

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 27 May 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: SEAFORD SECONDARY COLLEGE REDEVELOPMENT**

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

That the 107<sup>th</sup> report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled Seaford Secondary College Redevelopment, be noted.

Seaford Secondary College is located on Lynton Terrace, Seaford, within the City of Onkaparinga. The college offers specialist subjects including science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM courses) and courses in entrepreneurship focusing on arts, sciences and specialist sports programs for volleyball and soccer. A disability unit is located on the site, which caters for a diverse range of learning needs and empowers students to achieve their full potential.

Seaford Secondary College was allocated funding of \$8 million as part of the Department for Education's capital works program. In February 2020, Seaford Secondary College had 855 enrolments, and the redevelopment will involve the demolition of aged accommodation, new works and the refurbishment to ensure that 1,200 students can be accommodated on the school site.

The proposed scope of works for the Seaford Secondary College redevelopment project includes construction of a new performing arts facility providing specialist learning for drama and music, refurbishment of the senior school study hall and general learning area, refurbishment of the middle school general learning areas and student amenities, refurbishment of the middle school food technology spaces, upgrade of the existing senior school courtyard, construction of a new external multisports court, upgrade of the existing court surfaces and fencing, and demolition of two buildings. The cost estimate for the redevelopment works at Seaford Secondary College is \$8 million, and construction is expected to be completed by August this year.

The committee, as you would anticipate, Mr Speaker, examined written and oral evidence in relation to this project and received assurances that the appropriate consultation with respect to 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 described in the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991. Based on the evidence considered and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, I report to the house that the committee recommends the proposed scope of works that I earlier described.

**Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (11:04):** As a member of parliament, there are a lot of things you have to deal with that are sometimes difficult or sad when helping people in your community in difficult situations. It is very different from having a very happy experience of informing a school that they are the beneficiaries of significant upgrades. That is the experience I have had twice in the last term of government, under the previous Labor government. I was twice able to inform the principal of Seaford Secondary College, Mr Harry Stassinopoulos—Mr Staz, as he is known—that Seaford Secondary College was to undergo significant upgrades because of the former Labor government.

The first occasion was when the STEM upgrades—the science, technology, engineering and maths upgrades—were proceeding, and Seaford Secondary was the beneficiary of \$3½ million worth of funding to upgrade their facilities, their science labs, their technology suites. The second occasion was when we were able to provide \$8 million under the former Labor government for a massive upgrade of the school, which is now leading to this upgrade of the performing arts centre and of other spaces in the school, importantly including the disability unit as well.

Seaford is a very important school in my electorate and a very important institution in the Seaford centre. It works in partnership with the community. It has shared facilities with the library and

the council. It has shared facilities with the council, with its recreation centre. The new performing arts centre will be not just a benefit for Seaford Secondary College but a benefit for the broader Seaford community as well. Particularly, it will give these kids, these students in the Seaford area, the best possible facilities for their learning and for their start in life.

I know everybody at Seaford was particularly delighted back in 2017 when we were able to make this second commitment to upgrade funding. It is a bit disappointing that it has taken until this time to be able to proceed, but works are well underway at the moment. The structure for the new performing arts centre is well underway. If parliament did not approve this, it would be a bit awkward because the structure is already well underway. Works are definitely proceeding, despite holding on for the noting of this report in the parliament.

**The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner:** It's a key stage in the process.

**Mr PICTON:** The technicalities are all being ticked off. However, we are excited—everybody in the Seaford community is excited—about these works that are underway. This is one of a number of upgrades across the south that are happening because of the investments made under the former Labor government.

Christies Beach High School—and we had some students from Christies Beach visiting us last night who were guests of both me and the member for Reynell—is undergoing similar massive upgrades as well. They have had upgrades for STEM, they have had upgrades for their disability unit and now they are getting upgrades to their teaching and learning spaces, which are transforming that school as well.

Similarly, Willunga High School and Wirreanda Secondary School—so high schools right across the south—are getting upgraded to give students in the south the best possible start, the best possible learning facilities they need because we need to invest in our future, which is the young people. I am really excited about getting these works finished hopefully in the next year and what that will mean for the young people in Seaford.

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:08):** It always gives me great pleasure in this role to reflect on the utility, value and importance of public works investment in the school infrastructure. I say that in part as the child of schoolteachers but acknowledge also the member for Kaurna's comments and commitment to his school community.

I was very interested to hear news of the works underway, and the member is closely familiar with those works. I reflect that the report was published in July and, the business of the Public Works Committee being as it is, we are now many months later having the opportunity to reflect on those works in the house, assisted by the member for Kaurna.

I also take this opportunity to thank the school principal, as the member for Kaurna has, and members of the school council for their diligence and their commitment to seeing this project through, and I acknowledge the expenditure that has been outlaid to see it through. These are valuable and important works, and I am very pleased that in the term of this government that funding has been confirmed and that the project will be seen through to completion.

Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: CHRISTIES BEACH HIGH SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT**

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:10):** I move:

That the 108<sup>th</sup> report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled Christies Beach High School Redevelopment Project, be noted.

Christies Beach High School is located on Morton Road, Christie Downs, within the City of Onkaparinga. Christies Beach High School provides a curriculum that focuses on a number of specialist areas, including science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), arts and design technology.

The Department for Education has advised that Christies Beach High School was allocated funding of \$8 million as part of the Department for Education's capital works program announced in October 2017. This funding was confirmed on the change of government in March 2018. The budget

is currently under review and is proposed to increase to \$7.586 million, partly as a result of the high school contributing additional funds to the project.

The redevelopment will consist of demolition, new works and refurbishment of existing facilities to accommodate 1,100 students on the Christies Beach High School site. For the benefit of members, the Christies Beach High School redevelopment project includes the following scope of works:

- extension and refurbishment to create administration facilities, student services, the library resource centre, science laboratories and general learning areas;
- refurbishment to create general learning areas and breakout spaces to accommodate year 7;
- extension and refurbishment to accommodate relocated art facilities;
- the demolition of transportable buildings;
- provision of a new school entryway and frontage; and,
- provision of car parks and associated external works, including external lighting, as would be required.

Construction for the redevelopment project is expected to be complete by about October this year.

The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to this project and received assurances that the appropriate consultation in respect to the project had been undertaken. The committee is satisfied that the proposal has been subject to the appropriate consultation required for the criteria for 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 has pleasure in reporting to the house that it recommends the proposed scope of public works that I have described to the house this morning.

**Mr PICTON (Kaurua) (11:13):** More good news from the south, with funding provided by the previous Labor government in this upgrade to the Christies Beach High School. As I mentioned earlier, just last night the member for Reynell and I hosted the Student Voice leaders from Christies Beach High School, some inspiring young people who have put up their hands to represent people at Christies Beach High School, into the parliament.

We were absolutely impressed by the strength of character, leadership, ethics and values on display by those students who visited the parliament. All those students were very excited about what is happening at their school, including these massive redevelopments underway thanks to the funding that was provided under the previous Labor government for substantial works.

Three batches of works were provided funding over the time that I have been elected to parliament. The first was in relation to the disability unit at Christies Beach High School, which was in a very dire state with very poor facilities. These have now been completely remodelled into some absolutely first-rate facilities for those very important classes that take place at Christies Beach High School. Secondly, we were able to get the funding for the STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) units at the school, which has really improved the standard of those learning facilities for students. Lastly, this additional funding, provided in 2017 under the previous Labor government, provided for significant upgrades across the school.

The combination of works that were provided funding in the last term of government are now leading to the school being transformed, students having access to the best possible learning facilities and Christies Beach High School now really being an exemplar in terms of the facilities it has available for students.

Christies Beach High School is in the electorate of Reynell at the moment, but of course some of its catchment is in the electorate of Kaurua. However, the new electoral boundaries mean that the school will then be in the electorate of Kaurua. I am looking forward to working closely with the school, as I have been, and really strengthening it as it moves into the Kaurua electorate.

We have an opening coming up for these facilities, which will be very exciting. I understand that the school has now put in a significant amount of its own funding as well to see these facilities

developed. I believe there was some scaling back of the funding provided from central funds when the Liberal government came to office, as they diverted some funds to other facilities across the state.

Luckily, the school was able to provide some funds from its own account to enable the scope of works to continue and to make sure that the appropriate level of facilities are being built so that we can see the kids who are at Christies Beach get the best possible facilities and the best possible start in life. Investing in our young people in the south is what I am absolutely passionate about. I am really delighted to see this project come to fruition.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (11:17):** I am pleased to contribute briefly in noting the Public Works Committee's report on the upgrade of the Christies Beach High School. In doing so, I indicate that I am very pleased to be part of a government that is delivering on \$1.3 billion of works across our public education system. This includes, of course, some \$700 million of works for a range of facilities, identified in 2017 at the end of Labor's time in office when they sold the lands titles office.

It includes the delivery of three new schools that were announced at the end of 2017 and committed to by the Liberal government, newly elected in 2018, and a fourth new school in Goolwa that was committed to by the Liberal government since coming to office. It includes hundreds of millions of dollars of extra works required to upgrade old facilities in our public school system around South Australia to increase the capacity of our schools to meet the growing population in our state and to deliver on our commitment to move year 7s into high schools.

This is a school, along with many other high schools across South Australia, that is looking forward to welcoming year 7s into high school next year. It is a very exciting opportunity for our current year 6 students to know that they will be the first group of year 7s in high school across the whole of the South Australian public school system, albeit the last group of year 7s to be in high school in any sector in any state in Australia. This is something we should have done years and years ago. Nevertheless, we are very excited to be delivering on the opportunity for these students to have subject specialist teachers in specialist learning environments, as designed by the national curriculum.

The work that is being done at Christies Beach High School is tremendous. I congratulate principal, Graham Clark, and his team on the work that they are doing, as did the member for Kaurna, and as I think he did on behalf of the member for Reynell, and indeed as the member for Kavel did as the Chair of the Public Works Committee. I was at Christies Beach High School in August last year and spent some significant time with Graham and some of the staff and in talking with some of the students.

They have some terrific programs. They have a vocational education program that is being delivered by a teacher I met who had substantial experience in industry, working in the field that he was then engaged in as a teacher. His life experience, in addition to his high-quality teaching practice, is supporting many students at that school in their vocational pathways going forward already.

The work that he will be able to do and the work that the other teachers will be able to do when they have that earlier exposure to students—who are maybe considering having a vocational pathway at the year 7 and year 8 level, having some exposure to the career counselling enhancements at year 9 and year 10 and the vocational flexible industry pathways at year 11 and year 12 as a result of the Marshall Liberal government's reforms to vocational education—will be transformative and will help those students to excel even more.

The member for Kaurna reflected on some of the enhancements to the disability units and the STEM facilities that were delivered in recent years at Christies Beach High School. They are not only spaces where teaching and learning are able to be done in a fresher, more modern environment, but the teachers at the school are really grasping the opportunity and running with it, reforming the way that they are delivering the curriculum. The students I spoke to, who are enjoying those facilities, very much appreciate them. I think this further enhancement will enable the quality practice that is underway at the Christies Beach High School to touch the lives of more students in a positive way.

The current enrolment is 712, and the capacity next year will be 1,100. I congratulate Flightpath Architects and Pike Constructions on the work they are doing. We are on track for

completion in August. This is also enhanced by the work that the Marshall Liberal government did in 2018 to deliver high-speed internet technology to all our schools around South Australia. Christies Beach High School was one of the first schools to be connected in March 2019 and that was part of a project that saw this critical part of infrastructure in our schools.

Internet technology is not an optional extra in our schools; it is a critical part of what must be delivered in the curriculum, particularly in high schools. Taking South Australia's public schools from being on the lowest and slowest internet speeds in the nation, certainly on the mainland, to the fastest in the nation—some schools reporting more than 1,000 times faster connectivity—has also transformed the way that particularly technology subjects, and also a range of other things, are able to be delivered in the classroom.

The redevelopment includes the redevelopment of three buildings to provide modern learning environments with additional capacity for the year 7 transition, refurbishment of two levels of the senior school science, humanities and the relocated resource centre, student services, reception and administration, including a new entry foyer on the ground level. There is also refurbishment of the ground floor of a building to accommodate the relocation of year 9 students and the refurbishment of the ground floor of another building to accommodate art studies.

There is an upgrade to the front of the school to improve street appeal and presence within the Noarlunga Regional Centre, including landscaping, a seismic upgrade to a building with additional steel bracing, additional staff car parks, external lighting and the demolition of some aged infrastructure.

I commend the comments of the member for Kavel in particular. I thank the member for Reynell and the member for Kurna for the engagement they had with their students at this exceptional school last night. I look forward to hearing the member from Reynell, who I am sure will also reflect on last night's function with students. It sounds like it was a tremendous night and it certainly reflects the positive engagement I had with the school in August last year.

I think the students at Christies Beach High School are very much going to enjoy these upgrades, as they have the other upgrades delivered in recent years at Christies Beach High School, where the staff are doing a tremendous job. Certainly, the staff I met last year were very passionate and engaged and looking forward to what their students will be able to achieve in the years ahead. I cannot wait to see what those students will do in the years ahead. I have very, very high expectations that they will be contributing greatly to their community and their state.

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (11:23):** I rise to make a few brief comments in support of the Christies Beach High School community and to make a few remarks about the redevelopment that is happening at that school. As the member for Kurna did, I want to reflect briefly on the visit that the member for Kurna and I were very blessed to have last night from the principal, Graham Clark, teachers and a range of student voice leaders from the Christies Beach High School. I have had the opportunity to visit and participate in many activities with the Christies Beach High School community, and it is an extraordinary community: it is resilient and kind and inclusive.

I was thinking about that when we were here late last night. After having dinner with the student leaders, I was reflecting on what we spoke about. One of the questions that I asked the Student Voice leaders was why they decided to step up and become part of that committee at the school. Every single one of them spoke about their desire to make sure the voice of other students was heard and their desire to make sure that other students knew that there were people there who cared about them, would listen to them and help them to raise those issues that were important to them. They had a deep care for the other students around them and for their whole community.

It was really quite inspiring to hear this group of students talk about their reasons for stepping up and supporting others. It was also lovely to hear about their hopes and aspirations for the future. It was lovely to hear about other issues in our community beyond their school community that they were very passionate about. I am intrigued as to whether others in the dining room heard one particular student speaking vociferously about his desire to save the Adelaide 500. He is a very passionate motor car enthusiast and his dream is to become a marshal at an Australian grand prix. He spoke at length about this and I am surprised he did not spend time lobbying people around offices here last night.

Every one of those students was equally passionate about their school community and also about broader issues in the community. Every experience I have had with Christies Beach High School, including last night, and all the experience I have had with that school at school assemblies, the White Ribbon assembly day, IDAHOBIT, the acknowledgement of NAIDOC Week, Reconciliation Week and every activity that they have at that school has been inspiring.

I am always absolutely inspired by what each of these students, each of the staff members and their wonderful principal, Graham Clark, does to strengthen that school community and the fabric of our entire southern community. So it was lovely to have them here last night but it is always lovely to visit them. As I said, I am eternally inspired by the leadership, the resilience and the passion to make a difference of every one of the students there.

I am very pleased that the various redevelopments—and there are quite a number that are happening at the school at the moment. A number were funded by our former Labor government that I and other members advocated very strongly for and I am really glad to see those improvements coming to fruition. I know that the school community is incredibly excited about all those redevelopments. I know that, in every phase of those redevelopments, students have been able to have a voice about what is important to them in that redevelopment and I know that it will be very well engaged with.

So I am very pleased to see this report come to the parliament. I am very pleased to see the redevelopment progressing very well at this stage. I am particularly pleased, as always, to continue that wonderful relationship and interaction with the Christies Beach High School community.

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:28):** I acknowledge the contributions of the members for Kaurua and Reynell and their passionate commitment to their school community. I acknowledge, too, that they had their school community and student leaders present in Parliament House last night. It is very interesting to hear the reflections on the integrity, commitment and passion of those students.

I also want to take this opportunity to recognise principal, Graham Clark, and the governing council for seeing through this project. There is necessarily and understandably some disruption to the school site to ensure that these significant capital works can be completed. But with grace and in seeing the utility of these works, they have been able to ensure they can continue to deliver a very significant and expansive program at the school for their school community and to maintain their very high standards while still ensuring that this work can progress through to completion.

Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: PARA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT**

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:29):** I move:

That the 113<sup>th</sup> report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled Para Hills High School Redevelopment Project, be noted.

Mr Speaker, as you are aware, Para Hills High Schools is located on Beafield Road in Para Hills West within the City of Salisbury. The Department for Education has advised that the Para Hills High School has been working closely with the adjacent Para Hills West Primary School to strengthen the continuity of learning to ensure the successful transition of primary students through its special education unit and other enriched education programs to support students with a complex range of special needs and that the school further provides flexible learning options to support young people in academic achievement and gaining vocational qualifications.

Para Hills High School was allocated funding of \$5 million as part of the Department for Education's capital works program announced in October 2017. This funding allocation was confirmed on the change of government in March 2018. Para Hills High School requires capital works to provide sufficient capacity to accommodate approximately 900 students on the school site to cater for the transition of year 7 students into high school in 2022. There is also aged infrastructure on the school site that will be replaced with more contemporary learning areas.

Specifically, the proposed scope of works for the project includes construction of a new performing arts centre, providing flexible areas to enable general and specialist teaching and learning, teacher preparation, storage and amenities; refurbishment of the gymnasium, including

removal of the mezzanine, existing stage area and store to create a full-sized competition court with the provision of weights and breakout spaces; and demolition of aged transportable buildings. When complete, the project will deliver additional accommodation on the school site to support the transition of year 7 students into high school.

The project will be staged, with construction expected to commence in October 2020 and to be completed by October 2021. We understand that those works are progressing. 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 examination of projects 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 the parliament that it does recommend the proposed scope of the works that I have outlined.

**Mr BROWN (Playford) (11:32):** One of the things that I did upon becoming a candidate for Playford was to go around to meet the various principals of schools in the electorate. I had the fortune to meet Ms Janette Scott, who was then the principal of Para Hills High School. She struck me with her passion for making sure that there was a proper performing arts space at Para Hills High School. She related to me the experience that the school had with the Building the Education Revolution funds that were available from the federal government at one time. She recounted to me how their proposal for a performing arts space at Para Hills High School went down to, from memory, the final three or final five sites in the entire country for a federally funded performing arts base.

Under the program the federal government had at the time, I think there were to be something like two or three nationally funded performing arts spaces. Unfortunately, Para Hills High School just missed out and did not get any money from the commonwealth government for a performing arts space, which caused disappointment for her and also for the school and its community. I was struck by the passion that she had for trying to make sure that Para Hills High School was the site and centre of performing arts in the northern suburbs, so I relayed those concerns and the passion she had to my colleagues. She also must have told everyone who would listen about the importance of this.

Later on, after the school successfully received funding from the then Labor government to do just that, I was able to meet with her again and discuss the proposed project. I must say that again I was struck by the pure joy she was experiencing because the school had managed to secure these funds. It is not often in this job that you get the opportunity to do something so good and to speak to people who are going to do so much for their local community, as it was with that particular conversation with the then principal.

Janette has now retired and she has been replaced by Alina Page, who is the current principal. I know Alina has an absolute commitment to making sure that Para Hills is a shining example and a real focus for achievements in STEAM disciplines in the north-eastern suburbs. I congratulate her on the work she has done on this particular project.

I would also like to congratulate the school governing council, and I would be remiss not to point out the good work that has already been done by Hardy Milazzo Architecture and Interior Design and also Mykra Pty Ltd, who were the builders. I also thank the Liberal government for not cancelling this particular project upon the change of government. I know that these things can be done very easily, so I thank them for not doing that, and I think the community of Para Hills also thanks you.

Earlier this term, I attended the opening of the STEM centre that was funded by the previous Labor government at Para Hills High School. I went along to watch the Hon. John Dawkins open the STEM centre and was able to talk to students and teachers about what their hopes and aspirations were for the STEM centre that had been opened. You could just tell the commitment people had to using those facilities that were provided and doing their best to advance not only their local community but also themselves as individuals.

I know that this new performing arts centre, as well as the more general upgrades as part of this project—the new full-sized basketball court, for example—will help to improve the lives of all of us in the Para Hills community. I look forward to working with the school in the future, to making Para

Hills High School an even better place for students to go and an even better place not only to train our workforce for the future but also to produce good people and good citizens in the Para Hills area.

**Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (11:37):** I, too, had the opportunity to visit Para Hills High School recently; since the boundary change, it is in what I like to call New New Florey. I was very impressed with the new principal there, Alina Page, who has been mentioned here this morning. My only fear for her is that she will burn herself out because she has so many ideas and so many things she wants to do and she wants to do them so very quickly. I think that is terribly important because the students in our areas really need that passion and that drive in their school.

Again, as the member for Playford just said, it is terrific that the current Liberal government did go ahead with the funding that was promised for the school. Interestingly enough, the actual building at Para Hills High is exactly the same as the building at Valley View Secondary School—exactly the same building. The sadness, of course, is that their works have not yet started, but they will be starting soon I hope.

Words have been said about the performing arts centre, and I am pretty sure you have had a chance to go and visit, but the amazing work they have produced in that tiny, weenie transportable is really beyond comprehension. The drive of those teachers is just terrific, and it really is a great learning environment for the students of our area. The other thing I was really pleased to be able to attend was the luncheon put on by the students at the special school in their little outdoor area. We were blessed with nice weather, although it was terribly windy.

Every investment you make in a school like Para Hills High is going to make an incredible difference to the lives of the whole community, as the member for Playford just said. It is an area that needs this passion and drive and, with new buildings and facilities, the new learning areas, I think the students there will be able to go on and do great things. That is something everyone here should be proud of.

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:39):** I acknowledge the contribution from the member for Playford and the member for Florey. I know their great passion and commitment not only for their communities in general but also specifically for education in the North. I know that they speak with real knowledge and insight into the needs of their communities and that they have been very effective advocates for ensuring there has been an appropriate investment in public education in the North. This is an important and valuable project and I am proud that it is being seen through to completion.

Motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: WILD SOUTH COAST WAY**

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:40):** I move:

That the 114<sup>th</sup> report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled Wild South Coast Way Project, be noted.

The Wild South Coast Way project is for the creation of a walk between Cape Jervis and Granite Island, including investment along the existing Heysen Trail and at various sites in Deep Creek Conservation Park. The project will drive increased visitations to the Fleurieu region and encourage visitors to stay longer, with a range of economic benefits expected to be generated by this investment.

As part of the 2019-20 state budget, the state government announced \$6 million in funding over four years, commencing in 2019-20, for the creation of the Wild South Coast Way on the Heysen Trail. The broad proposal is for the creation of a new day visitor central facility and accessible walking trails, walk-in only campsites and upgrades to campgrounds at Deep Creek Conservation Park. The Wild South Coast Way project will include the following particular scope of works:

- trailhead development at the start and end points of the Wild South Coast Way trail;
- development of four walk-in only campsites along the Wild South Coast Way;
- upgrade to the existing Trig Campground;
- creation of a new universal access iconic day visitor facility, which will include an accessible trail, lookout facility, trail connections to the Wild South Coast Way, and parking, toilet and picnic facilities;

- construction of a class 2, four-kilometre return walk from the upgraded car park at Blowhole Beach Road to Goondooloo Ridge; and
- upgrade in directional signage, information and interpretive signage in Deep Creek and for Wild South Coast Way on the Heysen Trail.

Construction works commenced at the end of last year and will be completed through 2022-23.

The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to this project and received assurances that the appropriate consultation in relation to the project 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 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 does approve the scope of works that I have described.

Motion carried.

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

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:43):** I move:

That the 115<sup>th</sup> report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled Clare High School Redevelopment Project, be noted.

Clare High School is located on Elliot Street, Clare, in the Clare and Gilbert Valleys Council. The Department for Education has advised that Clare High School has been at its current site since 1971 and is the largest public high school in the state's Mid North.

The proposed redevelopment project will consist of demolition, new works and refurbishment of existing facilities to accommodate a total school enrolment capacity of 800 students on the Clare High School site by 2022. The high school redevelopment project will include the following scope of works:

- construction of a new modular building, including two service learning areas and a verandah;
- refurbishment of the special education building;
- refurbishment of reception, administration and student amenities;
- demolition of two ageing buildings; and
- resurfacing of existing courts and construction of a new covered outdoor learning area.

The total budget for the Clare High School redevelopment project is \$5 million. The proposed redevelopment works will be staged, with construction expected to have commenced and to be completed in June this year. The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to the 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 does meet the criteria for the examination of projects 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 scope of the works that I have outlined.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (11:45):** I am really pleased to be able to rise and speak on the Public Works Committee's report into the upgrade currently underway at Clare High School. This is a very exciting project. It is part of the Marshall Liberal government's \$1.3 billion school infrastructure upgrades across our public school system. It is a record investment in the budget for the forward estimates for a four-year project happening in our public education in the state's history. Much of that work is due to be completed this very year.

I can update the house that the project in Clare is currently on track for completion in August, and I congratulate Das Studio and Sarah Constructions on that terrific work. I have an update from one of the teachers at the school who sent me an SMS saying:

Here at Clare High our building project is looking great. We are looking forward to moving into the new office space in just a few weeks.

So some of that work is more than close to completion; it is very close indeed.

I really enjoyed visiting Clare High School in October last year. It was a great opportunity to engage with a range of staff and students. I met with some of the student leaders who talked about their passion projects. I met one young lady who I think is on her way to being one of the leading early childhood educators in South Australia in the future, which I think is following a bit of a family tradition. I met a young scientist to be and I met some people who are really passionate about their future.

The student leaders at Clare High School are in almost a unique position in South Australia because they have been at Clare High School since year 7. Clare High School is one of the two schools in the public education system in South Australia that has had year 7 in high school for an extended period of time and they think it is fantastic. They demonstrate that our year 7s are ready for high school, as indeed they are in every other system in South Australia—the Catholic system, the independent schools—and every other state around Australia.

It is a shame that our year 7 students have not had the opportunity more broadly across public education in South Australia (until next year) to have the specialist subject teachers, the specialist learning environments that are available in a high school setting. But, from the beginning of next year, that will be something available to all our students across South Australia.

When I was at Clare High School, I spoke with a number of science teachers and looked at the way in which they were delivering STEM—science and technology lessons—in their facilities. They were doing so at a high level and really engaging with their students in a hands-on way, getting them excited about their science.

I spoke with the head of the English faculty at Clare High School and we had a discussion about the texts that she loves to teach her students and her favourite areas. I have to say the passion that she and the other teachers I met with in her area speaks very well of the teaching and learning that are currently going on at Clare High School.

I congratulate Sharryn Daly and her team. I look forward to seeing the final product of the \$5 million project of newly developed facilities at Clare High School when I visit in the coming period, with a new permanent modular agricultural studies building; the refurbishment of some of the facilities, including toilets, reception administration and learning spaces; the resurfacing of courts; a covered outdoor learning area; and improvements to the school's facade.

Penny Pratt is the Liberal candidate for Frome at the coming election. One of the things that Penny has spoken to me about is her passion to ensure that all the educational facilities around the Frome electorate are going to be supported. Certainly if she is elected, they will be supported by a passionate local member who cares deeply about education and has practised as a teacher and as a coordinator in education over an extended period of her career prior to pursuing politics. I cannot think of somebody who will be a more passionate supporter of local education facilities in Frome than Penny, and I certainly hope that she has the opportunity to represent that area.

For the people of that area, I hope they have the opportunity to experience Penny Pratt as their local representative. I am sure she will do a terrific job should she be elected in March next year. I am certain that Clare High School will benefit, as will the other schools in the electorate should she be elected.

I commend Sharryn Daly and her team, Das Studio and Sarah Constructions for this project. I cannot wait to see its completion, and I cannot wait to see the amazing achievements that the students, the alumni, of Clare High School will achieve in the years ahead and what they will contribute to the Clare Valley, the broader region and the state of South Australia. I have every expectation that they will do very well indeed.

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:50):** I acknowledge the contribution of the minister but also his much wider and very, very significant contribution to education in the state. He has seen through one of the most, if not the most, significant capital works programs in education in the state's history. It is deeply valued by the parliament and acknowledged by the committee.

Motion carried.

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: FLINDERS MEDICAL CENTRE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT**

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

That the 116<sup>th</sup> report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled 'Flinders Medical Centre emergency department expansion project', be noted.

Flinders Medical Centre is the major tertiary referral centre for acute care and emergency services in the southern region of Adelaide and it is operated by the Southern Adelaide Local Health Network. The hospital manages the majority of major and complex medical and surgical diagnostic and treatment procedures for the southern region. The hospital is a tertiary referral teaching hospital associated with Flinders University and the 130-bed privately owned and operated Flinders Private Hospital.

Flinders Medical Centre's emergency department is among the busiest in South Australia, receiving approximately 90,000 emergency department presentations in the 2018-19 financial year. Over the past three financial years (2016-17 through to 2018-19), Flinders Medical Centre has reported a 5.1 per cent increase in presentations to the emergency department. Due to the growing number of presentations at Flinders, it is subject to peak incidences, whereby there is insufficient treatment area to accommodate new presentations and patients remain in ambulant care until they can safely be transitioned into the emergency department.

The total investing budget of \$11 million was approved by cabinet for construction works and equipment upgrades at Flinders Medical Centre and Noarlunga Hospital, Myles Ward, as part of the Southern Health Expansion Plan. The total value of the Flinders Medical Centre emergency department expansion is \$8.5 million. The scope of work for the project will provide a comprehensively reconfigured and expanded emergency department with additional treatment bays within the existing hospital footprint, including:

- a relocated and refurbished emergency extended care unit to provide 31 treatment spaces, inclusive of five intensive care unit overflow treatment spaces;
- a relocated and refurbished paediatric treatment zone to provide 13 treatment bays;
- a relocated and refurbished discharge zone to provide 12 treatment spaces and 10 'see and treat' spaces;
- the construction of a new isolation-resuscitation bay adjacent to the existing emergency department resuscitation bays;
- the refurbishment and expansion of emergency department staff amenities adjacent to the relocated EECU; and
- electrical body protection, patient monitoring, duress system compliance upgrades to two wards.

The project works are expected to be commencing with practical completion of the project expected mid this year.

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

**Mr MURRAY (Davenport) (11:54):** I, too, rise to speak in support of the expansion of Flinders Medical Centre which, as the member for Kavel has indicated, is a key part of the health network in Adelaide generally and, more particularly, in the southern area. The key takeaway is the fact that the emergency department facility has a design criterion of some 70,000 presentations per annum, yet it is being forced, and has been forced for some time now, to deal with a number considerably in excess of that—well in excess of 90,000 presentations currently. In the proposal before the committee, in the 2018 financial year there were some 90,000-odd as well.

Flinders has reported before the committee a 5.1 per cent increase in presentations over the course of the previous three financial years. A consequence of that growth in presentations is that, with peak instances, there is insufficient treatment space to accommodate new presentations, and patients remain in ambulant care until they can be safely transitioned to the emergency department. That is code for the fact that, as a result of an underinvestment in the capacity at Flinders—as a result of the underinvestment in the capacity at Flinders—there is substantial ambulance ramping. I note with considerable interest that the member for Hurtle Vale is shaking her head.

**Ms Cook:** You can attack me personally if you like. I'll back my reputation over yours any day.

**Mr MURRAY:** Well, you may be taken up on that, member for Hurtle Vale.

**Ms Cook:** Keep going.

**Mr MURRAY:** Have a seat, and we'll talk about the evidence—

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Davenport will not respond to interjections.

**Mr MURRAY:** —given to the committee.

**Ms Cook:** Keep going.

**Mr MURRAY:** I will.

**Ms Cook:** We'll put it to the public, no problem.

**Mr MURRAY:** We will talk about the evidence given to the committee—

**Ms Cook:** Keep going.

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

**Mr MURRAY:** —about the disgraceful way in which the staff at Flinders have been forced to try to cope with the fact—

**Ms Cook:** You don't know what you're talking about.

**Mr MURRAY:** Oh, deary me! As I said, the member for Hurtle Vale will doubtless be fascinated to hear some of the evidence provided to us in support of this most noteworthy investment by this government, strongly recommended and greatly appreciated it has to be said, in health services in the southern area.

The investment is part of the Southern Health Expansion Plan, which involves at its heart not just an increase in the capacity for Flinders but as part of that an increase or, more accurately, a replacement of the capacity gutted from Noarlunga Hospital as part of Labor's failed Transforming Health disaster. One of the reasons we are able to do that is that we retained what is known as the Repat hospital.

The Repat of course was slated for closure, had actually been sold, everything disconnected, staff laid off or transferred, as the case may be. By retaining the Repat, and honouring a commitment to the people of the south as a consequence of that, we have been able to relocate services from Noarlunga and, having freed up space at Noarlunga, in turn moved services from Flinders. As a consequence of that, we are able to substantially increase the capacity at Flinders. I note for the record that the member for Hurtle Vale is shaking her head. We are increasing the capacity at Flinders Medical Centre and you can deny it all you like.

*Ms Cook interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**Ms Cook:** Stick to your car sales.

**Mr MURRAY:** 'Stick to your car sales,' says the world expert on health! The world expert for—

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Davenport will not respond to interjections.

**Mr MURRAY:** When she got elected, what was the first thing the member for Hurtle Vale did? Shut the Repat.

*Ms Cook interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Hurtle Vale will cease interjecting.

**Mr MURRAY:** I am delighted to make the point that this government is increasing the capacity at Flinders and the 50-odd beds by a factor of almost 100 per cent, up to 85 beds. It will be the biggest single emergency department in the state, courtesy of this capital investment, and not just a capital investment of \$8.5 million but an ongoing operating budget to put staff in there, and that is a consequence of the evidence.

Debate adjourned.

### *Bills*

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MULTICULTURAL BILL**

### *Committee Stage*

In committee.

(Continued from 26 May 2021.)

Clause 18.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** We have some questions in regard to the charter. Attorney, you mentioned previously the expectation that the charter will be completed by July 2022, but there seems to be a little lack of clarity between the role of the minister and the role of the commission in the formation of this charter. I am seeking some clarity for myself and the commission members, who will be new commission members, about how that will work between the minister and the commission.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** There are matters of course that will be the subject of the new commission's determination, with the minister, after they have undertaken their consultation and the preparation of their charter. I will refer to it shortly but, in reading the 2017-18 annual report, there are a number of matters that have been picked up from there in continuity. That is expected, that report having covered the year of the previous commission and having been signed by Mr Schueler as the new presiding officer.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** When I read through this process, it states:

- (4) In preparing, varying or substituting the Charter, the Minister—
- (a) must, after consultation with the Multicultural Commission, prepare a draft version of the Charter...and publish the draft Charter on a website...

I want to clarify this because I still did not hear from you that the minister prepares the draft and then the commission goes out for consultation on the draft.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I am advised that it is as I have previously indicated; that is, there will be preparation of a draft in consultation with the commission. They take that out and then they do their consultation and they bring it back and make those decisions with the minister.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** My understanding is that the minister then will be the final decision-maker on the charter, not the commission.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Are we going back to clause 17 for this purpose? I just want to be clear about that.

**The CHAIR:** No, we are on clause 18.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I know we are, so I am just asking. These are all questions in relation to clause 17. I am not unhappy about it—I am happy to go back to clause 17 even though we have passed it.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** That is a report.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Sorry, I thought you were reading from clause 17. Are you reading from some other document? Can you just identify what that is?

**The CHAIR:** We are dealing with clause 18 as amended.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** Yes.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I know we are, but she has indicated—

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** Clause 18(4):

- (4) In preparing, varying or substituting the Charter, the Minister—  
(a) must...

I want to seek clarification about the final decision-making around the charter. There was an understanding from our previous commentary that it would be up to the commission, that the commission would have that role, that the commission would be finalising that charter. But when I read through these stages, it appears to me that is not correct: it is actually the minister.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Subclause (4) reads:

- (4) In preparing, varying or substituting the Charter, the Minister—  
(a) must...

It then sets out a process that is to take place. Obviously, it has to be ultimately signed up to, like every other charter of government, and that is either dealt with then ultimately by the minister and/or cabinet, depending on who approves it. But I think it is very clear from that what the minister must do before there is any finalisation of the charter, according to the rest of the process.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** A final question?

**The CHAIR:** We will call it a point of clarification.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** Will the commission be provided with additional resources during their consultation process to give advice to the minister regarding the charter?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I am sure that will be a matter of discussion between the commission and the minister—namely, the Premier—as to what is required and whom they wish to consult. In relation to the consultation for the review that has taken place culminating in this legislation, I note that there were multiple public meetings across the state. I think there were 10 of the commissioners who attended those. There were members of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet—

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** They were not allowed to speak.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** —who attended, as identified, to observe in those meetings. That is in the documentation, so I think that is obvious. Secondly, the staff in the DPC unit covering multicultural affairs obviously were also facilitating that. The arrangement as to who paid for those and what extra costs there were—I imagine there would have been advertising, the invitation for submissions, the YourSAy website surveys, presumably the reviewing of all those 14 submissions that were written, the preparation of all the documents we have referred to throughout this debate—they are all costs, of course. I would expect that, just as that has occurred, the same provision will be made for this.

**Mr SZAKACS:** Attorney, I have a specific question regarding the content of the charter and my specific question is on the content, insofar as you have in previous answers within committee stage sought to indicate that there will be matters excluded now from the charter because they are contained within the substantive legislation. For your benefit, I might just quote—

**The Hon. V.A. Chapman:** I have not said that, but go on.

**Mr SZAKACS:** I will quote, and this is from your answer to a previous question of mine, Attorney:

...there is quite a considerable amount of material that would otherwise have gone in a charter that is now going into the act.

Could you provide specifics in relation to what content would have been in the charter that is now in the act?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** They are subjects that are now covered by the parliamentary declaration, which are now in the act and which, as I have said, are a list of things that the parliament is signing up to as its declaration in passing this legislation. I expect some of those will be repeated in the charter because they set out a number of principles that I expect the commission will want to sign up to as well, but that is a matter for them to undertake that process.

**Mr SZAKACS:** So it is not the position of government or you that matters that have been contained within the act are now unable to be covered in the charter; is that fair to say?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** There is no instruction and/or embargo in any way on the commission in relation to excluding areas that are already covered. These are, I think, sensible principles the parliament is being asked to sign up to. It may well be that a number of those are things that are going to form part of the overall charter that is prepared, which is to be a policy document prepared through the processes that are identified here before they are to be concluded.

**Mr SZAKACS:** I have a further specific question, again relating to matters that you have raised previously in this committee stage, regarding the ability for the charter to confer rights or obligations or give the commission functions. I have a two-part question, and for ease I am happy to split it up. The first part of the question relates to a quote:

I think they are all commendable objectives and I do not have any issue with them. But the reason I am going to indicate that we are not supporting this amendment is that, if there is going to be an obligation of the commission to do these things, it should be in their charter or in the terms of their functions in the act.

My question is: can the charter contain a new function for the commission that is not currently contained within the substantive act? If the answer is no, then could you please clarify your answer from the previous committee stage.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I think the member repeatedly errs, perhaps inadvertently, in not understanding the difference between a function that is statutory provided and a charter.

*Mr Szakacs interjecting:*

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Well, I don't know how many times I have to say this, but the statute sets out the framework upon which the commission in particular is to continue its valuable work, and in addition to the usual principles, functions—often called objects of the act and functions or powers of the entity that is being presented; the wording changes in these things over the years—there are two new phenomena. One is very common now, for a charter to be developed that people sign up to. It is a bit like a ten commandments: you are not necessarily punished or sent to gaol if you breach the commandment, but it sets out a policy framework of expected compliance.

That is not uncommon, and what is proposed in this legislation is that that charter must contain provisions setting out the principles of multiculturalism and interculturalism in relation to South Australia and provisions recognising Aboriginal peoples of South Australia and their role in the diversity of peoples of South Australia. They are the two things that are prescribed that it needs to cover. They are pretty broad, obviously.

You have objects of an act, you have the functions or powers of the body that are implemented, you have this charter process, and the fourth is a new element we have introduced in the course of the development of this bill, and that is a parliamentary declaration. That is what we sign up to. Again, it is a fairly new type of initiative. I am not in any way averse to it, and we have actually accommodated it in this bill.

The only two things that are being prescribed that need to be considered and put into this charter through the process in which the commission has all that involvement in its drafting, consultation, preparation, etc., handover to its Premier, are those two things: the principles of multiculturalism and interculturalism in relation to South Australia and the provision of recognising our First Nations, our Aboriginal peoples. Those are the only two things.

**Mr Szakacs:** Must.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Must, absolutely. So, without being more prescriptive, we are not saying what those principles have to be that set out a whole new process about how that is to

happen, who is to be consulted in that process. I do not know how clear I can be about it, but the information in the charter is not to add more functions at all.

**Mr Szakacs:** But can it?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Well, you can't use another charter to be able to introduce a lawful list of functions.

**Mr Szakacs:** I'm asking you.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Well, no.

**The CHAIR:** I am being a bit generous this morning: I did give the member for Ramsay an extra question, so I will give—

**Mr SZAKACS:** Sorry, just a point of clarification—

**The CHAIR:** A point of clarification, of course.

**Mr SZAKACS:** —because we could go on a journey then. My question specifically was: can the charter confer a function on the commission?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** In short, no.

Clause as amended passed.

Clause 19 passed.

New clauses 19A and 19B

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** I move:

Amendment No 8 [Bettison-1]—

Page 10, after line 17—Insert:

19A—State authorities to report performance

Each State authority must, on or before 31 October in each year, report to the Minister on the performance of the State authority in giving effect to the Charter during the preceding financial year.

19B—Minister to report performance of State authorities

- (1) The Minister must, on or before 31 December in each year, prepare a report summarising the reports received under section 19A in respect of the preceding financial year.
- (2) The Minister must, within 6 sitting days after completing the report, have copies of the report laid before both Houses of Parliament.

This particular amendment I think gives us an opportunity. It gives us an opportunity to take leadership, to see diversity in action. The reason I see this as an opportunity is that this is something that is monitored and reported upon with other sections of our community.

Within the public sector we monitor and report on how many people of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background are in the Public Service and we report upon how many people of those with declared disabilities are employed within the Public Service. Substantial work was also done to look at the role of women and gender in the Public Service. Most specifically, it was focused around the levels that women were employed at and the gaps where there were barriers to women going forward.

I raise this because I think that this is a true representation of putting into effect what we are attempting to achieve here: to support multiculturalism and interculturalism. If you do not monitor something or report on it, how can you know that it is moving forward? I raise this because we have this opportunity, as a state government with a large Public Service that we support and train and that services us, to show leadership—to show leadership about multiculturalism, to live it, to bring it into effect.

This was raised within the discussion and covered off in the review of the report of I think one of the community meetings in Mount Gambier. They said, 'Government needs to show leadership and model the implementation, embedding the principles with a focus on impact and change.'

This was raised by people during this review process. I myself know that many times people have said employment is a challenge for our diverse communities. We all know that we currently have the highest rate of youth unemployment in the nation. We have an opportunity here to acknowledge where there are barriers for people of diverse backgrounds.

Of course, we can look to other states and, in fact, the Australian Public Service to see where they do monitor and measure this. In June 2020, in the Australian Public Service, 22.1 per cent of people working, their employees, were born overseas and 15.9 per cent were of non-English-speaking background. They measure it. They report upon it. They make it an active thing to acknowledge when they are looking at recruitment. In June 2019, Queensland indicated that 9.99 per cent of people working for them were of non-English-speaking background. They monitor it. They report upon it.

In doing some research in this area, I understand that we already capture this data with our employee surveys from the Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment. We already have this information but we do not report on it. What I am seeking to do here is to bring into effect what this whole bill is about: our support of multiculturalism and interculturalism. Let's bring it into effect. Let's make sure we monitor it, we report upon it, we live it and we show leadership in the Public Service by achieving good representation.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I thank the member for her explanation of the proposed clause. She is right, in that it is our view that this material is already collected, available and reported on. What the member, the former minister, is suggesting is that it now be an obligation here in relation to the state authorities specifically that they make that data available, presumably.

It does not get to the nub of what really is the issue here, and that is not the reporting. That is all done and that is all there. I think what the member is seeking is some kind of check by somebody, presumably the commission, of what recommendations they have made to state agencies and then some benchmark as to whether that has been employed or applied. That is what I think she is getting at, if I understand her position here.

This amendment puts a statutory obligation on each of the chief executives of departments and/or the minister responsible for those agencies to report on it. We have an annual report process, which of course all happens as part of our accountability. They are audited by the Auditor-General. They have statutory obligations as to when they are to be done, when they are to be presented to a minister and the time frames they are in most instances to be tabled in parliament, etc. This appears to expand that to the minister doing the reporting. Those are the two initiatives here.

We say that the provision here is unnecessary because the existing reporting requirements, regardless of whatever goes in the charter down the track, will provide a nexus between the bill and the government departments. We also say that the bill requires state authorities to 'have regard to and seek to give effect to the charter in carrying out their functions and exercising their powers', which is under clause 19(1), which we have just passed.

The charter will incorporate multicultural principles that will offer guidance to government departments on providing accessible and responsive services to multicultural communities and will support a consistent across-government approach. The commission will have a central role in developing the charter and the principles included within it, and this process will commence upon the enabling of the legislation.

I also wish to make some comment on the existing SA government reporting on diversity and inclusion. To be absolutely clear, it is important to note that South Australian government agencies already report on their diversity and inclusion policy service delivery, which goes to the Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2019-21. So there is another umbrella of obligation there.

As to the annual reporting, government authorities also report annually to the responsible minister on their activities through the Premier and Cabinet Circular PC 013: Annual Reporting Requirements. This is a mandatory report that must contain information, including relevant statistics about all aspects of the agency's operation and initiatives; strategic plans, and relationship of the plans to government objectives; the legislation administered by the agency; the functions and objectives of the agency; the service delivery; the financial performance; and other elements, all of which, as I have indicated, is audited by the Auditor-General.

The annual reporting requirements are therefore reviewed annually by the Auditor-General, who prepares an independent report to the parliament as to compliance in relation to all this work. In addition to that, this parliament gets the scrutiny of it. We can ask questions here in the parliament of any relevant government minister as to the application or failure in relation to its responsibility, either in the disclosure in its report, publication of material or provision of material to the Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment or, indeed, generally in relation to its performance. The ultimate body, us here in the parliament, can ask those questions.

Every year when these annual reports are provided, we have questions—particularly here in the parliament and sometimes in conjunction with the budget initiatives through the estimates process and the Auditor-General's inquiries—about whether there has been compliance: how many Aboriginal people have been employed in this division, where is it disclosed, why has it not been disclosed? etc. So it is important that agencies of government do account for what they are doing, whatever the obligation is, and there are a lot of them. A department has to disclose, for example, the nature and number of workplace injuries, just to name a few of the areas of extra obligation to report on in the annual reports, in addition to its normal business.

My department is no different. If we look at the Attorney-General's Department, the Attorney-General's annual report has to lodge a lot of this information during the year to the various agencies. It has to report on a number of those benchmarks and KPIs in relation to what it has done, and it has to be able to account for that data. Some of it is not now put in the published annual report that comes to parliament because under a Premier and Cabinet circular of former Premier Weatherill he indicated that a number of the pieces of information that come in the published and tabled annual report can now just be left online, and you have to scramble around to try to find it. We have all had that experience. Nevertheless, he issued what was to happen.

Our government have not changed that, but we have tried to make sure that we can actually find this information, including financial accounts, for example, so that we can get the full picture of the reporting of those departments. Over the years I have been here, I can tell you that the Attorney-General's Department used to have separate annual reports for a number of its units. For example, the Commissioner for Victims' Rights used to give an annual report at one stage under the previous government. He had not actually done that for the first five or seven years of operation. Nevertheless, once he was reminded that he had to do it, the former Attorney made sure that it happened and he put in a bulk amount and complied.

Then I found, within a very short time, that his report disappears completely and we just get a couple of pages and then a couple of lines in the annual report of the Attorney-General's Department. These things do change over the years, but, as a government for transparency, we think that all the data that is collected and made available through the Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment is important data. It is an important measure for the agencies to deal with their compliance obligations.

When we do have the process of the development of the charter, which will also be an accountability process once it is signed up to and has gone through the process of consultation, etc., it will need to be considered in that light. We have a little way to go yet to actually do it. We are not here, as I keep repeating, as either a government or asking the parliament to be prescriptive about what is in there, other than the two things that I have read out in relation to principles of the multiculturalism application in South Australia and, of course, the First Nations people to be recognised.

Can I just say that it does seem a little unusual of the member that we would be looking at this because, in looking at the 2017-18 annual report—the period of nine and a bit months for which the member was the minister—it seemed that the previous board, which included the chair of the current commission, was able to do all those things in its annual report. Indeed, you can all have a look at it. For those who have not read it, I think it is important that we always read annual reports. I have spent a fair bit of my time reading people's annual reports over the last 20 years, let me tell you, and I find them very interesting and very illuminating at times, and this is one of them.

In their report, they point out their role as a commission and their building community capacity—they have a whole chapter on that. They have a whole chapter on promoting multiculturalism, a whole chapter on access and equity and a whole chapter on interpreting and

translating services. Even under the previous administration—without even having a charter and all these other things—these sorts of important areas of work of the commission in reporting to the parliament about what it does and how it assists with departments, etc., in doing its work, are there, and it is annually accounted to us. If you want to drill down into the data, which is what people like me like to do, you go through websites and you can find that material separately as well.

I would urge the members of the opposition to reflect on what is there. It seems a common thing that people come in and say, 'We want you to add this into a piece of legislation to do this,' and, even in the face of there being myriad obligations at law for compliance already, they still want to add it. I am not going to complicate this any further. I indicate that these are all important and meritorious things to benchmark on and to do—there is law already providing for it to be done, tick; and this is not necessary, tick.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** A key part of this bill that we are looking at for the first time in 39 years is an act to advance multiculturalism and interculturalism in South Australia. With this amendment, I am endeavouring to make sure that we take the charter, when it is formed, to its truest effect. One of the areas that we can provide leadership in is particularly within the Public Service. I agree to disagree with the Attorney, because it is not reported upon.

I gave examples of the Australian Public Service in Queensland, who do report on that, but we do not report on it here. This is an opportunity for us to truly show the commitment to advance multiculturalism and to recognise that there are barriers. The way we can truly do that is to monitor it and to report upon it, just as we have done in other areas, including people with disabilities, people of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent and, looking at gender, women.

This is an opportunity that is before us today. I think that the amendment is very clear in its intention to give effect to the charter and for state authorities to report on this and to actively engage the elements of the charter that are going to be incredibly important to the future of South Australia, so I ask the people of the committee to support this amendment.

The committee divided on the new clauses:

Ayes .....	21
Noes .....	21
Majority .....	0

#### AYES

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

#### NOES

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

#### PAIRS

Bignell, L.W.K.	Marshall, S.S.	Piccolo, A.
Knoll, S.K.		

**The CHAIR:** The result of the division is that there being 21 ayes and 21 noes, the vote is tied. In light of that result, I give my vote for the noes.

New clauses thus negatived.

Clause 20.

**Mr SZAKACS:** Attorney, are there any regulations or subject matter that have been identified in consultation that is likely to be regulated and, if there is, will the minister—

*Members interjecting:*

**The CHAIR:** Can members find their places, please. I understand there are conversations that go on from time to time but we are in committee here.

**Mr SZAKACS:** Has any subject matter been identified in consultation that is likely to be regulated and, if so, will the Attorney undertake to consult widely on those regulations?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I am not aware of any subject matter that is proposed to be the subject of regulations. I understand that under the current act there are no regulations. This is a standard form to make provision for them if that seems to be appropriate. But, other than that, it is simply there for that purpose and there has been no draft prepared of any regulations. I should add that, should that occur, then the proper and usual process is that regulations are consulted upon.

Clause passed.

Schedule 1.

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

Amendment No 1 [AG-5]—

Page 11, after line 24 [Schedule 1, clause 3]—After subclause (1) insert:

- (1a) Despite subclause (1) (and sections 6(1) and 7), the members of the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission in office immediately before the day on which clause 2 of this Schedule comes into operation will be taken to be appointed under this Act as the members of the Multicultural Commission and—
- (a) each member will hold office for the remainder of their term of office (being the term for which they were appointed to the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission before its dissolution) and on the conditions of that appointment; and
  - (b) the member appointed to chair the South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission will be taken to be appointed as the presiding member of the Multicultural Commission.

I indicate that the terms of appointment of the current South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission members ended on 30 June 2020. Members were reappointed for a further 12 months until 30 June 2021. It was anticipated that that time frame would allow for the appointment of a commission under the new legislation. As the new legislation may not be assented to by 1 July 2021, the commission will need to be appointed under the terms of the existing legislation.

The government is aware that if the bill passes it will be in close proximity to the appointment of the commission so, rather than going through the appointment process again, we have implemented a new expression of interest process. We took on board the feedback received from the multicultural sector stakeholders during the 2019 Multicultural Legislative Review which called for an open and transparent process in selecting future members of the commission.

That is why, in the interests of running an independent and impartial expression of interest process, we engaged the recruitment agency Hender Consulting to manage the process. Expressions of interest for positions for SAMEAC opened on Friday 7 May and closed on Monday 24 May 2021. There was a response to the expressions of interest, I am advised. Through this expression of interest, we are seeking to fill the vacancies for the chair and up to 14 member positions—that is the 15 total—from 1 July 2021 for a term of up to three years.

South Australians from a diversity of cultural backgrounds, genders, life experience, ages and geographic locations are encouraged to apply for this opportunity. I do not think there is anything else I need to explain about what it is doing, other than to say that instead of simply extending it for 12 months—this is the way I will try to simplify it—as we have done previously, we have taken on board that there wanted to be some further information about what needed to be called for and disclosed for people wanting to have a chance to be able to put their hand up. We have recognised that and we have introduced an expression of interest process for the dates identified to accommodate those matters which are foreshadowed in this legislation.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** This expression of interest process has occurred while we are still debating the bill, which seems quite unusual to me as a process to take place, given that people are expressing an interest for a commission that they do not have the details about. It is even more curious to me that we have outsourced this recruitment to Hender Consulting. I understand that those expressions of interest closed on Monday this week. Can you tell me how many people applied and the cost of the recruitment process through Hender Consulting?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I do not have those particulars as to the number. Presumably the Premier or someone in his department receives that and deals with it. But I have just explained, and I will say it again, that the reason why the government has not simply said, 'This legislation has not passed, so we are just going to appoint all these through the same process,' is that we have clear notice from the general community, which everyone seems to accept, that it needs to be a broader and more transparent approach and that we need to be able to offer the invitation generally.

The government could simply do what we have always done, but we all know from this consultation that there is an expectation that this be broader and more transparent. That is what the government is trying to do here and to do that as an uncontroversial aspect of the consultation that everyone agrees to. If it was controversial, if the opposition were saying to us, 'We do not want you to say that we need to have people with broader experience. We do not want this to be an open thing. We just want the cabinet to go on picking whoever it wants,' if they wanted to say that, say it.

But we have listened to what the public say they want and these communities want. It is in the consultation process. We are in the middle of this legislation; it has not passed. There have not been appointments as such. We are just indicating that we have listened and we are happy to accommodate that in this interim arrangement.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** Attorney, who will make the recommendations from this expression of interest process? Will it be Hender Consulting, a paid consulting firm that we have hired, or will the Department of the Premier and Cabinet make a recommendation to the minister of who should be on the commission?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I am not sure who is on the panel to give the recommendations ultimately to the Premier, but it is a process which is the usual. If you employ a consulting agency, you ask them to go out, publish it widely with specific areas of interest if that is going to be helpful. For example, I would imagine—and I do not know the detail exactly about where this was advertised—you would not just put an ad in *The Australian* for this or even *The Advertiser*.

You would surely be able to put it on the websites and invite through information to penetrate those who are in the multicultural community because that is what is important. If you were trying to do a health board, you would make sure that you contacted the AMA and make sure it was in their newsletter if you wanted to have doctors on something.

I am not the expert on the process there but, as best as I understand it, it would be, through the consulting agency, to come back with numbers of people to say, 'Yes, these people all qualify. They live in South Australia, they have experience, etc., and here's the list.' The panel looks at them and the panel then comes to the minister (the Premier) and those decisions are then made. From memory, it is ultimately a matter that comes to cabinet and the Governor therefore makes the appointments.

**Mr SZAKACS:** Is a public servant or a member of staff from DPC on the panel?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I do not know the composition of the panel, as I have indicated. That would be a matter for the Premier.

**Mr SZAKACS:** The Premier could potentially come down and answer it, or would you like to either take that on notice or ask your advisers?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I am happy to take it on notice.

**Mr SZAKACS:** While you are at it, you have also indicated that you are not sure about the number of expressions of interest or applications and you are also not sure about who is on the panel. Will you take those on notice in between houses to provide that information?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** The first one was: who is on the panel and the number? Now you are asking me for the members on the panel. There are two issues I think you are asking: who is on the panel and how many have responded or been recommended up to go to the panel?

**Mr Szakacs:** You can take them on notice.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Both of those I am happy to take on notice, but there are not three, that is all. Is there a third one that you have incorrectly read out or not?

**Mr SZAKACS:** No, you indicated that you do not know who is on the panel; I asked if you would like to take the opportunity to ask your advisers and you said no. My question was: who is on the panel and is a member of DPC on the panel? They are two different questions.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I will take that as one question and both complements of it, thank you.

Amendment carried; schedule as amended passed.

Long title.

**The CHAIR:** The final question before the Chair is the title of the bill.

*Mr Szakacs interjecting:*

**The CHAIR:** Do you have a question about that?

**Mr SZAKACS:** More offering the Attorney indulgence. Would you like a moment, if necessary, for the minister to be here? I know that he has not been in the chamber or contributed to the second reading.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** It is totally disorderly, of course, for the member to reference any of the members who are not in the chamber.

**The CHAIR:** Yes, that is quite correct. The Attorney-General has carriage of this bill, so I am going to put the question.

Title passed.

Bill reported with amendment.

*Third Reading*

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (12:53):** I move:

That this bill be now read a third time.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay) (12:53):** I would just like to put on record why this should very much be a bipartisan bill. For many of the key elements, we certainly are in agreement. We want to advance multiculturalism and interculturalism. But there are three elements the government disappointingly made the decision not to contain within this bill. There was an accusation that some of it was made up by the Australian Labor Party, that we just pulled it out of the air, and I have said how offensive that was to me.

We will seek again in the other place to raise these issues, the first being a contribution within the parliamentary declaration of the diversity of migrants, migrants who come here a temporary basis, because we do want to acknowledge their contribution. We will also be raising again that a function of the commission be about raising awareness of the harm racism causes and, thirdly, I will once again seek, through the other process, through the debate, to truly advance multiculturalism through

monitoring and reporting in the South Australian Public Service. While this is an area of bipartisan support, we have missed an opportunity to truly advance this.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (12:55):** I acknowledge and thank all members of the parliament who have made a contribution to the debate on this matter, including during the committee stage, in the progress of the bill. I also wish to acknowledge and thank the commission itself for its service and indication of support. In particular I would like to acknowledge the current commission board members:

- Mr Norman Schueler OAM, Chair, who has extensive business experience in South Australia and who has been very actively involved in the Jewish community.
- Mrs Antonietta (known as Toni) Cocchiaro, his deputy, who has a legendary influence and contribution to education in this state. She has also been significantly recognised for her service to the Italian community.
- Mrs Laura Adzanku, who works with the African Communities Council of South Australia and who has also been very active over some time now in support of her communities, particularly the advancement of African women through their federation.
- Mr George Chin, who has been actively involved in his community since migrating to Australia in 1992 and who works in business in Chinatown in the Central Market Precinct. We thank him for his service.
- Ms Adriana Christopoulos, who has considerable experience in academia, and also as a local government representative, and has served on the Australia Day Council.
- Cav. Maria Maglieri, who comes from a family who has been inspired by the great wine regions of South Australia and now has extensive operations in the McLaren Vale area.
- Ms Thuy Phan, who arrived in Australia is a Vietnamese refugee via boat at age 13.
- Dr Valdis Tomanis, who has made a very substantial contribution to his community and who was born in a refugee camp in Germany in 1947. His service to the Latvian community is very well known.
- Dr Sridhar Nannapaneni, who is a committed community leader in the Indian community, and who has been very passionate about supporting migrants from his community.
- Mr Muhama Yotham, who has experience over the past 12 years working with refugees and migrants through the Australian Migrant Resource Centre and the Refugee Council of Australia, as well as a number of other organisations, promoting the cause. He produces a very contemporary influence and contribution to the board.
- Dr Ning Zhang, who is well known for her work as a senior lecturer at the University of Adelaide, as well as being an ambassador for the OzAsia Festival. She has considerable experience in relation to translation expertise.
- Mr Ahmed Zreika, who is the general manager and co-founder of his family business and who has, since 2015, been a leader in the Islamic Society of South Australia.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Attorney, we have just a minute to go before lunch.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I will be taking some extra time, so I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

*Sitting suspended from 12:59 to 14:00.*

#### *Petitions*

#### **BRIGHTON ROAD**

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens):** Presented a petition signed by 103 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.

## SA WATER

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development):** Presented a petition signed by 273 residents of Mount Compass requesting the house to urge the government to take immediate action to ensure water prices in Mount Compass are no higher to that charged by SA Water and that the water supply is made more competitive by instructing SA Water to also supply its water to all Mount Compass citizens.

*Parliamentary Procedure*

## ANSWERS TABLED

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

*Ministerial Statement*

## REPATRIATION OF GILLEN PHOTOGRAPHS

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (14:01):** I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I rise today to inform the house about my trip to Alice Springs last week and the government's repatriation of some 300 important photographs to the Arrernte and other Aboriginal communities of Central Australia, which are to be housed in the Strehlow Research Centre. I acknowledge at the outset Strehlow Chair, Michael Liddle, and Director, Marcus Schutenko, for their work with South Australian State Records and our common commitment to preserving the Indigenous history of Central Australia.

The photographs within the repatriated album were taken during the 1901-1902 expedition of Francis (Frank) James Gillen and his fieldwork partner, Walter Baldwin Spencer. On this expedition, Gillen and Spencer, with two Aboriginal men as helpers and a police trooper, journeyed across the continent from Adelaide to the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Gillen was well known in Central Australia at this time and trusted within the Arrernte community. He had been the post and telegraph stationmaster at Alice Springs for the previous 10 years. Through his roles as magistrate and Sub-Protector of Aborigines, Gillen demonstrated a keen sense of justice and was the first person in Australia to charge a police officer with murder of two Aboriginal men, which happened at Tempe Downs Station.

Through his connections with the Arrernte community and other groups, Gillen was given privileged access to cultural and ceremonial life. While with communities, Gillen and Spencer collected examples of cultural and ceremonial objects and made detailed ethnographic records, including photographs, film and sound recordings. These photographs are a significant record for the people of Central Australia today and may be the only images that have survived from this time. Where needed, it is hoped that the album can be used to restore any parts of cultural or ceremonial life that may have been lost.

Over 100 years later, this album returns to where its photographs were captured and enters a repository where it can be used alongside other records from Gillen's fieldwork. The significance of Gillen's album was first recognised by State Records staff member, Bruce Hammond, and in 1991 the Senior Aboriginal Access Officer at State Records, Andrew Wilson, sought further information from elders of the groups represented in the album. This enabled the identification of photographs containing secret, sacred and additional contextual information. Individuals were identified in the photographs, as some of the elders were able to recognise people who had been known to them when they were young.

Ms Amanda Osborne, the Manager of State Records, joined me at the repatriation ceremony. Bruce and Andrew were also present to witness this event 30 years after their work began, alongside local Aboriginal elders. I acknowledge and thank Simon Froude, the Director of State Records, for his commitment to seeing these photographs returned to where they belong. I am pleased to have

had the Premier's support in this endeavour, whose keen interest in Aboriginal art, culture and history is well known to us all.

Through the repatriation to the Strehlow Research Centre, already a hub of specialist Indigenous research and artefacts, it is our government's wish to meet the needs of communities in Central Australia, where the photographs can be accessed and used by the descendants of the people depicted in them. By repatriating this album, we continue the South Australian government's commitment to reconciliation and acknowledge the importance of records in the process of healing and maintaining cultural life.

#### PORT BONYTHON

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:04):** I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** In question time yesterday, I was asked about the EOI for land at Port Bonython, its relationship to the Port Bonython hydrogen hub and the project by the company H2U. H2U was awarded a \$4.7 million grant and a \$7.5 million loan in February 2018 in the dying days of the former government for a 15-megawatt electrolyser project. The government is proud of the support we have provided to this project over three years, including introduction to key international partners who have then invested in the project.

In November 2020, I approved a deed variation increasing the project size to a 75-megawatt electrolyser located at Cultana. As part of H2U developing its project, the state has given H2U a conditional undertaking to set aside a small portion of the land at Port Bonython for the purpose of its development. This information has been provided in the—

*The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** I'm just getting to the bit that the member needs to know.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Chaffey!

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** This information has been provided in the information memorandum of the EOI for land at Port Bonython. This information is available—

*The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** —to applicants in the EOI process and it is appropriately and publicly disclosed.

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I am advised that H2U intends to participate as a proponent in this EOI process, and the subsequent site planning process, and must meet all matters expected of other proponents. The government is supporting development of a Port Bonython hydrogen hub, which was identified in our Hydrogen Export Prospectus and Modelling Tool, which itself was part of the 2019 Hydrogen Action Plan. The government has put out an EOI to ensure that there is an appropriate process and framework to consider the interests of many parties in land at Port Bonython. That EOI document outlines, and I quote, the site's:

...potential to be transformed into a hub for either...'Green Hydrogen' or 'Blue Hydrogen' production and export.

An objective of the EOI is:

...to deliver projects and development which...contribute to Port Bonython as a multi-user export-focused precinct which leverages the State's advantages in renewable energy, fuels and mining.

It is important to provide this information to address the false claims against this process. I am very disappointed that the opposition is talking down the development of the Port Bonython hydrogen hub, which has gained global interest.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Before I call the Minister for Education, I call to order the member for West Torrens and I call to order the member for Chaffey.

*Parliamentary Procedure*

**PAPERS**

The following papers were laid on the table:

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

Death of—

Mr Kenneth Ngakatji Ken—SA Health's Response to the Deputy Coroner's Findings of 22 September 2020

Mr Stephen John Barton—SA Health's Response to the Deputy Coroner's Findings of 15 December 2020

Education, Department for—Annual Report 2020

Gayle's Law Review—Review of the Health Practitioner Regulations National Law (South Australia) (Remote Area Attendance) Amendment Act 2017 and the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (South Australia) (Remote Area Attendance) (No. 2) Variation Regulations 2019—May 2021

SACE Board of South Australia—Annual Report 2020

By the Minister for Child Protection (Hon. R. Sanderson)—

Children and Young People, Office of the Guardian for—Snapshot of South Australian Aboriginal Children and Young People in Care and/or Detention from the Report on Government Services 2021—May 2021

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

South Australian—Victorian Border Groundwaters Agreement Review Committee—Annual Report 2019-2020

South Australian Water Corporation—Direction to

*Parliamentary Committees*

**NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Ms LUETHEN (King) (14:09):** I bring up the seventh report of the committee, entitled Inquiry into Urban Green Spaces.

Report received and ordered to be published.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (14:10):** I bring up the 148<sup>th</sup> report of the committee, entitled 'Mount Barker Soldiers' Memorial Hospital emergency department redevelopment project'.

Report received and ordered to be published.

*Question Time*

**HINTON, MS L.**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:11):** My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier believe it is appropriate for senior media adviser, Lucy Hinton, to post on Instagram a meme mocking the transmission of the coronavirus from South Australia to Victoria while more than 20 people are infected and at least one person is requiring ventilation in intensive care? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Earlier today, the senior media adviser allocated to the Deputy Premier, Lucy Hinton, posted a meme featuring a well-known Australian TV character joking with a text, 'South Australia after giving Melbourne coronavirus then shutting the border between the two states,' with a character saying, 'I'm so random. I can't believe I just did that.' Above this post, Ms Hinton had written 'so good' with three crying laughter emojis.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:14):** I thank the member for Lee for his question. I haven't seen that, but what I can say, of course, is that we are devastated here in South Australia with the transmission that occurred in our medi-hotel. We take very seriously the operation of our medi-hotel here, and of course we know the devastating consequences when things go wrong.

We also know that this is a highly contagious disease. The Chief Public Health Officer, Professor Nicola Spurrer, has just given a press conference when she talked about the current variant of concern, originally declared a variant of interest, now declared as a variant of concern, and the transmissibility of this particular variant.

I think the whole of the country at the moment is on high alert. Our thoughts are with people in Victoria at the moment, who we know are doing it extraordinarily tough. We moved very quickly and promptly yesterday when we could see the situation was deteriorating with a higher number of infections being reported. We made changes to the restrictions that were in place and we put up social media, as well as doing a lot of media ourselves to convey the situation.

We closed our border to Greater Melbourne of 6pm last night. We also made it clear that those people who had come from Greater Melbourne from 20 May right through until 6 o'clock last night needed to get themselves tested on day one, day five and day 13, and we made a similar request for those people who were in Bendigo.

What I can tell the house at the moment is that there is a meeting this afternoon with the police commissioner, acting as the State Coordinator during this major emergency declaration, and the Chief Public Health Officer regarding whether there needs to be any further changes to those restrictions in light of the Victorian government's announcement this morning that they would put their state into a seven-day lockdown.

We take this matter extraordinarily seriously. We moved very promptly yesterday to protect South Australia. This is a particularly contagious variant of the coronavirus. Every single person needs to be on high alert. This is one of the reasons why we are very strongly encouraging people to get vaccinated when they are eligible and making sure that, if they develop any symptoms whatsoever, they go and get themselves tested. Thirdly is a plea to people to use the QR code check-in facility. This is a very important line of defence against this coronavirus.

**HINTON, MS L.**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:15):** A supplementary to the Premier: can the Premier advise the house what action he will now take about this appalling social media post from Ms Hinton?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:15):** I refer the member to my previous answer.

**HINTON, MS L.**

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (14:15):** A further supplementary, given the Premier's first answer: can the Premier explain to the house how his senior adviser could arrive at a perspective that this is a laughing matter, given the Premier has just advised the house that this is indeed a most serious matter?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:15):** I thank the member for Lee for his question. I have just made it very clear that (1) I haven't seen this meme, (2) I am not 100 per cent sure what a meme is and (3) of course I and I think the whole of South Australia takes very seriously the situation that is in Victoria.

It's interesting that the opposition are not asking questions about the restrictions or our response in terms of the coronavirus: they are asking questions about social media memes. I think

it goes to the heart of the level of interest, the political interest, that those opposite have with the coronavirus. Thank goodness they are not in government during this extraordinary situation.

I am very grateful to the people of South Australia, and all members of this chamber should be very grateful to the people of South Australia, who turned up almost in record numbers yesterday to get themselves tested. I have just been advised from the Minister for Health and Wellbeing, the Hon. Stephen Wade, that more than 7½ thousand tests were administered yesterday. This is one of the highest daily rates in South Australia, certainly in the top 20, and the highest that we have seen for months and months and months. I am very grateful to Dr Tom Dodd, the clinical lead with SA Pathology, and all of their staff for being able to surge that capacity. We have been able to ramp up the opening hours for many of our facilities that do that testing.

I know that there have been delays and I know that this is extraordinarily inconvenient to the people of South Australia, but it is these sacrifices that people are making that have essentially been what has kept our state safe and of course our economy strong, so I am still encouraging people who develop any symptoms whatsoever to go to one of those drive-through clinics, one of the standalone clinics, to get themselves tested and to isolate ahead of getting that result.

One of the things that I was very pleased to learn from SA Pathology this morning was that the turnaround time for that result, despite the massive surge in presentation times, was around 10 hours. This is world class. This is absolutely world class. The good news is that when Professor Nicola Spurrier provided her update to the press today, when we were very concerned about what we now regard as close contacts—people who would have come into contact with somebody who has now been diagnosed as being infected in Victoria—all the results today have come back negative. There is some good news today, and Professor Nicola Spurrier further provided advice today that there were no new cases in South Australia.

We had to move very quickly to close the borders to India because of the current surge in that country. We did that with great regret. We know that there are many Australian citizens who are stranded there who need to come back, and the federal government is working to bring back those on a prioritised basis at the moment, but the swift way that Australia moved to effectively close that border so quickly has significantly improved the situation.

Members opposite—all members in this chamber—would be aware that several weeks ago we were heading towards our capacity in the Tom's Court Hotel. This was of significant concern to us in South Australia. Whilst there were contingencies put in place, we did have to request the federal government to, if you like, postpone or cancel some flights to Australia to alleviate the situation. They did that. We've got a good working relationship with the federal government when it comes to the coronavirus, and the results are on the board.

### **SCHOOLS, YEAR 7 REFORM**

**Ms LUETHEN (King) (14:19):** My question is to the Minister for Education. Can the minister update the house on the transition from year 7 to high school?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:19):** I thank the member for King for this question. I know that she is very passionate about her local schools. She is very excited about the opportunities that her year 6 students, as they are now in her public primary schools, will have next year as the first cohort to be in the year 7 to high school transition.

They are the last group of students in Australia, after all other sectors and all other states moved this way, so that the year 7 curriculum—the national curriculum designed to be taught by subject specialist teachers in specialist learning environments—can be delivered in that way. The schools around South Australia are preparing to welcome those year 7 students with open arms as they enter high school next year, with facilities that are on track to be absolutely ready and with a high-quality teaching workforce that will be eager and enthusiastic about their roles.

Last sitting week, I was able to report to the house that last year we had 100 permanent primary school teachers already locked into permanent secondary school positions next year—an important first step in the process. The second step in the process was that significantly more than 100 teachers with placement rights in the system were able to have that placement allocated to them in high schools next year in term 2. We know that, historically, some of these teachers have been

waiting until summer holidays, or even the days before term 1 begins, before knowing what school they might be working in. They now know in term 2 this year what school they are going to be in next year, which is a great outcome for those teachers and a great outcome for those schools.

Significantly, on Monday this week, we closed more than 550 job opportunities for positions, mostly in high schools but also primary schools in the APY lands and primary positions in our new schools at Aldinga and Angle Vale. With more than 550 positions made available, I am really pleased to inform the house that, despite the naysaying of some who were concerned that we weren't going to have the level of interest from potential applicants, we have had more than 2,000 teachers apply for those 550 roles across our public education system, particularly our high schools.

This demonstrates a significant level of interest from teachers who are enthusiastic and excited about being part of that workforce that will support year 7s and the junior secondary students and the senior secondary students in our high schools going forward, meeting the expanding capacity needs of our high schools and meeting the needs of the year 7s coming in, so they can get those specialist learning environments and subject specialist teachers.

Hundreds of these teachers who have applied for these positions are indeed current primary school teachers—teachers who are currently teaching in generalist areas who are excited about the opportunity to teach in subject specialist disciplines, potentially disciplines that they might have had an interest in at uni but haven't been able to drill down into. Those teachers, should they be successful in the positions that are being offered in the coming weeks, will now have the opportunity for further professional development moving into high school. It's a great outcome.

Many of them are current primary school teachers on contracts. Many of them are current permanent primary school teachers. Many are teachers from other sectors. Many are graduates. There are a whole range of people who are applying for these positions.

I am also pleased to inform the house that, of the more than 100 school upgrades undertaken as part of the Marshall Liberal government's record \$1.3 billion investment in public education, there are dozens of schools that are already appreciating some of their new facilities, and for five schools at Parafield Gardens, Balaklava, Lefevre, Plympton and Salisbury—the Minister for Innovation and Skills' alma mater—those projects are already complete. Our schools will be ready for year 7s to come into high school next year. Our year 7s will be the beneficiaries of world-class education in the system that values the learning environments in which the curriculum is designed to be taught. I can't wait to see what they achieve in the years ahead.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Before I call the leader, I call to order the member for Playford and I call to order the member for Wright. I remind members on my right that the minister is entitled to be heard in silence.

#### **COVID-19 HOTEL QUARANTINE**

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:24):** My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier acknowledge that medi-hotels are not fit for the purpose of quarantine, particularly regarding COVID-19?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:24):** I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his question and his interest in medi-hotels. I think Australia has now received more than or certainly around 300,000 people through our quarantine arrangements during the life of this coronavirus pandemic. There have been approximately 20 transmissions within that environment.

I think Australia's performance is the best in the world. I think that we are constantly learning more and more about this insidious disease and the way it is transmitted. We are learning more and more about the variants of interest and the variants of concern and we are adapting the way in which we operate our medi-hotels in Australia.

Here in South Australia, we have a slightly different arrangement and there are different arrangements by state. If you go to Queensland, for example, and you become COVID-positive, you are put into hospital. Here, we have a dedicated quarantine facility for COVID-positive patients, the Tom's Court Hotel, which has a higher level specification than I think just about any other facility in Australia.

Of course, we created that dedicated facility in response to the situation that occurred after our review of the Parafield cluster. The point that I am making to the house today is that we are constantly learning and we are constantly adapting. What we are doing in government, of course, and we have done this since day one, is listening to the experts. We have done very well in Australia by listening to science and evidence and making informed decisions based upon what the experts advise.

We have experts in public health administration here in South Australia and we've got a very good head of that area of government, Professor Nicola Spurrier. She, along with her fellow chief health officers and chief public health officers around the country, sits on the Australian Health Protection Principle Committee (AHPPC), and they meet on a very regular basis. In fact, in the last couple of days, they have met several times per day to review that information.

They are in a very good position to make informed decisions about the types of facilities that we should be putting people into. Last year, both the national cabinet and the AHPPC commissioned some research that was done. It was referred to as the Halton report and Ms Halton and her team travelled to each state, they reviewed the quarantine hotel arrangements in each jurisdiction and provided advice to the national cabinet.

Subsequent to that, there has been very significant further improvement in the way that we manage those hotel facilities. We are listening to the experts and we are responding to the experts. As we know, we had an extraordinarily regrettable transmission in our quarantine hotel recently at the Playford Hotel and we conducted a very thorough and robust investigation. That full investigation has been made transparently clear and provided to the people of South Australia. There was no breach. There was an investigation into the potential causes of that transmission, but nobody will ever know for sure. This is a risky business. This is a highly contagious disease, but we are listening to the experts to make sure that we have the highest level of protection here in our state.

#### COVID-19 HOTEL QUARANTINE

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:28):** Given the Premier's former answer that no-one will ever know for sure what went wrong in the medi-hotel, does that not provide cause for the Premier to reconsider the need for purpose-built quarantine in our state and in our country?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:28):** I thought I had provided a reasonably comprehensive answer previously with regard to that expert advice. There are other people who consider themselves experts—I won't go into that—but we are listening to those people who have studied epidemiology, who have studied medicine, who understand how this disease works and who are experts in public health administration. They provide that advice to government. There are some people out there who think that if, for example, a facility was put in the country, that somehow the disease would recognise this and it wouldn't be transmissible.

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** These are quite extraordinary situations. I know this is a very sneaky thing—

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —because Nicola Spurrier tells me that it's really sneaky—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The leader!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —but to suggest that somehow this very sneaky disease knows what postcode it's in or that for some reason it's going to be less transmissible in country SA beggars belief, but that's what—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Lee!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —we are used to here in South Australia. We listen to the experts. We know there are those out there trying to undermine confidence in the response—the outstanding response—that we have had in Australia. It has been the best in the world here in Australia.

There are those experts, those so-called experts out there in the Australian Labor Party, who think that they could be doing it much better. But, of course, they fail to recognise that there are state governments and territory governments that are Labor governments. We don't see them shouting from the—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Leader!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —rooftop, calling for these—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —facilities to be moved into less suitable facilities. We listen. We take advice. If that advice changes, as it has, we listen—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Lee!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —to that advice and we take action. We will do whatever is required to keep the people of South Australia safe. But I make the point that with more than 300,000 people now going through the Australian hotel quarantine situation, and only about 20 people where there has been a transmission in that hotel, this is already world's best practice. We believe that we have a responsibility to repatriate those stranded Australians overseas. I know there are some people who say, 'No way. Close the border. Don't let anybody in.' No, we take—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —a completely different position. We think we should take the strain here in South Australia, and at the moment we have that arrangement with 530 per week. We applied to have that reduced from a height—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for West Torrens is warned.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —at more than 600 per week down to 530, and that was accepted by the federal government. There is a lot of science, a lot of public health science, which goes into our response. We will continue to listen to those experts who provide us with that advice.

As I have said, that does change. In every single incident we learn more about how this disease is transmitted. One of the best things we can do, one of the very best things we can do, is to continue to get vaccinated because Professor Nicola Spurrier again today at her press conference made it extraordinarily clear that we now have even more confidence in the vaccines that we have in Australia than we had at the beginning.

We are now seeing all that data, that real-time data, come through which shows that the severity of the disease and the symptoms are controlled, the transmissibility of the infection is significantly lowered and the ability for people to acquire this disease after being vaccinated is much diminished. So this is one of the important areas that we are focused on, along with our QR codes, along with our testing regime. We continue to listen to the experts, as we have since day one.

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

**COVID-19 HOTEL QUARANTINE**

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:32):** My question is to the Premier. Is the Premier aware that there are a growing number of experts who are advocating for an overhaul of the medi-hotel system, including the building of a purpose-built quarantine facility, including the Australian Medical Association, a growing chorus of epidemiologists and a number of state governments?

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

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** Yes, point of order, sir: the leader was very clearly using argument in his question when he said towards the start, 'Is the Premier aware of,' etc., and then sought to insert facts without seeking leave.

**The SPEAKER:** Standing order 97 sets out the relevant requirements. The leader might seek leave to introduce facts. I will give him an opportunity to do so.

**Mr MALINAUSKAS:** I am happy to rephrase the question. Is the Premier aware there are a growing number of experts in the field who are advocating for an overhaul of the medi-hotel system, including the building of a purpose-built quarantine facility? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I would be happy to explain.

Leave granted.

**Mr MALINAUSKAS:** The Australian Medical Association, a growing number of epidemiologists and state governments and premiers are calling for change of the medi-hotel system to build a purpose-built quarantine facility that actually keeps the virus in rather than letting it out.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:34):** What I do know is that since we had the advent—

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** Come on, tell us another gag. Laugh it up again.

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —of the coronavirus, we have been inundated with so-called expert advice. There have been a huge number of people who have put forward claims, in fact, suggesting absolute catastrophe within weeks back in April last year and who were very clearly shown not to have expert status. We have, since day one, listened to the advice that we have received from our excellent Chief Public Health Officer, the public health administration in South Australia and the experts who are appointed to the AHPPC and ATAGI in Australia. They provided very good advice.

I know that there are always outliers. There are always people that say, 'Look, we disagree with that advice,' and I think that is very healthy. I think that we should be challenging, that we should be always continuously challenging the positions that we have. It doesn't mean that we should be undermining public confidence in our excellent public health administration in Australia.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Cheltenham!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** We asked the question of our public health advisers very recently—

**The Hon. Z.L. Bettison:** The Queensland government proposal.

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Ramsay!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —in fact, it would have been late last year, when the Leader of the Opposition was making these statements about wanting to create these remote and regional facilities.

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** The advice that we received from the public health administrators in South Australia is this would provide an unacceptable risk for a number of reasons. Moving people out of proximity to a major teaching hospital would have very serious clinical ramifications for people that are within those medi-hotel facilities. Secondly, we will be moving them to a part of our state where we do have very vulnerable populations. For example, when it was suggested that we had plenty of room in Woomera—I remember the suggestion—that we should be moving people there—

**Mr Malinauskas:** Who said that?

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** We have a very—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The Premier resume his seat. The leader is warned. I remind members on my left, in particular at this time, and all members—

*Mr Malinauskas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The leader will cease interjecting. I remind members that the minister in answering the question is entitled to be heard in silence. The occasion of giving an answer is not an invitation to members freely to interject across the floor, regardless of any differing views that might be held. I am listening carefully to the Premier's answer. The Premier has the call.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** The opening up of detention centre-style facilities in remote or regional South Australia poses an unacceptable risk to those local communities.

**Mr Malinauskas:** Who suggested it?

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Of course, the other point that needs to be made is that these facilities (1) don't exist and (2) don't have the commensurate workforce required to mirror the capacity that we have. There are a number of alternatives for that proposition that's put forward by the Leader of the Opposition. First of all, that we just stop receiving people from overseas. That may be his position.

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

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

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** Standing order 98: the Premier is clearly debating the answer.

**The SPEAKER:** Well, member for Lee, the question invited the giving of an opinion by the Premier about the relative merits of actions that, with the benefit of leave, were purported to have been advocated for on behalf of a whole range of different participants in the debate. The Premier is responsive to the question. The Premier has the call.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I think one of the aspects of what the Leader of the Opposition has recently been saying is most worrying. He is saying that we should halt all international arrivals. That is how he is being—

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

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

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** The question—

*The Hon. S.J.R. Patterson interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The Minister for Trade and Investment will cease interjecting. The Minister for Trade and Investment is called to order.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** The question was very specific to the Premier about whether he was aware of a number of calls for the establishment of safe medi-hotel quarantine facilities, such as the AMA and such as epidemiologists. The Premier is debating the answer by making bogus references to alleged—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The Deputy Premier is called to order.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Minister for Education is called to order. The Premier will resume his seat.

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN:** As I was saying, the Premier is debating the answer. For your benefit, sir, it might help you to understand the reason why there is a chorus of interjections is because of your refusal to uphold any points of order that the opposition raises.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Lee will resume his seat. There is no point of order. The Premier has the call.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I would like to take this opportunity, because not everybody has had the opportunity to review the comments made by the Leader of the Opposition, so I am happy to put them on *Hansard* today. I quote directly from the Leader of the Opposition:

'Continuing to accept international arrivals and putting them in CBD medi-hotels staffed by casual labour puts our state at greater risk of another outbreak,' Mr Malinauskas said.

'This level of risk is simply unacceptable.

'The only way to alleviate this risk is the immediate and indefinite end of the medi-hotel system in its current format until a safer solution is found.'

He basically says, 'Turn the tap off.'

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Turn the tap off. Nobody to come back in.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Hurtle Vale!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Personally, I think we have an obligation to stranded Australians overseas. Clearly, the Labor Party says, 'No—fortress Australia.' It suits their political narrative at the moment, but we have an obligation to Australian citizens, and we here in South Australia will take the strain and support that national effort.

### EXPORT ECONOMY

**Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (14:41):** My question is to the Minister for Trade and Investment. Can the minister update the house—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**Mr McBRIDE:** —on how the Marshall Liberal government's international trade offices are supporting South Australian businesses recover from the pandemic and create export opportunities?

**The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON (Morphett—Minister for Trade and Investment) (14:41):** I thank the member for MacKillop for his question. His electorate is obviously an export powerhouse for South Australia, so when the member for MacKillop invited me to take a visit to see some of his businesses last week of course I jumped at it. One of those in Robe was Sky Seafoods. I met with a fantastic business owner there, Andrew Lawrie, who happens to be a Norwood supporter as well, so even better.

It is great to hear of the challenges they are facing and also the way they are trying to work around it. He is obviously an exporter of rock lobster, but he has found other ways by processing his lobster and selling it over the counter in his store right there in Robe. That is great innovative work

by him, and of course it's boosted by the massive surge in regional tourism that is going on. That is helping to counterbalance things.

The member for MacKillop is very interested in what our export figures are doing, and just this week we have seen some preliminary data released for the month of April, and they are very encouraging results. It showed that merchandise exports are up around \$1.3 billion for the month of April. This is only the third time it has exceeded \$1 billion in the state's history—fantastic news. If you look at the 12-month period, from April 2020 through to April 2021, there's a combined export figure of \$12.5 billion coming into our state economy. That is up 15 per cent and really shows South Australia leading the nation.

This follows on from the previous months' export figures, with the 12-month period to January up \$11.5 billion; 12 months to February, \$12 billion; and to March, \$12.1 billion. This is sustained exports here in the state. It is fantastic news. We don't have a breakdown yet of the April figures but, if we just look at the data for March, as I said, it is \$12.1 billion of money into the state's economy—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Minister for Infrastructure and Transport!

**The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON:** —the rise is attributed to iron ore, lead and copper. Of course, there is a resurgence of our vital primary industries recovering and rebounding from some hard and challenging years of drought and bushfires, particularly in barley and wheat. This is great news. It is always good to compare us to the national average to see how we are tracking. If you look at what was going on in challenging times for the country, the national trend over the 12 months was that overall the country's exports declined by 3.9 per cent. So South Australia is in positive territory and really kicking goals. Of course, we do know there are challenges ahead and that's why we have lent into this with our \$5.4 million Wine Export Recovery and Expansion Program.

We also continue to work at our critical overseas trade office networks. In our short three years of government, we have opened offices in China, Japan, Houston and New York in the US, Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, and also in South Korea and India. These are important key markets for us. That is why I am thrilled to inform you, Mr Speaker, that we have also opened our Singapore office, a vital international trading hub for freight and investment. It marries up with our trade office in Hong Kong and covers that vital north-south area of the South-East Asia region.

I would like to commend our new regional director, Kristan Dooley, who comes to us with 20 years of experience in defence. She is also a former Austrade Director of Defence and Security based in Singapore. I look forward to working with her. She has some fantastic insight and she will be working hard for South Australians. We know that if we back South Australian businesses, back them to export, that will help grow jobs and grow the South Australian economy.

**The SPEAKER:** Before I call the leader, I call to order the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport and I call to order the member for Ramsay.

#### COVID-19 HOTEL QUARANTINE

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:45):** My question is to the Premier. How long does the Premier expect to use medi-hotels for COVID-19 quarantine in South Australia?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:46):** As Professor Nicola Spurrier says, we don't have a crystal ball when it comes to this coronavirus, but what we do have is more and more information coming in on a daily basis. We take that information, we benchmark ourselves against other jurisdictions overseas, some of which are further down the track in terms of their vaccination program, and that helps us plan out the way that we are responding here in Australia.

The leader would be aware that there have been some road maps which have been published previously by the national cabinet, but we do, whenever they are published, emphasise that really they are subject to change. We know that this is a disease that we are learning more and more about all the time. We know from evidence already coming in from jurisdictions with high-level vaccination rates that we have seen the death rate, the infection rate and the escalation of severity of the illness rate, significantly plummet as a high proportion of the population gets vaccinated. It is one of the reasons why we are doing everything we can to lift our run rate here in South Australia in terms of vaccination.

That's one of the reasons why we have opened a mass vaccination clinic at Wayville, a mass vaccination clinic in Mount Gambier, a mass vaccination clinic at Noarlunga and on Monday of next week we will be opening up a mass vaccination clinic at Playford. We are also the first place in the country to open up a comprehensive vaccination program for those over the age of 16. The Northern Territory moved first with two or I think three remote clinics for those over the age of 16. We opened up 35 here so that those over the age of 16 can go along and get their Pfizer jab. Those over the age of 50 will get their AstraZeneca jab. We have excess capacity because of the excellent work that SA Health has done in consultation with the country LHNs.

When we came to government, we had a single country health LHN. Since coming to government, we have created six country LHNs and they are very responsive to their local communities. I was very proud when South Australia became the first place in the country where the AstraZeneca dose was administered. That was done at the Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital in the member for Hammond's seat. That was administered to Dr Caroline Phegan, who is in fact the medical director of the Riverland Mallee Coorong LHN, a very important LHN in South Australia.

We are constantly looking at ways that we can increase the vaccination rate, because we know that as we get that underway we are going to reduce our reliance on other interventions, like QR codes, like density arrangements, like medi-hotels and the like. But until that position comes, we are not prepared to take the risk. We have listened to the experts since day one. It has put us in very good stead. We will continue to listen to the experts, making sure that we can keep our state safe and, of course, that means our economy strong.

#### MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:49):** My question is to the Minister for Environment and Water. How much of the 450 gigalitres of water for the environment in the Murray-Darling Basin Plan has been recovered and allocated since 14 December 2018? With your leave, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Dr CLOSE:** Following the finding in the Murray-Darling Basin Royal Commission that the minister acted contrary to the state's interests in doing a deal with the Eastern States on water efficiency projects, the minister said in this place on 13 February 2019:

What I achieved...on 14 December 2018 was a historic pathway to water. Our pathway...leads to water.

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (14:50):** I am glad the deputy leader, firstly, raises the River Murray in this place and, secondly, quotes my statements about that historic pathway—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Hurtle Vale!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —because there is more activity happening up and down the Murray-Darling Basin—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —than ever before. The fake fights are over. The noise, the gestures, the poster-waving, the icons—and the fake fights are still going on.

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** Listen to them, everyone—or listen to them, Mr Speaker, should I say. The fake fights continue, the noise and the bluster, but what we are seeing is activity right up and down the Murray-Darling Basin—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Ramsay!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —and it is going exceptionally well. It is going exceptionally well.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Deputy Premier!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** We know that those opposite really didn't deliver any water from the 450 component of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, and they actually don't want to. What we have seen is a marked change in the deputy leader's and the Labor Party's rhetoric around this because as we sign up more and more projects towards the 450, they continue to say—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —that the water won't come.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Wright!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** Well, they have started to change that language now and say that there's not enough water coming, that there was never going to be any water under the leadership that the Marshall Liberal government showed. But now the water is coming. We know—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Cheltenham!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** I remember in a speech that the Leader of the Opposition said that under the Labor Party the water would come one day—one day. Well, we know it's coming because we've got these projects locked in. The deputy leader, the last time she asked me questions here, got a real shock when I revealed the 15-gigalitre project towards the 450. They say 15 is not enough—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —15 is a huge project. They got one gigalitre—15 times what they delivered with their fake fights and their nonsense, and we know where their gigalitre came from. It came from South Australia. They gave up water in South Australia. We've got a major 15-gigalitre project from the Goulburn Valley signed up and coordinated under this plan.

They hate that good news. They hate the water flowing down to the Lower Lakes to the Coorong to the Mouth and delivering life-sustaining water to these precious wetlands around the Coorong and, of course, to our irrigators here as well. They don't want success under the Murray-Darling Basin Plan. They bandy around false science—

**The SPEAKER:** The minister will resume his seat for a moment. The member for West Torrens on a point of order.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Two standing orders, sir: 98 and 127, digression and personal reflections on members.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, members on my right! The member for West Torrens is entitled to be heard in silence.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** The minister is debating the answer and he is also assigning a motive to members of the opposition claiming we don't want success for South Australia. That's not true, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** Well, as I—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! As I suspect the member for West Torrens well knows, there's no point of order under standing order 127, at least for the moment. I uphold the point of order under 98(a). The question was quite clear in its terms. The minister was addressing the answer. I'm listening carefully. The minister will direct his response to the question.

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** Thank you, Mr Speaker, for your direction. I do think just a tiny little bit of compare and contrast was necessary, but I will get back to the—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —basis of the question. So far, 2.1 gigalitres of the 450 has been delivered—of course, that is still a lot more than Labor ever managed. These projects need to be largely on their way by 2024. They are major, major infrastructure projects up and down the basin, and the reconciliation of the plan will take place in 2024.

I have always said that, even if a project isn't fully delivered by 2024, we shouldn't just pull up stumps and go home. That's like running a marathon and pulling up because you're not beating your personal best by halfway around, to use a sporting analogy. I sit beside the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, so I've got to do that. We've got projects locked in. We should not walk away from them. Some aspects of this plan are taking longer; rather than playing politics, we care about the environment.

**The SPEAKER:** Before I call the deputy leader, I warn the member for Chaffey, I warn the member for Cheltenham, I warn the member for Wright, I warn the Deputy Premier, I call to order the Premier and I warn for a second time the member for West Torrens. The member for Playford will leave for 20 minutes in accordance with standing order 137A.

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

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

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:56):** My question is again to the Minister for Environment and Water. Will the minister concede that the 450 gigalitres will not only not be delivered in full by 2024 but under current settings will never be delivered in full? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Dr CLOSE:** Since the Marshall Liberal government made a deal with the Eastern States, the Australian government has terminated the voluntary buyback program, terminated the on-farm efficiency program and is considering 34 off-farm efficiency projects, only three of which make any reference to potential water savings.

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (14:56):** The deputy leader bandies around a whole range of half facts that are with questionable science and is clearly relying on a report that was released today by the Conservation Council of South Australia and the Australia Institute.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Cheltenham!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** Unfortunately—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Wright!

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —they are half facts here, and they should listen so that they can educate themselves about a very complicated thing, which is the Murray-Darling Basin Plan. Unfortunately, this report that was released today—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** —is based on a key assumption that a stocktake document is used as the basis for this Conservation Council report. This document was compiled solely to identify projects towards the 450 gigalitres, but my understanding is that that stocktake document was actually much broader than that looking at the projects that would provide regional stimulus and/or contribute towards agricultural productivity across the basin as well.

While it did consider 450-gigalitre projects, it also looked at other things. For this to be the pivotal document relied on by the Australia Institute and the Conservation Council is quite concerning. Notwithstanding that, I have today written to the federal water minister, the Hon. Keith Pitt, asking that the federal government be a bit more transparent in their public statements around what—

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** Well, look, I was just using that—

*Mr Szakacs interjecting:*

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** You're getting very angry, Joe. I think it is very important—

**The SPEAKER:** The minister will not respond to interjections.

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** No, I shouldn't respond to interjections, Mr Speaker. I think it is important that the federal government place more information as to the potential water savings—

*Mr Szakacs interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Cheltenham will cease interjecting.

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** Obviously, these projects under the 450-gigalitre program must contain water savings in order to get federal funding. I understand that to be something that is translated into law. They are not able to receive money out of this account if these projects do not deliver actual water savings and deliver actual water.

While this report that has been released gives us an opportunity to make sure that we ask questions around transparency and getting that information out there with regard to water, it is very, very important that questionable science and half facts aren't relied upon, and that leads me to ask those questions to make sure that we do get that transparent material into the public domain.

## WINE INDUSTRY

**Dr HARVEY (Newland) (14:59):** My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Can the minister advise how plans for the water to the Barossa pipeline are contributing to the government's COVID-19 recovery plan and what that means for local industry?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (14:59):** I thank the member for Newland for his question. It is really important. In the last federal budget, we have seen the budget deliver for South Australia in this space. There was an announcement of \$22.3 million by the federal government to develop business cases for eight significant water infrastructure projects across Australia. One of those is here in South Australia in a very important place—the Barossa Valley.

There is \$3½ million being allocated towards a business case development in the Barossa Valley for new water infrastructure. That business case is one of those items that sits on the Infrastructure Australia priority list, and it is a really important project for the region. We know how important water is to grow things. In a particular area like the Barossa Valley and Eden Valley, we see the importance of the viticulture that occurs there. It is currently very reliant on the natural rainfall that exists in the area.

To give certainty going forward, we are investigating in this space, with the support of the federal government, to have a look at delivering infrastructure that will secure that region's long-term future and give it that assurance of being able to perform year in, year out without the reliance on regular rainfall as required. The Barossa is such an important asset to South Australia's economic prosperity. In the wine sector, in the grape crushing sector, it's 9 per cent of the grapes crushed in Australia but 23 per cent of its value. It is a really important sector to the state's economy.

This initiative is very much about creating jobs and securing a long-term future for the Barossa Valley, and Eden Valley in particular as well. Both those regions are so important to South Australia. Initial estimates show that it could generate nearly \$3 million extra to the state economy by delivering this infrastructure. That will also create around 1,000 jobs, and this is really important to that particular region and South Australia as a whole.

We have already seen investment of about \$1½ million by the private sector to undertake technical investigations as part of this project, so it very much has people on the ground involved as well. It's very important that the state and the commonwealth continue to work together in this space to make sure that we look after this community and this asset. The wine industry to South Australia is key. Again, as we see on the carpet here in this house, grapes have always been a part of the prosperity of South Australia.

We continue to work with the member for Schubert and the new Liberal candidate, Ashton Hurn, to communicate with the community. This is very much part of the delivery of the Growth State plan, looking at \$23 billion by 2030, the target we are aiming at. This is a key to actually achieving that. It also aligns with the Regional Development Strategy. This is very much us listening to the community and working with the community to deliver the projects out in those regions that need the support. This is one of those supports that will hopefully deliver big outcomes for the state of South Australia.

This is a great investigation project to see whether we can actually achieve this for that community, to give it that security going forward. It is a great way that the feds and the state can work together to deliver jobs for South Australia and the regions.

#### **NATIVE VEGETATION COUNCIL**

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:03):** My question is to the Minister for Environment and Water. Has the membership of the Native Vegetation Council lapsed?

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (15:03):** No.

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

**Mr PICTON (Kaurua) (15:03):** My question is to the Premier. Why did the Victoria Park testing clinic turn away people last night from getting a COVID-19 test and again turn away people from getting a test this morning?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:04):** I don't have details of that. It was reported that last night at about 8.15 they were providing advice to people at the end of the queue that they wouldn't get through by midnight. I think that is, quite frankly, pretty sensible, practical customer service. We know the time it takes to administer the COVID-19 PCR test. We have good data on that. We could see the number of cars that were there.

My understanding was that at about 8.15 there was advice from SA Health to the people at the back of the queue, saying, 'You're very unlikely to get through,' and I think that was good proactive advice provided to people who were doing the right thing and turning up. They could then get on with their evening or they could look at other sites. There was some capacity down at Adelaide Airport last night. My understanding is that that site was open until much later than 8.15, so they could look at other sites at that point in time.

As I said in my earlier answer, we have been very pleased with the sheer volume of people who came out yesterday for testing. In fact, we have only had 18 days above 5,000 tests administered in a single day in the history of the coronavirus. Yesterday, it was 7,500. I think that just shows you how responsive the people of South Australia are to the requests that went out yesterday from the Chief Public Health Officer, Professor Nicola Spurrier, and from Grant Stevens, the commissioner and State Coordinator during this major emergency, and the declaration of course from myself.

I expect there will be large lines again today. We have significantly flexed up our capacity again today. It can't be done overnight, of course. You can't decide with half an hour or an hour's notice to double, treble or quadruple the capacity, but I've got to say that the response from

SA Pathology yesterday was excellent. I spoke to Dr Tom Dodd midmorning yesterday and he advised of the types of capacity increases he was already putting in place.

I don't know what today's number will be. I have a feeling that it will be higher than 7,500. I know that the delays people are experiencing are very, very frustrating, but I thank the people of South Australia for doing the right thing. When they turn up and they suffer that inconvenience, at the same time they are keeping South Australia safe, and that's absolutely excellent news for our state.

### COVID-19 TESTING CLINICS

**Mr PICTON (Kurna) (15:06):** My question is to the Premier. Premier, why did the government close The Queen Elizabeth Hospital testing clinic and the Women's and Children's Hospital testing clinic in March this year and will those two testing clinics now be reopened?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:07):** I thank the member for Kurna for his question. They were closed because at the time they didn't have sufficient presentation to warrant those resources from SA Pathology and there were other testing facilities close by that didn't have delays. It's quite possible that additional sites will be opened up. I think what we have been able to demonstrate right since day one is that SA Pathology is extraordinarily responsive to consumer behaviour to try to maximise the number of people who are getting tested.

SA Pathology has led the world. In fact, I think the drive-through clinic, which originally opened up at Hampstead, was the second in the world—certainly the first in Australia—and then of course there was the Repat site. I may have them around the wrong way. I'm not 100 per cent sure, but the Repat site and Hampstead were both very, very early on, and then we saw this type of drive-through facility replicated in other parts of the world.

I remember that Dr Tom Dodd was very proud when he told me one day in the middle of last year that he had received a call from Stanford University, one of the leading universities in the world, to query how he was administering PCR with that drive-through. South Australia were pioneers. We have had excellent service, and that of course resulted in South Australia having amongst the highest PCR testing rates in the world.

It's that information that has provided great confidence to our public health administration and our State Coordinator to make sure that we can continue to minimise, if you like, any restrictions around density in South Australia because we have very good surveillance testing, testing people with symptoms as well as asymptomatic testing. Of course, we are also joined by our friends in private pathology services in South Australia. We have excellent private pathology services in this state that complement the work of SA Pathology.

One of the great things about the way we have tackled the coronavirus in this state is that everybody has been joined up and everybody is working for team South Australia to make sure that we can keep our state safe and our economy strong.

### CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

**Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (15:09):** My question is to the Minister for Innovation and Skills. Can the minister advise how the construction sector is contributing to the government's COVID-19 recovery plan and what this means for the local industry?

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills) (15:10):** I am so keen to answer the question and I thank the member for Kavel for his question. I know that he gets very excited every time he drives past that development work happening at Mount Barker High School and Mount Barker Primary School. South Australia's economic recovery has made headlines again today—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** —as a result of the Marshall government's economic stimulus and job growth measures. According to new data, the value of construction work in our state during the March quarter hit a record \$1.69 billion, with jobs in the industry continuing to record growth. The Master Builders report said that nearly 34,000 South Australians are now directly employed in the

building and construction sector, and that is not to mention the apprentices there—up more than 5,000 from the same time last year. Wages across the industry have also increased by 5.6 per cent.

The value of non-residential building work in South Australia totalled \$785.7 million in the March quarter. This was 18 per cent higher and the highest quarterly rise in the nation; the nation fell 1.6 per cent. The non-residential construction pipeline in Australia rose to 14 per cent in the December quarter. This is the highest level for nearly a decade.

The Master Builders Association of South Australia expects non-residential building activity in the state to remain steady over the next four months with non-residential projects under construction in South Australia. You see the cranes everywhere. I am running out of time, so I won't run through the lot of them, but wherever you go you will see the building work. Of course, this is backed—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Deputy Premier!

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** —by the Marshall government's record \$16.7 billion—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Wright! The member for Wright will cease interjecting.

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI:** —investment in infrastructure and our targeted stimulus package, and of course 864,200 South Australians are now employed, which is the highest number ever.

#### **MORGAN SAWMILL**

**The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (15:12):** My question is to the minister for forestry. Can the minister update the house on the ForestrySA procurement and supply of logs to the Morgan Sawmill at Jamestown, who employ over 75 people? With your leave, and that of the house, sir, I will explain further.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. G.G. BROCK:** This week, I asked a question about how Morgan's will run out of timber on 30 June 2021 and how the economic impact to the Jamestown area is about \$10 million to \$15 million.

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (15:12):** I thank the member for the very important question. This is certainly a challenging period going forward. The demand for timber in Australia is enormous as we see the developments going on across the board, particularly demand for structural timber. We are seeing a particular demand in not just South Australia but right across Australia. The world price for timber has also gone through the roof. We are seeing the import of timber into Australia dry up, so there has been increased demand at the housing level but a drop-off in supply as well.

There is very much a process that we are going through at the moment where ForestrySA have tendered out their timber for sale for this current season and period. My understanding is they are tendering out for long-term contracts for people to enter into. That process is in train. My understanding is that in early June the announcement will be made about where the successful tenders will be and what opportunities will be there going forward in relation to that.

It's a very challenging space, the timber industry, because it is a very long-term time frame you have to operate in. There are many forests around South Australia. We see the forests down in the South-East that were sold off by the previous Labor government to the mills down there and that are being used within those mills. Those mills are actually operating at capacity and they are not looking for huge amounts of extra timber anywhere.

We have a small amount of state forest left here but we also have privately owned forests as well that make timber available to local mills up here. So it's a very dynamic industry that operates in place. There is an opportunity for those mills to secure timber from many sources, whether it be from ForestrySA—the small bit that's left—or any other privately operated forests that are out there.

This is a place where we see the challenges of a small business dealing with procuring long-term needs.

We are working closely with Morgan's to see what opportunities there are for them going forward. We are certainly having conversations with them on many different opportunities that may be there for them and we will continue to have those fruitful discussions with them. The member for Stuart, as the local member, has been totally engaged with that community up there and continues to talk with Morgan Sawmill to make sure we meet their needs where we can. We will continue those conversations so that we can deliver for South Australia to make sure we have those structural timbers we need.

#### **MORGAN SAWMILL**

**The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (15:15):** Supplementary, Mr Speaker: minister, are you indicating that the tender process has not been closed off at this stage?

**The Hon. D.K.B. BASHAM (Finniss—Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development) (15:15):** I thank the member for his supplementary question. The information that is supplied to me is that the process hasn't been totally finalised. It is in the process of going through contracts being signed, etc., and the announcement of the successful tenderers will be made in early June.

#### **WITTUNGA BOTANIC GARDEN**

**Mr DULUK (Waite) (15:16):** My question is to the Minister for Environment and Water. Can the minister please update the house on recent investments into the Wittunga Botanic Garden in Blackwood and update the house on the appointment of a new director of the South Australian botanical gardens?

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (15:16):** I thank the member for Waite for his question and acknowledge his very longstanding interest and connection with the Wittunga Botanic Garden, probably the lesser known of the three botanic gardens in South Australia. Notwithstanding that sometimes lack of visibility in the broader South Australian community, it is a very special garden within the Blackwood Hills area and one that certainly deserved some TLC after years and years of underinvestment under the previous government.

But before talking about the great work that has happened in Wittunga Botanic Garden, I do want to thank and pay tribute to Dr Lucy Sutherland, the outgoing Director of the Botanic Gardens here in South Australia, for her leadership in recent years of that incredible South Australian institution, the Botanic Gardens and the State Herbarium. Lucy has decided to move on. Recently, the board of the Botanic Gardens announced the appointment of Michael Harvey as the incoming Director of the Botanic Gardens.

Michael has international experience in the running of cultural institutions, including working at the incredibly well-known, if not probably the best known, natural history museum in the world, the Natural History Museum in the United Kingdom, based in London. Michael has worked there and also in more recent times at the New South Wales Maritime Museum. We look forward to welcoming Michael to Adelaide and South Australia to commence a new era in leadership for our Botanic Gardens.

When it comes to the Wittunga Botanic Garden, it is a garden tucked away on Shepherds Hill Road in Blackwood. It has been great to see \$750,000 spent in lifting that garden in recent months. Some of that money has come from the federal government through Adelaide City Deal with some support from the state government and support from the Friends of the Botanic Gardens, and that has enabled a whole range of upgrades that have transformed the aesthetic and the opportunity for people to access that garden.

It is one thing having a garden there, but if people don't know about it and they don't get in there to immerse themselves in what that garden has to offer, the opportunity that is there to share the story of that garden and for more people to enjoy it is lost. The funding has seen a significant nature play space established. It has seen garden upgrades, including the creation of a new pad, a new viewing deck over the lake there, and an overall revitalisation of that lake precinct. It's also seen the addition of new garden furniture.

The nature play is in particular a feature, an asset, that is drawing people into the garden, perhaps the demographic that didn't usually engage with that garden. We've got bespoke climbing frames that represent a protea, recognising the very significant South African heritage in that garden. We've got a ribbed musical frog, a dry billabong and an inground wheelchair trampoline, and that has also included 500 new plants that are in keeping with that precinct planted around that nature play.

A whole range of stakeholders have been involved and engaged in making this happen: the Blackwood Primary School, which is the closest neighbour to Wittunga Botanic Garden, the Blackwood Action Group, the Friends of the Wittunga Botanic Garden and Nature Play SA. Nature Play is also located on site there at Wittunga Botanic Garden. It is a great revitalisation project, and we hope that many, many people will continue to enjoy Wittunga Botanic Garden into the future.

### RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN

**Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:20):** My question is to the Premier in his capacity as Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. Does Parliament House have a reconciliation action plan and, if it doesn't, will you undertake to make one happen and put cultural training as part of it for all members and staff in the precinct?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:20):** I thank the member for Florey for her question. She often asks me questions about parliament. In answering the question, I just remind this house that I am one member of a 47-seat chamber, one of 69—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —members of parliament and members of the Legislative Council.

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** I am responsible for the RAPs that exist and the Stretch RAPs which exist within the government, and that's something we have put a lot of focus on. With regard to parliament, there is a Joint Parliamentary Service Committee. I have spoken to them and I outlined yesterday some of the aspects that I had raised with the Joint Parliamentary Service Committee and the Speaker in this chamber, of course, with regard to issues like the flags here—

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

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Lee!

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —like we heard from Dr Roger Thomas last year, like the refurbishment—

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** Did you appear or write to the committee?

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Lee will cease interjecting.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —of the Balcony Room. I have written to the Joint Parliamentary Service Committee regarding more permanent recognition in this building, if you like, as a permanent reminder of the origins of this state prior to settlement, which I think should be represented on this site. I think this is something which the Joint Parliamentary Service Committee could consider but, as the member would be more than aware, I can't be directing the Joint Parliamentary Service Committee. What I can do, though, is make sure there is an adequate budget for the Joint Parliamentary Service Committee as well as for the individual houses within this parliament, and that's precisely what we do provide.

I would certainly support any moves for the member for Florey to join with me in advocating to the Joint Parliamentary Service Committee with regard to a reconciliation action plan for cultural awareness training, but that is not something that I am responsible to the house for. One thing the member may be interested in, because it's an area that I am responsible for, is for the members—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** Most people actually appreciate that Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation has historically been a bipartisan portfolio.

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** We just haven't had a minister that's neglected it so much.

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Lee will leave for 20 minutes in accordance with standing order 137A.

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** We are very proud of the advances we have made—

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Lee will leave for 20 minutes in accordance with standing order 137A.

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

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL:** —and we recognise that there's much more work to be done. One of the areas that I am responsible for, of course, is the Senior Management Council in South Australia. I am the one who essentially employs the chief executives within the Public Service, so I was absolutely keen to have cultural awareness training for members of the Senior Management Council, which occurred last year. You can't just have a one-off, but I think it was a very good opportunity for the Senior Management Council, with the entire cabinet, to come together for that cultural awareness training, which took place last year.

The member may also be interested to know that the cabinet actually meets with the South Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council on a regular basis—in fact, it's the only body that comes to meet with the cabinet—because we take it very seriously. These are the areas of responsibility that I have in government, but I join with her in encouraging the Joint Parliamentary Service Committee to look for all opportunities to continue along that pathway to reconciliation.

#### CROSS-BORDER COMMISSIONER

**Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (15:25):** My question is also to the Premier. Will the Premier reconsider the merits of a cross-border commissioner to support residents, businesses and industries located near the Victorian border impacted by statewide lockdowns?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:25):** I don't think I have ever ruled it out. I am probably yet to be convinced precisely what the benefits would be. We have a good working relationship with the Victorian government from a health perspective. We have been nuancing the arrangements with regard to the border communities. We appreciate that we do have some real impact upon those border communities every time we seek to put restrictions in place, so I think we need to be mindful of that. What specific benefit a cross-border commissioner would provide I am not 100 per cent sure, but I don't think I have ruled it out. I am happy to hear more.

#### SWITCH FOR SOLAR

**Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:26):** My question is to the Minister for Energy and Mining. I refer to the Switch for Solar scheme and ask: how was the choice of participating north-eastern suburbs determined for access to the Switch for Solar scheme? With your leave, and that of the house, sir, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Ms BEDFORD:** I am just wondering how St Agnes missed out.

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (15:26):** Thank you to the member for Florey. This question is extremely similar to the one that the member for Frome asked yesterday, so the answer will be very similar. It would have been terrific to have this scheme apply to every household that qualified in Adelaide and every household that qualified in regional South Australia as well.

Given that it is a one-year, 1,000 home voluntary opt-in pilot scheme, it wasn't possible or practical or cost-effective to do that and make it available for absolutely everyone everywhere, so we chose a chunk of suburban Adelaide and we chose a chunk of regional South Australia. The

suburban Adelaide section is essentially the north-eastern suburbs, but of course it's not possible to have—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, the member for Reynell!

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN:** —every single MP's electorate included. As I said yesterday to the member for Frome, I would have loved to have constituents in my area included, just like I am sure everybody else here would. For the member for Florey, we are very optimistic that this trial, this pilot, will prove up what we expect to be terrific benefits for people in South Australia.

For those who receive concessions—Cost of Living Concession and energy concession—who choose voluntarily to surrender those concessions in return for having a 4.4 kilowatt solar system put on their house for free, the modelling shows us that the savings on the annual electricity bills for those households will be well in excess of the concessions that the households have forgone. It is in the order of \$220 per year through to \$465 per year per household savings on the electricity bill over and above the concessions that are forgone.

Of course, this will be a matter for the Treasurer and for cabinet to agree to, but I will certainly be very hopeful that, once this program has been proven up and the benefits to these households are known in even greater detail, we will then be able to offer it to all concession holders throughout the state. That is very clearly my intention—all concession holders throughout the metropolitan area and all concession holders throughout the regional areas as well.

My apologies to any member who, just like me, would like his or her own electorate and his or her own constituents to have been included in the trial, but that was just not possible or practical. We had to choose a section of the city and a section of the country. We did that understanding that every other section also would like to have been included in this absolutely outstanding program.

Let me finish by saying how disappointed I was to hear the shadow minister for energy call this a 'cruel and unfair program', I think were the words used, to give concession holders the choice to voluntarily surrender their concessions in return for a free solar system and thereby save money. I think that everyone who chooses to participate will be very satisfied with the outcome.

**Ms BEDFORD:** Supplementary, Mr Speaker: he hasn't answered my question. You haven't answered how the trial participants were chosen.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Florey will resume her seat.

*Ministerial Statement*

#### **CENTRAL ADELAIDE LOCAL HEALTH NETWORK**

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Moriaita—Minister for Education) (15:30):** I table a ministerial statement made by the Minister for Health and Wellbeing in the other place.

#### **PORT BONYTHON EXPORT PRECINCT**

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (15:31):** I table a ministerial statement made by the Hon. Rob Lucas MLC in the other place.

*Grievance Debate*

#### **COVID-19 HOTEL QUARANTINE**

**Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (15:31):** Over the last 24 hours, I think every Australian has had a moment of pause, reflection and thought for those people currently in Victoria who now face the prospect of yet another lockdown: seven days of being unable to live their lives normally and seven days of lockdown that we know have the potential for grave and severe consequences on people's livelihoods and the Victorian economy more broadly.

Those Victorians will again make those sacrifices willingly in the name of their health and of the health of their families and their fellow citizens, and we wish them well during the course of that endeavour. No-one wants to see this happen, no-one on the government side of this chamber,

no-one on the opposition side of the chamber and certainly no-one within the crossbench, yet here we are.

It is pertinent—indeed, it is appropriate and responsible—for everyone in this chamber, and I think every person in a position of leadership in this nation, to actively contemplate what can be done to prevent further lockdowns into the future. I think it is fair to say that there is an answer that is well and truly before us and has been for many months now, and that of course is a complete overhaul of our quarantine system regarding COVID-19 in this country because it does not work. It does not work.

As the Premier rightly identified, we have now seen approximately 20 breaches of medi-hotels that have resulted in very severe and grave consequences to our country. They are not just medi-hotel failures in South Australia; they have happened in every state within our federation. At some point, we have to acknowledge that it is not working and that something else has to be delivered.

Throughout the course of COVID-19, as an opposition we are being very deliberate and concerted in our effort to provide bipartisan support to the Marshall Liberal government in their endeavours to manage the health crisis of COVID-19. Part of that exercise, of course, has been that the opposition and I have offered constructive suggestions to the government in the hope that they will take up those suggestions in the name of keeping our community safe. To the government's credit, they have taken up a large number of our suggestions.

However, one they continue to ignore is our call for purpose-built quarantine facilities in this country. Section 51(ix) makes it abundantly clear that the responsibility of quarantine is a commonwealth responsibility. We continue to advocate for the state government, for the Premier, to exercise the function of leadership and advocate to the Prime Minister that they fulfil their responsibility and design purpose-built quarantine facilities that serve the purpose of keeping the virus in.

The great tragedy in regard to this most recent case is that Case A, as identified by the SA Health's report, contracted COVID-19 while in quarantine. Quarantine is supposed to contain the virus. In this instance, it spread the virus. That individual only got COVID-19 because they went into quarantine, which of course is an absurd situation.

The Premier in response to some questions that we asked on this subject today said that he is listening to the experts. We applaud the government for that approach, but we know that there is now a very consistent cohort of experts who are advocating for purpose-built quarantine. I cite Dr Andrew Miller, the Western Australian President of the Australian Medical Association, along with the AMA themselves who are advocating for change.

Professor of Biostatistics from the University of South Australia and a former World Health Organization epidemiologist, Professor Adrian Esterman, said that virus leaks are inevitable while hotel quarantine is relied upon, 'The hotel quarantine system always leaks no matter how hard you try.' Tony Blakely, Professor of Epidemiology from the University of Melbourne; James McCaw, a prominent epidemiologist again from the University of Melbourne; University of New South Wales infectious disease expert, Bill Bowtell; other premiers, business leaders and epidemiologists—they are all calling for purpose-built quarantine. That is what this nation needs.

The Premier also said earlier today that we do not have a crystal ball, that we do not know what the future looks like, that we do not know how long COVID-19 will be with us. If that is the case, now more than ever is the time to act. If we had acted six months ago when we first called for this, then maybe those facilities would be in place today. Let's not wait any longer, let's use the resources of government, let's use the function of leadership to commit ourselves to purpose-built quarantine facilities to keep our community safe, to give people the best chance of remaining in a job, not just here at home but throughout our country, particularly in states like Victoria.

Time expired.

#### **NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK**

**The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON (Morphett—Minister for Trade and Investment) (15:37):** I take the opportunity to speak in parliament today about National Volunteer Week, which was held last week. National Volunteer Week is Australia's largest annual celebration of the six million

volunteers in Australia. The theme for National Volunteer Week this year was Recognise. Reconnect. Reimagine. Volunteers make our community stronger, especially during times of need and crisis, which has certainly been highlighted during the past year with COVID.

I personally have had the opportunity to volunteer in Morphett at the Glenelg Surf Life Saving Club, undertaking patrols along our beautiful coastline. Last week, during National Volunteer Week I had the honour of attending a celebration of volunteers at the Camden Community Centre. I was joined at the celebration by a number of distinguished guests, including the Mayor of West Torrens, Michael Coxon; President of the Greek Orthodox Community of SA, Bill Gonis; and City of West Torrens councillor, Surrender Pal.

I will talk a little about the Camden Community Centre, which has been an absolute stalwart of Camden Park and surrounding suburbs such as Novar Gardens for many years. The community centre was founded in 1975 on the grounds of the old Camden Primary School on Carlisle Street. The state government has a strong history of supporting the centre, gifting the old primary school site to the community club. This has given them a solid foundation on which to build their community services.

At 45 years old, the Camden Community Centre is one of the oldest community centres in metropolitan Adelaide and has been built up over many years. I would also like to recognise the previous chair, Julie O'Malley, who has put countless hours into the centre as well. In terms of how it derives its income to support some of its many fantastic initiatives, it has an op shop and also a men's woodwork shop to help raise funds, where they have beautiful platters and fantastic cutting boards.

Through this work, the centre assists around 200 to 250 people a week who use the various facilities. The sheer scale of the volunteer work at the centre is really phenomenal. Just to name a few of these operations, there are the Community Connection Social programs, kitchen assistance, the Men's Shed, an op shop, community gardens, Saturday evening bingo, a JP service and art classes, not to mention, of course, the food assistance they provide to around 200 disadvantaged and vulnerable families in Housing Authority units within the Camden Park and Novar Gardens suburbs.

I want to talk about other great volunteer organisations in Morphett. We have some fantastic rotary clubs, including the Rotary Club of Glenelg, the Rotary Club of Somerton Park and also the Rotary Club of Holdfast Bay. The Rotary Club of Holdfast Bay is ably led by their president, Kim Harvey, and the secretary, Richard Campbell, as well as their two community service officers, Lance Meaney and Greg Lang.

The club itself does some fantastic community work and is known especially for its regular food drives at supermarkets across the area. Just last week, I was fortunate enough to be able to help out at the Bayside Village, Glenelg, in front of the Woolworths shopping centre, with the rotary club's Locals Doing it Tough program. There they collect items from people's shopping trolleys, saying, 'Just buy one extra of some non-perishable food or sanitary items and other toiletries.'

This allows them to distribute these goods, whether it is soup, biscuits, milk, tea, canned tuna, baked beans or spaghetti, some tinned fruits, rice, pasta, potentially some body wash, shampoo, deodorant and toothpaste. They are able to donate these to some very worthy church-based service programs we have in the Morphett electorate: St Andrews by the Sea in Glenelg, St Paul's Lutheran in Glenelg, the Anglican Parish of Glenelg and the St Vincent de Paul Society of Glenelg.

The last drive they conducted provided an estimated \$11,000 worth of goods generously donated by all the fantastic community members in Morphett to help out those doing it tough in our area. I would like to say well done to everyone involved in this wonderful cause, especially to the president of the Rotary Club of Holdfast Bay, Kim Harvey, and also their community service officers, Lance Meaney and Greg Lang. I am certainly always happy to assist these wonderful service clubs we have in Morphett and I look forward to helping them yet again.

Time expired.

### MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN

**Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:42):** I want to use my opportunity to speak in parliament this afternoon to go through what has become the very sad story of the Murray-Darling Basin and the Murray-Darling Basin Plan. People will remember that, in order to get South Australia's agreement to be part of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, the other states and the commonwealth agreed that there would be an additional 450 gigalitres that would be assigned to the environment and would be largely for the benefit of the Lower Lakes, the Coorong, the Murray Mouth and generally for the health of the South Australian environment.

That agreement was contingent on being able to find the water through water efficiency projects. Unfortunately, what we have experienced since that agreement is three very bad blows—strikes, if you will—against the chance that South Australia will ever see the 450 gigalitres, or certainly not see it by 2024, which was the original deadline.

The first of those blows was when the Marshall Liberal government signed up to additionally complex criteria on top of the very simple criteria that existed in law in the plan for approving these projects. These additionally complex criteria were put forward by the Eastern States (by New South Wales and Victoria), states that had been clear from the start that they did not want to send the 450 gigalitres. Having said that clearly, and having in that context advanced these complex criteria for the South Australian government to agree, it was in fact, as the royal commission found, an act of betrayal to South Australia's interests.

The second blow against the chance of South Australia getting the full 450 gigalitres was when the commonwealth government, relatively recently, decided that no on-farm efficiency projects would be considered—nothing on farm, be it changing over the irrigation method from open-cut channels to dripper systems—that none of that kind of work would be funded by the commonwealth government in order to deliver the 450 gigalitres. There were very strong words from the minister and the Premier when that was announced. They said that they were disappointed. I think we can really measure how much they felt about it that they went so far as to raise any criticism of the commonwealth government—that they were disappointed.

The third blow is the off-farm projects that we are now reduced to. We are now reduced to off-farm projects. People often ask me, 'What on earth are off-farm projects that are water efficiency projects?' Most of the projects on the list of 34 that have been identified are things like bridges. It is very important, no doubt, for primary production and for other freight transport that bridges will be expanded and reinforced and made capable of delivering heavier vehicles. Of the 34 projects that are currently being considered as off-farm water efficiency projects, only three mention water savings. That is very worrying.

The minister, in response to the question about this, suggested that this is a larger list, and it may well be. He may well be right that it is a larger list than just those projects for water efficiency, but that still leaves us with the fact that currently it appears only three of the projects that we are aware of are likely to give any water for the River Murray and for the environment in South Australia.

What has been the result of these three strikes? First of all, the federal government has spent \$68.1 million delivering around two gigalitres of water. If I were the environment minister in the state, I would want to ask questions about whether that money had been well spent.

The second result we have seen is that an independent report prior to the cancellation of the on-farm irrigation found that, at most, we would see 60 gigalitres of the 450. I expect that would be revised, knowing that no on-farm projects will be supported by this federal government. When asked how much water he has delivered since he did this deal, the minister I think said that there is an agreement for 15 gigalitres, as if that is a great triumph. Fifteen gigalitres is better than zero gigalitres, but it has not been allocated, as far as I can tell from his answer. It has not been recovered, and 15 is a very long way from 450.

My view is that, until we no longer have a National Party person as the minister for water in the commonwealth and until we have a strong South Australian government prepared to stand up for our interests, we will not see that 450 gigalitres. Let it be on the record that I desperately want us to.

Time expired.

### PETERBOROUGH ART PRIZE

**The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (15:47):** It is a huge pleasure for me as the member for Stuart to rise to talk about a fantastic local community event that I attended just last Friday evening, 21 May, in Peterborough. Some members may know that once a year the Peterborough Art Prize is held. It is a fantastic exhibition that I think has been running for 13 or so years—I am sorry I do not know exactly—and it is gaining a very positive reputation. It always is an outstanding exhibition run by volunteers.

This year, they did something slightly differently when organising. This year, they decided to split off the youth section of the exhibition. Traditionally, the main exhibition and the youth and school student section, encompassing pictures, sculpture at times and a lot of photography, have all been run together in the absolutely beautiful Peterborough Town Hall.

This year they decided to run them separately, which has turned out to be a really fantastic opportunity for the students to have their own exhibition. Not only is it open to Peterborough Primary School, St Joseph's School and Peterborough High School students in the town of Peterborough but it is open to other students, and there were certainly plenty of contributions to this youth exhibition from other young people from around the broader MNSEC area, as it is often referred to with regard to the group of schools in the Mid North.

It was tremendous to see such a wide range of art put together with great care, talent, skill and concentration by such a wide range of students. I know that none of the exhibitors will mind my saying that you could tell there was a big difference between some of the art that was prepared and presented by some of the much younger students through to the much older students in high school. That is not unusual and there is no shame in that, but I know that some of those younger students will move on and develop and their talents will grow as they themselves grow.

There were tremendous drawings, tremendous photography and tremendous paintings—some oil and some watercolour. There was what looked to me like a collage, but it was such a carefully put together collage that I was not actually sure if that was the case to begin with. I would like to particularly congratulate a young lady whose name is Serafina, who took out the main overall prize in this exhibition. I would also like to acknowledge Ms Janet Ridge, the Chairperson of the Peterborough Art Prize Committee, who led both the main adult exhibition as well as the youth exhibition. Janet and her committee did an absolutely outstanding job this year.

The adult exhibition, which is held very close to Easter—I think it is usually the Friday before Good Friday—holds a very special place in my heart, not only because it is in the fantastic town of Peterborough but because it was the very first public event that I ever attended as the member for Stuart shortly after the late March election in 2010. I believe I have attended every single year since then. I might have missed one, but I do not think so, and it is a real pleasure for me to participate in, contribute to and support that event.

It is a pleasure to do that always with Mayor Ruth Whittle, who supports every single thing that is going on in Peterborough. It is also a great pleasure for me to see this exhibition grow, develop and improve. This year, the improvement was with regard to giving the youths of the district their own exhibition. It was wonderful to go to the adult one several weeks ago and wonderful to go to the separate youth exhibition just under one week ago.

### THE JAM, THE MIX, THE GIG

**Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (15:52):** I rise to speak about an important and highly successful outreach program that uses music to assist South Australians going through the difficult experience of living with mental health issues. For almost 20 years, The Jam, The Mix, The Gig (JMG) has been engaging people with mental health issues. Yesterday, they played one of their gigs at The Parks, a gig I would love to have attended had parliament not been sitting and a gig that I am sure was brilliant.

However, this performance was tinged with sadness—sadness because, due to a lack of ongoing funding from this Marshall Liberal government, it will have shamefully been their final one. The JMG program consists of three parts: The Jam, The Mix, The Gig. The Jam and The Mix workshops comprise 20 sessions, while The Gig program delivers 12 public performances annually.

Anyone living with mental illness is welcome to attend the jam sessions irrespective of their musical experience.

Members are then invited to join The Mix, where they can practise and demonstrate their performance skills as part of the JMG Band. The Mix provides an opportunity for members to improve their skills and repertoire. JMG was formed in 2000 from the Fine Lines Band, a band whose members also experienced mental illness. There are about 30 regular JMG members at any one time and it includes performances with guest artists, recording projects and collaborations with other organisations.

Anyone who has ever experienced mental illness or had a loved one who has knows that any programs that successfully reduce isolation and stigma and really hold, support and enable people are crucial as they walk their difficult journey. The benefits this program provides community members are immeasurable and invaluable. These lovely words from one participant certainly sum up the incredible value of the program to them and others:

For many members, it helps us realise our potential and helps us deal with our issues in a more positive way. I believe I speak for all JMG members when I say it gives me a reason to get up in the morning. This is one of the many reasons why it is best that the program continues.

It defies belief that those opposite, in the wake of mental health service shortages, in light of the many difficulties that community mental health organisations have suffered as a result of this government's cruel cuts and in light of the pandemic and the associated impacts on mental health, have blatantly refused to provide \$26,000 for this program to continue.

JMG is the sort of preventative program needed in this state to rightly provide opportunities for people with mental health issues and to relieve pressure on our grossly stretched health system. Like its response, or lack thereof, to other pressing issues experienced by community members with mental illness and to other issues, including domestic violence and child protection, this government just does not understand the difference that early intervention and prevention can make in people's lives now and into the future.

JMG provides a safe space and caring environment for valuable, interpersonal connections amongst members, allowing them to develop their personal skills and to work within a team. Music and the arts more broadly include, empower and bring people together. JMG is an open, welcoming organisation that offers services specific to members' needs. Each member is unique and will differ in their expectations of the program and in what they wish to gain. The programs offered to participants are free and provide a vital therapy service that participants could otherwise not access.

For almost two decades, JMG has empowered many South Australians struggling with mental health issues to explore their creativity, develop skills, connect with others and build confidence. JMG was previously funded through Arts SA, and they also received funding through Labor's innovative northern communities program, which will cease at the end of June this year.

To continue to service this community, JMG needs and deserves ongoing, sustainable funding. Specifically, they are requesting just \$26,000 of annual funding from this Marshall Liberal government. With this small amount of funding, JMG has made a difference in people's lives for almost 20 years. How on earth can the Marshall Liberal government justify cruelly cutting a program like this? I implore this government to find this modest amount of funding—funding that is modest but that will have a huge impact in continuing to engage and support South Australians living with mental illness.

### **NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK**

**The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (15:57):** I rise today to recognise National Reconciliation Week, which is celebrated between 27 May and 3 June every year. This morning, I was honoured to join His Excellency the Hon. Hieu Van Le and Premier Steven Marshall at the National Reconciliation Week Breakfast hosted by the Commissioner for Children and Young People, Helen Connolly.

We heard from a panel of respected people regarding Reconciliation Australia's theme for 2021, 'More than a word. Reconciliation takes action.' This urges the reconciliation movement towards braver and more impactful action. We were also privileged to hear two songs performed by Tony Minniecon and Ellie Lovegrove, with one of the songs being written especially for this morning's event.

Another highlight was the Premier's announcement of the first standalone Aboriginal housing strategy. This strategy includes a 10-year plan with 14 key actions, including increasing Aboriginal home ownership, funding for home maintenance, a housing replacement program, new social and affordable housing and, especially, a commitment for a 40-unit elder village in Bedford Park to house Aboriginal elders.

Over-representation of Aboriginal children and young people in the child protection system is a nationwide issue and reducing this over-representation remains a key priority for both the Marshall Liberal government and the Department for Child Protection. As a government, in 2018 we appointed April Lawrie as the first Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People. The commission is an independent body created solely to promote the rights, development and wellbeing of Aboriginal children and young people within South Australia. I would like to thank April Lawrie for the work she has achieved and continues to do in this space.

In July 2020, the government committed to the refreshed National Agreement on Closing the Gap, which includes a target to reduce the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care by 45 per cent by 2031. While in opposition, I was a signatory to the national Family Matters campaign and have worked hard to honour that commitment now as the Minister for Child Protection.

The Family Matters report commends a number of initiatives in the Department for Child Protection, including:

- engaging three Aboriginal community controlled organisations to deliver a new kinship care support program;
- establishing the Expert Aboriginal Child Protection Advisory Committee, comprising state and national experts, to increase Aboriginal governance and inform child protection policies, programs and practice for Aboriginal children and young people;
- aiming to increase procurement from Aboriginal organisations to 7 per cent by the end of 2021-22;
- embedding the role of Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People in legislation with the same powers as the Commissioner for Children and Young People;
- releasing the 'Safe and well: supporting families, protecting children' report with a strong focus on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle and reducing the over-representation of Aboriginal children and young people in care; and
- the co-design of trauma responsive early intervention in partnership with ACCOs.

The Department for Child Protection is committed to getting it right for Aboriginal children and young people in care by providing culturally safe and responsive services advocacy, and support for Aboriginal children and young people and their carers.

The department has committed \$200,000 to undertake a consultation process with SNAICC to develop Aboriginal-led models for a peak body representing the interests of Aboriginal children and their families. The Aboriginal Practice Directorate in DCP is led by Tracy Rigney who ensures an Aboriginal lens is applied to all policy programs and practice.

We have committed \$1.6 million to family group conferencing. We have established a family scoping unit and implemented the Winangay kinship carer assessment tool. Through the Department of Human Services, an Aboriginal intensive family support service has commenced in the western suburbs, delivered by KWY, which is specific to Aboriginal children.

I am proud to be part of the Marshall Liberal government that is taking a whole-of-government approach. In 2019, the Premier launched the Aboriginal Affairs Action Plan for South Australia that identifies and commits to 41 actions. In my department, the Department for Child Protection, improving the outcomes for children and young people is at the heart of everything we do.

## PORT PIRIE

**The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (16:02):** Today, I would like to talk about an assignment carried out by a student at John Pirie Secondary School on notable occasions and people who have come from Port Pirie. This assignment was carried out by Joshua McKay. He was one of several young students who have done some history of the notable people and events that have emanated from the city of Port Pirie.

On the evening of 30 October 1841, a fiery inferno engulfed the famous Tower of London's grand armoury—the very symbol of British power. Heat liquefied the lead used on the tower to seal the roof tiles. It flowed down the tower into the courtyard. London's Lord Mayor, John Pirie, was on hand to supervise the response. I am sure he had no doubt as he gazed upon the spectacular light from the fire that reflected in the molten pool. Little would he have imagined that the fate of that metal would be forever intertwined with the town which bears his name.

The people of Port Pirie share a commercial existence with the local lead smelter that they and other industrial towns could only understand. The iconic stack dominates the town's skyline and everyone has a close connection with at least one person who works there, yet locals rarely pause to consider where the lead that has been produced in Port Pirie for over a century has found itself.

When Phar Lap famously won the 1930 Melbourne Cup, he carried the hope of the Great Depression, yet he also carried something which has been shared by each winner of the world's greatest handicap race ever since. In the rider's saddlebag were a record number of flat lead bars, the same year that battery terminals from Port Pirie were waved across a Mount Panorama finishing line.

In 1983, Australian entrepreneur Alan Bond was planning to win the America's Cup. The 12-metre yacht *Australia II* had a revolutionary weapon: it had a winged keel that had been modified in a private shed. No-one knew about it. It was done under the cover of darkness. Under the cover of darkness the keel was smuggled into the Port Pirie smelter and lined with Pirie lead before being shipped stateside for the big race.

Down 3-1 in the first four series, *Australia II* would go on to claim victory in each of the remaining four races, delivering arguably the greatest upset in the history of international sport. This win announced to the world the arrival of Australia as a confident nation and powerhouse of sport. However, Port Pirie's industrial contribution to the nation and the world goes far beyond its industrial connection to sport.

Well aimed Port Pirie lead was used by the first allied troops to halt the Nazi advance at the siege of Tobruk. On the muddy tracks of Kokoda the following year, it was also used by the same troops, who became the first allied soldiers to stop the advance of the invincible Japanese. During World War I, the troops in the trenches relied heavily on lead bullets and zinc cartridges, both of which were delivered to the British commonwealth. Both opportunities came from Port Pirie. Today, it continues to be used in armaments in allied nations fighting terrorism in Iraq, Afghanistan and other locations.

Port Pirie also served as a very important training base for the Royal Australian Air Force's bomber pilots during the Second World War due to the great suitability of its location for the relevant challenges encountered by the pilots flying the aircraft across the world. The surrounding terrains included the sea, mountains, land, and also various prevailing winds, which pilots encountered during their flights. Port Pirie also produced the uranium used in critical arms testing at the beginning of the Cold War. This is a remarkable contribution from a no-nonsense community.

These and other stories of events and people with great connections to Port Pirie were instigated by Aaron Ward, a teacher at John Pirie Secondary School. The author in this case, as I said earlier, was Joshua McKay. Joshua needs to be congratulated on his investigations. This is not the only one. The school is asking its students to look at the history of their own community, and this has given those students an opportunity to understand how they can divulge, how they can research.

There are probably another 14 activities and assignments I will bring up to this chamber, including the one about Robert Stigwood, the manager of the Australian Music group the Bee Gees, and a few others who have been to Port Pirie, and I will be doing that in the next few weeks. Again, I want to pay tribute to the John Pirie Secondary School and also to Joshua McKay for a great job. Congratulations to everybody.

### NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK

**Mr DULUK (Waite) (16:07):** As so many in this house have already commented, today marks the start of National Reconciliation Week. Reconciliation Australia's theme for 2021 is 'More than a word'. While words and speaking out are very important in raising the concerns of the community, I would like to take the opportunity to promote some of the actions that are being taken in Waite as part of Reconciliation Week. We know that the reconciliation movement takes action to amplify the voices of First Nations people.

Earlier this month, I attended a Kurna cultural workshop. This was a rich workshop with colour, culture and community learnings. It was held at the beautiful Wirraparinga Reserve or, as you may know it, Mr Speaker, Mitcham Reserve on Old Belair Road. Many thanks to all those involved that afternoon, but a very special mention must go to the organiser, Liesl von der Borch, for all her work in putting this day together, and thanks to the City of Mitcham for their grant funding. I really enjoyed the talks, the stories and the presentations, but especially the discussions of Drew Kilner and Anzac Lochowiak about Wakalti, Muriapaka and Tililya.

This Sunday will be the Blackwood Reconciliation Walk, which has been held every year for many years as part of Reconciliation Week. Once again, we will meet at the Blackwood Uniting Church on the roundabout and walk together down Shepherds Hill Road to Colebrook Reconciliation Park. Anyone who knows anything about reconciliation knows the importance of Colebrook Reconciliation Park to that story and the story of reconciliation in South Australia.

A smoking and Welcome to Country ceremony will be responded to by local schoolchildren. After the formalities, we all are invited to bring our own picnic lunch and take time to hear the voices of former residents of the Colebrook Training Home for Aboriginal Children, which are present in so many forms at the site. For those wanting to join, the march starts at 11.30am.

The Blackwood Reconciliation Group takes many actions to further reconciliation in our community. Last year, it was great to help out with the planting of over 600 native trees at Colebrook Reconciliation Park as part of the indigenous plants project. A big congratulations to the team, including Di, Helen, Tommy and Dave, on putting that together, on their planning and on bringing so many people in our community together. It was great to see just this week Raymond and Barry joining Helen and Di to place some Kurna signage around the trees that are now 12 months old.

On another note, I look forward to a new documentary about the Colebrook Reconciliation Park with the Colebrook families and friends, which is currently being produced by Scarlett Media to help educate the next generation about the story of Colebrook and promote healing and reconciliation. I would like to thank the Blackwood Reconciliation Group for all the work they do as part of Reconciliation Week, National Sorry Day, NAIDOC Week and all throughout the year.

Finally, this Friday Gallery One in Mitcham is hosting their exhibition, *The First Stories*. Opening night is tomorrow night and includes a smoking ceremony performed by Belair resident and Kurna elder Uncle Tamaru. Anyone who has been to an Uncle Tamaru smoking ceremony knows it is always pretty fantastic. The exhibition will be opened by Rowena Brown from the Glenelg Art Gallery. Throughout June, Gallery One will be running Indigenous art workshops, called An Afternoon with Aunties, so jump on the website and have a look.

Reconciliation is a journey for all Australians, as individuals, families, communities, organisations and, importantly, as a nation. At the heart of this journey are relationships between the broader Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. There are many ways to become more involved in reconciliation, from educating our youngest members of society to reading Indigenous storybooks and joining the conversation online.

One book, *Kunyi*, which is currently available at my local Shakespeare's Book Shop, is a powerful story that needs to be in South Australian homes, schools and libraries. It tells the stories of Kunyi, born on Todmorden Station near Oodnadatta in South Australia in the 1950s. Kunyi June Anne McInerney is a renowned artist. Her paintings and stories are a moving testament to the stolen generation and the children's home kids she called family.

We all have a role to play in reconciliation. Once again, I would like to thank our state's Commissioner for Aboriginal Engagement, Dr Roger Thomas, for his historic address to parliament

last year. The year 2021 marks 20 years of reconciliation in Australia and almost three decades of Australia's formal recognition process. I hope that as parliamentarians can all play our part in this important journey.

*Parliamentary Procedure*

**SITTINGS AND BUSINESS**

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (16:12):** I move:

That the house at its rising adjourn until Tuesday 8 June 2021 at 11am.

Motion carried.

*Bills*

**RAIL SAFETY NATIONAL LAW (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) (ALCOHOL AND DRUG OFFENCE) AMENDMENT BILL**

*Introduction and First Reading*

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (16:13):** Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Rail Safety National Law (South Australia) Act 2012. Read a first time.

*Second Reading*

**The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (16:13):** I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

The Rail Safety National Law (South Australia) (Alcohol and Drug Offence) Amendment Bill 2021 clarifies that a rail safety worker will be taken to be carrying out rail safety work when he or she has arrived at their place of work and has signed on and is available, or is otherwise on duty. The Rail Safety National Law establishes a co-regulatory system under which rail safety operators assess the risks associated with their railway operations, and then establish a safety management system to manage those risks.

A worker who has been subject to alcohol and drug testing under sections 126 and 127 of the National Law can only be prosecuted for an alcohol or drug offence under section 128 if they are carrying out or attempting to carry out rail safety work. It is not always clear when a worker has begun rail safety work. If there is any ambiguity in relation to establishing whether the worker is carrying out or attempting to carry out rail safety work, this can impact the regulator's ability to prosecute. There is no intention for this proposed amendment to cover workers who have arrived at work but not signed on, that is, those who may be regarded as about to carry out rail safety work.

The Rail Safety National Law (NSW) 2012 and the Victorian Rail Safety National Law Application Act 2013 both define 'about to carry out rail safety work'. The proposed amendments align with similar provisions in the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1998, which include offences for workers if they are present in the aerodrome testing area and are performing or available to perform a safety sensitive activity.

On 30 March 2021, infrastructure and transport ministers agreed to these amendments, along with amendments to the national regulations dealing with exemptions from FOI laws. In September 2020, the National Law Maintenance Advisory Group was consulted on the drafting instructions for the bill. The group comprises rail industry representatives as well as commonwealth, state and territory governments. No issues were raised and the bill was endorsed by the Transport and Infrastructure Senior Officials' Committee in October 2020.

As South Australia is the lead legislator for the national law, parliamentary counsel has drafted the amendment bill on behalf of the national Parliamentary Counsel's Committee. I commend the bill to the house and seek leave to have the explanation of clauses inserted in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

EXPLANATION OF CLAUSES

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

2—Commencement

3—Amendment provisions

These clauses are formal.

Part 2—Amendment of *Rail Safety National Law*

4—Amendment of section 128—Offence relating to prescribed concentration of alcohol or prescribed drug

Section 128(1) of the Act provides that it is an offence for a rail safety worker to carry out or attempt to carry out rail safety work while the worker has the prescribed concentration of alcohol present in their blood, or a prescribed drug present in their blood or oral fluid, or is under the influence of alcohol or drugs such that they are incapable of effectively discharging a function or duty of a rail safety worker. The proposed amendment inserts new subsection (1a) which provides that, for the purposes of this offence, a rail safety worker will be taken to be carrying out, or attempting to carry out rail safety work if the worker has arrived at work and has signed on or is otherwise on duty, for the purposes of carrying out rail safety work.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. Z.L. Bettison.

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN MULTICULTURAL BILL**

### *Third Reading*

Adjourned debate on third reading (resumed on motion).

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (16:17):** I would like to confirm our appreciation to the current commission, led by Mr Norman Schueler who, as I indicated, has traversed both the former commission under the previous government and now continues in the current commission. He leads a team of diverse, skilled and experienced members and I have identified some of their backgrounds.

I would like to point out that in relation to the current team—as I will reflect on the previous team—there is a significant amount of diversity, including representation from regional areas and several people who had refugee status when they came to South Australia. In recent years, looking at the commission's composition, there has been a lack of young people. I am advised, and I have no reason to doubt this, that there has been difficulty in attracting the interest of younger people to populate our multicultural communities here in the state, both in previous commissions and the current commission. I do not place any criticism on that.

I am advised there are periodically advertising and calls for interest from people who might undertake that work but, unfortunately, that has not been something readily taken up. One thing I agree with the opposition on in relation to that is that it is important that as best as possible diversity is reflected in members of the commission.

The last commission before the current one, which commenced on 1 July 2018, was chaired by the Hon. Grace Portolesi, who is well known to members of this house as being a former minister in the Labor government, and she served until she resigned on 16 February 2018, shortly before the last state election. I also acknowledge her service. She was the first female chair or presiding member of the commission in its 40-year history and, of course, she has given service to the parliament. I have said before and I maintain that I think the structure in relation to her undertaking another role as an employee of the government in the multicultural affairs role was inconsistent with good governance, but that in no way reflects on her as a chair of the commission.

Mr Schueler was the deputy and I have referred to his contribution. Ms Teresa Nowak is a Polish multilingual woman who has a very significant history in the Whyalla community, and her service is well known to that community and to church communities.

I also note Mr Peter Ppiros, who of course is probably known to many because he has been involved in the Riverland multicultural community and was also significant in publishing. I am not sure whether he was formally a journalist. I do not want to diminish his role, but he certainly had a leading role in relation to the publication of multicultural media. I think in the time I have known him he has lived in Adelaide but, in any event, he had a very significant connection with the Riverland community and, whilst he lived in Renmark for several years, he at least maintained that link.

Ms Sumeja Skaka, whose membership was apparently revoked by the minister on 29 December 2017, was born in Sarajevo. She had an active role in the Muslim community and, back in 2006, was Youth of the Year in the Australian Muslim Achievement Awards. Ms Miriam Silva, whose term expired on 30 June 2018, came to South Australia from England as a six year old. Her family had come from Guyana in South America and had considerable experience in the business world.

Gosia Skalban is probably also well known to many members. Her term expired on 30 June 2018. She was born in Poland. She came to Australia in 1968 and had significant employment with Domiciliary Care SA as a multicultural consultant—so certainly in a service area of importance to all communities but especially those who might have limited aged-care or disability services. She also had significant leadership roles, including being president of the Polish Women's Association in Adelaide.

We then have Dr Joseph Masika OAM. His term expired on 30 June 2018. He was a team leader in the statewide services directorate for Families SA. He has a Doctor of Medicine degree and other public health qualifications. He had some 30 years' experience in both the health and community service industries and was also very active in his role with the African Communities Council of South Australia and other leadership roles.

Ms Swee Ming (also known as Michelle) Dieu had a term on the previous commission until 30 June 2018. Ms Dieu is of Chinese Malaysian background. She migrated to Australia in 1962 as a skilled migrant. She has experience and qualifications from Flinders University and the University of Alberta and has made a very significant contribution, principally but not without other diverse interests, in the Chinese community here in South Australia.

The term of Major-General Vikram Madan VSM (retired) expired on 30 June 2018. The Major-General is probably well known to many. I am sure that he is well known to the member for Florey because she takes an active interest in veterans matters. He had a 40-year career with the Army as an infantry officer with the rather elite Gurkha Regiment, and has been significantly decorated by the President of India; so a very impressive history.

We then have Mr Angelo-Raffaele Fantasia, whose term expired on 30 June 2018. He was a very significant leader and president of the Coordinating Italian Committee and the Carnevale Italian Festival. He was involved with the Italian community generally and was very much involved in many religious festivals within the Italian community.

Ms Yu Chen's term expired on 30 June 2018. She was a PhD candidate at the University of Adelaide. Her research interests and specialties are in the discipline of entrepreneurship, particularly in Chinese immigrant entrepreneurship. She is an academic, obviously with a significant network of interests and leadership in the Chinese community.

Mr Hiep Nguyen's term expired on 30 June 2018. He was born in Vietnam in 1956 and has two adult children. He has a Master of Business Administration degree and a computer sciences and electrical engineering qualification from the University of Adelaide—again, a significant contribution professionally in engineering and information technology. He also has a significant leadership role in the Vietnamese community.

Finally, Mr Mabok Deng Marial's term expired in 30 June 2018. He arrived as a refugee, I think, about 12 years ago. He was an accommodation officer at Anglicare SA's Client Services at the time of his participation on the commission, and he made a significant contribution to African communities, particularly in leadership roles for the Sudanese community here in South Australia, which, relative to a number of the others I have referred to, was more recent in populating and complementing the multicultural communities that we have here in South Australia.

I recognise these people because they, too, have made a significant contribution. I am not going to go back over the whole 40 years, I promise you that, but I make the point that these people have provided their services in the task that was set by the legislation for the last 40 years. Although there are to be some proposed changes in the legislation before us, let us make it very clear that they had a very strong role in relation to advising whoever the Minister for Multicultural Affairs was at the time in promoting multiculturalism as an integral part of our state, working towards the continuation of an inclusive society and to increase awareness of the services available, to promote

social harmony, to foster and support community development and to lead and manage multicultural initiatives in partnership with other organisations in the community.

They are the current obligations in relation to the functions of the commission under the current act, and I think they should be acknowledged for the contribution they have made. As it turned out, the board I have just referred to had concluded by essentially 30 June 2018 and, as the chair had also retired, the deputy, Mr Norman Schueler, signed off on that annual report. However, for nine months or thereabouts, it was the previous commission that had actually undertaken those functions.

It is fair to say that they did not only report in relation to the work done by the commission, and I would encourage people to look at that because, frankly, one of the concerning aspects that was revealed during the review of I think 53 or 54 personal submissions that were presented at community meetings was a very significant lack of knowledge as to the actual functions of the commission. That may be because any number of commissions have not gone out and spruiked their good work; I do not know.

Certainly, all of them I have seen in the time I have been in the parliament are very active in attending functions and things where they are visible, but they do a lot of other work, and that should not be underestimated. It is recorded in their annual reports, and I would urge members who are perhaps in the category of not fully appreciating the significance of their work to have a look at those annual reports.

Apart from the significant number of attendances at public functions that we all know about, they also attended the Governor's Multicultural Awards, which is an annual event. They continued to provide support to the Interpreting and Translating Centre during that year. On a number of occasions, they had a presence in directly meeting and fostering close relationships with ethnic communities, and they detail occasions when they met in that regard. They also attended a number of citizenship ceremonies and made contributions.

Mr Schueler, in concluding that annual report, recognises and pays tribute to the former chair, the Hon. Grace Portolesi, for the work she had contributed. I think it is fair to say that he was very glowing of her contribution in that regard. He also thanked other SAMEAC colleagues, whom I have acknowledged and who have since retired on 30 June. He thanked the former minister, the Hon. Zoe Bettison, for her 'energetic and unwavering support', so well done. He also acknowledged the Hon. Steven Marshall as the new minister for covering these matters and the Assistant Minister to the Premier, namely, the Hon. Jing Lee MLC.

The role of the commission is outlined in the annual report, and I will not go through all the detail on that. The particulars of 'building community capacity' are outlined and how there is a role in relation to a grants program, how that works and who makes the decisions on that. Again, I would urge people to have a look at that. There is also a whole chapter on promoting multiculturalism and all the things that were done during the year. Again, I will not go through them all, but there are a lot of them. They are not just attending a function or a festival. There are a lot of different events and receptions here in the parliament and on other occasions.

At page 24 is an access and equity report. It explains SAMEAC's involvement in a lot of activities to ensure that 'no person living in South Australia faces barriers to accessing information and services because of their CALD background'. I mention this, and it is important for members to have a look at it, because comment has been made about the need to require a continuation of requiring agencies—'administrative units' as I think they are defined under the act, and these are government departments—to comply with and provide feedback and information to the commission so that they may undertake their work. That provision is confirmed by the previous commission. The annual report states:

SAMEAC continued to liaise with the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment regarding workforce diversity and the information gathered through the annual 'State of the Sector Survey'—

and then goes to highlight aspects of that. The reason I mention this is that there is no comment here to say, 'We've had a problem with government departments or the public sector division and we need to have some extra powers,' or, 'We need to demand that there be extra detail in annual reports,' and

the like. I think it is important that members look at what is being reported there. As I say, the translating service details are all there. There is some interesting data in there as well.

Very briefly, for the sake of completeness, I confirm that for the annual reports 2018-19 and 2019-20 all these types of projects were all repeated.

Time expired.

Bill read a third time and passed.

### HEALTH CARE (GOVERNANCE) AMENDMENT BILL

*Committee Stage*

In committee.

(Continued from 13 May 2021.)

Clause 9.

**The ACTING CHAIR (Mr Cowdrey):** Member for Kaurana, you have asked three questions. We have also had a contribution from the member for Narungga, so the committee was putting that clause 9 stand as printed.

Clause passed.

New clause 9A.

**Mr PICTON:** I move:

Amendment No 4 [Picton-1]—

Page 6, after line 39—After clause 9 insert

9A—Amendment of section 33D—Disclosure of pecuniary or personal interest

Section 33D(8)(b)—delete 'reasonably available for inspection by any person' and substitute:

made available for inspection on a website accessible to the public and reasonably available for inspection in hard copy by any person

This is an important amendment for providing proper disclosure of pecuniary and personal interests. Firstly, let's make very clear the fact that these health boards are presiding over, in some cases, billions of dollars of health expenditure, of taxpayers' expenditure. It is important that the public, the media and our health professionals have a clear line of sight as to whether there are any potential conflicts of interest that may arise, bearing in mind that this was an area that was significantly raised by the ICAC commissioner in the Troubling Ambiguity report that was handed down into the significant problems in SA Health.

At the moment, the provisions we have in relation to disclosing those are not working, and they are not working for the very simple reason that I think there was an understanding by the parliament when they were originally proposed that these would be readily available from the individual hospital sites. What we have since found is that those health sites are denying access to those documents and they are doing so in a number of ways.

If there is a phone call or a request made to a hospital or an LHN, an incorporated hospital under the act, to view these documents or these registers you are told, 'You have to come in. You are only allowed to view them. You are not allowed to take any notes or pictures. You are not allowed to take any copies of them, and then we will take them back and hide them away again.' That is no proper transparency over what is going on. Certainly, it does not help somebody who is living in one part of the state to find out what is going on in another part of the state, where a significant amount of travel distance would be required.

Even if you are in your own health network and you want to find out what is going on in terms of the Eyre and western health network and you live in Ceduna, the head office is, off the top of my head, in Port Lincoln and you would have to travel a significant distance. You could only view them; you could not take any notes, you could not take any pictures, you could not take any copies. That is not transparent at all, so what we are proposing is that they be made reasonably available for inspection by any person and that the paragraph be replaced by:

...made available for inspection on a website accessible to the public and reasonably available for inspection in hard copy by any person.

There is no reason why these cannot be made available on a website for people to see. The only reason that the government would oppose that provision is if they did not want people to see exactly what the conflicts were in relation to these very important boards that have carriage of billions of dollars of taxpayers' expenditure.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I thank the member for Kurna for the contribution. The government does not support the amendment. Under the current provisions of the act, any disclosures of personal or pecuniary interests are required to be recorded in the minutes of meetings, which are subsequently already required to be published on the internet. The board is also required to record those disclosures in a register, which is to be available for inspection by the public.

The public is free to access and peruse the minutes of governing board meetings at any time from the board's internet page. Our LHN governing boards have the most extensive disclosure and conflict of interest requirements in the state, far exceeding those requirements for the other South Australian government boards, including SA Water, the Essential Services Commission and the Super SA board. For example, the Essential Services Commission is subject to conflict provisions within its own legislation, which does not require the commission to maintain a register nor publicly report conflicts.

Provisions for the State Procurement Board defer to the requirements of the Public Sector (Honesty and Accountability) Act. This act does not require the board to maintain a register nor publicly disclose member conflicts. The TAFE SA and SA Water boards are subject to the disclosure provisions in the Public Corporations Act 1993, which also does not require these boards to maintain a register. I humbly submit that the government would urge members to vote against this amendment.

**Mr PICTON:** A predictable rejection from this government, in terms of providing transparency for its own operations, that we have become accustomed to over the past three years. I would be interested if the minister could provide his explanation to the committee in terms of what he believes the interpretation should currently be of what the law says in terms of 'reasonably available for inspection by any person'. Does that mean people should be able to be sent a copy if they ask a hospital board office for them? Should they be able to get a copy of them? Should they be able to take notes if they see them? What is the reasonable availability of them?

What we have seen since this legislation was first passed is I think an outrageous interpretation of that provision. It is like you are seeing a secret document from the CIA or something with the level of transparency being applied here. Could the minister outline what the government's belief is in terms of how that provision should be interpreted: should copies be made available, should reasonable applicability be to provide a copy via email or other electronic means on request?

I think that would alleviate the need for this amendment. If that is not the interpretation, then I think that clearly there is a desire from the government not to actually provide what the law was intended to do, that is, to provide reasonable access.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I thank the member for his rhetorical device. The government remains unconvinced by his submission for this amendment to be supported. We would remind the house that what we are offering is indeed a level of accountability that is significant and that exceeds many other equivalent boards.

**Mr PICTON:** That is very significant, that the minister refuses to provide any detail in terms of how he and the government believe reasonable access should be provided, which I think can only lead to one conclusion: the government will continue to do as they have done so far, which is not to provide reasonable access, whether those decisions have to be appealed to SACAT or the Supreme Court or something to get what the law has already agreed, which is reasonable access to those documents.

The government's interpretation seems to be, 'We will provide reasonable access, but they will be buried in the desert somewhere and you have to go and find them.' That is reasonable access according to the interpretation of this government. The minister is not providing any definition of what

he believes should be provided at the moment. I think that would be helpful to do because then there would be guidance for local health networks in terms of what they should have to do.

In the absence of that, I think the parliament should make it clearer in terms of exactly what is being described here so that they should be available on the website. There is no reason why they could not be available on the website. Each one of us has our conflicts of interest available on a public website for people to see. Each one of us has what our conflicts are totally transparently available for people. Why should people who are on boards who are paid up to \$90,000 a year not have the same transparency when they are looking after billions of dollars of health expenditure?

It is totally unreasonable for the government to oppose this clause and to oppose that transparency being applied to the so-called transparent provisions, particularly when the minister points to the board minutes which, as I understand it—and feel free to correct me if I am wrong but I believe that I am not—will only note a conflict if a potential conflict arises in that meeting.

So you may have a whole range of conflicts between your provision on the health services board of a particular local health network and what that board network does, but they will only appear in the minutes of that meeting if they revolve around what was actually discussed on that particular day in that particular meeting. It is a complete fallacy to say that there is some transparency of these matters through just reading the board papers. There is not.

The only way to provide transparency is to reveal the register, which the government is refusing to do across its local hospital networks at the moment. I hope the parliament will see the importance of providing this level of transparency so that people can get an understanding of whether there are conflicts in place. We know that this is a serious issue that has been raised by none other than the ICAC commissioner and we should make sure that there are not conflicts in place.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I have appreciated the three submissions from the member for Kaurna but remain unconvinced and point him to the information that will be made available through the minutes that will be on the website.

The committee divided on the new clause:

Ayes ..... 19

Noes ..... 23

Majority ..... 4

#### AYES

Bedford, F.E.

Brock, G.G.

Cook, N.F.

Hughes, E.J.

Michaels, A.

Picton, C.J. (teller)

Wortley, D.

Bettison, Z.L.

Brown, M.E.

Gee, J.P.

Koutsantonis, A.

Mullighan, S.C.

Stinson, J.M.

Boyer, B.I.

Close, S.E.

Hildyard, K.A.

Malinauskas, P.

Odenwalder, L.K.

Szakacs, J.K.

#### NOES

Basham, D.K.B.

Cowdrey, M.J.

Ellis, F.J.

Luethen, P.

Patterson, S.J.R.

Power, C.

Tarzia, V.A.

Whetstone, T.J.

Bell, T.S.

Cregan, D.

Gardner, J.A.W. (teller)

McBride, N.

Pederick, A.S.

Sanderson, R.

Teague, J.B.

Wingard, C.L.

Chapman, V.A.

Duluk, S.

Harvey, R.M.

Murray, S.

Pisoni, D.G.

Speirs, D.J.

van Holst Pellekaan, D.C.

#### PAIRS

Bignell, L.W.K.

Marshall, S.S.

Piccolo, A.

## PAIRS

Knoll, S.K.

New clause thus negatived.

Clause 10 passed.

Clause 11.

**Mr PICTON:** In relation to this clause regarding employed staff, has the government received any feedback from representative associations of staff about whether this fully covers their concerns in relation to employment arrangements and staff entitlements continuing uninterrupted?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I am advised that this part was requested by the ANMF. I understand that the minister received correspondence in support of this clause as it is in the bill.

**Mr PICTON:** Have representative bodies been consulted on this clause and, if so, what are their positions?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I understand that a range of representative bodies, as I imagine the member would expect, have been consulted on the bill. I am not aware of any advice other than that from the ANMF in relation to this clause.

Clause passed.

Clause 12 passed.

Clause 13.

**Mr PICTON:** This clause seeks to introduce requirements in relation to a healthy workforce culture for and among staff employed to work in the SA Ambulance Service, which is clearly at odds with what we are hearing on a daily basis from paramedics in our system in relation to how burnt out they are, in relation to workforce fatigue, in relation to stress and mental health impacts that they have, and also in relation to the bullying that we saw on the airwaves when staff were told that they might be threatened with ICAC if they spoke out about their concerns, which had to be corrected and admonished by the ICAC commissioner.

What reporting is done by the SA Ambulance Service in relation to the health, safety and wellbeing of their staff? Are statistics kept in relation to the mental health impact on paramedics? What has been the impact of the significantly higher workload and significantly higher ramping that have been experienced? What have we seen in terms of the impact on ReturnToWork claims and other compensation claims that staff have been impacted by?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I will take that on notice.

**Mr PICTON:** If you are going to take it on notice, perhaps the minister can therefore also take on notice how many workers compensation claims have there been over the past five financial years in relation to the SA Ambulance Service, and how many notifications have there been in relation to staff having mental health issues because of their work over the past five financial years as well?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I will take that on notice.

**Mr PICTON:** These objectives that are set sound very good and we are asking the chief executive to put policies in place to promote workplace health, safety and welfare, including bullying and harassment. Of course, you would hope that those were in place already. What is the government proposing to do to monitor how this provision is actually going to be implemented? What change are we likely to see because of this clause being introduced? What happens if the SA Ambulance Service does not meet these new objectives that are being put into the legislation, or is this not going to have a material impact and these are simply some nice words to put in the legislation?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** If it is in the legislation, then it is the law of the land. The clause inserts an obligation on the SA Ambulance Service to promote a healthy workforce culture and implement measures to provide for and promote psychosocial health and wellbeing in the workplaces for which the SA Ambulance Service is responsible.

This clause inserts an obligation on the SA Ambulance Service so that the culture and wellbeing of the workers within SAAS are a focus of the entity. This is following discussions with Dr Chris Moy, the President of the South Australian branch of the Australian Medical Association, who approached the Minister for Health and Wellbeing to seek his consideration of a similar proposed function of the local health network governing boards.

This government is committed to improving workplace culture and staff wellbeing, as well as stamping out bullying and harassment, which we believe are unacceptable in any circumstance. That is why the government was more than willing to work with Dr Moy to accommodate this request and impose the same standards for the SA Ambulance Service as for LHNs.

Clause passed.

Clauses 14 and 15 passed.

New clause 15A.

**Mr PICTON:** I move:

Amendment No 5 [Picton–1]—

Page 9, after line 37—After clause 15 insert:

15A—Insertion of section 98A

After section 98 insert:

98A—Consumer Advisory Fund

- (1) The *Consumer Advisory Fund* is established.
- (2) The Fund will be kept at Treasury.
- (3) The money paid into the Fund will from time to time be applied by the Minister towards or related to a consumer advisory body established or recognised by the Minister.

This clause would establish a fund that should be used to promote consumer representation in South Australia—representation of patients and consumers of the health system. One of the first things that this government did on coming to office was to abolish support for consumers through the consumers health forum we had in South Australia, the Health Consumers Alliance, which had been in place for almost two decades prior and had been representing the rights and interests of patients and consumers in the health system.

We no longer have such a body in South Australia, the Health Consumers Alliance. We are the only state or territory that does not have a body such as a health consumers alliance in place. We are seeing patients impacted on a daily basis with issues across the health system. The fact that the government made it one of their first decisions shows how clearly they want to diminish the voice of consumers and want us to be behind every single other state in not having an independent body that would stand up for them.

This amendment is to stand up for them, to support an independent consumers body that should be provided funding by the government, as it was previously, as it is in every other state and territory. There is absolutely no excuse for why there should not be such a statewide body.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I thank the member for putting forward this contribution and this suggestion. The government, however, does not support it. I note that it is a similar suggestion to one we debated in a previous sitting week, and I warn members that my response may therefore have some similarities also to my response on that occasion.

The state government has a strong commitment to consumer and clinician engagement in guiding decisions about the public health system. We recognise that partnering with consumers in the community plays an important role in improving healthcare services. Funding a separate centralised body is not supported by the government. We believe it would result in unnecessary

duplication and confusion, given existing statutory mechanisms to ensure consumer engagement within the Health Care Act 2008.

A fundamental principle of devolution to the public health system is to bring clinicians and consumers closer to the decision-making in their local health services to create a truly integrated approach to community engagement for patients, carers, families, consumers and clinicians at the local level to inform service delivery. We do not believe it is appropriate under a devolved governance structure for the department to lead consumer engagement processes relating to local health service delivery, as the department is no longer directly accountable for these services or for determining how they will be delivered.

As I believe I probably pointed out previously, through their existing statutory functions, which commenced on 1 July 2019, those LHN governing boards are responsible for establishing strong relationships with consumers, communities and frontline health professionals, particularly through the development of their clinical engagement strategies and consumer and community engagement strategies.

The newly established Commission on Excellence and Innovation in Health in SA and the Mental Health Commission also play important roles in the engagement of consumers and clinicians. We believe engagement with consumers and clinicians is tremendously important. I encourage the committee to provide the same opposition to this amendment as the earlier very similar one.

New clause negatived.

Clause 16 passed.

Clause 17.

**Mr PICTON:** In relation to governing boards for the hospitals, how many governing board members have either left or been removed since the enactment of the original legislation two years ago? Perhaps on notice, can the minister provide a list of all those members who have either left or been removed and the dates upon which that occurred?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** I will take that on notice, to the extent that I will bring back an answer that provides anything that is not already on the public record.

**Mr PICTON:** In that respect, and I do not believe this should necessarily be taken on notice, have any governing board members been removed, as opposed to having voluntarily left, since the enactment of the legislation? If so, what were the circumstances in which those members were removed by the minister under the act?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Not that I am aware of as the Minister for Education representing the Minister for Health in this space. If the Minister for Health has anything to add, then I might suggest that the easiest way to deal with that is to include it in my response to the earlier question I took on notice just before.

**Mr PICTON:** One further question.

**The ACTING CHAIR (Mr Cowdrey):** One final question.

**Mr PICTON:** At any time since the passage of the previous legislation have there been governing boards that have not had the requisite number of members appointed to them; if so, which boards and for which periods of time were there not the requisite number of members according to the legislation?

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** In relation to a health governing board, for example, I am advised that the Yorke and Northern LHN governing board does not currently meet the minimum of six members; however, an appointment to this board is imminent. I am advised that there is one other instance in which a local health network governing board has not met the minimum six members; namely, the CALHN governing board had less—'fewer', as Mr Atkinson would be most insistent—fewer than six members for the two-month period from 3 April 2020 to 29 May 2020, which was the period in between a resignation and a new appointment.

Clause passed.

Remaining clause (18), schedule and title passed.

Bill reported with amendment.

*Third Reading*

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (17:07):** I move:

That this bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

**Mr PICTON:** Mr Acting Speaker, I draw your attention to the state of the house.

*A quorum having been formed:*

**UNEXPLAINED WEALTH (COMMONWEALTH POWERS) BILL**

*Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 12 May 2021.)

**Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (17:10):** I rise to speak on the Unexplained Wealth (Commonwealth Powers) Bill and indicate that I will be the lead speaker for the opposition in this place. As members will know, Labor in South Australia has always taken a tough line on serious and organised crime. In addition to a range of laws focused on outlaw motorcycle gangs, Labor acted to confiscate criminal assets when it passed in 2005 the Criminal Assets Confiscation Act.

Labor again showed leadership in this area when it passed the Serious and Organised Crime (Unexplained Wealth) Act 2009. Under this law, of course, the Director of Public Prosecutions may authorise the Crown Solicitor to apply to the Supreme Court of South Australia for an Unexplained Wealth Order. This can happen when there is a reasonable suspicion that a person or an incorporated body has unlawfully acquired wealth. This law was updated in 2013 to make it easier for investigations to use a wider range of information.

Members may know that most other jurisdictions passed laws in the 1990s and early 2000s, also to do with unexplained wealth, and in 2012 the report of the commonwealth's Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement found that the commonwealth's unexplained wealth legislation was not working as it was intended. It further found that a national approach to unexplained wealth legislation would be a more effective response to organised crime.

The committee recommended a referral of powers from the states and territories to the commonwealth, and in 2013 several jurisdictions formed a working group to consider a national approach to unexplained wealth, and South Australia joined them in 2015. Notwithstanding the significant amount of time that has passed, the bill before us today is essentially the outcome of those earlier recommendations and the working group.

The bill seeks to adopt certain laws of the commonwealth relating to unexplained wealth and information gathering. It also seeks to refer certain related matters to the commonwealth under section 51(xxxvii) of the Australian Constitution. At a local level, the bill proposes amendments to the Criminal Assets Confiscation Act and the Serious and Organised Crime (Unexplained Wealth) Act. It is intended that the expanded operation of the commonwealth law is designed to operate concurrently with South Australia's existing unexplained wealth provisions.

The bill would allow the commonwealth to make limited amendments to its unexplained wealth legislation without requiring further legislative amendment in South Australia. Under the proposed national scheme, equitable sharing arrangements will be implemented regarding seized assets where multiple jurisdictions contributed to an investigation and confiscation. The bill also creates a new definition of 'unexplained wealth', being property or wealth that might not have been lawfully acquired.

The proposed national scheme comprises a commonwealth act, intergovernmental agreement and legislation in each participating jurisdiction. New South Wales has passed its legislation and, if passed, the South Australian bill would make us the second jurisdiction to completely join. This scheme grants new information gathering powers, such as compelling the production of relevant information or documents anywhere in Australia through production orders

and notices to financial institutions and allowing the use of lawfully intercepted information on unexplained wealth matters that will assist in identifying assets and persons of interest.

As noted earlier, the national scheme will operate concurrently with state laws, and we understand that it will, if required, permit the states to roll back amendments made to commonwealth laws as they apply to their jurisdiction. Labor will be supporting the passage of this bill through this house, but I understand that, due to the manner in which it was introduced last time, we reserve the right between the houses to consult with stakeholders and further examine it and perhaps make changes in the other place. We reserve that right, but certainly we will not hamper its progress through this place.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (17:13):** I acknowledge and thank the member for Elizabeth for his indication of support and indeed sharing our view that, as quickly as possible, this matter be dealt with through this parliament.

Although I was unable perhaps to elicit any areas of concern that might already be clear to the member that I might be able to address to assist in any committee stage, what I propose to do is invite the member in committee to identify any questions or raise any concerns that he has and, as much as I am able, I will answer.

Any information that I cannot provide to the committee at the member's request, I assure the house that we will attempt to provide him whatever can be provided between the houses, if that is the way the member would be happy to proceed. Alternatively, we will just adjourn at clause 1. If the member is happy to proceed, I will not make any further contribution.

Bill read a second time.

*Committee Stage*

In committee.

Clause 1.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** My questions are simple. As we went through before, they are exploratory at this stage, and we will reserve our right to formulate more questions between the houses and perhaps examine the bill a bit more closely. My first question, Attorney, is: what concerns were raised when the Crown Solicitor, the DPP and the Solicitor-General provided feedback and suggestions on the technical aspects of the bill, and how were they addressed?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** It seems so long ago I can hardly remember them all, to be frank. When it was agreed that we would advance support for a national scheme, which seemed to be moving at glacial pace, some other issues became apparent, not just as to the enforcement but new issues such as how we should share the money if we are going into a national scheme. Two or more states might be instrumental in securing an unexplained wealth windfall, if I can describe it in that way.

I recall one case where parties were traversing the state of South Australia and apparently had some history in crime and were the subject of confiscation conduct. In particular, South Australian police were diligent enough to be alert to the fact they were coming through South Australia. They stopped the car and asked them to open their boot and found a considerable amount of money. I think it was about \$2 million.

Having secured it in South Australia, they get all the money. South Australia was happy about that, of course. Equivalent officers in Victoria were saying, 'These are our criminals and this is our money and we should be getting a share of it.' I am just paraphrasing, but you the gist of it. It did start a bit of a national conversation about how we might equitably share these windfalls. Nowadays, as I am sure the member would be aware, much more than I would be, there is also international and national support in the catching of criminals. It might be someone who is sitting on a computer in Switzerland who actually identifies somebody, which results in an arrest and the securing of proceeds in this sort of environment. The conversation was quite extensive.

What I can do is indicate to the member that the principal parties for consultation on the bill, which went out in July 2020—and obviously we have had COVID in between as well to interrupt

some of this—are the usual suspects that you would expect in these consultations. Firstly, there was the Hon. Peter Dutton, who was the Minister for Home Affairs, and that office continues to have ongoing consultation and discussions at officer level between the AGD and Home Affairs to ensure that the bill was properly drafted and contained all the necessary provisions.

There is no problem in that regard that I am aware of. I think the member mentioned that New South Wales is one state that has already passed its legislation to support this national scheme, so I am sure that it would have come to light if there were difficulties in that regard. In October last year, the Commissioner of Police gave an indication that they were supporting it in principle but that they needed three months' lead time to the commencement, so that was really a machinery of operation request from them.

The Crown Solicitor received advice on specific questions that were asked in August last year. The DPP made comments on the form of amendment reference. I think from memory that related to the transfer of powers reference, but if that is not the case I will get that information between the houses. The Solicitor-General was also consulted in August 2020. His advice related to the constitutional aspects of the bill, together with the intergovernmental agreement. I think it is fair to say that South Australia has had quite a history in the development of its serious and organised crime law.

I was here in the time of the Hon. Michael Atkinson era and legislation was drafted, redrafted, argued over, proceeded with, passed and challenged in the High Court and it came back again. I think there was one dissenting judgement. I heard a very persuasive case, which did not persuade anyone in the end, that the minority judgement or one of the High Court ought to be listened to. I think there were four or five outnumbering this dissenting judgement.

It had to come back—I think it was the Totani case originally—to challenge the legislation, and it really confirmed the principle of the time, which remains; that is, courts are not there to be rubber stamps. They have to be able to make an assessment of their own and they are not there to conduct an administrative act but to have a judicial role. All that legislation really failed and we had to start again.

Since then, quite a bit of attention has been given by the former government and ours to making sure that these laws that support the closing down of serious criminal activities—fortress laws, non-association laws, etc.—have developed, along with extra sanctions in relation to the confiscation of assets and unexplained wealth laws. They have grown in the last 20 years and there are some differences around the country.

We did have significant advice and support from the Solicitor-General to ensure that we are able to transfer powers where required, have the benefit of being in a national scheme and be able to protect our interests in the sense of whatever share we might have from this. In a general way, we have listened to that advice and are presenting this bill now as something that is both consistent with the scheme and complying with our legal position within the jurisdiction of South Australia.

I do not have any other detail, but it certainly went back and forth for us to get that right in continued consultation with the commonwealth. To date, I certainly have not received any indication from the Attorney-General's Department that, as a result of the passage of the New South Wales legislation, there has been any identified weakness that we need to remedy and, accordingly, there are no other amendments being presented.

I will just quickly check, but I do not think there was any other significant party in this. My recollection is that the courts were also consulted but, unless there was any problem or they were not party to nutting out the procedure, I think you can assume there was not any identified risk in that regard.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** I thank the Attorney for her detailed and lengthy answer; in fact, it renders some of my other questions answered. I want to go back and revisit some of the things you said just to clarify. New South Wales have passed their legislation. That legislation has passed and been enacted. Can you tell me when that was? You say there have been no issues that you are aware of that have been reported back to the commonwealth. Does that mean that the envisioned scheme has been enacted within the New South Wales jurisdiction? Does it apply?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I would not think so, but I will just confer. I should say that, as Attorney-General, I get briefings and updates about what happens as we are progressing this type

of legislation. I do not recall any issue being raised at our most recent attorneys-general meeting to bring it to our attention and it had not been put on the agenda. I would expect that I would be advised by my department if there had been any indication that there was a problem with New South Wales in being the lead group and, secondly, that the commonwealth identified some weakness. I will just check if I can assist the committee.

I am not sure what has happened with any commonwealth legislation, but I doubt that has happened. It may be that it is all operating under the memorandum of agreement that has been referred to. The New South Wales legislation passed in 2018, I am advised. There has been nothing brought to my attention.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** As a supplementary to that, when you say no issues have been identified, is that in the structure of the legislation? We do not know that there are no operational difficulties until it is put into operation, so I want to clarify that.

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

**Mr ODENWALDER:** Forgive my ignorance, but how many jurisdictions have to join before the scheme is activated and before it becomes a national scheme?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I am advised that the scheme is already activated even though it appears that only one party has signed the legislation. It may well be that it is only with themselves, so they have transferred their power to the commonwealth and they can share that arrangement with the commonwealth. Apparently the scheme itself is operational and we just need to get into it.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** If an organised crime arrest or operation is done in New South Wales and if there is some money or assets seized in New South Wales, are they then subject to this new regime, and shared?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** That is as I understand it. Again, as the member would be much more familiar from his prior work than I am, say there were a significant drug haul coming through a port in New South Wales, for example, I expect that both the local constabulary, the Australian Federal Police and probably some customs people and others would all be crawling all over that and claiming some expanded contribution probably to the success of any operation. I assume from that it would mean that they actually can enter into negotiations to be able to share the proceeds.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** Can I just have one more question on clause 1 to clarify? I promise it will be brief.

**The ACTING CHAIR (Mr Cowdrey):** A point of clarification, yes.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** I understood that the Attorney was being generous in her exploration of the bill before we get to the upper house so we can identify some of these issues more quickly. My last question on this clause is a bit of a clarification of the national nature of the scheme. We are in the process of signing up and New South Wales have signed up. Do you understand what the reluctance, if any, is of other states, like Victoria, to sign up?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** Again, I am not aware of anything else as to a delay, but I know from our point of view COVID certainly interfered with our being able to get on with this. Obviously, some of that is because the personnel we are consulting with have been extremely busy with COVID and other issues, not the least of which is that the Solicitor-General has been fighting away in the High Court on matters, and of course we have the police commissioner dealing with COVID, and the Crown Solicitor has been tied up with that.

We have moved it as giving it the priority we can. The commonwealth Proceeds of Crime Act 2002 is already in force. At this stage, nothing has been brought to my attention as to why Victoria or Western Australia—Northern Territory I know has an unexplained wealth regime. I am pretty sure Queensland does. I am not sure if Tasmania does. But if there is anything else I can help with in that regard, I will make sure it is provided before it gets to the other place.

They all have different means of operation and use. In that sense, I mean confiscation of assets law, which is another body of work, is more commonly used in some other jurisdictions, including our own. But this is one where you have unexplained wealth which is triggered by being

convicted of another offence as distinct from proving that the extra multimillion-dollar house you have has actually come from an armed robbery. I am sure you understand all that.

Clause passed.

Clauses 2 and 3 passed.

Clause 4.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** While this is at clause 4 now, it directly follows on from some comments made in the Attorney's answer to my first question, and that is to get some clarification. This is probably the nub of it all, which is to get some clarification about how any distribution of assets or proceeds, or however you want to explain it, would be equitably or proportionally handed out when there are two or more jurisdictions—or, as you suggest, international jurisdictions.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I have asked that question myself. My understanding is that they are yet to broker that. It is not in clause 4, but it relates further to the provisions in 209F—Net amount:

Forfeiture proceeds that are shareable with the Commonwealth or another State or Territory under the national cooperative scheme are to be reduced by any amount that is payable under—

(a) an order of a court under this Act...

That could be as determined by a court and somewhere here is the provision which was, as I read it, in default, you share equally unless you can agree some other specified proportion. I would have to find it.

Firstly, good news: the NT and ACT, I am advised, have indicated they want to be part of the scheme, so that is a good thing. The memorandum agreement does have the provision for the presumption that it is fifty-fifty or 33½ per cent or whatever if it is three unless it is agreed otherwise.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** That is surprising. Just by way of comment, I would have thought that some of these agencies would have been quite territorial and they would say, 'I have done the lion's share of the work,' and the other jurisdiction that has done a little bit of the work comes in and claims 50 per cent. But the jurisdictions that have signed up to this have presumably assessed that that is an equitable way to do it.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** At the moment, it seems to me a bit of a lucky dip. If you happen to have the crooks in your territory and you arrest them, you get the lot. It just seems to me, and I think to the nation, firstly, we need to deal with the fact that serious and organised crime operates outside our own state boundaries. That is the first thing. So if you are going to work cooperatively, firstly, you need to have some incentive among the players to have a share of this enterprise.

When we are dealing with serious and organised crime, which is really what we are dealing with here, we are talking about people who are operating in a national way. They might be importing product, selling drugs in another state, storing and having assets in other jurisdictions. One might be identifying where assets are, another one might assist in an arrest and others might be tracing the drug trafficking arrangements that might flow from it.

I am trying to indicate that these things are multifaceted. Everyone who is joining up to this scheme understands that it is in their interest to share, otherwise you lose out on the intelligence and you lose out on the capacity to have that cooperation and to share. Somebody in South Australia might be on their way out of the state and they need to be able to contact their people in Victoria and say, 'This particular bikie gang is heading to Ballarat and we need your assistance to support an arrest, etc.'

This is why it has come about after quite considerable negotiation, that if we are really going to be effective in this area, in this space of serious and organised crime, bikie gangs, etc., then we need to cooperate and give some incentive to do that.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** I think this will be my final question. Since you raised it, there are international aspects to organised crime as well, of course. What is your understanding of how the commonwealth legislation currently treats those international joint operations, for want of a better term, and will that change? Will there be some inclusion of international partners in this legislation?

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** I am not aware of that. I did ask that question, but I cannot even remember what the answer was. The case I gave at the time was to ask what will happen in a circumstance where there might be a multimillion dollar bank account in Switzerland, which holds the proceeds of child pornography and which has been identified in Switzerland and somebody sitting in Germany on a computer, and then South Australia Police here identifies somebody who is sitting at a university running the show. Do you see what I mean?

**Mr Odenwalder:** Yes.

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN:** We have had, for example, the successful investigation and conviction of Shannon McCool. I use that as a high-profile case because everyone knows about it. Clearly, there were overseas agencies monitoring people online for a very long time who were able to assist the police to deal with it. There is obviously another case that I think is in a similar category, the one where someone in the upper house was ultimately prosecuted.

Crime is now international. We understand that. I am not sure exactly what the arrangements are. It may be more informal in relation to arrangements with countries where we have some reciprocity and enforcement of orders. I suspect there are countries in the world with which we have no arrangements because they do not cooperate in any way. We are used to that.

Clause passed.

Remaining clauses (5 to 12), schedule and title passed.

Bill reported without amendment.

*Third Reading*

**The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (17:39):** I move:

That this bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

At 17:40 the house adjourned until 8 June 2021 at 11:00.

*Answers to Questions***COMMUNITY AND JOBS SUPPORT FUND**

**439 The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee)** (1 April 2021). As at 31 March 2021, how many grants had been paid from the Community and Jobs Support Fund?

- (a) To whom were the grants paid?
- (b) How much was each grant?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier):** I have been advised:

In March 2020, as part of its second economic stimulus package, the government announced the establishment of a \$250 million Community and Jobs Support Fund. The government subsequently added a further \$15 million to the fund, bringing the total value of the Community and Jobs Support Fund to \$265 million.

The Community and Jobs Support Fund assists community organisations, such as sporting, arts and recreational bodies, non-profit organisations and some other industry sectors. This fund will also help with training South Australians seeking new skills and employment and to assist organisations to meet increased demand for services, including emergency relief.

The 2020-21 Budget Measures Statement (page 8 and 9) provided a comprehensive breakdown of where assistance has been committed from the Community and Jobs Support Fund at the time of the budget, including the expected timing of the payment of assistance.

As at the 31 March 2021, \$262.7 million has been committed from the Community and Jobs Support Fund, including \$106.9 million towards 57 shovel-ready projects funded via the Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program. Further details are available at <https://www.safa.sa.gov.au/all-news/local-government-infrastructure-program-part-of-safas-key-focus>.

As at the 31 March 2021, \$54.5 million had been paid to individuals, organisations and other entities from initiatives funded from the Community and Jobs Support Fund since it was introduced. Grants payable under the Local Government Infrastructure Partnership Program will be paid to local councils as project milestones are achieved.

**LAND TAX**

**443 The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee)** (1 April 2021). As at 31 March 2021, how many land tax bills have been sent to landowners for land liable for land tax as at 30 June 2020?

- (a) How many bills remain unsent as at 31 March 2021?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier):** I have been advised:

As at 21 May 2021, 39,323 land tax bills have been sent to landowners for land tax liable as at 30 June 2020, with approximately 13,500 bills remaining unsent due to the significant complexity of the tax arrangements of a number of land owners. However, not all of these land owners will necessarily end up receiving a bill following their land tax assessment by RevenueSA.

It may well be that some land owners are under the land value threshold and will not receive a bill. Some of these people will also be eligible for the 100 per cent relief on the increase in land tax above \$2,500 (and below \$102,500) due to aggregation changes in 2020-21.

**GOVERNMENT REVENUE**

**445 The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee)** (1 April 2021). How much additional revenue has been raised by increasing government fees and charges for each financial year 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21?

1. How much additional revenue is forecast to be generated for the 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24?
2. How much additional revenue has been raised in each of these years for motor vehicle registration, administration fees and driver's licence renewals?
3. How much additional revenue has been raised in each of these years for traffic infringements?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier):** I have been advised:

The additional revenue raised from the annual indexation of fees and charges is estimated at the time of each state budget. It was estimated that:

- The 2.2 per cent increase to fees and charges in 2018-19 announced in the 2018-19 budget is estimated to generate additional revenue of \$28 million per annum.
- The 5 per cent increase to fees and charges in 2019-20 announced in the 2019-20 budget is estimated to generate additional revenue of \$62 million per annum.
- The 1.9 per cent increase to fees and charges in 2020-21 announced in the 2020-21 budget is estimated to generate additional revenue of \$26 million per annum.

The actual amount of revenue raised each year will however vary due to changes in the volume of fees and charges paid. For example the level of expiation revenues collected under the Motor Vehicle, Road Traffic and Heavy Vehicle National Law Acts has been written down by around \$18 to \$19 million per annum over the past three years, primarily to reflect changes in driver behaviour, and camera operational arrangements.

The cumulative effect of the indexation estimates made in each budget is shown in table 1

Table 1: Estimated additional revenue from indexation (\$ million)

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Estimated increase due to rate	28	62	26	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cumulative increase in revenue <sup>^</sup>	28	90	116	116	116	116

<sup>^</sup>Cumulative increase in revenue from 2018-19, excluding any volume adjustments.

The level of indexation of fees and charges for 2021-22 and beyond will be announced as part of future budgets.

Additional revenue for motor vehicle registration, administration fees, driver's licence renewals and SAPOL expiation revenue are included within the amounts shown in Table 1. These components are shown separately in tables 2 and 3.

Table 2: Estimated additional motor vehicle registration revenue from rate increases (\$ million)<sup>1</sup>

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Motor Vehicle Registrations	8.5	19.8	7.8	n/a	n/a	n/a
Administration Fees	1.0	3.0	1.2	n/a	n/a	n/a
Driver's Licence Renewals	1.4	2.5	1.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Administration Fees	0.3	0.7	0.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cumulative increase in revenue <sup>^</sup>	11.1	37.1	47.4	47.4	47.4	47.4

1—Table may not add due to rounding.

<sup>^</sup>Cumulative increase in revenue from 2018-19, excluding any volume adjustments.

Table 3: Estimated additional SAPOL expiation revenue from rate increases (\$ million)<sup>1</sup>

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Estimated increase due to rate	1.3	2.9	1.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Cumulative increase in revenue <sup>^</sup>	1.3	4.3	5.6	5.6	5.6	5.6

1—Table may not add due to rounding.

<sup>^</sup> Cumulative increase in revenue from 2018-19, excluding any volume adjustments.

Not all fees and charges increase through the annual adjustment process. Adjustments to certain fees and charges are determined as a consequence of specific policy decisions.

Under the government's lower cost policies, an average household is now around \$930 a year better off as a result of saving:

- An average \$200 a year on household water and sewerage bills;
- \$163.60 on ESL bills for a median valued metropolitan residential house in 2020-21 compared with the ESL bill which would have applied if the government had not restored remissions;
- \$269 on cheaper electricity as a result of energy policies which will continue to drive down the cost of power;
- \$200 through lower CTP insurance premiums for a two-car family;
- \$100 from doubling the sports vouchers (from \$50 to \$100) for a household with two children.

#### HOMEBUILDER PROGRAM

**446 The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee)** (1 April 2021). How many HomeBuilder applications have been received as at 31 March 2021?:

- How many have been processed as at 31 March 2021?
- How many have been paid as at 31 March 2021?
- How many of the applications are associated with first-home buyers?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier):** I have been advised:

The HomeBuilder Grant (HBG) will only be paid to eligible applicants once RevenueSA is satisfied that all the eligibility criteria are met. RevenueSA received 13,923 HBG applications before the application deadline of midnight on 14 April 2021. As at 20 May 2021, RevenueSA has made payment of the HBG to 2,989 applicants, whilst 5,683 HBG applications have been conditionally approved.

Applicants are required to apply separately for the HBG and the South Australian government's First Home Owner Grant (FHOG). As data for the HBG and FHOG is collected in free text fields and retained in separate databases, it is not possible to undertake an exact data match on applications received for the FHOG and the HBG. Of the HBG applications that RevenueSA has considered or is in the process of considering, approximately 2,400 associated applicants have also applied for and been approved to receive the FHOG.

#### LAND TAX

**449 The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee)** (1 April 2021). As at 31 March 2021, how many landowners have applied for land tax relief under the land tax transition fund:

- (a) How many have been approved?
- (b) What is the total value of the approved relief?
- (c) How many people have applied for land tax deferrals?
- (d) What is the value of these deferrals?

**The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier):** I have been advised:

As at 24 May 2021, 125 Land Tax Transition Fund applications have been received. Of these, 81 have been approved, with the total value of approved relief amounting to \$651,331.17.

With regard to the land tax deferral measure, businesses and individuals were able choose, without needing to apply, to defer the payment of their third and fourth 2019-20 land tax quarterly instalment payments for up to six months from the due date of the third instalment. In light of the fact that businesses and individuals were not required to apply for a deferral, no records have been kept in relation to how many taxpayers deferred payment or the value of the deferrals.