

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 4 March 2021

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*

#### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: ADELAIDE HIGH SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT**

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:01):** I move:

That the 88<sup>th</sup> report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled Adelaide High School Redevelopment, be noted.

Capital works are required at Adelaide High School to support the transition of year 7 into high school as well as refurbish existing facilities on the school site. When complete, the Adelaide High School redevelopment project is expected to deliver a school enrolment capacity of 1,800 places by 2022. These improvements are also expected to cater for enrolment growth overall, including the transition of year 7 to high school in 2022.

In February 2019, Adelaide High School received \$18 million to facilitate moving year 7 to high school, and in May 2020 a further \$5 million was approved to bring the total project budget to \$23 million. The proposed redevelopment at Adelaide High School includes construction of new works and refurbishment, as I mentioned, to existing facilities on the school site. Specifically, the project will be delivering the construction of new buildings to provide general learning areas, flexible specialist learning areas, teacher preparation areas, storage, amenities, a canteen, a cafe and outdoor learning areas.

The construction of a new storey to an existing building will also form part of the works. An upgraded student courtyard with landscaping and outdoor seating is planned, and general landscaping, including paving, will also be required. The redevelopment works at the Adelaide High School will be staged, with construction expected to be completed by October 2021.

The Public Works Committee has examined written and oral evidence in relation to the Adelaide High School redevelopment project and the committee has been assured by the Department for Education that acquittals have been received from the Department of Treasury and Finance, the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and the Crown Solicitor that works and procedures are lawful. The committee is satisfied that the proposal has been subject to the appropriate agency consultation and meets the criteria for the examination of projects as described in the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991.

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

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (11:04):** I rise in support of the Public Works Committee report. I welcome the \$23 million investment for the expansion of Adelaide High School to allow the year 7s to attend high school. We know that as part of the national curriculum throughout Australia we are the last state to follow, to have year 7 going into high school.

Personally, as a young person born in Melbourne in Victoria, coming to South Australia in year 9 was a great disadvantage because in Victoria year 7 was already part of high school. In any of the subjects where the texts were in form 1, form 2, form 3, I was repeating when I came to South Australia, whereas the subjects that were taught in year levels—years 7, 8 or 9—were equivalent. It was very difficult.

We know that in Australia we have a transient population that does move from state to state. I welcome that for the first time we have net migration into South Australia, which is something to be

celebrated. More people are moving to South Australia because of our wonderful handling of the COVID pandemic and the opportunities that exist in our state. However, it has been a long time coming that we should standardise our education system in line with the national curriculum, so that specialist teachers are available in the high school years from year 7, to teach maths and science in particular—but all the subjects are very important.

Adelaide High School is not only a very popular school but a very high performing school, and it is a very highly sought after school to gain access to. I also welcome our government's push—when in opposition as well—for the residents of Prospect to be part of the zone and to have a second high school, which we now have, and a shared zone. It is still incredibly popular, and there are a lot more families moving into the Adelaide electorate and the zones that make up both Botanic High and Adelaide High School.

This will be a wonderful addition. As we have just heard, there will be a new Hive building to provide general learning areas, flexible specialist learning areas, teacher preparation, storage, amenities, canteen, cafe and outdoor learning areas. It is something to be welcomed and applauded, and I am really pleased with this \$23 million investment to expand Adelaide High School so that year 7 can start in 2022.

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills) (11:07):** I, too, am very supportive of this report and the outcomes it will deliver for many of the people who live in the seat of Unley. Those who live in the west of the seat of Unley are also in the zone for Adelaide High School. The capacity of Adelaide High School has been a contentious issue for a very long time. When I first became the shadow minister for education (this was back in 2007) immediately my phone started to ring regularly about the capacity of Adelaide High School for people in the then Labor-held seat of Adelaide. Jane Lomax-Smith was the education minister at the time and she was the member for that seat.

The previous government's solution for the people of Prospect, of course, was to build a high school further north, and that was simply unacceptable for the people of Prospect. We went to the election in 2010 with a plan for a second city high school. That gave the people of Prospect an alternative, and it vindicated their concerns because they were able to voice that opinion at the ballot box. It was only then that we saw a shift, with the progress being made for more public education facilities within the CBD.

Adelaide High School, together with Botanic High, has a very wide reach around the inner suburbs, right through from Goodwood and parts of Unley, in my electorate, to the inner north-eastern suburbs. What is also exciting about this project from my point of view, as the Minister for Innovation and Skills, is that for the first time grade 7 will be in high school in South Australia, bringing us in line with the rest of the nation.

What is even more exciting is that it is this year that students will be introduced to options for career pathways, whether that be a pathway through the emerging system or whether that be a pathway that has been ignored for so long under the previous government, and that is pathways through apprenticeships and traineeships through vocational education. Having an early introduction to pathway options for students will help guide them with their education and deliver students in the later part of their high school education the ability to make decisions about which career pathways they would like to take and to be guided by industry input and those who are supporting them in the system as to where the biggest opportunities are.

How often do you meet a year 11 or 12 student who, when you ask them what they are going to be doing after they finish year 12, still has not made a decision? They still do not know what all the options are. They still have not had the chance to seriously consider them. That process will be brought forward now under the scheme that the education minister has pulled together with our pathways program in our high schools.

I am very pleased that the Department for Innovation and Skills has been working very closely with the education minister to ensure that what students are experiencing in school will actually prepare them for the workforce. I am very excited about the growth we have had in school-based apprenticeships since Minister Gardner made changes and reforms in that space and,

again, that was listening to industry: what is it that you need to engage in the vocational education sector?

The Department for Education was able to remove some barriers for employers that prevented them from participating. That has seen a dramatic increase—the largest increase in Australia—of school-based apprenticeships. As a matter of fact, in many states, school-based apprenticeships have gone backwards, while ours have been going forward. This is good news for South Australia because we are finally here. We are in the transforming economy.

For about a decade, I can remember Premier Rann and Premier Weatherill telling South Australians that the economy was transforming. Well, it is here now. There are new jobs. There are new skills that are needed, and having a strong vocational education sector that starts with the introduction of opportunities and pathways to students from schools, in which Adelaide High School will play a very strong role as it is such a big school, is very exciting for employers and it is very exciting for parents who have strong aspirations for their children.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (11:13):** I am really pleased to have the opportunity to reflect on the outstanding work that is being done at Adelaide High School. I will not repeat the outstanding contributions of the Chair of the Public Works Committee, the member for Kavel, and the local members for the school, the member for Adelaide and the member for Unley, who undoubtedly through their comments today have reflected their passion for this development and the outstanding work that is able to be done at Adelaide High School.

We know that it is a school with a very strong reputation and a very high level of desirability for students to attend there. Its current enrolments are at 1,464, and we are increasing the capacity of this school to 1,800, alongside the increased capacity that Adelaide Botanic High School has provided in the last couple of years. Those students entered at the beginning of 2019 with years 8 and 9. Last year, it included year 10 and this year 11s as well, and next year will be the first class of year 12s from Adelaide Botanic High School. That reflects the outstanding confidence that people in this area have in their local public high schools. BADGE Constructions is doing very good work to complete a design that was put forward by JPE Design Studio, and I commend them for that.

The \$23 million program is about not just increasing capacity but ensuring the school has the relevant specialist learning areas and general learning areas that a school deserves and that the students at this school deserve. I commend the school leadership—Cez Green is a great principal and is very well regarded throughout the system—and the governing council, which of course includes the member for Adelaide, for the work that they have done too, not just as part of this program but throughout the other opportunities they have seized.

The recent redesign and delivery of an absolutely world-class performing arts space for a very modest budget, which the school has been able to fund out of its own resources, was spectacular. It was wonderful to see the engagement from so many people around the Adelaide High School community, and indeed old scholars who have gone on to great things around the world, sending in their good regards to the students at Adelaide High today who are now accessing those facilities. Indeed, we know the STEM programs, the language programs and the VET programs across Adelaide High are outstanding.

Since July 2019, Adelaide High has benefited from the swift internet rollout the government has delivered, taking internet speeds in our schools in South Australia from the slowest on the mainland to the fastest in Australia. That is a very positive outcome for the school as well, which Adelaide High School uses to its fullest capacity in the way they deliver their curriculum.

I commend the school for the work they have done in supervising and managing this project. This project was announced in early 2019 and is fully funded by this government, and we look forward to its delivery before the beginning of term 1 next year. I cannot wait to see the impact it is going to have on the school, making sure these students at Adelaide High get the world-class education facility they deserve.

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:16):** I recognise at the outset the member for Adelaide, the minister, for her extraordinary contribution to seeing this project through. She is a powerful advocate for her community and works closely with the school community and the school governing council. It is a significant investment, as I have outlined and the member for Unley has also outlined. Can I

emphasise how significant it is that the Minister for Education has carried not only this project through to near completion but also an extraordinary capital works program across our whole state. It is a very significant achievement of this government and I know it is very welcome not just in Adelaide but elsewhere.

Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: ELIZABETH NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT**

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:17):** I move:

That the 91<sup>st</sup> report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled Elizabeth North Primary School Redevelopment, be noted.

The Elizabeth North Primary School redevelopment project will be delivering a total school enrolment capacity of 700 places by 2022. The proposed scope of works for the primary school redevelopment includes the provision of two new permanent modular buildings. This will include general learning areas, serviced learning areas, a breakout space, teacher preparation areas, withdrawal rooms, student and disability access amenities and a sensory room. The project will also include the demolition of aged transportable classrooms on the school site.

Elizabeth North Primary School was allocated funding of \$5 million as part of the Department for Education's capital works program announced in October 2017. In October 2019, the state government approved the Elizabeth North Primary School capital works project to be delivered as part of a modular education facilities program.

The Public Works Committee received written and oral evidence in relation to the project. The committee is satisfied the proposal has been subject to the appropriate agency consultation and meets the criteria for the examination of projects as described in the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991. Based on the evidence considered, and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act, the Public Works Committee recommends to parliament that the proposed scope of works be approved.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (11:19):** I am really pleased to be able to reflect on the outstanding work being done at the Elizabeth North Primary School, both throughout the school year and as part of this program. We have a \$5 million build underway, and we are looking forward to it being completed during the course of this year and hopefully in use—we definitely want it to be in use by the beginning of next year, but I am optimistic that it will be in use well before the end of this school year.

The work comprises new modular facilities, as the member for Kavel described. Indeed, it is the first one of these projects completed at the beginning of this year from the schedule at Le Fevre High School. To reflect briefly on this, since the extraordinary investment, the \$1.3 billion record school infrastructure build that has been underway now, and since the beginning of this project, one of its impacts has been a significant number of new investments in modular facilities.

These are not the old transportables of the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s that in many cases are a bit of an eyesore across our education facilities in South Australia. These modern modular facilities are extraordinarily user friendly. They are excellent spaces, they are large classrooms, and they are indeed also science labs, drama spaces and dance spaces. They are very flexible in what can be created as a result of the technologies now being used in delivering modular facilities.

Sir, in your own electorate, we know the impact that some of these modern modulars have had on the Eastern Fleurieu School since their delivery in the last year and a half or so. Indeed, I was pleased to see that, as part of the broader program, more of these modular facilities were delivered at Eastern Fleurieu just this week, which are now being plumbed in.

The benefits of the modern modular facilities, where they are appropriate to be used, are significant because in many cases they are cheaper than a traditional bricks-and-mortar build. As a result of this investment, they are now seeing a significant number of new jobs here in South Australia, as South Australian companies—Ausco, Sarah Constructions and others—and other investments in South Australia build the capacity to build these modulars. The price of the modulars is coming down but the quality is significant.

They are not appropriate for all schools, and we are not trying to impose them on all schools, but there are opportunities in a number of the schools where we have building works for these modular facilities to provide the school with much more than they would otherwise have been able to get. There are also advantages to manufacturing off site and delivering on site, because it means that the disruption to the school that can happen while a school infrastructure program is underway is reduced significantly.

Rather than a section of the school where the building is going up being potentially unusable for the school for two terms or more, some of the modular facilities are able to be delivered on site and then the work is done on site within six to eight weeks, potentially—or potentially even less, depending on the individual circumstances. It is still a good outcome for South Australian jobs, because of course in the modular construction industry itself there are jobs, and then there are many jobs for local tradies in doing the work on site as those facilities are being delivered. That is certainly going to be the case at Elizabeth North Primary School.

I would like to congratulate the architects at Das Studio; Fleetwood Australia, who are the builders in this case; the principal, Graham Wood; and the school leadership team. The school's governing council is of course doing terrific work for the 608 students they have at the school now. It is a high-demand school in the area. That capacity will grow as a result of this set of building works. We are also seeing the demolition and removal of some of the aged infrastructure, which is being replaced with these world-class, modern facilities. I cannot wait to see them in action.

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:23):** I acknowledge the contribution of the Minister for Education and refer to my earlier remarks emphasising the extraordinary capital works program that he has seen through, not just in relation to Elizabeth North Primary School but right across the state. I also wish to emphasise and record our thanks for the work of Graham Wood, principal, and the governing council in seeing this project through.

Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: GREENWITH PRIMARY SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT**

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:24):** I move:

That the 92<sup>nd</sup> report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled Greenwith Primary School Redevelopment Project, be noted.

Mr Speaker, as you will know, but particularly the member for King will also know, Greenwith Primary School is located on Golden Grove Road, Greenwith, in the City of Tea Tree Gully. Greenwith Primary School was allocated funding of \$5 million as part of the Department for Education's capital works program.

The proposed redevelopment will consist of demolition and new works to accommodate 750 students on the Greenwith Primary School site. The key drivers for the redevelopment proposal are to provide accommodation and support contemporary teaching and learning, to demolish aged relocatable accommodation on the school site, including removing asbestos, and to improve street presence and the school's connectivity to the community.

The redevelopment project will provide modern educational accommodation, will meet legislative compliance requirements and deliver the department's benchmark accommodation for students in a primary school. The key outcomes at the completion of this project will be to provide contemporary learning areas to support 21<sup>st</sup> century learning pedagogy, to develop creative, flexible learning spaces to enhance student engagement and allow collaborative teaching practices, and to replace aged buildings with new, more efficient facilities.

The proposed redevelopment at Greenwith Primary School will be staged, with construction expected to be completed in the course of this year. The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to this project and received assurances that the appropriate consultation had been undertaken. The committee is satisfied that the proposal has been subject to the appropriate agency consultation and meets the criteria for the examination of projects, as described in the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991.

Based on the evidence considered and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Public Works Committee reports to parliament that it recommends the proposed public works. It is also important for me to emphasise the passion, commitment and

determination of the member for King to see this project through. She is closely familiar with the needs of this school community and of students across her community and families, who are very appreciative of her ongoing advocacy, and she should be particularly proud this day, as we are as well.

**Ms LUETHEN (King) (11:26):** It is with great pleasure that I rise to speak about this upgrade at the Greenwith Primary School. I thank the Public Works Committee and the member for Kavel for all their fantastic work to recommend this and get it to this point as well. This is a \$5 million facility upgrade, thanks to the Marshall Liberal government, delivering for the local King community. It is a new two-storey permanent modular facility, including general learning areas, service learning areas, performance-based practice, withdrawal rooms, breakout spaces, teacher preparation space and disability access toilets in this upgrade.

It has been going since November 2020, and we have had to make quite a few changes with the construction going on. I want to thank the local community for their patience and adjusting the way that they do their drop-offs so that this construction can take place. I want to thank the school for the wonderful communications they have put out, letting people know how this will take place, how we can adjust in terms of where we are kissing and dropping our children with the gates closed around this area.

What has also been excellent is the way that this build has been planned so it is both on site and off site, to help the school community be able to get on with going to school while this exciting build takes place and to ensure the safety of everyone during this time. I am advised that the construction is expected to be completed over the next couple of months, which is very exciting. The Department for Education is keeping the community and stakeholders updated as this important project progresses.

I want to thank all the stakeholders, the school and local community for their ongoing support for Greenwith Primary School. We look forward to celebrating these wonderful new school facilities once they are all complete. We were very fortunate to have the input of our 2020 school leaders into the important learning information on what this new building would look like. I want to thank every community member and every student who had input into how we could create a world-class environment in Greenwith and how we will deliver our school services, both now and after this build takes place.

I commend the educators and leaders at Greenwith Primary School for the way they have included the students in this build. There are lots of fantastic photos of the students being involved in the planning of this site and the students having their say. In addition, during the pandemic, even more widely in the seat of King, the Marshall Liberal government has fast-tracked maintenance on projects as part of the \$32 million stimulus package to support our schools. There is certainly lots of building going on in the seat of King.

Just over a week ago, I attended the Greenwith Primary School AGM and I want to thank every member there and the principal for running an excellent AGM. The principal, Tanja Antoun, gave her update, and what really stood out was the amount that has been achieved in the past 12 months during the pandemic, not only on this build but also at the school. So much progress has been made and the school community should feel proud of what is happening at Greenwith Primary School.

I want to thank all the new members of the committee who put their hand up to be part of the governing council as well. I look forward to catching up with the new chair and the principal in Parliament House very soon as well. I also want to thank the Minister for Education for his visits to Greenwith Primary School and for supporting the collaborative way in which the build and the designs have been taking place and for his support for all the schools in the King community. Thank you to everyone involved for helping us make the progress to deliver what matters in the seat of King.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (11:31):** I will not repeat some of the excellent words that have been put forward already by the member for Kavel as the Chair of the Public Works Committee and the member for King as the passionate local member who is very interested in the redevelopment of the Greenwith Primary School. But I would like to say a couple of extra things to briefly summarise what is a \$5 million project.

They are outstanding 21<sup>st</sup> century world-class modular facilities that are replacing some very aged and dated facilities at a school that is thriving, a school that when I have visited it has had engaged students, passionate educators and very strong leadership from the principal, Tanja Antoun. The governing council I am sure—which, as we have been advised by the member for King, has a number of new members—will find the completion of this project in the coming months an outstanding launch for the rest of their term and for all the students who will benefit from it in the years ahead.

I would like to briefly congratulate the architects, Das Studio, and the builders, Sarah Constructions, an outstanding South Australian firm, who are working with the department and with the project managers at Sensum to make sure this project goes extremely well. We cannot wait to see the completed works not too far away. I look forward to seeing the students being able to access these facilities before the end of this year.

Greenwith Primary School is an interesting location in that it shares its campus with one of the local Catholic primary schools. There is even a shared reception area and a number of shared facilities. The kids get along very well, as kids tend to do. I commend the leadership and the schools for the way that they can do that in a collaborative way. I also identify their collaboration with the local council and I am pleased to say that some of the shared use facilities are with the council.

We have been working with the school, through the department's legal services team and the council, and that long discussion has concluded in what I believe is a positive way. The school's continued use and the council's continued shared facilities will be an outstanding benefit to the local community, particularly to the students of this school. I look forward to seeing the project completed on time and on budget.

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:33):** I earlier mentioned that it is a great pleasure to bring this project forward. I think that all members present have benefited from the member for King outlining some of the benefits for her community, in addition to the benefits that the minister and I have outlined. I said earlier that it is a proud day for all of us. It should be a very proud day too for the member for King.

I emphasise that point because she has been a very strong advocate, not just in relation to this project but also in relation to a large number of other projects that come before the Public Works Committee. I am very appreciative of her consistently raising with me matters important to her community in relation to public works and I am sure the minister, if he were still on his feet and had additional time, would emphasise that too. The number of times that she is in front of ministers is extraordinary. She is an absolute champion for her community, and we are very appreciative of the work that she has done to see this project to completion.

Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: ARDTORNISH PRIMARY SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT**

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:34):** I move:

That the 93<sup>rd</sup> report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled Ardtornish Primary School Redevelopment Project, be noted.

**Mr CREGAN:** It certainly is a pleasure to bring up the 93<sup>rd</sup> report of the Public Works Committee, entitled Ardtornish Primary School Redevelopment Project. The primary school is located in Saarinen Avenue, St Agnes, in the city of Tea Tree Gully. The school site has ageing accommodation and transportable amenities requiring relocation. This project also forms part of the extraordinary capital works program that the very diligent Minister for Education has been seeing through in the 35 months of this government. The school was allocated funding of \$5 million as part of the Department for Education's capital works program. The Department for Education has advised that the proposed primary school project will deliver a total school enrolment capacity of 600 places by 2022. Ardtornish Primary School has 545 enrolments as of February 2020.

The scope of the redevelopment work at the primary school includes the construction of a new modular building, including general learning areas, breakout spaces with wet areas, student disability amenities, storage, teacher preparation, withdrawal spaces with connection to the oval and nature play spaces, demolition of ageing buildings and the relocation of transportable amenities to another school site. When complete, the redevelopment project will provide modern educational

accommodation, meet legislative compliance requirements and deliver the department's benchmark accommodation for students in a primary school.

The key outcomes required at the completion of this project are to provide contemporary learning areas that support 21<sup>st</sup> century learning pedagogy, to develop creative, flexible learning spaces to enhance student engagement and allow collaborative teaching practices and to replace aged buildings with new, efficient facilities. The primary school redevelopment project will be staged, with construction expected to be completed in the course of this year.

The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to the project and received assurances that the appropriate consultation in relation to this project had been undertaken. I also report to parliament that the committee is satisfied that the proposal has been subject to the appropriate agency consultation and meets the criteria for the examination of projects set out in the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991. Based on the evidence considered, and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Public Works Committee reports to the house that it recommends the scope of the proposed public works that I have earlier mentioned.

**Dr HARVEY (Newland) (11:37):** I rise with great pleasure today to talk about this project at Ardtornish Primary School, a fantastic local primary school within the north-east. I would like to commend firstly the Public Works Committee for all its work but also, importantly, the Marshall Liberal government for its significant support for school infrastructure not just in my electorate but right across our state. We are providing educational institutions that already do a wonderful job in terms of their teaching outcomes with world-class facilities to back that up.

Ardtornish Primary School is led by a fantastic team. The school's principal, Mark Hansen, does a wonderful job, as does deputy principal, Deb Pryor. On top of that, it is supported by the broader school community through an energetic governing council led by Corinne Walding. This primary school engages very much with its local community, particularly during the annual Tea Tree Gully Christmas pageant, when it holds a local fete on its oval. I have been able to attend a number of times, but unfortunately not last year due to COVID. Hopefully, into the future it will continue to engage the community in this way.

Ardtornish is quite a large local primary school with more than 500 students. It is very popular. There is actually quite incredible demand for it, as it has wonderful outcomes for students. The school is led by Mark Hansen, who has a really strong passion for and understanding of the importance of literacy in those early years. In fact, he was seconded by the department to help roll out the year 1 phonics check a couple of years ago right across the state—unsurprisingly, given that Ardtornish has some very strong outcomes for literacy in those early years, and we know how important it is to get those literacy skills in the very first years of school.

I am also pleased that Ardtornish Primary School participated in my most recent Christmas card competition just at the end of last year, and the year 3/4 classes all entered their designs. They selected from their own group the top 10 designs, and from there I was forced to make that unenviable decision of choosing a winner. In the end, Max was successful with his surfing Santa design, which I thought was something a bit different, and I know that quite a few people through the community who have received these Christmas cards were very pleased.

The school community, including past students, are incredibly excited about this upgrade. There is no doubt that there are some very tired and old buildings at Ardtornish Primary School that are well due for replacement. In fact, some of them have been sinking at one end, so they are very excited to see this project underway.

I visited not that long ago—a number of months ago now—with the Minister for Education, and we saw all the temporary prefab modular classrooms being set up, which was a fantastic set-up. A local firm, Centina, was doing this work. The quality of these classrooms, as the Minister for Education mentioned earlier, is not like the old days of the old style of transportables. These really are very good. In fact, many of the teachers and students commented on how much of a step up even the temporary situation was from what they had. They mentioned it very quietly of course because they are still very keen to have the upgrade, but nonetheless were very pleased with what the temporary classrooms were able to achieve.



The demolition works have been completed for this project and construction is about to start soon. The project is a \$5 million upgrade with construction of a new modular building, including learning areas, breakout space with wet areas, student and disability amenities, storage, teacher preparation areas and withdrawal spaces, with connections to the oval and nature play spaces. I think it will be a fantastic addition to this wonderful school.

I am very pleased for this school to be benefiting from this fantastic project and from the support from the Marshall government. It is a fantastic school already achieving great outcomes for the school community, but now it will be backed up and improved even further through the construction of these world-class facilities. I would like to thank once again the Public Works Committee for its work and certainly commend this report to the house.

*Parliamentary Procedure*

**VISITORS**

**The SPEAKER:** I draw honourable members' attention to the presence in the Speaker's gallery of Mr Norman Schueler OAM, who is Chairman of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission. Mr Schueler has also been President of the Jewish Community Council of South Australia since 1994, and he is also currently a director of the National Australia Day Council. I welcome you to the house, Mr Schueler.

*Parliamentary Committees*

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: ARDTORNISH PRIMARY SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT**

Debate resumed.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (11:43):** I am very pleased to rise briefly and reflect on the Public Works Committee report into the enhancements to Ardtornish Primary School that are currently underway. There is not a lot to add to what the member for Newland and the member for Kavel have already identified. I will just reflect briefly that when I visited the Ardtornish Primary School most recently with the member for Newland in late October last year, the temporary accommodation that the school community was going to be using while their main area was being demolished and before the new areas were constructed was in the middle of being installed.

Looking at some of that temporary accommodation that the students are in at the moment, it was definitely the case that there were reflections from staff members on how much better that temporary accommodation was than the facilities that have been at Ardtornish, highlighting the need for this project, which has probably been building and building for a significant number of years. The government is very pleased to be investing \$5½ million in the enhancements to Ardtornish Primary School, servicing more than 500 students in the local area around the school.

Das Studio and Fusco Constructions and the modular builders outlined by the member for Newland are doing terrific work, and Mark Hansen and the team at Ardtornish are creating the learning environments for their students that will see them thrive, succeed and prosper in the years ahead. The member for Newland identified some of the engagement that the school has had with the broader department and schools around South Australia in being able to replicate their steps forward in phonics teaching and early years literacy. That has seen in Ardtornish Primary School significant steps forward in recent years.

One of the other areas in which Ardtornish Primary School is a leader in the state is in their use of the internet, engaging with students in the delivery of their learning throughout their years. There are a number of explicit and project-based tasks for which the school is able to use the internet. When we upgraded the speed of the internet at Ardtornish Primary School in April 2019, as part of the Marshall Liberal government's swift internet upgrade program, which took our internet speeds in schools from the slowest on the mainland to the fastest in Australia, the IT guys at Ardtornish told me that they reckoned that it was not the 100 times faster that the department had put in their notes for me when I was visiting, but that the reliable speed was actually 1,000 times faster than it used to be at that site.

The difference is in what is able to be done at that school. The teachers described being hesitant and cautious about undertaking any lesson planning that involved the use of computers and the internet, when a teacher would be thinking, 'If we start with everybody working on the internet at

the beginning of the lesson, if the classroom next door also starts using the internet, half our students are going drop out or experience dramatic drops in speeds.'

That was what was facing teachers prior to the upgrade in 2019. Now the classes across the school can all be switched on at once and the speed of the internet availability is there and reliable. It is that reliability that is even more profound in terms of the impact for teachers planning their lessons than speed alone, although the improvements in speed are significant.

To go alongside that enhancement of the school's internet infrastructure, we now have the enhancements to the school's built infrastructure, and I cannot wait to see the steps forward the school will continue to take in the years ahead.

**Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (11:47):** I will make a few brief remarks about Ardtornish Primary School, which is a really remarkable school. I have had the benefit of being able to watch it grow since the early 1990s, when some people may remember the old Holden Hill North Primary School, which existed on the site of what is now a retirement village. In those days, when we lost that school, Ardtornish was a little school (St Agnes was a much larger school further down the road), but Ardtornish was the school that grew and grew, under a remarkable line of school leaders and a school community that never knew the word 'can't'—it always made sure it did.

I have been able to sponsor a music prize there for well over 20 years now, and it has been amazing to see the children and the growth in their learning. Credit must be given to the current government for what is truly an extraordinary capital grants program. Some of the transportables at Ardtornish could even be as old as me, I think.

*An honourable member interjecting:*

**Ms BEDFORD:** Older? I do not know, but they would certainly be sagging at one side if they were. Some of the transportables in our area, which still exist as learning spaces in our schools in the north-east, are well past their use-by date, so I commend the government and the minister and also acknowledge his passion for making sure the internet speed is as fast as it is.

As has been said, the phonics champion is their principal, Mark Hansen, another person who does not know the word 'no'. Their graduation ceremonies every year are always an amazing event, well supported by the whole school community. I must also mention that Katherine Nairn, who is retiring as the governing council leader, and her family have made a remarkable contribution to the school.

I know every school is grateful for any capital grants works that are done, and I know every school is really anxious to stretch any dollars they are able to use to the utmost. Not necessarily at this school, but at other schools, I know they are often very disappointed when the grants and the works they think are going to be done meet with unexpected expenses and they then have to lose out or rejig the building program they have.

It is a real credit to them that they have managed to squeeze so much out and now give their students this 21<sup>st</sup> century learning space. As I said, I know there are a lot of schools in the north-east area, particularly Ingle Farm East Primary School, which had a special school area needing some refurbishment. I am very grateful to the government for all it has done, and I certainly pay credit to all the people involved in the wider school community who work so hard to make sure their students have every opportunity in their learning journeys.

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:50):** I acknowledge the members for Newland and Florey for their passion and commitment to their respective communities and also to the Ardtornish Primary School community. I should emphasise the member for Newland is a very frequent inquirer in relation to Public Works business and an absolutely passionate champion for his community and for important public works and infrastructure programs that are necessary to support his community, and the member for Florey likewise in relation to projects within her community. I think it is right for me to acknowledge Katherine Nairn and her work as retiring governing council chair to see this project through to conclusion.

Although members have earlier heard me in relation to this topic, it bears repeating that the minister has indeed seen through a very substantial capital works program in the 35 months—just 35 months—of this government, compared to 16 years of the previous government. It is an

extraordinary program and one that will be valued for many years to come by communities, including the member for Florey's and the member for Newland's separate communities, as well as communities right across the state.

For those who believe very passionately in public education, as I do and as the minister does, as do those members present and all those in this house, the value of these assets and improvements simply cannot be overstated.

Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: MODBURY HIGH SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT**

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:52):** It also gives me great pleasure to move:

That the 94<sup>th</sup> report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled Modbury High School Redevelopment Project, be noted.

Mr Speaker, as you will be aware, Modbury High School is located on Pompoota Road, Modbury, within the City of Tea Tree Gully. The Modbury High School curriculum focuses on science, technology, engineering and maths—sometimes referred to as STEM—music, sport, language and performing arts and offers vocational education and training pathways.

Modbury High School was allocated funding of \$7 million as part of the Department for Education's capital works program. The redevelopment will consist of demolition, new works and refurbishment of existing facilities to accommodate up to 1,100 students on the Modbury High School site. The Modbury High School redevelopment project will include the construction of a new year 7 building with additional music rooms, refurbishment of the student wellbeing area, refurbishment and extension of the technical studies area, demolition of transportable buildings, and landscaping and external works to upgrade the school's environment.

The proposed redevelopment works will be staged, with construction expected to be completed by September 2021. The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to the project and received assurances that the appropriate consultation in respect of the project had been undertaken. The committee is satisfied that the proposal has been subject to the appropriate agency consultation and does meet the criteria for the examination of projects as described in the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991.

Based on the evidence considered, and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act, the Public Works Committee reports to parliament that it recommends the proposed scope of public works. I hope that in the time remaining there is an opportunity for members who wish to make a contribution to do so, so I will cease speaking now.

**Dr HARVEY (Newland) (11:54):** I will make some very brief remarks in the interest of time. I commend the fantastic local community school led by Joanne Costa, the principal, and Martin Crabb, the governing council chair. I also had the great pleasure of meeting their new school captains at their recent leadership assembly, Ryan and Klio, as well as their vice-captains, Cooper and Sumbica.

I would also like to acknowledge a couple of other students within their Student Voice program, who were very keen to get a photo with me and have it put on social media, apparently to give them street cred. I have to say, that has never happened to me throughout my entire life, so I was very pleased by that. That Instagram post went very well once the school students worked out that it was online.

This is a fantastic outcome for a wonderful local school. It is a fantastic local community school that really encourages the local community to get involved as well as empowers many of their school leaders to take on important tasks, such as assemblies and the opening of their STEM works, which I think is a wonderful thing to see. I am certainly really pleased to see this project going ahead and would like to thank the Public Works Committee once again for their work on this project.

**Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (11:55):** Again, I would like to commend the government and the Public Works Committee. This is a really welcome and long overdue improvement to Modbury High School, which has a long and proud tradition of delivering world-class students—I say that because so many of their students have gone on to have perfect scores, travel the world and be good at everything they have done—who make contributions to society at almost every level.

As the member for Kavel said, they have a wonderful music program, which I have been associated with through the Generations in Jazz program from my very earliest times in the area. We also need to talk about their Pedal Prix commitment. While this may not necessarily have a Pedal Prix commitment, the Pedal Prix people play a big role at Modbury High School.

As has been said, the governing councils have always played a major role at Modbury High. We have had some really great chairs, Julie Caust being the one I most remember of recent times but also Richard Murphy. Their families have played a large role in everything that has gone on in the school for many years. As I said, every school is grateful for assistance. I know that Para Hills High is looking forward to getting its turn in the not too distant future. I again commend everyone involved in this wonderful refurbishment.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (11:56):** I am really pleased to reflect on the \$7 million project at Modbury High School. I have visited a couple of times with Richard Harvey as the local member, although I identify that they draw their students in their zone from the member for Florey's electorate and from my electorate too. Students from Highbury and Vista in the Morialta electorate are zoned to Modbury High School. This is a school that has some really outstanding facilities.

I will not repeat some of the really great projects that the member for Newland and the member for Florey identified. I will add one that I was really pleased to see when I visited on one occasion not so long ago. The F1 in Schools Aspect Racing team that Modbury High School has does so well. That high-level STEM thinking is so advantageous to those students. In the F1 in Schools program, there are those more entrepreneurial skills that help them develop as well. When I was there on one of my visits in 2019 or 2020, that display was right at the front of the school.

Right next to it, the Modbury Rotary club has their outstanding student award honour board. I cannot go without mentioning that the 1989 winner of the outstanding student award for the Modbury Rotary club at Modbury High School was one Sascha Meldrum, who now holds the very important role of State Director of the South Australian Liberal Party, where she is continuing to apply the outstanding learning she gained at Modbury High School for the betterment of the people of South Australia. I thank her for that work, and I thank her teachers for their great work.

Congratulations to Joanne Costa and the leadership team at Modbury High School. Hames Sharley SA were the architects and Axis Constructions were the builders. Currently, the student population is 750 or thereabouts. It will be growing to 1,100.

There are two aspects of the school that I want to really briefly reflect on. The really, really old transportables at the edge of the open space, looking down over it, are being replaced with a fantastic new facility. My goodness, they were some of the oldest and worst transportables I have seen. I think they did such a good job in being able to teach anything there beforehand. The new improvements to the wellbeing space, along with the rest of the build, will be a great facility for the students at Modbury high for many years to come.

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:59):** In the few seconds remaining, can I thank the members who have spoken for their contributions, their passion for their communities and, as I earlier remarked, their real passion for public education.

Motion carried.

### *Bills*

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MULTICULTURAL BILL**

### *Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 14 October 2020.)

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills) (12:00):** I would like to make a contribution on the bill. In doing so, I would like to reflect on just how far we have come since the postwar migration boom here in Australia—in South Australia in particular—and look at the history of where we started, where we are now and part of the journey along the way.

We know that for the first 100-odd years of the colonies of Australia and then the Federation of Australia that we were predominantly a British colony, and even when we were a nation we still considered ourselves very much a part of Britain. As a matter of fact, Australian citizenship did not come into play until 1949.

It was obviously a big shift in the demographic make-up of Australia when the first migrants came in large numbers as part of the rebuilding program. 'Populate or perish' was the language used by the federal government at the time, and there were particular, very peculiar rules when it came to how people looked. There was a famous dictation test: if somebody had skin of a darker colour, they were asked to pass a dictation test, which could be in any European language. If they were Italians or Greeks, they would be given a dictation test in Lithuanian or in German, for example, and of course they were not going to pass that. It was a very cruel and ignorant way of dealing with the situation.

Having said that, we had a very successful migration program with the first wave of migrants, particularly from my heritage. My father came out in 1952. The Italians and the Greeks came out in equal numbers. Some would argue that there are more Italians than Greeks, and others say that there are more Greeks than Italians, but I would argue that that is because the Greeks are louder than the Italians, and the member for Enfield may agree with that.

What was good about that burst of migration was that it did wonders for the economy here, but it was also the beginning of our cultural diversity that we enjoy today. As a matter of fact, there was a bond formed between the Italians and the Greeks—always being rivals, of course, in their own countries—and there was a saying in Italian 'una faccia, una razza' which meant 'one face, one race' because they were in this together and they were here to benefit their families and for the opportunities that Australia had to offer.

There was a lot of pressure, certainly on my father, to anglicise, to forget about the history or culture you brought with you and to become English, to become Australian. At some stage, he was contemplating changing his name from Pisoni to Pearson, but my mother, who is not Italian and who was born in Australia of German and Austrian heritage, convinced him that it would not be a good idea. I am very pleased that on that occasion he took my mother's advice and we retained the family name.

That was the first wave and we saw the introduction of different ways of doing things. The parents of an old schoolmate of mine came from the Italian speaking part of Croatia, with a very strong work ethic, as all migrants have when they come to this country. He got a job as a painter at the old WRE at Salisbury. He had been there for just a few hours when, at morning smoko, his co-workers pulled him to one side and said, 'Hey, slow down! You're working too hard. You're working too fast.' He said, 'Why? This is how I work all the time.' That was the work ethic, the culture, that came to South Australia with new migrants.

There was quite a bit of resistance. If you ever see the movie *They're a Weird Mob*, which documents a 1960s Italian migrant's journey to Australia, as a light comedy, many of the scenes actually reflect what it was like at that time to be someone from a non-English-speaking background and some of the biases and discrimination they experienced. My father told me that as a young, single man here in Adelaide it was very hard to find a non-Italian girlfriend, for example, because of discrimination against new migrants.

Fortunately, that changed very quickly, as people's ignorance was removed because they worked alongside migrants, their children went to school with their children and, consequently, we saw this wave of postwar migrants become very much part of the South Australian community. They brought a lot to South Australia.

I remember the very first Italian deli in Salisbury, where I grew up, called Sam's deli. When you walked in you could smell the food. It was a lot different from walking into a supermarket where, in those days, most things were in cans, tins and bottles. In this particular deli you had prosciutto, mortadella and parmesan cheese filling the shop with aromas. Those who were unkind described it as the 'smelly deli' because of their ignorance, of course, and because they were not appreciative of what was being introduced to South Australia at the time. I am sure the children of those who used that language enjoy the Italian cuisine that was introduced by Sam's deli in Salisbury.

Then we saw the next wave of migrants come to South Australia. Our Governor, His Excellency Hieu Van Le, was one of the Vietnamese people who fled Vietnam at the end of the

Vietnam War. If you ever have a chance to watch *Migration Nation* you will understand some of that history and why the Vietnamese community had so much respect for Malcolm Fraser. The program tells the story that, despite the fact that Gough Whitlam pulled Australian troops out of Vietnam, he refused to allow the Vietnamese refugees into Australia because he was concerned that, because they were escaping a Communist regime, they would not vote Labor when they arrived. That is documented in that SBS documentary.

It is quite extraordinary that a decision was made based on someone's perception as to how somebody would vote. We all know the Vietnamese community very quickly became part of the South Australian community and that they are freethinking people who vote on merit based on their experiences in Australia. Of course, it was Malcolm Fraser who took a big political risk at the time and said yes to the Vietnamese community.

I can remember, as a young teenager in the late 1970s, our car breaking down and my father calling the RAA from, in those days, the phone box. The RAA mechanic was there and, as he was working on the car, a Vietnamese family drove past and a tirade of racism came from the RAA mechanic. I have to say that even as a young person—I would have been 15 or 16 at the time—to hear that was quite shocking. But that was what that community had to deal with initially when they first came here, before they were appreciated for their contribution and for who they are.

We first saw that with the Greeks and Italians, then we saw it with the Vietnamese; different faces, different languages, different people coming to South Australia. We saw it again with the Afghani community in particular, with the Middle Eastern community coming to South Australia; we saw discrimination or fear because of ignorance of that community. We very quickly learnt that was unfounded.

Then we saw the African refugees, from South Sudan in particular, who are very prominent. Again, when they first arrived there was a lot of community resistance in some pockets of the community. It was not like it was in the fifties, not like it was in the seventies, but it was still there. Again, we are now seeing the tremendous contribution those families are making.

This is how South Australia has evolved from what has been a monocultural, white bread and corned beef culture to one of multiculturalism—and no-one has been asked to give up anything. People have brought things with them, every wave of migration has brought things with them, and one of the most valuable things the new migrant community brings to any community is their aspiration.

Aspiration is infectious. A number of years ago I went to visit Rob Knight out at Fremont high school, a very difficult high school with some very difficult social issues. It had a demographic of many dysfunctional and broken families, and that, of course, led to not a lot of aspiration for students in the schoolyard. However, what Rob Knight was telling me was that the best thing that ever happened to the school was the current—at that time—wave of African migrants coming to the school, because they were so aspirational.

The kids wanted to learn, the kids shared their enthusiasm with the second and third generation welfare families, and he was seeing improvements in their engagement with school. That was another positive from migration to South Australia.

Of course, we are now seeing the impact of the shutting of the borders here in South Australia because of coronavirus. We have seen a slowdown in migration throughout Australia, and that has affected South Australia's agricultural sector, in particular, where we rely heavily on migrants coming to the state on temporary visas. We are now finding out how hard it is to get Australians to do those jobs, yet we know that industry was working extremely well when it had access to migrant labour.

It is a particularly prominent problem in regional South Australia. In the hospitality industry, if you try to get a chef in regional South Australia I am told that only one in every four jobs advertised in regional South Australia are filled. This is a problem at a time when more and more South Australians are choosing to go to regional South Australia for their holidays.

I think it is over \$3 billion that South Australians spend on overseas holidays in a typical year, but we are now seeing them holidaying in South Australia and we are seeing people from other states

discovering what we have here to offer. Many of our hospitality sectors are suffering because that 'tap', if you like, of migrant labour is not there.

Our aim is to encourage many of those people who might come to South Australia on a temporary basis to choose to make it their home. We welcome them, we want them to be part of our community and we value the economic contribution that they make to South Australia. This bill modernises South Australia's values on multiculturalism and it reflects the modern values that South Australia has on multiculturalism.

I like the term 'interculturalism' being introduced for the first time because I think that is a much more accurate description of where we are today. We do not really have sectional communities: everybody is one community and they borrow from each other and share with each other. This is what has made South Australia the wonderful place it is to live and it is what has given us the lifestyle that we enjoy. Consequently, I am very pleased that this bill has been brought to the parliament and we are in a situation now where we can update a long overdue act of parliament.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** And, member for Unley, cars often did break down in the 1970s, didn't they? Member for Hammond.

**Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (12:15):** If we are talking about cars, we had a 1974 HQ with a 308. That was a beautiful wagon and we should never have sold it. It was very reliable.

I rise today to speak in regard to the South Australian Multicultural Bill. I want to acknowledge Norman Schueler who is here today and his work with multicultural communities right across South Australia and beyond. Without multiculturalism, this great state would not be what it is today.

In fact, apart from the first peoples who were here, the Aboriginal peoples, all of us have migrated from somewhere at one particular time or another. I have spoken in this place before about my family, the Pedericks, who came out from England in 1840—in the first 10 years of this state—as pioneers, settling here and making a life in farming, and boot making for a while, and then continuing on with farming and still having the farm to this day. That is the English side of my family.

Then there is the Scottish side, and I am not sure when they came out, with the Craigies and the Patersons coming out from a little place called Kirriemuir. Our farm is still called Kirriemuir because of that link and I am very proud of that. Just for general interest, Kirriemuir is the town that Bon Scott from ACDC grew up in. His contribution to music should be applauded. Certainly, we have all come from across the seas in one way or another. I note that under COVID conditions that has been pulled up seriously at this moment in time, but we will see things improve over time, especially with the rollout of the vaccines, to keep enriching our communities.

I note that in the agriculture sector, whether it is picking fruit or cultivating in horticulture, you could be in the Riverland, through my electorate picking fruit or you could be working around the areas of Parilla, Pinnaroo and Peebinga, in the irrigation area of the Mallee Wells district, a vibrant horticulture district. I commend the Pye family on everything they are doing up there and everything they have done for many years now. They came out from New Zealand and I think they have been in the area for well over 20 years, possibly 30 years. They found the good groundwater around Parilla and then decided to irrigate for potatoes, onions, carrots and other horticultural products to really help this state grow.

I acknowledge the \$40 million they are investing in a new packing shed at Parilla. They will certainly need the support of people from overseas. They have been very reliant on backpackers, who are in very short supply at the moment, as are skilled migrants, regarding filling workplace shortages in South Australia and beyond because of the travel restrictions due to COVID.

It is certainly an area in horticulture where many skilled migrants and a lot of South African farmers are now working throughout the Mallee and other areas operating farms, whether they be irrigation properties on the River Murray or operating in the irrigation sector in groundwater. I welcome their involvement. I know a lot of their families have well and truly integrated into the Mallee. My boys have played footy against their boys. It is great to see that cultural diversity going right across my electorate because they make a great contribution.

The work is vital in the packing sheds or in the cultivation of crops and products. It is just a simple fact that for one reason or another we are totally reliant on migrants to help back up the local workforce and, hopefully, we are turning that around. We are giving \$6,000 grants at the moment to

entice people into the regions. It is a pity that that has to happen because there is so much work available that people can partake in to help support this great state and this nation.

Then there is the next level of value-adding industries in our community, and I look at what is happening in areas surrounding Murray Bridge. There is Costa mushrooms. The Schirripa family started up the mushroom farm, Adelaide Mushrooms. Once they moved out of Aldinga they came to Monarto to have bigger premises. That has recently been doubled by an investment by Costa, the new owners, with a \$90 million injection.

I know for a fact that, apart from local workers who are working there, there are a range of migrants from different backgrounds who come from the surrounding area and also from some of the suburban areas, right up to Elizabeth and Salisbury. I commend them for working in that area. They have managed mushroom growing in a shed environment. I think it is operating on at least two shifts, and obviously the mushrooms are growing 24 hours a day in a controlled environment and everyone is doing magnificent work.

Then we come to the obvious one, the big meatworks, Thomas Foods. It has not been operating since 3 January 2018, but it is back on track after significant investment by both the federal and state governments. I applaud that investment in my area of \$14 million on community roadworks. People keep praising me on the intersection work and how it was built off the Mannum Road to get that access, and the 2.2 kilometre inlet road to where the plant is about to be built so that we can have a beef plant going again at Murray Bridge and then build a sheep processing plant as well.

The simple fact is that we will need 2,000 staff and, for a range of reasons, I believe that many of those staff will have to come to us in some sort of migrant program. I know we used to have the 457 visas and a whole range of other numbers associated with visas. These people make a vital contribution. It is interesting to note that when Thomas Foods burnt down I think 1,500 people were there on that day and 500 were on a backpacker visa arrangement. Whether it is right or wrong, that is the way it works under a backpacker hiring scheme.

Sadly, the fire brought their employer at the time to a halt, but I must commend Thomas Foods for the work they did in relocating people and giving them the offer of going through to Tamworth in New South Wales or doing shifts at Lobethal, which was moved up to be a small stock abattoir, and they are processing sheep and small stock up there as we speak.

Some people took that opportunity and some people did not, but it was a real joy to work with all those people and all those communities. Their lives were severely disrupted. They are very polite people. I acknowledge the work that the Catholic church did in supporting a lot of these people and coming to see me and working through to get good outcomes.

I believe I have told this story in the house before. I think the worker was Filipino; forgive me if she was not. I saw her in the recovery centre a few days after the plant had burned down. She told me the story about what the fire meant for her. What was significant was the work ethic of these migrant communities, and it was really spelled out in the story this girl told me.

They are all evacuating the workroom because it is going up like nothing; it is all burning down before them. When the workers go on a shift or come off a shift, there is a room where they usually wash their boots. This girl promptly grabs the washer hose to wash her boots as she is leaving the building, which is going up in flames behind her. She is one of the last ones out. The supervisor just said, 'Get out! Get out!' That shows the real work commitment of people in that environment. As mad as it sounds, they just knew that that was what you did when you left the floor. The thing is, no-one was ever going back on that floor because it was going up in smoke. It did change a lot of people's lives forever.

Certainly, mainly around Thomas Foods, we have had a lot of migrants from a lot of places. A few years ago now, a large Afghan community came through. In fact, they have their own burial site at the Bremer Road Cemetery in Murray Bridge. They, along with all the different groups and cultures, made a significant contribution. I do not think there are many there now, but certainly they made a significant contribution.

We have had the Chinese and the Sudanese, and a lot of these people are still in the area. We have had Vietnamese, Cambodians and Filipinos, about 30 or 40 different cultures supporting



our community and adding that extra value, building our economy and building the whole strength of the local community. It really does add to the vibrancy. We talk about not just the work that they do in these value-added industries like Thomas Foods but also what they add, because they bring their food and their lifestyle. We have many multicultural days when they display their dancing and other performances to remind us of their links to their former homes. In saying that, they are so happy to also call Australia their home now, and I go to many of their citizenship ceremonies.

Someone made a comment, which was quite a slur really. I went through Thomas Foods only about 2½ weeks before it burnt down, just by chance, and someone said to me, 'How many Australians did you see there?' I said, 'I wouldn't go down that path because I would suggest that out of those 1,500 workers there would have been at least 500 who were naturalised Australians.' What does it matter, as long as they are contributing to our society, contributing to the wealth of our society, which they are doing and will do.

It will be a problem into the future, finding homes for these workers when we need them, especially around Murray Bridge. At the moment, our biggest employer is not operating. It will need to be operating by the end of next year, when it is going to be finished. You cannot get a rental in Murray Bridge. This is part of the growth of people moving into regional areas.

We have a lot of other industry, whether it is light manufacturing with trailers or medium manufacturing with silos, semitrailers and a whole range of things. A lot of service companies are based in Murray Bridge. Obviously, we have more engineering and fire truck servicing and building. There is a huge range of opportunity. Staycrisp lettuce employs a lot of migrant labour as well. You will see their lettuces in many grocery stores across South Australia and Australia. It is the land of opportunity.

I will say that the whole electorate and the state would not function without the valued input of migrants. As I said, I am not fussed whether they are here as backpackers, whether they are here on a visa or whether they are making the change to become Australian citizens: they are well and truly welcome. I know we have a function coming up shortly in Murray Bridge to interact with these communities to keep making them welcome in my area.

In regard to the bill, there has been extensive consultation. It has been introduced to replace the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Acts to build stronger and more vibrant multicultural communities and also to modernise the language used to refer to multiculturalism and reforms the current multicultural commission. Part of the actions of the bill requires the development of a multicultural charter that will lay a foundation for development of future government policies and better services for our community. The bill will also reaffirm the importance of multiculturalism to South Australia and reassert our government's commitment to continue to serve and deliver for the contemporary South Australian multicultural community.

In 2019, our government conducted a legislative review of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act to help shape new legislation, which is why we are here today. The consultation phase of the review featured six community forums, an invitation-only stakeholder workshop, written submissions, an online forum and an online survey via YourSAy. Key themes from the legislative review consultation were:

- the concept of multiculturalism should be modernised to reflect changes in thinking and practices;
- SAMEAC's functions should be modernised;
- the legislation should recognise Aboriginal South Australians as carriers of the original cultures in the state;
- SAMEAC member appointments should be more transparent; and
- the language in the SAMEAC Act should be contemporised.

The South Australian Multicultural Bill 2020 reflects much of the feedback received during this consultation process, and we are certainly very appreciative as the Marshall Liberal government of all those who were involved in the consultation period for their passion and interest in modernising our state's multicultural laws.

We are determined to pass this bill, as it will deliver better services and policies for our community. Our state has certainly been a leader in multicultural affairs legislation for many, many years and we have a proud and justified reputation in this area. It is vital that we continue to underpin policies, programs and activities with contemporary legislation.

In regard to the bill, its language has been refreshed and modernised, with the main changes being the removal of the term 'ethnic' and the introduction of the concept of interculturalism. In the consultations, the term 'ethnic' was widely acknowledged as being outdated and potentially divisive and therefore it was removed. To expand thinking beyond multiculturalism, the concept of interculturalism was incorporated in the legislation as being inclusive, contemporary and encouraging the exchange of ideas between communities.

The bill also requires that a South Australian multicultural charter be prepared and maintained, which will be informed by consultation, be expressed in inclusive and positive language, be aspirational in nature, lay a foundation for development of future government policies and create better outcomes for our whole community. The bill also refines the functions of the renamed multicultural commission, which will be well placed to lead a shift in our thinking about multiculturalism and interculturalism. It also modernises its operation to ensure transparency and consistency with the policy and guidelines for South Australian government boards and committees.

On the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the SAMEAC Act, this bill is a timely reaffirmation of the importance of multiculturalism to South Australia. It reasserts the Marshall Liberal government's commitment to continue to promote and support the contemporary South Australian multicultural community. I want to commend the work that the Hon. Jing Lee in the other place does interacting with multicultural communities. I do not know of anyone else who is so committed to reaching out and working with multicultural communities right across the state, so I really do commend the lead that she takes in that sphere.

As I indicated earlier, not just for my electorate but right across the state, our state would be a far lesser place without all these cultures that come here to live or even visit for a while, as the backpackers do, and learn our beautiful ways and see our beautiful country. We would be a much lesser place. I commend this bill in bringing things forward in a more modern way. May multiculturalism and interculturalism be the lead into the future for working together with everyone in our communities across South Australia.

**Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (12:37):** I rise today to make a contribution to this debate on the South Australian Multicultural Bill. It is one that I welcome and support and that follows our state's strong history and reinforces our strong framework to support a truly multicultural South Australian society.

The bill will replace the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act and will underpin the development of a stronger and more vibrant multicultural community in our state. I note that the language in the bill has been modernised. Importantly, the bill will require the development of a multicultural charter that will underpin the development of future government policies and better services for our community. The development and delivery of the charter is something I look forward to. In particular, I look forward to the ways we may assist in delivering outcomes for my electorate specifically and of course for the state more widely.

From my perspective, the electorate of MacKillop is a great example of cultural diversity and a culturally diverse region. I welcome the modernisation and provisions facilitated through the bill for the benefits I hope they will bring to the multicultural community of my electorate. MacKillop has a rich and diverse multicultural community. Agriculture, agricultural processing and, more specifically, meat processing are key industries facing worker shortages that have been key drivers and have attracted the inward migration of people of many nationalities.

ABS figures for the MacKillop electorate illustrate the changing character of the regional population. Comparisons between the 2006, 2011 and 2016 censuses identify an increase in recent migrant population. This data illustrates that the proportion of residents born in Australia reduced from 86.4 per cent in 2006 to 82.3 per cent in 2016. Census data also illustrates a growth in the number of Afghani-born and Filipino-born resident communities in MacKillop. The Afghani community

grew from 18 people in 2006 to 307 people in 2016. The Filipino community grew from 46 people in 2006 to 312 people in 2016. I expect these growth figures will have continued to grow since then.

In a further signal of change across my electorate, according to the 2016 census, with regard to Naracoorte's population, nearly 20 per cent nominated their country of birth as non-Australian, which highlights the extent of the multicultural community of the area. The importance of the multicultural workforce in MacKillop cannot be underestimated. I am aware that meat processor JBS, in Bordertown, has reported that migrants make up 70 per cent of their 450 strong workforce, while meat processor Teys, based in Naracoorte, has identified that around half of its workforce is comprised of workers from 29 different nationalities.

A vitally important service and support provided for our multicultural community has been the Australian Migrant Resource Centre, which has two branches in the MacKillop electorate, based in Naracoorte and Bordertown. The centre and its activities, which are funded by both the Marshall Liberal government and the commonwealth government, do an important job in providing settlement and community development services to new arrivals. The centre supports migrants and their wider families to enable these people to integrate and participate in the workforce.

I had the great pleasure of attending the opening of the new office facilities for the centre in Naracoorte on 20 February, which was attended by the Governor of South Australia, His Excellency the Hon. Hieu Van Le AC, who was accompanied by Ms Le. The new facility will be of great benefit to our local community, and I anticipate it will support the small team that works from the centre to continue to provide a great service to our community. One of the aims is to provide long-lasting support to migrants and their wider families to enable these communities to integrate and participate in the workforce and in regional life.

The Migrant Resource Centre works closely with settling migrants and enables them to transition and integrate. They help with finding employment opportunities and help promote multiculturalism. I thank the AMRC for its hard work, especially our local offices. They rely heavily on volunteers. These community volunteers work with our migrant community to support them to learn English and to assist them to connect with our community. They support the positive contribution that members of our migrant community make in terms of the regeneration and economic growth of our regional towns.

Another great success story, which is a story of success in multicultural life in the MacKillop electorate, is the success of migrant and local restaurateur, Mr Hafeezullah Haidari. Hafeez has worked to create a very successful business, the restaurant Pearl Continental Australia. Hafeez has been recognised for his success, effort and endeavours, and was a 2018 SA Regional Showcase finalist and a finalist in the Australian Small Business Champion Awards of 2019.

On the weekend of 20 February, I was honoured to attend the opening of Hafeez's new restaurant facility on Smith Street in Naracoorte, the Pearl Continental Australia restaurant. The official opening of the new restaurant facility was conducted by His Excellency the Hon. Hieu Van Le AC. Having the Governor attend the opening of the restaurant is an honour that has been afforded to Hafeez that is a testament to the vision, planning and hard work that he has invested into his business.

In relation to the bill, I again welcome its modernisation. It has been 40 years since the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act commenced. I expect that this bill will build on good work that has been done and continues across the state with regard to our multicultural society. It has been prepared after an extensive community consultation process, and I believe it embodies our government's commitment to deliver effective outcomes for South Australia and the multicultural society.

Coming back to speak to and praise multiculturalism in South Australia, I note how important it is for migrants to come to settle in South Australia, particularly regional South Australia. We have a problem in our regions due to a lack of affordable housing. We have very low unemployment rates; in fact, Bordertown has nearly the lowest unemployment rate in regional Australia but certainly in South Australia due to its size. There are around 1,500 or 2,000 people there. One of the key roles of migrants, and the importance of migrants, is to be able to go to Bordertown and other towns around my region of MacKillop, and in regional South Australia, and fulfill these employment opportunities. They are needed in our regions.

This is actually a really important point: as Western society has become affluent, successful and well educated as we all know, our actual population growth declines. We do not aspire to breed or have children more than replacing mum and dad or maybe not at all, as we become more sophisticated and perhaps life goals change. This has not come recently: it has been ongoing for decades.

This really does highlight that, as a successful Western civilisation, Australia and the state of South Australia will not have huge population growth by our own means. This is why it is so important to attract great migrants who want to participate and have a huge amount of endeavour and determination to better themselves. You see this when migrant families come into our regions with their children and want to get as much of their family into Australia as possible once the ice has been broken there. They do everything they can to build up that family relationship, expertise, education, wealth and buy that family home and vehicle.

The member for Unley highlighted the huge amount of determination these migrants bring. He used the word 'infectious'. It almost leads the way as Australia perhaps becomes complacent with how lucky we are as a lucky country compared with many others around the world. We need to see the determination and perhaps where these people have come from. They can express it in many different ways by their sheer hard work, the way they pull together, the way they pull their own fellow citizens and countrymen together rather than worrying about families in general.

This is actually a role model for our society because, again, I would say that the more affluent we become, the more educated we become, the more isolated we become. We become almost small nuclei of our own 'unwellbeing' as you could call it. We can see that these new migrants come along with their different religions, different behaviours and lead the way that we perhaps have forgotten about.

I am fortunate enough to belong to a family that came to Australia in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, in about 1860. We came from Ireland. We were only in Ireland for about 300 years and were kicked out of Scotland and moved to Ireland. We are not even considered local to Ireland anymore. The point is that we have lost all connection with where we came from. My descendant who arrived in Australia in 1860 had only the clothes he was wearing. He went up to Burra to go mining and discovered that he was a brilliant water diviner and fencer. He became a developer of the arid lands and took up pastoral leases and obviously managed to build a sheep and wool empire that is still going today.

It has been along that journey where we have always recognised recent migrants in our business. We have always participated with any walks of life that wanted to be on the land. I know that in the shearing industry we are very reliant on New Zealanders. We call them Kiwis. They have absolutely propped up the shearing industry, given how hard the work is. I know I have already touched on our abattoirs and meat processors, and the Kiwis and Pacific Islanders from Vanuatu and Fiji are large participants in these industries.

One of the reasons for this is that they are really physically strong for physical type of work, like meat processing, the shearing and wool industry and also looking after livestock, which can have to be done in uncomfortable conditions, as sometimes it is very hot, dry, dusty work. It has been explained that in the shearing industry you need to be almost an elite athlete to be able to shear for eight hours and push down nearly 200 sheep out the porthole. It is almost like you are an elite athlete in that sort of work. This is the sort of work that migrants tend to find themselves doing or participating in because they have that huge amount of determination to better themselves and to get ahead.

They are well rewarded. The money in that industry is rewarding. It does afford them a good life and a good start. A positive with this is that that money goes on to buying a house, settling people in Australia and then going on to educate the next generation. The next generation go through their schooling and do very well, and they usually want to go on to university. Again, they show that same determination through university and into the professions of whatever is out there in Australia.

I note, though, that it is not always about staying local. Once they go through that first and second generation, they move on and aspire to bigger, better and greater things. So it leaves a vacuum there for another group of migrants to come through who we need to continually attract to the regions to keep the workforce going, because Australians generally do not want to do the physical hard work.

This is why we have opened the Naracoorte Migrant Resource Centre, which we opened on 20 February, which has another office in Bordertown. They are so important because there is no point attracting these migrants into our country, into our regional towns, and making life harder for them. They have already had it tough. They have already uprooted their lives from wherever they have come from and taken a leap of faith into Australia, usually on the back of adversity. This is not uncommon; it has happened for about 150 years for all those who have arrived in Australia. Nothing has changed there.

This is an act of encompassing migrants, looking after our migrant population, making sure that they are well resourced and can move ahead. Also, another thing that comes into it is being able to get on and be an Australian. We can help them with the language barriers, and perhaps with our bureaucracy and red tape, as you could call it, like getting a car licence. I know that there are people in Naracoorte who afford their car and time to teach the migrant population how to drive a car so that they can get to work. One of the pitfalls of being out in the regions is that we do not have public transport. They need wheels to be able to move around.

These and other things are what we notice about these migrant resource centres, along with the importance of volunteers. I know that we have volunteers in these centres who teach English. A lot of them do not have teaching qualifications, but some do. Some are retired teachers who come in to help teach the migrants. This is all to help with this transformation of where our migrants have come from. I made mention of the Afghans, and I made mention of the Filipinos. English is foreign to them. English is a tough language. It is one of the toughest languages to learn of all the languages around the world.

Anything we can do to make the transition for this migrant population as welcoming and as easy as possible is a great thing for our regions. I have heard of a couple of great success stories, including one about an Afghani who came to the Naracoorte region in the 1980s, or perhaps a bit later in the 1990s. He has been here for 20-odd years and he has a workforce of nearly 700 behind him helping other Afghans get into vineyard work to work contracts. He has done very well by helping out his fellow countrymen. Not only has he helped out his own countrypeople but he has helped our vineyard industry because we find it hard to get Australians out into the vineyards.

They start early, they work in big groups, they back each other up, they learn these skills and obviously they are of great benefit to the vigneron and the wine industry in Coonawarra, Padthaway, Wrattobully and my other smaller areas like Mount Benson, Robe and perhaps even towards Mundulla. The vineyard industry welcomes these migrants. The vineyard workers tend to be a group of workers who are very resourceful. They share cars. A lot of these migrant workers are sharing houses and working in a way that gets them by and gets them started.

One of the things I want to highlight about the migrant situation is the lack of affordable housing in Naracoorte and Bordertown. Affordable housing needs to meet the needs of three groups. We need to meet the needs of the visa workers who come from overseas who are usually single. We need accommodation that meets their expectations that, most importantly, is affordable. We have small and large migrant families who are recent arrivals. They need affordable housing.

We also need affordable housing for the elderly, not aged care but elderly housing, where we have the large three to four or five bedroom house where an Australian family has brought up their family and the children have moved on, who want to downsize to something more affordable and easy to care for, which leaves those larger houses for other families to be able to purchase and move into.

This housing shortage is making it really hard not only for our business sector, because when they employ people they cannot house them anywhere, but for these new migrants coming in, who we also want to look after. One criterion to meet is their expectations on what the housing is good for. In other words, it does not need to be palatial. It needs to be very durable. Affordable housing needs to be built not by social housing but by the economics of investors.

It needs to have a good rate of return that allows both the migrant sector to move into, and also then also pay a rate of return so that investors will come back and reinvest in our regions. This current system at the moment is not working. Lack of affordable housing is an issue in our regional towns, particularly Bordertown and Naracoorte, but it also extends up to Tintinara, Coonalpyn and Keith. This affordable housing issue extends into Robe.

Hearing from the member for Mount Gambier, Mount Gambier also suffers a lack of affordable housing. So much a problem is it in Mount Gambier that our social housing has a bottleneck where there is a shortage of social housing because there is no transition from social housing into affordable housing. The shortage is causing this bottleneck. We should and hopefully will in the near future work out a process and plan, working with the federal, state and local governments, and address this affordable housing issue.

Coming back to migrants and the importance of migrants, an issue is that there is affordable housing for migrants to move into, be it single dwellings or family dwellings. In Australia, as we become more educated and wealthier and more affluent, our population growth is minimised. Sometimes these migrant families come in with families of 10. They need to have housing that meets the family of 10, if that is what it is. That is not an easy request, but that is the sort of flexibility our housing needs to have to make sure that our migrant families are looked after when they do arrive in Australia and that we do have the resources and the developments to attract them and look after them. I commend the bill, and I fully well support it.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Whetstone.

*Sitting suspended from 12:58 to 14:00.*

#### *Petitions*

### **PORT AUGUSTA CITY COUNCIL**

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):**

Presented a petition signed by 2,263 residents of Port Augusta and greater South Australia requesting the house to urge the government to take immediate action to declare the Port Augusta City Council a defaulting council and appoint a forensic accountant to scrutinise all council businesses, contracts and general finances and act in place of the administration and councillors until the conclusion of a fresh election of councillors and appointment of a new administration.

### **BRIGHTON ROAD**

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens):** Presented a petition signed by 125 residents of South Australia requesting the house to urge the government to provide the community with a comprehensive business case for proposed roadworks on Brighton Road.

#### *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 Minister for Planning and Local Government (Hon. V.A. Chapman)—

Report prepared pursuant to section 49(15) of the Development Act 1993—

Proposal to construct a new classroom, waste bin enclosure and associated works at Old Noarlunga Primary School within the City of Onkaparinga—

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

Environment Protection Authority—Page 23 Amendment to Annual Report 2019-20

Murray-Darling Basin Authority—Annual Report 2019-20

Natural Resources Management Board Annual Reports 2019-20—

Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges

Alinytjara Wilurara

Eyre Peninsula

Kangaroo Island

Northern and Yorke

SA Murray-Darling Basin

South Australian Arid Lands  
South East

*Ministerial Statement*

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SKILLS COMMISSIONER APPOINTMENT**

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills) (14:04):** I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** The Marshall Liberal government has today announced Ms Renee Hindmarsh will be the state's first South Australian Skills Commissioner. Ms Hindmarsh will take a leading role in shaping further reform of South Australia's skills training system through her leadership of both the South Australian Skills Commission and Industry Skills Councils. The appointment of Ms Hindmarsh as Skills Commissioner is the latest step in the Marshall Liberal government's reform of skills training to deliver new and growing employment opportunities for South Australians.

It is critical that the skills training we provide meets the needs of the businesses and industries that underpin the South Australian economy and the jobs they create. The Marshall government's \$200 million Skilling South Australia program has delivered more than 33,000 apprenticeships and traineeship commencements despite the difficulties created by COVID-19. The Marshall government has passed important changes to training legislation, including the creation of the Skills Commissioner, despite Labor opposing these vital reforms.

Having left South Australia's training system in a shambles, state Labor has adopted an obstructionist stance to every improvement in skills training. The Marshall government will continue to rebuild South Australia's training system and promote the value of vocational education and training pathways into rewarding careers.

Ms Hindmarsh, as the new South Australian Skills Commissioner, will play an integral role in working with industry, particularly the state government's eight Industry Skills Councils in which she will lead. She will also be South Australia's direct link to the National Skills Commission and advocate for significant national reforms across the skills system. Ms Hindmarsh has been successful in promoting training in her role as South Australia's Training Advocate since February 2019. She will commence in the role as SA Skills Commissioner on Tuesday 9 March.

Through a nationally advertised merit-based recruitment process, commenced in November last year, Ms Hindmarsh has been appointed for a five-year term based on her extensive experience and knowledge of the training system and background in senior executive and advisory positions across the education and public sectors. In her previous role as Executive Director of Australian Technology Network of Universities, she led collaboration between universities to improve outcomes for graduates, led the promotion and enhancement of the profile of the network and led the networks national and international engagement activities.

The outgoing chair of the Training and Skills Commission, Michael Boyce OAM, will continue as a member and is acknowledged and thanked for his ongoing commitment and contribution to the development and promotion of training and skills opportunities across South Australia. Under legislative changes, the functions of the existing Training and Skills Commission and the Training Advocate will be consolidated and will be operational through the South Australian Skills Commission when it is established later in the year.

*Parliamentary Committees*

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (14:07):** I bring up the 140<sup>th</sup> report of the committee, entitled Noarlunga Command Fire Station Project.

Report received and ordered to be published.

**Mr CREGAN:** I bring up the 141<sup>st</sup> report of the committee, entitled Mark Oliphant College Redevelopment Project.

Report received and ordered to be published.

**Mr CREGAN:** I bring up the 142<sup>nd</sup> report of the committee, entitled Roma Mitchell Secondary College Redevelopment Project.

Report received and ordered to be published.

**Mr CREGAN:** I bring up the 143<sup>rd</sup> report of the committee, entitled Victoria Park/Pakapakanthi Wetland Project.

Report received and ordered to be published.

*Question Time*

#### **MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN**

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:08):** My question is to the Premier. When was the last time the Premier spoke to the Prime Minister about developments in the management of the Murray-Darling Basin? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Dr CLOSE:** Last year, the federal government ruled out any further voluntary buyback of Murray-Darling Basin water for the environment, and yesterday the federal government ruled out funding any water efficiency measures on farms to free up water for the environment.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:09):** I speak to the Prime Minister on a very regular basis on a range of subjects, and one of those is, of course, water. This is also an item which is on the agenda of the former COAG and now the national reform council.

#### **WATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAM**

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:09):** My question, again, is to the Premier. Was the Premier consulted by the federal government prior to yesterday's decision to end on-farm water efficiency projects?

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (14:09):** I thank the deputy leader for her question. The state government is obviously very disappointed that the federal government has made this decision not to proceed with on-farm projects with regard to the return of the 450 gegalitres—

*Mr Brown interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Playford!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —of water. However, a number of these projects have been advanced, including some being advanced in South Australia. However, this is not a surrender of any pathway to the 450 by any means. There is still the opportunity—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —for off-farm programs. We know that off-farm projects have far less impact on communities and irrigators, and particularly they provide a very significant economic stimulus to the communities in which they occur because they do tend to be large-scale engineering projects. These projects will be advanced, and in fact I was delighted to hear the announcement today—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for Chaffey!

**The SPEAKER:** —that almost 16 gegalitres has been announced in an immediate project, which has gone through the assessment and which has been—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*



**The SPEAKER:** Leader!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —advanced in the Goulburn system within the river. So 16 gigalitres is some nine times the amount of water ever obtained under the opposition when they were in government. We continue to see this plan edge forward, perhaps a bit more slowly than we would like, but it is moving forward, and that is because we have taken the politics out of it and we get on with water delivery.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Before I call the deputy leader, I call to order the member for Hammond, I call to order the member for Cheltenham, I warn the member for Chaffey, I call to order the member for Playford and I call to order the Member for Ramsay.

#### **WATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAM**

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:12):** My question is to the Premier. When was the Premier first informed that the federal government had decided to axe on-farm water efficiency projects?

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (14:12):** The government has been aware for some weeks that the federal government was considering doing this. I have expressed on a number of occasions that I believe that relinquishing this tool with regard to delivering water from on-farm projects is not ideal. I think as many options as possible is the way to deliver water. However, there are still projects being delivered. They are being assessed as we speak, so if that delivers water and ignores the politics and the slogans and the gestures of the opposition—which deliver no water by the way, no water—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —I am happy to see this plan proceed.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Members on my left and members on my right, the minister in answering the question is entitled to be heard in silence. The minister has concluded his answer. The deputy leader seeks the call.

#### **WATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAM**

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:13):** My question, again, is to the Premier. Does the Premier support the federal government's decision to axe the on-farm Water Efficiency Program?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:13):** I think the minister has made our position abundantly clear. We are disappointed with this decision, and in fact I will be speaking with Sir Angus Houston to express my disappointment with regard to this decision later today.

#### **MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN**

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:13):** My question is to the Premier. Has the Premier placed the Murray-Darling Basin on the agenda for tomorrow's meeting of national cabinet?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:13):** It is not a basis of every single meeting, but it does come onto the agenda, and I am happy to look at the agenda for tomorrow to see whether that is on the agenda.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** There is a lot—

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

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for Lee!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —on the list. I am happy to consult. It certainly wasn't on the agenda early this week. It may be on the agenda tomorrow, and I am happy to come back to you—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —if it is an item for tomorrow's meeting.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for Chaffey! Before I call the deputy leader, I warn the member for Playford, I call to order the member for Kaurana, I call to order the member for Lee and I call to order the member for West Torrens.

#### MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:14):** My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier have any advice that the 450 gigalitres due to South Australia by 2024 will not be delivered?

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (14:14):** The state government is still very much of the view that the plan continues apace. We have some concerns about the delivery of the 450 gigalitres by 2024, but that's no reason just to throw out the plan and stop doing projects. If the reconciliation of the plan might see some of the water come after 2024, we shouldn't just put projects on hold, rip that funding out of regional communities and deny them their jobs.

I have been very open about the functioning of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and my opinions around that, that this is a plan that is working. It is delivering water, albeit more slowly than I would like. I think the key to getting this plan to work and getting the 450 gigalitres is to keep all the states at the table and continue to deliver water for the environment. It's water for the environment that we're after, the full length of the river, getting right down to the Murray Mouth, the Lower Lakes and the Coorong.

We are making significant progress towards that. There are 150 gigalitres of projects in assessment. I was able to announce moments ago a project of over 15 gigalitres of water, signed off and moving towards definite delivery, and that is so much more than the less than two gigalitres that the mob opposite delivered from South Australia.

**Mr Brown:** When are we getting our 450?

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for Playford!

#### WATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:16):** My question is to the Premier.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**Dr CLOSE:** What is the likely impact on South Australia's economy and environment if the 450 gigalitres does not arrive by 2024?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:16):** There are a lot of ifs in that question. The reality is we are still committed to delivering on the project.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I make the point that the Water Efficiency Program, which was funded by the federal government as part of this project of \$1.5 billion, still stays in place. It funds a range of programs, one of which of course was the on-farm work that we are referring to in the questions and answers being provided today. The commonwealth has formed the opinion that

because of the very low response to this type of project, they are removing that now. We don't agree with that position, but it is important to note that the money associated with the Water Efficiency Program, \$1.5 billion, stays in place, and we remain committed to the delivery of the full program.

**The SPEAKER:** Before I call the leader, I call to order the member for Elizabeth, I call to order the member for Wright and I call to order the Minister for Education.

#### WATER EFFICIENCY PROGRAM

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:17):** My question is to the Premier. Given the Premier is disappointed at the Morrison government's decision to stop the on-farm Water Efficiency Program, what is the Premier going to do about it? Will he stand up to the commonwealth government and fight for our state's water?

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

*Members interjecting:*

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

#### MARINE PARKS, SANCTUARY ZONES

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:18):** My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier remain committed to the changes to marine park sanctuary zones that were gazetted last year?

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (14:18):** The state government is committed to the various changes that were proposed for marine park sanctuary zones. We took that proposal to make a range of changes to the state election, an election where we were successful in forming government afterwards. I have often said this is a challenging policy area. We have brought together fishers and we have brought together conservationists, and they continue to work together and with the government in negotiating this. As I have said many times, I have been really pleased, heartened in fact, by how much closer those two traditionally opposing sectors have been, and I think things are going very well on that front.

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Lee.

*Members interjecting:*

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

#### FRUIT FLY

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:19):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Why is it that the fruit fly outbreak is spiralling out of control under his watch?

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** Point of order: standing order 97. I know the minister will answer this question very directly and capably, but I cannot help but point out how much argument is in that question.

*The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Deputy Premier will cease interjecting. I have the point of order. I will give the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development an opportunity to answer the question, noting that it does appear to traverse upon the subject matter of standing order 97. I will give the minister the opportunity to answer the question.

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:20):** I thank the member for his very important question. It's lovely to see some interest in the primary industry sector.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The minister has the call.

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM:** The horticulture industry is a very important industry to the state: a \$1.3 billion industry with 37½ thousand people employed in that industry. Taking a hard line on fruit fly is very important to us in making sure that we get on top of these outbreaks.

There have been a significant number of outbreaks in Adelaide over the last 12 months. We have seen those outbreaks continue, and we decided that we needed to certainly lift the level of interaction with those outbreaks, only a week or so ago, when we announced that we were going in to strip fruit off trees, particularly in those areas of Stepney and Prospect where we are seeing continued activity with larvae being found in trees, to try to remove the fruit and break the life cycle of the fruit flies. This is very much above normal activity in the fruit fly response.

We have been out there baiting and we have about 250 people working in this space across the state, across the 11 zones in the Adelaide area, plus the outbreak zones in the Riverland. It's very pleasing that we are looking like getting on top of probably one of the zones up in the Riverland, in the Monash zone, getting that removed certainly by the end of this month, provided that no more larvae or flies are detected in that zone. It is very pleasing that that area is going according to plan.

Unfortunately, this year there seems to have been a problem right across the southern parts of Australia. We are seeing significant increases in fruit fly numbers in Victoria, we have had outbreaks in WA and we have had outbreaks here. The seasonal conditions, particularly in South Australia, have been very favourable to fruit fly. We have seen increased activity. It has not been too hot for them, it has not been too cold for them, it has just been that perfect Goldilocks weather that has allowed their life cycle to actually continue—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM:** —but we are working and we are doing everything we can—

*The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Light!

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM:** —and we very much thank the public of South Australia, the public here in Adelaide—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM:** —for everything they have done in assisting us. They have been very generous in allowing us to go and pick their trees—

*Mr Boyer interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Wright!

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM:** —in those Stepney and Prospect areas. We continue to thank them very much for their support, doing the right thing and understanding that it's very important that we have their help. With the movement of outbreaks within the city and the distance that these outbreaks have moved over time, it is very clear that it has been the movement of fruit by people, not by the flies flying themselves. They don't have the ability to fly that far. It's very much that fruit has been moved, so we need to encourage people and make them understand the need to make sure that fruit does not move across those regions and therefore limit the outbreaks going forward.

PIRSA has a wonderful presence out there in their orange overalls and I thank them for all the wonderful work they are doing, and they continue to do in this space, and thank them for their efforts in getting this under control. Unfortunately, we will be in an outbreak zone in the Adelaide region right through until 4 December at the earliest due to winter and the fact that the life cycle of the flies does not allow eradication during the winter period, but we will continue to be out there baiting and trapping, making sure we are getting those outbreaks under control.

**FRUIT FLY**

**Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (14:24):** Supplementary, Mr Speaker: my question is to the minister about fruit fly outbreaks: can he confirm that the outbreak zone in Pooraka is now being extended to December? Is that what you are saying?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:24):** It is 4 December. The outbreak zones in Adelaide are now extended because of the interstate requirements for eradication under the protocols.

**Ms Bedford:** So 18 months?

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Before I call the member for Lee, I call to order the member for Mawson. I warn for a second time the member for Chaffey. I call to order the member for Light. I warn the member for Wright. I warn the member for Lee. I warn the Minister for Education. I call to order the Deputy Premier.

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:25):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Can the minister advise the house how much this escalating outbreak over the last 12 months has cost the horticultural industry in South Australia?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:25):** I thank the member for his question.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM:** At this point in time, it's very difficult to put a sum on the impact on the particular industries, but it has certainly cost the government about \$17 million in eradication processes to deal with the outbreak. It's very hard to put an actual number on what it has actually cost industry at this point in time.

*Members interjecting:*

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

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:25):** My question again is to the Minister for Primary Industries. What financial support is available from the state government to support the industry as it struggles with this outbreak?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:26):** As I just stated—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM:** —the government has invested \$17 million in the eradication processes of the outbreak—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The minister will resume his seat. The level of noise in the chamber means that it's difficult for me to follow the answer that the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development is giving. I'm keenly interested to listen to that answer and the minister is entitled to be heard in silence. Interjections across the floor on my right and my left will cease. The minister has the call. Has the minister concluded his answer?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM:** Yes.

**The SPEAKER:** The minister has concluded his answer.

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:26):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. How many times has the statewide fruit fly committee met over the past 18 months to deal with the fruit fly outbreaks?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:27):** I can't give you an exact answer on that number, but there are two particular areas of engagement that are based here in the city and up in the Riverland and they both meet at numerous times when required.

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:27):** A supplementary, Mr Speaker: can the minister confirm that the statewide fruit fly committee has not met over the last 18 months?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:27):** I refer to my last answer.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:27):** My question again is to the Minister—

**The Hon. A. Koutsantonis:** Really?

**The SPEAKER:** The member for West Torrens!

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** —for Primary Industries. How many detections of fruit fly has his department found in Adelaide supermarkets over the last 18 months?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:28):** I thank the member for the question. I can certainly give you a breakdown, whether it's accurate right out to the 18 months. Certainly, in the last fortnight or so, there have been, I believe, seven detections of fruit that have come from Victoria, which led me to write to my counterpart in Victoria. Prior to that, there were several detections in supermarkets in late January and one prior to Christmas. I believe there were also a couple late in the second half. Traditionally, we have three or four per year. The significant change has been the last two weeks where we have had that extra seven from Victoria.

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:28):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Can the minister confirm to the house whether he has attended a meeting of the statewide fruit fly committee over the last 18 months?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:29):** I had a meeting with the fruit fly committee up in the Riverland a month or so ago.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:29):** Supplementary: can the minister advise the house whether that meeting in the Riverland was with the Riverland fruit fly committee and not the statewide fruit fly committee?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:29):** I refer to my previous answer.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:29):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Can the minister advise the house whether any fruit fly restrictions that have been imposed on produce growers in South Australia have been lifted at any stage over the last 18 months?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:29):** I thank the member for his question. The protocols that exist are there to manage the outbreaks to get eradication accredited by our trading partners. We follow those protocols. Unfortunately, we have not at this point in time had one of these outbreaks that has reached the required protocols to have the removal of the declaration on those particular zones but, as I stated previously, the Monash outbreak is very close.

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:30):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Can the minister advise the house what is the threshold for lifting restrictions in place on growers in South Australia, and have any growers over the last 18 months met that threshold?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:30):** As I said in my previous answer, it's very much about following the protocols. The protocols are very clear and have been in existence for many years, agreed by the states and the industry right across the country, as well as the federal government. We follow those protocols and will remove those under those protocols.

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:31):** Supplementary: can the minister detail to the house what those thresholds are to remove those restrictions on growers?

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Order, member for Lee! The minister will resume his seat. Order, Deputy Premier! Before I call—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my left! Before I call the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, I warn for a second time the member for Lee, I warn the member for West Torrens, I call to order the Minister for Energy and Mining, I warn the Deputy Premier and I call to order the Premier. The Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development has the call.

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:32):** I would be happy to supply the member with the website details for those details.

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:32):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Can the minister advise the house why it has taken until now, 18 months after the start of these outbreaks, to finally engage in a broadscale public awareness campaign of the outbreaks?

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:32):** I would dispute that enormously. We have been constantly out there, educating the population about these outbreaks and the requirements. As I stated before, these outbreak requirements have been in place for many years. These have been a responsibility, a bipartisan responsibility, of all governments previously to support the industry and this process. The government continues to follow those protocols and does not quite understand why the opposition has decided to make this a political issue, because we are out there protecting our industries.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Chaffey will cease interjecting.

#### FRUIT FLY

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:33):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Whose responsibility was it to advise parents of schoolchildren about the restrictions on the movement of fruit to and from school via lunchboxes before the school term went back?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:33):** I thank the member for the question. It's very important that people understand the requirements of every law that exists in this state. It's their own responsibility—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Minister!

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM:** —to understand whether there are laws governing their— people understand what they need to do when driving a car. These are the laws that have been in place for many, many years, that in an outbreak zone, you are not allowed to remove fruit from your property. We continue to encourage and thank the people of South Australia for doing exactly that.

*Members interjecting:*

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

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The leader!

#### FRUIT FLY

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:34):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. What arrangements did he put in place to advise parents of schoolchildren about the changed arrangements for fruit in lunch boxes before the start of the school term?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:34):** I thank the member for the question. Obviously, communicating with parents directly is something that school principals do. There was information that was available from PIRSA.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Communicating with parents is something that school principals do on a regular basis. They do so at the beginning of term. One of the complications we had in some areas in the first week of school was that there was a bushfire risk, as I recall, that had some sites closed. So they struggled in some schools, but the majority of our schools that were in one of those red zones were able to communicate with families, and the quality of those communications has only improved over the last several weeks. Indeed, I think that any member of the community has seen the public advertising, and schools that are in those red zones were provided with information that's entirely relevant to their school communities.

*Members interjecting:*

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

#### FRUIT FLY

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:36):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Can the minister advise the house what arrangements he put in place to advise school principals of public schools, independent schools and Catholic schools before the start of the current school term?

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The Minister for Education has the call.



**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:36):** Further to my last answer, information that was going through the education department to school principals came from PIRSA, I think on the Friday before school started—either on the Friday or the Monday. The Tuesday, from recollection, was a public holiday in most sites. Information was specific to their sites, of course. One of the complications was that the rules were different in different areas because not all schools had the same rules applying. Not all schools were in a red zone. Some schools were not in an outbreak zone at all.

That work to make sure that the schools were able to provide the accurate information to the parents was undertaken and was not helped, I've got to say, by the opposition going out to do press conferences suggesting that this was a matter that was going to affect every single school and every single family in the state. That definitely added to the confusion.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** We encouraged parents to listen to the advice—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Leader!

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** —that was provided by their principals. Much of that advice came from PIRSA. Some of it was also supported by the Department for Education.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Before I call the member for Lee, I warn the member for Schubert, I warn the member for Cheltenham, I call to order the member for Hurtle Vale and I call to order the leader.

#### FRUIT FLY

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:37):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. What steps did the minister take to assure himself that parents of schoolchildren had been adequately advised of the changed arrangements before the beginning of the school term?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:38):** I thank the member for his question. Firstly, I would like to dispute the question because actually there were no changed arrangements. The arrangements were exactly the same arrangements that have been in place for many, many years.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM:** The message that was out there was very much, 'Please do not take fruit off your property.' That's the requirement when in an outbreak zone. That has not changed. We were asking people just to follow the rules that have always been in place.

#### FRUIT FLY

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:38):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Can the minister advise the house who released information so that *The Advertiser* could publish an article on the Friday before the week the schools went back, advising the changed arrangements for the management of fruit in school lunch boxes?

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** Point of order, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Lee will resume his seat. The Minister for Energy and Mining rises on a point of order.

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** Yes, standing order 97. It's a ridiculous question involving an enormous amount of argument, Mr Speaker.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, I don't require the editorial. I uphold the point of order. I will give the member for Lee an opportunity to rephrase the question. I remind all members of the stipulations of standing order 97. Does the member for Lee seek the call?

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Did the minister's office or his department provide any information to *The Advertiser*? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain my question.

**The SPEAKER:** Leave is sought; is leave—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The Minister for Energy and Mining will cease interjecting. The Minister for Energy and Mining is warned. Leave is sought; is leave granted?

Leave granted.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** The Friday before school was due to return across the state, an article appeared in the *Adelaide Advertiser* quoting sources from the primary industries department about changed arrangements for the transport of fruit across the state, in particular drawing attention to changed arrangements for school lunch boxes.

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:40):** I thank the member for the question. I am not responsible for the way the reporter may choose to write their article. The issue is that it was very much made clear to *The Advertiser* reporter that we were—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM:** —requiring people not to take their fruit off their property, as had been in place for many years. We were just reinforcing the issue in response to an inquiry from *The Advertiser*, so the interpretation of *The Advertiser* in their story is what they wrote.

#### FRUIT FLY

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:40):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Can the minister advise the house what arrangements have been put in place, if any, to limit the importation of infected fruit into South Australia?

*Members interjecting:*

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

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Members on my right! The minister has the call.

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:41):** I again thank the member for his important question. Immediately on the detection of these fruit fly larvae in fruit in supermarkets, it triggers a response back to the department of agriculture in Victoria to inform them of the breach. In response to that, there have been suspensions put on the properties that were involved in those breaches as well as one of the fumigating businesses that operates in Victoria, in response to their operations.

#### FRUIT FLY

**Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (14:41):** Supplementary: can the minister confirm or let the house know how many boxes of fruit from each pallet or consignment are opened for inspection before delivery to supermarkets?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:42):** I will need to make some inquiries in relation to that question to find exactly the detail around the protocols involved in inspections. In the cases that we have had from Victoria, they operate under an agreed program that is certified by the Victorian government and we will need to continue to understand what has happened, whether there has been a breakdown in protocols or whether there has been a change in circumstances that makes it inappropriate for that fruit to come over. We have asked the Victorian government and department to investigate from their end and we will continue to investigate from our end.

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:42):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries. Can the minister advise the house whether he saw the article in *The Advertiser* referred to in his previous answer?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:43):** Yes.

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:43):** A supplementary to the Minister for Primary Industries—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, the Premier!

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my right! The member for Lee has the call.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for West Torrens!

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Lee has the call.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The interjections across the floor will cease.

*The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for West Torrens is warned for a second time. The minister Lee has the call.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** A supplementary to the minister: on seeing that article in *The Advertiser*, did he find any information in it incorrect?

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** I was unable to hear the question. Could the member for Lee repeat the question for my benefit.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** My supplementary question to the Minister for Primary Industries was: on seeing that article in *The Advertiser*, did he find any information in it incorrect?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:44):** I thank the member for the question. I'm not responsible for what *The Advertiser* writes in their articles, and I'm not sure what in particular the member thinks I may have not seen in the article.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Before I call the member for Lee, I warn the member for Hurtle Vale and I warn the Premier.

**FRUIT FLY**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:45):** A further supplementary to the Minister for Primary Industries: did he take any steps to correct any information he found in that article in *The Advertiser*?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:45):** I refer to my last answer.

**The SPEAKER:** The Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development has concluded his answer.

#### **FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES**

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:45):** My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Can the minister please update the house as to the status of the tender process for the Family Preservation Service currently run by Anglicare?

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (14:46):** Are you talking about the intensive family support services? Could I have clarification please?

#### **FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES**

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:46):** Can the minister please update the house on the status of the tender process for the Family Preservation Service currently run by Anglicare?

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (14:46):** I believe that the member is referring to the intensive family support services that was a pilot by Anglicare in the north and is funded by DHS. I will bring back an answer to the house.

#### **FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES**

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:47):** My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Can the minister guarantee these important early intervention services provided by Anglicare will not be disrupted in any way should a different provider be awarded a new contract?

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (14:47):** On coming into government, we have made significant reforms including working as a whole-of-government response. The Early Intervention Research Directorate found that under the former government the evidence was that they weren't evidenced-based programs, they weren't evaluated, they weren't delivered in the right manner and they weren't culturally competent. We had to look at new ways of delivering evidence-based evaluated programs.

As a result of that, the Department of Human Services, which has jurisdiction over the early intervention and prevention programs, has initiated several pilots, one of which is the Anglicare Intensive Family Support Service in the north. We also have one run by KWY in the west, which was also a pilot program. Further, there is the Benevolent Society's social impact bond, which is also a family preservation or intensive family support service, which is about to start in the south. That's out for tender at the moment.

These programs, as per a Liberal government, need to be evaluated. We need to make sure that we are getting the outcomes that we anticipated, and then the tender process will go ahead as it should.

#### **CHILD PROTECTION, RICE INQUIRY**

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:48):** My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Minister, do you agree your serious failures outlined in the Rice review have undermined public confidence—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**Ms HILDYARD:** —in the child protection system?

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Reynell will resume her seat.

**Ms HILDYARD:** With your leave and that of the house—

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Reynell will resume her seat.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The Minister for Energy and Mining on a point of order.

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** Mr Speaker, we have been through this many times. No member gets to make an outrageous assertion—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** —and then ask for leave from the house afterwards.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The question as it's presently framed offends against standing order 97. I will give the member for Reynell an opportunity to rephrase. And in anticipation of the seeking of any necessary leave, I would remind the member for Reynell of the opportunity to do so.

#### CHILD PROTECTION, RICE INQUIRY

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:49):** My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Minister, do you agree public confidence has been undermined in the child protection system? With your leave, Mr Speaker, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Ms HILDYARD:** The Rice review, tabled just over two weeks ago, outlined 'the minister's serious failures'.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (14:50):** I would like to take the opportunity to assure the house that the recommendations of the Rice review are underway. In particular, can I refer to the recommendations 1 and 2. Someone from the Crown Solicitor's Office has been appointed to assist in the supervision of the obligations in relation to those accepted recommendations and to assist with recommendation 3. As to recommendations 4 and 5, I can assure the house that drafting is on its way in relation to the legislation to support the progress of that in the month that I have committed to ensure that that's brought to the parliament.

#### CHILD PROTECTION, RICE INQUIRY

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:51):** My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Have any members of staff in her department had their employment terminated or duties changed as a result of the findings of the Rice review that were tabled in this parliament two weeks ago?

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (14:51):** Clearly, I am not the CE of the department: I am the minister. What I can say is that we have—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The Minister for Child Protection has the call.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Premier will cease interjecting.

**Ms Hildyard:** You don't know?

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Reynell will cease interjecting. The Minister for Child Protection has the call. She is entitled to be heard in silence.

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON:** The Rice review did not recommend any changes to employment.

#### CHILD PROTECTION

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:52):** My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Now that the minister has had two weeks to investigate, can she tell the house whether any of the five girls who are pregnant and identified in the Rice review have had police reports made in relation to them?

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (14:52):** As the member would be aware, I will not be speaking about any specific details of any individual cases. I am briefed, as I have made the house aware—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON:** —on any significant incidents and I do meet regularly with my department. All criminal matters would be referred to SAPOL for further investigation.

#### CHILD PROTECTION

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:53):** My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. How many critical incident reports has the minister received since the Rice review was tabled two weeks ago?

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (14:53):** I will take that on notice and, if appropriate, bring back an answer.

#### MINISTER FOR CHILD PROTECTION

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:53):** My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Does the minister agree with child safety campaigner Sonya Ryan that she is 'completely disconnected' from her job? With your leave, Mr Speaker, and that of the house, I will explain.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Leave is sought; is leave granted?

Leave granted.

**Ms HILDYARD:** A report in *The Advertiser* on 20 February quoted Ms Ryan in relation to Paul Rice's investigation into her office that, quote:

If there was sincerity and genuine care, Minister Sanderson would make it her absolute priority to know the details of every single child under her care.

I believe Rachel Sanderson is completely disconnected from her [job].

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (14:54):** Of course I reject the ridiculous assumption. As people would know in this house, I have gone to great lengths to visit as many children in residential care as possible, and in fact the member for Badcoe went to great lengths to try to intimidate me out of doing that and questioned and accused me with wild accusations—

*Members interjecting:*

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

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The Minister for Child Protection has the call.

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I have had meals with children in their homes, I have visited them at their kinship days, at their swimming centre days, at Christmas celebrations and at carer events. I have made every possible attempt to meet these young people. In fact, even during COVID—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON:** —I met with them online on Teams. I have cooked with them. I have done activities with these children. I have gone out of my way to make sure that I could see where they live, I could see what they eat, I could find out what activities—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON:** I am the first minister to do this, I might say, and many of them had never met a minister before. I think every AFSS house has a tree that I helped the children plant. I have had meals at every single Service to Youth Council home they have. I have visited Junction homes. I have visited DCP homes all around the state. I have even been to Ceduna and to Port Lincoln. I have been everywhere to visit these children, and I am continuing to do so.

I also visit them at their schools. I visit their principals to find out how they are going. I have their attendance records for the first time—something no other minister has. I have a record of every school they are at and their attendance records. I am visiting schools to find different education techniques that suit the children, because under Labor there was a low expectation.

Under the Labor government all the guardianship children were exempt from NAPLAN. I want them to be included in NAPLAN because they are worthy and they are good enough. We have had more children finish year 11 and 12 under this government than ever before and it continues to go up, so don't you lecture me about my role—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, the member for Hurtle Vale!

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The Minister for Child Protection has the call. I think the minister has concluded her answer. Before I call the member Reynell, I warn for a second time the member for Hurtle Vale. I call to order the member for Colton, I call to order the Minister for Trade and Investment. I warn for a second time the member for Playford. I call to order and warn the Minister for Innovation and Skills.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my left! The member seeks the call.

#### CHILD PROTECTION

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:57):** My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. In relation to the 13-year-old victim of Philip Edwin McIntosh, referred to as C2 in the Rice review, was there an agency or police investigation into the girl's pregnancy which occurred prior to her abuse by McIntosh?

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (14:58):** The member is well aware that I won't be discussing individual cases. This is a vulnerable teenager who every time you raise this is traumatised further. I will not be discussing it further.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

#### CHILD PROTECTION

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (14:58):** Supplementary, Mr Speaker: was anyone charged over the incident?

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (14:58):** I refer to my previous answer.

#### COMMUNITY FORUMS

**Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (14:58):** My question is to the Minister for Emergency Services. Why was the member for King allowed to host a crime forum at the Salisbury Command Fire Station, yet educational—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my right.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** Would you like me to—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Members on my right and members on my left are reminded that the questioner is entitled to be heard in silence. The member for Elizabeth has the call. I am listening carefully to the member for Elizabeth's question.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** Thank you, sir, I value your protection. Why was the member for King allowed to host a crime forum at the Salisbury fire station, yet educational station tours for schools and kindergarten groups have ceased due to COVID-19? With your leave and that of the house, sir, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** The MFS website states that, due to the ongoing COVID-19 situation, educational station tours have ceased. The website goes on to say, 'This difficult decision has been made to ensure the ongoing safety of the community and our emergency service personnel.'

**The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (15:00):** I thank the member for Elizabeth for the question. As I have pointed out before, I believe that the member for King made these booking arrangements. I also have been advised this morning that some comments were made that I believe that new builds may also have capability to facilitate public meetings, including, for example, a local MP to host interest groups for community benefit.

We know that there has been some disruption during COVID. What I will do is, on behalf of the member for Elizabeth, I will make those inquiries. If there has been some disruption because of COVID—just like in the rest of the world—if there are some things that were done that can be done again, I will make inquiries. I see no reason why those types of tours would be held up, but I will certainly make an inquiry and come back to the member.

#### **SUPERLOOP ADELAIDE 500**

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (15:01):** My question is to the Minister for Tourism. How much money has been paid by the state government to Supercars for the cancellation of the Adelaide 500 event in 2021?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (15:01):** My understanding on this matter is that there were some discussions in relation to the cancellation of the project, but I will get exactly the details that we are able to disclose in relation to any resolution of that matter and/or any payment made, if that's able to be released.

*Mr Knoll interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for Schubert!

#### **SUPERLOOP ADELAIDE 500**

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (15:01):** Now that the Minister for Tourism is here, has the minister concluded—

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** Point of order.

**The SPEAKER:** The Minister for Energy and Mining on a point of order. The leader will resume his seat.

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** The leader should know that comment is out of order. It offends standing order 125, I think it is, but I'm not sure on that one.

**The SPEAKER:** I uphold the point of order. It's not standing order 125. I might come back to the house with the standing order number. The leader has the call, and the leader might confine himself to asking a question within the scope of standing order 97.

**Mr MALINAUSKAS:** My question is to the Minister for Tourism. Has the minister concluded negotiations with Supercars regarding a compensation payment for the 2021 event that has been cancelled by the Premier?



**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:03):** Not to my understanding.

#### **SUPERLOOP ADELAIDE 500**

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (15:03):** My question is to the Minister for Tourism. When will the minister be able to announce one single event that is new as developed by his replacement committee regarding the Adelaide 500 cancellation?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:03):** They continue to work on that program, and I look forward to updating people.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** We were very pleased recently to have a new WTA event in South Australia, which was previously unscheduled. That was good. We are looking forward to Illuminate Adelaide, which will occur in the middle of the year.

#### **SUPERLOOP ADELAIDE 500**

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (15:03):** My question is to the Minister for Tourism. Given the Adelaide 500 event was scheduled to occur last weekend and instead there was a Supercars event in Bathurst, wouldn't it have made sense to have a plan in place for replacement events before the decision to cancel the Adelaide 500?

*Members interjecting:*

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

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! When the house is silent, I will give the Premier the opportunity to respond to the question. Does the Premier seek the call?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:04):** The leader may recall that the decision not to proceed with the March event was made October or November, I think, way before that in fact because mass events—

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Yes—in fact, earlier in the year we were talking about cancelling the March event and moving it to later in the year. In October, as the leader refers to, was when we made the decision not to proceed with the Supercars at all.

#### **COVID-19 CLINICS**

**Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham) (15:04):** My question is to the Minister for Education, representing the Minister for Health. Were any other locations at The QEH or alternative sites investigated before The QEH COVID-19 clinic was closed and, if not, why not?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:05):** I thank the member for the question. Without necessarily accepting the characterisation, I will seek a response from the Minister for Health to the question as asked and bring it back to the house.

#### **COVID-19 CLINICS**

**Mr SZAKACS (Cheltenham) (15:05):** Supplementary: will the Minister for Education on behalf of the Minister for Health advise if any other COVID-19 clinics in metropolitan Adelaide will be closing or have been investigated to close?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:05):** I will take that on notice.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**SA AMBULANCE SERVICE**

**Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (15:06):** My question is to the Premier. Were the entire southern suburbs of Adelaide left without any ambulances last Monday night as they were all ramped at Flinders Medical Centre? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Mr PICTON:** A paramedic, Chris, on FIVEaa this morning said, and I quote, 'So probably going back even just a week ago, I worked in the southern metropolitan area—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Interjections on my left and on my right will cease. Would the member for Kaurna repeat the question, please?

**Mr PICTON:** It is disappointing that there is so little respect for our paramedics.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr PICTON:** Paramedic Chris said:

So probably going back even just a week ago, I worked in the southern metropolitan area, at one stage last week, on the Monday evening I believe there was only one ambulance from our entire area that wasn't at Flinders Medical Centre and it was actually out of our catchment it was at Yankalilla...as far as I'm aware from Mitcham through to McLaren Vale and Aldinga there were no available ambulances for the southern region ready to serve the community.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:07):** I think there has been quite a considerable amount of coverage of the fact that there was a very significant surge on Sunday and Monday last week. With regard to the specifics that the member puts forward, I am happy to go and check, but I think we're all aware that there was a very significant surge in presentations and the requirement for ambulances at that time.

**SA AMBULANCE SERVICE**

**Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (15:07):** My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier believe it's acceptable that paramedics should have to work 10 hours straight without a break? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Mr PICTON:** A paramedic, Craig, called into FIVEaa this morning and said that he was dispatched to 16 cases over a night shift and travelled 260 kilometres by himself that night over a 12-hour shift. He thankfully finished on time but didn't have a break until the 10-hour mark. According to him:

So post all this driving you've still got to obviously make those decisions that a lot of the guys were talking about earlier using a lot of brain power...to actually handle these cases to the best of your ability and literally you have got people's lives in your hands.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:08):** As I have stated in this place on many occasions, paramedics in South Australia do an outstanding job and they always put their patients' lives first and that does mean sometimes there are, in exceptional circumstances, these types of situations.

**SA AMBULANCE SERVICE**

**Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (15:08):** Supplementary: what is the government doing to ensure that ambulance paramedics are not put under this sort of pressure of having 10-hour shifts without breaks?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:09):** I refer the member to my answers that were provided yesterday, which I think showed unequivocally that we had very significantly increased the resources, both in terms of the budget and also in terms of the personnel—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —since coming to government.

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, the leader!

#### **SA AMBULANCE SERVICE**

**Mr PICTON (Kurna) (15:09):** On that, my question is to the Premier. Why has the state government made a cut of \$11.5 million of total expenditure for the SA Ambulance Service over two years? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

Leave granted.

**Mr PICTON:** Yesterday in question time, the Premier pointed to total expenditure figures for the SA Ambulance Service. I therefore checked those figures and can outline the total expenditure figures as published in the last state budget. In 2018-19, the total expenditure was \$324.8 million, then it reduced in 2019 to the total expenditure of \$319.8 million and now in the latest state budget there is a further reduction in proposed total expenditure down to \$313.3 million. This equals a reduction over two years of \$11.5 million.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:10):** I refer the member to my answer yesterday and I encourage him—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —to reflect on the difference between an 'actual' and a 'budget'. He seems to be getting the two quite confused.

#### **PREMIER'S CLIMATE CHANGE COUNCIL**

**Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (15:10):** My question is to the Minister for Environment. Can the minister inform the house of the Premier's Climate Change Council winners, in particular the top award winner, Tom Linnell from my electorate, and Stephen Telford?

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (15:11):** I thank the member for his question. He raises a very valuable program, which the state government is pleased to be able to run through the Premier's Climate Change Council. This is a series of leadership awards that recognises people in community, organisations in community, and government and individuals who are going above and beyond with regard to leadership in the area of climate change policy and programs.

We know that South Australia has really a world-leading agenda around climate change action, both in the mitigation and adaptation areas, so it was great last week to be able to come together with the Premier's Climate Change Council, very ably chaired by Martin Haese, to celebrate the nominees from these various groups from community, from government and in the individual category.

It is great that there were two notable winners in the South-East. Firstly, it's worth mentioning Roundwood Solutions, a family-owned business based in the South-East. I am sure that not only would the member for Mount Gambier be aware of this organisation but also the member for MacKillop. They are Australia's largest supplier of round posts and really have undergone a transformation in recent times through their production process leading to innovations in the way they manufacture these posts, which has seen them move towards carbon neutrality and working towards being more and more climate smart.

The product produced by Roundwood Solutions is certified as environmentally friendly—not always the case with these posts, which can be a particular challenge to deal with during bushfires. They are responsibly sourced, they last longer and they don't contain any heavy metals and contaminants. They are much better to deal with in an adapting climate and they are more insect, weather and fire resistant than other products, so big congratulations to Roundwood Solutions.

It is also worth celebrating and mentioning in parliament today the work of Tom Linnell, who was not only the community category winner but also the overall winner of the Climate Leaders Award. Tom is a passionate and committed sustainability and climate change educator based in one of the state's largest schools, Tenison Woods College in Mount Gambier. His vision is to empower students to be the change that they want to see in the world, and he has been working very closely with his students right across the school to see the school be off the grid by 2030 and reach a target of zero waste by 2025.

This is really pushing the boundaries when it comes to the running of a school. Schools can have particular challenges around waste management and obviously carbon neutrality as well, and to see this school come off the grid and be zero waste by 2025 is really, really impressive. When it comes to climate change, taking the message to future generations and giving students the knowledge and understanding to be able to cope with the changing climate and also to develop those skills around innovation, particularly in the STEM subjects, and come up with solutions is so important. A huge congratulations to Tom Linnell from Tenison Woods College in Mount Gambier for the leadership he is showing; it really is remarkable.

#### **BELAIR PARK GOLF COURSE AND COUNTRY CLUB**

**Mr DULUK (Waite) (15:14):** My question is also to the Minister for Environment and Water. Can the minister please provide an update to the house on the Belair National Park master plan and future use of the old golf course site and country club?

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (15:15):** I thank the member for Waite for this question. This is an issue that I know both he and the communities he represents are particularly passionate about. Belair National Park is South Australia's oldest national park. It was actually brought into the protected reserve system in 1891, so it is celebrating its 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. It is a great environmental and recreational resource in the foothills around Belair, Glenalta and Hawthorndene and reaching up into the Upper Sturt area, and it is a site that this government is very excited to be investing in.

We do know there has been a challenge there in recent years. The old country club and golf course had been located in a fairly strategic site within the park, not only creating a buffer zone of open space between the area of suburbia and the national park but also providing a once thriving business within that community. Unfortunately, in early 2018, that business went bankrupt and the site, including the country club, was surrendered to the state government.

Since then, we have found it difficult to find a tenant to take over that site. There is no doubt about that. We have made repeated efforts to get other businesses interested. The site has been listed for tender for some time, looking for an alternative business or businesses to go in there to activate it and to use either the old country club facilities or to find a purpose for the golf course site. Unfortunately, we haven't been able to find anyone to take on the country club premises.

We have had a few ideas emerge for the broader open space that forms that buffer zone. It has been great to work with EscapeGoat, a mountain biking company that are hiring out bikes, teaching mountain biking skills and the like. They have been working with us on the trail network there, so it is great to see that little business go onto the site there and get up and running. There is also a proposal out for consultation at the moment as part of the master plan to see Sturt Lions soccer club go up there. This is potentially a more controversial approach and we are certainly out to community consultation for that at the moment.

It is a tricky balancing act here. We want to keep that golf course and as much open space as possible because it gives the suburbs of Hawthorndene and Glenalta that sense of security in terms of bushfire protection. It is a uniquely large buffer zone for any national park we have that comes up towards suburbia; however, in combining that buffer zone with a useful use, we are also looking at other recreational options. One of these is soccer and we will work through that with the

community. Absolutely nothing is set in stone. The community and the member for Waite have perhaps rightly raised some concerns about the size of that proposed activity and we will work through that.

In terms of getting the community involved, there is a YourSAy consultation, which will be open until 4 May. We are not rushing this process. There is also going to be a second community engagement session held on 20 March from 1pm to 3pm at Belair National Park to continue to get the community's views to feed them into the master planning process so that we get the planning and the future use of one of South Australia's premier national parks right for the local community, for conservation and for the wider state.

### SKILLS TRAINING

**The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (15:19):** My question is to the Minister for Innovation and Skills. Can the minister advise the house of the process and direction that will be undertaken with the government's skills training system through the South Australian Skills Commission and industry skills councils? With your leave and that of the house, sir, I will explain further.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. G.G. BROCK:** In the minister's media statement released today, the minister stated, 'It is critical that the skills training we provide meets the needs of the businesses and industries that underpin the South Australian economy and the jobs they create.' My question is: will TAFE facilities or campuses, in particular regional TAFE campuses and staff, be integral participants in this process?

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills) (15:20):** Well, the short answer is yes. It's just a pity that the member didn't have as much enthusiasm for TAFE campuses when he was a member of the government and they closed 14—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** —TAFE campuses, predominantly in regional South Australia.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The minister will resume his seat.

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** Six hundred TAFE staff—

**The SPEAKER:** The minister will resume his seat.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** I warn the Minister for Innovation and Skills for a second time. Members on my left will cease interjecting. Did the member for Frome rise on a point of order?

**The Hon. G.G. BROCK:** Yes, Mr Speaker. I personally take offence at that because, as the minister understands, each minister has their own responsibility. I do take offence at him bringing that up.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Frome, no explanation is required. The member for Frome takes offence at the remark of the Minister for Innovation and Skills. I ask the Minister for Innovation and Skills in the circumstances to withdraw.

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** Could the member clarify what he takes offence to, sir?

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for Lee! Should the member for Frome elect to repeat or further particularise, I will give him the opportunity to do so.

**The Hon. G.G. BROCK:** Yes, Mr Speaker. He indicated that I took no interest in the directions of the TAFE facilities. I take offence at that because, as the minister knows himself, each minister has responsibility and it's a cabinet decision that is made.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Frome has indicated that he takes offence. In accordance with standing order 125, in those circumstances it is appropriate for the member to withdraw on my request. I request the Minister for Innovation and Skills to withdraw.

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** I withdraw, sir. I think the chamber—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** —needs to understand that the member for Frome was the minister for regional development.

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

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The minister will resume his seat. The member for Lee on a point of order.

*Ms Cook interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Hurtle Vale will cease interjecting. The member for Lee on a point of order.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** The point of order, Mr Speaker, is standing order 98: the minister is clearly debating in his answer, rather than answering the question. He was asked a very specific question about the future direction of the skills council, and all he is doing is hacking into the member for Frome.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my right! The occasion to raise a point of order is not an opportunity to debate the matter. I uphold the point of order. The Minister for Innovation and Skills will direct his answer to the question. The minister has the call.

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** Thank you, sir. The member for Frome will be pleased to know that our VET Commissioning program will see more TAFE delivery in regional South Australia. We need to look at where we started with TAFE when we came to office.

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

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Lee!

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** Sixteen random audits by ASQA were failed. We saw that TAFE was decimated with the closure of 14 TAFE campuses around the state. We saw 600 staff on voluntary separation packages since 2014. Remember that at the same time we saw an end to non-government providers having access to the Subsidised Training List.

We established Industry Skills Councils, and we have rural representation on those Industry Skills Councils over eight sector areas who guide the government through the new Skills Commission to where the skills shortages are and what the barriers are to taking on apprentices and trainees. In the 2½ years or so since we launched our Skilling South Australia program, we have seen some tremendous results—33,000 commencements, apprentices and trainees under the national partnership in that period.

We have seen an increase, from March to March, of 11.9 per cent. We saw an increase, finishing the financial year to June, of 2.1 per cent in commencements. Nationally, we saw reductions. The member has every right to be excited about what is happening in regional South Australia with TAFE because they are part of the plan for returning skills training to regional South Australia.

#### INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

**Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:25):** My question is to the Minister for Education. What activity is being undertaken by your department in schools throughout the state for this year's commemoration of International Women's Day on Monday 8 March?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:26):** I am very pleased to have this question from the member for Florey, and I know that she and indeed all members of the house are very much looking forward to International Women's Day, coming on Monday 8 March. Right across South Australia, we have 700 schools, 500 government schools and 200 non-government schools. Many of those schools, indeed most of those schools I would suggest, are looking to mark the occasion. Obviously, Monday is a public holiday, so some of them are doing so today, some tomorrow and some on Tuesday.

Just this morning, I was at St Peter's Girls' School, where they were hosting a forum for schools right across the eastern suburbs. Indeed, they were year 6 and year 7 students from I think pretty much every public school in the region, from Norwood Primary School—

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** You went to a private school, as the Minister for Education. Well done, John. Well done.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Lee!

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** —from Burnside Primary School, from Marryatville Primary School, from about six or seven public schools in the region that were able to participate in an outstanding Girls in Tech Expo, which was put on by St Peter's Girls' School at their own initiative and I commend them for doing so.

I commend Monique Green, who put that program together. Hundreds of girls from all those schools across the region were able to participate, engage with business leaders, engage with senior women in tech industries across South Australia, giving them inspiration into their own futures, the opportunity to participate in the very exciting steps forward in South Australia that we are taking in the tech industry: space, cyber and defence. All those girls and young women are going to have those opportunities.

I am really excited, and I know the member for Florey is equally as excited, about a particular development. I commend a book to all members, *Muriel Matters: That Daring Australian Girl*, which I believe the member for Florey is probably very familiar with as a proud founder of the Muriel Matters Society.

*Ms Bedford interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I thank the Muriel Matters Society for producing this book in the first place. I am pleased to see the member for Florey has her copy too. Every single school in South Australia is receiving one of these books. I have written to all the principals of all 700 schools this week so they can add this outstanding piece of work to their school libraries to commemorate International Women's Day 2021. I commend all members to read the book. I am sure the member for Florey will be happy to sell you a copy on behalf of the Muriel Matters Society.

It outlines that daring Australian girl who went to England and made such an extraordinary impact on the suffragist movement in England. We commemorate her work through the loan with an indefinite end date of the grille she was chained to in our Centre Hall in this parliament. All our schools around South Australia will be encouraged to know her story, as indeed English school students who attend the education program at Westminster are able to when they go through the education program in the Westminster parliament. They see the video, they hear the Australian accent of the suffragist leader, they ask questions and they are told about Muriel's story.

We are doing work in the education department to ensure that, as we are delivering lesson plans and scope and sequence documents through the Department for Education that are now being made available schools in the high school HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences) program, that Muriel's story is told as part of that so all students across South Australia are made aware of that.

Indeed, I am really pleased that, on your initiative as Speaker of the House, sir, the education department will work with you as the Speaker on a Muriel Matters award that will be made available to schools across South Australia to particularly encourage girls and young women to be leaders, to celebrate the International Women's Day theme, as we are describing it in the education department, shining a light on our future leaders.

*Grievance Debate***MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN**

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:30):** I rise to talk about the sad, sad tale that is the Murray-Darling Basin and, particularly for South Australia, the fate of the River Murray. We know that the basin is overallocated and that being overallocated is unsustainable. This would be the case anyway, but it is particularly and acutely a problem given the rapid onset of serious climate change.

Back when the Murray-Darling Basin Plan was first being established, they tried to work out how much water the environment needed, and they came up with a figure of 750 gigalitres. It was manifestly not enough, but 750 gigalitres was all the other states would come up to. South Australia kicked up. South Australia didn't capitulate. South Australia said, 'You know what? We're not going to sign up. We're going to oppose this,' and through that process got 450 gigalitres added to the figure.

That is still not enough, but it is as much as we could get. It will make a material difference to the quality of the environment and therefore the health of the River Murray all the way up into the basin. That 450 gigalitres was to be delivered through efficiency projects—on-farm efficiency projects—whereby, for example, if a farmer in the other states was still using open-cut irrigation or spray-arm irrigation they could have drip installation put in, paid for by the federal government, and give some of the water that they saved to the environment making up, we hoped and expected, 450 gigalitres by 2024.

The socio-economic criterion that was established in the plan that was law, that is still law, is simply that an irrigator, the owner of the land, wanted that to happen. If they wanted it, then that was good enough, that was a good socio-economic outcome and it would be funded. However, New South Wales and Victoria have done everything they can from day one to oppose the 450 gigalitres, and one of the ways they tried to do that was by imposing onerous complex criteria that would make it harder for any such efficiency project to get supported.

South Australia resisted all the way until the sudden capitulation in December 2018, and that drew the now famous rebuke from the royal commission, and I quote:

It is nothing short of a capitulation to the interests of the current Commonwealth Government, and those of Victoria and New South Wales. It is so contrary to the interests of South Australians that the decision by the Minister responsible—

*Mr Whetstone interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for Chaffey!

**Dr CLOSE:** I continue—

is almost certainly a breach of at least [clause] 2.5 of the South Australian Ministerial Code of Conduct.

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, the leader!

**Dr CLOSE:** The Premier's response to that—in parliament only, never repeated outside—was to call that finding by one of the top three barristers in Australia—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**Dr CLOSE:** —the royal commissioner and a top legal mind—ludicrous and nonsensical. So what happens? We have these pages of criteria, these hurdles for the projects to clear, and we have no projects. David Speirs, in the meantime, said, 'It's alright, the water is coming.'

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The deputy leader will resume her seat. The member for Chaffey will leave for 20 minutes in accordance with standing order—

*Members interjecting:*



**The SPEAKER:** Members on my left will cease interjecting. The deputy leader has the call and the deputy leader is entitled to be heard in silence.

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

**Dr CLOSE:** The interim deadline of 62 gigalitres by mid-2019 comes and goes—not met. Still, 'Oh no, the water is coming. The water is coming.' In 2020, an independent report goes to the federal government—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for West Torrens on a point of order.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** I hate to do this to you, sir, but the member for Chaffey on his way out was making gestures and mocking your ruling, in my opinion.

**The SPEAKER:** I did not see any gesture, nor did I observe any indication of dissent in relation to the ruling. I will consider all available evidence and, as may be required, come back to the house. I have the point of order. The member for Lee, on the point of order?

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Mr Speaker, thank you for your consideration. I just draw to your attention previous rulings by the last two Speakers of the house, the current member for Hartley and the former member for Croydon, who established a precedent of naming a member should they wish to give another member a send-off when they have already been asked to leave under standing order 137A.

**The SPEAKER:** As I have indicated, I have the point of order and I will consider all the available material with a view to considering the matter. On the point of order, the Minister for Innovation and Skills.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** This was before your time, but one of those members who was named was then allowed back in the chamber because it was considered an error and an overreaction, sir.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! There has been—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr Szakacs:** Where's the veto?

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for Cheltenham! There has been some—

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

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Lee will cease interjecting. There has been some, shall we say, opportunity for clarification on both sides in relation to the point of order raised by the member for West Torrens. I have the member for West Torrens' point of order. I have indicated what I will do about that. With the concurrence of the house, I will consider the available material and return to the house. The deputy leader has the call. I am conscious of the interruption.

**Dr CLOSE:** So, to return, in 2020 an independent report went to the federal government and said, 'This 450 gigalitres is in real trouble. At most we estimate you will get 60 gigalitres by 2024.' David Speirs still says, 'No, everything is fine because my mates are going to look after me.' Yesterday, the federal government declared it will not fund any on-farm water efficiency projects. Those farms in New South Wales and Victoria that could have had efficiency projects installed will not have them paid for by the federal government because the federal government has chosen not to help get the 450 gigalitres.

We are now left with off-farm water projects. I have had a look at those water projects and some of them are bridges. They are bridges on the report that are listed to handle modern-day agricultural machinery. As long as we have a National Party MP as the federal water minister and a

weak South Australian minister, we will be treated as irrelevant, and South Australia cannot afford to be treated as irrelevant on the River Murray. If the River Murray starts dying from the Murray Mouth, from the Coorong, up the Lower Lakes, it will make its way up to the other states. They are living in a fool's paradise if they think that they can get away with ignoring the interests of South Australia and ignoring the interests of the environment.

Here is what we must do. We must withdraw support for those criteria, exactly as recommended by the royal commission. We must change the plan so that the Barnaby Joyce cap on buybacks is abolished, and we have to get ready to go to court. We are going to have to lawyer-up in order to have our interests, which means the environment's interests, protected.

### MODBURY HOSPITAL

**Dr HARVEY (Newland) (15:38):** Today, I rise to speak about the \$97.5 million upgrade to Modbury Hospital. Since I was elected as the member for Newland in 2018, and as a member of the Marshall Liberal government, we have sought to end the cuts inflicted on Modbury Hospital from Labor's failed Transforming Health policy and instead invest, returning key health services to the north-east. I think it is safe to say that Modbury Hospital is the issue that is raised with me the most. Whether I am out doorknocking or just out and about in the electorate, it is made clear to me that the residents of Newland and the people of the north and north-east in general want better patient care closer to home. This is why it gives me great delight to talk about the upgrade to Modbury Hospital.

Several milestones have already been completed, including the completion of an eight-bed emergency extended care unit, an upgraded hospital facade and a refurbishment of the administration area on level 5. Easing pressure on the emergency department is a key focus of the upgrade, and the completion of a specialised emergency extended care unit goes a good way to addressing this.

The new unit allows patients who are assessed in the emergency department to be moved to the new unit for further observation and treatment for up to 24 hours. This frees up emergency beds and improves the movement of new patients into the emergency department. Construction is also underway on the new 20-bed Palliative Care Unit. The palliative care team at Modbury Hospital receives around 1,200 new referrals every year for both inpatient and community care, and the new unit, with private gardens and natural light, creates a more homelike environment with space for families to stay with their loved ones during end-of-life care.

I must say that in the time I have been the candidate for Newland, as well as the now member for Newland, I have never heard anything other than positive comments and feedback about the palliative care service at Modbury Hospital, but now we are backing up that wonderful service with a modern, purpose-built, state-of-the-art facility.

There is plenty more to look forward to, with the upgrade with works continuing for a new surgical suite, high dependency unit, front entrance and the relocation of the outpatient department to allow for more streamlined access in a more efficient location. This is on top of the recent announcement that a further \$1.5 million has been invested for lift upgrades. Once completed, these upgrades will deliver, as promised, improved health care for our communities, more beds at Modbury Hospital and fewer transfers to the Lyell McEwin Hospital.

This extensive upgrading and enhancing of Modbury Hospital is not just delivering better healthcare services for the residents in the north and north-east but, importantly, is stimulating the local economy at a time when it is needed. Over 200 construction workers are onsite daily, and nearly 1,400 people have been involved in the construction so far.

Further to this, the upgrade has used over 100 tonnes of reinforced steel that has been processed and manufactured locally in Cavan, and 1,100 cubic metres of concrete has been sourced from companies across South Australia, providing a huge boost to local suppliers and tradespeople throughout this economically challenging period.

I would also like to take this time to thank the staff and patients, as well as the volunteers, at Modbury Hospital. The upgrade at the hospital no doubt has caused some disruptions over the last year in what has been a challenging period, so I would very much like to thank them for their patience. This is indeed an exciting time for residents of the north-east. Modbury Hospital is an ageing facility

that has been long overdue for an upgrade, to the point where it had been neglected under the previous government and bits of the facade were falling off and crumbling to the ground below.

I am proud to be part of a Marshall Liberal government that has put an end to the cuts and downgrades that had previously been inflicted on the people of the north-east through Labor's failed Transforming Health plan and instead is investing in world-class infrastructure to deliver better patient care closer to home for people in the north-east.

### **GFG ALLIANCE**

**Mr HUGHES (Giles) (15:43):** I rise today to talk about GFG and Greensill, which has been a topic in a number of articles now in the press, both internationally and here in Australia. I am not going to go into the details about the financing, given the complexity and the murkiness surrounding the financing that has been entered into. It is probably suffice to say that GFG does have a very significant exposure to Greensill, as does Greensill have to GFG. It is a fast-evolving situation, so we will see over the days to come where we will end.

What I do want to talk about, though, is the positive element when it comes to GFG in Australia and the various arms of its operation in this country. When I look at my community of Whyalla, we have seen a turnaround in the steel industry in Whyalla to the point where it is now in the black. Hopefully, that will continue for some time. Its order books are full. When we look at the mines at Whyalla, the hematite exported from Whyalla is fetching a real premium at the moment with high commodity prices. The export of hematite through the port at Whyalla is making a lot of money.

It is worthwhile also talking about the port itself. The previous Labor government put \$50 million on the table prior to Gupta being the successful bidder for the steelworks. When that \$50 million was put on the table, it was partly predicated on opening up the port in Whyalla to third-party use. I would have to say that GFG and SIMEC Mining have moved in that direction. We are now seeing third-party users export through Whyalla. We have OZ Minerals with copper concentrate from Carrapateena being exported from Whyalla.

A number of other companies are lining up to negotiate about exporting through Whyalla. It is being used as an import point as well. I could talk about ports for a long time and some of the, I think, misguided stuff that is going on in our state when it comes to ports. I would say in relation to the Whyalla port that the sensible option for the north-west, the sensible option for the Gawler Craton, is to consolidate and expand at Whyalla, given the presence of the industrial infrastructure, given the presence of an actual port and given the presence of a labour force.

Of course, we have had flagged by GFG the commitment to build a 280-megawatt solar plant at Whyalla and, longer term, the hydrogen vision. It is a vision that has been adopted in a number of other countries when it comes to producing green steel. Sweden stands out, as does Germany, in the work being done in that area.

What I want to say is that, irrespective of what is going on in the finance world, when you look at the assets in South Australia at Whyalla and when you look at the workforce in South Australia at Whyalla, there is the potential for a strong future, but that strong future will require vision. It is a vision that matches the vision of the Playford government from many years ago when it came to establishing an integrated steelworks in Whyalla, with the very strong bipartisan support of the Labor Party at the time.

In the mines at Whyalla, magnetite is used as the feedstock for iron and steel production. Work is going on to establish the JORC reserve, and odds are there is going to be a billion-plus tonnes of magnetite in the Middleback Ranges on Whyalla's doorstep. It is enough ore to do value-adding for many years to come in addition to potentially having an export industry. It is value-adding that we need to retain in this state irrespective of what is going to happen over the coming days.

It is going to require vision, and it is going to require the Treasurer going back on the comments in the upper house on Tuesday that there is \$50 million—that we put on the table as a Labor government—and nothing more for the operation at Whyalla. That is not good enough. That is not a vision. When Nyrstar was saved in this state, there was \$300 million from a Labor government to underwrite that. We need vision and we need commitment.

Time expired.

### ELDER ELECTORATE BUSINESSES

**Mrs POWER (Elder) (15:48):** I rise to recognise the outstanding efforts and hard work by those in our local community through their local businesses in light of the past very challenging 12 months. COVID restrictions helped keep South Australians safe and strong but undoubtedly had a huge impact on many businesses. To the credit of many local businesses in my local electorate, they confronted the challenges of COVID-19 head-on, became agile in their businesses and adapted. Within my local community, there are countless examples of businesses that have pivoted and emerged stronger, some with new business models to take forward.

Having recently visited some of those local businesses, I would like to acknowledge a few. One of those is the much-loved Kyttons Bakery, located in Edwardstown. Baking in South Australia since 1938, Kyttons Bakery was founded as a family business. It has been sold twice in its history, but on each occasion to a family friend of the previous owner, keeping those ties very close.

Darren and Sharon Sutton took over in 2003 and Minister Pisoni and I had the absolute pleasure of meeting them and learning more about their incredible business. Last year, they indeed faced challenges of not being able to open their shopfront, but they pivoted quickly and opened up a shop window enabling customers to still purchase direct from them, whilst being COVID safe, and this helped to see them through that challenging time.

In an incredible feat, I want to share that Kyttons Bakery bake 24,000 lamingtons per day—it is absolutely incredible—and half a million hot cross buns over the seven-week period in the lead-up to Easter. This little bakery is punching well and truly above its weight in what it is achieving and the quality of products that it is producing. Certainly, with Easter fast approaching, I encourage everybody to get behind a local bakery and support bakeries like Kyttons in our local area. I can also attest to their incredible lamingtons, or the 'lovingtons', which were around on Valentine's Day that both the minister and I had a chance to sample; they were just delicious.

Also in Edwardstown is tech company GaP Solutions. They are a sale and retail management software developer, as well as a supplier of food processing and weighing equipment for groceries, fuel, liquor, fresh produce, butchery and deli outlets. With supermarkets and essential businesses as busy as they were during the height of the pandemic, GaP Solutions were very well placed to cater for their increased demand. It also gave them the opportunity to focus on their internal operations, ensuring they emerged stronger. They also launched an online store to keep their business growing in 2020.

Another tech company located in my local area is Melrose Park business Dematec Automation. Dematec Automation is a multidisciplinary engineering company specialising in integrated systems, including industrial automation and robotics. They have been delivering projects and supporting systems from Melrose Park in all parts of Australia as well as internationally since 1990. Having visited Dematec with Minister Pisoni recently, we saw and heard firsthand some of the incredible innovative platforms that this business is using, and they are saving other companies tens of thousands of dollars in electricity costs due to their innovation. It is just incredible.

These are just a few examples of many local businesses and the people who run them that are enriching our local area and contributing to strengthening and growing our local economy. To all the local businesses in my area and all the businesses across South Australia that have used innovative methods recently to overcome challenges, I sincerely thank each and every one of them for their strength, their energy, their commitment and their dedication to their business, their employees, their local community and to our great state.

*Personal Explanation*

### MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:53):** I seek leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

**Dr CLOSE:** I reviewed the TV footage that we have of proceedings because I was concerned that there had been a question over the figure that I had used in the first grievance.

Indeed, I had misspoken: I said 750 gigalitres when I meant 2,750 gigalitres, so I seek to correct the record. I wish only that those who took the water away from South Australia would be so quick to let facts be their guide and correct the record also.

**Mr WHETSTONE:** Point of clarification.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Chaffey, the subject matter of an explanation is not open to debate. If the member for Chaffey would seek leave to make a personal explanation, he is entitled to do so, but otherwise I will move on.

#### **MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN**

**Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (15:54):** I seek leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

**Mr WHETSTONE:** I was listening to the deputy leader give a statement to the house on clarification around the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and 2,750 is not actually the Murray-Darling Basin Plan target; 3,200 is the Murray-Darling Basin Plan target.

#### *Grievance Debate*

#### **WORKPLACE EQUALITY AND SAFETY**

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (15:55):** I rise to speak about the deep anger and dismay that I feel and that I know is felt by women and other people in light of the happenings here and across Australia. It is anger that kept me and many others awake last night and anger that very strongly gives rise to a shared sentiment that enough is enough.

Over the past few weeks, extraordinarily brave women and those who love and support them have brought to public attention the most harrowing accounts of alleged rape, sexual assault and harassment that have allegedly occurred at the hands of male parliamentarians and political staff—powerful, entitled people who have allegedly caused the most devastating harm.

Parliament House in Canberra, and indeed the house that we sit in here in South Australia, should, like all workplaces, be safe, inclusive and free of discrimination. It is clear from the voices of these courageous women that they are not and it is clear that they are a very long way from being the exemplary standard-setting places of work that they should be. The courage of these women, their voices and their experiences must be a catalyst for enduring action for change—change that is desperately needed and change that we all have a responsibility to make.

Yesterday, in two different cities two very different speeches were given. One gave me hope that we can and will make change and the other elucidated exactly what and who needs to change. The first was given by the extraordinary Australian of the Year, Grace Tame, a leader with such clarity and dignity whose courage is inspiring others who have been sexually abused to raise their voices and who is emphasising the difference that our collective voices can make on the dreadful prevalence of sexual assault.

Grace called out victim blaming, including the horrific comments made by the Chief of the Australian Defence Force about the need for cadets not to make themselves prey to sexual predators whilst being out late at night alone and attractive. How about a message instead to people not to rape? Grace urged everyone to listen and let those who have been abused share their stories on their terms. Grace also sent a clear message to the Prime Minister, a man who has shown no leadership or empathy on the horrific alleged sexual assaults we are learning of, that it should not take having children to have a conscience—grace indeed.

The other speech was from a powerful, privileged man who has not been proven guilty, who does however have an alleged history of inappropriate behaviour towards women, who through his words pulled focus to himself, made himself the victim, discredited a deceased woman whose voice must somehow be heard and listened to, questioned her mental health and claimed that no-one had ever shown him the detailed statement from her, despite the police investigation in relation to the matter now being closed. I know which speech resonated with me.

I have no doubt that many in the Liberal Party hope that our nation moves on and that this is the end of the matter. Until these horrendous issues are inquired into, it will not, nor will it move on

from the anger, dismay and shock that it have felt about the alleged rape of staff members in Parliament House in Canberra.

Our state will not suddenly move on from the appalling harassment and abuse we have heard through the Equal Opportunity Commission review into our South Australian parliament. Women and those who support them have had enough. There will not be a moving on until change is made, until women are believed and until we are not seen as lying cows, troublemakers, provokers or people to be moved on for speaking truth and speaking up.

There will not be a moving on until we are not assessed by our appearance, by how much we drink, by where we go or who we see; until women are equally represented in this place and in every parliament, corporate setting, sporting and other organisation; until the culture of cover-up disappears; until we are safe wherever we work, whomever our boss is, whomever we work alongside and whatever our position is; when we are at home, when we are out at night, during the day, at school, in a park, at a shopping centre or wherever; and until those courageous women who have spoken up in the most difficult of circumstances are afforded justice.

I am so sorry for all that those who have been assaulted or abused have gone through. I and I know thousands of others are inspired by their courage and it will drive us to continue to speak for as long as it takes to ensure every single woman and every single girl can live her life free from violence, free from harassment and free from abuse and discrimination.

Time expired.

#### **CHAFFEY ELECTORATE SPORTING CLUBS**

**Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (16:00):** I would like to speak about some of the grassroots sports in South Australia. As we know, sports are one of the key components of healthy living, growing up and building great communities and societies and are particularly critical to regions and electorates such as Chaffey.

We understand the importance of recreation clubs and sporting grounds and their role in increasing the health and wellbeing of local communities, but we need improved positive social interactions. To do that, it is about promoting sport, it is about activity and it is about giving the fabric to a regional community, particularly in the Riverland and the Mallee, where the benefits have flow-on effects for the whole community rather than just those who participate and are part of that sporting activity.

We remember the names: Ebert, Lindner, Fielke, Ricciuto, Schammer, Modra, Beech, Light, Darling, Eddington and Schubert, as well as both Malcolm Hill and Alex Hill—a great sporting family. That is just to name a few of those great sportspeople who have come from the Riverland and are now mentors to the young.

Just recently, I was busy out and about in the electorate, giving out the Active Club grant certificates and funding. We had the Marshall government's Active Club reboot round announced in November 2020 and what we have seen so far is those 48 successful clubs now out there reaping and sharing the rewards of that reboot round. This is an initiative that I think has really given some confidence to those clubs.

Even though in most instances it has been a small amount of money, it just gives them the impetus to go and put some more equipment there and to give those young ones the hope they will one day reach the heights of some of those greats I have just mentioned. Of course, the voucher program of \$100 per junior sportsperson has been widely embraced by those junior sportspeople. In particular, we have seen Aussie Rules, we have seen netball, we have seen calisthenics and we have seen gymnastics having great uptake in the Riverland.

I will just name a few of those successful clubs that I have been out hand-delivering some of those certificates to. There are many of them, but I would like to mention them because they are such important institutions in a small regional community. Firstly, the Berri Basketball Association and Olivia O'Leary-Fletcher, the Berri Netball Club and Chrissy Eleftheriadis, and the Berri Water Ski Club and Lachy Winnall, who is a very keen enthusiast when it comes to water skiing. I do not think he does much water skiing, but he is very keen and very supportive of that club.

There is also the Loxton Football Club with Steve Blaser and Tracey Reichelt; the Loxton District Bowling Club; the Loxton Kart Club; the Moorook Bowling Club with Michael Smith, who is one of the committee members there; the Renmark Tintra Tennis Club with John Pick, who is an absolute stalwart and a tennis legend in regional South Australia; the Renmark Table Tennis Club and Dennis Robinson; the Riverland Lawn Tennis Association, again headed up by John Pick as president; and the Berri Hockey Club with Zac Arruzzolo, who I visited out at the great synthetic turf courts down there at Berri.

I will also mention the Brown's Well Netball Club, with Erin Gibbs and Anita Leach out there flying the flag for Brown's Well, one of the great independent clubs; the Waikerie Tennis Club and Jamie Myer; the Waikerie Amateur Basketball Association with Hannah Lehmann, who is a great sportsperson, a great advocate and a great mentor for women's sport at Waikerie; The Lawns bowling club, with Peter Brown as treasurer; the Renmark Basketball Club, with Kieran Johnson doing a great job as grant coordinator; Renmark Kart Club and Jayne Gelston; the Riverland Cruising Boat Club, with Elaine Ashworth as the secretary; and the Waikerie Gliding Club, with Bill Mudge a long-time supporter of and advocate for that club.

At the Waikerie Horse and Pony Club, Juanita Herzog is doing a great job, and at the Riverland Dinghy Club, Sue Jenke is doing an outstanding job. She is the anchor person for the dinghy club, which has now become almost world famous after having Red Bull as one of their corporate sponsors.

The Loxton Tennis Club, with Phil Smith as their president, are doing a great job, as are the Loxton Pistol Club with Michael Pennington and the Barmera Golf Club with Brian Finn. Of course, he is a longstanding advocate of the Barmera Golf Club, doing great things and making it a real destination. The Renmark Small Bore Rifle Club is also doing a great job.

This is just to name a few of the clubs that have been recipients of the Reboot Round, and there are many more. I hope to soon be out there, presenting more certificates and making sure that they have their funding so that they can improve their club, attract juniors and make sure that sport is the fabric of a regional community.

#### WAITE ELECTORATE

**Mr DULUK (Waite) (16:05):** Today, I want to share with the parliament some of the fantastic achievements of my local community in Waite and celebrate some of their successes. Firstly, I would like to start with recent award recipients from the Australia Day awards. I begin with Emeritus Professor Wayne Sampson, who was awarded an AM (Member of the Order of Australia) for his outstanding service to dental education, especially in the field of orthodontics. He is currently emeritus professor of orthodontics at the Dental School at Adelaide University; he has been active in that profession since the 1970s. He spent many years as a lecturer at the University of Adelaide and in 2008 received a meritorious service award from the Australian Society of Orthodontists.

Ms Fiona Thomson OAM has received a Medal of the Order of Australia for her dedication to academic librarianship and to youth through her work with the Girl Guides. Ms Thomson has been involved with Girl Guides SA for decades, and has served in multiple positions within the organisation, offering wonderful support to young South Australians. Her efforts and service within the library and information space has been long standing. She spent many years dedicated to the University of South Australia as a systems librarian.

Ms Jill Argent OAM received an Order of Australia medal for her fantastic service to the arts and cultural heritage. For those people who know Jill, she is the most exciting individual—full of life. When I saw her late last year at Carrick Hill we had a great chat about all things heritage and art, and she shared some of her secrets for longevity as well. She is currently the Deputy Chair of the Independent Arts Foundation of South Australia and is an art teacher at Living Choice in Fullarton.

As the president of the Friends of Carrick Hill, Jill has made a significant contribution to maintaining the key heritage site of Carrick Hill in my community, and she of course had a huge hand in the latest round of developments. Her tireless efforts for this important site are to be commended, and I am thrilled that she has been recognised in this manner.

From the City of Mitcham's perspective, in terms of their Australia Day award recipients, big congratulations go to Mr John Arthur from Bedford Park. He was named the City of Mitcham's Citizen of the Year. I have loved working with John for many years, as well as with his community and his

passion for service to the wonderful pockets of Bedford Park. As I said to him on Australia Day, 'Pat will be looking down from above at you receiving the award, and she would be so proud.'

Mr Tom Morrison from Glenalta has received the City of Mitcham's Young Citizen of the Year Award. He is the founder of 20 Metre Trees, which is a fantastic community group that looks at ecology and saving and preserving trees in our community. I really enjoy working with Tom as well, especially up in the Hills, on the many local green projects that we do.

Congratulations go to the Big A charity shop at Colonel Light Gardens. They received the Mitcham Active Citizenship award for their dedication to supporting community members through their op shop. It is fantastic to see local people recognised in our community.

On Monday, I was at Kingswood Oval with the sports minister, the member for Gibson; Nicolle, the member for Boothby; Mayor Heather Holmes-Ross from the City of Mitcham; plus club reps David Heaslip from the Unley Jets Football Club and Ollie Smith from the Unley Gunners Cricket Club to do a bit of sod turning on the redevelopment and upgrade of their facilities. It is going to be a fantastic project at Kingswood for two really important local clubs that do so much.

The building there is from the 1970s. It has two storeys and does not have any disability access. One of the keystone individuals of the Unley Cricket Club is Dave, who has been the scorer there for 25-odd years. He is mobility impaired and he is in a wheelchair. He said he is looking forward to scoring for another 25 years, and the reason he has not retired is that he will now be able to score from the newly developed grandstand on the first floor.

It is wonderful to see the contribution the government can make with community when it works together, especially in funding a local sporting project. Hopefully, by the start of cricket season next year there will be some fantastic new facilities at the Kingswood Oval.

Finally, last Saturday night I was able to attend the Coromandel Valley Ramblers Cricket Club quiz night at the Coro primary school. Over 200 people attended, raising lots of money for the club. As luck would have it I won the meat tray raffle—and thanks to Luke at Blackwood Butchers for that donation—and for some reason was on the winning table. A big congratulations to Matt Smith, Stephen Davenport and Tony Benson who were duly recognised for their service to club cricket by Cricket Australia, especially to Tony, who has given 50 years of continuous service to the club and our local Coromandel Valley community.

### COMPULSORY LAND ACQUISITION

**Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (16:10):** I rise today on behalf of two of my wonderful constituents, Peter and Kathy Taylor from Nantawarra. Peter and Kathy own a farm just off Highway 1, just off the Princes Highway, where they have cared for the land for decades. The farmhouse in which they live is only 150 metres away from the highway, which is currently slated for duplication that will take it from its current two lanes to a four-lane roadway.

It needs to be stressed at this junction that the Taylors do not oppose the duplication of the highway; they acknowledge the great benefits that will have for traffic flow. However, in order for this duplication to happen there have been some exploratory talks with the Taylors about the compulsory acquisition of their land on the eastern side of the road. Coincidentally, that is also the side of the road on which the Taylors' house is situated, and the proposed acquisition would take that road corridor boundary to within a very short distance of their residence.

I visited the Taylors early in the week, and the traffic is already quite loud and obtrusive along that road. You can hear it quite clearly from their residence, and I think that having that roadway moved closer to their house would make it almost unbearable. I do not think anyone would want to live that close to national Highway 1 and live that close to constant heavy traffic flow. Thankfully, there is a solution readily available.

On the western side of the road there is a large corridor that is currently owned by the Crown which is currently occupied by a small amount of vegetation. On behalf of the Taylors, I have been advocating that that corridor be used to accommodate the road duplication rather than the paddocks that abut their home. The corridor is wide enough—40 metres wide at some points, according to the Taylors—to accommodate a significant majority of the new road, and it would be a far more economic option than acquiring a significant portion of farmland.



Less compulsory acquisition means less expense for the department, and less spent on land means more can be spent on the road—a wonderful result for all involved. Of course, there would be those who argue that the loss of vegetation should be the overriding concern, but I would argue that that small amount of vegetation could easily be replaced. My understanding is that where roads are duplicated it is necessary that there be a verge left between those two dual-lane carriageways for safety reasons.

Any displaced vegetation could be replanted there or perhaps new, more appropriate native vegetation could be planted in its place. I believe there is scope to have more native vegetation placed between the roadways than currently exists as opposed to what is in that road corridor adjacent to the road. I have been in contact with the Minister for Environment's office on this front, and I am looking forward to hearing back from him about investigating this option.

In my view, there is no reason to acquire the Taylors' paddocks when there is a wide, unused, Crown-owned corridor immediately adjacent to the road. Why compulsorily acquire expensive, fertile farmland and threaten the viability of the Taylors' family business when there is a sensible option of a Crown-owned parcel of land readily available for use? I have met with representatives from the department along with the Taylors to put this option forward, and any help the minister can provide on this front would certainly be greatly appreciated by myself—and, of course, the Taylors.

On that front, I have to commend the government, both state and federal, on that initiative, the duplication of the Princes Highway, to improve traffic flow. Included in that I would like to congratulate the government on the significant investment at Port Wakefield—a huge amount of dirt has been moved around there to commence the upgrade of that traffic logjam—as well as the Northern Connector, which opened recently and has had a tremendous impact on those of my constituents who like to get to Adelaide, making sure their travel time has been significantly reduced.

Unfortunately, that joy of reduced travel times might well be short lived with the recent announcement that there will be traffic lights installed at Buckland Park to accommodate the residential development of Riverlea. It does not make sense to install a set of stoplights, lights that will become the only set of lights between Port Augusta and Port Adelaide, after so much good work has been done on improving traffic flow. It will, in my view, have a disastrous effect on traffic flow, create an enormous bottleneck and have a significant impact on the efficiency of freight movement from my electorate trying to get to Port Adelaide.

In my view, the installation of these lights needs to be stopped. None of the other residential developments on the other side of the road have had lights imposed upon the people of Narungga. An alternative option should be considered with some haste to prevent this disastrous decision having an impact on my constituents. I wrote to the minister on this topic about a month ago and I look forward to hearing a response.

Common sense needs to be applied in the development of road infrastructure. Using available Crown land to accommodate road duplication rather than acquiring expensive farmland is an example of that common sense. Installing traffic lights along Highway 1, the busiest freight route in the state, completely undoing the previous improvements to traffic flow, is an example of not using that common sense. Let's use common sense on road infrastructure.

#### *Members*

#### **MEMBER FOR COLTON**

**The SPEAKER (16:15):** I can advise the house that the member for Colton has advised me that he has resigned from the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee.

#### *Parliamentary Committees*

#### **ABORIGINAL LANDS PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE**

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (16:16):** By leave, I move:

That Mr Murray and Mr Pederick be appointed to the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee in place of Mr Cowdrey OAM (resigned) and Mr Ellis (resigned).

Motion carried.

*Parliamentary Procedure***SITTINGS AND BUSINESS**

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (16:16):** I move:

That the house at its rising adjourn until Tuesday 16 March 2021 at 11am.

Motion carried.

*Bills***SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MULTICULTURAL BILL***Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading (resumed on motion).

**Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (16:17):** I rise to support the bill. It is an important piece of legislation that will modernise. We know that for far too long what I would consider the outdated approach to multiculturalism has been front and centre of the concerns of this Marshall Liberal government, but, more importantly, the concerns of the multicultural society here in South Australia.

We know that for a very long time South Australia has been one of the most diverse multicultural societies in the country. It has a proud multicultural history, particularly in the Riverland, which has benefited from the large constituency of residents who are rich and diverse in cultural backgrounds. The Riverland is home to the one of the biggest multicultural communities in the state and immigrants are the backbone of our region. The Riverland is home to more than 60 different nationalities, making it one of the most diverse cultural regions in the state.

This bill will modernise and refresh what has been regarded as an out-of-date bill. It will bring in the multicultural charter and policies to serve our community far more extensively. We have seen multiculturalism here in South Australia as one of the great staples of our society. I would also like to pay respect to the Hon. Jing Lee in another place for the great work she has done on behalf of the government and Premier in bringing those cultural groups together to better understand how the government can support them and give them the recognition they deserve.

My background has been far, wide and varied and over many years, with not only my family farms employing a diverse range of nationalities but also working at General Motors Holden myself and doing an apprenticeship there. It was made up of a wide and varied multicultural society.

Many immigrants came to this country looking for opportunities and looking for work. We have seen many of them, whether as part of a skilled workforce on the tool room floor or part of a semiskilled workforce on the production lines. The multiculturalism, particularly in the car manufacturing industry, was an absolute staple, and particularly at GMH.

Moving on to another career in the oil and gas sector, I would also like to recognise a different skill set. People from all over the globe came there, mostly with speciality skills. The oil industry is wide and varied, and it not only requires a lot of skill to extract precious gases and condensates but it requires the skills of those who are globally recognised. I was a young fellow coming away from small business in South Australia and what I saw there just beggared belief—the skill set that came from all parts of the globe and being part of what is considered one of the nation's most enriched natural resources, the oil and gas and condensate sector.

Upon leaving there I moved to the Riverland to venture into irrigated horticulture. It gave me the opportunity to realise how valuable different nationalities are. I would like to name a few of the nationalities that came through my gate to help not only with developing properties, whether it was planting, training or pruning, but at picking time, when it was time to put fruit into bins or into sheds. There were many different nationalities who helped.

I want to recognise the majority of them. I remember backpackers in the early days were various nationalities. There were Europeans, Spaniards, Germans, French, Italians and, of course, Greeks. The property became widely recognised very quickly as a highly productive property and so I was then looking for a much more reliable workforce. When I say reliable, I needed large groups of

those workers to come in and pick large volumes of fruit so that we could actually supply sheds. That is when I had the pleasure of employing full time the Spanos family, a very highly regarded and respected Greek family in the Riverland.

They would turn up in the dark every morning and have their cup of tea and then as soon as day broke they would get on with it. They were an absolute staple for my business. Along the way I had many good experiences with them. I had many good experiences with the Indian, Sikh and Punjabi nationalities who came in. As I said, if you have a good property and a highly productive property it is a magnet for that workforce to come in. Of course, the Turkish community also made their presence felt, as did the Cambodians, the Croatians, the Yugoslavs, the Afghanis and the Filipinos.

The Filipino community in the Riverland is really one of the communities that goes under the radar. As I understand it, in the Murraylands and the Riverland there are 570 Filipinos living there and doing great things for their culture, not only as a reliable workforce but also with their cultural diversity and their ability to engage with Riverland communities. They have shed a light and educated me on not only their work practices but also their food. Their food is outstanding. It was nothing unusual for me to be sitting with them at lunchtime enjoying some of the great food that they would bring along to spoil me because they love sharing.

Of course, the South African, the Chinese and the Lebanese workforces have all been a part of my business over a long period of time. It really has given me an appreciation and a much clearer understanding of cultural diversity and also of the type of customs they have. They are very pedantic about instilling those customs on their friends and family. More so, they would instil them in me, and it was very much highlighted particularly by their food and their customs after hours. At one point in time I found myself almost at a social event many times a week with family members from those different cultures.

If I weave my way around the Riverland, there was always an opinion of those cultural centres that traversed some of those Riverland towns. At Waikerie in the early days there were many Italian families. They were drawn to Waikerie predominantly through the vegetable sector and the citrus industry. At Barmera we have the Hellenic Club, so obviously there were many Greeks at Barmera, particularly down at the lake. Berri was an unusual town—not to say that the English are unusual, but they certainly made themselves very much part of the Berri community.

Loxton, which is home to one of the great German cultures in South Australia, still to this day is a very proud community with a very strong and rich German heritage. Renmark has a Greek population. As I understand it, per head of population it was the second highest population of Greeks in Australia. For a small Riverland community that was just outstanding. We cannot forget the Gerard Mission, which was made up of our First Nations Aboriginal people. They were a very important part of the Riverland's multiculturalism from a very early stage. Multiculturalism in the Riverland has been a significant part of the Riverland's heritage, and it has been such an important part of opportunity.

Those multicultural groups that came to the Riverland saw hope, they saw opportunity and I saw a way that they could actually work hard, they could earn their money and then they could one day realise their dream—to buy land, to buy agriculture, to raise a family and be a part of today's modern society. They worked collaboratively. In many instances, many of them were masters in the way that they collaborated. Their families came together, they worked together and they worked as groups to satisfy the needs of some of the horticulturalists so that they could get their crops off, get it into the pack houses and get it to market. To do that they were rewarded well. It was very hard work.

As I have said over recent times, particularly with the agriculture sector looking for a workforce, those multicultural communities—some more than others—would come to the fore. They would work hard. They would make the economy bounce along. But just as importantly, they were part of an economy that needed a workforce. If we look at the electorate of Chaffey, it is the largest fresh potato and onion growing electorate in the Southern Hemisphere—that takes labour. If we look at the citrus industry, it is one of South Australia's largest horticultural sectors, as is summer fruit, as is the almond sector. This all requires a workforce, and it requires a workforce that is prepared to work, be productive and get on with it.

We all know that the Riverland is the engine room of the wine industry, producing some 480,000 tonnes of wine grapes, but that needs a workforce behind it not only in the vineyards

planting, training, feathering, growing and pruning but it also needs a workforce there to get it out of the paddock, into the wineries and making sure that we get it out of the wineries into containers and out there to the world.

They were always masters at planting, training, picking, processing, packing, and they were part of a very valuable economic chain in making sure that all the ag sectors were suitably serviced by a workforce that was prepared to work. I give all of them their dues. They come out, they work hard and they play their part.

I also acknowledge Norman Schueler in the gallery. Norman is part of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission. I have just had a conversation with him about an emerging multicultural society coming into South Australia, and, importantly, coming into the Riverland, and that is the Pacific Islanders, the program that the Pacific Islands are now offering the horticulture sector.

It is about people coming in and harvesting our produce, our valuable produce. Nowadays, we are harvesting high-value commodities. They have to be harvested in a timely fashion and they have to be harvested in a way that we can get it to the processors, get it into containers, get it onto trucks and get it to markets. Whether it is domestically or globally, it is vitally important that we have a reliable workforce that is prepared to be a part of that.

The Tongans, the Vanuatu and the Kiribati people, the Fijians and the New Guineans, to name a few of those Pacific islanders, will be a valuable part of not only the Riverland's economy: they will play a larger role in South Australia's ag sector. They may come away from the Riverland; potentially, they will work in the red meat sector and the vegetable industry, but more importantly, they are looking for opportunities.

They are looking for opportunities that previous ethnic groups that came into South Australia were looking for. That was opportunity, that was looking for hope and the ability to raise a family, to earn some money and then be landowners. We all know that in any society nowadays people are looking to create wealth. They are looking to own land, and that is what has been a big driver in the multicultural society up in the Riverland.

Getting back to the bill, on the 14<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the SAMEAC Act, I guess the bill is timely. It is a reaffirmation of the importance of multiculturalism here in South Australia. It reasserts the Marshall Liberal government's commitment to continue to promote and support the contemporary South Australian multicultural community.

As I have said, the Marshall Liberal government has put an absolute, very firm focus on multiculturalism in South Australia. As a government, it is our responsibility to give all those multicultural groups the opportunity to interact more with our community, to give them the opportunity to be better represented when it comes to government, when it comes to society and when it comes to being part of a community.

I know that I have had many conversations with other MPs looking to interact with some of those multicultural societies coming into their electorates, coming into their industries. We look at ways that we can have them better interact. We look at ways that we can have them come in and have them not fostered into a community but given pairs of families that will introduce them to the sporting community, introduce them to social groups and give them opportunities that focus on being part of a community, not giving them reason to exile over to a small corner of a regional community or a metropolitan community.

We know that some of the visitors who come from another part of the globe come and look and think that their skills are in areas other than agriculture, but I would say that every nationality has a strength. Every nationality has a passion and every nationality has a will to be a part of a community, whether it is smaller or larger. It is a valuable exercise for all of us in this chamber to better understand how valuable their contribution to our modern-day society is.

The consultation process has been spread far and wide. I know that that consultation process came up to the Riverland. Whether at the temple at Glossop, the Punjabi temple at Renmark or the Lebanese mosque at Renmark, my interactions at many of the community centres where I have had

the opportunity to meet, eat and socialise with these people have given me an opportunity to appreciate who they are and their cultural differences.

That has given me a much clearer understanding of the type of people they are and the types of needs they have because not every multicultural group is the same; in fact, many of them are very much different from the next. They all have common goals, they all share the dreams and they come from far and wide.

That is why am very proud to say that we have embraced the 60 or so nationalities in the Riverland. We have given them opportunity. We have given them a welcoming embrace in bringing them into our community, making sure that if, there is an opportunity or a talent scout out there, we get them to a sporting club and give them opportunities for new sporting codes for them to embrace. We make sure they are part of those festivals, those street parties, and we make sure that they can interact and be part of what I consider is one of the best regional communities.

This bill is a part of that. Some of the stories I have just talked about are about their being part of this new modern bill that this government is bringing before this place today. The multicultural charter will present a better opportunity. It will mean there is a better institution here in South Australia. It is ably led by the Attorney today. It is a passion of the Premier and a passion of every member of this government to make South Australia a more diverse multicultural state.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (16:36):** It is a great pleasure to be here today in this house or, as we will often say in Morialta: 'È un grande piacere essere qui in questa casa oggi.' The South Australian multicultural experience is incredibly rich and indeed the envy of many societies and communities around the world. It is built not just on an accident of good circumstance and good fortune but on the hard work of many communities. When they came to South Australia, those trailblazers worked so hard to establish their families and their communities in South Australia, to participate in the life of South Australia and to help to make our state more diverse and our enjoyment of life more rich and colourful, but it was not always easy.

I do not think that rose-coloured glasses about everything in our past necessarily can be only applied. We also need to acknowledge that there were some very difficult circumstances facing different generations of people coming to South Australia at different times. Some people had to break down barriers with the sweat of their hard work over many years to get to where we are today.

I particularly commend all those people in communities who did struggle with discrimination against them, whether it be in the schoolyard or in a workplace. I acknowledge the struggles that many people went through to achieve the strong foundations for their multicultural communities in South Australia, whether it is in the fifties or earlier, or in the seventies; the communities were different. Our community and our state has become better through the application and effort of so many who worked so hard.

It was also very important that government policy respond to the needs of a changing community. Indeed, it was visionary, I would suggest, during the era of the Tonkin government in particular and, I think Murray Hill was the minister—I see Norman Schueler nodding at me, so I trust that I am correct here. Murray Hill did this work and it was critically important in establishing the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission more than 40 years ago now. That framework was incredibly useful for South Australia to really affirm that it was not just a confluence of events. Through the arrival of communities from overseas they formed a place in South Australia and people were starting to enjoy each other's company and get along better.

But it was in fact government policy, supported by all sides of parliament—the Conservative side, the Liberal side, the Labor side, the Greens and Democrats, everyone else in the parliament. They were supportive of this framework of multiculturalism within which we understood the South Australian community would be able to prosper.

I congratulate all the parents of those reforms in the 1970s. I thank them for the efforts they have made. I thank the generations of community leaders who have supported the work of SAMEAC over its 40 years. Currently, Norman Schueler is the Chair of SAMEAC and he has many outstanding predecessors. I thank all those commissioners over the years and all the people who have worked in government.

The work of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission has supported government policy in many ways. It has supported communities in many ways. The trailblazing roles

of many of those commissioners, not just as commissioners but in the communities from where they have come and who they are representing, have been tremendously important. It has helped new communities coming to Australia to have the advice of the more well-established communities who were already here.

In my own local area, we have a range of different multicultural communities. My current boundaries include a town like Lobethal, which is German for Valley of Praise, where the migrants who came from Prussia in the 19<sup>th</sup> century fleeing religious persecution were able to find a home in South Australia. Eventually those 12 families, along with their pastor, were able to come to Lobethal to form a community where they could practise their religion freely. They could celebrate their culture, a culture which is still celebrated in the town to this very day. It is absolutely tremendous. It has helped create that region of the Adelaide Hills in the Morialta district to be what it is.

Again, I am reminded that it has not always been easy. The Blumberg Hotel in the town of Birdwood reminds us that the town of Birdwood did not used to be called Birdwood. It was called Blumberg. So many communities—in response to events happening in Europe, and understandably to some it was a significant loss—had German drummed out of them at that time. Some of them have regained it. Hahndorf is again called Hahndorf. Birdwood is now Birdwood. They have retained that heritage through recognition of what has happened. The message for us today is that we value that language and that culture for the communities coming to South Australia to be retained.

The dominant multicultural community in my area, certainly under the new boundaries but even under the old boundaries as well, is people of Italian heritage. There are 100,000 South Australians of Italian heritage and many of them live in Morialta, which is a great joy to me. I have three living in my house. The impact of the Italian community on my local area, indeed on the whole of South Australia, is very difficult to understate. It is impossible to imagine South Australia without the extraordinary contribution made by the Italian community.

People from Italy came to South Australia in small numbers in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, in larger numbers in the 1920s, but the postwar migration period was an extraordinary explosion of Italian culture and life in the late 1940s, 1950s and 1960s. Many families, with nonno in our family's case, came to Australia. Maybe they came with their friends, maybe having been encouraged to come to South Australia because they could get work and they could send money home to help support the family back at home. Often it was mum and the kids back in a town, whether it was Molinara or Altavilla Irpina or Paduli or a town very familiar to my family in San Giorgio La Molara.

The experience of so many families, not just in Campania and across Italy, was that the money that could be earned in Australia was good money and dad could keep sending money home. Eventually, two, three or four years later, the whole family might have come out. What an impact they have had.

It was not always easy, though, for some of those families. Many people around South Australia were encouraging their children not to speak Italian at home—not just Italian; this is something familiar in other cultures too—but to learn English. It was because of a desire to integrate and work hard. We value the hard work and the impact it has had, but we have lost something in that lack of language. For my children, we are so grateful that they can speak to their nonno. Nonno speaks to them in Italian. I want them to have every opportunity to engage with their cultural heritage.

I think one of our key messages as parliamentarians—and I am sure we all do it when we are talking at citizenship ceremonies—is to encourage new South Australians who come from communities and countries where they have a language other than English that it is a gift. It is a gift to be able to share that with your children so that as they learn English they can also have that connection with the language of their parents, their heritage and their culture.

That is a gift to the broader South Australian community, too, because not only do they then have agency that is enhanced by that language but having more and more people in South Australia who speak multiple languages is tremendously to the benefit of our economic future as well. We know that multilingualism assists in the way students can progress in all their other subjects at school, just to name the school students.

It is also great to have many people in South Australia who are able to engage with people from different countries. It helps with our intercultural understanding. I will come back to the use of

the word 'intercultural' in its application to this bill in a moment, but I am sure that all members would join with me in encouraging new migrants to Australia to keep telling the stories of their heritage and their culture to their children as they bring them up in South Australia's multicultural community. That is tremendously valuable for a number of reasons.

I hope that when my children are in the schoolyard when attending school, they will have some Italian. They may learn some other languages too, if we are very fortunate. Hopefully, they will love doing so. I hope they will be able to talk about the stories of their nonno, bisnonno and bisnonna coming to Australia and the extraordinary sacrifices and courage that their bisnonna and bisnonno showed in coming to South Australia, an entirely new country, a new society and a new language but with new opportunities. They made great friends and they have made a great contribution to our community.

I want my children to be able to tell those stories to their friends and learn the stories of the heritage and culture that they come into contact with as well. That is what I desire as a parent and I am sure many do too, but as government policy goes, we also need to have an active stance on ensuring that our structure and framework is contemporaneous, modern and best able to support the communities that are coming to South Australia now.

As I said, the leadership of SAMEAC has been doing a lot of this work over many years. I am really grateful that SAMEAC has been proactive in participating in citizenship ceremonies. The member for Hartley and I are regular attendees at the Campbelltown citizenship ceremony, for example, where we have been really glad in the last few years that SAMEAC has had a commissioner participate and share their own story of their journey to Australia with the people there, making sure they know they are welcome. New citizens are welcome, and their own stories are celebrated too.

There are many communities throughout Morialta, not just the German and Italian heritage communities. There are many people from South Asia and Central Asia and an increasing number of people from Africa. No longer is our community just focused on celebrating Christmas and Easter as our major religious celebrations but we have many opportunities to celebrate Eid, to celebrate the Lunar New Year, to celebrate Pongal and to celebrate Diwali. Many of these have festivals that take place in our public spaces and our parks, and throughout our community many of them benefit from support through government grants and Multicultural SA.

As Minister for Education, I am particularly encouraged to be responsible for supporting our Ethnic Schools Association and our community language schools throughout South Australia. We have more than 100 community language schools, from the smallest and newest—we had a new one this year, which we were pleased to provide the teacher accreditations to at a celebration recently—to schools like the Vietnamese school. Binh Nguyen was telling me they have well in excess of 1,000 students at their three sites. It is an extraordinary volunteer effort. Indeed, some of these schools are big enough to support paid staff. Being able to share language and share culture with the children of those communities adds a lot to South Australia.

I was pleased that the former government increased support for the Ethnic Schools Association in their last year in office. Not to be outdone, this government had to therefore increase it further, because there was still more work to be done. I am really pleased that we were able to give the most significant per-student increase in decades to our Ethnic Schools Association and all of those community language schools when we came to office.

The bill today will do a number of things. The SAMEAC has served us well for 40 years and continues to serve us well, but I think the bill can offer enhancements to that. I think it is really important that the way that language is used in the SAMEAC Act is contemporised. The driving factors informing the current framework were relevant in the 1970s. Of course, the experience of communities in more recent times has been different and the challenges they face are different. In many circumstances they are coming from very different backgrounds potentially than they did before. The existing government frameworks within which those challenges were faced have changed as well.

Our schooling system has really strong, intensive English language programs, supporting particularly students from refugee programs, or really any students who need that extra support in the English language, to be able to successfully participate in our education system. At the moment, that program is seeing fewer students coming in, but there is a level of expertise in that workforce that is very profound and significant.

When the borders are lifted after the pandemic comes to its conclusion, or at least our society gets to the point where vaccinations mean we can lift those borders at a national level, we fully expect that system to come on track again. In the 1970s, of course there were good teachers in the system, supporting students from non-English-speaking backgrounds, but it was not remotely in the same professional way that it is now.

There are 40 years' worth of supports from multicultural grants, SAMEAC and Multicultural Affairs SA that the current situation is able to build on. The bill reaffirms the importance of multiculturalism to South Australia. It reasserts the commitment of our government to continue to serve and deliver for the contemporary South Australian multicultural community. When debate is concluded and the legislation has passed, I hope that the improvements will make sure it provides a framework for government's interaction with the multicultural community in South Australia that will last for another 40 years. Time will tell, but I am very optimistic and confident that the improvements in the bill will help.

I look forward to the reflections from the opposition in the weeks to come. I commend the shadow minister for multicultural affairs, the member for Ramsay, on her return to this portfolio. She served as the Minister for Multicultural Affairs during the period when I was the shadow minister for multicultural affairs from 2016 to 2018. She may have even preceded that appointment by several months, but I know that this is an area that she enjoyed working in in government. I am sure that she will appreciate the opportunity to re-engage as the shadow minister in this role. In commending her on her appointment as shadow minister for multicultural affairs, I offer my congratulations and my sincere hope that she will continue to be the shadow minister for multicultural affairs for many, many years to come.

I look forward seeing her at many events at the community language schools, which I serve as Minister for Education in the multicultural electorate of Morialta. I look forward to seeing her at those events. I hope that she will represent the Labor opposition for decades. The Labor Party could not do better for a shadow spokesperson from their ranks than the member for Ramsay. I look forward to seeing her positive and constructive engagement with the government on getting the best possible outcomes. I am absolutely certain that she will massively enhance the work that was done by her predecessor. In my experience, the member for Ramsay is quite sincere in her engagement and I am very sincere in my congratulations to her.

I want also to reflect in thanking Norman Schueler, who, as the Speaker identified earlier, is not only the chair of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission but also the longstanding president of South Australia's Jewish Affairs Council, and I think I have the title right. Late last year and this year saw the launch of a very important new institution recognising the particular challenges and circumstances of Mr Schueler's own community, the Jewish community, in South Australia—the Holocaust Museum and Andrew Steiner Education Centre in Wakefield House just off Victoria Square, next to the Catholic archdiocese buildings.

As Minister for Education, I am really pleased to have played a role in providing funding to the Steiner Centre and the Holocaust Museum in developing their education program and, indeed, as the minister responsible for the History Trust, which has provided further funding to their establishment. I commend the Morrison federal government, in particular James Stevens, the member for Sturt, and Josh Frydenberg, the Treasurer, in their provision of \$2½ million for the further development of that program.

I commend all the board and all the people working on it, and I know that it, too, will play a really important role in South Australia's multicultural future. I commend to every member the museum and I encourage you all to pay it a visit.

**The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (16:56):** Buona sera. It is an absolute pleasure for me to speak on the South Australian Multicultural Bill and I do so as a very proud grandson of Italian migrants who left post World War II Italy to come to Australia seeking a better life. I have often said that I would describe our rich South Australian community as a somewhat beautiful mosaic, with all these different pieces and different cultures coming together.



It goes without saying that we are certainly enriched as a state, as our local communities are, for these countries and these cultures coming together. In my own community in my own electorate of Hartley, I acknowledge what a privilege it is to serve a very large and diverse community with many multicultural communities coming together. Sir, you would know that certainly not many weekends would go by when I am not at one of these multicultural community events.

For example, I would say the majority of weekends I would spend some time at one of the Italian festas, whether it be the Festa of San Pellegrino, the Festa of the Montevergine or an array of other feasts. They are certainly well attended and I especially commend the Italian community in my area, who continue to follow those traditions to enrich our state by bringing their traditions, their food, their culture and their language.

There are also many weekends when I attend various Diwali Mela celebrations. The Indian community is certainly a community that is growing. It is one of the fastest, if not the fastest, growing communities here in South Australia, and I have had the good fortune of visiting that country. In South Australia, we are extremely lucky to have a proud and growing Indian community.

In my local area, the Chinese community is also quite a large community. Recently, of course, we celebrated the Year of the Ox and the Chinese New Year, and I was able to attend both central and local celebrations for the Chinese New Year. Of course, there are also citizenship ceremonies. I do my very best to make sure I attend every one of my citizenship ceremonies.

In the event that I cannot attend, I certainly make sure I follow up all my new citizens. It is with great pride that I support those citizenship ceremonies, and it is a real joy to be able to see where our new Australians are coming in. They all have a unique, diverse story to tell. I often invite them back to Parliament House, because I think it is important that we invest in our new communities.

I remember my grandparents would often say that when they were new arrivals they certainly remember the politicians who reached out to them. Unfortunately, some of them said that Don Dunstan was quite a charismatic politician in the seat of Norwood, where some of my grandparents lived at the time, and they remembered what Don Dunstan would do. It would make me remember what they would say about that. Later it was Dean Brown and John Olsen. My grandparents would often talk about these leaders in their community, and they would get to these events that they would hold, and they really appreciated the investment politicians made in the local community.

It is incumbent upon us to make sure that we invest in our local communities, our multicultural communities, especially where we are able to assist them. Often when these communities come here, some people might not have a thorough understanding, for example, of certain processes or there might be language barriers. It is incumbent on us to do all we can to make sure that we help to make their transition a little bit easier when they come to South Australia, and make sure that they go on to do good things in our state.

This has obviously been nothing but a great land of opportunity for our multicultural communities, and it is very important that we do all we can to ensure that those multicultural communities continue to thrive. It goes without saying that thriving multicultural communities have certainly been one of the major engine rooms from South Australia's point of view.

Coming to the bill at hand, the government has brought in the South Australian Multicultural Bill 2020, which is the subject of what we are talking about today. Recently, the government conducted a legislative review of the SAMEAC Act to help shape what is new legislation. The consultation phase of the review featured various fora and certainly different workshops, a number of written submissions and also online fora and survey. Recently, up to even this week, a number of members have been contacted about this bill.

Key themes from the consultation were that the concept of multiculturalism should be modernised to reflect what are certainly changes and practices from some decades ago, to also modernising SAMEAC's functions. I acknowledge our very hardworking Chair of SAMEAC, Mr Norman Schueler, who is here present in the gallery today. I commend the work of SAMEAC. Only recently, I had the pleasure of catching up with Mr George Chin, and I thank him for his service and his leadership role in the Chinese community. It was great to catch up with him during Chinese New Year celebrations as well, and all the other members of SAMEAC—people like Maria Maglieri and others—who do a wonderful job in promoting a multicultural community in South Australia.

It has also been said that the legislation certainly should recognise Aboriginal South Australians as carriers of the original cultures in this state, but also to make sure that multicultural principles are included in the legislation. Of course, we also want to contemporise the language in the SAMEAC Act. I am confident that the South Australian Multicultural Bill 2020 reflects much of the feedback that was received during the consultation, and it has been presented far and wide.

After extensive consultation, our government has introduced the bill that will replace the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act. It also builds stronger and more vibrant multicultural communities. It is good to see that the bill will modernise the language used to refer to multiculturalism and also reform the current multicultural commission. It also requires the development of a multicultural charter that will lay a foundation for the development of future government policies and also better services for our community. There may be some questions about that perhaps at the committee stage, and I know the Attorney-General will answer those if they do arise.

The bill certainly reaffirms the importance of multiculturalism to South Australia and it does reassert our government's commitment to continue to serve and also deliver for the contemporary South Australian multicultural community. As I pointed out, this is a multicultural community that continues to change. When I was first elected in 2014, it was certainly a diverse landscape, and it will keep changing, so it is only appropriate that, as community expectations change, as the community itself changes as well, our laws, which we bring forward on behalf of our communities as a government, continue to change with those expectations.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of the many volunteers who volunteer for the diverse range of multicultural groups in my own electorate. To the many clubs, the various array of organisations we have out there—be they religious or otherwise, sporting organisations (often some of those are linked as well), community groups, not-for-profits—I thank them for the good work they do.

Only recently, for example, I was at the Campania Club. I was ably joined by the member for Newland, as well as the member for King, the member for Florey, various other members and the Minister for Education. It was a real pleasure to be able to thank many of the volunteers who were out there. These community groups are the backbone of our community. Often many of these volunteers will donate hours each and every week. Often decades of their life are dedicated to these good causes, so I thank them for that.

They certainly hold our community together. We are very proud to have them, and I hope these clubs and these organisations, be they religious, sporting, community or otherwise, continue to be very successful into the future with what I am sure we could describe as the ongoing changes in the community. A lot of these community groups were set up after the post World War II migration phase that Australia went through, and we are seeing now that a number of these organisations are passing on the baton and that is a very good thing.

They are opening up to other cultures as well and, through those diverse cultures coming together, they are further enriched. I look at some of my local community groups that are going through that transition at the moment. Just as they are going through that transition, we see new organisations, new cultures, setting up their own clubs and their own organisations as well. It is a real privilege to be able to serve as a member of parliament with such a diverse, rich number of cultures in my own electorate.

From a portfolio area, I also acknowledge the wonderful work the departments do in making sure that they run tailored programs, be they language programs or culturally sensitive programs, making sure that we communicate well with our various cultures and that we are as inclusive as possible. That is certainly a good thing as well.

In wrapping up, I will not hold up too much of the house's time, but I do thank each and every one of the organisations, people who have contributed to this bill. As I said, it is only natural that a whole range of feedback has been provided. I know that certain questions, if they have arisen, will certainly be fleshed out and answered. I commend the bill to the house.

**Ms LUETHEN (King) (17:09):** I rise to support the South Australian Multicultural Bill. As the member for Hartley has just said, we are enriched as a state by our multicultural community. After

extensive consultation, the Marshall Liberal government has introduced the South Australian Multicultural Bill with the aim of refreshing and modernising the approach to multiculturalism, raising awareness of interculturalism and building even stronger and more vibrant multicultural communities in South Australia.

The bill modernises the language used to refer to multiculturalism and reforms the current multicultural commission. It delivers in collaboration with the multicultural community a multicultural charter that will lay a foundation for the development of future government policies and better services for our whole community.

This bill reaffirms the importance of multiculturalism to South Australia and reasserts our government's commitment to continue to serve and deliver for the contemporary South Australian multicultural community. South Australia has been a leader in multicultural affairs legislation for a long time, and as a state with a proud and justified reputation in this area it is vital that we continue to underpin our policies, programs and activities with contemporary legislation.

To expand thinking beyond multiculturalism, the concept of interculturalism was incorporated into the legislation as being inclusive, contemporary and encouraging the exchange of ideas between communities. The bill also refines the functions of the renamed multicultural commission, which will be well placed to lead a shift in our thinking about multiculturalism and interculturalism. It also modernises its operations to ensure transparency and consistency with the policy and guidelines for South Australian government boards and committees.

The government thanks all those who were involved in the consultation period for their passion and interest in modernising our state's multicultural laws and is determined to pass this bill as it will deliver better services and policies for our community. On the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the SAMEAC Act, this bill is a timely reaffirmation of the importance of multiculturalism to South Australia, and it reasserts the Marshall Liberal government's commitment to continue to promote and support our South Australian multicultural community.

Talking on this bill also provides me with a timely opportunity to promote some wonderful upcoming and recent events I have attended. One wonderful upcoming multicultural event is the Holi on the Beach colour festival, which is absolutely fabulous and great family fun. The fifth annual event, Holi on the Beach 2021, will be held at the same favourite location, Semaphore Beach, on 28 March. This is a free family event, and I thank Amit Katiyar and his wife, Neelam Katiyar, for all their efforts in past years and this year to bring this special day alive in South Australia.

For people who have not attended this event, it is a fun family colour festival. There is dancing and throwing and smearing of wonderful, safe, vibrant colour powders, and the air becomes thick with this colour powder, not to mention that people become very colourful too. It is a family event with live music, dance and great fun, and we would love the community to join us. The people there are a reflection of people from across the community.

I know my colleagues the Minister for Innovation and Skills and the Minister for Police, Vincent Tarzia, have attended in the past to speak at the event and have fun as well, though I am not sure they have got quite as much colour on them as I have. I wish to thank all the local businesses that set up their tents at this event and provide wonderful food for us to share and those businesses that sponsor the event, which makes having a free event possible.

I also thank the Port Adelaide Enfield council who have continued to contribute and support this event each year. With vibrant multiculturalism in mind, today I also wish to acknowledge Mayor Gillian Aldridge. I have three council areas in King—Salisbury, Playford and City of Tea Tree Gully—and so I get to attend on a regular basis all three citizenship ceremonies on behalf of King constituents. They are all very special and all very different.

One of the most multicultural ceremonies is at the City of Salisbury and I really enjoy the way Mayor Gillian Aldridge makes everyone feel important, welcome and proud to be living in the City of Salisbury and in South Australia. I really do commend her commitment to her community members and have to say that I love the way she asks everyone at the end of every ceremony, once they have become Australians, to all say together, 'Oi, oi, oi.'

With COVID, we have had to adapt the way in which the City of Salisbury has run this ceremony but she still makes every effort to make new citizens feel so important. I feel so proud at each of these community events, seeing the pride that people have in becoming an Australian. I love

doorknocking in the City of Salisbury, too, and seeing the different people from different cultural backgrounds all building the wonderful vibrant community we have today.

It is not easy for some of these individuals. At the last City of Salisbury event, I met a lovely new citizen who looked very sad, and I was surprised by how sad he looked after becoming an Australian, because he had been separated from his wife for three years. She was stuck in another country, still trying to get here to become an Australian. He had hoped to become an Australian with her and this why he was so sad. Of course, I offered my help to follow up her application, and to make sure they are following all the right processes to be able to apply to get her here and reunite them as a couple. What a struggle they have been through, but they continue as they really want to join us in South Australia.

Again, I commend the City of Salisbury for all they do to also run welcome community lunches and dinners to support all new members joining our community and to make everyone feel welcome, included and connected. In the City of Tea Tree Gully recently, I attended a wonderful event at the Golden Grove Recreation Centre, and I wish to express my gratitude toward the entire team who worked hard to present a seamless and beautifully crafted event by the Adelaide Bangladeshi Cultural Club—the Spring Festival 2021—at the Golden Grove Recreation Centre.

A big shout-out to all the guests who were present and made us feel like we were sitting in a home surrounded by the most amazing crowd, who were continuously cheering all the performers on from start to end. There was lots of art and performances. It was a wonderful event, spreading the love of art, culture, music and dance, celebrating a blend of western and Bangladeshi cultures. It was absolutely lovely.

I would like to give my heartiest thanks to the Adelaide Bangladeshi Cultural Club and a huge shout-out to the children who performed their absolutely gorgeous and outstanding dance performances, beautifully choreographed by Anamika Apu. I also want to mention the outstanding artwork, which was all over the stage, which held so much meaning, bringing the event to life and really contributing to the atmosphere. The singing, art and dancing really transported us from Golden Grove. We could have been anywhere in the world.

The Adelaide Bangladeshi Cultural Club held this amazing Welcome to Spring Festival in my electorate and their fashion culture, music, singing and delicious food was just so beautiful and we are so lucky that we do not have to travel far to participate in such special celebrations from around the world.

I wish to note a message that I try to share at every citizenship event where I have the honour of speaking, and that is to keep these beautiful cultures and traditions alive and share these with our friends from all different backgrounds. This month I will be making my Austrian knödel, which are potato dumplings filled with plums and apricots and rolled in sweet bread crumbs, a recipe shared with me by my Austrian grandma. I make these each year and invite my closest friends and family to share in this tradition. It takes me all day and lots of mess to make them, but sharing this meal is worth it. It is important for us to keep alive these traditions that bring people together, that bring families together, that make us smile and appreciate each other and that allow us to celebrate as a community in even the simplest of ways.

Some of the most welcoming families I have met when I am doorknocking are some of the families from cultural backgrounds different from mine. I fondly remember many times when I have knocked and said what I am doing, where I am from and that I represent the community and people have invited their whole family out to meet me and to tell me what is on their mind and what they would like to see. That does not always happen with all families but it seems to happen more often when there are different cultural backgrounds.

Over the past seven years whilst serving the community I have been welcomed at so many different cultural events and I have learned so much from these communities. Another one of these special communities in my area, with many people living in Hillbank, is the Cambodian community, who have been incredibly welcoming. I love attending their events and I thank Sarou for including me. About a year ago, they even invited me to help them select people for their community liaison positions to help out in the community and I enjoyed working closely with them.

I cannot talk about our multicultural community without mentioning the Campania Club. The member for Hartley mentioned that he, the member for Newland, the Minister for Education and I were there just recently, celebrating the 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Campania Club. I want to do a quick call out and thanks to Elvira, Luisa and John for their 45 years of work to make that club so special. I remember, early in my twenties, when I used to go along with my family to that club. It is just a very special place.

In closing today, I would like to thank Norman Schueler, Chair of SAMEAC, for attending today and for all his efforts in leading our multicultural community and contributing toward education, awareness and the harmonious community that we enjoy today. I thank the assistant minister for multicultural affairs for supporting this bill and bringing it here and for helping us create the most vibrant and harmonious community in South Australia. I commend this bill to the house.

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (17:22):** Thank you very much for the opportunity to rise on behalf of the people of Stuart to talk about the South Australian Multicultural Bill 2020. As I regularly say to my colleagues and friends, when your last name is van Holst Pellekaan, every day is multicultural day. Everywhere you go, everything you do, whoever you see, there is a multicultural flavour to it; however, it is also important for me to make very clear that in many ways, at least to the Dutch community, I am a dreadful disappointment.

I was born in Australia with half-Dutch blood, but I cannot speak Dutch and I have never been to Holland. I do not want to claim too much right off the bat. Yes, I do have half-Dutch blood but, to the Dutch, I am not much of a Dutchman. Having said that, though, even in my life, it has a very significant impact.

In 1937, my father came from Indonesia to Australia for the first time as a two year old with his Dutch family. His father was a trade commissioner to Australia and they actually moved back and forth between Amsterdam, Melbourne and Jakarta a few times before deciding that settling in Australia was the way to go. People who know the history of all three of those countries back then would have an understanding why that would have been a very attractive decision.

I have to say that my family on my father's side never looked back. They spoke Dutch at home very happily and the generation above me still does. Even in that way, there is an immediate impact. My father, when he married my mother, whose family had been in Australia for quite a few generations, was contemplating what they would do with their family when they got engaged and got married and had children—they had three children.

My mother, a very intelligent woman, on the way down this path because of her close involvement with my father's family, had said, 'Why don't we speak Dutch at home with the kids?' To be quite blunt, I do not think she cared about Dutch really; she just knew that any language was going to be helpful. Any language at home was going to give you insight into another culture and it was going to help your brain. For a dozen different reasons she knew that it would be good, but my father said no.

My father said, 'We have come to Australia. My family has come to Australia. I am Australian. My kids are going to be born in Australia. My kids are going to be Australian. They are not going to speak Dutch at home. My kids are going to be Australian.' I can only respect his decision. That is how he felt. If you go back 50-plus years, it was not uncommon to feel that way, and he stuck with that. I respect that and I have no desire to undo it, but for many families that is the way it was. So my brother, my late sister and I missed out. Maybe, if it was as simple as just learning another language, it would have been good. Maybe, if it had been as good as immersing yourself in another culture and feeling much more Dutch, it would have been much better. But I respect his decision.

Simultaneously, on my wife, Rebecca's, side, she has a parallel situation with an Italian father who emigrated to Australia when he was in his late teens or perhaps early 20s. He married a woman whose family had been in Australia for quite a few generations. My wife considers herself Italian—Australian first, but if you ask her what her background is, she says, 'I'm Italian.' She is immersed in that and she loves it. She really thoroughly loves it. Those are two people from a similar generation and from similar family structures but with very different pathways and very different decisions—and that is the right one as well for that family. There is nobody to say that whatever a mother and father decide to do in that way is right or wrong. They are both right, whatever they do.

I do think that I probably missed out on a fair bit, and I know that my wife, Rebecca, has gained an enormous amount. Her aunt on the Italian side was her godmother and her uncle was her godfather—santala and santalo—in that family. It is a great family on the Australian side, but really all the action was on the Italian side, and that is very much where her heart is. Why do I share these personal experiences with the house? I do so because it is actually really important.

I recently made a contribution in this chamber on the use and, in many cases, the revival and sharing of Aboriginal language, which is very important in my electorate of Stuart. When you see people in an airport speak a different language, you know they are sharing way more than the words. When they share their language in another country that speaks English, they are sharing a lot more than just a conversation. For friends and constituents in my electorate who are working really hard to revive the use of Aboriginal language, we know that there is nothing better for the continuation, the protection and, in many cases, the revival of Aboriginal culture in South Australia than for younger Aboriginal people to speak their mother tongue, so to speak. It is one of the most important things that they could possibly do.

Beyond that, the stories, the cultures, the practices, the traditions, etc., will flow so much more quickly and deeply if they are shared through Aboriginal language rather than through English. In my travels, I encourage everybody, if they have a multicultural background, to be really proud of it, to share it and to embrace it. When I think about multiculturalism in South Australia, I of course think of our broadly Anglo background in Australia.

I also think of European and Mediterranean migration, and of course I think of Vietnamese and other people. I think, naturally, of Israeli and Middle Eastern people who come to Australia. While all these people and many others have been coming consistently throughout the decades, there have been periods of time when more of them came at one time or another, and they have all contributed.

Right now, in my electorate of Stuart we have a thriving Indian community. It is absolutely fantastic. I would say that just in the last 15 years it has really started to flourish. There is a man called Dr Devinder Grewal, who came to Port Augusta over 40 years ago. He is a successful GP and a successful businessman. He started a motel decades ago as well as an Indian restaurant. That Indian restaurant in Port Augusta has been the catalyst for the current very successful Indian community.

If you wanted to run a good Indian restaurant in Port Augusta—the centre of the universe as far as I am concerned—and you went back 40 years, there would have been a few more challenges running one there than would have been in Gouger Street. You need some Indian people to come and cook and you want some Indian people to come and serve. You want that Indian restaurant to actually be Indian, not just have a sign on the door that says 'Indian restaurant' with Australians running it. He knew that and he did it very well.

That has worked so well in Port Augusta that we now have two Indian restaurants and, as an aside, there is a bit of competition, and that is a good healthy thing. We now have a repurposed set of shops with significant floorspace in a suburban part of Port Augusta that is working as a Sikh community centre and temple. This community has a very honourable ambition to actually build a proper temple in the way we would think of a temple physically. For these people, the space they use as their community centre and as their temple in Port Augusta is every bit as precious and valuable to them in its current state as, I am sure, any temple anywhere in the world. They are a wonderful group of people.

Going back to where I started with this conversation, it is not for me to say, but my observation and my opinion is that the most special thing they do is Sunday nights when the whole local Indian community gathers for a meal in the late afternoon or early evening. Of course it is not for me to say that that is more or less important than prayer or anything else, but I have enjoyed participating myself and, as an outsider, it looks to me that that is actually what is bringing everyone together, from infants who can barely walk all the way through to much older, more senior people.

There are two things I would like to say about this community. One is that they take it upon themselves to say—and I am so proud of this group of people for this—that every one of their families has at least one person working in the local community. That might seem pretty straightforward and it might not seem earthshattering, but if you were to take any group of people, pull them together

under any description you might like, you might pull together 200 of them and say, 'Okay, here are 200 people from any cross-section of society in South Australia,' could every single family in that group of 200 say that every single one of them has a job? Could every single person in this 200-person community say that none of their families were on welfare? I think that would be pretty unlikely, to be honest.

It is a fact—and this is not a criticism—that we have people throughout our community who need that support. But this group of people has taken it upon themselves to say, 'Yes, we are Indian. Yes, we are retaining our culture. Yes, we are Australian. Yes, we are here because we want to be.' One of these people is a wonderful community leader, Sunny Singh, who is a councillor in Port Augusta and does an outstanding job. He is a good friend as well, I should declare. They said, 'We are not going to be a burden. We are not going to let anybody even pretend that we are a burden. We are going to make sure that we are contributing'—and they are.

Another thing I want to share with this chamber is that in Port Augusta we have had for a while now the Singh XI. The Singh XI is a cricket team made up of people who all have the last name 'Singh'. I suspect there are one or two others who might rotate through the XI who perhaps have a different last name. They are actually pretty good cricketers and they play in Port Augusta.

It is one of the best ways you could ever imagine to assimilate yourself, to contribute as a group to the local area, to show that you want to participate. You are not trying to be different; you are not trying to be off on the side. You want to maintain your culture and have your Sunday nights and have your temple and have your worship and all those very important things, but you also want to be right in the middle of the community and the culture that you have come to join in.

I speak very highly of this group, and to me that is a fantastic example, but it is not the only example. In Port Augusta, there has been a German club, which closed down quite a few years ago. When the German club closed down because they ran out of active participants, from memory (and I hope I have this right) they gave \$120,000 each to two different community groups. They had nearly a quarter of a million dollars by the time they dissolved all of their assets.

They made a choice to split it in half and give it to two local community organisations, and they were not German groups. From memory, they were not even multicultural groups in any way. They took it upon themselves to say, 'We have had a German community here for a long time. Our people have started to drift away and we don't have quite the same unity of purpose to retain the German club that we used to have, so we are putting it back into Port Augusta,' which is absolutely fantastic.

Similarly, the Italian Club is in the process of closing down, which is very sad. There is still a very active Italian community in Port Augusta, but they are going through the same sort of process. These are organisations and people who have decided they are not going to donate this money to another German club in another part of the state or something: they are putting it into their local community, the community they came to join, the community they are members of. I see the same thing in my part of the world, regardless of the ethnic or national or racial background.

How lucky are we? How lucky are we in South Australia to have people who come to our state and join our communities? My experience of the last 30 years is overwhelmingly regional, so that is what I share, but I know that is not the only example around. But how lucky are we, as people who have been in the country longer, to have people come and contribute and share their culture and not be shy and lock it away. They have no shame, as people may have had decades and decades ago, and they really make a strong, active contribution. We are all the better for it.

With this bill, our government is doing the best we can to get the right structure in place. I know there are a range of views on this topic at the moment. We do not fear a range of views; there is nothing wrong with that. We are led not only by our Premier but also by the Hon. Jing Lee, who does an extraordinary amount of outstanding work in this area across the state. She has done so for the 11 years since she and I were elected together, along with the Premier and many other good friends and colleagues who came into parliament at the same time, and she has focused on that work and she does an outstanding job.

Can it be just right for every single one of the dozens and dozens of different multicultural communities or of the many people who have opinions to share on this area of work? Can it be just right for all of those people? No, it cannot. But can it be right in strong majority for what we want to

do as a government to develop all the outstanding benefits that come from a genuinely welcoming and active multicultural society in South Australia for the benefit of all South Australians? Can we do it so that it is overwhelmingly right for that? Yes, we can, and that is our intention. That is exactly what we are trying to do with this bill.

I think about Aboriginal people who have been in South Australia and Australia for tens of thousands of years. People talk about millions and billions and sometimes it is a bit hard to absorb. What does that really mean? We think about decades, we think about generations, we think about 2,020 years in one particular context. We can actually absorb what tens of thousands of years, 20,000, 60,000 in some cases, mean. It is pretty amazing, it is pretty special, but it is not too big to say, 'I just can't really comprehend it.' That is incredibly special.

I think about Aboriginal people and tens of thousands of years, through to early European settlers who have been here in some cases for six and seven generations. I am not aware of any, but there might be some eighth generation people in South Australia, and there probably are, but I just do not know any of them.

**The Hon. V.A. Chapman:** My granddaughters.

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** The Deputy Premier tells me that in her family there are some eighth generation very young South Australians. That is fantastic. That is all the way through to people like my father, who came here decades ago, and to people who arrived in the last few years. Because of COVID, the last 12 months or so have been a challenging time for people from overseas to come and make their home in Australia. It has not been impossible, but it has been extraordinarily difficult, far more difficult than normal.

We are blessed. We are absolutely blessed to have a safe, welcoming, stable, by world standards extremely well-off society here in South Australia. We are the better for that. We are the better for having Aboriginal people who can trace their roots back 60,000 years. We are better for people who came decades ago, and we are better in South Australia for the people who came in recent years or who will come in the next few years. Long may that continue. I wholeheartedly support the bill.

**Dr HARVEY (Newland) (17:42):** I rise today to make a contribution on the South Australian Multicultural Bill 2020. I am, like all members, a proud South Australian. One reason why I am so proud to be a South Australian is because of the deep multicultural roots of our state. We are home to people from 200 birthplace groups, who speak approximately 180 languages at home and observe more than 95 religions. This is an amazing feat and it should, and rightly so, be celebrated.

We as a parliament should also endeavour to ensure that multiculturalism can flourish as much as possible here in South Australia. I would like to note that my being here is as the result of immigration. My maternal grandparents, originally from the Portuguese island of Madeira, migrated in the sixties to Australia via Curaçao, which is actually part of the Netherlands Antilles. Like so many families at that time in that postwar period they made the decision to come to Australia to seek a better life for their family than they themselves had.

They moved to a very different place a very long way from home. There was very little prospect, certainly in their minds, that they would ever go back home again, nor were they ever likely to see their families again that they left behind. It was a very big move. In today's environment, taking COVID out of it, where the world has been so connected, it is difficult sometimes to fully comprehend the decision that so many families made in that period to move such a long way across the world in search of a better life.

Importantly, as part of that, they brought with them their culture and ways of doing things, which has all become part of what makes Australia and South Australia what they are today. One of the fantastic things that we get to do as members of parliament is to often visit various multicultural events.

One particular club that I am very proud of in the north-east and love attending is the Campania Club. A number of my colleagues here, the member for King and the Minister for Police and Emergency Services, have spoken about this club. It is a fantastic place in the heart of the



north-eastern suburbs. It has fantastic pizzas and pasta. The company is amazing. They even have an indoor playground, which is great when you are bringing the kids along.

Just last week, I was invited along to their thank you dinner. They invite along members of parliament and also some of their key sponsors, and other key groups within the Italian community, to celebrate together. I really thank them for their contribution to this fantastic club. I would particularly like to acknowledge Louisa and John, but the whole of the management committee for all the work that they do. I would also like to acknowledge the fantastic team of volunteers that they have there who cook amazing food as well doing all the other tasks that are required to keep the club running.

Coming back to the bill at hand, it is important to note that since the 1980s, when the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission Act 1980 was passed, our cultural, linguistic and religious make-up has changed significantly, with community values and perceptions being altered as time has gone by. Further, this act was heavily focused on establishing the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission but does not have an extensive direction on measurable outcomes about multiculturalism in South Australia. Further, there has not been a major review in this area for 30 years. On noting SAMEAC, I would like to acknowledge the Chair of SAMEAC, Norman Schueler OAM, who is with us today.

In 2019, the government conducted a legislative review of the SAMEAC Act through the medium of six community forums, an invitation only stakeholder workshop, written submissions, an online forum and an online survey via YourSAy. What was evident in the consultation stage was that multiculturalism should be modernised to reflect changes in thinking and practices, SAMEAC's functions should be modernised, multicultural principles should be included in the legislation, Aboriginal South Australians should be recognised as the carriers of the original cultures in South Australia, there should be greater transparency with the appointment of SAMEAC members, and the act's language should be contemporised.

The bill before us today reflects much of the feedback that was given. It would allow for an updated and refreshed legislation that reflects developments over the past 40 years, having consideration of broadening the focus from the functions of a body that deals with matters to do with multiculturalism and introducing and legislating for the new concept of interculturalism for the South Australian community. This concept of interculturalism is defined by the bill as:

...policies and practices that recognise and promote in the community—

- (a) a deep understanding of, and respect for, all cultures; and
- (b) a dynamic, inclusive interaction between diverse groups within the community.

The South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission will be replaced by the South Australian Multicultural Commission. The bill outlines in clauses 10(e) and 10(f) the functions of the commission to be:

- (e) to raise awareness and promote understanding of interculturalism;
- (f) to promote the South Australian Multicultural Charter and the advantages of a multicultural society.

The commission continues the legacy of leadership in multicultural affairs, but now with regard to the multicultural charter.

The charter has the effect of being foundational principles that define multiculturalism in the South Australian context. The inclusive and positive language will serve well for future government-funded policies and services in this area. The bill also states that the charter must have provisions that recognise First Nations peoples of South Australia and their role in the diversity of the people of South Australia.

Having the bill introduced is not the end of the matter. Multicultural Affairs intends to inform the community and other stakeholders with information sessions on 28 to 30 October 2020. Multiculturalism is a part of what makes South Australia vibrant and strong, and I cannot imagine this state without the diverse contributions as a result of that. This bill is a step towards taking hold of multiculturalism and morphing it for our own context: to better engage with communities that have for years been much of the bedrock of the success of this state.

I am proud to be part of a government that has the multicultural communities in the forefront of its mind. I commend the Premier's work as the minister in this area and also the assistant minister, the Hon. Jing Lee MLC, for her work. I commend the bill to the house.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Cowdrey.

**ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION (DISPOSAL OF PFAS CONTAMINATED SUBSTANCES)  
AMENDMENT BILL**

*Introduction and First Reading*

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

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

*Final Stages*

The Legislative Council agreed to the bill without any amendment.

At 17:51 the house adjourned until Tuesday 16 March 2021 at 11:00.

*Answers to Questions***ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

**345 The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson)** (11 November 2020). Did the EPA or any of its staff give any indication to Southern Waste ResourceCo their application to build Cell 3 would be approved?

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water):** I have been advised:

No.

**ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS ACTION PLAN**

In reply to **Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier):** I have been advised:

There are six resources within Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation that contribute part of their time to the Aboriginal Affairs Action Plan. As each resource only dedicates part of their time to this activity, the cost associated with this activity is not separately collated.

**ABORIGINAL HERITAGE STAFF**

In reply to **Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier):** I have been advised:

For the financial year ending 30 June 2020, \$895,000 in employee costs was incurred by Department of the Premier and Cabinet for Aboriginal heritage staff. This included a once-off TVSP payment of \$82,000 that was reimbursed by the Department of Treasury and Finance.

**LEGAL FUNDING**

In reply to **Mr PICTON (Kurna)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government):** I have been advised:

These issues are not related.

**LEGAL SERVICES COMMISSION**

In reply to **Mr PICTON (Kurna)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government):** I have been advised:

The \$6 million is accurate, noting that, over the same period the previous Labor government cut the LSC budget by \$11 million.

**VICTIMS OF CRIME FUND**

In reply to **Mr PICTON (Kurna)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government):** I have been advised:

Legal costs were \$0.3 million lower in 2019-20 compared to 2018-19.

**PUBLIC TRUSTEE**

In reply to **Mr PICTON (Kurna)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government):** I have been advised:

The Public Trustee has advised that, given the volumes involved (around 400,000 transactions and 120,000 payments per annum), a risk-based approach has been adopted.

This helps achieve a balance between validating the receipt of goods and services and intruding on customer's lives by requesting validation of each transaction.

To ensure that payments are made appropriately, the following controls are in place:

1. Third-party payment controls
  - Payments must be authorised by a Public Trustee delegate;
  - Requests can only be made by identified liaisons or supports of the customer;

- A quotation is required and if the goods or service is valued at over \$1,100 three independent quotes are needed;
- If a third party asks to make the purchase on behalf of the customer, reimbursement is only made on provision of a receipt;
- Cash funds made for purchases will only be made to a customer's personal bank account
- Customers and/or the support people are also provided with financial statements on a regular basis to provide the opportunity to check transactions.

## 2. Oversight of individual customers

Customers are managed by an individual officer and all purchase requests are recorded. Individual budgets are recorded for each customer and purchase requests must be made in line with the customer's budget.

Each customer file is also reviewed by an independent officer annually. Regular purchase requests below the \$2,500 limit may form a pattern that would be identified by the case officer or checking officer for investigation.

Various reports, which list customers by transaction value and/or volume, are utilised by the Public Trustee and reviewed by team leaders and/or managers to detect and review multiple transactions. Manual sampling and checking of source documentation and verification of receipt of goods and services has also been undertaken in the Personal Estates area.

## 3. High-risk file review

In September 2017 the ICAC recommended that 'Public Trustee conducts random checks or an audit of key controls and high risk areas'.

In response, the Public Trustee engaged Deloitte to develop a system and report to identify high risk customer scenarios, which also includes reviewing multiple payment transactions. A risk-based approach was adopted in July 2019 across the personal estates and trust areas to check customers identified in this report on a monthly basis.

### STATE OWNED GENERATORS LEASING COMPANY

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** The Treasurer has advised that:

The State Owned Generators Leasing Company has a board of directors.

As per its constitution, the board of directors of the company is to consist of the chair and up to three directors appointed by the Treasurer.

The following public servants have been appointed to the Board for an initial term of three years:

- Mr Stuart Hocking, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Department of Treasury and Finance (Chair)
- Mr Paul Heithersay, Chief Executive Officer, Department for Energy and Mining (Director)
- Mr Tim Burfield, Director Risk and Commercial Advisory, SAFA (Director).

### GRID SCALE STORAGE FUND

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised:

The Grid Scale Storage Fund is designed to target projects and services that help address the challenges that impact the state's power system now and into the future.

Hornsdale Power Reserve (HPR) in the state's mid-north has been expanded by an additional 50 Megawatt (MW)/64.5 Megawatt hours (MWh), after being granted \$15 million from the fund for the provision of additional system security benefits to the grid. The total capacity of the HPR is now 150 MW/193.5 MWh.

South Australia's Virtual Power Plant is also being expanded to commence phase 3, supported by up to \$10 million from the fund. Phase 3A is supporting up to 15 MW/40.5 MWh of additional storage by installing 3,000 solar PV and battery storage systems on Housing SA properties. This will take the total capacity of the SA VPP to 20 MW/54 MWh.

### GRID SCALE STORAGE FUND

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised:

Of the \$50 million budgeted for the Grid Scale Storage Fund, \$22.9 million remains unallocated.

**GRANTS AND FUNDING**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised:

Commonwealth-sourced grants and funding as reflected in DEM's financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2020 are:

Grants	2020 \$'000	2019 \$'000
Standalone and Embedded Networks	545	-
Smart Appliances Demand Response	100	-
COAG Hydrogen	75	125
Bioenergy	60	59
National Energy Efficient Buildings	44	46
Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards (GEMS) Inspections	42	61
Other Payments		
Salary reimbursement—Energy Security Board	-	31
<b>Total Commonwealth grants and payments</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>322</b>

Further detail can be found in section 2.6 of the Notes to and forming part of the financial statements.

**ACCELERATED DISCOVERY PROGRAM FUNDING**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining):** I have been advised:

DEM received \$6.18 million of funding from the Economic Business and Growth Fund in 2019-20 as follows:

- \$3.3 million for the Accelerated Discovery Initiative
- \$1.25 million for the Hydrogen Export Prospectus and Modelling Tool project
- \$1.2 million for ExploreSA: the Gawler Challenge
- \$0.35 million for the CORE Innovation Hub
- \$0.05 million for the Enhancing Land Access project

There were 14 successful applicants for round one of the Accelerated Discovery Initiative allocating \$2,977,600 to the following projects:

- DGO Gold Limited—Testing the Zambian Copper Belt model on the Stuart Shelf
- Havilah Resources Limited—Jupiter MT Anomaly Definition Study
- Boss Resources—Utilising 3D Passive Seismic and Slalom High-Definition Seismic reflection
- Argonaut Resources—Murdie IOCG Project
- Petratherm Ltd—Eastern Mabel Creek Ridge (Deeps)
- FQM Exploration—Geochemical Mapping of a copper mineral system
- FMG Resources—Roopena Fault Zone Infill Ground Gravity
- Minotaur Exploration Ltd—Using Innovation to enter a new Frontier—Taking new IOCG model to the Peake and Denison Inliers
- Havilah Resources Ltd—Investigation of REE Mineralisation in the Benagerie Dome
- Fleet Space Technologies—Large arrays of wireless sensors for remote mapping of heat flow
- Marmota Ltd—Expressions of mineralisation in Surface Plant Biochemistry on the NW Gawler Craton
- Ausmex Mining Group Ltd—Intrusive Related Mineral Systems, Delamerian Orogeny, Burra SA
- Andromeda Metals Ltd—Andromeda metals Halloysite Quantification Project
- Alligator Energy Ltd—Greenfield exploration for ISR uranium deposits in the Cooper Basin

**CAPITAL WORKS GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

In reply to **Mr BOYER (Wright)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education):** I have been advised:

The Capital Works Program Governance Committee is comprised of senior officers from the Department for Education and the Department for Infrastructure and Transport. Given the joint departmental responsibilities for the delivery of the program, the Chief Executive of the Department for Education, Mr Rick Persse, determined that it would be of benefit to appoint an independent chair.

Mr Persse considered a number of candidates for the role of the independent chair of the Capital Works Program Governance Committee.

Mr Persse spoke to the Hon Dr Dean Brown AO on 17 June 2020 in relation to the Capital Works Program and the role of the independent chair. Dr Brown subsequently accepted the role and entered into a Standard Goods and Services Agreement, signed by the chief operating officer of the Department for Education as a duly authorised officer.

The role of the governance committee is to provide investment assurance and strategic governance of the Capital Works Program. It provides assurance that the program is delivered as per the agreed parameters.

A fortnightly report is provided to the chief executive following each governance committee meeting.

#### **NON-GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS CAPITAL FUNDING**

In reply to **Mr BOYER (Wright)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education):** I have been advised:

There is no specific aggregated list of this particular grant. Grants disbursed to non-government schools are identified more generally in the Department for Education's annual report.

#### **SCHOOL SERVICES OFFICERS**

In reply to **Mr BOYER (Wright)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education):** I have been advised:

The full-time equivalent (FTE) School Services Officers (SSOs) at 30 June 2017 were 5,042.

At 30 June 2018, the FTE SSOs were 5,363, an increase of 321 FTE SSOs from the previous year.

At 30 June 2019, the FTE SSOs were 5,757, an increase of 394 FTE SSOs from the previous year.

At 30 June 2020, the FTE SSOs were 6,019, an increase of 262 FTE SSOs from the previous year.

The total increase in FTE SSOs from 2017 to 2020 was 977.

#### **EDUCATION DEPARTMENT STAFF**

In reply to **Mr BOYER (Wright)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education):** I have been advised:

The administrative staff referred to on page 101 are staff employed under the Public Sector Act. The net decrease of 162 FTEs is predominantly related to the machinery of government change associated with transfer of child and family support programs and services to the Department of Human Services on 1 July 2019 and as a result of TVSPs.

The change in FTE does not include school-based staff.

#### **TARGETED VOLUNTARY SEPARATION PACKAGES**

In reply to **Mr BOYER (Wright)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education):** I have been advised:

The average staff age at separation via a TVSP from TAFE SA was 58 years, and the oldest age at separation was 74 years.

#### **TARGETED VOLUNTARY SEPARATION PACKAGES**

In reply to **Mr BOYER (Wright)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education):** I have been advised:

The number of targeted voluntary separation packages offered at TAFE SA since it was established as a statutory authority in 2012 is as follows:

Financial year	No of employees who have received/accepted a TVSP
1 Nov 2012 to 30 June 2013	61
2013-14	370
2014-15	31

Financial year	No of employees who have received/accepted a TVSP
2015-16	70
2016-17	51
July 2017 to March 2018	110
April to June 2018	2
2018-19	99
2019-20	112

#### TAFE SA ENROLMENTS

In reply to **Mr BOYER (Wright)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education):** I have been advised:

TAFE SA continues to evaluate and adapt its course offering periodically, accepting enrolments in courses that align to the current and future needs of industry and employers.

#### APPRENTICESHIPS AND TRAINEESHIPS

In reply to **Mr BOYER (Wright)** (2 February 2021).

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills):** I have been advised:

Despite the understandable impact of COVID-19 on the uptake of apprenticeships and traineeships in our state and around the nation, South Australia leads the nation in the creation of new apprenticeships and traineeships.

Since 30 June 2018 the number of apprentice and trainee commencements in South Australia has increased by 8.0 per cent when compared to the year to 30 June 2020. This is the only percentage increase in the nation and compares to the national decline of 16.7 per cent for the same period.

That outstanding result stems directly from the Marshall government's Skilling South Australia program.

Since announcing Skilling South Australia in September 2018, the Marshall government has turned an ailing training system around, achieving more than 33,000 commencements as at 31 January 2021.

This is in stark contrast to the devastated training system presided over by the former state Labor government which delivered a jobs-destroying decline of 71.7 per cent in training commencements over six years from 30 June 2012.

On average over this period the annual percentage decline was 18.9 per cent. This was the largest percentage decline in the nation.

Despite laying waste to the training system Labor did not even bother to take a training and skills policy to the March 2018 state election.

Modelling shows that with a scenario of no policy change apprentice and trainee commencement numbers would have declined to just 3,500 by June 2022.

#### FRUIT FLY

In reply to **the Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay)** (4 February 2021).

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development):**

\$187,000 in 2019-20.