06): I rise to add to my contribution to the Appropriation Bill debate about the needs of the north-east community. When I was first elected as an Independent member in the new seat of Florey, it included suburbs I had not previously represented. I recall vividly the words of one constituent at the local shopping centre who told me that he was voting for me, but urged me not to forget Ingle Farm and Pooraka. This heartfelt plea really made an impact.

These are two of the largest of the new suburbs I now represent, along with the suburb of Walkley Heights, in addition to all parts now of Valley View and Para Vista and a small part of Northfield. These, along with the parts of Modbury and Modbury North I still represent, are all suburbs that have not been getting a fair go for far too long. While these boundaries once again are likely to change, I have always seen electorate boundaries as only lines on a map, and I have always advocated for all people in the north-east and I always will.

Recently, I have been pleased to work with my community on what is called the Better North East project, with the support of residents of the Salisbury, Tea Tree Gully and Port Adelaide Enfield councils. I acknowledge the councils for their preparedness to engage and explore shared interests and opportunities. I also thank the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition for their support for this project and the commitment of in-kind support from the government through Renewal SA.

The Better North East project which, because of his expert experience in this area, is being coordinated by Matt Loader from my office, aims to engage with residents, businesses and communities to develop a vision of priorities for the future growth of these and other neighbourhoods in the north-east.

The north-east is a big area but, for ease and as a starting point, we are looking at the area bounded by Main North Road, Grand Junction, North East and McIntyre roads and includes suburbs already experiencing substantial infill development and population growth. This is no surprise. Land values here are more affordable than in many other suburbs closer to the city and suburbs like

Para Hills, Pooraka and Ingle Farm are all close to existing and new employment hubs and have existing infrastructure and facilities with the capacity to cater for future population growth.

This is an area ripe for growth and ready for renewal, but it has been left out for far too long. The significant public land and public housing stock in this area or close by may also offer opportunities to improve housing supply through master-planned infill growth. I note the recent release of a plan for development of the Strathmont land.

I believe the work we are doing will be able to be translated to other communities—for example, the benefits from the all important work of Professor Fran Baum and the Southgate Institute at Flinders University, whose work centres on the relationship between future health outcomes and the quality of urban neighbourhoods, retrofitting into existing suburbs all the best aspects of new developments, so watch this exciting space. At a workshop I recently hosted, community members have already identified a number of areas I will be presenting to all sides and all levels of politics to stimulate debate and explore how the project outcomes can be delivered.

I want to talk about two important initiatives that have emerged from our engagement so far with the north-eastern communities. The first is the opportunity for a new bus rapid transport route between Mawson Lakes and the O-Bahn at Modbury's Tea Tree Plaza Interchange or perhaps even Paradise or Klemzig via an Ingle Farm hub, which would also service Pooraka. Using generous road corridors along Walkley and Montague roads and potentially providing bus connections for new communities at Oakden, Northgate, Lightsvue and soon Strathmont, such a link would augment existing collector routes and help connect locals to jobs, study opportunities and visitor destinations, while supporting urban regeneration at an Ingle Farm hub.

At 15-minute intervals over 10 kilometres from Mawson Lakes to Modbury Tea Tree Plaza, an estimate provided to my office suggests operating costs would be around \$4 million a year. However, this does not include fare or other revenue offsets, or the modest one-off up-front investment for dedicated bus lanes, bus shelters, street furniture and signage.

While the undeveloped old MATS corridor reserve to the north of Walkleys Road is no longer required for an arterial road, a rapid bus route could use this land to provide a fast and frequent service to the Gawler line at Mawson Lakes, giving travellers access to the city and other destinations and providing a green linear park on both sides. The lion's share of new transport dollars in the budget are targeted to roads, including a whopping \$8 billion for the north-south corridor.

We seem to be stuck in an endless cycle of building more and more roads, but I am reliably advised there is a significant body of academic evidence which suggests that simply building more roads promotes more car use and paradoxically leads to more congestion. This makes the lack of new investment in public transport an obvious missed opportunity in this budget.

Given this, I hope this modest proposal will be given due consideration and find favour with the new minister. Certainly, my community is pleased the government abandoned proposed service cuts to buses earlier this year, but they want to see more public transport, and this proposal could be the start.

Another initiative that has been identified and enthusiastically supported by community members and local councils is the development of a master plan for the Dry Creek linear park along Grand Junction Road. Dry Creek is an outstanding landscape asset for the north-east, stretching 20 kilometres across three local councils from Wynn Vale, through Modbury, Walkley Heights and Pooraka to Mawson Lakes. However, much of the corridor is fragmented, underutilised and in need of significant rejuvenation and development.

The Walkley Heights section running behind the prison lands, for example, is a spectacular gorge that could be a wonderful drawcard for the north-east. However, a short walk along this section reveals the need for new investment, building on work already commenced. Not only does this section have outstanding landscape values but also it has considerable historical significance, including associations with the former homestead and rodeo grounds of R.M. Williams, the historic prison quarries and the heritage-listed powder magazine and guard towers, and the Stockade Botanical Park.

There are many other opportunities I am sure will emerge from the community engagement process: bike tracks, rock climbing on the old quarry face, all-weather and all-ability paths, and a native garden area with bush tucker and performance space where Indigenous culture can be shared by all. With coordinated investment in future years, the Dry Creek linear park could be a wonderful asset to the people of the north-east, just as the new Glenthorne National Park will be for the south and Coast Park has become for Adelaide's beachside communities. I look forward to walking through this area with the environment minister tomorrow.

Throughout the north-east there are many sporting grounds and facilities in need of new investment, and one site will serve as an example. Lindblom Park is a significant area of open space in Pooraka, traversed by Dry Creek and its walking trails. Home to football, soccer, cricket and netball, it is in constant use throughout the year.

Having undertaken a tour of the facilities, it is evident there has not been a substantial upgrade for decades, despite the advocacy of the head lessor, the Pooraka sporting club, for many years. Issues identified include inadequate lighting, small change rooms no longer fit for purpose, lack of female facilities, lack of storage, substandard clubrooms and kitchens, and parking and traffic congestion.

With a growing local population, there is also an opportunity for other upgrades to promote the attractiveness and usability of the park's facilities for local residents. This could include upgrades to playgrounds, picnic areas and pathways, and new equipment, such as a fitness circuit, dog run or bocce grounds, for example.

However, the upgrade of the park is beyond the ability of the Salisbury council in the near-term future without the support from the state government. This is but one neglected location in the Florey electorate, which has been brought to my attention since inheriting the suburbs of Pooraka and Ingle Farm, and is a good example of why the Better North East project has been initiated. Some other ideas I would like to quickly highlight include:

- improving westerly road links to connect workers to jobs in industrial areas at Port Adelaide and on Lefevre Peninsula;
- the need to invest in and help lift the education outcomes at major schools, such as Valley View Secondary and Para Hills High, and link students to jobs of the future;
- using the waterways and gullies throughout the north-east for linear parks, wetlands and recreational opportunities;
- improving walking and cycling networks and tackling barriers created by main roads cutting communities in half; and
- the potential repurposing of vacant or underutilised government land, such as the Walkley Heights transport depot, for community enhancement and housing choice.

These are just some of the shovel-ready projects my community hopes could benefit from the grant programs available in this state budget. So I say to the responsible ministers: be ready for my call and visits.

More than a few people have been an inspiration to me in public life and in continuing the struggle to advocate for good government and the public good, and I would like to mention just a couple of examples. It is with a great sense of loss to the extended Florey community that we recently heard of the passing of June Chaney, a local community volunteer and long-term member of the Modbury Hospital Local Action Group, who was so well known to many of us in the north-east. She was an absolute champion and leader in her community.

I would also like to mention the recent retirement of Rosa Colanero, who was a champion in the Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission, but also through her voluntary work for the Migrant Women's Lobby Group, a group that I came to know when I was first elected. She and her husband, Roger Lean, were outstanding public servants and have both contributed an awful lot to this state, and I would like to acknowledge their work. These amazing people are just a couple of the extraordinary community activists who will be missed.

At the moment, their work is no longer continuing because of either retirement or their recent passing, but I know they will inspire others in the community and more broadly to advocate for the

things that will make their lives and communities better. That is why the north-east is rallying around the Better North East project. It is going to see great changes in our area, and I look forward to reporting to the house on future developments.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (17:15): I rise to make a further contribution on the Appropriation Bill. My grievance contribution today relates to what has unfolded here in South Australia over the last 36 to 48 hours. I am sure that, like me, other MPs have had a deluge of contact and correspondence from their constituents, and also from those people whom they know in other capacities throughout the community. People are very concerned and very worried about what this current cluster means for them and for their communities. They want to know information about the new restrictions and how it impacts on them.

Perhaps because of my additional capacity as shadow treasurer, I have also been contacted by many small businesses, particularly over the last 24 hours, that are feeling very uncertain as to what the future holds for them and their operations given the restrictions that have been put in place on the community. Of course, we know that after the first round of restrictions was imposed on the community back in March one of the industry sectors that bore the brunt of these was the tourism and hospitality sector. They were amongst those industries that lost the most amount of jobs in South Australia in a very short period of time.

Not all hospitality venues or tourism venues were eligible to access the federal government's JobKeeper payments, and it placed those venues into what I guess you could call a phantom zone of falling in between the cracks of the different federal and state government support programs. Deputy Speaker, you would be aware that we on this side of the chamber called on the government, even before they announced their initial stimulus packages, to make financial assistance available, particularly to those small businesses that faced losing their livelihoods, both as a direct result of the restrictions on their capacity to operate and I guess indirectly because of the community's concern about perhaps leaving their houses and going out and frequenting or patronising their businesses.

It is these sorts of concerns that are now re-emerging. The restrictions that are being reimposed on the hospitality industry, we understand, are designed to protect the community and to limit the spread of this latest outbreak, but it comes after many venue managers and owners have spent many months struggling their way through to try to keep their businesses alive during what were some pretty bleak winter months.

It has been reported to me that many venues have taken on tens of thousands of dollars in additional debt themselves in an effort to pay their outstanding supplier bills, but also to pay wages, in an effort to try to keep staff employed, particularly in the case where they were not eligible for JobKeeper payments.

Many were hoping that they could go through that period of restricted trading with that additional debt burden on the basis that they can get to the pre-Christmas and festive season periods and generate more income, and start reducing that additional debt burden. They can try to get back on their feet and get their businesses operating sustainably again. This is particularly the case as those other supports start to phase out.

There are thousands of South Australian businesses that are facing the prospect now of letting go staff. You only needed to listen to ABC radio yesterday afternoon to hear hospitality venue operators recall, with an audible tremor in their voice, what it was like having to inform staff that they were losing shifts or perhaps that they were no longer required until the restrictions changed.

We know there are thousands of venues that are having to have those conversations, but there are also venues that have been waiting until this period of this year to try to hold all those functions that they have been forced to cancel. I am thinking particularly of those special events, such as weddings and so on, that have not been able to be held. While technically you could hold an indoor celebration, and perhaps celebrate in some form that a wedding was occurring, as we heard time and time again, there is not much point in holding a wedding if there cannot be a traditional wedding dance or if, after the ceremony, a bride cannot dance with her father at the reception, such were the restrictions put in place.

The good news over the previous few weeks was that many hundreds of those postponed weddings had been scheduled to occur in these weeks around us now—this week, next week, the

following weeks—to try to catch up on what had been lost as a very long wedding season. It is not just the impact on those venues and the cost of renting those venues out that is lost. It is the often tens of thousands of dollars that go with a wedding reception in terms of food and beverage, not to mention the wedding celebrant, the DJ, the florist, the cake decorator, the wait staff, the cleaning staff, and so on.

The average wedding supports, for the period in which they are conducted, hundreds of jobs each, and we have hundreds, if not thousands of weddings, in a wedding season here in South Australia, and they are spread across all of South Australia as well. Some people have said to me, 'You can imagine the frustration of a bride, her groom and their families when they have been forced to put off a wedding, perhaps to be held down in the South-East or over in Port Lincoln, or in some other regional part of South Australia,' and those plans have had to be shelved yet again because of the latest cluster.

I raise all these concerns not because we question the need to have these restrictions. We will continue to do what we have done during the course of this year, and we will provide support to the government and to the Chief Public Health Officer and the State Controller (the police commissioner) in the decisions and the directions that they make to the public. But if these decisions are going to be made, and these directions and restrictions are put in place, then the government needs to do its part and support those South Australians, particularly those who are acutely financially affected.

In the recent state budget handed down only a week ago, we heard that there is billions of dollars of economic stimulus money available. Unfortunately, that money is due to be spent over the course of years—not months or weeks. Now is the time that the state government needs to show some agility and some flexibility, and make some money available for these struggling businesses. Blithely saying that a decision had been made some weeks ago in cabinet for another smaller round of \$10,000 small business grants or \$3,000 grants to sole traders will not address the community need that exists.

There are industry groups that are terrified for the future of their members. It is not just the financial imposts of these restrictions: we have all become increasingly aware, over the last year, of the family impacts, the mental health impacts, that this coronavirus pandemic is having throughout the community. There are few things worse than the mental anguish that a family has when they know they are not able to make ends meet for reasons completely beyond their control. I ask the government again to make more money available.

We know that more than \$120 million has not yet been allocated let alone spent out in the community in the government's Economic and Business Growth Fund. Now is the time to make some or all of that money available for those members in the community who desperately need it as a result of this latest wave of restrictions. Without their support, we will lose more businesses and we will lose more jobs in South Australia, and that is something that none of us should countenance in the current economic environment.

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (17:25): The year 2020 has been an incredibly tough year, with the COVID-19 pandemic presenting the greatest health and economic challenge our state has seen in certainly in our lifetime and probably since the Second World War. The Marshall Liberal government's 2020-21 budget is therefore one of the most significant and important budgets in our state's history.

Despite the difficult circumstances we face, this budget will support our economy by creating jobs, backing businesses and building what matters through a record \$16.7 billion infrastructure spend and \$4 billion in economic stimulus. The \$4 billion stimulus—another way of putting it is an adrenaline hit to South Australia's economy—is the largest stimulus package in the state's history and one that is vital to driving South Australia's ongoing economic recovery. Measures such as the second round of \$10,000 cash grants for small businesses and not-for-profit organisations will help support the ongoing operating costs of businesses and improve their cash flow.

Small business plays such an important role through our economy, and I know many in the north-east were part of the 18,700 businesses that benefited from the first round of grants. Not only does the budget offer cash grants for businesses but initiatives such as the \$233 million payroll tax relief will further help businesses navigate through this coronavirus pandemic environment and keep hardworking people in jobs.

This budget is delivering for education. We know how important it is for our children have access to state-of-the-art learning facilities, and this is what exactly what the Marshall Liberal government is doing through our record \$1.3 billion education build. We are building what matters, with a significant investment in our children's future. In fact, in recent weeks it has been great to visit some local schools in the north-east with the Minister for Education, schools like Banksia Park International High School, which is currently undergoing a \$9 million upgrade that includes the creation of a brand-new 200-seat performing arts centre, new heating and cooling systems and upgraded disability access areas among increased learning spaces.

Modbury High School, another local school, is receiving a \$7 million upgrade that is going towards the creation of a new year 7 hub and landscaped area along with refurbishments to a courtyard and new outdoor learning area. Can I say that there was incredible excitement and happiness across the school when the very, very old transportable buildings on the site were finally removed. They are certainly buildings that had been raised with me pretty much every time I visited in the short time that I have been a member.

A further investment in the local area is the Ardtornish Primary School, which is about to receive a \$5 million upgrade that will include new general learning areas, new breakout space, new teacher preparation and withdrawal areas and a number of other things. Our visit there was quite interesting in that the construction of the new building had not yet started but they were assembling a whole bunch—I think about 10—of modular classrooms built by the company CENTINA, which is a local company. In fact, they are using the old Holden site to build these modular classrooms and bringing them on site as a temporary solution whilst the old buildings that are well past their use-by-date are demolished and the new facility is being created. Enormous numbers of jobs are being created on that site in anticipation of the upgrade works that are still yet to come.

Further investment into education is set to take place in this budget containing \$37 million for school and preschool priority maintenance works. Every government school in the electorate will receive between \$20,000 and \$100,000 and every preschool will receive \$30,000 and encouraged to engage directly with local businesses and tradies. This funding in education is not only increasing the standard of education facilities, and supporting the wonderful education and learning already going on in our schools, but will also deliver thousands of jobs right across the state at a time when this is sorely needed.

The Marshall Liberal government is delivering a record \$16.7 billion infrastructure works over the next four years, and in this budget a whole host of shovel-ready projects have been announced, helping to create jobs and build what matters to South Australians, such as improving the roads that thousands of people use daily going to and from work, which is very much a focus of this government. We know that the former Labor government left us \$750 million worth of road maintenance backlog, so there is plenty of work to be done and we are certainly getting stuck into that work.

They allowed these roads in my community to deteriorate, and this is certainly a major source of frustration for many constituents. This is why I am thrilled that we have commenced the \$30 million stage 2 upgrade to Golden Grove Road. The stage 1 upgrade was incredibly popular and a fantastic improvement. We have gone straight on to stage 2, which will see Golden Grove Road upgraded from where stage 1 was completed down to Park Lake Drive.

I know that my colleague the member for King is particularly thrilled and excited about this project, as am I, which will see improved road safety and reduced travel times for our constituents with intersection upgrades, upgraded road lighting, improved pedestrian facilities and indented bus bays as part of the project. Stage 2 will support around 70 full-time equivalent jobs whilst also providing security and certainty for the jobs created in stage 1.

I would also like to mention the additional \$6 million that will be going to resurfacing Golden Grove Road between Park Lake Drive and North East Road. As part of the upgrade, bus travel times will reduce as part of the Golden Grove Road project and will improve access to the O-Bahn for people in the north east. The O-Bahn is an important popular service for people and identifying the most appropriate solution for upgrading the O-Bahn was crucial.

The North East Public Transport Study that explored options to upgrade the O-Bahn to Golden Grove found that a series of intersection upgrades was a much more cost-effective and

superior option. Labor has been quite vocal about the O-Bahn upgrade, but we certainly think that other options that include ripping up hundreds of trees and bulldozing dozens of homes at a cost of approaching a quarter of a billion dollars for very little improvement in time would not be a good outcome for our community. Instead, our government is building improved intersections along that route that will help improve the travel time for buses between Tea Tree Plaza and Golden Grove.

South Australia's sports infrastructure is also set to receive a significant boost with new funding for sports facilities, such as Memorial Drive Tennis Centre and the Hindmarsh Stadium redevelopment. The Grassroots Football, Cricket and Netball Facility Program has also been quite successful for my community. Just last week we attended the official opening of the new change rooms at the Hope Valley Sporting Club. Houghton Oval is getting an upgrade, the South Australian Districts Netball Association is getting their courts resurfaced and the Tea Tree Gully Sportsman's Club is getting additional change rooms, so we are investing very much into our local sports facilities.

I can never talk about a budget or projects within my electorate without mentioning the \$96 million upgrade to Modbury Hospital, one of the most important projects in my community. This upgrade is increasing surgical capabilities and improving facilities for both staff and patients, and in this budget there is an additional \$1.5 million for upgrading the lifts. These upgrades to Modbury are important as part of our reversal of the disastrous Transforming Health experiment inflicted on the people of the north-east by the former Labor government. I am proud to be part of a government that is returning key services to the north-east, where constituents in my community will be closer to those health services they need.

Another very important project is the significant investment to transfer households in the Tea Tree Gully council's septic system across to SA Water sewerage. This very important and significant project will save households up to \$400 a year and provide them with a modern, reliable sewerage service. Importantly, the transition of these properties will occur at no cost to households.

This is a budget in difficult circumstances. It builds up our state and prepares our state for the future. We know there is much more work to be done, but we will continue to work on this to best support jobs within our community and to protect the health and safety of all people right across this state.

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (17:35): Before I highlight some concerns with the government's 2020-21 budget, I again deeply acknowledge and wholeheartedly thank the many health workers, emergency services workers, SA Pathology staff and numerous others who are undertaking extraordinary work as we deal with the current COVID-19 situation.

I also offer my best wishes to all who are facing health challenges and worries at this really difficult time and thank the many people who are impacted for their cooperation and goodwill. We know that many people have struggled this year in different ways as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We also know that many people have exhibited exemplary kindness, reaching out to others and helping them wherever they can. I have no doubt that this kindness will continue and strengthen our community's ongoing collective efforts as we continue to combat COVID-19.

Today, I draw further attention to the lack of budget measures directly aimed at supporting South Australian women. It was a budget from a government with a lack of female representation amongst its parliamentary ranks, a government that fundamentally does not seem to understand what women need to fully and equally participate in the economy. This was a budget from a government that demonstrates no desire to achieve gender equality because it does not recognise the existence and the extent of the inequality experienced by women in this state.

We know that industries that rely on female workers were hardest hit by the pandemic. We know that domestic violence is on the rise. We know that the gender wage gap remains stubbornly high. We know that women retire with much less superannuation than men, and we know that older women are increasingly struggling to access affordable housing. Despite all these social and economic challenges facing South Australian women, not a single new initiative aimed at supporting women through this crisis is in the budget.

Overwhelmingly, women are on the frontline of our response to the coronavirus pandemic. Nationally, nearly four in five healthcare workers are women. They include cleaners, nurses, midwives, pharmacists and allied health and aged-care workers. Outside health care and essential services, other female-dominated industries have borne the brunt of job losses across hospitality,

tourism, retail, the arts and other sectors, yet both state and federal governments have purported to focus all the stimulus activity on male-dominated industries.

Of course jobs in these industries are incredibly important for our economy, for so many people and families, and must be supported. I say 'purported', however, because sadly not one job is being created in this financial year, and it is questionable when others will be. Jobs in female-dominated industries now and into the future must also be supported, as should programs to facilitate more women working in male-dominated industries. If our restaurant and catering, retail, tourism, major events and arts sectors were supported, we would not have witnessed the exodus of women leaving the workforce.

The budget seems to completely ignore the disproportionate impact of the health crisis on women. Women make up almost 69 per cent of those engaged in all part-time employment and are twice as likely to be engaged in insecure work than their male counterparts. As I mentioned last week, recent data showed that 22 per cent of women work less than 20 hours a week compared with just 10.6 per cent of men.

On top of this, there is overwhelming evidence that women have taken on a large amount of work at home, including coordinating their children's education. The state government does not seem to understand the pressures facing working women and continues not to support parliamentary inquiries into insecure work and modern slavery, both of which overwhelmingly impact women. I implore those opposite to support those inquiries.

It is of the utmost concern that across the country we have seen and heard reports of increases in domestic violence. For too many women and their children, the pandemic has forced them to spend more time with their abusers, with limited ability to reach for help. In our southern community, women experiencing or at risk of experiencing domestic violence and those who support them are desperate for preventative programs, therapy and support, and a clear supported pathway of referral to appropriate services.

We have been calling on the government to fund a southern domestic violence hub to provide an informed first point of contact and sustained support through a woman's journey to safety and to recovery. It needs specialised workers providing community awareness, case management, trauma counselling and referral to appropriate health, community and legal support and acute crisis services. As yet, no commitment has been made. It is incredibly disappointing that no funds for new prevention hubs were provided in the budget and that this follows such an appalling lack of investment in any prevention measures in this government's first two budgets.

The gender pay gap relentlessly persists, and if we do not move faster to arrest it equal pay will not be achieved for decades. Yet again, we see nothing from this government that even looks remotely like they are considering this issue, let alone providing a solution. Earlier this year, the government bizarrely claimed it was 'increasing the participation of women in leadership and decision-making roles' by abolishing the Premier's Women's Directory. The government claimed this would 'assist the government to achieve gender equality on state government boards and committees'.

The perplexing decision to abolish the directory undermines the huge amount of work done in South Australia over recent years to increase female participation in leadership roles. The Premier's Women's Directory was established by Labor as a resource for government, community, sporting and private sector organisations wanting to increase female participation on their respective boards. Abolishing the directory is short-sighted and utterly baffling and makes no sense whatsoever. It is further evidence the government does not understand what it takes to achieve gender equity.

As I have said many times before, to achieve equity you have to focus on those who are behind in some way and specifically target strategies that enable them to equally participate or equally have access to a position, a facility or similar. Cutting the directory sends a poor message to women and girls who aspire to leadership roles and it reinforces to our community this government's lack of commitment to gender equality. Without women's voices, our institutions risk failing to represent the needs, values and aspirations of South Australian women, and without targeted support girls and women fall further behind.

Along with young people, older women are the fastest growing cohort of people who are at risk of experiencing homelessness. I applaud Premier Daniel Andrews and the Victorian government for its announcement that they will spend \$5.3 billion to build more than 12,000 public housing homes over the next four years.

That is less than one-sixth of the total debt our Treasurer has plunged this state into, yet we do not get a single extra affordable home. Of course, this is the Treasurer who sold swathes of affordable public housing when Treasurer in the Olsen and Kerin governments. Older South Australian women deserve better than to live their later years with housing insecurity and the indignity, worry and despair that that brings.

Despite the pressing need for our economic recovery to clearly consider the situation of women, no plan of action or economic stimulus or any other budget measure is focused on women. The government's budget fails to specifically fund and target programs that could make a difference to South Australian women at a time when they most need that targeted support. It contains no specific job creation strategy for women; no strategy to address insecure work, modern slavery or the gender pay gap; no dedicated program for women's sporting facilities or housing; and an absolutely minimal state government investment in domestic violence prevention.

In an environment where the appalling statistics on domestic violence continue to worsen, the lack of serious, plentiful investment in what is needed to prevent and end its prevalence is unconscionable. Violence against women is one of the most pressing challenges of our time. As many in this house have said previously, it is incumbent on every single one of us in this place to take real action to arrest that prevalence. Sadly, this budget has failed to take that real action. This budget lets down half of our population. South Australian girls and women deserve so much better.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr McBride.

DEFAMATION (MISCELLANEOUS) AMENDMENT BILL

Final Stages

The Legislative Council agreed to the bill without any amendment.

Parliamentary Committees

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CURRENT SYSTEM OF PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

The Legislative Council requested that House of Assembly give permission for the Clerk of the House of Assembly to attend and give evidence before the committee.

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON (Morphett—Member of the Executive Council, Minister for Trade and Investment) (17:47): I move:

That the Clerk of the House of Assembly have leave to attend and give evidence before the Select Committee of the Legislative Council on the Effectiveness of the Current System of Parliamentary Committees.

Motion carried.

Bills

STATUTES AMENDMENT (ABOLITION OF DEFENCE OF PROVOCATION AND RELATED MATTERS) BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

APPROPRIATION BILL 2020

Estimates Committees

The Legislative Council gave leave to the Treasurer (Hon. R.I. Lucas), the Minister for Human Services (Hon. J.M.A. Lensink) and the Minister for Health and Wellbeing (Hon. S.G. Wade) to attend and give evidence before the estimates committees of the House of Assembly on the Appropriation Bill if they think fit.

Appropriation Grievances

Adjourned debate on motion to note grievances resumed on motion.

Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (17:49): I rise to raise two of many critical planning and development issues in my electorate of Badcoe. Way back before the last election when I was just a new candidate, Le Cornu had just announced it would be shutting down and selling its iconic Forestville site, not to be confused with its other iconic site—though really rather infamous—at North Adelaide.

It was quite a sad time in our area because, much like the products it made, Le Cornu had become a part of the furniture in Forestville and a landmark location. As the Labor candidate, I doorknocked extensively through Forestville, as well as Keswick and Ashford, asking people what future they saw for the site. We distributed a survey as well and got hundreds of responses back. At that stage, the former Labor government was examining the zoning for the site and the site to the south of the Hungry Jack's on Anzac Highway.

Initially, some eight storeys or more were proposed by the government for both sites, but, as I doorknocked and spoke with locals, it emerged that six storeys with substantial setbacks and dropdowns to four and two storeys was more acceptable to local people and to the special needs of our area. I then lobbied the then planning minister, armed with feedback from my community, and we achieved the lower maximum heights. The government also rezoned the site to mixed use, which was more in keeping with the modern use of the land and its potential.

We then saw German supermarket giant Kaufland purchase the site in 2018 and announce plans to build their flagship store. I approached Kaufland and asked them to engage with our community and they did, holding community meetings with me. There were many issues raised with Kaufland about traffic, parking, tree cover and selection, the emergency thoroughfare and boom gates, and the truck delivery bay. Kaufland made design changes to all those elements and also conducted a second traffic study to pick up on the intense use of the area when the showground markets are on on a Sunday.

I felt the company really went to some lengths to understand our neighbourhood and how its business could add to our community and not detract from it. By the end of the design process, we had a renewable energy-powered building with more trees, ample undercroft carparking, electric vehicle charging stations, more attractive street facades, better traffic and truck access and, very importantly, a business that would hire 100 local people.

It would be a lie to say that everyone 100 per cent supported the project, but all in all it was a productive process that people felt engaged in and I was really pleased to be a part of that. The local staff who worked for Kaufland, including Brianna and John, should be commended for the constructive attitude they took. It was a model approach from a multinational business, and I hope that other companies, or indeed government agencies, seeking to build in our neighbourhood might approach setting up in our community in the same way.

So it was a shock and bitterly disappointing for Forestville and surrounding suburbs when Kaufland announced its departure in February. After being on the market for the best part of the year, Renewal SA purchased the site just a month or so ago. Since March, I have been again conducting quite detailed research with my community about what they want built on the site.

Hundreds of surveys have been returned in response to the question: what do you see as the future of the Le Cornu site? The top response has been—and the member for West Torrens might identify with this—for a new school, a primary or secondary school, on the nine-hectare site. That is little wonder, considering that our community recently had its school zoning changed, meaning many people who were promised by this government and the last that they would be able to attend CBD high schools have now had that promise ripped from them, and that still burns in Badcoe.

Another reason why people are so strongly advocating for a school is that the South Road upgrade may well see the demolition of popular primary schools in our area that are already quite full. Obviously, people want their children to be able to go to a public school locally, so their suggestion that this site be used for an educational campus is a well-founded one.

The other suggestion at the top of the list is for a sports and recreation complex, that is, open green space. The City of Unley has the lowest level of open green space of any council area, so it stands to reason that local people want to see greater and more green space, more trees and more opportunity for outdoor exercise.

There is a range of other suggestions from my community, including a mixed-use development not dissimilar to what Kaufland proposed, and there are even suggestions for an ice hockey rink or the Crows new headquarters. In any case, I am keen for my community to be granted genuine opportunities to advance what they want in their backyard as Renewal SA progresses any plans for the area.

I know that the media has published that Renewal SA intends to build high-density housing on the site, but nothing like that has been communicated to our electorate or to me as the local MP in the area. I would hope that the door is not closed on the future of this most precious parcel of land and what it will look like in the future.

I would also like to talk about another development in my area, that of the Life Care aged-care facility at Everard Park. This project came to light about a year ago with Life Care approaching the City of Unley. This is the same developer whose three other projects in the eastern suburbs have had to be drastically reduced after community outrage. The developer proposed to pay for a development amendment itself—so pay the council to have a new higher zoning decreed over the plot of land it owns on Norman Terrace at Everard Park.

Life Care wanted to build a five-storey complex at the site plus plant and equipment on top, in what is largely a single-storey, well-established neighbourhood. To say this was opposed by local people is a gross understatement. When the proposal went to council, a whopping 309 submissions were lodged—all opposing this development. People in my community are not opposed to development per se and they are very supportive of the need for refreshed aged care, but projects such as this one are simply too much for a small area.

Reasons for their opposition included the stress that it will put on our narrow streets, the existing lack of street parking, the difficulty for emergency vehicles to access the site, light spill and overshadowing, and the population density created by packing so many more people and workers onto the site. All of this information was advanced to the council, yet stunningly, even the locally elected councillors who were meant to represent the views of people who put them on the council voted against the local residents' wishes. Their reasons were not articulated.

At a community meeting I held about the development in Everard Park a few weeks ago, one ward councillor, Emma Wright, came along, and good on her. At the meeting, after about 45 minutes of people expressing their anger at their own councillors not representing their views, Councillor Wright stepped forward, identified herself and apologised to people. She told them she had made a mistake and she should not have voted for the development. She was very apologetic. Good on her. It was probably pretty hard to admit that she got it wrong to 80 angry people, but unfortunately it is cold comfort to the people who now have to put up with this.

I held that meeting in the park to update myself on people's views before I presented to the ERDC last week. The council approved four-storey development, plus plant and equipment on top, was approved by the minister a few weeks ago. Again, the minister ignored those 300 public submissions from our area. Again, all the effort they put in was ignored. It is bad enough that the minister signed off on the development without making any changes to recognise what local people wanted, but we found out that the government actually pushed to increase the height and allow even greater density than the four storeys.

Sitting extended beyond 18:00 on motion of Hon. S.J.R. Patterson.

Ms STINSON: That was incredibly offensive. It is an insult to the community of Everard Park that the government would seek not only to brush aside their well-founded concerns but to actually impose an even greater burden on this community when they are already vehemently opposed to the development. After I presented the views of my community to the ERDC, a motion was moved by a Labor member of the committee, supported by the Greens, to recommend that the minister reduce the height on the site to three storeys, a move that would have ameliorated, though not erased, the concerns.

Similar motions have been supported in the past by government members on the ERDC, so it would not have been that controversial—but, no, the government members of the committee did not support asking the minister to take a second look. Yet again, local people in Everard Park were ignored. They feel ripped off. They feel that all this consultation that went on is a hoax and that the developer, who was willing to pay for a process, always had the deck stacked in their favour.

It is a really poor result in terms of planning. What is more disappointing is that it has damaged the Everard Park community's faith in the process. They have been let down by their councillors, let down by the minister and let down by the government members on the committee. To rub salt into the wound, when the new Planning and Design Code came out for the suburb just a few weeks ago, before the ERDC had even met, there was a little section carved out already for five storeys on the Life Care site. It all speaks to a fait accompli and a process that local people could not have ever hoped to influence, and that is disgraceful.

To the local residents, I can only say that I have fought this battle side by side with you. I have done my best to represent your views and to ensure you are heard, and I am sorry it has not resulted in change. Nevertheless, I will continue to work with you as the development plan for this site is lodged, and we will see if there are any opportunities to make better a bad situation.

Motion carried.

Estimates Committees

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON (Morphett—Member of the Executive Council, Minister for Trade and Investment) (18:01): I move:

That the proposed expenditures for the departments and services contained in the Appropriation Bill be referred to Estimates Committees A and B for examination and report by 25 November, in accordance with the following timetables:

APPROPRIATION BILL 2020

TIMETABLE FOR ESTIMATES COMMITTEES

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE A

WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER AT 9.00 AM

Premier

Legislative Council

House of Assembly

Joint Parliamentary Services

Administered Items for Joint Parliamentary Services

State Governor's Establishment

Auditor-General's Department

Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Administered Items for the Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Premier Other Items

Defence SA

South Australian Tourism Commission

THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER AT 12.00 noon

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development

Department of Primary Industries and Regions

Administered Items for the Department of Primary Industries and Regions

FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER AT 9.00 AM

Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services

Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)

Administered Items for the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)

Administered Items for the Department of Treasury and Finance (part)

South Australia Police

Administered Items for South Australia Police

Department for Correctional Services

Minister for Child Protection

Department for Child Protection

MONDAY 23 NOVEMBER AT 1.00 PM

Attorney-General

Minister for Planning and Local Government

Courts Administration Authority

Attorney-General's Department

Administered Items for the Attorney-General's Department

Electoral Commission of South Australia

Administered Items for Electoral Commission of South Australia

TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER AT 9.00 AM

Minister for Infrastructure and Transport

Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)

Administered Items for the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (part)

Minister for Energy and Mining

Department of Energy and Mining (part)

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER AT 9.00 AM

Treasurer

Department of Treasury and Finance

Administered Items for the Department of Treasury and Finance (part)

THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER AT 12.00 noon

Minister for Innovation and Skills

Department for Innovation and Skills

Administered Items for the Department for Innovation and Skills

FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER AT 9.00 AM

Minister for Human Services

Department of Human Services

Administered Items for the Department of Human Services

Minister for Health and Wellbeing

Department for Health and Wellbeing

Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health

Wellbeing SA

MONDAY 23 NOVEMBER AT 1.00 PM

Minister for Education

Department for Education

Administered Items for the Department for Education

TUESDAY 24 NOVEMBER AT 9.00 AM

Minister for Trade and Investment

Department for Trade and Investment

Minister for Environment and Water

Department for Environment and Water

Administered Items for the Department for Environment and Water

Green Industries SA

Department for Energy and Mining (part)

Motion carried.

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON: I move:

That Estimates Committee A be appointed, consisting of Mr Treloar, Mr Cregan, Dr Harvey, Ms Luethen, Mr Malinauskas, the Hon. A. Piccolo and Mr Szakacs.

Motion carried.

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON: I move:

That Estimates Committee B be appointed, consisting of Mr Cowdrey, Mr Ellis, Mr Gee, Ms Michaels, Mr Murray, Mr Pederick and the Hon. S.C. Mullighan.

Motion carried.

At 18:02 the house adjourned until Wednesday 25 November 2020 at 10:30.

*Answers to Questions***GEL BLASTERS**

341 Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (11 November 2020). What action did the minister take when he was made aware of SAPOL's concerns regarding gel blasters, and when was this action taken?

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services): On 12 March 2020, SAPOL advised the former minister that since the provision of SAPOL's advice in 2019, there had been advancements in the evolution and modification of gel blasters. SAPOL advised that it would need to further consider, review and research potential response options.

Both the former minister and current minister sought regular updates on the matter.

The decision to regulate gel blasters was an operational matter for SAPOL. The Commissioner of Police, Grant Stevens, in his capacity as the registrar of firearms under the Firearms Act 2015, declared gel blasters as a regulated imitation firearm from 8 October 2020.

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

344 The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (11 November 2020). Did Southern Waste ResourceCo receive approval from the Environment Protection Authority to build Cell 3 at its McLaren Vale site?

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water): I have been advised:

Southern Waste ResourceCo submitted the technical specifications to the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) on 23 November 2018 and the EPA issued an approval for the construction of stage 4 cell 3 on 25 February 2019.

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

346 The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (11 November 2020). Is Southern Waste ResourceCo in breach of its license agreement with the EPA?

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water): I have been advised:

Southern Waste ResourceCo is not in breach of its Environment Protection Authority (EPA) licence conditions relating to EPA requirements to construct new landfill cells.

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

347 The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (11 November 2020). Under the federal agreement on PFAS, which you signed on behalf of SA in February 2020, has Southern Waste ResourceCo and the EPA met all the standards that are meant to protect people and the environment?

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water): I have been advised:

The new cell (cell 3) being constructed by Southern Waste ResourceCo for the disposal of wastes permitted under its existing licence, meets the requirements of the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) guidelines for the environmental management of landfill facilities for solid waste disposal, April 2019 as a suitable landfill type for chemically contaminated waste that meets the disposal criteria.

The type of lining for cell 3 is determined as a suitable landfill type for the disposal of PFAS-contaminated waste as stated in the national agreement between commonwealth, states and territories, which was agreed to by the former government in February 2018. The landfill acceptance criteria in version two of the PFAS NEMP, which was agreed to between commonwealth, states and territories in January 2020, remains the same as originally agreed to in version one of the NEMP.

TRAIN SERVICES, STAFF

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (13 October 2020).

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

The cost cannot be determined at this stage of the transition phase until the exact number of staff transferring to Keolis Downer has been determined.

TRAIN SERVICES, COSTS

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (14 October 2020).

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

1. DIT initiated the Adelaide Rail Transformation Program (ARTP) with the objective of securing a contract for the operation, maintenance and service delivery of the Adelaide Metropolitan Passenger Rail Network (AMPRN).

The Commercial/Financial Leads within the ARTP Team (not Ernst and Young) were responsible for developing the financial and commercial models, including the historical train pro forma financial statements and the Public Sector Comparator (PSC) model for the ARTP transaction.

Ernst and Young undertook the external assurance reviews and prepared limited scope financial due diligence reports on the pro forma financial statements and the PSC model, as prepared by the ARTP Team.

2. The bidders were provided the pro forma financial statements for 2018-19 along with other documents that contained details about the operation and maintenance of Adelaide's passenger network.

The cost of running Adelaide's train network in 2018-19 of \$125.9 million (per pro forma financial statements) was exclusive of corporate costs and inclusive of periodic maintenance costs. This report states that 'Corporate and shared service costs are not considered in the Financial Statements'.

The cost in relation to 2019-20 operating costs was \$133.6 million. This is inclusive of corporate costs and exclusive of periodic maintenance costs. This is comparable to the \$125.9 million costs in 2018-19, once adjusted for indexation, corporate costs and fluctuations in periodic maintenance costs (and associated activities such as rail line closures).

3. The minister was provided with the budget impacts of the proposed contract with Keolis Downer over the term of the contract, which took into consideration current costs of the government operating the rail network.

TRAIN SERVICES, COSTS

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (15 October 2020).

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

The Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) will establish a structure to support and manage the new contract arrangement with Keolis Downer.

DIT is in the process of implementing a new structure in the South Australian Public Transport Authority (SAPTA) to manage the train contract including additional shared resources across the SAPTA contract management function that manage the train, tram and bus contracts.

TRAIN SERVICES, COSTS

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (15 October 2020).

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

There will be no additional cost to taxpayers above the \$2.14 billion contract price to Keolis Downer for special event and major event services like the Footy Express.