

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 9 September 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 Procedure

SITTINGS AND BUSINESS

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (11:01): Unless circumstances are about to change, I do not believe we have enough people here to commence proceedings—you might need to summon more members.

The SPEAKER: You are calling attention to the state of the house?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Yes. We need 17 to start, do we not?

A quorum having been formed:

Parliamentary Committees

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: WOMEN'S MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELDS UPGRADE

Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:03): Perhaps I had deluded myself that the Cregan hour had high ratings; nevertheless, all present now. I move:

That the 122nd report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled Women's Memorial Playing Fields Upgrade Project, be noted.

The Women's Memorial Playing Fields are a large sportsground of around 10.9 hectares. They incorporate three playing fields in total and are located, as members are aware, on the corner of Shepherds Hill Road and Ayliffes Road, St Marys, in the City of Mitcham.

The Women's Memorial Playing Fields incorporate the fields I have mentioned over two levels, and they are also the site for the annual Bangka Day Memorial Service. The grounds are dedicated to the South Australian servicewomen who served in World War I and World War II. The total project budget is \$9.237 million, including substantial funding by the state government and \$500,000 funded by the Australian government's Community Development Grants Programme, for which we are grateful.

The Women's Memorial Playing Fields upgrade will provide upgraded facilities for tenants, including the Sturt Lacrosse Club, Cumberland United Women's Football Club and the South Australian Women's Memorial Playing Field Trust.

For the benefit of members, the scope of works for the memorial playing fields upgrade includes construction of a new clubroom, providing kitchen and clubroom facilities; construction of new change rooms; sports field renovations, including levelling, drainage improvements, irrigation system upgrades and returfing; the supply and installation of new sports field lighting; and the construction of a new plaza memorial space. The project works will be staged, with construction expected to have already commenced and be completed in October.

The committee examined written evidence from the Department for Education in relation to this project, advising that the proposal had also been subject to the appropriate agency consultation. The committee is satisfied that the proposal has been subject to the appropriate consultations and does meet the criteria for the examination of projects as described in the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991. Based on the evidence considered and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act, the Public Works Committee reports to parliament that it recommends the scope of works that I have outlined to members.

Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (11:06): I rise firstly to commend those who are working on this important project and, obviously, I hope that it will deliver greater amenity to those clubs that are part

of this project. It was a Labor commitment before the last election, which was then met by the Liberal opposition, which I certainly welcome, and I am looking forward to seeing it completed.

However, I rise to put on the record what is not in this report, and there is a fairly glaring omission. There has been a major alteration since the original scope of this project, since it was originally announced to the public and to my community in Badcoe. Nowhere in here do we see the words 'Forestville Hockey Club', which is a sporting club in my electorate, the oldest sporting club in my electorate and the oldest hockey club in the Southern Hemisphere. The club has a very proud history, many hundreds of members and for quite some time has been based at the Goodwood sports precinct in Millswood.

For some time they have been searching for a new home. They have essentially outgrown the facilities that they are currently at, and also the sport has really moved on and now synthetic pitches are played on, but that cannot be accommodated at the current Goodwood sports complex. For several years, the Forestville Hockey Club has been working on proposals to relocate.

Before the last election, there was certainly a bipartisan approach and both Labor and Liberal committed that the Forestville Hockey Club would be part of this new project at the Women's Memorial Playing Fields—that was excellent. The club obviously welcomed it and even other sporting clubs that are currently using the Goodwood facility welcomed it too because it will free up some facilities at the very well-utilised Goodwood sports complex for other clubs that are either there at the moment or that may wish to have sporting fields to potentially be able to move into that sports complex.

There were long and detailed conversations involving the Forestville Hockey Club for them to be included in this project. They were an equal partner with the two other sporting clubs in this new development. That was what was put to the electorate and that is what was promised by Labor. Then, of course, the Liberals, who won government, promised that the Forestville Hockey Club would get a new home in this new \$9 million state-of-the-art facility at St Marys. But, of course, that has not happened. The Forestville Hockey Club has been excised from this project and is no longer part of it. That is a great shame and something I think this house should be aware of.

Most galling is the treatment then of the Forestville Hockey Club. Instead of being provided with some other facility, some other clubhouse, some other place they can call home after this long battle that they have had for a new home base, nothing really has been provided to them. Yes, they have been able to keep the million-odd dollars that was promised to them by the former Labor government for a new synthetic hockey pitch. They can take that with them, but that is not much good if they do not have a home base. They cannot put that synthetic hockey pitch at the Goodwood sports complex; they need another home.

Unfortunately, although they were an equal partner in a \$9 million project, they have not been able to take any of that funding with them in order to realise their dream of having a clubhouse, whether that is with other clubs as a collaborative arrangement or out on their own. That has left them in a very difficult position. As this government has made the decision to boot them out of this project, after promising them a new home base, they owe it to them to deliver that home somewhere else. They owe it to them to deliver on the promise that this Liberal government made to the Forestville Hockey Club, that they would get a new home.

I am aware of new plans for a new clubhouse at Unley High, and those plans are fairly well progressed, as well progressed as you could expect a club of Forestville Hockey Club's resources to put together. They have had quite high level and productive conversations with Unley High School and other people in the community to try to make this new dream a reality. Unfortunately, they have been told by this government that there is not funding and that they will not be able to move to Unley High and create a new clubhouse and use that million-odd dollars that they already have in the bank from the previous Labor government's synthetic pitch fund, and be able to have a new home base. That is a huge disappointment but there is, of course, something that this government can do, and that is to help them out.

They do not need another \$9 million. In fact, they only need a fraction of that to build what is a very modest clubhouse at Unley High which would then be available for the entire community, including the educational community to use and, of course, they will then be able to construct the

synthetic pitch as well. This would be a great project for the hockey community and also for the wider sporting community, and I call on this government to fund that new clubhouse or at least enter into discussions with the Forestville Hockey Club about what can be done, considering that they have been excised from the project that they were promised at the last election.

That is all I want to say on that topic, but I might just make one other small point. I am not sure about the procedure and how these things work, but I noticed that unfortunately there is an error in the report in terms of the spelling of Ms Gladys Elphick's name. These things happen and I am sure it is an innocent mistake. It is on page 6.

I am not sure if there is any way that it can be remedied but, considering that Ms Gladys Elphick is a leading light in the Aboriginal community and did so much for our community in advancing the rights of Aboriginal people but particularly Aboriginal women, and considering that this project is at the Women's Memorial Playing Fields, I think it would be great if we could correct that small error. To get her name spelt correctly is the least we can do to honour her memory. I am happy to help the drafters if there is some sort of process that can be gone through to correct it before it goes into the formal record.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (11:12): I rise to speak on the final report of the Women's Memorial Playing Fields upgrade, issued by the Public Works Committee, and I thank them for their work. May I just briefly address the matters of concern raised by the member for Badcoe in her plight for the Forestville Hockey Club, and her assertion that this was a commitment given to be a tenant in the facility.

I am concerned to note in the report that unlike local members who are invited to actually give evidence on these matters, I see that her name does not appear. I just remind members, including the member for Badcoe, that if there are—

Ms Stinson interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Badcoe!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —matters of concern, this is exactly the forum which we, as local members, go to and give evidence to the Public Works Committee and outline the allegation of some alleged arrangement to—

Ms Stinson interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —submit that. Liberal and Labor and other members have utilised this on a regular basis. I have done it myself, and I just remind the members that this is why it is so important that they bring to the attention—or at least even alert the members of their own political party who sit on these bodies. The Hon. Tom Koutsantonis and Mr Joe Szakacs I notice are two members of the Labor Party. I hope that is helpful to the member to understand that that is where—

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

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Mawson!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —she can of course make sure these things are raised if she has a legitimate point. I commend the committee for taking up what has been a development—

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Point of order: the Deputy Premier has been here long enough to know that you use the title of the member of parliament and not their name in this place. I thought you might have pulled her up on it.

The SPEAKER: I take that as a point raised in accordance with standing order 123—

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I was referring, sir, on page 3 of the report—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: Can you allow the Speaker to rule?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I'm sorry.

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Lee!

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The fact is, member for Mawson, that when it comes to references in committee participation I understand it is the practice that members are described by name in the document. It may be that a direct quote has been the cause of the inappropriate reference. I uphold the point of order; it is a point of order that is conventional.

I take the opportunity to remind the Deputy Premier and all members of the requirement to describe members in accordance with that standing order. It is a standing order I have already referred to in the course of this sitting week. I uphold the point of order. The Deputy Premier will refer to members according to standing order 123.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Thank you, sir. It is an important point, and I refer members to page 3 of the report, which outlines the composition of the membership. I think that will make it clear how they are described.

In relation to the project itself, the late Tom Playford—whose picture adorns the wall behind me here in this chamber and who was the architect of his government—ensured these women's memorial grounds were provided with a parcel of land on which there would be a permanent memorial to the courage and commitment of women during conflict, in particular in recognition of the disgraceful murder of nurses at the Bangka Strait.

An annual memorial service takes place, and many members would have been to that. I have been on a number of occasions, and have spoken in this house about it. It is an important memorial; it is a testament to the courage and a symbol of the extraordinary contribution, including their lives, of those nurses. One surviving nurse, Sister Bullwinkle, was a resident of South Australia, and it is important we commemorate that.

I am very pleased that in all the time I have been here in the parliament the member for Waite—the Hon. Martin Hamilton-Smith was the local member for a long time covering this area, and he, too, presented pleas to the previous government, which he ultimately became a member of—presented pleas to provide a significant upgrade to these grounds to advance the contemporary purpose of the grounds, which is to promote women's sport.

I am therefore extremely pleased that some \$9.5 million, including some money from the commonwealth, is being presented to this facility. There will be new clubrooms, new change rooms, sports field renovations and the installation of new sports field lighting. There will also be construction of a new plaza and memorial space. Again, this will enable the annual memorial of this important occasion to take place.

The Governor of the day has attended these on many occasions, and there are longstanding people on a committee that actually provides for the perpetuation of this memorial. I am immensely pleased—and I am sure if Tom Playford were here today he would be immensely pleased—that finally this government, with some support from the commonwealth, has committed millions of dollars of funding to facilitate this upgrade. I hope it will be a facility for another 30, 40 or 50 years for the advancement of women's sport.

I conclude by recognising the advance of women's sport in this state, not only the well-publicised area of women's and girls' participation in football. I am proud to say that we have an outstanding team at the Old Collegians Rugby Union Football Club for the women's team. Women's rugby is very popular in the whole of the competition and, in particular, it has been advanced in my electorate. I am extremely proud of them. We recently had an afternoon tea to support them—these are really courageous young women, who are taking up different and new sports and breaking barriers for other girls to follow—and to provide alternate sport options for our girls. With that, I commend the report.

Mrs POWER (Elder) (11:20): I am really pleased to see this report presented by the Public Works Committee. The Women's Memorial Playing Fields, as has been mentioned, is an incredibly large sportsground of around 10.9 hectares and it is on the edge of my electorate. It has three playing fields in total and a clubhouse that has desperately needed upgrading. It is home to the Cumberland United Women's Football Club, the Sturt Lacrosse Club and the South Australian Women's Memorial Playing Fields Trust.

They are two incredible clubs. I meet with the volunteers and the sports committee quite regularly. They were so excited at the time of the election. I know that comment has been made that those opposite made some commitments to upgrading the site. We certainly made similar commitments because we knew how important it was. The players, the volunteers and committee members of those clubs did not really care who was making the promises. They were just so excited that it was on the agenda and, most importantly, that when we got in we got on with the job of delivering the project.

The South Australian Women's Memorial Playing Fields Trust is located there, and they are an integral part of the site. They hold the annual Bangka Strait Memorial Service ceremony every year. It is an incredible memorial service where we can reflect and honour the women who have served and, of course, the 22 nurses who were horrifically gunned down in the Bangka Strait, Vivian Bullwinkel being the lone survivor of the massacre.

When I read and learn more about that, it moves me and brings me to tears. I think about the character that Vivian must have had to lie in the water after being shot, pretending to be dead, waiting for them to go so that she could take herself to shore and enduring what she went through in the coming days. It shows incredible courage. It is so important that we acknowledge women who serve our country. It is an incredible memorial service that is held at the Women's Memorial Playing Fields. This upgrade will include improving the facilities so that they can host the memorial service each year.

The project also includes the construction of a new clubroom, providing kitchen and clubroom facilities, and the construction of new change rooms. The daughter of one of my very good friends played at the Cumberland United Women's Football Club; she would be there on a Sunday morning. Long before even coming to parliament, I was familiar with how terrible those change rooms were for the young girls in that part of the football club. It is so great to be able to see that they will get the facilities they deserve. It is similar for the Sturt Lacrosse Club: their facilities were just horrific. This is a project that is really needed. It is exciting that it is happening. It is exciting that the Marshall Liberal government has got on with the job and is doing it.

In terms of the Forestville Hockey Club, I know that the member for Badcoe made mention that they were originally in the plans for the upgrade, which was fantastic. The Forestville Hockey Club have some great members. They are a great club, and I know they so desperately want a home base where they can really strengthen their great club culture.

It was going to be great to have them at the fields as well. It was unfortunate that as it worked out, the size of the hockey pitch that was required could not easily be accommodated in the right north-south orientation to meet the requirements for hockey, so the decision was made that they would be better placed at another club. I think that is a shame, and it is probably a good reflection of how important it is when you are in government—and I know the opposition was in government at the time when they originally made that promise to do the work—to really make sure that clubs are well looked after.

Ms Stinson interjecting:

Mrs POWER: We are working really closely with them and, as the member for Badcoe mentioned, we have left the funds that were allocated to that club with them. We want to support them, we want to find them a new home base.

I was very fortunate at my last street corner meeting that a couple of members from the club came down and very kindly had a gift for myself and for Dr Rachel Swift, the Liberal candidate for Boothby. We were both holding street corner meetings and they had this box, and we opened it up and inside was a beanie from Forestville Hockey Club, so Dr Rachel Swift and I will be wearing them proudly. As we said to them at the time, we look forward to continuing to work with them to find them a home.

I know conversations are already underway and they are exploring the possibility of basing themselves at Unley High School. I know that Greg, the principal at Unley High School, is very supportive of that. There is some more work to be done and, obviously, I understand that they need some more funding to be able to bring that vision to life. I really look forward to continuing to work with them to support them and do all that I can to help them realise their vision.

It will be an exciting day when they are opening up their clubrooms because we know it is really important. One of the things that we consistently hear from clubs is it is really important that they do have a home base, that the clubrooms have appropriate facilities for men, women and families to change, and to come together and to gather. It is really in those home bases that club cultures can be formed and strengthened and thrive.

As we come off the back of the COVID pandemic, local sporting clubs play such an important role in our sense of community, in our sense of connection. We have known all along that sporting clubs are about more than just sports and physical activity; they are about fellowship, they are about sport, they are about those sorts of intangible and interpersonal skills that you learn when you are part of a team, so it is important that we are supporting all of our local sporting clubs.

As I said, it will be an exciting day, and I hope it is not too far off in the future when we open a clubhouse for Forestville Hockey Club, but also importantly, when we open the Women's Memorial Playing Fields' new clubhouse with Sturt Lacrosse Club, the Cumberland United Women's Football Club and, of course, with those from the South Australian Women's Memorial Playing Fields Trust all there, it will be quite incredible.

Another thing we have talked about in relation to this site is the potential for it to house other clubs. It is a big site and we want to see our sporting fields used to their maximum, so there are a few opportunities there that I think we should continue to explore. One other thing I am really interested in personally is working with those services in the women's sector, those women's organisations that might be interested in connecting with the Women's Memorial Playing Fields Trust in some way so that we can continue to keep that history alive and share the stories and pass them down.

I know that Cumberland United Football Club do an incredible job of honouring the history and the story of women who have served when they have an annual women's memorial Bangka Strait round. They do that with the other soccer clubs and bring people together and, as a part of those days, have a minute's silence. That passing of stories and remembering and honouring those who have served in our country—particularly the women given that the Women's Memorial Playing Fields stands in their honour and was gifted with that purpose—is so important.

To the Public Works Committee, I want to acknowledge you. Thank you for your due diligence with this project, making sure that it was subject to the appropriate consultation. You examined all the written evidence and you made sure that it met all the necessary criteria. We do really appreciate it.

We do really appreciate it, so thank you to all the committee members and to all those involved in this project I say a heartfelt thankyou. I know that it has been a journey for the club members, even in the consultation when you had multiple clubs coming together, how you came together to work out meeting everybody's needs. They have certainly gone through that big process. To everybody involved in this project, thank you. I look forward to enjoying these incredible new facilities at this incredible place on the edge of my electorate with you.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley—Minister for Innovation and Skills) (11:30): I would like to make a contribution about the opportunities that projects like this give South Australians and young South Australians in particular. There is no doubt that we are seeing a surge in apprenticeships and traineeships in South Australia. The state government has a program of \$17.9 billion on infrastructure. We know that the partnership with the federal government, the \$25,000 housing grants, has seen a surge in the need for more skills through apprenticeships and traineeships in the building sector as well. It is pretty hard to walk down any street in my electorate in Unley and not see an extension or extensive renovation going on.

One of the differential factors about this particular project and many like it is that we have also seen, since the formalisation of a paid traineeship in this sector by the Marshall government, a surge in traineeships in landscape work. There are two Skilling South Australia programs that come to mind and \$560,000 that has supported 70 participants. This is important because one of the key issues that came out of our consultation with various different industries, and particularly the landscape sector, is the cost of on-the-job training, the support for on-the-job training supervision and the confidence of the supervision.

One of the very enthusiastic users of apprenticeships and traineeships in this sector, Outside Ideas, were very keen to increase the number of apprentices and trainees throughout their sector. Consequently, we were able to bespoke design a program for them that gave their supervisors the confidence to deliver the on-the-job training. Once that was delivered, once the supervisors who were working with those students on the job were comfortable and confident they were delivering the right training, the right supervision, we saw an increase in apprentices and trainees in that particular business.

We have seen some of the pre-apprenticeship or pre-traineeship programs in this sector transition into landscape construction, horticulture landscape design and civil construction, and the Master Landscapers have led these projects. When Skilling South Australia became available, they were very keen to get involved. They identified, quite rightly, that there were skills shortages, there was a lack of supported pathway into this sector, so we worked with the sector.

Of course, one of the key areas where we are seeing the off-the-job training being delivered is a partnership at Urrbrae High School with TAFE and ITECA, which are the independent providers for off-the-job training. I was just speaking with the principal of Urrbrae High School, Joslyn Fox, at dinner last night. She was telling me how there has been this significant growth in both the school-based sector and the other activity that is there training people in the landscape trades.

This is extremely important for South Australia because we did start from a very low base when it came to skills training in South Australia. From about 2014 we started to see the rate of decline in commencements of apprenticeships and traineeships. I think there were—just from memory—around 19 per cent fewer commencements year after year until 2018. We made a commitment that we were going to increase the number of commencements of apprenticeships and traineeships by 20,800, and I am very pleased to report that, three years into that four-year program, we are right on target in order to do that.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Point of order: standing order 128 prevents a member from indulging in irrelevance or tedious repetition from a previous debate. This is the opportunity for reports from the Public Works Committee, which, by convention—

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: Point of order—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I have not finished speaking.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: You have made your point of order—

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: No, I have not finished speaking.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, take your seat.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: This is the opportunity for the Chair of the Public Works Committee to present reports to the chamber on projects occurring around South Australia and which, by convention, is an opportunity for not only the Chair of the Public Works Committee but for other interested members to speak with specific relevance about that project.

That is not what the member for Unley is doing. Yes, he is the Minister for Innovation and, yes, he has portfolio responsibilities for this area, but they are not relevant to the current topic of the debate, and I ask that you would either sit him down or draw him back to the Women's Memorial Playing Fields project.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Given that I referred to standing order 128 just yesterday evening, I actually uphold the point of order. Minister, thus far I think you have been drawing quite a long bow in relation to the topic, which is the Women's Memorial Playing Fields upgrade. So, even though you have been talking enthusiastically about skills and training in relation to landscaping, I would ask you to bring your contribution back to the topic at hand.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: It is not surprising, after Labor's record on skills training, that the member for Lee—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: —would describe apprenticeships as tedious.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, no.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: Tedious. They are the words he used: 'tedious' and 'not relevant'.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, minister. Sit—

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: The elitism from the member for Lee is extraordinary.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sit down, minister. I have given my ruling. The topic of the day is the Women's Memorial Playing Fields upgrade. It has been considered by the Public Works Committee. That is the debate we are having at the moment.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: I refer to their report, which speaks about the estimated net effect of the work on its use and on public funds, and of course a lot of those public funds these days is going into delivering the skills industries need to build these projects that are examined by the Public Works Committee. I think that is a difference in emphasis between this government and the previous government; that is, we are focusing on making sure this work is viable, is quality work, because we have the skills here in order to deliver it.

The report refers to construction and existing upgrades from December 2020 through to October 2021, and this is, of course, happening at a crucial time when we are recovering or planning the recovery, starting that recovery, past COVID. There is no doubt that a lot of the work the government is doing at the moment is about stimulating the economy, delivering jobs. We know that there are many more jobs for South Australians who have skills than there are for South Australians who do not have skills. Only 56 per cent of South Australians have a qualification from certificate III to university. That leaves 44 per cent of South Australians who do not have a qualification beyond high school, if they have completed high school. So this is a massive skills gap.

Projects like this simply cannot be done without the skills here in South Australia, unless of course we do what used to happen often under those opposite: people from interstate came to South Australia to deliver those projects that the Public Works Committee approves. We do not think that is good enough, and that is why we have been making those investments in skills, to enable projects like this to be delivered by South Australians.

The fact that there is now a paid pathway into the trades and the skills that are needed for the landscape type and civil construction-type projects that come out of the Public Works Committee shows the commitment this government has to ensuring that we continue to deliver for the people of South Australia public works of a high standard that are delivered by South Australians.

There will be those who think that apprenticeships are tedious or they are not relevant to the modern world, and I quote the member for Lee—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: No, that was about you, David, not apprenticeships.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: That is exactly what he was implying: that my contribution—

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Mr Deputy Speaker—

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: —because I was speaking about apprenticeships and traineeships, was tedious and not relevant.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is a point of order, minister. The member for Lee has a point of order.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I will not have the member for Unley make a personal reflection on me. That was unparliamentary and prevented by standing orders, particularly standing order 127. My point of order was very specific, and you upheld the point of order—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I did.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: —that his comments were irrelevant or tedious. I did not even say that he was tedious, let alone that apprenticeships were tedious, so I will not be misrepresented by somebody seeking only to run down the clock.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you, member for Lee. I have taken your point of order. I upheld your previous point of order. I am not upholding this one. I did not think the minister was being

at all unparliamentary but, given that we are nearly three-quarters of the way through what has become colloquially known as the 'Cregan hour', I am going to ask the minister to conclude his comments.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: Done.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:41): I acknowledge the contribution made by all members in relation to the noting of this report, and I also emphasise the importance we continue to place as a parliament on the Women's Memorial Playing Fields and the war crime that they continue to ensure we commemorate appropriately in this place.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: FLAGSTAFF ROAD UPGRADE

Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:42): I move:

That the 123rd report of the committee for the Fifty-Fourth Parliament, entitled Flagstaff Road Upgrade Project, be noted.

Flagstaff Road is located approximately 11 kilometres from Adelaide's central business district. The road is a major arterial road currently used by approximately 21,000 motorists daily to commute to work, home or other parts of the city. Flagstaff Road also facilitates travel to the Adelaide Hills and coastal plains regions.

For approximately 800 metres of its overall 3.3-kilometre length, between Hyland Avenue and Bonneyview Road, Flagstaff Road consists of only three lanes. The road was upgraded in the 1980s to three lanes, with a central lane that is reversed daily to manage traffic flows during peak periods. I understand that the member for Heysen often refers to such an arrangement as 'contraflow' and now I have come to appreciate what that means.

The size of the regional population has increased significantly since the 1980s, which has led to increased traffic flow along Flagstaff Road. There has been growing community concern for the safety of road users and calls to develop a two-way dual carriageway. In particular, the reversible nature of the centre lane can cause confusion for motorists and remains a safety risk, with the potential for head-on and sideswipe crashes.

The design of the road, including uncontrolled intersection junctions, the absence of shoulders and the reversible lane, impacts on traffic efficiency and does reduce the resilience, as it is sometimes described in bureaucratic language, of the road to incidents. I think that means, in non-bureaucratic language, that the road is dangerous.

There is currently one narrow bicycle lane 1.2 metres wide on the east side of Flagstaff Road that poses a safety risk for cyclists and there is no dedicated bicycle provision on the western side of Flagstaff Road. The Flagstaff Road upgrade proposes to install a fourth lane to the east of the current alignment, between Hyland Avenue and Bonneyview Road, making the road a permanent two-way dual carriageway. The construction of an additional lane will reduce traffic congestion and confusion and improve efficiency and safety for motorists travelling on Flagstaff Road. Cycling and pedestrian links will also be improved as part of the upgrade.

Funding of \$32.9 million for the road upgrade was committed by the South Australian government, as part of the 2018-19 and 2019-20 state budgets. Construction is expected to commence in early 2021 and be completed during late 2021.

The committee examined written evidence from the department in relation to this project, advising that the project proposal had been subject to appropriate consultation. 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, which, Mr Deputy Speaker, you are aware is described in the Parliamentary Committees Act. Based on the evidence considered and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act, the Public Works Committee reports to parliament that it recommends the proposed public works.

Mr MURRAY (Davenport) (11:46): I thank the member for Lee for ensuring I have an opportunity not only to talk to this excellent report but to also be a guest contributor on the Dan Cregan hour.

In committing this 123rd report of the Public Works Committee, entitled Flagstaff Road Upgrade Project, I note that the road actually commences at the intersection of Marion and South Road, some 13 kilometres from the CBD. Often mistakenly referred to as Flagstaff Hill Road, it is a major arterial road used by 21,100 motorists per day to commute to work, home or other parts of the city and, in the recent past, particularly during the Darlington works, was carrying up to 24,000 vehicles on a daily basis. The road also facilitates travel to the Adelaide Hills and coastal plains regions.

For 800 metres of its overall 3.3-kilometre length, Flagstaff Road only consists of three lanes, the middle one of which was a reversible lane, known colloquially by the locals as the 'suicide lane' for reasons which will become obvious. I say 'was' because the public works report that we are bringing to the house today was prepared from evidence provided to the Public Works Committee on 24 September 2020, almost a year ago.

The origins of the suicide lane—the middle lane—arose from work done in the late 1980s, when the road was upgraded overall but, given that providing dual lanes in both directions would have meant the removal of a large amount of rock and overburden, the temporary fix was to have an 800-metre reversible lane governed by lights and that is how it stayed for over 30 years.

The local community has overwhelmingly called for the road to be upgraded for safety reasons and two of my predecessors as the members for Davenport campaigned for it to be fixed, as did the member for Fisher, the late Dr Bob Such. I note for the record that, unfortunately the Labor Party were historically opposed to fixing the road, as evidenced in correspondence to Dr Such, and they remained opposed to fixing the road. This opposition is a matter of public record.

Fixing Flagstaff Road was a central theme of my campaign for the seat of Davenport leading up to the 2018 election. Along with campaign volunteers, I made no fewer than five trips up the 1.4 kilometres from South Road to the end of the middle lane, carrying ladders and corflutes, whilst watching where we walked so as not to disappear over a cliff. We also watched some of the safety issues from a very unique perspective, including watching in horror one night as a bus drove the entire length of the middle lane in the wrong direction against the lights.

One of the five trips was necessary to change corflutes, which we had no choice but to temporarily use, which had unfortunately been produced using the Flagstaff Hill Road name, which I referred earlier to, which I note the local federal MP has also frequently used.

Semantics aside, the road has a number of major safety issues. The committee received evidence that, in the period 2015 to 2019, there were 17 crashes on the 800-metre section, with seven involving injury. As a local who has used the road on a daily basis for over 30 years, I can attest to at least two horror fatalities on that same stretch over the years, with a surviving passenger in one of those fatal accidents suffering a broken neck.

Safety issues this upgrade fixes are that the centre lane caused confusion and the higher likelihood of head-on collisions and sideswipes. I have seen dash cam videos of near misses with head-on crashes and heard evidence of the same. One of the most notable was from a local lady driving up the road with her children on board and narrowly missing a head-on crash with a driver who was busy arguing with the driver in the vehicle next to him over who should give way and merge.

The report to the committee, as the member for Kavel has noted, made reference to the design of the road, meaning that the road lacked 'resilience'. There are no sheltered turn lanes, no road shoulders and therefore virtually no margin for error on a stretch of road which, it has to be noted, not only carries 20,000-plus vehicles on a daily basis but which has several homes on it and several side roads leading off where a considerable number of people live. As a consequence, one of the issues with the road is that when traffic is turning there is a higher propensity for collisions and, as I said, on a road that has absolutely no margin for error whatsoever.

Much of the public feedback during the design phase focused on the provision of bicycle access. The road has access on one side for bicycles, which literally then disappears at the start of

the 800-metre stretch in question, and a dedicated bike lane for the entire stretch on the up-track. There are currently no footpaths on the road and, in particular, on the section in question. The upgrade to which the report refers fixes all of these safety issues. It increases the safety, the road capacity and the efficiency of Flagstaff Road. It provides for two full-time lanes in each direction, as well as bicycle lanes on both sides of the road, one of which will be a shared footpath.

Funding of \$32.9 million, excluding GST, was provided for these works by the state government in both the 2018-19 and 2019-20 state budgets. Practical construction actually commenced in March of this year, 2021, with vegetation clearance followed by the removal of a large SA Water tank and the movement of a vast array of services for that SA Water infrastructure, as well as moving power, gas and telecommunications.

I also point out that a not inconsequential issue with the design for the road is the fact that the primary means by which water from the Happy Valley treatment plant, which provides anywhere up to 50 per cent of the water used in central and southern Adelaide, also traverses, in a large part, that road. That was designed to ensure that that was properly accommodated. It was a major issue in the works being completed.

Construction is due for practical completion in December this year, subject to the weather. Some time was lost moving services in recent months, I am told, as a result of the inclement weather we have had but, nonetheless, driving down what is available to locals of the three lanes—two lanes this morning—an enormous amount of work is being conducted, and it is something that I very much look forward to being able to use along with the other 20,000-plus people who use that road on a daily basis.

I am very proud to have delivered on this election commitment and this long overdue safety upgrade for this road for my community. As the local member, and also as a member of the Public Works Committee, I commend this report to the house.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (11:54): I rise to speak with regard to the Flagstaff Road widening project, which has been canvassed by the Public Works Committee and reported on by its Chair, the member for Kavel.

I agree with the sentiments of the member for Davenport and also of the Chair of the committee, the member for Kavel: this road has been a vexed issue in this part of Adelaide's metropolitan road network for some years. Yes, I do agree that it was a project championed by the member for Davenport and the Liberal Party in the lead-up to the last election. There has to be some credit to the member for Davenport and to the government, in that they are now getting on and delivering what they had committed to the communities of Davenport and the associated parts of the southern suburbs.

Adelaide has had a mixed experience with contraflow roads and, as we have heard from the member for Davenport, it has been working on Flagstaff Road in a pretty suboptimal way for some time. It has created confusion—not just for motorists but apparently for bus drivers as well, I am horrified to hear—and some dangerous circumstances. A little further south from Flagstaff Road we had over 15 years of reversible road or contraflow activity on South Australia's infamous one-way Southern Expressway, which had to be repaired by the former Labor government.

I was advised when I was transport minister that reversing or improving contraflow roads to make sure they ran equally in both directions is extremely expensive and far cheaper if it is delivered right the first time. That was certainly the case with the improvements to Flagstaff Road, which, as both the members for Kavel and Davenport have said, was extensively upgraded in the 1980s but not provided with equal lane capacity in each direction.

It was certainly the case with the Southern Expressway, which I was advised would have cost less than \$70 million extra when it was initially built to make sure that it ran in both directions. When Labor came, the expressway had to be upgraded at a cost of more than \$400 million, so that shows the expense. What is disappointing is that the other contraflow road project has been ignored by the Liberal Party—it is not so much skin off my nose because I was not much of a proponent of this other contraflow road project, which has been cast aside in favour of Flagstaff Road—and that is the contraflow proposal put forward by the member for Unley for Unley Road.

This was something the member for Unley put forward when he was first elected in 2006. The traffic volumes on Flagstaff Road—according to the member for Davenport, 24,000 vehicles a

day, or 23,200 a day according to the transport department, only a couple of hundred vehicles out from that—are actually less than the traffic volumes on Unley Road.

The member for Unley was the transport spokesperson, the shadow minister for transport, in the lead-up to the last state election. It speaks volumes about the member for Unley's standing that a new candidate, the member for Davenport, would successfully get his project committed to by the Liberal Party in the lead-up to the last election when the transport spokesman could not even get his own project in his own electorate funded to introduce the contraflow he sought there—absolutely remarkable.

It shows that there is no substitute for intellect in putting a robust case forward and getting public policy delivered here in South Australia. I take my hat off to the member for Davenport and also to the member for Kavel for prosecuting this. I guess the people who rely on Unley Road will have to wait a little bit longer until they have the benefit of stronger advocacy to get the contraflow that apparently that community has been promised by its sitting MP previously.

Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (11:58): In the brief time remaining, I wish to take this opportunity to thank members for their valuable contributions and insight. The member for Davenport in particular has been a passionate, committed advocate of this project for many years. He is closely familiar with the needs of his community at large, but particularly he has been a strong advocate for necessary improvements to infrastructure in his community. He should be very proud that this project has been brought forward, funded and will now be completed. I also wish to take this opportunity at the close of the hour to thank our committee staff and other members for their contributions.

Motion carried.

Bills

ELECTORAL (ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS AND OTHER MATTERS) AMENDMENT BILL

Committee Stage

In committee.

(Continued from 8 September 2021.)

Clause 36.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: Chair, I draw your attention to the state of the committee.

A quorum having been formed:

The CHAIR: The house is in committee on the Electoral (Electronic Documents and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2021. We are back, bright-eyed and bushy-tailed no doubt, and considering clause 36. The member for Kurna has had three questions thus far. Are there any further questions?

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: We have obviously expressed our concerns about clause 36 and the change to having this decision being made around inaccurate or misleading information that is being advertised during this period. This is quite a significant change from having the Electoral Commissioner making a decision on this to its now going to the realm of SACAT.

I have had extensive experience with SACAT. As the former minister for social housing, we would often have to refer tenants who were not behaving correctly—in the worst-case scenario for them to be evicted, and it was a very long and very slow process. Even when I came into this house to review the Retirement Villages Act and we added SACAT into the responsible area to be able to mediate and make decisions about the resale or the reselling of the licence to occupy, there were concerns about the timeliness and the ability of SACAT to deliver and to deal with this issue.

In many instances, we know that it is about being efficient and being able to turn around concerns about inaccurate information very quickly during an election campaign. So we remain very concerned about whether SACAT is the right body to do so. My question is: given that often you will need a decision within less than 24 hours, what percentage of decisions are currently made in less than 24 hours in SACAT?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I do not have that information before me. They do literally thousands of applications and, as the member has quite rightly pointed out, they have a heavy load

of responsibility in relation to residential tenancy matters, guardianship matters and a number of other jurisdictions that over the years have been transferred by the former government—and us, I think, with a couple having gone by us—to SACAT and from the District Court and/or the Supreme Court.

So, yes, they have a busy workload but, as I indicated yesterday quite late in the night, and it may not have been immediately to the attention of the member when I was outlining this, it is agreed that the nature of the applications that would be sought to be dealt with under the Electoral Act do require prompt attention.

There is an expectation that the procedure would need to be heard urgently, maybe within hours, and at the moment the overload with the Electoral Commissioner is such in elections that he has outlined in his report all the challenges of even having that provision at all and that there has been an appetite by the political parties that in South Australia, unique as it is, we actually keep it. It is a mechanism by which we can keep some level of integrity during election campaigns. It is seen to be worthy of retention—I have not had an indication from all other minor parties—by the major parties, so we need to be able to work within an envelope.

I have had a meeting with Justice Judy Hughes, who is the head of SACAT, to outline her views in relation to the accommodation of expedited matters and she has indicated that she is a presiding president. She is a Supreme Court judge, but she is the President of SACAT, and dedicated magistrates would be the parties that would need to be allocated for the resource during election campaigns to provide that prompt resolution of matters—enforcement—which we canvassed late last night, including retractions and so forth.

That is the very nature of needing to do that in the situation we are in now with the electronic transmission of information. If it is false and misleading, and there is an unfair disadvantage or advantage to our party, then of course it needs to be expedited and dealt with promptly—absolutely. In short, they are up for the task. She has advised me that she has alerted the Chief Magistrate, because some of her magistrates are dedicated magistrates that sit within SACAT responsibilities for the services that SACAT provide, and so I suppose we just have to wait and see whether there is going to be any large number.

I outlined last night that it seems—certainly in the many elections I have been involved in over the last 50 years—that this has now become a very significant area of work, especially in the last week in elections. Last election, I seem to recall a very significant number of complaints against SA-Best, Mr Nick Xenophon. I know that because I was sending a few of them in, as were the other side. I am just letting you know that it is now a significant area of work, as highlighted in the report by the Electoral Commissioner, as to the challenges that they face as a commission in even having such a clause.

As I say, there seems to be no appetite to get rid of the clause, so we need to work out how we can do that. Do we employ particular magistrates? Well, there could be arguments for partisanship. Do we send it to the Supreme Court, of which there is a review already, which is an expensive process that would not provide expedited relief, necessarily. You could apply for injunctive relief, I suppose, but again it is very expensive.

So this was seen, in consultation with both the Electoral Commissioner and SACAT, the recipient body that might take up this challenge for us, to be the proposal. But, absolutely, both the Electoral Commissioner—who is having to deal with these matters, and/or his deputy during elections—and the president are alert to the necessity to have an expedited process and prompt relief or dismissal, whichever should apply.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: I thank the Attorney for her explanation. Obviously, we still remain concerned about the ability and it is not because of the individuals involved.

In the time that I have been in this house, SACAT and the work that they do has increased dramatically. As I said when I did the Retirement Villages Bill back in 2016, SACAT was involved in that industry as a review body for the very first time. In fact, just the other day when we passed in this house the Aquaculture (Tourism Development) Amendment Bill 2021, SACAT is also the review body for that industry. Obviously, it is an industry that has not had anything to do with SACAT in the past, and SACAT has not had any involvement in that industry.

My concern remains about extra funding and resources for SACAT, because we have made a decision that the tribunal is the preferred course to go forward for review across a very wide range of areas. As the Attorney spoke about before, there is the Guardianship Board and I know for housing reviews and many others they have SACAT there. This will be unique for SACAT to have this role, I imagine, once the writs are issued, and to have that resourcing and funding to contribute. My question is: what additional funding and resources are SACAT going to be given?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: At this stage, I have had brief discussions, as I indicated last night, in relation to whether any other resources would be needed. At this stage, the president indicated she would allocate people for the purpose of doing the task, if the parliament determined that it was appropriate that her court take it up. I have indicated to her, of course, if there is anything else that she would need from us in respect of resourcing. To some degree, I think it is fair to summarise her comment on that is that she just does not know whether she gets one or 50 requests to be determined. It would be somewhat relevant to whatever the requirement might be, so it is a bit hard to model that.

I have indicated to her, of course, that is a matter that we would consider. Whether you take that away from the Electoral Commission and give it to SACAT, it is really just transferring one role to another, but they are all matters that we would have a look at. All I am indicating at this stage is she says she will allocate the appropriate personnel. She suggests that the category of persons to undertake that role would best be done by the permanent appointments. They are herself as a judge—she has permanency of appointment—and then as SACAT president, and the defined magistrates who are associated with that jurisdiction. That is a cohort with which she would organise her court to draw from, which I am pleased to hear, because it is at the senior level and I suppose minimises any partisan influence and all those things that could be a challenge.

At this stage, she has not asked for any extra money, but we have had some preliminary discussions if the parliament were to progress along this and it is clear that it would be asked to do a lot more work than perhaps was previously anticipated. Who knows the flavour of what this next election will be and whether there is a contribution from what seemed to be a heightened level of concern about matters by a particular party, which seems to have come and gone in the last election? It may influence that body of work, but it could be another group or more groups that are pushing the envelope even more about what they publish.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: It has been raised many times, Attorney. We are 190-odd days from the next election, so timing is getting closer and closer. Of course, we have raised our concerns that we are actually dealing with this bill at such a very late stage in the election cycle.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman: She's ready to do it.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: I do not doubt her capabilities whatsoever. My concern is this is a dramatic change from having the Electoral Commissioner involved in what is needed to be a very timely, urgent response. We need people who are experienced and we need people who are measured to have a consideration on that. That is our concern over here. At the moment, only the Electoral Commissioner can make rulings. If there are multiple people who sit on SACAT who could be tasked with making these decisions, what guarantee is there that rulings on identical complaints will be consistent?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I do not know whether that is a query about the integrity of those who are officers of SACAT in their capacity to be able to make decisions and be consistent with precedent, but I just point out to the member that the Electoral Commissioner himself does not always deal with these matters. He can delegate those to deputies, and that has happened in the past where there have been determinations by other people in the Electoral Commission, so again the same thing would apply as to the consistency of determination and the distinguishing factors taken into account between different applications that come before each of them, and even consistency between elections, so that applies in any circumstances.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: Just for clarity on that matter, in the current act as it runs, does the Electoral Commissioner have the ability to overrule another decision made within his commission?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: It is a determination of the commissioner. As the commissioner is the highest officer in the commission, I assume that certainly would be the case. Whether he has intervened in decisions of Mr Gully or others who have done this work, I do not know personally and I would not inquire. I would assume, because it is an administrative process at the moment, if there was a difficult case or matter where two heads were better than one, there may even be conferencing between the person tasked with the job and the commissioner. Whether they have done that in the past I do not know. I have not inquired and I do not think it is appropriate that I would.

Am I satisfied that they have been consistent? I can tell you that between different commissions they have not always been consistent, but they are not bound by precedent, which is another good reason for going to a judicial process, where there is some understanding of the significance of that. It is fair to share that the nature of the alleged infringement of false and misleading advertising varies.

I suppose that arguments would be put by one or other of the parties that there is a distinguishing feature of the alleged breach—the nature of it or the extent of it, or the alleged remedy that is being sought, that is, retractions, publication electronically, how quickly that occurs. All those sort of things change because we are now in the electronic world. With decisions under this legislation made by the commission or past commissions, I think it is probably a bit unfair to suggest that they would be bound by some precedent in that regard because they are fairly unique when they each come before them.

Are they qualified to make decisions? These are matters the commission have raised about continuing to undertake this role. They are explaining to us as a parliament that they have this job to do, but that these are all the problems that go with it, including that we are now in the electronic age, and how they are expected to deal with this. It is fairly unique, so this is not the first time the commissioner has brought to the attention of this parliament that we have given them a fairly difficult task to do. It is fairly unique in the country so, ipso facto, get rid of it.

As I keep saying, there has been an appetite from parties here in South Australia that we have a medium by which we can maintain a standard of integrity in relation to the truthfulness and fairness in relation to political advertising, particularly during campaigns. In the absence of there being any move by anyone to repeal this section completely, we need to work out who is going to arbitrate on it.

The CHAIR: I took the most recent question from the member for Ramsay as a point of clarification, otherwise I would have had to deem it four questions, so you are very fortunate, member for Ramsay.

The Hon. Z.L. Bettison: It was a point of clarification.

The CHAIR: It was, and you made that clear. Before I call the member for Hurtle Vale, I will suggest to the Attorney that she move progress, as there is something that we need to do.

Progress reported; committee to sit again.

Personal Explanation

MEMBER FOR WAITE

Mr DULUK (Waite) (12:19): I seek leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

Mr DULUK: The last 20 months have had a significant toll on my family, my health and my wellbeing and I need this to stop. I want to give the parliament the dignity that it deserves and more importantly, I want to focus 100 per cent of my energy and commitment to serving the people of Waite.

Therefore, I announce that I will be running as an Independent at the next state election. I will be running on a platform of true Liberal values, appropriate fiscal management, protecting heritage and preserving our environment. I will continue to work on a timetable to fix local infrastructure, invest in sporting clubs, community groups and our emergency services.

*Bills***ELECTORAL (ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS AND OTHER MATTERS) AMENDMENT BILL***Committee Stage*

In committee (resumed on motion).

Clause 36.

Ms COOK: In respect of matters being heard by SACAT versus the Electoral Commissioner reviewing matters such as we have been discussing, has there been modelling done on the cost of that? Is it more expensive for that to go to a SACAT hearing rather than be heard by the Electoral Commissioner?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Not that I am aware of.

Ms COOK: The minister has described and discussed the process by which this might happen under SACAT. We have discussed our concerns regarding that turnaround time given the pressures SACAT are under. Is the Attorney able to give us some guarantees that these matters will not impinge on the capacity of SACAT to put its full resources and time into the other hearings that represent those vulnerable people in our communities who need that support in a timely fashion and then, on the flip side, also be able to guarantee that the electoral matters will turn around in that 24-hour or thereabouts time frame that is important in an election cycle? That is two in one really.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I cannot give guarantees about the application of either the commission or the SACAT. What I have indicated to you is that the President of SACAT has been informed what the expectation would be to actually undertake this work—that is, adjudication of these matters in the election envelope and the necessity for that to be expedited in a very small time frame. There are some applications currently done by the commission that I think are not expedited already in a timely manner, and that is part of the reason why we get this report saying, 'This is a problem you have left us with and it is difficult for us to actually undertake this work.'

As the member would know if she is familiar with the processes that occur, usually a written notice goes in email to the commission advising that there is an allegation of breach of the misleading advertising provision. Often, that is immediately emailed to the party who is allegedly offending and they have an opportunity to put something in. That can all be done within hours and interim decisions made, including the holding of any further publication until the matter is resolved, and then it is dealt with as quickly as possible.

I do not doubt that the commissioner allocates his resources to do that as quickly as possible. At times, I have thought that has been a bit tardy relative to the urgency of dealing with and the disadvantage that can be given to a victim in that situation. That is just my personal view. He is making the observation about how difficult it is for them to do this work. It is not a new observation. It was very pressing during the last election for the reasons I have pointed out, and those same circumstances may be repeated in the next election.

We are in the electronic era and the concept of saying that I can complain about a poster that is put up on such and such a road and the capacity to manage that, expeditiously remove it and publish retractions—they almost are the easy things that used to happen. Now we are talking about something that goes to the world and can be downloaded, copied and repeated a trillion times.

Yes, I think everyone understands that it needs to be done expeditiously. I assure you that Her Honour understands the importance of that. She has indicated who she thinks within her court ought to be dealing with those matters and that she would accommodate that, or she would await the further advice from the parliament as to a decision on whether we are doing it or not.

Ms HILDYARD: I had a similar question about the turnaround time frame for applications. I think the Attorney has elaborated on some of the matters I wished to canvass in her answer just given to the member for Hurtle Vale's question. I want to explore one thing she mentioned, that is, when an application goes into the tribunal that there is capacity for a particular piece of material to be subject to a request for further distribution, publication, etc., to be put on hold.

Given I am not sure that we do have clarity about the time frames it may take to hear particular matters in detail, and given we know that particularly in those interesting weeks just before an election time frames are incredibly important around these issues, I wonder if there is any capacity the Attorney could speak about for the tribunal to guarantee—I guess I am looking for some surety. Given we are not quite clear about the time frame for a matter to be heard in its entirety, I wonder if the Attorney could give some clarity about the likelihood or whether there is any guarantee that particular matters will be put on hold in terms of the tribunal saying, 'Until this matter is heard, please do not publish this information, this material. Please do not further distribute this material.'

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: All I can add is that I refer the member to section 113, the misleading advertising process which is set out in the act. It sets out the authorisation obligations and then the powers of the Electoral Commissioner at present as to what they can do:

- (a) withdraw the advertisement from further publication;
- (b) publish a retraction in specified terms and a specified manner and form—

etc. This is a process which is—

Ms Hildyard interjecting:

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Well, I am just indicating that there have been circumstances where there is a capacity for them to do that. It is a very general power. In the report, they give an example of where it took days to actually process an application—I think 10 days is the example they give—before there is a resolution of a matter. They are explaining that they really have a workload issue down there, in the sense of managing it, but we are not changing the process. We still want the arbitrator to be able to deal with something expeditiously, which they can do, but this sets out the powers of what they have set out in the actual act.

Ms HILDYARD: In relation to subsection (4)(b), the publishing of a retraction in specified terms and a specified manner and form, I am interested in a general sense about the range of methods of publishing a retraction. I am particularly interested in the scope the Attorney could envisage whereby a particular piece of material has not necessarily been published in the newspaper or whatever but may have been letterboxed. I am wondering if there is capacity for that sort of order or that sort of direction to publish a retraction if that published retraction would include reletterboxing a particular area to withdraw what had previously been letterboxed—if that makes sense.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I can only draw on my memory of these things, but I do recall that there was a letterbox one—possibly not at the last election, but from memory there was a letterbox one in relation to the Housing Trust, and I think there were orders made in relation to that for an area to be reletterboxed.

Importantly, as the member quite rightly points out, it is easy to have an advertisement and then a retraction order of the commissioner in the next available day in the same position, at the same level of the paper, in the same colour and in the same size, or otherwise, whatever the conditions are going to be.

They were easy days. Now the difficulty is that there is such speed in terms of the misdemeanour in relation to the misleading advertising that can be published and distributed and the urgency of doing that. So how does even the arbitrator in this situation determine what is appropriate—in addition to a retraction—for the publication of further material and the distribution of it to try to remedy the error, if in fact a breach has been found? I cannot answer that. I just simply say that they have the power to do these things.

The question of how they do it in the modern day is another matter. However, it is no different from the obligations sometimes in our defamation law where apologies are given and retractions are made. I think the biggest argument found in these things is that there is some defamatory statement, often by newspapers or journalists—I do not mean to pick on them, but they are often at the end of defamation actions—and there is an obligation to publish material in the newspaper.

I can think of one famous one when the former member of this parliament Mr Nick Xenophon, took action against the then Prime Minister, Julia Gillard, and others, and I think there was an obligation at the end of that for the Prime Minister and a number of other parties to publish in national newspapers some retraction or apology for it.

There are quite a lot of, I suppose, helpful precedents set out in the defamation practices and the way in which they enforce these things. These are real and present concerns, and we have a provision in our electoral laws to have some respite from inappropriate behaviour where there is misleading advertising, and as best he can I think that the Electoral Commissioner has been going along with this.

As I say, he has pointed out that it is a very difficult area for them to do this work, and in discussion with him and the SACAT this alternate is proposed. I think that we should be certainly pleased, and if we are going to keep this regime—and I think there is a hard case for it—then let us find the best forum to do it, and I think that the best forum to do it is under president Hughes.

Ms HILDYARD: I now turn to the final paragraph in subsection (5)(a), just over the page. I am just really interested—

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Clause 36?

Ms HILDYARD: Clause 36, yes. Could you please explain the difference between the order of the tribunal not being subject to an application for an internal review under section 70; however, an appeal against an order can be instituted under section 71? I wonder whether you could just outline the difference between those two processes.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I will check that, but I think it relates to the fact that currently under the SACAT format there is an internal review process that applies in relation to some administrative matters—in fact, FOI is one of them I can think of—and there are alternate appeal processes. I will see whether there is anything else I can add to that, but it is to make clear as to how this is to apply.

What happens at SACAT, as some may know, is that they often review decisions. There are processes in courts and tribunals, and there is a difference about whether a review is something heard de novo, whether it has an appeal status, and the like. Tribunals are set up, a bit like our Employment Tribunal—exactly the same model, actually, except that the Employment Tribunal can also sit as an industrial court, and there are different processes they apply. That is: 'an order of the tribunal under subsection (4) may not be the subject of an application for internal review'.

So we are not employing the processes that are otherwise available in a tribunal, which would prolong the matter. We are really transferring responsibility to SACAT with powers to do it in the format that is already under the Electoral Act.

Mr SZAKACS: The contribution I rise on is somewhat unique in this chamber in that I have been personally, during my time at SA Unions as a secretary there, subject to a number of complaints and proceedings under this section. I would like to give some perspective on the current proceedings as well as the potential changes, which will lead to some questions of the Attorney on that.

It is also interesting, not so much that I would agree with the Attorney but that I think we have both drawn the ire and threat of strategic litigation at various times from Nick Xenophon.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:

Mr SZAKACS: Okay, the Attorney has complained about it. I am probably unique then that I have been the subject, as secretary of SA Unions (trading as SA Unions and the old United Trades and Labour Council) on at least six different occasions of that strategic litigation from Nick Xenophon and his various iterations of political parties: the Hon. Nick Xenophon of this parliament and then the Senate. I think currently or formerly on the back of a shopper docket he advertised himself as a lawyer, and potentially as well, at the moment or previously—certainly since he lost his attempt to return to this chamber due to the enormous efforts of the member for Hartley—as a lobbyist for Huawei, which has been of particular interest to security agencies in this country.

My interest in this section is about what it will mean for third parties. We talk, significantly, about political parties—as we should—being subject to this clause and these changes, but my interest is third parties. It may be the Conservation Council, in my case and experience it could be the trade unions, it may be the case that Business SA or the Property Council or others will be, or will likely be, subject to complaints or proceedings under this section and the proposed changes to SACAT.

I have always been incredibly glowing about the work undertaken by the Electoral Commission, the officers of the Electoral Commission and the electoral commissioners themselves regarding the prompt turnaround of complaints, however spurious or otherwise those complaints may be.

I have had the experience of responding to complaints against the organisation I led, SA Unions, from Nick Xenophon in this case—in fact, it has only ever been Nick Xenophon I have had to respond to complaints from. I have accused a couple of other people on the other side of this chamber of having glass jaws from time to time, but no-one in my trade union, labour movement or political experience has had a glass jaw like Nick Xenophon himself. It is quite extraordinary at times.

From memory, Nick Xenophon's first complaint to the Electoral Commission—at the time Ms Kay Mousley was the commissioner—was around the position on penalty rates of the Nick Xenophon party. I use that name colloquially. I am sorry, Chairman, but I cannot keep track of how many different names this party has had from time to time.

It was quite extraordinary. I remember the advertising. It was television advertising that was subject to the complaint. It was radio advertising that was subject to the complaint. It would be no surprise to anybody in this chamber that working people, through their membership of trade unions, felt very strongly about protecting penalty rates and, therefore, found ways to pull together significant amounts of money to pay for advertising. No advertising is cheap. In country papers it is a little bit cheaper, but certainly in metropolitan papers it is anywhere between \$25,000, to \$35,000 for a full page; it certainly adds up. We ran paid advertising.

Also subject to the complaints, which the Electoral Commissioner was asked to hear, were tweets put out by SA Unions that were, of course, authorised by me as the elected secretary. Phone calls were also put out, authorised by me. I cannot recall whether it was an extraordinary member of one of our trade unions, affiliate unions, who voiced the phone calls or whether it was another person, but at the heart of these claims and complaints by Nick Xenophon was the fact that we were misrepresenting their position, his position, or their party's position on their opposition to penalty rates.

The reason I speak about this is the concern that I have about the spurious nature of these complaints about the work that the trade unions and I were doing on various subject matters, complaints that were forthcoming from Nick Xenophon from effectively 2014 through to about 2018. What would happen under the new regime that the Attorney and government propose around moving matters from the commission to the SACAT?

The subject matter that was first complained about was penalty rates. The particular complaint was in relation to Nick Xenophon's dogged opposition and attempts to remove penalty rates from weekend work for various cohorts of workers. We did one of the greatest things that you can do in political advertising, and that is to use the quotes, use the truth, as a way to tell a story.

There are all sorts of creative enterprises used with political advertising. Some of it is humorous, some of it is pretty hard-hitting, but nothing quite comes home as much as using the actual stated, published policy of a political party to remind people what they stand for. In this case, it was to remind voters, particularly voters who had an interest in fairness at work, that Nick Xenophon wanted to abolish penalty rates for retail workers on Saturdays, weekends, and reduce it on public holidays—but a complete abolition for Saturdays. That was nature of the complaint.

I recall that a significant amount of work was put in by me, one of my advisers and one of my officers to respond to that. My significant concern is that if that same nature of complaint and dispute is then mitigated to a much more formal process—being the SACAT—what would that mean for the ability of working people, a cohort of small business owners, the Property Council or even large industry that is organised by the AI Group, for example?

What would it mean for them to need to respond to these matters in a much more formal and litigious way when enterprising lawyers-cum-politicians like Nick Xenophon seek to exploit that through the democratic processes we have? I am interested—seeing the Attorney has raised her own interface with some of the tactics otherwise used by these other third parties or newer political parties that enter the space—how these proposed changes would affect, impact or curtail the ability of third parties outside registered political parties to participate in the political process through their means of political advertising.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: The provisions under part 10 which relate to the scrutiny in various ways, including advertising, are fairly prescriptive and set out a whole lot of offences, and it is not confined just to candidates or political parties. In relation to advertising, if I go back to the provision for offences on misleading advertising, and I will quickly find that, it says:

113—Misleading advertising

- (1) This section applies to advertisements published by any means (including radio or television).
- (2) A person who authorises, causes or permits the publication of an electoral advertisement—

and there are definitions for that. That may be by a union or a third party—

...is guilty of an offence if the advertisement contains a statement purporting to be a statement of fact that is inaccurate and misleading to a material extent.

I have my adviser here and she tells me that persons other than a political party, but someone who has authorised this, can still be the subject of this. It sounds as though the member has authorised things in his previous role—was it as secretary of SA Unions?

Mr Szakacs: Yes.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —and therefore has been in a hotspot, a bit like directors of political parties. I hasten to add that under subsection (3) there are a couple of defences you can have just in case you need it again for when you may be exempt from that.

In any event, it sets out a process, and that model is what would still be utilised for the purposes of the scrutiny by the SACAT. I was going to refer to this later, but there is also a provision in this whole section about how the evidence is called, etc., but it also sets out the injunctive power in section 132, which other members have also asked about, for immediate relief in these circumstances.

I have quite a bit of information about how that applies, but I just make the point that it is an area which has been considered and which would enable there to be continued access to and relief provided by way of injunction for any noncompliance under this division.

Mr SZAKACS: Thanks, Attorney. Chairman, I am sure you were racking your brain around the name of the political party at the time: it was the X-Team.

The CHAIR: It is no wonder we did not remember.

Mr SZAKACS: That is right—and may we not remember—one of the iterations. I also thank you, Attorney, for your answer and your adviser as well. In addition to the matters around penalty rates, I should clarify. I think I spoke broadly around Nick Xenophon and the X-Team's opposition and dislike for penalty rates so, to be entirely forthcoming with this house, I probably should actually read the quote so that I will not be in any position to have misrepresented their position. The quote, directly taken from the policy of the X-Team, was:

Penalty rates in the retail and hospitality sectors for casual and part-time workers in small businesses have cost thousands of jobs and need to be changed. For small businesses with fewer than 20 full-time equivalent employees, penalty rates shouldn't apply during normal trading hours on weekends.

I think I may have said Saturday but, from memory, of course it was Sunday that Nick Xenophon wanted to cut the pay of low-paid retail and hospitality workers as well.

There were other matters that we as a collective of working people, as an arm of the labour movement, spoke about as well around this that was the subject of complaints to the Electoral Commissioner. I have not spoken about the Australian Electoral Commission, but of course I would not be surprised that if I was the subject of complaints here I was also the subject of various complaints federally because, of course, Nick Xenophon jumped around between the state and federal arena a little bit.

The matters of general complaint were also the quite extraordinary allegations and investigative work that I think it was Michael Owen, then at *The Australian*, undertook in finding some of Nick Xenophon's links to questionable student accommodation here in South Australia. Certainly not my words, but the words of Michael Owen were 'slum lord' or I think rebutting allegations of being a slum lord were used. We of course looked into that and discussed with our members—all 180,000

trade union members in South Australia—just exactly what that meant for them and their access to safe and secure housing.

There was also the quite extraordinary decisions taken in the federal parliament around support for the Star Chamber aspects, the interrogation aspects, the lack of right to silence aspects of the Australian Building and Construction Commission taken by Nick Xenophon, now Huawei lobbyist. They were the subject of those disputes. Cause notices have also been issued at various times, but it is probably not surprising that they were not followed through with because a significant aspect of our defamation laws is truth as a defence. When truth is on your side, you know that you can hold your head high. I think, Chairman, it is probably fair to take that as a comment rather than as a question.

The committee divided on clause:

Ayes 24
Noes 20
Majority 4

AYES

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

NOES

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

PAIRS

Teague, J.B.	Gee, J.P.
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Clause thus passed.

Progress reported; committee to sit again.

Sitting suspended from 12:59 until 14:00.

Petitions

ANZAC HIGHWAY, GLANDORE

Ms STINSON (Badcoe): Presented a petition signed by 144 residents of South Australia requesting the house to urge the government to stick to its promise of a three-storey building height limit along Anzac Highway at Glandore, not up to eight storeys.

Parliamentary Procedure

ANSWERS TABLED

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

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Speaker—

Local Government Annual Report 2021-21—Peterborough, District Council of

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

Civil and Administrative Tribunal, South Australian—Annual Report 2020-21
Statutory Report on the Review of the Labour Hire Licensing Act 2017

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

Children and Young People in State Care in South Australian Government Schools
2010- 2020

By the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development (Hon. D.K.B. Basham)—

Industry Board of South Australia—Phylloxera and Grape (trading as Vinehealth
Australia)—Annual Report 2020-21
Pastoral Board—Annual Report 2020-21

*Ministerial Statement***SPORT SA CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER COMPLAINTS**

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:01): I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: I advise the house that the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment, Ms Erma Ranieri, has reported to me following an investigation I asked her to initiate into complaints about the conduct of the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing and his Chief of Staff, Ms Larissa Mallinson.

To a lesser extent, the complaints also related to Ms Kylie Taylor, Chief Executive of the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing. The complaints were made by Ms Leah Cassidy, Chief Executive Officer of Sport SA. They arose from a meeting between the minister, his Chief of Staff, Ms Cassidy, and the Hon. Michael Wright, President of Sport SA, held at Parliament House on 24 June to discuss the concerns of Sport SA's membership about the Partnerships Program introduced this year.

Ms Cassidy alleged that she had been subjected to 'intimidatory behaviour and/or other inappropriate comments or behaviour' by the minister and Ms Mallinson during their meeting. Further, Ms Cassidy complained that on 22 July she was telephoned by Ms Taylor and asked not to attend a virtual meeting later that day between the minister, the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing and representatives of state sporting bodies and peak associations to update them on COVID-19 and ramifications for the sporting industry.

The Commissioner for Public Sector Employment commissioned Mr Andrew Hill, a fellow of the Australian Institute of Professional Investigators, to undertake an independent investigation into the complaints of Ms Cassidy. Mr Hill conducted interviews with Ms Cassidy, Mr Wright, Ms Taylor, Ms Mallinson, the minister and also Mr Steve Baldas, an adviser to the minister, who was present for part of the meeting on 24 June.

Based on the investigation of Mr Hill, Ms Ranieri has reported to me about the meeting that gave rise to the complaints of Ms Cassidy. In preparing her recommendations to me, Ms Ranieri was assisted by legal advice from the Acting Crown Solicitor. Ms Ranieri has reported to me, and I quote:

Whilst it is clear there was a tense atmosphere in the meeting and that opposing views were aired, there is no evidence to suggest that anything which took place in that meeting amounted to behaviour that could properly be characterised as bullying or intimidatory behaviour, as has been alleged by Ms Cassidy.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: It continues:

Rather, there was some strong criticism or accusations put forward by Ms Cassidy and Mr Wright and some strong responses provided by the Minister and Ms Mallinson.

Ms Ranieri has also advised of this meeting, and I quote:

Based on the available evidence and having regard to the context of the meeting, my recommendation is that I do not consider there to be a reasonable or proper basis for allegations of misconduct to be put to Ms Mallinson in relation to her conduct in the meeting.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens is called to order and warned.

Mr Brown interjecting:

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

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: In relation to the virtual meeting held on 22 July, the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment has reported that, at the request of Ms Mallinson, Ms Taylor contacted Ms Cassidy to advise that as she had made an allegation of bullying, intimidation and harassment against the minister that had not been resolved, it would be in everyone's best interest if Ms Cassidy did not attend the meeting. Instead, Ms Taylor invited Sport SA to send an alternative representative. Ms Ranieri has reported to me on this matter—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier will resume his seat for a moment. The member for West Torrens is warned for a second time and the member for Lee is called to order. Members on my left are reminded that interjection in the course of a ministerial statement is disorderly and will not be tolerated. The Premier is making a ministerial statement by leave of the house. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Ms Ranieri has reported to me on this matter as follows, and I quote:

I do not consider there to be a reasonable or proper basis for allegations of misconduct to be put to Ms Taylor or Ms Mallinson in relation to this issue. Rather, it appears reasonably open to conclude that Ms Taylor and Ms Mallinson reasonably believed that they were acting in everyone's best interests by requesting Ms Cassidy not attend the meeting given her complaints were yet to be investigated or resolved.

The powers the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment has to investigate the conduct of public sector employees do not extend to ministerial conduct. Accordingly, while some of the commissioner's factual findings refer to the minister, the Acting Crown Solicitor yesterday provided advice directly to me in respect of the minister and any potential breach of the Ministerial Code of Conduct. Based on her consideration of Mr Hill's investigation of the minister's meeting with Sport SA, the Acting Crown Solicitor has advised me that I am able to form the view that the minister did not engage in conduct in breach of the Ministerial Code of Conduct. It is not so far publicly known—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —that it was Mr Wright who raised the Ministerial Code of Conduct at the meeting with the minister on 24 June. Mr Wright had with him at the meeting a copy of the code and quoted to the minister sections 2.4 and 2.5. Clause 2.4 deals with honesty. Clause 2.5 deals with fairness and diligence in decision-making. Mr Wright was a Labor member of this house between October 1997 and March 2014. His parliamentary service included almost nine years as a minister. Given this parliamentary and ministerial experience, Mr Wright could not have been unmindful of the fact that his action would provoke a response.

Sport SA came to the meeting with the minister to raise the concerns of its members about the Partnerships Program. Sport SA has the right to do that but not to accuse the minister of dishonesty. The Partnerships Program was implemented after 18 months of wide-reaching consultation with the sport and recreation sector. It was done very transparently, with the minister publicly releasing program guidelines to invite applications for the grants. The grant applications were submitted to the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing. A public document issued by the minister explained the grant assessment process.

The Funding Assessment Committee comprised public servants from the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing. The minister agreed with and signed off on the recommendations of the committee. Given the manner in which the Partnerships Program was implemented, and the very strong support my government has provided to recreation and sport in many other ways, I believe the minister was entitled to respond strongly to the suggestion of dishonesty made by the President of Sport SA.

Following the advice I have now received about this matter, I invite Mr Wright to withdraw any suggestion of dishonesty on the part of the minister. I believe it is in the interests of our recreation and sport sector that we move on from these events. Accordingly, I have also accepted the advice of Ms Ranieri and the Acting Crown Solicitor to invite Ms Cassidy, Mr Wright, the minister and Ms Mallinson to participate in some form of mediation or conciliation with a view to repairing and improving their working relationship going forward.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: How pathetic. You get what you pay for.

The SPEAKER: The member for Lee is warned.

Members interjecting:

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

PIONEERING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (14:10): With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I rise today to inform the house about two programs which have been introduced to assist victim survivors of domestic and family violence.

The first initiative is the Supporting Parents' and Children's Emotions program (SPACE). This is a new program that commenced operation on 9 August this year. The SPACE program is funded by our government from the Justice Rehabilitation Fund and is being delivered through the Women's and Children's Health Network.

The program provides early intervention support to young parents aged between 12 and 25 years who experience or perpetrate domestic and family violence. We know that children who witness domestic and family violence learn problematic relationship behaviours. They are then more likely to be involved in violent relationships later in life.

Participants in the SPACE program are young parents who have been provided with intensive therapeutic counselling focusing on understanding the impacts of the parents' violence on their children and working with participants to achieve behaviour change and stop the cycle of intergenerational violence. This program is being delivered by two highly skilled and experienced social workers who have been recruited specifically for this program, and one of these workers also identifies as Aboriginal.

The SPACE program is already receiving referrals, and in the first month there have been 15 new referrals to the one-on-one therapeutic counselling component of the service. Staff have also provided seven targeted education sessions to parents and children focusing on the impacts of violence, and already 40 young parents and 20 children have been the benefit of this program.

Young parents who are victim survivors and/or perpetrators of domestic violence previously fell within a service delivery gap. This gap was identified as an opportunity to intervene early and prevent further trauma. The SPACE program is just another example of the government's investment in preventative measures to protect the community.

The second initiative I wish to highlight is the Women's Domestic Violence Court Assistance Service. The Women's Domestic Violence Court Assistance Service is a specialist legal service to assist victim survivors apply for intervention orders, or deal with the residential tenancy issues arising from abusive relationships. The Legal Services Commission was awarded the contract to run the service back in 2019, with the Marshall Liberal government contributing over \$2 million in funding over four years.

Navigating the justice system can be daunting for many, especially those who are vulnerable. This free and confidential service provides women in need with expert legal advice, which in turn empowers and protects them. Over the past two years, the service has assisted more than 1,500 South Australian victim survivors of domestic violence. This is an extraordinary number of women assisted, and I was pleased to attend at a recent Law Society of SA legal professional dinner to see the Women's Domestic Violence Court Assistance Service was awarded the coveted 2021 Justice Award.

The program is worthy of receiving the statewide recognition, and I want to take this opportunity to thank all the lawyers and support staff who work at the service and help guide and protect domestic violence victims through our court systems.

Parliamentary Committees

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Ms LUETHEN (King) (14:14): I bring up the eighth report of the committee, entitled Kangaroo Island Fact-Finding Visit 15-16 June 2021.

Report received and ordered to be published.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Mr CREGAN (Kavel) (14:15): I bring up the 163rd report of the committee, entitled Carrick Hill Pavilion Visitor Centre Project.

Report received and ordered to be published.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE STATUTES AMENDMENT (ANIMAL WELFARE REFORMS) BILL

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (14:16): I bring up the report of the committee, together with the minutes of the proceedings and evidence.

Report received and ordered to be published.

Question Time

PARLIAMENT HOUSE STAFFERS

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:16): My question is to the Premier. What action has the Premier taken to address the extraordinary and shocking allegations against Liberal staffers that have been subject to public speculation in the last 24 hours?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:17): I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his question. I think he hit the nail on the head when he referred to it as speculation. What we do know is that there was a court case recently, which has concluded, following events which occurred on 13 December 2019. Everybody can read that judgement. We know that the equal opportunity commissioner—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —came into this workplace and conducted an audit. She found that the practices here were substandard. I note that they were presided over by those opposite for 16 years. But, under my government, the equal opportunity commissioner came in and did an audit.

She has made recommendations to the government and to the parliament. Many of those recommendations have already been put into place and some of them are in train.

We accept that there were matters that needed to be addressed—the practices in this place, the processes in this place. The opportunities for complaint and pathways to complaint and resolution were not adequate. I believe that they are going forward because of the recommendations of that report. There are other pathways if people choose to make formal complaints regarding matters on that evening.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Lee is warned for a second time. The member for Playford is warned.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE STAFFERS

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:18): My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier know who the Liberal staffer is who allegedly urinated in the corner of an MP's office and exposed himself to others and whether or not that person is still working in this building?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:19): No.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE STAFFERS

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:19): My question is to the Premier. Is the Premier concerned at the prospect that a current Liberal staffer could be working in this building despite the fact that they have urinated in the corner of someone's office and exposed themselves completely inappropriately?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:19): The leader makes an assertion based upon an assertion that was made in the other place yesterday afternoon.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: That was an assertion that was made. I am not in receipt of any formal complaint directed to me. There are pathways that exist if people wish to make a complaint with regard to this type of behaviour. I am not going to be making assumptions based upon unsubstantiated allegations made in the parliament. Imagine if I responded to everything that the member for West Torrens alleged—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Kurna!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —here under privilege in this parliament? The member for West Torrens is constantly making assertions. Imagine if I jumped to every single one of the suggestions that he made—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —we would never achieve anything as a government. There are processes, there are pathways that are in place—

Mr Boyer interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Wright!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —and if people would like to make a formal complaint, I suggest they take up that opportunity.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE STAFFERS

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:20): My question is to the Premier. Why did the Premier actively encourage South Australians to observe the allegations that were being made in the other place yesterday if he thought they had no credibility or merit whatsoever?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Deputy Premier.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Deputy Premier will resume her seat. The member for Wright is called to order. The member for Lee will leave for 15 minutes in accordance with standing order—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: In silence.

The honourable member for Lee having withdrawn from the chamber:

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (14:21): Can I indicate to the house, in considering the statement made by the Hon. Tammy Franks yesterday in the other place, that a number of these issues that were recounted are actually already detailed in the report of the acting equal opportunity commissioner in February this year.

I put them into three categories of areas of complaint. In her report, the review of sexual harassment in the South Australian parliament relates to the behaviour of staff and MPs as to their inappropriate comments in relation to women. I put them in a general category because there are a number of them traversed in her report that appear to overlap with some of the matters raised by the Hon. Tammy Franks.

In respect of the alleged sexual conduct, what I would call the lewd behaviour, sexual gestures in a workplace, they are again traversed in relation to two survey recipients who have been reported in Ms Strickland's report, and that includes the allegation of a male exposing himself. This is not a new matter that has been raised, but one which the Hon. Tammy Franks has outlined in her position. Some of that material she has not witnessed, she says, but has been reported to her, which she has outlined.

The other is an area that has been fairly much overlooked to date and that is her reporting to this parliament of her concern about remarks that she has received being of a racist nature. This should not be overlooked. This is a significant aspect of the report and I remind members when they are looking at these reports that, whilst there might be some media interest, in this instance, in sexual harassment matters, there had been this very important logging of concerns and her recommendations in relation to this area.

Again, the Hon. Tammy Franks touched on some of these matters in her outline. In fact, I think she quotes some of the aspects of the report. Finally, in relation—

The SPEAKER: The Deputy Premier will resume her seat for a moment. I understand the leader rises on a point of order.

Mr MALINAUSKAS: I do, Mr Speaker, standing order 98: my question to the Premier was rather specific. It went to the Premier's motives to refer South Australians to the Hon. Tammy Franks' remarks if he didn't believe they had substance or merit. I did not ask a question regarding the Equal Opportunity Commission report but, rather, the Premier's motives for his actions.

The SPEAKER: On the point of order, the Minister for Education.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: A question relating to motives invites the broadest possible response at any time. That point of order was utterly bogus.

The SPEAKER: I do just remind members that it is open for any member of the government to take the question. The question was directed to the subject matter of a contribution in another place. The Deputy Premier is addressing the question. The Deputy Premier has the call.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: The final area is the consideration by Ms Strickland in her report—and I refer members to pages 121 and 122 specifically—of the sexual harassment case study which, unsurprisingly, relates to the subject matter Ms Franks raised in relation to the allegations made by Ms Bonaros, and she has outlined the same issues and, I think, again directly quoted that report. There was a lot in Ms Franks' contribution yesterday which is already covered by the equal opportunity report. I bring members' attention to that. I would urge members—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Elizabeth!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —to refresh their memory in relation to what this report says because it has important recommendations in it. As a government, I am proud to say we have acted. We have introduced legislation to this parliament to bring both members of parliament and judges to account and be the subject of that process. There is a further bill to come to tidy up some aspects which she has recommended and we are progressing that as a process matter. Of course, members would be aware of the joint parliamentary committee—some of which are members from this parliament—to investigate some decisions, including code of conduct, by the parliament.

The SPEAKER: Order! The time for answering the question has expired.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE STAFFERS

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:26): My question is to the Premier, representing the Treasurer. The Premier, having been in receipt of the allegations made yesterday by the Hon. Tammy Franks and also being in receipt of the Equal Opportunity Commission report, specific references the Attorney-General just made, what action is he taking to ensure that the Liberal Party staffer, who is alleged to have urinated within this workplace and exposed themselves completely inappropriately, is no longer working here?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:27): I just refer the leader to my previous comments. I have had no formal advice—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —with regard—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, the leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —to this matter. There has been no formal complaint. There are processes if people come forward. But, as the Deputy Premier has I think very eloquently outlined to the house, this government has taken action. This government got the Acting equal opportunity commissioner to come in and look at the practices that were presided over by those opposite for 16 years.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader is called to order.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The Leader of the Opposition asks: what have you done? Well, has he been asleep this entire time? Asleep?

Members interjecting:

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

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: You have sat through the debates in this house and you have sat through the reports to this house. You're asleep at the wheel because—

Members interjecting:

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

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —you're a weak, weak leader. We have taken action in this house.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier will resume his seat.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: We were the ones who got the acting equal opportunity commissioner in—

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat for a moment.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —to review the practices here. We were the ones—

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat. The member for Playford will leave for 30 minutes in accordance with standing order 137A.

The honourable member for Playford having withdrawn from the chamber:

The SPEAKER: I remind all members that it is disorderly to interject in the course of an answer. The Premier has the call. He is entitled to be heard in silence.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The Leader of the Opposition sits there barking during an answer which is being provided in his question time to questions that he asks, saying, 'What have you done?' This is an outrageous allegation that we haven't done anything. We have taken more action in this area of addressing these issues associated with the completely and utterly unacceptable—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The deputy leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —practices that existed here and, by the way, within the judiciary. There were only two occupations—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Kurna!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —in the state which were exempt—politicians in this place and the judiciary—and we are the ones who have actually addressed it. So that's what we have done. The question is—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —what did the Leader of the Opposition do when he was in the cabinet? What did the previous government do? This is not an issue that has really only existed in the last three years. There have been issues regarding practices in this Parliament House for a long period of time.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, the leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: That was the finding of the acting equal opportunity commissioner. I invite the Leader of the Opposition, rather than shout during question time, to read the report, get a briefing, find out what's going on.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Before I call the deputy leader, who I understand is seeking the call, as opposed to rising on a point of order—

Dr CLOSE: Seeking the call.

The SPEAKER: —I call to order the deputy leader and I warn the member for Kurna. I just remind all members on my left and on my right of the importance of maintaining order in the course of both the question and the answer. The deputy leader is entitled to be heard in silence. The deputy leader has the call.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE STAFFERS

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:30): My question is to the Premier. Has the Premier asked the Hon. Tammy Franks or made any other inquiry to seek to identify the Liberal staffer who is alleged to have undertaken the activity already described?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:30): I thank the Deputy Leader of the Opposition for her question. Of course, the allegation which was made in the parliament yesterday in the other place describes a disgusting and disgraceful act and we abhor that, but the simple fact is there has been no formal complaint. I have no information with regard—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —to this matter whatsoever. There are courses if somebody is prepared to come forward, but I am not going to be conducting—

The Hon. Z.L. Bettison interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Ramsay!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —a personal investigation into this matter. It would be completely and utterly inappropriate to do.

Members interjecting:

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

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The sort of investigation that should be underway by leaders of parliamentary teams is the investigation that the Leader of the Opposition should be making at the moment into activities that have gone on for a long period of time within the electorate offices of his members. We have seen a large number of media reports with regard to these matters and the simple fact of the matter is we have had nothing from the Leader of the Opposition whatsoever.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: This is a real test of leadership.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Hurtle Vale!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: He is quite happy to have the member for West Torrens come in and protect—

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Here he goes again! Here he is—right on cue!

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

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 98: the Premier is now debating the answer, rather than answering the substance of the question.

The SPEAKER: I uphold the point of order. The Premier is drawn to the substance of the question of the deputy leader. The Premier has the call. The Premier has completed his answer.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE END OF YEAR FUNCTIONS

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:31): My question is to the Minister for Police. Did the Minister for Police in his capacity as the former Speaker receive any formal complaints from any staff regarding some of the allegations around the Liberal Party Christmas party?

The SPEAKER: Just before that is progressed, I think I understand the question correctly. It is directed to the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services in his former capacity.

Mr MALINAUSKAS: Yes.

The SPEAKER: In that case, I just intervene at that point—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my right and members on my left! The question is out of order pursuant to standing order 96.

SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Mr MURRAY (Davenport) (14:32): My question is to the Minister for Education. Can the minister advise the house how the Marshall Liberal government is addressing urgent capital works across a range of government schools in the southern suburbs of Adelaide, including in my electorate?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:33): I thank the member for Davenport for this question. I know that he is very passionate about education in the southern suburbs, of course, in his own electorate. The member for Davenport is a member of the governing council at the Aberfoyle Park High School, so he would be aware, for a start, of the very significant capital works that are underway at Aberfoyle Park High School, a substantial redevelopment of a series of sections of the school, including performing arts centres.

The administration space is being completely upgraded—contemporary learning spaces, refurbishment of existing buildings, including some, to say it kindly, that were not fitting contemporary educational standards. But now, as of the beginning of next year, not only has the size of the school expanded to support year 7s and population growth, we will see world-class facilities serving the needs of students in the Aberfoyle Park area and around, and it is going to be a very exciting time for the school.

It is a very exciting time for that school for many reasons. Not only is there a spectacular capital works redevelopment underway at Aberfoyle Park High School, which the students, staff and the community are very excited about, but the school—led by Marion Coady, an outstanding educational leader, formerly of Blackwood High School, a very strong career—has just been given accreditation, along with Unley High School and Norwood Morialta High School, previously Roma Mitchell last year and previously Glenunga, to deliver the International Baccalaureate Diploma next year. It's a very significant achievement.

The International Baccalaureate Organization requires a very high level of practice to be able to deliver that. Aberfoyle Park High School, along with those other schools I have mentioned, has demonstrated to the International Baccalaureate Organization that it is at that level because of the commitment made by this government on coming to office to support schools, four new public schools to be able to offer that diploma, to give more options to students, particularly those keen on languages or higher level academic qualifications or indeed those who might travel internationally.

Students in the Aberfoyle Park area in the southern suburbs now have a direct pathway through the public education system, and they have already taken enrolments for next year, which is tremendous. Around the southern suburbs, there are schools that have completed their building works, there are building works underway and there are some about to get started. Reynella East College I was talking to the member for Hurtle Vale recently about, who was reporting to me on how spectacular that gymnasium is looking. That project is not far away from completion.

I was talking to the member for Hurtle Vale, in fact, at the opening of the spectacular new facilities at Wirreanda Secondary School, where the Premier visited and wished that he was indeed going back to school so that he could experience world-class facilities like that while in a secondary school environment. Those students, including the year 7s who have been at that school for a year and half in that pilot site, are enjoying those very much.

Schools around the south—Blackwood, Seaford, Christies Beach High School and Southern Vocational College, Willunga High School, Aldinga B-6, the new Aldinga Payinthe College, Brighton Secondary School, Brighton Primary School, the Hallett Cove School—have all had

dramatic improvements as a result of investments by this government, part of a \$1.4 billion investment, more than a hundred upgrades, five new schools, four starting next year, one in the following year.

Can I also say—I am sure the member for Davenport will be keen to hear it, although the member for Hurtle Vale and the Minister for Environment even more so—in this year's budget, I remind members, we have invested \$27 million in two new projects, effectively rebuilding schools with dramatically outdated facilities at Pimpala Primary School and the Seaview Downs Primary School. They are long overdue investments, but investments this government is making to ensure that students in the southern suburbs and across South Australia get access to world-class facilities and a world-class education thanks to the Marshall Liberal government.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE END OF YEAR FUNCTIONS

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:37): My question is to the Deputy Premier. Did the Deputy Premier receive complaints from any Liberal staffers about alleged sexual harassment at the Liberal Party Christmas party in 2019? With your leave, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Dr CLOSE: Yesterday, it was alleged that complaints were made to senior leadership people in the Liberal Party.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:37): I am aware that confidential conversations regarding matters on 13 December 2019 have been made, but I intend for them to be kept confidential. That was the wish of the people—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —that they—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Deputy leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: No, I am aware that there have been confidential conversations regarding the matters there, but there is certainly no formal complaint that I have directly received on this matter.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

PARLIAMENT HOUSE STAFFERS

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:38): My question is to the Premier. Given the Premier is aware of private conversations regarding the allegations referred to yesterday, why isn't the Premier taking action? What more does the Premier need to investigate the fact that one of his staffers is alleged to have urinated in a room and exposed themselves completely inappropriately?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (14:38): Firstly, can I just indicate that there has been reference in a speech yesterday by the Hon. Tammy Franks about a staffer—they weren't identified as a Liberal staffer, I might say, but nevertheless, a staffer—who undertook very tawdry behaviour, allegedly, in relation to a video, which the Hon. Ms Franks had not viewed, but which she had heard about. She goes on then to discuss other rumours in the contribution that she made.

When the acting equal opportunity commissioner invited all members, including staff, to present to her, of course, she invited that survey of invitation to be on a confidential basis. I think eight or nine formal submissions were received and she has outlined these significantly in this speech. But she has made it also very clear that they would be confidential matters.

I think it's important to remember, and I have said this to the house before, if someone feels they are a victim in a circumstance—whether it's a criminal matter, in which case they have an option to go to the police, or whether they are a victim of racial discriminatory behaviour, which is highlighted in this report, or sexual harassment, which is highlighted in this report—there is a process they can undertake on a confidential basis. So confidential is it, I just remind members, that the Equal Opportunity Act requires that even the lodgement of a complaint in relation to that is not something that the commissioner can publish. That is, they can't say whether they have even received a complaint or not, so that's how strict the law is in relation to that.

So it is important, as has occurred, that is, that political parties—and again, I have written to political parties on this matter—ensure that they have as best as they can a process of a complaints procedure by means upon which they will provide support to people who feel aggrieved in any of these areas. I am certainly satisfied, and the Premier has made statements on this, that the Liberal Party of Australia (SA Division) is certainly up to speed with that, and I think formally since the beginning of last year has had formal practices, and I understand the Australian Labor Party have progressed in that regard. I haven't seen their practices but I understand they have, and it's important that they do. I have also invited them to consider to the parliamentary committee that that be included.

But I think it's important to understand here that it is entirely a matter for the person who is aggrieved in this situation to have the privilege of confidentiality in relation to these matters. If he or she or any of the complainants here—that is, in this report or indeed by Ms Franks—wish to take this further, then again I advise the parliament I am happy to try to assist that. I think even you did, sir, in the statement you made earlier in the week about options that may be taken up. That is the purview of the victims.

We have heard from Ms Franks. She has outlined what she has heard and she believes there is some video and there are some rumours out there. It's absolutely fine for her to tell the parliament that. A number of these matters are already covered in this report and the acting equal opportunity commissioner has been very clear in her recommendations which I indicate we are taking up.

MAIN NORTH ROAD-NOTTAGE TERRACE INTERSECTION

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (14:42): My question is to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Can the minister please update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is busting congestion through the Main North Road and Nottage Terrace intersection upgrade?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order, sir.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:42): I thank the—

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

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 97: questions should not involve argument. 'Congestion busting' is argument.

The SPEAKER: I uphold the point of order. I will give the member for Newland an opportunity to rephrase the question.

Dr HARVEY: My question is to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Can the minister please update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is upgrading the intersection of Main North Road and Nottage Terrace?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: I thank the member very much for his question. I know he is interested in how we are busting congestion on that road. It is an important question—another day, another milestone in one of the many projects being delivered by the Marshall Liberal government. With a record \$17.9 billion in the pipeline, there is no shortage of infrastructure milestones or jobs to talk about. On Monday this week, I was joined by the member for Adelaide at the notorious Scotty's Corner. Scotty has never seen an upgrade like this before. Scotty's Corner is just another intersection—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Hurtle Vale!

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: —that was ignored by the former Labor government for 16 long years. We know they ignored a lot of infrastructure and roadworks and that's why we were left with a three-quarters of a million dollars road maintenance backlog. The member for West Torrens, who was Treasurer at the time, couldn't bring himself to invest in roads when he was in that position.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order, sir.

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

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 98: the minister was debating the answer by talking about my time as Treasurer, sir.

The SPEAKER: I don't uphold the point of order for the time being. I am conscious of the terms of the question and also I'm very cognisant of the provisions of standing order 98. The minister has the call.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: Relevance—does the member for West Torrens have any relevance? That's the question I ask. I was out with the member for Adelaide, as I said, announcing that this week we opened two of the newly constructed lanes. It was the first traffic switch on this very important project. This project is tracking well and is to be completed soon. It should be open to traffic and completed by the end of the year.

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

Mr ODENWALDER: Point of order: all of this information is publicly available in a press release released on the 6th of the 9th by the minister. I'm happy to send it to you, sir.

The SPEAKER: Notwithstanding any elements, the very fact of the upgrade might be in the public domain. The question is in order and the minister is entitled to answer the question. The minister has the call.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: I know they don't like infrastructure projects on that side of the chamber, but we are proud to be delivering those. I mentioned that I was standing with the member for Adelaide and she was so happy as she looked over the intersection and saw the work that was going on and talked about how it is going to improve rat-running in her local area, a problem that is an issue in the electorate of Adelaide. She is fixing that problem with this great project and we are proud to be doing that. Every day, 66,000-plus motorists use that intersection and a lot of them of course are rat-running as well, so there is more on top of that. This is going to help with that.

Crashes—there have been more than 30 crashes over the last five years at that intersection and Labor refused to fix it. That's why they are interjecting. That's why they don't like this project. They ignored it.

Ms Cook interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Hurtle Vale is warned.

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD: It created jobs as well—about 15 jobs for this project—and that's part of the 19,000 job bonanza that has come with our \$17.9 billion infrastructure spend. It's more jobs for the people of South Australia. It's jobs now and jobs for tomorrow. That's way more than the previous government ever produced in their infrastructure spend.

Once complete, this intersection will see two right-turn lanes from Main North Road onto Nottage Terrace to improve traffic flows and safety. That will get South Australians home faster and that's what we are focused on. They can spend more quality time with the ones they love and it will be far more efficient during the busy peak periods. The member for Adelaide made that point and that's why she was excited about this.

The intersection upgrade will also include widened sections of Main North Road and Nottage Terrace, a new north-bound priority bus lane, upgraded pedestrian crossings and an extension of the existing north-bound cycle lane, so that is a great win for all people on all forms of transport—motorists, pedestrians, cyclists and all road users.

Down the road, there is also a \$6 million fund to help work with the federal government to fix Nottage Terrace and North East Road. It makes sense. The traffic is going to flow around the corner. We are moving on. Again, the member for Adelaide is very excited to see that roll around to improve traffic flows.

All up, that is a \$25 million improvement to traffic flow along this section of Main North Road and Nottage Terrace, and that's all thanks to the wonderful work and advocacy of the member for Adelaide. She is passionate about this project and she knows it's going to deliver for her local communities. She knows, as I said, that it will very much help with that rat-running.

Down the road, of course, there is the Ovingham level crossing upgrade as well, another great project that is decongesting our roads and allowing people to get home quicker to spend more time with their families—so yet again, here we are, the Marshall Liberal government building what matters.

REVIEW OF HARASSMENT IN THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT WORKPLACE

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:48): My question is to the Premier. Has the Premier fulfilled all his reporting obligations in reference to his knowledge of events in December 2019. With your leave and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Dr CLOSE: At a recent Equal Opportunity Commission report meeting at which Ms Emily Strickland appeared, I asked the question whether a victim-centric approach required the power to stay with the complainant in terms of whether or not a matter was subsequently taken to the police or formalised and whether in the event of a criminal offence it would still remain the same, that the person hearing the complaint would not need to do anything. Emily Strickland, the author of the report, answered:

If it is so serious, the person hearing the complaint may well have reporting obligations under the ICAC Act to report to the ICAC. I think that they may well need to also report matters to police.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (14:49): I think the question of the deputy leader to Ms Strickland was actually a very important question, but in relation to the—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: It was a very important question in the circumstances to which it applies. I am just going to explain that at the time of the incident, which is now well known—

Mr Picton interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Kaurana is warned for a second time.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Ms Bonaros contacted me shortly after.

Dr Close: This is not just about Ms Bonaros.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Well, do you want to hear the answer? Mr Speaker?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! It is not for the Deputy Premier to respond to interjection.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Indeed, sir, I am sorry.

The SPEAKER: The Deputy Premier is entitled to be heard in silence. Interjections on my left will cease.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: At the time, Ms Bonaros contacted me. I subsequently had a conversation with the Premier. Ms Bonaros had no application with the police and indicated she intended to take no further action, but was pleased if I would speak to the Premier. That occurred and the rest is well known. At a subsequent date, in fact, some several months or weeks later, there was a different direction that took place in relation to this, and the matter went to the police. So I am certainly satisfied that at all material times in December 2019—

Mr Picton interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Kaurna!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —both the Premier and I undertook, in compliance with our obligations, reporting on those matters. It doesn't leave aside an important question that the member has asked the equal opportunity commissioner, but it doesn't apply to this case.

Dr Close interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, the deputy leader! The member for West Torrens has the call.

GIBSON ELECTORATE OFFICE STAFF

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:51): My question is to the Premier, representing the Treasurer. Is it common practice for the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure's electorate office staff to work from Parliament House, rather than the electorate office, for their personal safety? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The opposition has obtained an email sent to the honourable Minister for Transport and Infrastructure from a member of his staff on Friday 1 December 2017 at 8.59am:

Corey,

I will not be working from the Electorate Office today and will be working from the Parliament House office as has been routine over the past few weeks.

I no longer feel physically safe alone in your presence and feel the requirement to reach out to Electorate Services once again to seek support. This situation has culminated following your aggressive and threatening comments in our meeting on Monday 27 November and subsequent phone call which was aggressive, unprofessional and disrespectful. I have raised concerns with you about these two events in writing and have only seen an acknowledgement to these emails when arriving at work this morning however, I have not received a response to the questions I raised in these emails.

These patterns of behaviour have become increasingly common since I first raised ethical concerns in relation to your conduct back in April/May.

Under your management, you have condoned behaviour in the Mitchell Electorate Office that I feel breaches ethical standards and supports a culture that attempts to bully and harass staff who do not support this culture.

I have raised numerous concerns with you in writing over the past several months and have not had the courtesy or respect of a response to these. Your response to the concerns, questions and issues I have raised with you in writing would be appreciated so there can be an assurance for my safety in the Mitchell Electorate Office so there can be clarity to my role in your office.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:53): I think the Treasurer has already tabled a statement in the other place with regard to this matter, which had been well canvassed in this house and in the other place this week. It relates to incidents that occurred prior to our government coming into power, prior to our sitting on the treasury bench. It relates to a performance management issue, and a performance management issue which occurred back in the electorate office at that time. That was subject to some comment by the Treasury team at the time, and they found that there was no basis for—

Mr Picton interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Kaurna!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —the allegations at that time and didn't take it further. I note that that was, of course, under a different minister—not the current Treasurer, but the former Treasurer, now the member for West Torrens.

HIGH-TECH SECTOR

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (14:54): My question is to the Minister for Trade and Investment. Can the minister please update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is attracting investment and creating jobs in the space and high-tech sectors?

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON (Morphett—Minister for Trade and Investment) (14:54):

I thank the member for MacKillop, and no doubt he was very pleased this morning to hear the news that Microsoft, one of the biggest companies in the world, announced that it is expanding its presence to set up its Azure Space team in South Australia. More importantly, they will also be partnering with Nokia to base this work around the Lot Fourteen precinct to really power forward our space industry here.

It is a groundbreaking partnership brought together by the Marshall government. It is really fantastic news. We've got Microsoft, which is a global tech titan, and its Azure Space team is leading edge in terms of its cloud computing capability. That is partnered with Nokia, which of course is a massive company specialising now in 5G telecommunications, which really is the way forward in terms of telcos and where it is going.

This collaboration will combine its complementary strengths. From Microsoft's perspective, they've got the space technology and satellite communications. Nokia has not only the 5G telecommunications but also the ecosystem in South Australia with AI because all this space communication means massive amounts of data. Of course 5G, with its big bandwidth and then being able to analyse and compute it requires the AI, which of course South Australia has great expertise in.

Just to put this in perspective, the space industry itself is worth about \$450 billion at the moment and is projected to grow to over \$1 trillion by 2040. At the same time, 5G is estimated to add around \$8 trillion to global GDP by 2030. These are two massive industries by themselves, but when you combine their power it is going to be really exciting.

Having Microsoft and Nokia to innovate in South Australia is really going to help them address some really tough technology challenges that we have. Australia is quite remote. It is not like many other places in the world where a lot of the land mass doesn't have terrestrial communications and so relies upon satellite communications. These technologies will use space to help and improve our life on earth in sectors such as agriculture, mining, defence and transport, and that means many thousands of companies in those sectors can take advantage of that and grow, which of course means jobs in South Australia.

Importantly, it means export solutions can then go not only to other parts of Australia but certainly to other like jurisdictions in the world in areas such as autonomous rail, mining and autonomous defence. I just quote from Microsoft's space lead in Australia, Lynn McDonald:

[This] will allow Australian organisations in multiple sectors to take a giant leap forward into a new era of communications and cloud computing, making the most of space data and technology and also catapulting them to the very forefront of digital innovation.

This is great news. Now we've got all three of the world's biggest cloud computer companies: Google Cloud, Amazon (or AWS) and now Microsoft. We have brought them here. It is getting the fundamentals right. It is growing out the ecosystem here in South Australia to create not only the nation's space capital but also a real magnet for high-tech, and that is going to grow jobs for South Australians and then expand and help our business to grow as well.

Thank you to Microsoft and Nokia for their interest in South Australia. Congratulations to the Marshall government on bringing this together to help create jobs for South Australians.

HIGH-TECH SECTOR

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (14:58): Supplementary to the minister: minister, were any incentives offered or any approaches made to them to establish themselves in a regional location?

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON (Morphett—Minister for Trade and Investment) (14:58):

I thank the member for the question. Of course, if we talk about that, what is bringing these companies to South Australia is the ecosystem that is in place here. I mentioned the fact that we have the Australian Space Agency based in Lot Fourteen, which is fantastic news for South Australia, and that is then helping to bring these companies out.

I talked about what this brings. These jobs will create innovation to benefit companies in the agricultural sector, which your electorate no doubt has, the mining sector where your electorate is based, as well as massive opportunities with respect to defence. So there are great growth

opportunities not only in your electorate, member for Frome, but in all the regional electorates. This is going to be great news.

There will be STEM opportunities for students. It is worth noting that Microsoft and Nokia are really trying to work with the South Australian government's Office for Women to try to grow female interest in these areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics because there are massive opportunities for them there. There are great opportunities for all students in your electorate, member for Frome.

GIBSON ELECTORATE OFFICE

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:59): My question is to the Premier, representing the Treasurer. Is the Premier, or the Treasurer, aware of allegations of an incident in his Minister for Infrastructure and Transport's electorate office of physical abuse on 20 November 2017 toward a staffer employed in the electorate office? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: On 20 November, the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure received an email from a staffer of his that states the following:

I have found our catch up this morning to be very aggressive and I do not feel like I was provided with a safe work environment. This morning's catch up felt like it was designed to undermine me in my position in the office by publicly humiliating me within the open plan.

Both [two other staffers, who I won't mention] were able to see and hear your raised voice and advance towards me in my office after I told you that I was finding your conduct and communication towards me aggressive. This was also after I had repeatedly communicated that my work conditions are very stressful. I felt like I was backed into a corner to be yelled at. I would like to know how you think catch ups like this are conducive to a positive work environment and how you think these catch ups inspire motivation?

I would also like to know how you as the Member with responsibility for the workplace conditions are going to ensure my place of work is safe and free from mental and physical harm?

I have said and written many times that I feel like I am being targeted and treated very differently from other staff with no explanation as to why. You have said that all staff are being treated the same but I do not see evidence of this. For example, I do not see other staff being yelled at in open plan for all to hear or aggressively approached in their offices.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:01): I might as well deal with this fairly quickly. It does surprise me that the member for West Torrens asks this question in our house. It is the question that was asked by the Hon. Kyam Maher in the other place yesterday at 2.19. I refer you to *Hansard*, where the Treasurer provided a comprehensive answer to the question that the member for West Torrens has asked.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, the leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: It is quite clear to me that the opposition has run out of questions, probably in this place as well as in the other one. We had the member for Frome having to chip in to try to help out the opposition during this question time. He had a decent question, talking about regional employment. We always love being asked questions about regional employment because the regions are going gangbusters at the moment. There are always some issues in our regions that we need to address—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —in terms of infrastructure, which has been good—

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat for a moment. The leader rises on a point of order.

Mr MALINAUSKAS: It won't surprise you, sir, that I rise on a point of order under standing order 98.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr MALINAUSKAS: The member for West Torrens' question—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my right and members on my left! I am endeavouring to listen to the Leader of the Opposition's point of order. The Leader of the Opposition has the call.

Mr MALINAUSKAS: Standing order 98. The member for West Torrens' question was not regarding the member for Frome's extraordinary work in the regions; it was regarding a very serious allegation against the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure.

The SPEAKER: The question was directed to the Premier in his capacity representing the Treasurer and was directed indirectly to the Treasurer's awareness of certain matters having arisen on 20 November 2017. I am listening to the Premier's answer. I do draw the Premier back to the substance of the question. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Yes, there have been a series of questions in this house and there have been a series of questions in the other place with regard to this matter, and I was just drawing the member's attention to the fact that the exact quotation or extraction from correspondence that was provided to this house was provided to the Legislative Council and detailed questions were asked of the Treasurer.

What we have here is the member for West Torrens running out of questions, coming in here using up time and reinserting into *Hansard* the same quotes, rather than addressing some of the other issues that this house could be spending its time on. The Treasurer is in the other place. The member for West Torrens and Labor are running out of questions here and asking me to ask the Treasurer in the other place. I would have thought it's more logical, more efficient, but as it turns out he's actually been answering questions about this.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The leader will cease interjecting.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Those opposite want to scream; they want to shout. There's no point in screaming and shouting. The Treasurer has been very clear on what he knows about this issue. Of course, he points out very, very comprehensively that he wasn't the Treasurer during the time of these incidents; in fact, the person who was the Treasurer is the person asking the questions here in this house.

Sir, you couldn't script this. It's like an episode, a yet unbroadcast episode, of *Yes Minister*. I am quite sure the scriptwriters would love to see some of the content coming out of the opposition at the moment. What we know is there's been a lot of mudslinging from those opposite with regard to issues in an electorate office on this side of the house. What we haven't heard is much commentary about what's been going on in Hurtle Vale, in Badcoe, in Light, in other seats here—Reynell. We know about media reports into issues—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: We—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, the member for Hurtle Vale!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: There's a lot of screaming. We've hit a raw nerve over here, sir.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier will resume his seat.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: We know there have been sensitive issues in that electorate office.

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat. The member for Hurtle Vale, the member for Playford and the member for Kaurna will leave for the remainder of question time in accordance with standing order 137A.

Mr Brown interjecting:

The SPEAKER: In silence, member for Playford.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The honourable members for Hurtle Vale, Playford and Kaurna having withdrawn from the chamber:

The SPEAKER: The Premier.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: As I was saying, there are very many issues regarding electorate offices that are occupied by members on the opposition benches. They have been well canvassed in the public domain. What we haven't heard yet is any comment from the Leader of the Opposition. What investigation has he made? He's quite happy for the member for West Torrens to come in, throwing mud around, making unsubstantiated allegations. He's made unsubstantiated—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —allegations, impugning the motives and the performance of the minister on this side of the house. Of course, we've tabled the advice from the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment today, which found that there was no case. But do we hear an apology from those opposite? No, no apology. They come in here, use privilege—completely and utterly inappropriate—throw out their accusations, which are completely and utterly inappropriate. He did exactly the same with regard to the Keolis Downer contract, making absolutely outrageous accusations of corruption. The member from West Torrens alleged corruption. The Auditor-General looked at it—nothing to see here. That's what we have, and of course we have the weakest Leader of the Opposition in the state's history—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —totally and utterly unprepared to stand up to the bully.

The SPEAKER: The Premier will resume his seat. I remind ministers, in responding to questions, of the provisions of standing order 98(a). The member for Colton has the call.

SINGLE-USE PLASTICS

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (15:08): My question is to the Minister for Environment and Water. Can the minister update the house on the impact South Australia becoming the first mover in the country on banning single-use plastic products will have on our economy?

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Minister for Environment and Water) (15:08): I thank the member for Colton for his question—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader is warned.

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS: —and interest in this area. He's always very keen to hear about the positive things we are doing for our environment, and when they intersect with economic benefit as well the bonuses are even greater. It's actually one year ago today, on 9 September 2020, that the Single-use Plastic and Other Products (Waste Avoidance) Act 2020 passed the parliament, and obviously it came into effect from 1 March 2021.

So it is particularly worth reflecting on that nation-leading piece of legislation and the sense of bipartisanship support that it gained in order to continue South Australia's proud heritage of having

a very strong response to waste management, to litter reduction and, in more recent times, to the transition from those approaches around the policies of waste towards those that focus on the circular economy, more commonly known now as the green economy.

We know that South Australia has a very strong brand nationally and internationally in the green economy—in the circular economy—driving products round and round the economy and turning them into the same or similar products. That is something that we have got good at. We have often sent the legislative signal to the private sector, which has then been very quick to respond to the needs of the market, to the needs of the community, to the needs of other businesses, getting on board with our transition towards a more circular economy.

We have seen that with the signal that we sent. We sent it fairly early, back in 2019. We said we were going to get into this single-use plastic reduction area, we were going to back that up with legislation, but we wanted businesses to lead the way. We were delighted by the way that businesses did lead the way, both through the transition with businesses that use single-use plastics on a day-to-day basis and also with markets finding alternative products, investing in research and development and taking those to market.

While there are significant conservation and environmental benefits from our single-use plastic legislation, those economic benefits are significant. South Australia is very well placed to get those benefits not just from the consumers in South Australia who want these alternatives but from the consumers in other states once they pass similar legislation—we know that Queensland has recently brought legislation into place—and also other jurisdictions as they catch up. Many states around the nation have indicated that they will catch up. They have not necessarily got there yet but, when they do, those alternatives can be manufactured in South Australia and the job benefits will come here.

It has been great to get to know some businesses along the way that have been involved in manufacturing these alternatives. One called Mister RYE springs to mind, a young couple who have established an alternative straw using rye from barley or wheat, treating that and then taking that to market. Another very successful South Australian company based down at Marleston, just off Richmond Road, is BioBag, which is rolling products out all across Australia to replace the barrier bags in supermarkets and those that are used in the kitchen caddy.

While there are very significant conservation and environmental benefits from this legislation, we should not ever underestimate the economic benefits that market signal can trigger, and it's worth recognising that today on the first anniversary of the passage of this legislation.

CHILD PROTECTION

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (15:12): My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Why did the minister and/or her department leave an 11-year-old child in the care of two violent drug-taking men, one of whom was a Department for Child Protection social worker, for almost 12 months, despite being warned numerous times the child was at risk? With your leave, and that of the house, I will explain.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Point of order, Mr Speaker.

Ms HILDYARD: I've sought leave.

The SPEAKER: I will hear the point of order.

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: As has been ruled many times, Mr Speaker, it is not possible to offend standing order 97, make an argument and then think it is okay to seek leave afterwards. The argument has been made. The argument is against standing orders.

The SPEAKER: The question without leave, I think it's conceded, is out of order. Leave is required. I just remind members that the asking of the question is no occasion to make an argument. The question may be put and, if leave is sought, leave may be granted. I will give the member for Reynell an opportunity to rephrase.

Ms HILDYARD: Did the minister and/or her department leave an 11-year-old child in the care of two violent, drug-taking men, one of whom was a Department for Child Protection social worker, for almost 12 months, despite being warned numerous times that the child was at risk? With your leave, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Ms HILDYARD: In May 2020, the minister received the first of a number of complaints about the safety of a child. The minister and DPC responded to the child's family a number of times, saying they had investigated and everything was okay, that their concerns were unfounded. In late March this year, the department removed the child from the men's care citing the 'risk of further exposure to domestic violence and substance abuse' for its decision.

The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (15:15): Whilst the member is very well aware I won't discuss individual cases in this house, there is a process: people ring the Child Abuse Report Line, reports that are made go through the proper channels and that's how they are all dealt with. Just to remind you, there was also the Shannon McCooole incident where he was an employee of the former Labor government that did ignore their own staff making complaints about a staff member. I won't be commenting on this case.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! It's question time and time is limited. Interjections don't hasten progress. The member for Reynell is seeking the call.

CHILD PROTECTION

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (15:15): My question is again to the Minister for Child Protection. Is the social worker, who has now had a child removed from his care, has admitted to methamphetamine use and domestic violence and had multiple CARL reports made against him, still employed by DCP?

The Hon. R. SANDERSON (Adelaide—Minister for Child Protection) (15:16): As I have already mentioned, I won't be discussing individual cases. What I will be discussing, though, is the great work that many of our staff do in what is a very difficult area. Yesterday, the Premier was there to open our inaugural wards—

Members interjecting:

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

The Hon. R. SANDERSON: —celebrating the cross-government and cross-community efforts that go into child protection because this really is, as the member asking the question should know, a whole-of-community issue. There are problems in every state and in every country around the world and most of those are caused through drugs and alcohol abuse, mental health and domestic violence. These are issues that our government, with a whole-of-government approach, is working towards. We have announced many policies on domestic violence to improve outcomes for women, to get help for perpetrators as well as for the victims, and other housing.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader!

The Hon. R. SANDERSON: We are doing a lot to look after the people in our community.

CHEF EMPLOYMENT

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:17): My question is to the Premier. What evidence does the Premier have that suggests jobs for chefs are no longer immediately available? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Ms BEDFORD: In an answer to a question I asked on Tuesday 7 September about the postponement of the upgrade of the Le Cordon Bleu school at Regency Park, the house was informed 'jobs that are immediately available are the focus at the moment', but I notice and draw to the house's attention that jobs on Seek for chefs are over 8,000 places and that the immigration minister, Alex Hawke, has announced chefs as one of the occupations to now be included on the Priority Migration Skilled Occupation List.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:18): I think the member is quite right: there are skills shortages right across South Australia and many of them do exist in areas like the qualification the member just spoke about, becoming a chef. This is one of the reasons why we have worked with the federal government to put in well in excess now of \$200 million to get young people into vocational education and training. Many of those are in that hospitality setting and of course these are very much based within the work environment.

I think she raises a very good point. These are areas that we need to address. One of the areas that the Minister for Innovation and Skills is constantly focused on is how we get more vocational education and training into our schools and how we actually get school-based apprenticeships and traineeships in place. I think we are making progress, but one of the things that has occurred because of the border arrangements that are in place that need to be in place because of the coronavirus at the moment is that this has exacerbated the situation with particular vocations, and one of those is chefs.

We did bring in a large number of chefs. Each year we have had, if you like, chronic shortages of these skills in South Australia, right around the country in fact, for a long period of time. These were often filled by people who came in on a temporary visa. Some of these people were ultimately able to move towards permanent residency if they met the criteria, but she is right: this is an area that we really are focusing on as a government.

CHEF EMPLOYMENT

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:19): Supplementary question: when will the government replace the Le Cordon Bleu restaurant and its associated facility, which was knocked down at the end of 2019 and turned into a car park? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Ms BEDFORD: It has been brought to my attention that the TAFE and Le Cordon Bleu lecturers are now having to share facilities at Regency Park, sometimes with private providers, which often leads to room shortages and timetabling issues all due to the fact that the building has been knocked down.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:20): Le Cordon Bleu is a non-government provider, as indeed is the International College of Hospitality Management, and they have been working in partnership with TAFE at Regency for many years. They have been sharing facilities for many years—many years before we came to government. That was the model that was in place. It is still the model that is in place.

They use the same rooms, and my understanding is that sometimes staff have worked for both organisations depending on who is delivering courses. The partnership there is longstanding. We obviously seek to have outstanding facilities for all South Australian students and for South Australian providers seeking to attract international students.

The Premier has outlined some of the methodology that the government has used in contemplating how we best use government resources to attract further students. We will continue to work with TAFE SA as an organisation. TAFE SA will continue to work with ICHM, Le Cordon Bleu and, potentially, other non-government providers in ensuring we have those pathways for South Australian students and international students.

Regarding any further developments in relation to upgrading facilities, we will be making announcements in due course as there are announcements to make.

TOURISM

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (15:22): My question is to the Premier as the Minister for Tourism. Can the Premier update the house on the funds allocated to the Tourism Industry Development Fund, which opened for submissions in September last year with a closing date of 31 March 2022. With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain a bit further.

Leave granted.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: Taylor Wines from Auburn received an email dated 8 September advising that no more submissions after 10 September would be received for this application, which gave Taylors 48 hours to gain all approvals required from the various approving departments.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:22): As members would be more than aware, our government's response to the global pandemic was to move as quickly as possible to provide stimulus and support to our economy. Of course, we now see the great benefit of that alacrity and also the sheer volume of support that was provided.

In fact, the commonwealth Parliamentary Budget Office provided an independent analysis of the response of each of the jurisdictions and found that South Australia had the second highest in the nation. Part of that response was the Tourism Industry Development Fund, a \$20 million fund over two years: \$10 million last year and \$10 million this year.

This provided support for regional tourism businesses to attract state government money, up to 30 per cent of the value of their project to try to bring forward projects that would do a couple of things: firstly, to stimulate economic activity in the regions and in particular to provide jobs and, secondly, a longer term objective to improve the amenity of the various tourism offerings right across our state.

We have 11 fantastic regions here in South Australia that are identified by the SATC. Each of those regions has already received grant funding for important TIDF projects. It's fair to say that, after a reasonably slow start, it has picked up pace and, of course, we are trying to finalise that second \$10 million that has been allocated for this year.

I don't have any specific details with regard to the cut-off times that the member refers to, but I am happy to raise that with Mr Rodney Harrex who is the chief executive of the South Australian Tourism Commission. As he would be aware, it's a separate statutory authority, so he makes some decisions like this, but one thing I would say is that he is very close with the industry. He particularly likes the area that the member is based in. I have been up there recently and I was told about his recent and frequent visits to that area.

I think that in many ways COVID-19 has been kind to regional tourism businesses. In fact, we have had seven reported record months in a row. I remember earlier in the year when we had great months in January, February and March, I thought, 'That's fantastic! Three record months, the highest months in the history of the state in terms of regional visitation, but it must be going to drop down in April,' but it didn't. It actually increased in April, increased in May, increased in June again, and in fact I think also July was bigger than June. I think every month, seven months in a row, record months, for regional visitation is great news.

But what we need to do is improve that offering. I think there is a permanent pivot. I think people who previously went overseas during winter have actually decided to spend time in their own backyard and they love what they see. I think this is hugely popular, this TIDF, but I am very happy to follow up the specific issue raised by the member for Frome and come back to him with an answer.

ROAD MAINTENANCE

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (15:26): My question is to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Can the minister outline what compensation avenues are available to motorists who experience damage to their car tyres and rims due to deep potholes and poor road maintenance in the South-East?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (15:26): I am happy to take that question on notice. I don't have an answer for the member other than to say—and we had chatted about this offline—it was quite a wet winter through July and August. I thought it was a little bit wetter in August, but I am informed by the member for MacKillop actually that it was wetter in the South-East in July. That sort of rainfall, and the record levels that I am told they had, does often lead to potholes on those roads. Again, we do know the history of the roads across South Australia, especially the regional roads and the road maintenance backlog that we were left with.

We have been doing a lot of work there. The Riddoch Highway in particular—I was just down in the South-East not that long ago, and the work that was going on there was outstanding. As far as the potholes are concerned, and any damage that may have occurred, no doubt that would need to be investigated and checked out from that level. But I am very happy to take the member's question on notice, find out more detail and specifics and relay that back to the department. I can also let the

member know that I know a lot of works have been happening over recent weeks, as far as repairing some of those potholes from that wet winter that I was talking about.

So that work is underway. As soon as it does dry out enough, that's when that work can start and I am told it has been starting as the nice spring weather comes through. Of course, it's very hard to repair a pothole and do that whilst it is still raining cats and dogs. So that repair work is happening. As far as the specifics of the incident that the member for Mount Gambier is talking about, I am very happy to get those specifics and have a look into it for him.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PRIMARY SCHOOLS AMATEUR SPORT ASSOCIATION

Mr DULUK (Waite) (15:28): My question is to the Minister for Education. Minister, will you provide some clarity regarding the future of SAPSASA and guarantee the continued use of the SAPSASA logo and name? Sir, with your leave and that of the house, I will further explain.

Leave granted.

Mr DULUK: The South Australian Public Schools Amateur Sport Association was established in 1912 and has long been a respected primary school level competition run by community volunteers for the betterment of children's sporting development. It was recently revealed by *The Advertiser's* Messenger that the Department for Education planned to reshape SAPSASA's infrastructure. Will you, the minister, commit to retaining the current SAPSASA country and metropolitan district programs and competitions?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:29): I thank the member for the question. It is indeed an issue that has been of significant concern to a number of people around South Australia over the last couple of weeks. Indeed, many, many thousands of South Australians have a proud affiliation and love and involvement in the history of SAPSASA as a program. We are very keen to keep it, and I give that commitment to keeping SAPSASA. This was an issue drawn to my attention personally by the member for Colton a couple of weeks ago.

Members may be aware that the member for Colton is Australia's greatest ever Paralympian, with 13 gold medals and 23 medals for Australia, as part of an extraordinary career prior to his current extraordinary career serving the people of South Australia. Members may or may not be aware that prior to that the member for Colton represented in South Australian SAPSASA swimming teams, competing with all South Australian student swimmers and making those state teams.

It is fair to say, if I can characterise it, that the member for Colton demonstrated to me a certain passion for SAPSASA and the way the program had been running. To put it into some context, School Sport SA is a Department for Education program for all South Australian students. It includes SAPSASA representative pathways and school events for primary school students. They operate within those 40 historical SAPSASA district boundaries. Within the Department for Education, they raised some concerns around equity in relation to the make-up of those boundaries.

There were some discussions with other sectors over a couple of years, and I understand that a set of proposals was drafted by School Sport SA, which was presented to other stakeholders on 4 August this year at a meeting. Those proposals made their way through stakeholders to the member for Colton, to my office in short order. The member for Colton very articulately described his concerns, some of which flowed very, very quickly after in further correspondence I had.

My instinctive reaction initially was to speak to the education department to get clarity—indeed, firstly, to understand that these were proposals that were identified. It wasn't a final decision, which of course had not reached me. I provided some feedback initially that there was very little likelihood that the proposals would be complete in the draft that they had been presented.

When it became clear that the consultation process was instigating some concern in the community, including among many SAPSASA members, I felt it was appropriate to cut the time for that consultation short to indicate an absolute commitment to retaining the existing program, certainly for next year, and further give this commitment, which I reiterate now, that any further changes or improvements that might be made to anything will not be in the manner described in those proposals.

I am open to considering any improvements—certainly improvements that gain the support of all the schooling sectors and certainly improvements that gain the support of the SAPSASA organisation. The Department for Education is engaging with stakeholders from school sectors to develop any further proposals that would increase opportunities for student participation. What I will

say is that we will not be interested in exploring any proposals of the nature that would decrease participation for any group of students or indeed for any schooling sectors.

I am open to proposals that will increase the investment we make in school sports and increase opportunities for students. We are not interested in any proposals that will decrease that. I thank the member for Colton, and indeed other members of parliament and members of the community, for making those representations. I am very pleased that we are a government that was able to see a concern and put that concern to bed without hesitation.

Grievance Debate

STATE LIBERAL GOVERNMENT

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (15:33): I appreciate the opportunity to be able to address the house regarding the government's problem—because this government has a big problem. I am not talking about the set of crises that is now completely overwhelming this government and their capacity to execute the function of delivering services to the people of South Australia.

The crisis and the scandal that we have progressively learnt more and more about over the course of this week regarding the Minister for Transport and Infrastructure really pale into insignificance in comparison with the real crisis this government has, which is a clear lack of leadership—a clear lack of leadership. What South Australians are progressively becoming more familiar with is the consequence of inaction that we see from a Premier who merely pretends to be in charge.

One of the harder, more unheralded jobs within this building, is the job of a political staffer. These are not easy gigs. These are jobs performed often by young people who are committed to their democracy, idealistic about the future of their state and the values that they share with their party. Often, they are working purely for their love of the cause in which they believe. They are motivated by the future of their state.

It is a thankless task, often bringing with it long hours into the evening and over the course of the weekend. That is why it is important that those staff enjoy the ability to perform their duties without a cloud hanging over their head and, because this Premier refuses to accept his responsibility regarding their welfare, now we have an aspersion cast upon all Liberal Party staffers in this state.

The allegations aired in the other place by the Hon. Tammy Franks, combined with the fact that they match up almost identically with the concerns and allegations raised in the equal opportunity report, speak to the fact that there is clearly an issue regarding an allegation of gross illegal, indecent exposure within this workplace. The Premier's response? 'Well, I haven't had a formal complaint.'

So, having been presented with this information, the Premier's response is to say, 'Well, unless I get something formal and in writing on my desk, it's got nothing to do with me.' Now that aspersion is cast upon all staffers within the Liberal Party in a way that is truly unfair. What we need is a Premier to accept the function of leadership is his responsibility. That does not just extend to looking after the interests of his own hardworking staffers. That actually extends to the interests of policy writ large throughout state, and I think every South Australian—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, Minister for Innovation and Skills!

Mr MALINAUSKAS: I think every South Australian is increasingly worried about the fact that we are seeing hundreds of millions—

Members interjecting:

Mr MALINAUSKAS: I note this, Speaker. I note the bias of this Speaker—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Playford!

Mr MALINAUSKAS: —is being demonstrated by the member for Unley. I appreciate the bias of this Speaker being demonstrated by the member for Unley. But what we know from the front page of today's *Advertiser* is that now hundreds upon hundreds of millions of dollars that belong to the taxpayers of South Australia—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The Minister for Innovation and Skills!

Dr Close interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! In the course of the grievance debate, I am loath to interrupt the member on their feet. For that reason, I am loath to ask the leader to resume his seat in order that I might intervene to restore order. Interjections on my right, including from the Minister for Innovation and Skills and the Minister for Trade and Investment, in the last minute, will cease.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!—as will interjections in reply on my left, including from the member for Playford.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Interjections on both sides will cease. It is a rare event for members to be directed from the chamber in the course of the grievance debate. That is the consequence for continued interjection. I am conscious of the prejudice to the leader in having to have interrupted the leader's contribution to the grievance debate, and I will be conscious of that in exercising some discretion in relation to the time for the leader to conclude his remarks. The leader has the call.

Mr MALINAUSKAS: The consequences of inaction extend well beyond the aspersion cast upon all Liberal staffers now. The consequence of inaction from this Premier regarding the GST deal that he actively endorsed at the time of its execution is now playing out upon every South Australian.

Recurrent income for the state is critical to the state being able to perform its functions. We have a health crisis on our hands as we speak. This state is not equipped to be able to handle the current load on our health system, let alone a future one living with COVID. We need more staff in our hospitals: we need more nurses, we need more doctors, we need more ambulance officers. That means we need income to pay for them, and this Premier has actively endorsed a policy that sees hundreds of millions of dollars—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Chaffey!

Mr MALINAUSKAS: —each and every year go to our Western Australian brothers and sisters who have just amassed a war chest of funds to be able to invest in their health system. And what has this Premier done? Literally nothing. It is an extraordinary consequence of inaction.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr MALINAUSKAS: What we need is a Premier willing to stand up to the commonwealth. We need a Premier to stand up to appalling behaviour occurring within his own ranks. We need a Premier to acknowledge the problems that exist under his watch and execute the function of leadership. For as long as all his Liberal Party colleagues—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Chaffey will resume his seat.

Mr MALINAUSKAS: —continue to ignore that fact, they hand the opposition a valuable opportunity to win the next state election because we are going to go into the election with a policy of vision and the leadership to execute it, and I look forward to South Australians making that choice.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Chaffey.

CHAFFEY ELECTORATE

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (15:40): Thank you, sir, and did you know that today is national R U OK? Day, with this year's theme of 'Are you really okay?' It is a reminder to reach out and to start a conversation with friends, with family and with your work colleagues. We know that mental health and mental illness have been a significant contributor to suicide here in South Australia.

Sadly, most of us have been affected by suicide at some stage in our life. Eight people take their life every day in Australia, and for every death by suicide a further 30 will attempt to take their life. That is a tragedy, and 89 per cent of Australians know someone who has made a suicide attempt.

There are four steps, and I urge everyone who can do something to reach out and ask, 'Are you okay?' and to listen—listen to your friends, your family and your work colleagues. Encourage affirmative action if you think that someone needs to reach out and also check in with some of those service providers that could create a simple conversation and could change someone's life.

I would also like to mention two great organisations in the Riverland: Headspace and the Riverland Community Suicide Prevention Network located in Berri. These organisations champion these messages in the Riverland and host events around the year to promote mental health, wellbeing and suicide prevention, all issues close to my community's heart.

On a brighter note, on the weekend I attended the Monash Centenary Military Ceremony. It was a great ceremony on 29 August, and it was a privilege to honour the World War I soldier settlers of Lone Gum, Monash and Glossop at the cairn of the revered General Sir John Monash.

Sir John Monash was regarded as one of the greatest strategists of World War I. He was a great man who gave everything for his country. The commemoration of 100 years of Monash community spirit was brought together by passionate volunteers and more than two years of careful planning. The service demonstrated the pride of our regional towns that puts our regional communities on display. I must acknowledge that the Riverland was brought together and built on soldier settlement blocks.

We had the military service and march, a weapons display and the unveiling of a mural painted by John Seaton and Dean Hembling, two great local artists. In attendance was Brigadier Graham Goodwin, Commander Alistair Cooper and Air Commodore Ross Bender and the local Army and Air Force cadets. It was great to have them there in their military bling. We enjoyed a performance by the South Australian Army Band. In addition to Monash, three great Riverland towns, Barmera, Glossop and Cobdogla, are also celebrating their 100 year birthdays. They were great celebrations for the Riverland communities. I must say that Cobdogla is also celebrating being home to the world-renowned Humphrey Pump. Congratulations to all the volunteers and a special mention to Lloyd Wright and Alison Halupka, who were pivotal to the event's success.

I also want to give a shout-out to Riverland sport. Congratulations to the Renmark A1 netball team, who overcame Barmera last Friday evening. Congratulations to Denika, coach of the Renmark A1 team. It was a fantastic game. I must say it has been a challenging year for all netballers who took part in the 2021 season and they were absolutely outstanding on the night.

I would also like to congratulate Ramco Roosters Football Club, who won the Riverland Independent Football League grand final at Paruna. It was a great day for the Roosters. Congratulations to all involved.

On Monday, Renmark midfielder Tim Woolford was named the 2021 Whillas Medallist at an online presentation. He won by four votes over runner-up, Will Gutsche. I must say that we have some talented sportspeople in the Riverland and some really talented footballers. I am looking forward to Tim Woolford playing his part this weekend when Renmark take on Waikerie at the Loxton Oval for the Riverland Football League grand final. It will be a spectacle. The talent for football and the talent for sport in the Riverland have never been better.

The locals support and rally around their teams. It has been a challenging and disruptive year within our sporting calendar. Congratulations to all of them and good luck to those competing in grand finals.

AFGHANISTAN

Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (15:46): I rise to speak about the situation in Afghanistan, but in particular give voice to Afghani people living in my electorate of Badcoe. It is a heartbreaking, violent and unfathomable situation. What was once a nation on the long path towards equality and democracy has now veered off and is speeding in an entirely different direction, back to a dark past. There is great suffering and the constant fear of even greater suffering to come.

We watch the slivers of news emerging from an ever-diminishing number of journalists in Afghanistan and we see some flickers of hope. Now women protest in the streets, but they have guns pointed at their chests—some incredible bravery. We know that the dark cloud of intolerance for such voices is gathering. As the journalists, diplomats and aid workers recede from the country, the world will not be privy to the horrors that are already playing out.

For so many Australians of Afghani descent living here in South Australia, they had been plunged into a state of helplessness, not knowing what to do but so desperately wanting to act. They are so far away from their homeland and there is so little they can do to effect change and bring peace from afar. Although they are safe and because they are the lucky ones who are safe, Afghani people in Badcoe have told me they feel an overwhelming sense of survivor guilt. Several have said to me that they would switch places with their mother, their cousin, their friend, or their child who is still in Afghanistan, if only they could.

The only thing they can do and we can do is use what power we do have to make whatever difference we can, even on this small and remote scale, and so that is what I am doing. Unlike so many people in Afghanistan right now, I and we have a voice. We can speak out for them—and we must.

Every one of the Afghani people I have spoken with who lives in my neighbourhood has asked me to share their story here today in the hope that every tiny bit of pressure will somehow change the fate of a people and of a nation. I will not use people's full names because they are in grave danger, but I will tell you what they have told me.

Mas said to me, 'We need people like you to use your voice. We need support from our international friends. People who have wealth and power should help because people can only hide and live for so long. We cannot turn our backs on people in need.' She described, as did many others, that the Taliban are going door to door seeking out activists, anyone who worked with coalition forces and anyone who has been sympathetic to the former Afghani government.

Shari told me, 'We have gone back 20 years. My Hazara family are in huge danger. My aunty is a sole earner in her home and a single woman with four dependents. Now she is not allowed to work. If the Taliban do not find men in a home, they will take away the women as sex slaves.' She said another of her friends served in the Afghan National Army, telling me there is a great risk now that her whole family will be murdered.

People are fleeing from house to house, sometimes with children in their arms, sometimes they are single women and sometimes they are old people, knowing brutal killers are hunting them down. This woman's aunty's husband used to be a High Court judge and the Taliban militants are demanding to know where he is and torturing people to find him. Kat's mother ran 30 domestic violence shelters in Afghanistan until just weeks ago. Her mother's home was raided and her staff tortured, and she has now been evacuated to Germany with her father and brother.

Although her mother is now safe, the women she used to help are in more danger than ever, many having fled their violent husbands. She describes how so many women are now prisoners in their home and unable to even set foot in public due to their fear and knowledge about what the Taliban will do to them. She begged me to speak out about the complete annihilation of women's rights, human rights, in Afghanistan. She explained to me that, even here in Australia, Afghan people cannot speak out on social media because the Taliban will track down their families, persecute them and even kill them, such is the reach of this evil regime. She told me, 'We are all caged.'

When I spoke with Said, he told me he is really struggling. He feels hopeless and helpless. He told me the Australian government needs to be much more open to migration and humanitarian access. His whole family still lives in Afghanistan. His mother and brothers used to work with the Americans. They are all desperate to get out now, and they are trapped, and all Said can do is plead their case to politicians like me. Frankly, this is the brutal reality.

Although I pride myself on being someone who always strives to help my constituents and go the extra mile, the truth is I simply cannot help in getting their loved ones out of the talons of this brutal regime. So what do I want for these Afghani people in my community? Kindness matched with action, federal and state governments to move mountains to help people who helped our forces. I want our nation to stand by our values. We may well think: was that 20-year war worth it? To me, the fight is not over and it is up to each of us to work with Afghani people to make the sacrifices already made worth it.

Time expired.

ELDER ELECTORATE, ELDERLY RESIDENTS' BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Mrs POWER (Elder) (15:51): I rise today to share a tremendous celebration I hosted last week honouring those in our community who have reached the incredible milestone of 90 years young. I have heard from many elderly in our community about how they have isolated themselves due to the pandemic and how many have not been able to see their grandchildren or even their children, especially those family members who are interstate. So, in light of this, I thought it was timely to host a special event to bring people together and, importantly, a chance to honour and celebrate some of our most senior residents who have lived through some of the most incredible times.

Hosted at the Clarence Park Bowling Club, we transformed their dining room into a great birthday party atmosphere for our high tea celebration. The team at the bowling club are just incredible, and I sincerely thank all of them for helping to ensure that this event was a hit for all who attended. The event brought together people who have or will have celebrated their 90th birthday or beyond in 2021. Celebrating with a high tea, complete with finger sandwiches, scones and not one, not two but three birthday cakes, it was an opportunity for guests to meet, share memories and celebrate their lives with others in our community of the same vintage. The Premier also joined us to celebrate the occasion, with guests delighted to meet and hear from him directly.

As a part of the celebrations, we took a trip down memory lane, reflecting on the past century, when we have witnessed some of the most profound changes in human history. Between wars, technological developments, progress and civil rights and breakthroughs in science and medicine, the old order has been swept away, sometimes giving way to freer forms of governing and sometimes not. Perhaps some changes are for the better and others not. Those in the room were best placed to let me know what they thought.

Our elderly have seen centuries-old empires crumble as new ideologies have taken root in many parts of the world. Wars in the early part of the 20th century led to the end of the colonial world and gave birth to new nations. Throughout the past century, technological innovations have transformed our lives in ways we have never dreamed of. Even in my own life, I have seen the birth of the internet and, as a result, communications change dramatically. Of course, amongst these dates of global and national significance, each of my guests has their own special dates, like the day they fell in love, the day they got married or got their first job or had children.

Incredibly, we had one guest, Ms Mavis Sutton, who took out the award for being the eldest in the room and who proudly told us she was 104½. I also asked the birthday guests to share the secret to a long happy life. They said things like eating well, being kind, being married to the right person, using vitamin E cream—all sorts of hot tips—and we are now all the wiser for having met and heard these incredible residents' stories.

An event like this would not have been possible without community support, so I would like to take this moment to sincerely thank Accolade Trio for serenading us and leading a COVID-safe happy birthday rendition. Thanks also to local winery, Patritti Wines, Adelaide's only family-owned fully operational urban winery—absolutely incredible. They provided non-alcoholic champagne so we could toast our guests of honour. Finally, thank you to John and Phillipa, Estee, Alison, Susan and John for volunteering their time and for helping to ensure the afternoon was so special for our guests of honour.

One of the greatest things about being a member of parliament is the opportunity to make a difference—to make a difference to our state, to make a difference to our community and, importantly,

to make a difference to the lives of those we represent. This was a really special opportunity to celebrate special people in our community and it certainly was memorable.

WAITE ELECTORATE

Mr DULUK (Waite) (15:55): Earlier today, I announced that I will be running as an Independent at the next state election. My electors from across the entire community recognise the important role an Independent has in holding the government of the day to account, and that is what I have done and that is what I will continue to do.

What have we achieved to date as an Independent? We have saved the Mitcham Service SA centre. After multiple ambiguous announcements from the state government which created uncertainty around the future delivery of services at the Mitcham location, the electorate came together, fought and rallied and the government backtracked on their decision to close the centre in my community and also in Prospect and Modbury.

We protected our bus services and local public transport. Back in June 2020, when the state government foolishly announced that it would remove key Blackwood bus services from the electorate, we as a community mobilised, we ran campaigns, we got loud, we got heard and we defended the right of public bus users in my community. Once again, the government announced that they would no longer pursue these cutbacks to the bus network.

We have preserved the historic Waite Gatehouse. Once again, when the state government foolishly announced that it would be demolishing the state heritage listed gatehouse in late 2020, my office mobilised the community, which resulted in the government backflip on the decision of allocating over \$1 million to move, reconstruct and repurpose the building as a community volunteer centre and a museum within the Urrbrae historic precinct.

Of course, my office and I were instrumental in expanding the Sports Vouchers scheme. We successfully lobbied the state government to expand the scheme not only to be accessible for families of primary school age students but also to include families of middle school students from 2022. Right now, hopefully all across this house will come together to unite on this important one, that is, to expand that Sports Vouchers scheme for Scouts and Girl Guides to be included in the sports and recreation subsidy program. There is no reason why many scouting families across our state are being denied access to the scheme.

It is not just what one just does in this place that is important, it is what one seeks to do and what one will do. We will continue to fight on many key local community infrastructure fronts. Since the state government scrapped its election promise on GlobeLink, I have continued to advocate for both rail and road freight to be diverted out of the Adelaide Hills and Mitcham Plains.

I was very pleased to see in the state budget this year that the joint state and federal governments are to deliver a \$202 million bypass at Truro and, importantly, a \$10 million planning study and bypass case for the Greater Adelaide freight bypass. We will continue to lobby against plans to increase freight usage on Cross Road and in our suburban communities, and I urge the members for Unley, Elder and Badcoe to join me in that fight to ensure that Cross Road does not become a freight corridor.

It is important to defend and look after civil liberties in this place and the strength of our economy, and I think many constituents in my area are tired of the underperforming economy and civil liberties being eroded. As an Independent, I will always challenge the need for some of the extreme measures that we have seen recently in relation to restrictions and lockdowns to ensure that we always get that right balance between appropriate health measures and the rights of individuals.

Many times in this parliament over my course here, I have expressed the need for sensible economic decisions to ensure that our budget always has the appropriate fiscal management. As outlined in an Auditor-General report from 2015, a sensible net debt fiscal target was set at a maximum ratio of 35 per cent to ensure that we are financially responsible and maintain our AAA credit rating. Today, that same measure is running at 129.6 per cent.

We always must be mindful of future generations' ability to repay debt. It is prudent we carefully control our deficit levels in the future and appropriately manage public debt. We have to look after our small business operators. We have to ensure that many people are not affected by

regressive land tax changes and we must ensure that South Australia keeps its share of GST revenue.

I am focused on the real issues for South Australians that need to be addressed. Public schools and hospital funding, ramping, fruit fly outbreak and timber shortages have all been issues I have raised in this place. Since being in this place I have worked constructively for our community to ensure that we have fantastic community centres, well-funded sports grounds, ensuring that our health precincts remain vitally accessible, such as the Repat, which I have been so keen to see thrive. Of course, it is about listening to what the community needs and wants and how we can best deliver that, and I know that I can do that for my community.

GALLACHER, SENATOR A.M.

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (16:00): Today, I rise to honour the contribution to public life of the late Alex Gallacher, Senator for South Australia. Alex Gallacher never lost sight of where he came from or those he represented. Born in Scotland in 1954, his mother died when he was a young child. Along with his father and siblings, he migrated to Australia at the age of 12. It was not an easy path.

Alex began his working life as a labourer, got employment as a transport worker, as a truck driver, and then with Trans Australian Airlines, or TAA, as it was better known in the day. He went to work for more than 22 years at the Transport Workers' Union and he continued to carry the union flag for the TWU when he took up his position as a senator for South Australia in the Australian parliament in 2011, with road safety and safe rates and working conditions high on his political agenda.

As a person, Alex told it as he saw it, and in conversations his bluntness would at times give rise to a belly laugh all around. A proud working-class man, improving the lot of workers and South Australia were his focus. Not long after being elected to the Senate, Alex gave a speech in which he said:

For me, South Australia is first, second, third, fourth and fifth. I do not care who I have to advocate for or argue against. Whether it is in my own party, in the opposition or in the government ranks...I will be putting South Australian jobs first, South Australian economic opportunities first, and South Australian small businesses first.

A fierce advocate for all that he believed in, I know Alex will be greatly missed by his wife, Paola; children, Caroline and Ian; stepchildren, Frank and Kerry; his grandchildren and extended family and friends; his electorate office staff, who I know thought highly of him; TWU officials and members; as well as many parliamentary colleagues and union officials past and present. Alex fought the good fight for workers. His dedication to the TWU and the plight of transport workers, their safety and conditions, was outstanding. May he rest in peace.

On another matter, one that I know Alex would have supported as well, today is RU OK? Day, a day that encourages people to stay connected and have conversations that can help others through difficult times in their lives. In these challenging times, with COVID-19 restrictions, for many leading to isolation because they already live on their own, it is even more important to stay connected. A phone call to check in on a friend, neighbour or family member, to see how they are going could make the world of difference to them. Sometimes, something as simple as starting a conversation can save a life.

Tomorrow also marks World Suicide Prevention Day. It is important to reach out to those in our family, workplace, friendship circles and people within our community, to start a conversation and keep that conversation going. This week, Australia's first ever suicide prevention bill was introduced into the South Australian parliament by the member for Kaurua who, as we know, is also the dedicated shadow minister for health and wellbeing.

This bill would force governments to establish a suicide prevention plan and, importantly, would establish a suicide register in South Australia. We are the only state not to have one. The statistics are alarming. Eight people take their lives every day in Australia. For every death by suicide, it is estimated 30 people will attempt to take their own life; 89 per cent of people report knowing someone who has made a suicide attempt.

I want to finish today by giving a shout-out to the North East Community House in my electorate of Torrens, which this morning hosted an R U OK? catch-up morning tea for members of the community to drop in and have a chat over a cupcake and a cup of tea or coffee. I know that North East Community House's doors are always open to those who may be feeling down or going through a difficult time in their life.

I am always quick to encourage members of our local community who have time on their hands—recently retired, wanting to volunteer, widowed or in need of a friend—to get in touch with Farrah at North East Community House to find out about the programs and activities available there. I know many people who have found lifelong friends by taking that one step to try something new.

In closing, I want to take this opportunity to thank all our frontline healthcare workers for the amazing work they do in our mental health sector. This work is incredibly important to the many families impacted by family members or friends requiring their support.

Time expired.

MORPHETT ELECTORATE, GLENELG NORTH

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON (Morphett—Minister for Trade and Investment) (16:06):

I take this opportunity in parliament today to speak about Glenelg North, a suburb that at the 2022 state election is returning to the electorate of Morphett. Of course, that is the electorate I am fortunate enough to represent. Morphett already incorporates Glenelg, Glenelg East and Glenelg South, so that joins all the Glenelgs up together.

Glenelg North is home to some great community organisations, including the William Kibby VC Veterans Shed on Kibby Avenue. It is very ably led by Vietnam veteran Barry Heffernan and his support, Graham Rose. I really must emphasise that it is the veterans' shed. Barry always makes that point. The aim of this veterans' shed is to create and maintain an environment for veterans and ex-service personnel where concerns, past trauma, health issues and welfare issues can be discussed with other veterans who have empathy through similar life experiences in their operational areas or even, as Barry says, just to come and have a brew and a chat.

Not far away from the veterans' shed in Glenelg North is the Glenelg branch of Meals on Wheels on David Avenue. I was very fortunate to attend their recent AGM. They updated us that last year the Glenelg branch of Meals on Wheels delivered 23,797 meals, which is an average of 95 meals a day for the neediest in our community. In the time of COVID, when so many people are isolated, sometimes it was their only interaction for the day, so it was great to hear from the speakers around the great work they do. I would like to commend the Glenelg branch board chair, Sue Sodeman; the kitchen coordinator, Eric White; volunteer coordinator, Margit Grose; client services coordinator, Marg Foyle; and also the treasurer, Sandra MacDonald; and, most importantly, all the volunteers.

It was great at the AGM to recognise some of those volunteers for their service, whether it was one year of service, five years, 10 years, 15 or 20 years of service. In my case, I was fortunate to present awards to those who had 25 years of volunteer service. I presented those awards to Vi Harding, Judy Stagg and Dot Tangey. Congratulations to those three great volunteers in our Glenelg North community.

Glenelg North is also home to St Leonards Primary School, which is a great little government primary school nestled in the heart of Glenelg North. St Leonards is celebrating its 100th birthday this year, which is a great achievement for the community. To celebrate this, the school is holding a centenary fair which will take place on Saturday 30 October at the school. Local businesses can showcase their products, families can come along and also I note there has been a big letterbox drop in the area to try to get along all those past old scholars from Glenelg North to reminisce about their great times at what is a fantastic little school.

During this last month, I have undertaken a number of street corner meetings around Glenelg North. I would like to thank the people who came out for a chat at Golflands Reserve, Old Gum Tree Reserve—very famous and where we hold our Proclamation Day ceremony—Fordham Reserve and also Macfarlane Street Reserve. It was a great time to discuss with my community how the Marshall government is creating jobs; reducing costs; building what matters, including expanding emergency department capacity by 65 per cent; and, more importantly, delivering better services across this state.

I will be holding regular street corner meetings continually over the following upcoming weekends, and the next one will be at Wigley Reserve this Saturday. Wigley Reserve is a great open space and one the Marshall government has really helped support, alongside the Holdfast Bay council, partnering together to put \$1 million into the great Glenelg adventure playground and fitness hub, which really makes the area fantastic and family-friendly and brings people to that area of Glenelg. Many families go down there on the weekends; they grab a picnic rug and the kids go off and have a great time at the adventure playground. They are fantastic infrastructure upgrades.

I would also like to talk quickly about the PHOS Camden Netball Club at Golflands Reserve and the \$300,000 the Marshall government is putting into the netball court upgrade at the PHOS Camden Football Club, just across Sturt Creek. That will combine the football club and the netball club after a long time apart, so that is great news for all those sporting clubs in Glenelg North.

REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (16:11): I rise today on behalf of the health professionals in my electorate, who I believe are struggling under the burden of bureaucracy and mismanagement. I have had contact from numerous health professionals who live and work in Narungga and who report to me that the situation is becoming increasingly dire. From the outset, and to be abundantly clear, I do not believe that any blame lies at the feet of the current government, nor at the feet of the current minister. This is a problem that has been entrenched for almost 20 years and will now require a significant change to the way in which we do things. Transforming Health created this problem and now we need to fix it.

The AMA and the Rural Doctors Association continue to await outcomes from continued contract negotiations, and I have to say I find this quite disappointing. I do not think it is an exaggeration to say that the attraction and retention of doctors in regional South Australia is the single biggest issue we face. Without health services within an achievable distance for people to access, towns will wither and die—it becomes inevitable. Regional people, through their representatives elected by them, need doctors a lot more than doctors need government.

While I am not privy to the contract negotiation details, I do know that something needs to change. We cannot continue to maintain the status quo, with the gradual reduction of doctors and no obvious stream of replacement, and expect things to improve. We need to change the way regional hospitals are staffed and, while local health networks have been a great start, it is not enough by itself.

There have been some harrowing stories related to me by health practitioners in my electorate, recently by people at Maitland Hospital, who have been without a doctor staffing the hospital on multiple occasions recently. There have been at different times either a nurse practitioner or a paramedic acting as the on-call doctor. I am led to believe that, on at least one occasion when the nurse practitioner, who did a fantastic job and certainly filled it to the best of her ability I am sure, was acting as the locum, her provider number had not transferred with her and thus she was unable to prescribe even a basic dose of antibiotics.

That meant that a patient who had presented to the hospital with a basic infection faced having to be driven by volunteer ambulance, taking up the valuable time of volunteers, to Wallaroo Hospital and back for a relatively simple prescription. Thankfully, in that case the Maitland Medical Clinic, sitting adjacent, stepped in and prescribed the required dose, but the pressure being put on Michelle Nelligan and her staff at the clinic is significant. Unfortunately, they are the ones who face community unrest, thanks to decisions made elsewhere. They are the ones who are left to find doctors at short notice and they are the ones who find themselves under continued pressure.

I have received anonymous correspondence from a nurse at Maitland Hospital who reports that the 'never-ending overworked environment with little to no support is creating a pressure cooker at work' and that a particular shift left her 'feeling panicked and like her registration might be at risk' and finally 'that the working environment is becoming worse by the day'.

Maitland Hospital is an example I have heard about recently. Similar problems have been happening across the board, including at the wonderful community-run hospital at Ardrossan, and at Wallaroo Hospital where I regularly hear about stressed, overworked staff and concerns about the delivery of services. Minlaton accident and emergency has started to close intermittently on

weekends when locum staff cannot be sourced. Most recently, I have corresponded with the minister in relation to the Minlaton medical clinic. All of this is happening as our health professionals also deal with COVID vaccinations, testing responsibilities and associated inquiries.

I am doing my best. I am looking into the Independent Hospital Pricing Authority funding model and potential changes there, proper apportionment of the teaching and training grants that come from the federal government, ways to create more rural generalist pathway training places, potential changes to Local Health Network boundaries and improvements to doctor entitlements. These are potential avenues towards a fix, and I reiterate that this rural medical workforce crisis is not the current minister's fault.

I believe that this government has made genuine improvements to regional health care, but we were starting from so far back. Thanks to the unmitigated disaster that was Transforming Health, there is a lot of work to do. I have to say, also, that those people who presided over Transforming Health are now pretending that they care about regional health care. It is so incredibly offensive to my community that they now present themselves as some sort of compassionate leaders. It goes down like a lead balloon in the regions, I can assure you.

All that said, it does not matter where the problem started or who is responsible—we only need a solution. The solution cannot be the status quo. We cannot allow this gradual decline to continue while we build big hospitals in the city and pretend they are hospitals for all South Australians. A simple initiative to ease ramping in Adelaide would be to empower regional hospitals so that they do not have to fly so many people out.

Parliamentary Procedure

SITTINGS AND BUSINESS

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

That the house at its rising adjourn until 21 September 2021 at 11am.

Motion carried.

Bills

NATIONAL GAS (SOUTH AUSTRALIA) (MARKET TRANSPARENCY) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining)
(16:17): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the National Gas (South Australia) Act 2008. Read a first time.

Second Reading

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining)
(16:17): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

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

Leave granted.

Over recent years, the east coast gas market has undergone a significant transformation, with a number of structural changes occurring on both the demand and supply sides of the market. In response to these changes, in 2015 Energy Ministers asked the Australian Energy Market Commission to conduct a review of the design, function and role of the facilitated gas markets and gas transportation arrangements in the east coast. At the same time, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission was asked to review the state of competition in the east coast market. These two reviews recommended a range of reforms across the gas supply chain.

Informed by the findings and recommendations of these reviews, in August 2016, Energy Ministers agreed to implement gas market reform measures across four priority areas, including market transparency.

In 2018, a further review carried out jointly by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and the Gas Market Reform Group identified a range of information gaps and asymmetries across the eastern and northern Australian gas markets. In response, Energy Ministers tasked officials with developing a package of transparency measures to enhance transparency in the eastern and northern Australian gas markets.

In 2020, Energy Ministers endorsed the final recommended package of measures. The measures cover five main areas: gas, liquefied natural gas (LNG) and infrastructure prices, the supply and availability of gas including information about reserves and resources, information about demand for gas by large users and LNG exporters, information about infrastructure use and planned developments, and improvements to the Gas Statement of Opportunities published each year by the Australian Energy Market Operator.

Improved market transparency is intended to deliver a number of benefits including more efficient planning and investment across the market and more timely and accurate signals about how well the market is functioning. Market transparency is also intended to promote competition and the efficient trade of gas and infrastructure services.

The National Gas (South Australia) (Market Transparency) Amendment Bill 2021 includes changes to the National Gas (South Australia) Regulations and an initial set of National Gas Rules. The package will apply in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria. The package will apply in the Northern Territory with the exception of the Darwin LNG and Ichthys LNG facilities and offshore gas fields supplying exclusively those facilities. In this respect, Energy Ministers also agreed, at the request of the Northern Territory Government, to alter the exemption in the Rules to allow flows of up to 10 PJ in any 12 month period to or from the exempt Northern Territory facilities.

The National Gas (South Australia) (Market Transparency) Amendment Bill 2021 (Amendment Bill) that I present to you today will amend the National Gas Law, set out in the schedule to the *National Gas (South Australia) Act 2008*. The amendment bill provides for the South Australian Minister to make the initial National Gas Rules that will implement the transparency reforms. Once the initial National Gas Rules have been made, the Minister will have no power to make any further Rules.

The amendment bill expands the scope of existing measures in the Law and adds new measures.

The amendment bill enables rules to be made to expand the scope of the Natural Gas Services Bulletin Board and the persons who must report information to the Australian Energy Market Operator for the Natural Gas Services Bulletin Board. The expanded scope will extend to the natural gas industry, which will encompass activities through the gas supply chain from gas exploration to end users. The initial National Gas Rules are intended to expand the scope of the Natural Gas Services Bulletin Board to require the reporting and publication of information about gas reserves and resources, short term gas sales and swaps, compression services, LNG processing facilities, LNG exports and imports, the use of gas by large users and facility development projects. The initial National Gas Rules are also intended to update other aspects of the rules relating to the Natural Gas Services Bulletin Board including registration arrangements.

The amendment bill enables rules to be made to require the assumptions about gas prices used to assess reserves and resources to be given to the Australian Energy Regulator and to allow the Australian Energy Regulator to publish that information on an anonymised basis. The initial National Gas Rules are intended to implement those measures.

The amendment bill removes out of date limitations on the scope of the gas statement of opportunities. It is intended that the initial National Gas Rules will specify additional information to be included in the gas statement of opportunities including information about gas production and LNG activities.

The amendment bill provides an enhanced framework for the Australian Energy Market Operator to collect information required for the gas statement of opportunities. The Australian Energy Market Operator will be tasked with making new procedures, to be called the Gas Statement of Opportunities (GSOO) procedures. The initial National Gas Rules are intended to require the new GSOO Procedures to establish a survey process, to be conducted at least annually. To support the survey, the amendment bill will impose a new obligation for persons with information required for the gas statement of opportunities to give the information to the Australian Energy Market Operator when required by the GSOO procedures.

The amendment bill will give the Australian Energy Regulator a new function to publish information about prices for goods and services in the natural gas industry. The initial National Gas Rules are intended to allow the Australian Energy Regulator to publish information relating to LNG import, export and netback prices and prices for natural gas under gas supply and gas swap agreements. It is intended that the initial Rules will allow the Australian Energy Regulator to determine the categories of price information, methodologies used and the frequency of publication. The initial National Gas Rules are intended to defer the commencement of gas price reporting by the Australian Energy Regulator until after the end of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's current Gas Inquiry in 2025.

The amendment bill will give the Australian Energy Regulator new powers to publish an instrument requiring information to be given to the Australian Energy Regulator for the purpose of its new gas price reporting function. The initial National Gas Rules are intended to require the Australian Energy Regulator to consult on the form of instrument.

The amendment bill will amend the list of matters for which Rules may be made by the Australian Energy Market Commission to support these new measures.

I commend this bill to members.

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

2—Commencement

3—Amendment provisions

These clauses are formal.

Part 2—Amendment of *National Gas Law*

4—Amendment of section 2—Definitions

Certain definitions are inserted or amended for the purposes of the measure.

5—Amendment of section 10—Things done by 1 service provider to be treated as being done by all of service provider group

Amendments are made to an interpretative provision under the Law.

6—Amendment of section 27—Functions and powers of the AER

Provision is made conferring functions on the AER in relation to goods or services in the natural gas industry.

7—Substitution of heading to Chapter 2 Part 1 Division 4

The heading to Chapter 2 Part 1 Division 4 is substituted.

Division 4—Regulatory information notices, general regulatory information orders and price information orders

8—Amendment of section 45—Meaning of general regulatory information order

Provision is made that a general regulatory information order does not include an order that is made as a price information order.

9—Amendment of section 46—Meaning of regulatory information notice

Provision is made that a regulatory information notice does not include an order that is made as a price information order.

10—Insertion of section 46A

Section 46A is inserted:

46A—Meaning of price information order

New section 46A is an interpretative provision relating to price information orders.

11—Amendment of section 48—Service and making of regulatory information instruments

Amendments are made relating to price information orders.

12—Amendment of section 50—AER must consult before publishing a general regulatory information order

This amendment is consequential.

13—Substitution of section 51

Section 51 is substituted:

51—Publication requirements for orders

Provision is made for publication requirements for orders.

14—Amendment of section 53—Form and content of regulatory information instrument

Amendments are made relating to price information orders.

15—Amendment of section 54—Further provision about the information that may be described in a regulatory information instrument

These amendments are technical or consequential.

16—Amendment of section 55—Further provision about manner in which information must be provided to AER or kept

These amendments are technical.

17—Amendment of section 57—Compliance with general regulatory information order

An amendment is made relating to compliance with general regulatory information or price information orders.

18—Amendment of section 57A—Confidentiality issues

Section 57A is disapplied to price information orders.

19—Amendment of section 57B—Disclosure of information given to AER in compliance with regulatory information instrument

These amendments are technical in relation to price information orders.

20—Amendment of section 58—Exemption from compliance with general regulatory information order

This relates to amending the heading to section 58 of the Law.

21—Amendment of section 59—Assumptions where there is non-compliance with regulatory information instrument

Section 59 is disapplied to price information orders.

22—Amendment of section 63—Protection against self-incrimination

This amendment is technical in relation to price information orders.

23—Amendment of section 74—Subject matter for National Gas Rules

These amendments are technical or consequential.

24—Amendment of section 91D—Object and content of gas statement of opportunities

This amendment is technical.

25—Amendment of section 91DA—AEMO's obligation in regard to gas statement of opportunities

AEMO is conferred with functions relating to collecting, collating and deriving certain information.

26—Insertion of sections 91DB to 91DH

New sections 91DB to 91DH are inserted:

91DB—Information for the gas statement of opportunities

Provision is made in relation to persons giving AEMO information for the gas statement of opportunities.

91DC—Person cannot rely on duty of confidence to avoid compliance with obligation

This section provides that a person must not refuse to comply with the requirement in section 91DB on the ground of any duty of confidence.

91DD—Giving AEMO false or misleading information

This section provides that a person must not give GSOO information to AEMO that the person knows is false or misleading in a material particular.

91DE—Immunity of persons giving GSOO information to AEMO

Provision is made in relation to immunity of persons giving GSOO information to AEMO.

91DF—GSOO Procedures

AEMO is authorised to make GSOO Procedures.

91DG—Nature of GSOO Procedures

Provision is made about the nature of GSOO Procedures.

91DH—Compliance with GSOO Procedures

This section provides for compliance with GSOO Procedures.

27—Amendment of section 91MB—Compliance with Retail Market Procedures

Section 91MB(2) is deleted.

28—Amendment of section 218—AEMO's obligation to maintain Bulletin Board

These amendments are technical.

29—Amendment of section 219—AEMO's other functions as operator of Natural Gas Services Bulletin Board

These amendments are technical.

30—Substitution of sections 223 and 223A

Sections 223 and 223A are substituted by section 223:

223—Obligation to give information to AEMO

Provision is made for a person who has possession or control of information in relation to the natural gas industry to be required to give the information to AEMO for use in connection with the Natural Gas Services Bulletin Board.

31—Amendment of section 224—Person cannot rely on duty of confidence to avoid compliance with obligation

This amendment is consequential.

32—Amendment of section 225—Giving AEMO false and misleading information

This amendment is consequential.

33—Amendment of section 226—Immunity of persons giving information to AEMO

This amendment is consequential.

34—Insertion of section 226A

New section 226A is inserted:

226A—Provision of certain information to AER

Provision is made for the Rules to provide for certain requirements on persons subject to the operation of the Chapter to provide certain information to the AER (and other matters).

35—Amendment of section 228A—Compliance with BB procedures

Section 228A(2) is deleted.

36—Insertion of section 294FA

New section 294FA is inserted:

294FA—South Australian Minister to make initial Rules relating to enhanced market transparency

The South Australian Minister is authorised to make the initial Rules relating to enhanced market transparency.

37—Amendment of Schedule 1—Subject matter for the National Gas Rules

Certain subject matters on which National Gas Rules may be made are inserted into Schedule 1 of the Law. Other amendments to subject matters in the Schedule are consequential.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Brown.

BURIAL AND CREMATION (INTERMENT RIGHTS) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (16:20): I move:

That this bill be read a second time.

I am pleased to introduce the Burial and Cremation (Interment Rights) Amendment Bill 2021. This bill strengthens the enforceability of the interment rights issued under the Burial and Cremation Act 2013.

Clause 3 of the bill contains offences which provide protection for cremated remains that have been interred in an interment site. In particular, it makes an offence to remove cremated remains without the consent of the interment right holder or their representative.

With your leave, sir, I seek leave to insert the balance of the second reading in *Hansard* without my reading it, together with the explanation of clauses.

Leave granted.

A maximum penalty of \$10,000 would apply in respect of the offences in clause 3.

The offences would not apply where cremated remains have been interred directly in the ground (or scattered). A relevant authority for a cemetery or natural burial ground can temporarily remove cremated remains where they are in a container, where it is necessary to do so for the improvement or embellishment of the cemetery or for maintenance or repair work to be undertaken.

Clause 4 of the Bill amends section 35 of the *Burial and Cremation Act* to make it clear that an interment right can be enforced against the relevant authority for the cemetery or natural burial ground in respect of which it was issued.

Mr Speaker, the Government has moved to act after some interment right holders have experienced difficulties in having their rights honoured when the cemetery in which they hold an interment right has changed hands.

There are significant penalties for authorities that fail to comply with their obligations, with maximum penalties for breaching the laws set at \$10,000 for an individual or \$20,000 for a body corporate.

New section 35(5) makes it abundantly clear that these obligations apply to the person or body responsible for administering a cemetery or natural burial ground, regardless of when the interment right was issued or whether it was issued by a previous person or body responsible for administering the cemetery or natural burial ground.

It is not a defence for a defendant to be unaware of the existence of the interment right when they assumed administration of the cemetery or natural burial ground, unless they can prove that they took reasonable steps to identify interment rights in existence when they took over. Reasonable steps would include things like checking the register of the relevant cemetery or natural burial ground maintained under section 53 to ascertain particulars of interment rights issued by the relevant cemetery authority, checking the plans of the cemetery showing sites where remains are interred and sites set aside for future interments, checking with the former cemetery authority (where possible) to ascertain whether there were any additional interment rights issued that had not been recorded in the register or on the plans, checking with the local council and checking with the church diocese if the cemetery was attached to one of the mainstream churches.

Clauses 5, 6 and 7 contain technical amendments to the Burial and Cremation Act.

Clause 5 contains a clarifying amendment to section 38 of the Act to refer to 'the person who held the interment right immediately before its expiry'. It is that person who has the right to reclaim a memorial from the relevant cemetery authority.

Clause 6 makes a minor technical amendment to section 39 (which deals with ownership of memorials). Interment rights are issued only in respect of interment sites in cemeteries and natural burial grounds, so the words 'or other place of interment' are unnecessary and are being removed by this amendment.

Clause 7 amends section 42(1)(a)(ii) to correct an incorrect reference to an 'interment site' that should refer to an 'interment right in an interment site'.

Mr Speaker, the changes in clauses 3 and 4 of the Bill will give people certainty that when they purchase an interment right it will be honoured, and when they place their loved one's cremated remains in an interment site they will remain there unless the interment right holder or their representative consent to their removal. I commend the Bill to Members and I table a copy of the Explanation of Clauses.

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

2—Amendment provisions

These clauses are formal.

Part 2—Amendment of *Burial and Cremation Act 2013*

3—Amendment of section 13—Offences

This clause amends section 13 to create a new offence of removing cremated remains from an interment site in a cemetery or natural burial ground, or re-interring in a cemetery or natural burial ground cremated remains that have been removed from an interment site (or causing, suffering or permitting such acts) while an interment right is in force in relation to the interment site unless authorised to do so by the interment right holder, or if the interment right holder has died, a person referred to in section 35(1).

The proposed maximum penalty for the offence is \$10,000. The offence will not apply to cremated remains interred directly in the ground. It will also not apply to the removal or re-interment of cremated remains by a relevant authority for a cemetery or natural burial ground if it is done to enable the carrying out of improvement or embellishment works in the cemetery or natural burial ground, or maintenance or repairs in the cemetery or natural burial ground.

4—Amendment of section 35—Exercise and enforcement of interment rights

This clause amends section 35 to make it clear that an interment right may be enforced against the relevant authority for the cemetery or natural burial ground in respect of which the interment right was issued.

It also makes it an offence for the relevant authority for a cemetery or natural burial ground to fail to comply with its obligations under an interment right issued in respect of the cemetery or natural burial ground. The proposed maximum penalty is \$10,000 if the offender is a natural person and \$20,000 if the offender is a body corporate.

It will not be a defence to a charge of an offence that the defendant was not aware of the existence of the interment right when the defendant assumed the administration of the cemetery or natural burial ground unless the defendant proves that the defendant took reasonable steps to identify interment rights in existence at the time that the defendant assumed the administration of the cemetery or natural burial ground.

A further provision makes it clear that section 35 applies to the person or body for the time being responsible for the administration of the cemetery or natural burial ground regardless of when the interment right was issued, and regardless of whether the interment right was issued by that person or body or by some other person or body.

5—Amendment of section 38—Re-use of interment sites

This clause amends section 38 so that it refers to the former holder of an interment right where an interment right has expired.

6—Amendment of section 39—Ownership of memorial

This clause makes a minor technical amendment to section 39. The section provides that the holder of an interment right is the owner of any memorial at the interment site to which the interment right relates. Interment rights are issued only in respect of interment sites in cemeteries and natural burial grounds, so the words 'or other place of interment' are unnecessary.

7—Amendment of section 42—Power of relevant authority to dispose of unclaimed memorial

This clause amends section 42 to correct a reference in subsection (1)(a)(i).

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Brown.

STATUTES AMENDMENT (IDENTITY THEFT) BILL

Second Reading

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (16:21): I move:

That this bill be read a second time.

I am pleased to introduce the Statutes Amendment (Identity Theft) Bill 2021. Again, this is a bill that has been dealt with in the other place. This bill updates the laws which apply to identity theft and amends the:

- Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935;
- Criminal Procedure Act 1921;
- Sentencing Act 2017; and
- Youth Court 1993.

South Australia was the first jurisdiction to introduce identity theft provisions back in 2003. However, in the 18 years since then criminals and technology have evolved significantly. Change is required to update our laws to make sure they are fit for this new reality.

This bill updates the provisions of part 5A of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act to make it easier to prosecute identity theft and increases penalties associated with the crime. The changes will also support victims by making it easier to quickly obtain verification from a court that they have been a victim of identity theft thereby assisting them to restore their credit worthiness.

Mr Speaker, with your leave and that of the house, I seek leave to insert the balance of the second reading in *Hansard* without my reading it together with the explanation of clauses.

Leave granted.

Mr President, I am pleased to introduce the Statutes Amendment (Identity Theft) Bill 2021. This Bill updates the laws which apply to identity theft by making amendments to the Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935, the Criminal Procedure Act 1921, the Sentencing Act 2017 and the Youth Court Act 1993.

South Australia was the first jurisdiction to introduce identity theft provisions back in 2003. However in the 18 years since then, criminals and technology have evolved significantly. Change is required to update our laws to make sure they are fit for this new reality.

This Bill updates the provisions in Part 5A of the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act* to make it easier to prosecute identity theft and increases penalties associated with the crime. Changes will also support victims by making it easier to quickly obtain verification from a court that they have been a victim of identity theft which will assist victims to restore their creditworthiness.

The Bill inserts a new offence into the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act* of possessing or using another person's identification information without reasonable excuse. The new offence in section 144DA places the onus of proof on the defendant to show reasonable cause for possessing another person's identification information. This offence is a summary-level offence, carrying a maximum penalty of 2 years imprisonment.

The reverse onus nature of this offence aims to address the fact that identity theft offences are becoming increasingly prevalent, are generally committed remotely from the victim, leave little physical evidence and are far harder to track than other property theft offences. Varying the burden of proof in this way recognises that the 'reasonable excuse' for possessing another person's identity information relates to facts which, if they exist, are readily provable by the accused as matters within his or her own knowledge or to which they have ready access.

The new offence is limited to the possession of the personal identification information of natural persons rather than bodies corporate. The new offence does not include the possession of *public identification information*. This is defined to include name, address or other contact details, date or place of birth, marital status and relatives. These details are readily available publicly and possession of them does not constitute an offence.

There are a number of defences for the possession of another person's personal identity including:

- for use in the ordinary course of a lawful occupation or activity,
- where the defendant is a close relative of the victim,
- where the defendant holds a power of attorney for the victim, or
- where the defendant is a guardian or administrator for the victim.

Where a defence of reasonable excuse is raised, the onus is then on the prosecution to prove beyond reasonable doubt that the defendant had possession of the relevant material without reasonable excuse.

Mr President, the existing identity theft offences are very narrow. Currently, sections 144B and 144C require the prosecution to prove that the assumption of a false identity or the misuse of personal identification information was done with intent to commit a 'serious' criminal offence. A 'serious' criminal offence is defined in section 144A as an indictable offence or one prescribed by regulation.

This requirement has meant the threshold for prosecution has been unreasonably high and failed to capture many modern identity theft schemes. For instance, 'card not present' fraud, skimming, paywave and other high volume and low value offences. It is proposed in the Bill to remove the requirement for intent to commit a 'serious' criminal offence, and simply refer to a 'criminal' offence. With this amendment, police will be able to target a wider spectrum of offending.

The penalty for the existing offence of producing or possessing prohibited material in section 144D is also increasing from 3 years to 5 years to provide a greater deterrent for this type of offence.

Mr President, section 144F of the *Criminal Law Consolidation Act* currently contains a broad exemption for misrepresentations by persons under the age of 18 for the purposes of obtaining alcohol, tobacco 'or any other product or service'.

The breadth of the underage exemption for 'any other product or service' is narrowed by the Bill. Minors who access online gambling products or services or R18+ publications, films or computer games will no longer be exempt from identity fraud.

Minors will of course, be dealt with in accordance with the *Young Offenders Act 1993*, which allows police to deal with this type of offending by giving informal or formal cautions, requiring a family conference and imposing other sanctions for serious offences.

Finally, the Bill modifies the existing provisions regarding the issuing of identity theft certificates.

An 'identity theft certificate' is a document which can be provided by a court to verify that the victim is a victim of identity theft. Victims then use this certificate to prove to relevant authorities that their identity has been compromised.

Under the current framework, many victims are not able to obtain an identity theft certificate.

Currently, section 125 of the *Sentencing Act* requires first, the conviction of the offender, and secondly, that the victim apply to the court that arrived at the finding of guilt for a certificate to be issued.

This process presents difficulties for victims. Many perpetrators are never found or charged and, if the perpetrator is found and charged, it can take years for prosecutions to be completed. There is also a low rate of successful prosecution.

In the meantime, victims can spend significant amounts of time and effort convincing government departments, agencies, utilities and credit reporting agencies that their identities have been compromised before it is possible for them to obtain credit or services.

In cases where there is a prosecution, the long wait for a court outcome exacerbates the financial detriment and emotional stress experienced by victims.

The Bill inserts a new section 84 in the *Criminal Procedure Act 1921* enabling the Magistrates Court (or, in the case of minors, the Youth Court) to issue a certificate to a victim of identity theft where the court is satisfied, on the balance of probabilities, that they are the victim of identity theft. As the ability to obtain a certificate is no longer

contingent on a conviction of the perpetrator, the certificate provision has been moved from the *Sentencing Act* to the *Criminal Procedure Act*.

Mr President, keeping our laws current and relevant is one of the Marshall Liberal Government's key justice priorities. This Bill will ensure our laws capture modern day methods of perpetrating identity theft crimes and, most importantly, provide greater protections to the victims.

I commend the Bill to Members.

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

2—Commencement

3—Amendment provisions

These clauses are formal.

Part 2—Amendment of *Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935*

4—Amendment of section 144A—Interpretation

This clause makes consequential changes to the definitions in Part 5A of the Act.

5—Amendment of section 144B—False identity etc

This clause gets rid of references to 'serious' criminal offences so the offence in section 144B will apply in relation to an intention to commit, or facilitate the commission of, any criminal offence.

6—Amendment of section 144C—Misuse of personal identification information

This clause gets rid of references to 'serious' criminal offences so the offence in section 144C will apply in relation to an intention to commit, or facilitate the commission of, any criminal offence.

7—Amendment of section 144D—Prohibited material

This clause increases the penalties from 3 years imprisonment to 5 years imprisonment.

8—Insertion of section 144DA

This clause inserts a new summary offence of possession, without reasonable excuse, of personal identification information.

Part 3—Amendment of *Criminal Procedure Act 1921*

9—Insertion of Part 4 Division 6

This clause inserts a new Division allowing the Magistrates Court to issue a person with a certificate if satisfied, on the balance of probabilities, that the person is an identity theft victim.

Part 4—Amendment of *Sentencing Act 2017*

10—Amendment of section 125—Certificate for identity theft victims

This clause makes a consequential amendment to section 125 to recognise the new identity theft certificate procedure.

Part 5—Amendment of *Youth Court Act 1993*

11—Amendment of section 7—Jurisdiction

This clause allows the Youth Court to exercise the same jurisdiction as the Magistrates Court to issue an identity theft certificate to an applicant who is a child or youth.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Brown.

ELECTORAL (ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS AND OTHER MATTERS) AMENDMENT BILL

Committee Stage

In committee (resumed on motion).

New clause 36A.

Mr PICTON: I move the amendment standing in my name:

Amendment No 16 [Picton-2]—

Page 12, after line 9—Insert:

36A—Repeal of section 115

Section 115—delete the section

This is to introduce new clause 36A into the bill which would repeal section 115 of the act. Section 115 of the act provides:

115—Limitations on display of electoral advertisements

- (1) A person must not exhibit an electoral advertisement on—
 - (a) a vehicle or vessel; or
 - (b) a building, hoarding or other structure,if the advertisement occupies an area in excess of 1 square metre.

We are proposing to remove that restriction upon the one square metre rule for electoral advertisements on various structures or vehicles.

This is something that has been raised previously by electoral commissioners. If you go back to the 2014 election report from the then electoral commissioner, it was recommended that this be addressed. In that report, the electoral commissioner said in relation to the limitation of display of electoral advertisements:

There is confusion amongst candidates and registered political parties relating to the current provisions as they are not subject to such restrictions during federal election campaigns. The provision is cumbersome to administer and the source of many complaints. Consider removing the provision.

As the commissioner then said, I understand that there are a number of issues in how this is implemented and lots of debates and complaints about how that should happen. People have sought to get around this.

I significantly remember the Minister for Police, the member for Hartley, and the very prominent billboard in the heart of his electorate at that very notorious intersection. I think both he and perhaps his predecessor, the former member for Hartley, had leased out a building space in that area right underneath the massive billboard so as to enable that to be a campaign office and hence be able to use the billboard in that particular area, which would not be allowed if it was not technically a campaign office.

I also remember this being discussed in the course of the last election in regard to the Jay bus, as people might remember.

An honourable member: The Jay bus, yes.

Mr PICTON: There were a lot of good times on the Jay bus, I have to say. That had to be designed very specifically to make sure that all the signs that were on the Jay bus were one square metre. There was a one square metre sign about health, there was a one square metre sign about jobs, there was a one square metre sign about climate change and the like, which there was some discussion about, if I recall, at the last election.

This is always subject to debates and discussions. The Attorney has already talked about how the Electoral Commissioner is inundated with complaints during campaigns and that having to adjudicate them becomes quite a massive task. As the Attorney said, she put in a mountain of complaints herself against former Senator Nick Xenophon. A lot seemed to dwell on whether people have been in keeping with this one square metre rule.

There is one particular practical difficulty in how this is going to apply in the coming election campaign that I think makes this issue even more urgent to debate. It is something that the Attorney has previously touched upon, sometime eons ago, in a debate around the fact that were likely to have a federal election around the same time as the state election.

Therefore, there will be discussions as to what is the nature of a state election poster or advertisement and what is the nature of a federal advertisement or poster because the federal rules do not have this requirement of one square metre. I stand to be corrected, but I think that this is rather unique; if not unique, it is one of the few places around the country where this provision applies. We are going to be in an interesting environment, where it is very commonplace for federal

candidates and federal political parties, as well as other interest groups, campaigning organisations and lobby groups and the like, to use billboard advertising in the course of a federal election campaign, whereas that is prohibited under this provision in the state campaign.

This is going to raise some interesting questions because, if you put up a poster that says 'Vote Labor' or 'Vote Liberal' and it is 10 metres by 10 metres, is that state election material or is that federal election material? I am not sure that the federal court system would look too kindly upon there being a ruling from South Australian government instrumentalities by the state Electoral Commissioner that that should be not allowed in the course of the federal election act, which would specifically say that type of campaigning could be allowed.

I think we are sailing into unprecedented and uncharted waters in how the interaction between those two systems will work. Obviously, there will be some very clear demarcations. If you are putting up a 10 metre by 10 metre poster saying, for example, 'Vote John Darley for the Upper House', that is very clearly going to be a state election. But where you have that crossover between most of the political parties that have a role at a state and a federal level, coming up to those campaigns that will be happening potentially simultaneously, that is going to create quite the issue I am not sure we have a proposed solution for how it should be managed.

I think it is worth noting that, when we have federal elections in South Australia, we do see billboards being used, but I would not say there is a huge overabundance of the use of billboards. It is a factor that some campaigns choose to invest their campaign funding into, but I think if you look back in history not that many campaigns would devote a significant amount of their resources, from either party or any of the minor parties, into billboards, as opposed to television, online advertising, radio advertising or the like.

I remember a number of times when I helped my local federal member of parliament, Amanda Rishworth, who had a very good prominent billboard at the bottom of the hill at Main South Road.

Members interjecting:

The CHAIR: Order! I missed that, I must apologise. I am sure this committee is being undertaken in good spirit, but I did miss that.

Mr PICTON: I will update you later, sir, on how the Attorney-General does not regard me as attractive.

The CHAIR: Heavens! Is that a personal reflection?

Mr PICTON: It would be a personal reflection, but I am sure everybody is relieved on all sides in regard to that matter.

The CHAIR: I think we might leave this right there.

Mr PICTON: I think that is a very good idea. I would not comment on the attractiveness of the member for Kingston. I would comment on her hard work and diligence and her margin, which has increased and increased—I do not think probably all due to the fact that she had one billboard for those elections, but it is a significant expense.

It raises the question of why we have this provision in there to begin with. What is the public policy merit of saying, 'You can bombard somebody's letterbox as much as you like, you can bombard their Facebook feed as much as you like, you can bombard their television screens as much as you like, but you cannot put up a poster.' I think there is a question as to why that needs to be put in place. Even if you accept the Attorney's arguments with regard to the separate proposal, which she is putting forward in relation to corflutes—I do not share those views—the issues she is putting forth about environment, etc., I do not think quite carry the same in relation to a billboard that is already erected and already in place. Nor is there any additional visual interruption because the billboard would already be in place.

Proceeding with this amendment would carry a number of benefits. One is that it alleviates a lot of pressure on the Electoral Commissioner to devote to much more important tasks, as has been noted in the 2014 report. It helps to address that federal-state issue that we are about to encounter in relation to how to interpret what is a state poster and what is a federal poster, which I

think is going to be very difficult to do. It also addresses the question of why this provision needs to be there in the first place.

This will help to reduce those disputes. It will help to address the federal election issues. I think it raises a separate issue, which we may all discuss further when we get to the other bill in the house with regard to funding disclosure, about that interaction between federal and state when it comes to expenditure. What will be a federal or a state advertising or campaign expenditure has very different rules, and there is certainly no funding cap at the federal level. I think we need to consider that as well.

In summary, this will seek to remove the restriction we have at the moment in South Australia, which is, if not unique, one of the only places in the country where such a restriction would apply, make our election process simpler and address any potential federal issues that might occur and ease the pressure on the Electoral Commissioner.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Can I thank the member for Kaurna for bringing this amendment to the bill. It is an important amendment, not just for the reasons the member for Kaurna highlights about the recommendations of the Electoral Commissioner and the capacity for the commissioner to apply the strictures of the current regime but for some important other considerations that I would like to tell you about, Chair.

In doing so, I want to recount a brief story about one of my former constituents, who has now passed away. His name is Alex. He passed away about three years ago, well into his 90s. He had the rare and extraordinary distinction of being married for 25 years and then, unfortunately, losing his wife to illness. After that time, he managed to find love again and was married to his second wife for another 25 year period. They both lived very happily in my electorate, up until close to their final days, before their ailing health caused them to go into care.

Alex was a migrant to Australia from Scotland. It is his history in that regard which caused me first to meet him because he, like me, is a member of the Clan Campbell Society of South Australia. When he worked, his profession in Adelaide was as a typesetter. I am not talking about what a graphic designer might claim to be typesetting. This was real typesetting, taking a physical letter and placing it in a row with other letters in preparing to print a document, as it was done in the first half of the 20th century.

We as members of parliament and candidates at elections I guess have a tangential interest in typesetting because, aside from the photos, which we pay some attention to, the other part of the corflutes we are interested in is how our names fit on them. I can remember having a brief conversation with him about whether typesetters had a rule of thumb when it comes to public signage, not so much about the font that is used but about the size of letters and their legibility to a regular observer.

It was fascinating to me to understand that there was a rule of thumb typesetters and signwriters used to apply when it came to sizing letters for signs in order for them to be legible to casual observers or passers-by. You might be interested to know, Chair, that that rule of thumb was roughly for every 10 feet of distance a letter would ideally be at least an inch high or higher, depending on the distance. For example, if you are 150 feet away or 45-odd metres, you would want letters to be something in the order of 15 inches high. As candidates subject to other bills that are before this place, we rely on signage to let constituents know not only who we are, putting a face to the name for example, but also the fact that we are candidates at a coming election.

It has always been of some interest to me, as somebody who has the distinction of having a moderately long surname, how well my name can be crammed in the allowable space for a public advertisement for the purposes of a state election. One square metre does not provide much capacity for someone of even Anglo-Celtic origin, like me with an Irish last name of Mullighan, to find its accommodation within one square metre. It has vexed me greatly about how this might be remedied, and of course it is for that reason that I am keen to support this amendment.

I am conscious that some other members might not feel so passionately about this. There are some members, like the current member for Taylor, who is pretty well off in this regard. They can afford to have very large sizing of their relatively short both first names and surnames on their billboards. But for those of us who do not have the luxury of a very brief name—like me, the member

for Croydon, the Leader of the Opposition, or the member for West Torrens, or even the member for Elizabeth—we struggle to find an appropriate way that we can advertise to our constituents that we are running for election again.

Speaking from relatively recent experience, it can even be a frustration to the Department of Treasury and Finance, whose responsibility it is to superintend our electorate office arrangements, to find appropriate signage outside our electorate offices to balance both what they believe might be acceptable to the local council and the by-laws that apply to signage in our particular areas, and what is reasonable. So I am guessing that the Attorney and the government are likely to oppose the member for Kurna's amendment, but it seems clear to me that that has been done for base political reasons—because they tend to enjoy the electoral benefit inherent in their by and large having shorter names than we do over on this side of the chamber.

There is one exception of course: the member for Stuart finds himself at a distinct disadvantage from the current arrangements. I say to you, sir: who will stick up for the member for Stuart in the course of this debate? Well, I will proudly. Every letter of his proud Dutch heritage, just like my Irish heritage, should be able to be accommodated on an appropriate advertisement. I put to you, sir, that one square metre is simply insufficient in order for us to adequately communicate our last names.

So, yes, I do agree that there are exceptions on both sides, that while the Liberals might enjoy an overall benefit in one regard, the exception is the member for Stuart, and on our side, of course, the existing member for Taylor has the opposite problem to the member for Stuart. Some might say that is the reason the member for Taylor is not continuing on, because he does not want to create waves in the consideration of this amendment bill, let alone for this particular amendment that the member for Kurna brings.

But I put to you that this is long overdue reform, and reform put even by the relatively—and I am talking about in length, rather than, as the Deputy Premier referred to him, in terms of attractiveness—modestly named member for Kurna and how he can find ample accommodation on his corflutes. While people like me—and even the member for Ramsay who has an inherent interest in this with a surname of similar unfortunate length to mine—find it very difficult to fit our name on a corflute.

Mr Picton: That's why I don't go with 'Christopher'.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Exactly! The member for Kurna has to cut short the effort that his parents put into naming him because of the strictures of the electoral law. I notice that my electoral neighbour, the member for Colton, has to do the same thing with his first name. He has to effectively annex the second half of his first name just so that he can try to communicate the minimum amount of information so that people might know who he is. The member for Cheltenham has the same problem. He cannot use the full extent of his first name.

Mr Szakacs: And they can't say my last name!

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: And he says they cannot say his last name, and then he has a third problem on top of that: the length of the name of his electorate. It is extraordinary. Some people might think that the die has been unfairly cast against the member for Cheltenham in that regard. I do not want you to think that this line of argument means that I have some unfair advantage in the length of the name of my electorate because it does not quite make up, unfortunately, for the length of my first and second name.

I put it to you, sir, that one square metre is grossly insufficient for us. Of course, this is all of great humour to the member for Hurtle Vale. We have seen how she represents her name on her corflutes; seven letters in total, or, as 'The Four Yorkshiremen' would say, 'Luxury!' when it comes to a corflute. But I do not have that luxury and neither do many other members. I would urge you, sir, to give this serious consideration in casting your support or otherwise for these amendments. I congratulate the member for Kurna on bringing this forward. It goes a long way to recognising the diverse heritage represented in many of our surnames and gives them greater accommodation when it comes to making displays for the purposes of advertising ourselves for election.

The CHAIR: Thank you, member for Lee, for that fascinating dissection of the surnames present in this place. Wonderful!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I indicate, in respect of amendment No. 16 standing in the name of the member for Kaurna, that the government opposes the repeal of section 115, which would have the effect of abolishing the one square metre restriction on the size of posters, corflutes and electoral advertisements generally. I just place on the record that at no time was I assessing the attractiveness or otherwise of the member for Kaurna in my previous contribution. I was merely comparing him with the federal member for Kingston, which overlaps his electorate, and identifying that if I had to see a double life-size poster of either of them I think I would find the member for Kingston more attractive.

Mr Picton: I think that is a judgement. I agree with you.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: You can take it as you like. I am just getting over having to have 20 years of looking at a double life-size picture of Christopher Pyne. So there is actually some attraction to this proposal.

The member indicates he is not quite sure why we had it, and I do not know either, but the whole act was 1985. We had a new era in relation to electoral matters. It coincided approximately with the time of the early eighties, when we had the introduction of this then newfound idea of having corflutes everywhere, which is going to be the subject of another bill in the parliament.

Nevertheless, it was born into that legislation and has served us well, in the sense of providing that restriction. I am advised that in the last two elections there have only been 11 allegations of breach of the one square metre rule; three of them failed to reach any threshold of guilt in relation to the last election. There were eight, I think, that were fined or given some kind of penalty. Eight warnings were issued and three were found not to breach the act. With that bit of information, that is as best I can help with history.

What I do want to remind the member is that, if this was such an offensive area of restriction in relation to advertising, I do wonder why the previous government after the 2014 election took no notice of the electoral boundaries commission report which recommended its abolition—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Well, if we are looking at life-size posters—nevertheless, in 2014 the Electoral Commissioner had recommended that this be got rid of and, for whatever reason, the then Attorney-General or whoever had the passage of electoral reform in the Labor Party at the time did not take it up and did not take up a lot of those, and I have made comment about that before, but this was one of them.

There is a consistency argument, though, that has been raised by the member for Kaurna and I hear that. It was almost the same plea I put to the then Attorney-General when we discussed the introduction of public funding in elections and how helpful it would be and how sensible it would be that we have the same structure of regulation around public funding as applied in the federal election so that we could have some consistency and this would be for ease of operation, enforcement and compliance of political parties and candidates.

He took the view that it did not matter how different it was to be in the model he had come up with, which we now have and which we are about to look at amending. He wanted to have something that was bespoke and he got it. So I am always rather puzzled that sometimes I come in here and there is a powerful argument submitted for the consistency and argument to ensure that we minimise confusion for the elector and now we are looking at a situation where there is to be a removal of this.

I would hazard a guess that the introduction of corflutes into the seascape of pictures and identification during election campaigns precipitated this desire for the then Bannon government to introduce this legislation which this government is now asking to repeal. With that, I indicate that we do have this restriction. If it is the will of the parliament that we get rid of it, then I look forward to seeing life-size billboards and posters.

I would suggest that it would be inappropriate for us to do that without having a serious discussion about corflutes. If we were to have life-size pictures the size of Stobie poles of the member for Kaurna—it is starting to look like a frightening prospect actually and I am cementing my view to oppose this amendment. It just seems to me that we need to have a more comprehensive discussion about what is going to be out there.

Obviously, all of this advertising material has to be authorised and there is a process for that. But the restriction, I think, has served us well while we have had the sea of corflutes around. If we are going to change that, I think we would need to be looking at it as a package in relation to how we would address that. With those comments, I indicate that I oppose amendment No. 16.

Mr SZAKACS: I rise in support of the member for Kaurna's amendment. As I spoke about a little earlier, I have been the authorisation officer for a number of different strategies across the years. It is something that is of particular interest to me. I note the contribution of my colleague the member for Lee especially speaking about the systemic prejudice against white Anglo-Celtic members of parliament who we know.

In a bit more of a serious manner, I will seamlessly move into my discussion and my personal preference of various federal election strategies and tactics around materials that we cannot implement here in South Australia at a state level. Bunting, of course, is one of those. We need to talk about new and more environmentally friendly ways to use bunting, but nevertheless bunting is—

Ms Cook: Rice paper.

Mr SZAKACS: Rice paper, that is right. Let's hope that we never have rain on election day. As a redhead, I hope for rain every election day. March election days are an absolute killer for me and I have no doubt that my dermatologist will one day tell me that as well.

Bunting is one of those things that does provide a degree of uncertainty. The major parties largely know the rules. Certainly, I have never heard of a complaint of any material substance against a major party regarding the existing regulations, but there is amongst Independents and minor parties a degree of confusion.

Often, there are complaints made by those Independents, third parties and minor parties against some of the materials used by major parties, particularly against third parties and trade unions that use corflutes and various different materials on election day or before election day. Often, these third parties and individuals cannot quite work out that, whilst the trade union movement and the Labor Party are very close, having formed over 100 years, we are actually distinctly and politically independent, so when a trade union puts up a corflute and the Labor Party puts up a corflute, it is not the same person putting up the corflute and therefore it is not two metres by two metres.

In my view, there is also a degree of public service that can be improved by increasing the square metre space of these various materials, as the member for Kaurna has proposed. We know that more and more people are, and are likely to be, voting before election day, so enabling political candidates and political parties to use space more broadly to advertise that is certainly something that I think is of merit.

Unfortunately, one of the corflutes that I used in my by-election campaign, reminding people of the by-election coming up, received a complaint. Upon the complaint—not because of size but for another reason—the Electoral Commission asked us to remove it and of course using our best endeavours we did so, but there are other public services and public service initiatives that I think can be improved by increasing the space.

I am sure the Attorney would agree that there is also the ability for political parties to better convey their message, whatever that message may be, unlike the member for Lee who is interested in those larger surnames. There could be political messages as well and there is one particularly that I am picturing now. Mr Chair, you will have to work with me on this one because I cannot show you, as it would be unparliamentary.

There is a nice landscape billboard that I can see now that I think would be of significant public service. Right in the middle of that is the Premier and above in big red text is 'Steven Marshall's rotten government.' There is a nice landscape with Steven Marshall, the Premier, right in the middle. To his right is the member for Waite and above his head is a quote, 'Drunken pest caught.'

To the member for Waite's right is a photo of the member for Schubert and above the member for Schubert's head is a quote, 'Resigned amid scandal.' To the member for Schubert's right is the Minister for Water—of course, known as the capitulator thanks to the significant investigative work of the royal commission—and the quote above the Minister for Water's head would be 'Sold out SA on the Murray'.

To the right—there is more; I mean, you can see, now, why we need to look at this square metre space, because without the landscape two by one, three by one or nine by four maybe, on a nice big billboard as you are driving down South Terrace or driving through the member for King's electorate or driving through the member for Colton's electorate or driving through the member for Elder's electorate, there would not be this nice big billboard that I think is only proper for us to use as the alternative government.

So to the right, again, of the water minister's photo is the Hon. Terry Stephens from another place: 'Resigned amid scandal'. Coming back to the middle of the nine by four or ten by six billboard, just to the left of the Premier is the current Minister for Infrastructure and Transport and above his head is: 'Multiple bullying allegations'. Just to the right of the Minister for Transport is the member for Narungga: 'Criminal charges'. To his right is the member for Chaffey: 'Resigned amid scandal'. I think we are probably going to need a bigger billboard for the member for Chaffey because there are quite a few things we could talk about relating to the member for Chaffey. He might have lost his ministry, but he will always have his air pods.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: It would need to be the size of Texas.

Mr SZAKACS: It would need to be the size of Texas, that's right. We would need a big billboard for the member for Chaffey. Of course, right on the edge—we cannot forget him, even though it is very easy to forget him—is the new Agent General for South Australia in the UK: 'Resigned amid scandal'. So if nothing else, from my perspective I support this amendment because as a public service it is only fair that we are enabled to use these larger billboards to tell the story of Steven Marshall's rotten government.

Ms COOK: I support the member for Kaurna's amendment. The contributions have been diverse and interesting and brought to mind a few other things. We have talked about names and the length of names and how they fit nicely or not onto corflutes. As time goes on in our state, we become a much more diverse and multicultural community. Having been to many citizenship ceremonies and made many friends of people who have come to live in Australia, particularly from the subcontinent, I just cannot imagine what it would be like trying to fit some of the names from India, Sri Lanka or Pakistan onto some of the corflutes. I believe that at a citizenship ceremony I went to recently one of the names had 18 letters in it. So I think you would be struggling significantly to be able to fit that named tidily on there.

One of the members—I cannot recall who it was—was talking about the previous member for King, now member for Taylor, Jon Gee. It has often passed my mind how tidily the words 'King Gee' would have fitted onto a corflute for the previous election had it not been for all the movement of the boundaries.

In all seriousness, getting back to the importance of being able to get the message out or be able to show people who it is that they are actually voting for in elections or looking for representatives on a poster, there is a big discrepancy between what the feds put out and what the state members and candidates are able to put out. I am sure the member for Kaurna would have talked about the federal member for Kingston, Amanda Rishworth, who is an incredibly diligent and hardworking federal member in our southern suburbs. She, I believe, has used an actual billboard to be able to promote her position and that she is up for election in South Australia.

Of course, we do not have that luxury; although, with the sizing and the shape of corflutes, people have become quite creative. I remember last election, there were some very long corflutes—narrow, but very long—that some of the parties had put up, and they take up the whole Stobie pole as such anyway. They do really dominate those opportunities that you have to place some signage.

Even though you cannot currently exceed that size of the one metre square, people are using ones that optimise the use of the space available. I do not see any harm in our being able to increase the size. I thought that was a very good visual representation that the member for Cheltenham was trying to offer us in terms of providing some use of a larger sign to be able to tell a story leading into the election.

The other one that comes to mind was used by the member for Kingston at one of the polling booths in the South-East a few years ago, when some rather extraordinary practices came to light from a candidate who I think was standing for Nick Xenophon's team. I cannot remember the full

scope of what it was this gentleman used to do, but it was some kind of acupuncture therapy that was supposed to stimulate fertility by inserting needles in very delicate places on a woman's anatomy, if I recall, something that we could not find a lot of scientific evidence or validity for regarding those very strange practices. I do remember some commentary that was a bit odd around it. That story was told at the polling booth using a rather large sign.

I am not suggesting that should be the story that is told or hung on the Stobie poles around the electorate, but I do think there is opportunity that we are missing if we do not take the opportunity now while the bill is open to be able to knock that clause out and be able to provide for some more creative and imaginative pieces of advertising that we could use during the election campaign. We get swamped by dozens of pieces of material within our letterboxes and what have you, and I cannot see that some of these signs are any more offensive than that. With that, I would support the member for Kaurana in his amendment.

Mr HUGHES: Who would have guessed in 2014 when I was elected to this place that I would be getting up to speak to an amendment about the square metreage of signage. This is clearly a very important amendment. In a former life, I used to actually design posters and print posters on behalf of bands down here in Adelaide. I would be very perturbed if I were just restricted to a mere one square metre—the bigger the better when it came to promoting some of the bands that I was involved with.

Of course, I come from an electorate that is incredibly large. It is 1¼ the size of Germany in land mass. Everything in the seat of Giles is large, and signs should be as well—or at least we should not be restricted when it comes to the size of signage. It is something to make an impact in such a large electorate with communities scattered far and wide.

It is not just the size of the electorate; it is what is contained in that electorate. The biggest opal mining community in the nation, indeed in the world, is in my electorate. They deserve big signs up in Coober Pedy. The biggest copper mine in the country is at Olympic Dam. They deserve big signs. We have the biggest uranium mine in the country. They deserve big signs up at Olympic Dam and Roxby Downs and, of course, where the biggest structural steel producer is in the nation—the people of Whyalla deserve big signs.

Once upon a time, we did have the biggest shipyard in the nation in Whyalla. Bigness is at the heart of the electorate of Giles, and I would not want to see a restriction on the signage used to get the message across in the seat of Giles. When you have more than a square metre to play with, you can do all sorts of imaginative stuff. There are some very creative efforts around the place, whether they are on billboards, whether they are on smaller signs, but over that one square metre. I do not think we need this restriction, and I am sure that we are going to eventually get to argue in this place about the merits or otherwise of corflutes. With that small contribution to big signs, I will now regain my seat.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: I rise to support the amendment in the name of the member for Kaurana. This amendment, obviously, is supporting the ability to have electoral signs that are larger than one by one. It is an opportunity to remind us about the power of pictures and how we visually process photos and colours a lot more quickly than many other things. The reason I think it is important to support this amendment is that we know that the electorate is making their decisions on how they are going to vote later and later. Within the bill before us, we are encouraging people to vote earlier, but just because they can vote earlier does not mean that they have made a decision. They are probably going to be voting earlier out of convenience because they might be working on the Saturday.

When we want people to be thinking about that choice, we in this house probably think that people know how they are going to vote and that they vote consistently most of the time. It is simply not true. We would also like to think that everyone knows that the next election is on 19 March, and I can tell you that most people do not. Most people do not know that we have a fixed four-year term, and they do not know either that we might be having an election at a similar time to the federal government. They do not think about us as much as we think about what is going to happen leading up to the election.

When someone is standing in line at the pre-poll on the Saturday of election day, we want to make sure when they are making this decision that they have all the information that they need. We want them to know who our candidate is. Yes, my corflutes are 10 years old. I do look a little bit older

now, but my name is still the same and my seat is still the same. I want them to be able to recognise me and hopefully know that they have had an interaction with me in the last four years.

We also want them to know about our policies and the differences with our policies. We want them, while they are standing there, to be able to clearly identify the differences, not just between the names of the candidates but between the policies that we stand for. We want them to know about government performance. We want them to be thinking about how that government went over the last four-year term. Is that important to them? How is the economy going? What has been invested in schools?

We know that this time people are angry. People are angry about ramping. People are angry that our paramedics are having to be ramped at our hospitals. My constituents are really angry that when they go to the Lyell Mac hospital, even on a Tuesday night, in emergency they are standing there for hours upon hours. We want to make sure that people are aware of government performance, and when they are standing there getting ready to vote or in the lead-up to election day, let's make sure we are clear about the differences, not just the difference between Labor and Liberal but the differences between all the parties that are vying for votes.

Of course, we might want to talk about personal characteristics: the fact that I live in my electorate, that I have been the member for some time, that I have a record here and that I have evidence to show what I have contributed to the seat. We also want to show and share with people our commitments to the future, our vision, and we want to do that with information that is easy to accept and condense, and visually is the best way we can do that, and we want to do that with pictures and a few words.

What I am really quite concerned about are the inconsistencies with the federal rules and the potential for confusion. All of us here know that the federal election could be held as late as May 2022. What if in March we have a big red billboard that says, 'Vote Labor'? Under these rules, that is not allowed, but what are the rules going to be considered under: federal or state? Given that they are likely to be at a similar time, these are things that we should be asking ourselves: what is going to be the difference?

This is an opportunity to talk to the electorate. We would like to think they are engaged now. We would like to think that they have probably made their decision already, but that is simply not true. I am going to remind my constituents that this government axed the Adelaide 500. They axed a much-loved event and guess what? I am going to have a picture with a car on it and I am going to have a picture of the crowd who enjoyed that event and I am going to remind them of the \$45.9 million that it brought into this state in 2019 and the fact that this government axed the event with nothing to replace it. I am going to remind them each and every day up to the election and I am going to put it on a picture and they are going to see it as they go to vote. I rise today in support of the amendment of the member of Kaurana and encourage you to support it.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: I also rise to support the amendment of the member for Kaurana about the one square metre rule. As someone who has worked on state campaigns and federal campaigns, I have never been able to understand why we have different rules for federal campaigns. You can put bunting around, and colleagues of mine have had billboards up around the place, and it just does not make sense to people that you are restricted to the one square metre.

This gives the government of the day a very unfair and undemocratic advantage because governments of the day can use taxpayers' money to advertise government initiatives and government services on billboards that can be associated with the political party that is in government. Let's take a look at those big 40-metre long trams that we see go past this Parliament House every day every 10 minutes or so. I have seen them covered in political advertising, paid for by the taxpayers, dressed up as government advertising but actually all about supporting the government of the day and promoting the government of the day.

On one hand, you have the government being able to put their messaging all over a 40-metre long tram that goes from the Entertainment Centre all the way down to Glenelg and back every 10 minutes, every day of the week, yet the opposition is thwarted from doing anything bigger than something that is one square metre. That is a total disadvantage to the party in opposition or an Independent who is trying to make their way into parliament.

Let's do away with this one square metre rule and create an even playing field for all contestants in a political battle, because this is a democracy and this should be fair for both sides of politics—in fact, all sides of politics: the governing party, plus those Independents and other party members who might want to run against them.

When we look at the last election in the US and federally, we see that campaigns have a campaign bus that gets around. There was the Trump bus, the Biden bus and the Clinton bus before that. In Australia, federal politicians have been able to get around on their bus, so we wanted to do a Jay bus at the last election. We had to break up the bus into little, one square metre panels that we could put our messaging on.

We were out in the regions. I know the bus did a nice tour of Kangaroo Island; I was on it. It was a very comfy bus too. It had beautiful plush leather seats, a coffee machine and a fridge down the back. We had a great time on that bus as we went around Kangaroo Island and down on the Fleurieu Peninsula. But why could we not just have it all painted in one message, which you would normally do, instead of having to divide it up to meet some rule that makes sense to no-one?

I think that is a terribly unfair thing to do. It is not in keeping with where standards have gone, where electoral practices have gone. If we look around the world and see how often buses are used now in terms of not just getting the candidate or the leader of the party around the state or around the electorate but also sending that message, it is a really good thing. People like seeing a big bus turn up, saying, 'This is what we are going to do in your area.' If you paid the big bucks for the bus, you might as well be able to put the message on there that you want.

At the last election, I had to divide all my messages up and put them up on lots of different poles. I had the one about the Myponga Bowls Club, the great grant that we gave them so that they could put in an artificial green down there, which the club had been asking for for years and years. Myponga is one of the wettest places in South Australia. Not only was it bad for the condition of the green but it was bad for visiting teams that would come to Myponga.

They would bowl at their normal rate that they might bowl at Noarlunga, McLaren Vale, Aldinga or Victor Harbor, and it would go about four metres because it was a heavy track. Conversely, when Myponga would play away, they would give it a bit of grunt as they let go of the bowl and they would be in the gutter at the other end. It made for an unfair playing field, which is exactly what this one square metre rule is all about as well: it is an unfair playing field.

I think of the other posters I had up at the Myponga playground. I could have put them both on one poster if I could have gone bigger than one square metre, but no-one can read signs that are only one square metre. You cannot put much writing on it because when people are driving along, particularly on somewhere like Main South Road that goes straight through the town of Myponga, they cannot see a whole lot of writing. If you could have two or three square metres, you could put more messages on it because you can fit more on in that font and typeface and size that you need.

The Myponga playground was really important, but I could not fit it on the Myponga Bowls Club, so I had to do another one. Then you go to a bit further up Main South Road, and I had to do signs that talked about our announcement that we had committed money to build a birth to year 12 school at Aldinga for 1,650 kids. All I could fit on there was that Leon Bignell is delivering a birth to year 12 school for Aldinga. I would have liked to have said it was going to have 1,650 kids and it is going to be the centrepiece of the Aldinga community. I would have liked to be able to elaborate a little bit more, but when you are only given one square metre it is pretty hard to put all that stuff on there.

On some of the signs, I could not even fit the name of the Labor Party, because it was really important that we had to get the message out in that little confined space. Sometimes it is like those very talented people who can write whole sentences and paragraphs on a grain of rice. This is the sort of challenge we are faced with. On that stretch of Main South Road, not only did I want to tell everyone that we had come up with the money for the B-12 school for Aldinga but I also wanted to tell them that in that very same budget—the 2017-18 budget, the last Labor budget—we had also funded the duplication of Main South Road from Seaford to Sellicks. I could not fit it on the school one, so I had to do separate posters about it so that people could actually read it.

Again, people are driving past, and you need to attract their attention and they need to be able to read what it is that you are doing, what it is that you are proposing to do for that electorate in

the next four years, so that they know who they are voting for, so that they know that one party, the one that I represent, is offering a lot and the Liberal Party is offering not much at all.

That is why it suits the Liberal Party to have this. I remember their posters. They did not have any achievements. All they kept saying was 'Vote for Steven Marshall and the Liberal plan.' That was all they said. Every sign was exactly the same. It was just that. They have nothing to say. They have no reason to give voters to make them vote for them. They are quite happy as long as they can fit the words 'We've got a plan' and Steven Marshall's name on it. That is all they care about. We have a good story to tell. We have an amazing pedigree, an amazing track record.

When I look at the almost 16 years that I have been here, we need really big signs to fit in all the stuff that I have done for the local area. We had the ones about the McLaren Vale overpass. That was a game changer for the people of McLaren Vale because it was a very deadly intersection as you came out of Main Road, McLaren Vale, particularly if you were turning right onto the Victor Harbor Road. I wanted to tell everyone that that was me who got that. It was \$18 million, and I pestered Pat Conlon time and time again that we needed this important safety measure, and we finally got it.

I wanted to put those posters up around the place: what have the Liberals ever done for the south? Nothing. It is the forgotten south. Maybe that is what they can put on their one square metre: 'Liberals, we don't care. Liberal, the forgotten south.' Yes, that is what you get when you get Liberal governments.

Mr Odenwalder: The one-way expressway.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Yes, the people who gave you the one-way expressway. There is not much to brag about when you are the Liberal Party. We have a lot of good things to say and we need massive signs to be able to put it all down. I must say, there will be a bit of explaining to do, by me, on the Stobie poles in the lead-up to the 2022 on 19 March next year. How do I put on one poster the fact that the Liberal Party and the Premier would not stand up to the people who wanted to dump PFAS in McLaren Vale?

We have \$850 million of food, wine and tourism money that goes into our local economy and thousands and thousands of jobs, yet the Liberal Party would not intervene and tell the EPA not to consider dumping PFAS in our pristine food, wine and tourism area. How am I going to put all that just in one square metre?

How am I going to explain the fact that the Deputy Premier and the Planning Commission wanted to have a secret little review into the very important legislation that we got through this house, with the objections of the Deputy Premier, when she said that were going to bugger up the Barossa Valley and McLaren Vale? How are we going to tell that story to the people of Mawson when we are confined to one square metre? It is quite detailed to go into all of those issues. Some of the other signs that I had down there included the Kangaroo Island skate park that we put up at the last election. I would like to have put up all the stuff that we had done—

The Hon. Z.L. Bettison: Much loved.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: —much loved. I got about five front pages on *The Islander* over the year between when we announced that and when it was actually built. There is one particular photo I remember. The photographer said, 'Okay, one, two, three, we are all going to jump up.' Jay Weatherill was there, I was there and a bunch of about 30 kids. I must have jumped a little early, and I am the only one up in the air. They ran it on the front page. It is one of my favourite photos. Timing is everything and I totally stuffed that up. These are the sorts of things that people want to know.

They get to an election and they say, 'Well, this is a compare and contrast. There's this lot and there's this lot. What have they done for us?' We want to be out there telling them exactly what we have done. If we can get a 40-metre long tram and put our stuff all over it, we will do that, if we are allowed. We had the Jay bus; it will now be the Malinauskas bus. Just try to fit Malinauskas on the side of a bus. Jeepers, we will have to get a bigger bus.

We are really being confined here, by only having this one square metre rule. I commend the member for Garner for bringing it in because it is something that for 16 years I have just thought made absolutely no sense at all. I know that the people of Kangaroo Island were really excited when

we announced the skate park and they saw it being built and everything else, but just put the sign up on the Stobie pole and remind everyone.

The people of Willunga were really impressed to see my signs up everywhere, saying that we got that money for the Willunga CFS. So we had the Willunga CFS up, we had another poster because we could not fit all the good news on the one poster because we are limited to one square metre and we had to have another one that said we had delivered \$500,000 to women's sport in Willunga. There are all these extra posters because we cannot fit all the awesome news on the one square metre, so we had that poster.

When you went over to McLaren Vale, there were lots of posters up there about the money we gave the school so they could get a new air conditioner—that was under that awesome plan Fund my Neighbourhood. I cannot work out why the present government got rid of that because that actually delivered millions and millions of dollars in fairly small grants of up to \$150,000, so not that small. These grants went to community organisations and bodies that were really keen on something and they did not fit in all the other grants that were offered. They were easy to apply for: you could just nominate it and then you just had to get your mates or your town or whatever to vote for it.

We were there with all these signs up about I think the McLaren Vale netball club and the McLaren Eagles footy club—for their women, I think they received \$260,000 for women's change rooms—so we had some really good stories to tell. As I said, we had to divide all the messaging up onto these posters that we had to put around the place.

The CHAIR: Member for Mawson, I am just going to interrupt because, even though it is not in your view, we have had the clock on. I am just bringing the member's attention to standing order 364, which states that in committee the speaker may not speak for more than 15 minutes on any one occasion. You have one minute 40 seconds to go.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Sir, could I just get you to reset it because I did not know—we cannot see it—and could I have my 15 minutes over again. I think the member for Hammond seconded me there: he loves the sound of my voice. The member for Hammond is a speaker after my own heart, someone who can get up and talk passionately about their area for minute after minute after minute, and I am disappointed that I only have one minute 40 seconds to go.

Mr Picton interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: I have been given some very good news by the member for Kurna, that I can give two more speeches later on, so I will look forward to that—maybe we can even get back to the fact that Cummins in your electorate, Chair, has some of the finest vanilla slices in the entire world. I think we got onto that here one night in here on some matter of importance.

The CHAIR: That would be digressing.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: It would be. What is going on with the clock? The place is falling into rack and ruin, that we cannot see this.

The CHAIR: Well, we could put it up if you like, it is not usual that we need it, member for Mawson.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Really? Are you saying I am verbose? I would not be offended if you did.

The CHAIR: No, I am not saying that—a wideranging contribution.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Excellent, and it is a wideranging one, a very important one.

The CHAIR: There is the clock, member for Mawson.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Look at that, and what a wonderful thing it is too, the way it just ticks away. Are those TV screens bigger than one square metre? I am struggling to see that, which is another good reason for us all to support the member for Kurna's amendment, that we just change this silly rule and get on with it, the more the merrier—all these things that we can put up on our posters to explain to people just how good we are and just how rotten those Liberals. At the end of the day, that is what democracy is all about: it is a contest. We can all get on pretty well.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Well, it is a contest of ethics, too, sometimes. I think we need to be able to tell our stories in a longer version, a little like the 15 minutes I just took then. Thank you very much for your time.

The CHAIR: Time which has now expired.

Mr ODENWALDER: I intend to be a little less verbose than the member for Mawson. I rise to support the excellent amendment from the member for Kaurana arising from recommendation 24:

There is confusion amongst candidates and registered political parties relating to the current provisions as they are not subject to such restrictions during federal election campaigns. The provision is cumbersome to administer and the source of many complaints. Consider removing the provision.

Clearly, the Electoral Commission sees this as overly burdensome. Clearly, in order to run their operation more efficiently, they would like the removal of this provision. I have not heard a very good explanation of why the government would not be supporting this amendment. I am not sure if the Attorney has spoken on it yet, but I assume they will be opposing this very good amendment.

There are a couple of things beyond simply the burden this places on the Electoral Commission, which they have identified in their report. The first of these goes to enfranchisement. This is a theme we will be returning to again and again because this goes to the government's motivation behind some of the measures in this bill. I am thinking particularly about the measure to reduce the available time for young people, particularly, to add their names to the electoral roll.

If we look at South Australia historically, and indeed the entire world of the Westminster system, what we see is a gradual enfranchisement of the population. We have seen conservative forces trying to hold back, restrict the franchise, and we have seen more progressive forces fighting against that, trying to extend that franchise as widely as possible to those people who public policy affects.

We have seen it from 1851 at least here in this state. We saw first of all the one-chamber system where the Crown simply selected or appointed members to the chamber—no franchise at all. We saw gradual chipping away at this, with resistance from the conservative forces I should add. There was the gradual chipping away at the limits on the franchise, or in that case there was no franchise.

We saw the development of two chambers. It is worth noting that in the Legislative Council it took until 1973 and some 40 attempts to amend it before the ability to sit in the Legislative Council was given to people who were unpropertied. It was not until 1973 that that particular unfairness was remedied. I think it was 117 years from the first bill, which was brought in by the first minister or premier, or whatever they were called in those days, in 1856.

We are all familiar with the story of women's suffrage in this state. Again, we saw progressive forces chipping away at the conservative strongholds and trying to extend the franchise. We all know that from our school tours and it is a story we all tell and a story that is celebrated on these tapestries, which are considerably larger than one metre by one metre, I think. Their size is important because they tell a story.

This measure is, in effect, a remedy to some of the worst parts of this bill—the parts that we are opposing on this side of the house, because on our side of the house we support enfranchisement of as many people as possible who are affected by public policy made in this place. We also support engagement with the political system, which brings me to my next point.

The Electoral Commission, whether it is explicit in its report or not, clearly is worried about the levels of engagement, the dropping levels of engagement, with people's civic duties and civic responsibilities in this state.

I was amused to hear today that someone very close to me received a call from a social research company on behalf of the Electoral Commission of South Australia, asking a whole series of questions designed to undertake research to ascertain people's engagement levels with the electoral system and with the voting process and people's understanding of their obligations. The poor person who was assigned to call this person who is close to me was of course stuck on the

phone for 30 minutes talking about the intricacies of the Electoral Act, and I think they will be more cautious about calling that number again.

It clearly shows that the Electoral Commission are concerned about the levels of engagement. We know that across the Western world engagement is dropping. Thanks to the progressive forces within our society, the franchise gradually has been extended—we have seen paradoxically a drop in the levels of engagement with that process. I think the member for Kaurna's amendment is timely. It remedies some of that engagement. If we need to and feel the need to, we can express ourselves in as large and public a way as possible to encourage people not only to vote for us but to engage in the electoral process itself, which is everybody's right and responsibility.

The third point I would make—and I did say I would not be verbose—is simply that some of us have longer names than others. I find my name in particular very difficult to fit on a corflute—it is a good Saxon name, or certainly Germanic.

Dr Close: Old English.

Mr ODENWALDER: Old English—wash your mouth out. It is Germanic. It is unfair, it is unfair to me, but what concerns me more is the unfairness to the Minister for Energy and Mining.

Dr Close: You want to give him a chance.

Mr ODENWALDER: I do want to give the Minister for Energy and Mining a fighting chance at the next election—I think he deserves it, I think he works hard.

Mr Picton interjecting:

Mr ODENWALDER: I understand. He certainly works hard to keep us in this place for as long as possible. It seems perhaps that his main motivation is not to get back to the people who represent him, but rather to stay on North Terrace. But I do not feel sorry for him and it is unfair to him that he has to fit that enormous name on such a tiny election poster and, if only for that reason alone, I urge members to support this amendment.

Dr CLOSE: I would like to speak in favour also of this amendment, which gets rid of something that should have been got rid of some time ago. Yes, Labor in government had that opportunity, having received a recommendation from the Electoral Commissioner. We could have, and I believe should have, acted on that, but simply because something has not happened in the past does not mean that it should not happen in the future.

Mr Picton: Probably the only mistake John Rau made.

Dr CLOSE: We will ask him one day what was going through his mind in making that recommendation. Putting it all aside, we now believe—and certainly the leadership group has formed this view—that it would be a good idea to listen to the Electoral Commissioner from his 2014 report and agree that the one square metre rule is simply not workable and has no real basis in principle.

Those who were riveted by the second reading speeches—do we remember them so long ago for this bill? The speech I gave started with the questions of what the principles of democracy are and then tried to apply this bill and the various amendments that were being contemplated to those principles. One of the principles that is really important is that people have information prior to making their decision, that they have knowledge that an election is occurring and that they have as much knowledge as possible about who they are voting for and what the alternative propositions are.

I would have thought that everybody would think that was a good idea—everybody in politics, everybody in serious politics. The major parties who want to govern actually want an informed electorate and for the electorate to make an informed decision. It is, incidentally, a reminder of the other principle I hold dear, which is that we all look to vote on the same day, if possible, accepting that that is not always possible, but as close as possible, because we ought to all be in possession of the same facts. That is to digress slightly, and I apologise for that.

One of the challenges I have found in coming into this place is how to deal with the very great complexity of the reality of how the world works, and therefore how good policy and deep politics works, with the way in which we are able to communicate with people. Complexity is the reality of how things work, but simplicity is where we are often pushed through the forces of marketing, through the way in which television news requires a 10-second grab, maybe a 20-second grab; the radio news might take an even shorter one. We are constantly being dragged away from

the complexity of the reality into what I regard as quite difficult simplicity because you are reducing politics to very small atoms.

In this case, the idea that complexity is something that ought to be embraced is affronted by the idea of reducing any form of providing information to the public, including that any advertising associated with the election would be reduced to one square metre. As far as I can tell, there is no competitive principle against which one might say, 'Well, there is this competing idea that would also be good, so maybe we settle on the one square metre rule.' That is very reminiscent of COVID, isn't it? I am sure other people have made that point.

Why would one reduce the information available at any one time to one square metre? I cannot think of a decent 'let's communicate with the public about what is happening' assisting them in making a decision that is enormously important, that is, who is going to govern them for the next few years. Why would we reduce that? This legislation exists and, while the government has at this stage chosen not to remove it, we are offering an alternative, an amendment that would allow us to remove it.

Quite apart from the question of principle, there are of course some practicalities that would also argue for us to get rid of this additional complexity. Indeed, I note the rationale given by the Electoral Commissioner, the former Electoral Commissioner, in 2014. The rationale was in fact not based on the ideas of principle, which I have discussed, but the difficulty of enforcement and the confusion over it. There is a confusion amongst candidates and registered political parties relating to the current provisions, as they are not subject to restrictions during federal election campaigns. The provision is cumbersome to administer and the source of many complaints.

That suggests that there is confusion over the way in which this is currently operating that is also worth contemplating. I do not know when the last time was we had a state and federal election coming in such close proximity. There is not one that presses itself on my political memory, which of course is increasingly long. What we are likely to see without the support of this amendment is a ludicrous situation where a federal election billboard and a state election billboard will both be live. There will be two simultaneous campaigns and one will be subject to no restrictions in size and the other will be restricted to one square metre.

I believe I heard, as I was dozing lightly upstairs on my sofa, the point being made previously that there will be occasions when it is impossible to know which rule—or lack of rule—applies. Vote Labor, vote Liberal, vote Greens, vote whatever the Clive Palmer party is called at the moment—United Australia is it? United Kelly? That will be completely acceptable if it is deemed to be federal and completely unacceptable if it is deemed to be state, yet the parties will be operating in both elections completely legitimately.

So, although it is rare for us to have elections overlapping in the way in which we are contemplating will happen here, it is obviously feasible and points out a quite ludicrous complexity in our very restrictive provisions here. There is of course then the question, and I believe it was the member for Mawson who raised this and gave me pause for thought, about the implicit unfairness that advertising which is government advertising will be exempt.

I accept that government advertising will not have the face of Steven Marshall on it, so it will not be explicitly political in that sense, but who are we kidding? If there are big billboards talking about 'building what matters'—I am pretty allergic to slogans, but even I have noticed that is one of theirs—that will be advertising during an election campaign, much larger than one square metre, that will not be subject to the current legislation.

The opposition, which does not have a state Public Service in the position to roll out billboards advertising a slogan endorsed by the state opposition proposition for what will happen and what is happening, will be limited to one square metre. That offends the principle that, once we get to those last stages of an election campaign, the two parties ought to be considered as much as possible as being on equal terms; that the opposition and the government are no longer those entities entirely but are the Liberal Party, the Labor Party, and indeed the other parties—the Greens and so on—applying for the position of government in the next election.

It would seem to me that is a very powerful argument for the government smiling on this amendment—that they would recognise the unfairness. As I said, I wish that in government Labor

had done this. It ought to have happened, but that does not mean it should not happen now. That is not a reason not to do it.

There is also a frustration I would like to share with the chamber about enforcement. I am not convinced that enforcement of these restrictions always occurs. It is the major parties that tend to self-enforce, to be more careful about obeying the laws, because we are the major parties, because we go from election to election, because often if we are not an incumbent in one seat we are an incumbent in the neighbouring seat. We have a greater sense of responsibility to obey the electoral laws and the other laws that surround advertising around election time.

In saying that, I do not mean to disparage any of the current minor parties that exist in this parliament. What I am referring to is a two-time candidate against me, a one-time candidate against the member for Lee, a one-time candidate in the by-election at Enfield—I think that is the full list—who was at the last election again a candidate for the seat of Port Adelaide.

I had been absolutely diligent in making sure that all the volunteers in my area knew there were restrictions on where we could put up corflutes, particularly making sure we were not causing distraction on major roads was essential, and that we needed to obey the law. We were absolutely scrupulous in how many we could have so that they did not cause too much distraction and in where we could place them.

Because it is the Labor Party and we are pretty active and strong up in my area, we got those corflutes up. A few days later, the corflutes from this other candidate started to pop up, and they were not restricted to the places we were restricted to. They started popping up right down the middle of Semaphore Road, picture after picture after picture, which was against the rules, and all the way along Victoria Road. They were done wherever it looked good to put one up, but it was not within the rules.

So I send my email to the local government and say, 'I think there is a candidate who is offending the rules,' and, 'We don't really enforce those rules,' was the response. So someone choosing to do the wrong thing because they do not bear the responsibility of being a major party is able to flout the rules. Could that also be the case—and I do not know if it has occurred, and obviously this rule has been in for some time—with these one square metres?

Could we have a rogue candidate who decides that they will put up a three square metre poster in the middle of—just to choose my electorate—Semaphore Road, and no-one enforces it, but we are deprived of doing it because we play by the rules because we are the major parties? I can see that that would be possible. This lack of enforcement is a particular bugbear of mine and it would be particularly irritating if it were to not enforce a law that we have tried to abolish, as it is, but been checked by this parliament.

We on the Labor Party side would like to inform people about the depth and complexity of the challenges before this state, and we would like to avail ourselves of all the opportunities legally to do that. To be deprived by what is really a silly rule to limit us would seem to me to be an idea that has long since gone, and we ought to support the amendment to abolish this rule, to listen at last to the former electoral commissioner, and to allow people to see something that is more complex and more sophisticated than can be crammed onto a one square metre poster.

Progress reported; committee to sit again.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for West Torrens.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: To the next day of sitting, sir.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman: No, that is not agreed to and you know that.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Then vote against it.

The Hon. D.C. van Holst Pellekaan: You are not actually allowed to move to adjourn it.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I am not adjourning the house.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Just take a seat for a moment. Attorney, we need to have a motion from you as to when the committee is to resume.

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

That the committee resume forthwith.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Can I amend that motion?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You could move to amend it.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I move to amend the motion as follows:

That the committee of the house be suspended until the next day of sitting.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: On motion, the next day of sitting and forthwith, in this situation are all in fact the same thing, are they not?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: My motion is that I move that the committee resume forthwith, right now.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens has moved to amend the motion that the committee adjourn until the next day of sitting.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Yes, sir.

The house divided on the amendment:

Ayes	21
Noes	23
Majority	2

AYES

Bedford, F.E.	Bettison, Z.L.	Bignell, L.W.K.
Boyer, B.I.	Brock, G.G.	Brown, M.E.
Close, S.E.	Cook, N.F.	Gee, J.P.
Hildyard, K.A.	Hughes, E.J.	Koutsantonis, A. (teller)
Malinauskas, P.	Michaels, A.	Mullighan, S.C.
Odenwalder, L.K.	Piccolo, A.	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)	Knoll, S.K.	Luethen, P.
Marshall, S.S.	McBride, N.	Murray, S.
Patterson, S.J.R.	Pederick, A.S.	Pisoni, D.G.
Power, C.	Sanderson, R.	Speirs, D.J.
Tarzia, V.A.	Treloar, P.A.	van Holst Pellekaan, D.C.
Whetstone, T.J.	Wingard, C.L.	

Amendment thus negatived; motion carried.

Sitting suspended from 18:07 to 19:30.

In committee.

The CHAIR: We are still considering amendment No. 16 standing in the name of the member for Kaurua, which seeks to insert clause 36A.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO: I would like to speak briefly on the amendment put by the member for Kaurua. While it appears to be quite a minor change, I think it is quite an important change and I will explain why. One of the important things in our democratic systems is that it has certain elements about it. It has an element of free speech. We are a pluralistic society; therefore, we actually welcome points of view and a whole range of different political views.

We have universal franchise; in other words, every person who meets the legal requirements—usually an adult citizen—is able to vote. We have free and fair elections and when you talk about free and fair elections, there are those sorts of regulations which actually promote free and fair elections and so we should have regulations which are quite minimal and do not impede free speech.

I think the member for Kaurna's amendment certainly promotes free and fair elections. It certainly promotes, I believe, free speech and, importantly, it promotes pluralism in the sense that it encourages different points of view. I will explain that. It actually came up in a letter to the editor in my local paper, *The Bunyip*, recently. One of my constituents was quite wrongly having a go at both parties—he should have had a go at the Liberal Party, but he was having a go at both major parties—on their views about corflutes and the government's position about trying to ban corflutes.

He was quite opposed to that. He said that for minor parties and Independents corflutes are an effective way of getting name recognition and getting the message across compared to other expenditure. He said if you abolish corflutes from major parties it is not a huge issue—they would have more resources from their point of view—and that abolishing corflutes in this case and restricting posters actually restricts the ability of minor parties and those Independent candidates from having their voice.

While I am actually a beneficiary of the two-party system, and I acknowledge that, I think if we believe in democracy and believe in those principles that uphold the pluralism of our society, we should encourage or enable or facilitate as many people as possible to get their political message across. It is not only minor parties or Independents; I think it is also important for other parties and also community organisations that want to get their message across at election time. Often, they do not have a lot of resources either.

I think this amendment is worthy of support because, as I said, it certainly meets the important criteria for a democratic society. It helps support the whole political spectrum in terms of views and it also enables minor parties and Independent candidates to get their message across for name recognition.

Given that we have expenditure caps now in this system, the issue that we might go out there and buy all these enormous billboards, etc., is clearly not the reality because we are still going to spend money on those traditional things we normally do and we still have to work within a budget. So I think that the amendment moved by the member for Kaurna poses no risk to our democratic system, it actually enhances it, and for those reasons I think we should be supporting it.

I think it is important that we do not fetter the process of our elections, that we do not fetter the way people get their message across. I will give a classic example where over-regulation actually fetters and impedes the political process. When I was first elected to this place, we had restrictions on the size of our newsletters. They had to be A3 folded to make a double A4-page spread, and that was it. If it was any more than that, you had to fund it privately. It was not funded by the global budget.

For some reason, some person had decided that this is how an MP should communicate with their electorate. It was an unnecessary bureaucratic rule, which unfortunately I got caught out by once and I had to pay for my paper myself. But the point is: why should some person say how I communicate with my electorate? Why should that not be my choice for how I do that? I am sure that every member here does it in different ways. I choose to do it a certain way which I think works for both me and my community.

The point I am trying to make here is that often we put these rules in place which do not serve any purpose and which are there for some historical reason. It is clear that our objective must be to ensure that every person who wants to be a candidate or any person who wants to influence the political process at election time—and by that I mean residents' groups, sporting organisations or whatever—should have the capacity to do so and should not be restricted.

Clearly, they should not mislead people, but in terms of the messaging and in terms of the size of that message I have no problem with how people do that. I certainly do not have any problem. The only reason you would have a problem is that you are trying to make sure the other parties or the other do not have the capacity to get their message across. With that contribution, I would certainly support the amendment.

Mr BROWN: I also rise to support the amendment moved by the member for Kaurana and, as I am wont to do from time to time, I would like to thank him for moving this particular amendment and to say that it is very well made. It also has been very well argued, not only by him but also by other members.

I think what we have heard so far in the debate on this particular bill for the government is this. This bill is mostly about modernising our Electoral Act so that the vestiges of the past that are no longer required are swept away and a new era will come forth where South Australians will be able to do things they want to do in ways they would like to do them. The commissioner will be able to administer the act in a fantastic way because everything the commissioner would like to see has been achieved and everyone will be happy about the way things are now done.

So it is in that spirit that I think people should consider removing the size restriction on material of one square metre. It is very much an anomaly in South Australia that we have this particular law. I know when I talk to my colleagues interstate about various aspects of campaigning and so forth, which I know that members of this house do from time to time when they talk to people from their own party and indeed from other parties around the country, people are always surprised to hear that there is such a restriction in South Australia. They always talk to you about, 'What do you do about billboards, for example?' and, 'What do you do about signage here and signage there?'

They are always very surprised to learn that we have a law in South Australia that restricts us to one square metre. Whilst we should not do things just because it is how they do them interstate—in fact, there are lots of things we do in South Australia that are rather unique to us, and that is a good thing—it is important that we consider having a nationwide consistent system when it comes to some things and I think it would be appropriate for us to remove the size restriction that we have on electoral signage.

Like many members, I am sure, I obviously try to encourage my constituents to contact me about a variety of issues and encourage them to be aware of where they can seek to contact me, and I would find it very useful to be able to put up more signage in my electorate on a regular basis, and larger signage indeed, so that people could do just that.

I would also find it very useful to do large signage to let people know about things that are happening in the electorate and to advise them of things that are going on. For example, as I am sure other members have raised, I know that the government have no such restrictions on signage that they do. There is no reason why they cannot put large signs up to tell them about different projects that they may or may not be doing at some stage in the near future.

For example, I know that they are always spruiking infrastructure projects that may or may not happen in this state that they have put forward in the budget on the never-never, that are years away but they keep spruiking them, so there is no restriction on the signage they can put up for that sort of stuff but, when it comes to local members being able to inform people about things that are going on in the local area, or indeed where they could find the member's office, provided the signage is not actually at the member's office, they are restricted by law from doing so.

There are various sites in my electorate where I would like to be able to put signage up to tell people about the services I offer and where people can find me, but, alas, I am restricted by law to one square metre.

I also know that, when it comes to election times, the one square metre rule can be quite restrictive in terms of whether you could put corflutes, in particular, right next to each other. I do not propose to get involved in the merits of corflutes as an entity, but let's just say that no-one is talking about banning political signage, full stop, anywhere in our state, so we can accept that there will still be something that we refer to as political signage.

The current law restricts those signs from being next to each other and, in fact, if they are within one metre of each other they count as the same sign. I know the member for Kaurana has already outlined, let's say, various creative interpretations of that rule that we have seen from various electoral commissioners from time to time. I think that getting rid of that particular rule would help to alleviate a lot of confusion that has gone on with how those rules are to be interpreted.

I also think that it would be of assistance to all sorts of candidates in campaigns and not just incumbents, although as an incumbent I am of course interested in supporting the rights of incumbents. I also think it would be helpful for smaller parties, and even indeed Independent candidates, to see this particular rule abolished so that they can compete with the big boys, so to speak, when it comes to campaigning techniques and that they are not overly restricted in the way they do things.

Also, Mr Chairman, I would like for all members, including you, who I know has quite a lot of popularity all over the state, but in one particular area of the state I know you have quite a lot of popularity, to imagine how instructive it would be for your constituents to be able to see your smiling face on a large billboard pointing out what you have done. I am aware, of course, Mr Chairman, that you are not contesting the next election, more is the pity about that.

But I will say that, even in the short period of time you have left, you would be able to let people know where you are, where you can be found and what services you provide. I think that your constituents would find that very useful, just as I am sure my constituents would find that useful in my electorate and the member for Kaurna would find that useful in his electorate, and indeed all members of this house would be able to provide that information to their constituents and they would find it very useful.

It is with those points that I again say to the committee that this amendment is very much worthy of support and that I hope all members will support it.

The CHAIR: If the member for Kaurna speaks, he closes debate on the amendment.

Mr PICTON: I am not sure that is the same in the committee stage, but I think I will close the debate.

The CHAIR: Maybe I am just encouraging you.

Mr PICTON: I am happy for that encouragement. I think I will close the debate. I think we have had some very worthwhile contributions from members, largely on this side, but also the Attorney made a contribution on this amendment.

I think there was a very clear demonstration, particularly from the speeches on this side, that it would be a worthwhile amendment to remove section 115 and to remove what seemingly is a provision that no-one seems to know exactly why it is there but that is in a way prohibitive of advertising and communicating in a way that is pretty unique around the country but is also not a restriction we have for many other types of communication that people can be bombarded with when they turn on their TV, when they open their letterbox, when they put social media on, when they turn the radio on—across all media in every way come election time, except for signs 1.1 square metres and bigger.

I would like to reflect on the Attorney's contribution, which basically acknowledged that there did not seem to be any particular rationale for why this restriction is in place. With all the weight of the advice of the Attorney-General's Department behind her, there did not seem to be any rationale that was put forward.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:

Mr PICTON: I am sure that there are some records of what debates there were back in 1985. But if there cannot be a justification from the government as to why we have this clause, you have to wonder why the government is continuing to defend having it in place and why the Attorney is opposed to its removal when she cannot articulate why exactly it was put in place or what rationale there is for keeping it.

Her other contribution seemed to reflect upon her claim of an inconsistency on our behalf, whereas by pointing that out she really pointed out an inconsistency on her own behalf where she said that in previous debates in this house she had been arguing for federal consistency of laws but today is arguing against federal consistency of laws when it comes to this provision. Why is it that the Attorney in years gone past has been advocating for federal consistency but is now opposed to that, particularly as we are about to embark upon a potentially joint campaign period of federal and state elections? There is no explanation for why there is a massive inconsistency in the arguments the Attorney has.

So there has been very little reason from the government as to why they would oppose this measure.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

Mr PICTON: You can still speak.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Good, I was worried there for a moment.

Mr PICTON: No, don't worry. The Chair of committees was thinking this was a second reading speech, but you are right. So I think there is an inconsistency in that regard.

There was another contribution that I would like to particularly note, which raised very good points that I had not properly considered, I have to admit. That was the contribution from the member for Mawson. The member for Mawson raised a very important point I think in terms of the fairness and consistency of laws we have in this state. That is when it comes to government advertising.

If you look at government advertising, which we know is governed by a committee that is orchestrated through the Treasurer's office and that the Treasurer sits on, his staff sit on—they decide where the government advertising goes—you see that it is plastered all over billboards, all over buses, all over trams across South Australia and it is much, much larger than one square metre.

So you have a massive inconsistency between the government on the one hand, who are able to use taxpayers' funds to advertise on large billboards, buses, trams and the like and, on the other hand, the opposition, minor parties or Independents, who not just do not have access to taxpayers' funds to do that but are actually prohibited in law from doing that. So they have two hands tied behind their back in not being able to do the same thing that the government can do with taxpayers' funds.

We have all heard this pretty weak and I think hopeless slogan from the government about building better or what matters, or something. This is plastered on buses, this is plastered on trams, this is plastered on billboards and this is plastered on worksites and it is paid for with taxpayers' money, and it is much, much larger than one square metre. If an Independent or a minor party or the opposition wanted to do the same thing and put out a political message in the same way as the government's campaign of building back better, what matters, or whatever, that would be illegal under this section 115. That seems to be a gross inconsistency.

So we have a law—which is massively inconsistent with the federal provisions—which is going to be completely confusing, and the Attorney has given no comfort to the argument that that will be able to be worked through. If you have a 'Vote Liberal' billboard, does that fall under this provision or does it fall under the federal provision when you have two campaigns running simultaneously? How that is to be worked out I do not think anybody knows.

You have a provision where the Electoral Commissioner has said that it has caused issues in 2014, and I think the Attorney's rebuttal to that is, 'Well, you didn't do it then.' Very clearly, we are trying to do it now. The fact that you did not do it then is not an argument against why the parliament should not take action now. You have a provision that seems to have no rationale whatsoever. No-one has been able to articulate exactly why this provision is in place or what benefit it serves whatsoever, and then you have a provision that gives the government an advantage because they can use taxpayers' funds to do what any other person, any other organisation, any other political party cannot do by the nature of this section 115.

Removing this section will make for a fairer system. It will make for a system that is more consistent with the federal election process, which is going to be particularly important in the next few months in all likelihood. It will remove that anomaly, and it will remove what is—we have heard from the previous Electoral Commissioner—a significant number of complaints that they have received and dealing with the management of those issues. It will relieve some pressure from the Electoral Commissioner to deal with those things and to focus on very important issues, particularly in the context of the forthcoming election which we know is going to have a range of complexities associated with it.

The arguments that we have heard from this side absolutely back what the amendment does and further strengthen the arguments that I originally made, and the arguments that the Attorney has

made give no reason whatsoever against this amendment. The only reason seems to be because she did not think of it. Hence, she is not going to support anything that she did not think of.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Thank you very much, Mr Chair. It is good to see you giving the last few sittings in parliament a long, hard run late into the evening. I was thinking about this amendment—and I have been here a very long time—and I always found it quite strange why we were limited to one square metre. Why would you limit a parliamentary poster to just one square metre? To be honest, I cannot remember the reason we imposed that limit. It might have been an attempt to try and stop billboards. I am assuming it was something done in 1985 by the then Bannon government. There was obviously some ulterior motive—

Mr Brown: Small minds.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: —yes, small minds—behind why it was done, and I have always found it frustrating. Why? It is interesting that in a campaign we try so hard in Australia to have this egalitarian view of campaigning where everyone has the same opportunities to say what it is that they want to do. As the member for Kaurua pointed out, quite rightly, here we are simply saying that an arbitrary number restricting the size of an election poster does seem a little undemocratic.

People can make political messages who are not candidates in an election campaign. They might not be on the ballot but might make reference to a political argument that is part of a campaign. They are not limited by their size, the government is not limited by their size in their advertising and, let's face it, every term we hear parliamentarians argue about government advertising because we know what it is. Government advertising is the last refuge of the scoundrel who has no policies.

What we have seen here is that 'building what matters' answers a question the government cannot pose. What is the question they are attempting to answer? Building what matters. The government will put up their QR codes and their billboards about building what matters in an attempt to reinforce a brand strength that they think they have, and they will try to exploit that. The opposition will do what we can to exploit what brand strengths we have, but the government is attempting to limit that here.

I have to say that that is intrinsically undemocratic. It is not important whether it was done previously or otherwise. The question is that we are faced with that proposition now. The member for Newland, for example, might want to put up a poster or a billboard on an intersection talking about what he thinks his achievements have been over the last 3½ years. Good luck to him. What is wrong with that? Then Olivia Savvas might want to put up a billboard displaying some other message. That is democracy.

We might want to put up messages about other things that are occurring in the political debate. We might want to point out in the seat of, say, Dunstan that land tax bills have increased dramatically as a result of the Premier's land tax changes, despite the fact that he made an argument at the last election that he would lower land tax, which ultimately turned out to be a lie.

This is the price we pay for a fair and democratic society. You cannot make the argument that it will encourage people with greater wealth or greater means to have a greater advantage, because we are all capped now in what we can spend. We have dealt with that issue to try to rein in the costs. The question really now is about expression. Let me put this proposition to the committee: what if we mandated the font size on direct mail letters? What if we mandated an envelope size or a DL size or a pamphlet size you could put in a letterbox? It is ridiculous, but that is what we have done with this advertising limit. It is archaic and does not belong in the statute book anymore. It should be removed.

I think members opposite agree with us, and I have come to the same conclusion my friend the member for Kaurua has come to, that they are just opposing it out of stubbornness because it was not their idea. We could have saved a lot of time if we just agreed on this amendment and we moved on. It does not really change the substance of what the government is trying to do, yet the government have a fixed view in their mind that this will somehow lessen their chances of re-election at the next election, which then goes to the other motive for these three bills, why we are here debating these bills on a Thursday night when the parliament was due to rise.

I point out a number of things. The government has given a commitment to the opposition that it would give us advance notice of sitting late and of suspending standing orders. That was not given for today and it is, I think, an indictment of the Manager of Government Business that he has

abandoned the processes we had in place in this parliament. We were working quite well, I thought, after the darkness of the former member for Morialta when he broke a pair. We were able to re-establish the rules of engagement and we have moved on from there. Again, because of political necessity the Minister for Energy and Mining has abandoned that principle. I think that is a sad development.

What the member for Kaurana is really asking this parliament to consider, which I do not think in any way is controversial and probably something we could all agree on, is why we should limit the size of democratic expression. What is the argument that the government would propose that this is bad? Who are the beneficiaries? The beneficiaries are generally volunteer sporting clubs. They can charge a larger amount for an advertising billboard at a local sporting ground, or a local business can put more signs on top of their billboards. Yet the government seems to think that this somehow will break down the very fabric of our democratic process. It is, I think, very confusing.

It goes to a deeper point, that this Attorney-General has a firm belief that she is never wrong and cannot accept compromise or good ideas. For example, the opposition understood that the government wanted to pass this legislation very quickly yesterday, and we were happy to break up the three bills over a period of time. The government refused. They refused because of their stubbornness, behaving as if they are a majority government when they are not, acting as if they are not riddled with scandal, clogging up our courts, clogging up the ICAC, clogging up the processes of checking out whether or not parliamentarians or their staff are behaving immorally in Parliament House, which goes to the core of this government being rotten.

The CHAIR: The member for West Torrens, there is a point of order.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Generous as one can be during a debate, I think the member is clearly straying from the question of posters, which is the subject matter of the amendment before the committee.

The CHAIR: I uphold that point of order, member for West Torrens. Back to the subject at hand.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Thank you, sir, because I would like very much to book a billboard in the member for Bragg's electorate to talk about how rotten this government is, to display in all its glory all the members who have had to resign from scandal, from embezzling money.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: A point of order: this was actually touched on by the member for Cheltenham, and I think covered, so it is only repetition now.

The CHAIR: We will have to be careful here, member for West Torrens.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Are you going to be the first ever Chair to impose irrelevant repetition?

The CHAIR: I have already done that.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Have you really?

The CHAIR: Yes, yesterday evening, member for West Torrens. Just be mindful that we are drawing to the end of a long debate.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: We are only just beginning. We are just finding our straps, sir.

The CHAIR: Well, let me put it this way, member for West Torrens: we are getting to the end of a long committee stage.

Mr PICTON: Point of order, Chair: you have raised with the member an issue in terms of repetition under the standing orders. Can I seek clarification? My understanding is that repetition would be by the same member through a number of speeches, which is the issue you raised yesterday in relation to the member for Hurtle Vale. The point of order raised by the member for Bragg was that the member for West Torrens had repeated something that the member for Cheltenham had said. I am not sure that that is against the standing orders.

The CHAIR: I agree with you, member for Kaurna, because that often happens, actually, in this place and has happened often already in this debate. An example of that would be how the opposition has attempted to highlight the Americanisation of South Australian politics and the influence of Donald Trump. I seem to remember that being a bit of a theme. Anyway, back to the business at hand.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I have to say that when the Chair speaks he reminds me of what my father used to always say to me: beware the wrath of a patient man. The member for Flinders is a patient, patient man.

The CHAIR: And I have been exceedingly patient through this committee debate.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I think you have been. That is why you are held in such high regard by this parliament and with great affection. We will all be sorry to see you go. We would like you to express more independence every now and then, but never mind. That is life.

My point with the billboards is that I just propose that the government are concerned about what a target rich environment they are for large billboards because it would take a large billboard to fill the numbers of members of parliament who are facing either ICAC charges, ICAC investigations, anti-corruption branch investigations, sexual harassment cases.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Point of order, sir.

Members interjecting:

The CHAIR: I do not uphold the point of order.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:

The CHAIR: He has, but he was interrupted in the first instance. I think you have made your point now, member for West Torrens.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: It is true, sir. Imagine the imagery of trying to put 10 members of parliament on one confluence that is one square metre detailing all their crimes, misdemeanours and offences. It would be very difficult. I suspect probably that is why the government are opposing this piece of legislation. The other reason I think they are opposing it is that it is a way for minor parties and people who do not have many resources to get one message out very quickly.

Whenever you stifle debate or attempt to squeeze tighter control on the democratic expression, all that really happens is more of that power just slips through your fingers and you create unnecessary angst, and I think this is one of those examples. The government will get away with this. There will not be mass rallies outside Parliament House demanding a larger size for election posters—but it goes to a principle. Confident governments are not worried about scrutiny. Confident governments that are forward-looking are not afraid of amendments like this: they would embrace them because they would believe they had a message that could utilise these changes.

This government is inward looking, small and defensive. They are not forward-looking, they are not thinking about the future. All they are thinking about is, 'We cannot be just another Liberal government winning only just one term.' I have seen the panic in the Premier's eyes because all he has been doing for the last three years is putting up portraits of one-term premiers in parliament, trying to set a precedent for more one-term premiers being put up in parliament.

The CHAIR: There is a point of order.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Again, the member is getting off the message, and that is the advocacy for his support of an amendment to remove a one metre rule in relation to posters.

The CHAIR: I am prepared to give the member from West Torrens some latitude here. Honestly, he was using examples.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Thank you, Mr Chair. Again, that is why you are held in such high regard. Thank you, sir, again for wise, wise ruling. I think this is a symbol of the government's smallness, that they are not able to accept that they are not the font of all wisdom. This is a good amendment, this is a sensible amendment and this is an amendment that will help not only minority groups and smaller parties but also the larger political parties, and it probably would help a government that was confident and forward-looking to sell their message. But this government is

afraid of scrutiny and afraid of messages because the truth is that the only message about this government that is resonating is that they are mired in a dumpster truck fire of corruption, maladministration, misconduct and—

The CHAIR: Member for West Torrens, you are down to your last 40 seconds.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I know. I have my timer going as well.

The CHAIR: You have your clock going? Excellent.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I am down to my last 40 seconds. Imagine, sir, a train wreck dumpster truck on fire coming off a cliff exploding at the ground and then exploding again at the bottom, on a billboard. That is what this government are but, thankfully, they have the Leader of Government Business to keep them on the straight and narrow because without him they would be lost.

The CHAIR: Does the leader wish to speak?

Mr MALINAUSKAS: Thank you, Mr Chairman, for the opportunity to make a contribution on a pretty logical amendment. I think all of us in this place embrace democracy. We embrace the democratic process. From the newest MPs, of which I am obviously one, to one of the most experienced MPs, like the member for West Torrens, we all thoroughly enjoy election time. We enjoy the opportunity to express ourselves through our democratic system and give the people of this state and indeed the nation more broadly the opportunity to make an informed view about who should lead them over the term that lies ahead.

Every opportunity that constituents get to consume information from their political leaders, from their local representatives, is an opportunity for them to better inform themselves. Throughout the west at the moment we have seen quite a substantial decline in people's confidence in democracy and the democratic process, and there is a range of reasons for that and those have been discussed previously by members during the course of the debate on this bill, including myself. What is absolutely paramount is that, when we contemplate the legislation that governs the democratic system, we do not do anything that would impede people's ability to be communicated with.

On this side of the house we form the view that election posters have a role to play in that regard. It might seem silly to some and frivolous to others, but we think that that role is a legitimate one and is worthy of being expanded upon. When we think about the one square metre rule, the great frustration anyone observing this debate would have is that thus far we have not heard any cogent argument as to why we would be restricted to one square metre. We have not heard any proposition whatsoever as to why we would have a different rule here in South Australia than we see throughout the rest of our federation, why we would have a different rule at a state level than we see at the commonwealth level. There is no answer. It seems to be a peculiarity that was cooked up some time in the mid-eighties.

Now that the bill is open, albeit at the eleventh hour before an election, there is an opportunity to address what was clearly an error and develop a degree of consistency. Other members, including the member for West Torrens before me, have talked about the range of messages that may well be on those corflutes. On this side of the house we have nothing to fear. We are more than happy to provide our political opponents a far greater breadth of area on their corflutes or election posters to prosecute their messages.

I know the member for Stuart is very passionate and unequivocally supportive of the basketball stadium in the CBD. We asked the member for Stuart a few weeks ago whether or not he unequivocally supported the basketball stadium and his answer was yes. He said the words himself, if my memory serves me correctly, that he unequivocally supports the city basketball stadium. The member for Stuart from time to time is out and about in his electorate in and around Port Augusta, and clearly the member for Stuart has everyone in Port Augusta telling him, 'I want a basketball stadium in the city. That's got to be the priority, that should be the issue, that should be the infrastructure we see prioritised from this Liberal government. We are less concerned about investments in Port Augusta Hospital and we are more concerned about investments in the city basketball stadium.'

That is obviously an informed view the member for Stuart has taken, so presumably the member for Stuart will want the ability to put massive election posters up in Port Augusta saying, 'I want the city basketball stadium.' I am sure that desire rings through every ounce of his being. Presumably he wants that ability. Why would he deny himself that? Why would he? It is a big basketball stadium: it is \$662 million worth. That is not easy to fit on a one by one metre corflute that people can drive past and see.

There is example after example of the sorts of initiatives and messages that the member for Stuart will want to prosecute in Port Augusta. He will want to come out and attack the idea of a nation-leading, world-leading hydrogen policy. He will want space on his election posters to attack a world-leading, fully costed hydrogen policy that may or may not benefit those in the Upper Spencer Gulf. He will need all that space. Why would he vote against any means or mechanism that will only facilitate him prosecuting his political arguments?

I think of the member for Newland. He will be very determined to prosecute what he has stood up and fought for in this chamber. He stands up and fights for paid parking at TTP. He wants paid parking at TTP. If the member for Newland was liberated and given more than one square metre to work with on his billboards, he could promote the cost of parking—

Mr Boyer interjecting:

Mr MALINAUSKAS: He could fit 'Tea Tree Plaza' on there. He could have a full schedule of the hour-by-hour cost that he wants to impose upon his constituents, charging for parking in the north-eastern suburbs.

A lot of the member for King's constituents shop at Tea Tree Plaza, and presumably she will also want the opportunity to go to her constituents and say, 'I voted against an opportunity to debate a bill on TTP parking.' She will want to let people know about that. Why the member for King would want to deprive herself of that ability is completely beyond me.

Similarly, we know that the member for King is very passionate about making sure the Adelaide 500 never returns; she has a very hard and fast, a very ardent, position on this issue. She will want to promote that to her constituents, and she should not be deprived of the opportunity to have a billboard that makes it clear, 'No Adelaide 500 under my watch.'

I think of the member for Chaffey. The member for Chaffey is another person who is very passionate about the city basketball stadium. It is a stone's throw away from Walkerville, and at any moment those residents will be able to get to the basketball stadium. Not so much people in the Riverland, but I know that his constituents in the Riverland, in the member for Chaffey's view, want the city basketball stadium.

They are sick and tired of hearing about potential expenditure in country health. According to the member for Chaffey, what they want is the city basketball stadium. So he will want the opportunity to aggressively promote that in his electorate. Why should the member for Chaffey not have massive billboards up in Barmera, up in Waikerie, up in Renmark, promoting the city basketball stadium?

The principal tenet of the argument in favour of this amendment is that if members opposite, particularly those in regional seats—sir, your successor may—want to promote the city basketball stadium in Port Lincoln, none of these people should be deprived of huge billboards in their own electorates promoting the city basketball stadium.

There is the prospect of a federal and state election at the same time. We do not know when the Prime Minister will call the election. It is entirely possible—and in fact we have seen various reports suggesting it from some media outlets—that the Prime Minister and the Premier of South Australia are in cahoots, trying to concoct an unprecedented circumstance where the federal election is in March next year, which would then result in a delay to the state election.

On this side of the house we are rather nonplussed about such a proposition. We know how close the Premier is to Prime Minister Morrison, and the Premier himself will want to let constituents know how determined he is to make sure that Western Australia has more GST money than we do. Nonetheless, I am sure the Electoral Commissioner here in South Australia as well as the federal Electoral Commissioner—not that I can speak for them, of course—would not want to see an unruly situation where there is inconsistency about election posters between various elections.

Say, for instance, Prime Minister Morrison wanted big billboards in March next year to promote the fact that he had taken GST money out of South Australians' pockets and taken it over to Western Australia. If he wants to promote that up and down West Terrace, along those massive billboards, he can—but the Premier would be denied that opportunity. The Premier cannot even put a basketball stadium up on a billboard authorised by the director of the Liberal Party.

That takes me to another inconsistency with the legislation as it stands, and an argument for this amendment. What we have around the state at the moment is millions upon millions of taxpayer dollars being expended on government advertising which well and truly exceeds one square metre. We regularly see a privately run tram going up and down North Terrace talking about the government's supposed \$16 billion infrastructure program. If that is acceptable and allowed to be well over one square metre, why should that not be the case for political parties? Why can the state government promote their misinformation but the Labor Party cannot put out genuine information over the same scale?

To deprive your political opponents of that opportunity speaks to a government that is on the run, speaks to a government that does not welcome scrutiny or transparency. We can all recall, prior to the last state election, the Attorney-General and the Premier talking about how the—

Mr Whetstone: Is that the one you lost?

Mr MALINAUSKAS: Yes, member for Chaffey, that's right. That is when you formed government at the last election; you are right, the former minister refers to the fact that they won the last election, after they lost the four prior. They formed government with a swing against them after 16 years.

They had a lot of talk about transparency and open democracy, and what we have seen ever since then is an extraordinary attempt from this government to suppress political debate and suppress information. One only has to reflect on the Attorney's attempted FOI reforms, which were clearly an effort to suppress information going out into the community. This electoral bill, and the way the government have formulated their position on thoughtful, appropriate, very legitimate amendments, is rather concerning because it is inconsistent with all the messages they purported to have before the state election, but of course that has become a theme we have witnessed over the last three years.

That takes us to probably one of the most essential tenets of the argument in favour of this amendment, which is the fact that the Electoral Commissioner wanted it himself. Back in 2014 they wanted to take away the restriction of one square metre, and we now have an opportunity to accept that recommendation and address it. Why any member in this place would be opposed to such a reasonable proposition is beyond the opposition and the South Australian parliamentary Labor Party, which is why we think it is a worthy amendment.

It is an amendment that most South Australians would believe makes sense. It is utterly consistent with the democratic ideals I think we all share in this place and certainly would go a long way to making the lives a lot easier of our hardworking electoral officials, who already have enough on their plate around election time without worrying about measuring corflutes throughout the electorate.

We would encourage those opposite to support the bill. We would encourage every South Australian to pay attention to this debate and the outcome of this amendment because only one party in this parliament apparently is truly committed to transparency, a democratic process and giving those opposite the opportunity to promote the basketball stadium.

Mr BOYER: I rise to speak in support of the amendment and offer my own observations about why I think this would be a very sensible decision. We heard earlier today in this place some talk about the much-touted Building What Matters bunting in advertising that has cropped up all across the metropolitan area and regional South Australia as well.

I had my own experience of seeing that and asking a few questions about it, in fact. I think the minister spoke today about this building project specifically, which was a \$10 million grant under the former Building Better Schools program under the previous Labor government to the

Aberfoyle Park High School. I had occasion to go there and meet the principal and visit the school recently to see those works. They are extremely impressive, there is no doubt about that.

But encircling the school on the day I was there was the Building What Matters bunting, and it was extensive. It basically completely surrounded the whole school and, as I was walking around with the principal of Aberfoyle Park, Ms Marion Coady, I asked, 'How long has that been there? Is that happening in other schools, do you know?'

This was quite early in the piece before it was going up on education sites. Ms Coady said to me, 'It just appeared one night. I arrived at school the next day. I had no idea it was going to be put up. There was bunting there from the builders who had been carrying out the work around the chain-link fencing and then I arrived one morning and that had all been replaced by this Building What Matters bunting instead,' which is remarkable—

Ms Stinson: It's the bunting fairies.

Mr BOYER: That is right, the bunting fairies appeared and it just magically popped up. I can tell you, having put in the freedom of information application to the Department for Education and the Minister for Education on this specific matter, this bunting does not come cheap. I can tell you that it is expensive stuff. That brings me to my point. By having this peculiar, nonsensical one metre square rule, what it really does is provide an unfair advantage to the government of the day, which has the ability to do this kind of paid government advertising like Building What Matters, and can pay for it out of taxpayers' money and can afford to put it up at schools and transport projects all across the state even at this high cost, but the poor old opposition of the day, of course, is hampered and restricted by a one metre rule.

I question how effective some of this government advertising like Building What Matters might be; nonetheless, it is plastered across the state and the metropolitan area. I would hazard a guess that there would be very few people living in the metropolitan area who get out and commute to work who would not have seen it somewhere. That, therefore, is the advantage for the government, an advantage that is not shared by the opposition. That is just one of a number of reasons why we should be scrapping the rule if we are looking to make sure that our elections are held on a level playing field.

We know, too, and I am sure this is not news to anyone in this place, that there is an incredible amount of confusion between the different levels of government and what the different levels of government are responsible for. I think there is no need to add to that confusion by having this kind of arcane rule about what kind of advertising can occur in federal elections and what kind of advertising can occur in state elections.

Just after the 2018 election, just after being elected for the first time to this place, when I was out doorknocking trying to reach a few people who I had not been able to reach before the election to say hello, this particular lady in Surrey Downs was pleasingly friendly. The member for Badcoe is right: it is nice to get someone who is happy to see you at the door; it does not always happen. I introduced myself and she exclaimed, 'You have just replaced Nick Xenophon as our local member of parliament.' I took a step back and had no idea how to really approach that one but it reinforced—

Mr Malinauskas: Don't tell your predecessor that, though.

Mr BOYER: No, I wouldn't. She would not be pleased. This was a lady who was completely genuine in her response to me. The gulf between who she thought was her representative in that area and who it actually was was so extreme that I could not really bridge it, but it was important to me in terms of showing me just how disconnected and tuned out so many people are in terms of what happens in our political debate and our system of government. I think it is ridiculous that we expect so many of those people who are already tuned out and not paying really careful attention to then differentiate between these different rules that we have for political advertising.

Given that we are approaching a scenario where we may well have overlap between a state election and a federal election, it occurred to me that I am not quite sure how we expect people to differentiate between federal political advertising, which no doubt will at some point have something disparaging to say about the other party—for instance, something negative using the word 'Liberal' and something negative using the word 'Labor'.

I am not sure—do we expect members of the South Australian public to get out with their measuring tape and measure the poster in question to work out whether or not they should be considering that advertising in terms of their state vote or their federal vote? But of course the truth is we know it is going to bleed across and influence both state and federal voting. To have this silly rule which means state political parties are limited to a poster of one metre squared, but federal political parties will not be, I think is just ridiculous.

In this day and age, when people are more disinclined to engage in the political debate and listen to their political leaders, trust is at an all-time low, we do not need another reason to disenfranchise those people from the debate even more. Having another silly rule here, if people hear of it or we speak to them of it, they will quite simply shake their head and say, 'The world is crazy.' They will probably put it in the same basket as different rail gauges and that kind of stuff that we have had and just think, 'All our elected leaders are nongs; why are they doing things like this?'

Putting aside those few reasons as to why this amendment is an excellent idea and we should scrap the one metre rule, for me I think the most compelling reason is that if you enforce silly, nonsensical ideas like this one which, as the leader pointed out in his comments, nobody can account for or explain why they exist and a rule for which nobody can provide any kind of justification, what you get is a race to the bottom.

If you want to force political parties to squeeze their political messages into one metre square posters, sure, we will do that, no worries, but if you think you are going to get some kind of informed, articulate, nuanced political debate that deals with the big issues and treats the voting population like the intelligent, grown-up people they are, well, forget it, you are not going to get that. You are going to get silly slogans. You are going to get complex, important issues of state and public policy boiled down to a tiny little kernel and then everyone is going to complain about why our election campaigns turn into mudslinging and things like that.

We need to provide political parties with the scope to communicate with the voting public in an intelligent way and with a bit of detail, instead of forcing them to boil down these complex issues of state and public policy onto a postage stamp and then in turn expect the South Australian public to make sense of that and make an informed choice. It is time for this change. This is a great opportunity and I certainly hope other members of this place will support the amendment.

Ms STINSON: I rise in support of the member for Kaurana's brilliant amendment to scrap the one metre rule. There are, of course, many, many reasons why I support this, a number of them already outlined by my colleagues in such eloquent fashion. I am quite partial to a sign. They are clear and they are clean—in my case, I always make sure they are nice and bright—and, of course they are very accessible. They are really quite an original form, a base form of promoting a message.

Any business that you go past, especially when you are driving around my area, if you are on Marion Road or Anzac Highway or South Road, you will see most businesses, certainly those that are trying to attract a customer through the door, will have a sign out the front, quite noticeable signage at the front of their businesses. This is how they let us know about their messages about what they are selling, what their message is and why you should visit their shop. It is really a very basic and straightforward way of getting a message across.

I have to say that I am pretty recognised for my corflutes around the place. I think quite a lot of people recognise me from the telly. They definitely make that comment to me that they find the signs really helpful and that is how they came to be aware that I was a candidate at the last election. Despite the fact that I think Mr Boyer and I were nominated on the same day, 14 months before the last election, it is not until those signs go up that people suddenly go, 'Ah, there's an election,' because the sign is in your face and it is static and people can understand it and get the message pretty quickly.

It does puzzle me about this one metre rule that we have always had. There really seems no particular reason why a sign that is one metre or 1.5 metres or five metres should be dictated. I am not sure that in all of this debate I have actually really heard much of a reason as to how that came about, or at least not a convincing reason.

Another reason why I think signs should be held onto, even in this age of social media—and a lot of us are getting our messages out there a lot more on social media—is that unfortunately we

do have a dwindling mainstream media. We have seen, since the last election, the Messenger newspapers disappear. We have also seen a number of our suburban and country newspapers disappear.

The very disappointing consequence of that, on top of the fact that so many journalists—indeed, my former colleagues—have lost their jobs in those cutbacks, is that messages just are not getting out there to our community. There are very few forums now for a suburban MP, or even a country MP for that matter, to get a message across without having local media and local journalists to cover that message, that story, about what is going on in that local community and, to be honest, to scrutinise it. Of course, you do not get that level of scrutiny from a sign but you can get your message out.

I think with the absence of those community-level forms of media, there is very limited opportunity to be able to inform the community of what we actually stand for. Surely, that is the whole point of an election: to let people know what we stand for, what our personal values are, what our policies are, what we are going to do for people, what we have already done for people. I think our community deserves to be informed in that way.

Unfortunately, as we head into the next election, a very crucial platform that we previously had to be able to inform our communities and have a live debate in community and suburban media just simply does not exist anymore. I do know that *The Advertiser* has its Messenger pages on its platform, and that is a good thing, but it is a far cry from the many suburban Messenger newspapers that were available previously.

So the only way now for me to get my message out to my local community, when the story is not quite as big as something that might appear on Channel 7 news at night or might not be worthy enough to grace the competitive pages of *The Advertiser*, is to tell people directly. Obviously, we do that with flyers and street corner meetings and phone calls and all the things we do in our day, but we also do it through signage. Of course, it is pretty hard to get a comprehensive message across in just one square metre. It is pretty difficult.

So broadening that space that we have broadens the message that we can get across and broadens the opportunity for our community to be informed, for us to be accountable for what it is that we are doing and for the community to understand what it is they will be getting if they vote for any one of us here and all the other candidates who will putting their hands up at the next election.

I might want, for example, to tell people about how I am fighting for them and what they need and the information they need as the South Road development happens in our community. It is a pretty big project—something supported by both sides, certainly supported by Labor—but it is something that will affect hundreds, if not thousands, of people's lives. At the moment, there are so many people worried about their homes, their businesses and their futures in my area. My electorate, of course, has the entire aboveground section. There is a tunnel to the south, there is a tunnel to the north, and the entire aboveground section falls in Badcoe.

What that means is that there are a lot of nervous and stressed out people right now, and they do deserve to know that their local member is working hard for them. They deserve to know when there is a local meeting on. They deserve to know closer to the election just exactly what I have done about that to represent them to help them and to try to encourage this government to give them more information as speedily as possible about what this major road development means for them.

I might also want to tell them about what is happening to our public transport network. I might want to tell them about how we have seen that privatised and what that actually means for train and tram operations in Badcoe. In fact, Badcoe probably has one of, if not the highest, concentration of train and tram stations. We are lucky enough to be very well serviced, so people in my area are very interested in public transport. Certainly, the feedback I have had and the work that I have been doing around the privatisation of those services has been pretty detailed and I have been getting a lot of feedback from people about just how disappointed they are about it.

Likewise, on the flipside, I might want to let people know about some of the commitments that I have already made in my community—for example, upgrading the train station at Clarence Park. That was something that people raised with me several years ago. I wrote to this government about it. They said it was not a priority. I mean, since we have announced it, now it is a

priority—not that much of a priority, though. It will not be funded in the next term of government. It will be the one after that.

Mr Boyer: They hate trains over there.

Ms STINSON: Yes. It is not quite a priority as such. It is just a priority when someone else announces it. That is an important debate and something that my community deserves to be informed about, but you cannot really get all that detail across fairly and properly to people in one square metre, which is yet another reason why we should be having just a bit more room on a sign to be able to explain some of these complex issues to people that will be pivotal to them.

I know they will be pivotal for my community because they are raising them with me and they want information about what is being done about public transport and what the different promises are that are being put forward. Just as I might want to put forward my policies and what my party's policies are in relation to public transport, I am sure those opposite would like to do the same. Height limits on Anzac Highway is another one. That is a big one at the moment.

Mr Boyer: They want to know about that.

Ms STINSON: They absolutely want to know what is going on there. They want to know why we previously had a three-storey limit for blocks of land along Anzac Highway that overlooked the character zone in Glandore but now it is eight storeys. They want to know about that. Obviously they are getting me knocking on their doors, they are signing the petition—we had it tabled here today—they are coming to street corner and community forums about that issue and they are engaging with me about that.

But of course another way of getting across exactly what I am doing, exactly what the issue is, how they can be active and how they can be engaged is with signage, and it is a lot to fit. It was three storeys and now it has been changed overnight with the stroke of a pen. Now, instead of any public consultation, we have seen it suddenly changed by the minister to eight storeys on particular blocks along Anzac Highway. That is a lot to fit into one square metre. So you do need a little bit more room to be able to explain to people what is going on because, as I said, unfortunately, no Messenger.

There are a few other reasons why it would be good to have a bit more than a metre square. It is more efficient—it really is. At the moment, if I want to get across some of those messages about Anzac Highway height limits, what is happening with South Road and the community forums that I am running about that to better inform my community with what is happening because the government is not, the privatisation of our train station, the promises I have made and the commitments that Labor has put on the table for our community, I have to put them on one square metre repeatedly down the road.

We can do that. We can put a bit of a message here and here, right down the length of Anzac Highway. We have no shortage of big, long, straight roads in my electorate. But it is a bit cumbersome. It would be easier if people could just see it all in one place, understand the message, engage, make their decisions, take action or even just say, 'Okay, I got that. Moving on now,' without having four or five or six or seven signs down the road telling them what is going on.

Another reason is that would it not just be more environmentally friendly in some cases? I know it is a federal election when I drive down south on South Road and I see that huge billboard of Amanda Rishworth that she always gets. It is a lot more efficient than completely plastering the whole place. It is one big billboard. You know she is there. You know what she has been up to. She has been working hard for the south. She is always working hard for the south. Her face is there, her contact details are there and it is one big sign and you cannot miss it. It is a lot more efficient really than printing out a whole heap of little posters. It is one big electronic poster. Surely, it has to be more environmentally friendly.

There are a few electronic billboards in my area and in fact they are growing. We have seen a proliferation of electronic billboards in the seat of Badcoe lately. The latest one was installed on the side of the Black Forest tram bridge over South Road—a very topical site right now. We will see if it survives the upgrade. There are also some really good ones on the Gallipoli corner. If you are travelling from Glenelg and going into the city, you will see a really big one on the Ashford side and

then there is another really big, curved one you can see from all angles. It is pretty fancy. Not too far away from that is the Black Forest bridge one.

There are some good ones on Richmond Road. I think the Mushroom Week sign has possibly been up for too long on Richmond Road. If we had this, maybe someone would buy that site. Maybe someone would buy that billboard and we would be able to replace the Mushroom Week one near Vili's pies.

Mr Boyer: It would stimulate the economy—jobs.

Ms STINSON: It would stimulate the economy. Someone has to get up there and replace that Mushroom Week sign at Vili's pies.

An honourable member interjecting:

Ms STINSON: There is nothing wrong with Mushroom Week, but it seems to have been Mushroom Week for about 18 months now.

So there is that one, and then there is also one closer to home. There is a really good billboard on the corner of Marion Road and Anzac Highway, a location that may be familiar because that is where my electorate office is. There is one right outside there that would just be prime territory for a really great billboard—and any side might want to use that billboard. It is more than one square metre, of course, so that is tough.

If this amendment were to be approved—and an excellent amendment and an excellent suggestion it is from the member for Kaurua—certainly those billboards in my electorate would suddenly become a lot more competitive. There would be a bit more competition for those, and not only would we be able to see quite clearly who is running but they would probably have some room to pop a policy or two up there. The beautiful thing about an electronic billboard is that you can change it. As the election rolls on, you can update it. You can add another policy and another policy.

Last time, I had 22 different things I had delivered to my electorate, but I am not sure if all 22 would fit clearly on the billboard—I might have to get a few billboards—but there is the capacity there to tell people not just who you are but what you stand for, what your policies are, what you have delivered on, what they will get with you and maybe a bit about what they will get or not get with the other side.

I warmly welcome this amendment and encourage all those in this place to think not just of the arguments that have been put forward on this side but of the reasons why we might want to have a bit more space to tell our story. Those arguments equally apply to those on the other side: I am sure they want to tell their electorates about what they have been up to. They might want their candidates to be able to do so as well. They might want to justify some of the positions they have taken and explain them to people in their community, and that is pretty hard to do in one metre square.

The ACTING CHAIR (Mr Cowdrey): Member for Badcoe, regrettably your 15-minute allocation has expired for this contribution.

Ms STINSON: I had no one-minute warning, sir.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I move:

That progress be reported.

The committee divided on the motion:

Ayes 22

Noes 24

Majority 2

AYES

Bedford, F.E.

Bignell, L.W.K.

Brown, M.E.

Gee, J.P.

Koutsantonis, A. (teller)

Bell, T.S.

Boyer, B.I.

Close, S.E.

Hildyard, K.A.

Malinauskas, P.

Bettison, Z.L.

Brock, G.G.

Cook, N.F.

Hughes, E.J.

Michaels, A.

AYES

Mullighan, S.C.
Picton, C.J.
Wortley, D.

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

Piccolo, A.
Szakacs, J.K.

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.
Cregan, D.
Gardner, J.A.W.
Luethen, P.
Murray, S.
Pisoni, D.G.
Speirs, D.J.
van Holst Pellekaan, D.C.

Chapman, V.A.
Duluk, S.
Harvey, R.M. (teller)
Marshall, S.S.
Patterson, S.J.R.
Power, C.
Tarzia, V.A.
Whetstone, T.J.

Cowdrey, M.J.
Ellis, F.J.
Knoll, S.K.
McBride, N.
Pederick, A.S.
Sanderson, R.
Teague, J.B.
Wingard, C.L.

Motion thus negatived.

The ACTING CHAIR (Mr Cowdrey): The member for Enfield.

Ms MICHAELS: It would give me no greater pleasure than to make comments on this particular amendment at this time of night, because it is such an important amendment that the member for Kaurua has moved. It is, of course, if we are paying attention to the debate, the abolishment of the one by one square metre size limit for advertising. When I investigate why it is in there, I am told there is no real reason for it being in there. No-one really knows.

Members interjecting:

The ACTING CHAIR (Mr Cowdrey): Members, enough please!

Ms MICHAELS: When someone tells me there is no real public policy reason for having something in there, I say let's change it. For that reason alone—

An honourable member: Most of the time.

Ms MICHAELS: Most of the time.

An honourable member: Red tape reduction.

Ms MICHAELS: Red tape reduction, exactly. The fact that there seems to be no real public policy reason for having this, and there are so many reasons for abolishing this that many of my colleagues have canvassed this evening, is good enough for me to be voting in support of this amendment—if we get to vote.

In terms of the 2014 recommendations, they of course recommend this be abolished, and I think we should move consistent with that recommendation. I also think that there is a number of situations in Enfield where I would like to make use of larger signage, billboard signage. I now, in my new boundaries, move over Grand Junction Road. Of course, that is a very wide road and I think a larger sign would be much more useful going across that road than a one by one square metre sign that people will not be able to read across eight lanes of traffic.

For me personally, I think there is an interest in having this abolished. The messaging that you can put on those larger signs, as people have canvassed on this side of the chamber, obviously is much more extensive and can be messaged in a way that is understandable by a range of people. I obviously have a significant number of people with English as a second language in my electorate and sometimes messaging that is targeted to that can be very helpful for promoting democracy. I think sometimes we might be able to benefit from having larger signs to give those messages out to that community.

Having billboards or larger signs can actually be much more environmental. Rather than cardboard printing or corflute printing of smaller signs, we can get our messages across much more

effectively with things like billboards and larger signs that can be produced on more environmentally friendly material.

Something that the member for Badcoe just mentioned was local newspapers being gone. Having some size and being able to produce more detailed messaging is actually very useful in that situation and something that I think, given my passion for policy, would be very useful for my own campaign and would be useful for our campaign at the next election.

I also think there is a measure of inequality, coming up to the next election, if we are not able to abolish this and move past this amendment, and that is an inequality of government spending on large platforms—buses, bus shelters, all sorts of large messaging—that is paid for by the taxpayer, that will get the government's message out, that we will not have access to. That will flip at some point in time. At some point in time, we will be in government and if we leave this rule in it will be members in the other side who will suffer not being able to get their messages across on large formats. I think from an equality point of view we should be able to get rid of this and have larger formats to be able to, basically, fight on an even playing field, to be honest.

There is also, of course, the federal election coming up at the same time, and that inconsistency of rules without a sound public policy for this sizing difference can cause confusion: 'Vote Labor,' 'Vote Liberal,' 'Vote Greens' on different sizes. I can tell you that going into the by-election there was very little understanding of the difference between local, state and federal. In fact, my by-election was only a few months after the local government elections and people were annoyed at me that they had to vote again and thought it was in the same election.

Being able to get across to people that there are different rules for different elections that might be going on within a matter of weeks, if not months, is a reason why we should have consistent rules on that basis to avoid confusion and to avoid having to deal with 'Are we voting state Labor or federal Labor, or state Liberal or federal Liberal?' People just do not understand. Unfortunately, they do not have the passion for democracy that we have in this place.

Also, I think we are forever sitting on these little phones, and at some point in time we are going to get sick of these little phones. At some point in time, we are going to realise—the marketing gurus will tell us—that actually we need to change the way we message. It may be that for younger people who are stuck on their phones all day, seeing a big billboard is actually the one thing that is going to make them (1) enrol to vote and (2) participate in democracy in the way that we hope our younger people in our electorates do. For all those reasons, I fully support the member for Kaurna on this amendment. I thank you for your time.

Ms HILDYARD: I also rise to speak to this amendment No. 16 rightly brought to this place by the member for Kaurna, an amendment which seeks to address the issue of the limits on the size of electoral signage, an issue that I think the member for Enfield has articulated very well. It seems to have served no purpose or function whatsoever to date. As the member for Enfield also said, I understand that the Electoral Commissioner in 2014 certainly supported increasing the size of electoral signage and messaging, and I thank the member for Kaurna for looking at those recommendations and for bringing this amendment to this debate on this bill.

There are a few issues I would like to raise in relation to it. First of all, I understand a few others have raised the issue around the fact that we are looking at having a state and federal election in very, very close succession. I think that does create some level of confusion sometimes for people around the two elections happening at the same time.

Certainly, the electorates of the member for Kaurna, the member for Hurtle Vale and other members of this house are in their entirety in the federal electorate of Kingston. I wanted to touch on the fact that the member for Kingston, Amanda Rishworth, is an extraordinary campaigner. She is absolutely relentless about making sure that she is listening to, communicating, hearing, advocating for the issues that people in our southern community feel really strongly about. I have no doubt that she will have an abundance of signage in the federal election campaign.

I think it is very, very odd that potentially, when there will be two election campaigns running at the same time, there will be complete disparity in terms of the availability of sizing of signage in each of those election campaigns. I think it is very odd that there is a disparity and potentially will also lead to some confusion.

I also want to touch on something that the member for Enfield and, I think, others have touched on and that is the inequality around the ability for the government of the day to have access to additional signage, if you like, through government advertising. Like other members who reside in the southern suburbs, the way that I come to this place is via the now two-way Southern Expressway and then down Goodwood Road into the city and onto West Terrace.

One of the sets of lights that I often find myself parked at for some time both on my commute to the city and out of the city is at the Daws Road/Goodwood Road/Springbank Road intersection. Alarming, what I have seen over the past few months is the sudden appearance of literally kilometres and kilometres of government signage saying Building What Matters, which I find very odd. I can never reconcile that that seems to be both the Liberal Party slogan and messaging and the paid government advertising. When I am sitting at those lights, morning after morning and evening after evening, I ponder how on earth that has come to be, how that is possible.

In listening to the debate about this amendment tonight, I certainly turned my mind to what that will be like during an election campaign, when it is festooned literally four kilometres along the road, and there are particular limits around the signage that particular candidates can have. As the member for Enfield pointed out, it certainly gives rise to inequality in terms of the ability to share messaging and certainly to share any detailed messaging.

Another point I want to make is that I know everybody in this house would agree that it has been a really difficult couple of years for people in our community. It has been so difficult, with some people being incredibly isolated during periods of lockdown, during periods of restrictions—restrictions and lockdowns that we all absolutely must and should always adhere to. It has also been difficult for people who are isolated.

A lot of people say to me, 'How are people in the community coping with the restrictions?' I often say in answer to that question that of course we need to adhere to them. It is those people who were already isolated to some degree in our community, who were already struggling, who were already perhaps not connected to people, who have found it the hardest, and they have often become even more isolated, even more disconnected.

As members of parliament, we often reach out to people who are isolated, through doorknocking and all sorts of community meetings, morning teas and all sorts of visits and gatherings. Obviously, we have curtailed some of those activities over the last couple of years, rightly and appropriately in line with restrictions. What it means is that some people, particularly those who are more isolated, have not had those opportunities. More than ever, those people and indeed many other people in our community will be looking for information, looking for ways to find out more about particular candidates, looking for messages they can read to get some quick, detailed information on particular policies, programs, ideas and developments at particular spots in our community.

I think this is an incredibly important time for us to be thinking about how we can provide more messages, more information, rather than thinking about how we can keep the status quo. For that reason, I am incredibly supportive of and very grateful for the member for Kaurna's amendment because I think it is so crucial that more than ever people have access to information in different ways. Everybody in this house would know that, for many people who are more isolated in our community, it is often extraordinarily difficult, depending on their circumstances, for them to access information online and in other forums.

I am sure that everybody in this place has community members who come to them asking for advice on where they can access particular forms in paper form or advice on how to get information when they are not connected to the internet, when they do not have the capacity or the resources to ensure they can connect in an online way. Again, we absolutely need to make sure that we are giving groups in our community the most information possible rather than less. That is something really important for us to think about, particularly in the context of the last couple of years.

The last two things I would say are that, firstly, people in our community are looking absolutely desperate for leadership, for vision and for all of us in this place to think about how together we can contemplate the many challenges that have come from the last couple of years. Again, part of that leadership is thinking about the systems we have and thinking about better, stronger, more plentiful ways that we can be communicating with people and sharing information. We should really

consider those people who are looking for that information and show leadership in providing it to them.

Finally, I just want to share a story about the value of signage during election campaigns. It was about 3am on the night when corflutes went up in the 2014 election, and a friend and I were erecting corflutes on Main South Road, not too far from the Emu Hotel. It was about 3am and a few patrons were leaving the Emu Hotel. One young man was walking home from the Emu Hotel and he stopped to talk to me and my friend. We had a great conversation about various policies at 3am, after he had just left quite a long evening at the Emu Hotel. We had a lovely conversation and canvassed all sorts of issues.

Then he said to me, 'I'm wondering whether I could please have one of your signs, because I've been at the pub since I finished work at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon and I'm really worried I'm not going to remember who I had this conversation with, so can I please take one of your signs with me?'

An honourable member interjecting:

Ms HILDYARD: Exactly. He also asked whether we would please drop him home and we organised some transportation to help him get home. I just wanted to share that story because, whilst I am not suggesting that people need to use corflutes to remember conversations in many instances at all, I think people being able to reflect on clear messages, communicated in a way that conveys the detail that gets to the heart of particular messages, is incredibly important, and it is incredibly important now more than ever as people are craving information and connection to one another.

Mr BROWN: Mr Acting Chair, I draw your attention to the state of the committee.

The ACTING CHAIR (Mr Cowdrey): There not being a quorum, ring the bells.

A quorum having been formed:

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I rise to speak on the same amendment that the member for Kaurua raised, really to pick up on a couple of comments that have been made—

The Hon. V.A. Chapman: I thought you had already spoken.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Three—first, by the member for Reynell, which I found slightly troubling, if I am honest. As a member of the southern suburbs who manages to use the duplicated Southern Expressway, she expressed that she would come into the city having left the Southern Expressway via Goodwood Road.

Chair, you might be aware that across Adelaide's metropolitan road network, in the last five years a new series of signs have been erected to show estimated travel times across alternate routes from particular precincts of the metropolitan area to a central location. For example, from the Southern Expressway there would be different times that it would take to travel into the city if you went via South Road or if you went via Marion Road. As you got closer towards those junction points there would be another alternative, which would be if you took perhaps Goodwood Road or South Road.

These signs are based on a relatively recent form of traffic monitoring technology based on Bluetooth. Bluetooth, of course, was an invention that came from a Dutch researcher—

An honourable member: Who was that?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I did have it moments ago—it was Jaarp Haartsen, who initially worked for the Ericsson company, which later merged with Sony, which produced the phones the Hon. Ian Hunter in the other place still uses to this day. That Bluetooth technology has enabled a far more accurate reading of average travel times across Adelaide's road network.

These signs were erected to give motorists a better understanding of how long it would take to travel into the city via alternate routes. It would give motorists a choice; you could take this route or that route to get to your destination. So from the Southern Expressway you could take Marion Road or South Road, or you could take Ayliffes Road or South Road, for example.

Admittedly I do not live in the southern suburbs, but I have used, and continue to use, the duplicated Southern Expressway on a semi-frequent basis. In my experience, member Reynell, it

seems to me that Goodwood Road is not really the best option to get into the city in the swiftest time, so it vexes me greatly that the member for Reynell will continue to make this choice.

Mr Picton: People are very set in their ways.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: People are set in their ways, and Adelaide motorists are certainly that on occasion. What that makes clear to me is that these travel times signs are not big enough, clearly they do not stand out enough over our road network. If a travel times sign, which must be in the order of perhaps two or three square metres, is not getting information across to a motorist like the member for Reynell—who I must say, in my experience, does have an eye for detail—

Mr Picton: A very attentive driver.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: An attentive driver, no less—then clearly one square metre for the electoral sign is insufficient. That is the first point I wanted to make. The second point, timely as it is, is that there has been a suggestion from the Deputy Premier that if we were to move away from one square metre perhaps we might move to a life-size corflute. Well, I have to say that in my experience, in my 43 years on this earth, that is something I just cannot countenance. Can you imagine if, for example, I was not contesting the electorate of Lee but was contesting the electorate of Stuart? Imagine the outrageous advantage the incumbent member would have over an opposing candidate like me. To have a life-size corflute that would tower over mine, Stobie pole to Stobie pole, is just unfair.

This is the sort of discrimination I have had to put up with for the entirety of my life. Some of you may know that I am the youngest of five children. In my unfortunate reality I am also the shortest of them. It is this sort of discrimination I thought I could get elected to parliament and escape; clearly, it now seeks to be perpetuated by the Deputy Premier. Clearly we need a more equitable and reasonable basis on which members of parliament and people seeking election can compete with one another. I think the contributions to date have, without exception—other than that of the Deputy Premier—demonstrated that one square metre is insufficient. A lot of reasons have been given as to why, but now our minds are turning to an appropriate alternative.

The member for Kaurana initially proposed a change to the infinite, that there would be no limitation whatsoever, that we could have a billboard of limitless dimensions where a candidate or a sitting member could advertise their candidacy. Perhaps that is a bridge too far. Perhaps we do need to enshrine some more reasonable limit—perhaps two square metres or three square metres—but I think the house is quickly forming the view that change is needed and a prescription of change would be best considered at this hour.

If such an amendment should be filed to the member for Kaurana's amendment, of perhaps two square metres or something similar, I indicate pre-emptively that that would be something I would support. I think that is a reasonable way forward in what has become somewhat unexpectedly a most vexed issue in the consideration of the bill. As Richard Burton said at the commencement of that famous radio broadcast, no-one would have believed that at the outset of the consideration of this bill several hours would have been spent on the consideration of one mere amendment on the change to the size of electoral signage—but it is an important issue.

It is such an important issue that the issue of corflutes has not only been raised by the Deputy Premier in another bill to be considered at some point but it has also been raised by the member for Waite and, of course, it remains an issue of some contention when it comes to the regulations around the laws and the regulations around how elections are to be conducted in South Australia, so if change is sought we now have the menu of options in front of us.

We can ignore the problem that we are currently faced with and we can take the option of the Deputy Premier and that is just to get rid of corflutes. But that ignores the fact that there needs to be some advertising of the fact that there is an election afoot and that there are candidates standing for election, and the community deserves to know who those candidates are, and perhaps what they look like—if that is what they want to advertise—and also what their names are.

There is that option and then there is the choice the member for Kaurana put forward, which is that we should allow a limitless size of advertising sign which can provide not just an advertisement

that there is an election afoot by the presence of such a sign but also who the candidate is, or even what the member for Cheltenham said, and that is to start in some more detailed messaging particular political messages for the benefit of the constituency. He went into some detail, for example, with a suggested message about having the Premier and a series of disgraced former ministers and members and so on with descriptions above them, but I had not turned my mind to that extent. It was more the consideration of how we could allow a candidate or a sitting MP to let their specific communities know about the fact that they were standing again.

Perhaps the member for Kurna can enlighten the chamber about whether there is to be a further prospective amendment and, if there was, how many square metres we might perhaps move to, but one square metre surely does not fit the need of the community anymore. I know the member for Bragg is accommodating as a legislator. She is welcoming of opposing views and new ideas.

Mr Picton: Her generosity knows no bounds.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Her generosity does know no bounds. In fact, who would have thought that so many hours of the house's time would be spent on consideration of this particular bill. I know someone is listening in closely—Australia's most renowned electoral analyst who pays close attention to this bill. While the parliament was afforded the benefit of his briefing on changes to electoral regulations in many respects, I do not recall he offered an opinion on this.

But we have offered ours. We have offered some helpful suggestions about how we may change things, and I really do hope that in the breadth of experience, anecdote and consideration that members have put to the house through the course of this debate that we can arrive at the best possible result to encourage as many South Australians not only to enrol to vote but to actually vote, and then, of course, to vote according to their wishes.

Mr PICTON: I would like to thank the member for Lee for his contribution and the other members who have spoken over the past short time we have been debating this amendment. I note that the member for Lee foreshadowed that we are considering whether there could be some other provision, some fallback. I have now circulated something and we will get to that at the appropriate stage, but I still believe that this would be the best course of action for the committee to take and the parliament to take—to remove this section entirely.

That is what is consistent with the 2014 Electoral Commissioner's recommendations. It is consistent with the federal government's approach. I think one of the contributions in the past few minutes talked about how this is also a good red tape reduction measure. Many people talk about how they are elected to parliament and they give these great speeches about how they want to remove red tape. Well, here is an opportunity. There is red tape and seemingly no reason for it.

I note that the Attorney has been waving around some extracts from *Hansard*, presumably from the 1980s, so I look forward to seeing whether she is going to read into the debate whether there was actually any policy rationale for why this was put forth in the first place because we are still yet to hear any rationale whatsoever—any justification, any policy reasoning—for why this should be in place and why we should be limiting free speech, that we would prescribe this, in that we do not say how long a TV ad should be, we do not say how big a letter should be, we do not say how long a radio ad should be, but we say how big a sign should be.

I do not think that that is consistent with the open democratic approach, particularly when it is government money, taxpayers' money, and they can make signs as big as they want to and they continue to do so, but for any other citizen that would be defined as electoral advertising and is banned under this provision.

I hope that we can get support from the committee to move forward with removing this provision, which I think would make a great deal of difference to improving the bill and improving the fairness of our electoral process. Mine may well be the last contribution, but we may hear from the Attorney if she wants to read her *Hansard* and make one last attempt to justify her stance against this amendment.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I speak in respect of the member for Kurna's amendment, which seeks to delete section 115 of the Electoral Act for the reasons that have been outlined by a number of speakers. One of the speakers tonight, in particular the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, raised a concern as to the enforcement of the poster size. Her concern included that she had once observed what she saw as a breach of the poster size and reported it to the council, only to have a

response to the effect that it was not a matter for them. She was concerned, therefore, about the capacity to enforce the matter.

I just want to confirm for members that in the Electoral Act it confirms it is the Electoral Commission that is the enforcer in relation to these matters. So, for the benefit of the deputy leader, if she has any concerns in the future, she can direct her attention to the commissioner. He has also reported in his election report that there are 11 occasions of reports, eight notices were issued against those who were apparently breaching the rules and three were found not to have been in breach. It was the same for the previous election. I just bring that to the attention of the house.

The second matter is in respect of the history of this matter. While I have been listening to the riveting contributions of members in relation to this amendment, I have had occasion to look at a number of the historical acts. It appears that there has been a prohibition of certain electoral posters based on size for decades. I am now looking at the consolidated Electoral Act of 1929 to 1975. In fact, that provided, it appears for some time, a prohibition not to post up or exhibit or permit to be posted up or exhibited on any building, vehicle, vessel, hoarding or structure of any kind, an electoral poster, an area of which is more than 8,000 square centimetres—the current being 10,000 square centimetres.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: No, 8,000 square centimetres. In 1975 we were metric, right? Of course, at some stage in between it converted to 10,000 square centimetres, in other words a square metre. In fact, for members' benefit, if you breached that, there was a \$400 fine at that stage. Then it set out the prescriptions in relation to whether that be on a roadway, a footpath, etc. So it has been with us for a very long time, but certainly the crystallising of the last transfer motion in 1985 into the current act, which currently covers our regulation of elections, was indeed in the debates.

I refer particularly to 15 May 1985. The history of the introduction of the new electoral bill was by the Hon. Chris Sumner in the Legislative Council and you can make an inquiry of him. When he introduced the bill, it appears on a cursory glance of the Legislative Council, it did not have provision for the restriction at all; it seemed to be just dropped. It was raised actually in the lower house, in the House of Assembly, on 15 May 1985 by the then member for Elizabeth, Martyn Evans, later to become the Hon. Martyn Evans.

As a backbencher then for the Bannon government, he introduced the amendment to ensure that there was a continuation of restriction, but at the new metric level of 10,000 square centimetres or one square metre. In the course of those debates, the government of the day, via the Hon. Greg Crafter, who would be well known to many, the member for Norwood at that time, said on this day:

Clearly, there is strong feeling in the community about electoral advertising, and there is strong opposition to this intrusion, particularly on personal or political grounds but, in the minds of many people, on environmental grounds. This has resulted in many councils passing by-laws prohibiting electoral advertising or regulating it in some way. It would seem desirable that the Government falls into line with what is being expressed clearly at the local government level and brings down some restrictions on electoral advertising to give effect to those clearly expressed wishes of a great many people in the community.

I think he encapsulated the general feeling in the speech. Of course, members can go back and reminisce about what was said back in 1985, but there was a cementing of this restriction on the size of election posters and it seems to have followed a very long tradition, way before the lifetime of all of us. There seemed to be very good men—and women, eventually—to set out the reasons why this was important, and I think it is still important today.

Nevertheless, it is with us. Although the member is proposing in the amendment before us to abolish this provision, I am aware from a document tabled that there is a fallback position now being presented that it not be an abolition but that it be two square metres. It seems there has been a quick caucus on the other side and they have decided, 'If we miss out on this, we might have a chance with two square metres.' I am not quite sure how two square metres has been developed.

But I am prepared to listen to matters. As I said right at the beginning of the debate in relation to this amendment, if we are going to change the rules in relation to poster size, it ought to be done within the envelope of advertising material generally, and that includes in relation to a bill that is also

before the house in relation to corflutes. At some stage, if we ever finish this bill, during the course of further sittings on this matter we will have a look at those options.

So I do not understand specifically the merits as to why two square metres is now being proposed as a potential option or a potential amendment. But again, we can have those conversations. In the meantime—

Mr Picton: Just building on the Martyn Evans reforms.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Those mighty Labor backbenchers who were so active and so dogmatic about the government of the day. Mr Bannon's government, of course, was mindful of that, and the sentiment expressed by the Hon. Greg Crafter I think has some merit. But, in any event, I hope that adds to the information that members have. Again, if there are any proposals that the opposition want to put as an alternative, I am always happy to hear them but it will be within the envelope of the further matter in relation to corflutes and any other advertising restrictions that are being considered.

Mr BROWN: Finally, on the amendment, sir—and may I say, without reflecting on the fine abilities of the member for Colton, it is good to see you back in the chair.

The CHAIR: I am going to thank the member for Colton for allowing me to sneak off and have a coffee.

Mr BROWN: I felt it would be remiss of me as a former employee of Mr Martyn Evans, as he is now, not to point out that he was in fact an Independent member of the house at the time that bill was passed.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

Mr BROWN: No—although I might point out that during my time working for Mr Evans he was in fact a member of the Labor Party. I would like to point out that whilst I did enjoy working for him, and he was a fine member who taught me many things about looking after local people, we do not share the same views on electoral reform in any way.

The CHAIR: Thank you, member for Playford—interesting contribution and well thought out.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I have a question for the Deputy Premier. I am grateful for the advice from the 1985 extract, I think it was. If I was listening closely enough, I think she said there was an expansion from 8,000 square centimetres to 10,000. However, she did say that this provision dated back to 1929 and, of course, it would be incongruous—

The Hon. D.C. van Holst Pellekaan: No centimetres back then.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: —would it not that we would be talking about centimetres. I cannot help but feel like we experienced in the transition to decimal currency that something was lost where people used to talk about the cost of certain goods in the concept of guineas, that that was lost, and we only spoke about pounds and then of course into dollars. The Attorney may be underselling what was provided some time between 1929 and the conversion to metric. In fact, perhaps there was something that proceeded the 8,000 square centimetres. Perhaps there was a more commodious number of hands or furlongs or chains which were allowed.

The CHAIR: It would have been square inches.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Square inches?

The CHAIR: It would have been square inches.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: As always, sir, I am grateful for your counsel. So then my question becomes: how many square inches were allowed from those 1929 provisions? If the Deputy Premier can shed any light on that, was that based on the size of a vessel or other vehicle, perhaps a carriage or a horse, which might have been used by a candidate for the purposes of an election?

If we are seeking some historical consistency and the member for Kaurua is seeking to ensure that we try to find the right balance between the competing demands of those who are interested in this matter, we do not want to sell ourselves short. I seem to be continually coming back to the member for Stuart, who suffers a similar affliction, though to a greater extent than me, of finding

the current prescriptions around corflutes too constrictive to convey all of the necessary information to electors. We really need to find the right solution, so I would hope that there is some accommodation, perhaps more than two square metres. If it was previously more than 8,000 square centimetres or 10,000 square centimetres, that would be a good solution.

The CHAIR: Member for Lee, I would remind you that it is the member for Kurna's amendment, so the Attorney-General may or may not choose to respond to that. I do not think she would have to answer it as a question but will take it as a comment. Of course, your Chair is someone who still talks in acres rather than hectares.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Your amendment is gratefully accepted, sir.

The committee divided on the new clause:

Ayes 19
Noes 24
Majority 5

AYES

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

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.	Chapman, V.A.	Cowdrey, M.J.
Cregan, D.	Duluk, S.	Ellis, F.J.
Gardner, J.A.W.	Harvey, R.M. (teller)	Knoll, S.K.
Luethen, P.	Marshall, S.S.	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.

New clause thus negatived.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: In light of the foreshadowed tabled further amendment, I will move that progress be reported.

Progress reported; committee to sit again.

RETURN TO WORK (IMPAIRMENT ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

Parliamentary Committees

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Legislative Council informed the House of Assembly that it had appointed the Hon. R.A. Simms to the Social Development Committee in place of the Hon. C. Bonaros (resigned).

At 21:49 the house adjourned until Tuesday 21 September 2021 at 11:00.

*Estimates Replies***LAND TAX**

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised:

Land tax is administered by RevenueSA.

ELECTRICITY PRICES MODELLING

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised:

Modelling on the potential impact of Project EnergyConnect on consumers was undertaken by ACIL Allen Consulting, with the report dated 24 September 2020 publicly available on the website of the Australian Energy Regulator.

ESCOSA REPORT

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised:

I requested the commission to provide a four-month update for the period 30 June 2020 to 31 October 2020 to examine the prices for the sale of electricity in South Australia following the introduction of the Default Market Offer by the commonwealth government, which came into effect 1 July 2019.

From time to time, ESCOSA prepares reports on areas within the industries it regulates. This information is generally published on the Commission's website, as occurred on this occasion.

MINING ROYALTIES

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised:

In accordance with the Mining Act 1971 and the Mining Regulations 2020 the Department for Energy and Mining is unable to disclose individual royalty details for tenement holders.

Land tax is a state tax levied under the Land Tax Act 1936 and the Land Tax Regulations 2010 and administered by RevenueSA. The Department for Energy and Mining has no details of any land tax paid or payable.

The White Rock Quarry is a private mine for the purposes of the Mining Act 1971 and currently does not pay any regulatory fees and charges.

TARGETED LEAD ABATEMENT PROGRAM

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised:

The Targeted Lead Abatement Program (TLAP) delivered the following initiatives to reduce lead exposure pathways for young children in Port Pirie.

1. Port Pirie Environmental Health Centre – funding of \$584,000 to the Department for Health and Wellbeing's centre for three more case workers to work with families who have children with elevated blood lead and intervention items to reduce exposure to lead.

2. Homes and houses – remediate and remove lead contamination in properties with children at risk of lead exposure.

3. TLAP Clean and Green Team – regular cleaning of playgrounds and footpath and street sweeping to remove contaminated dirt and debris which is disposed of on the smelter site, and applying hydromulch to exposed areas in the city to suppress and stabilise dust.

4. TLAP Nursery – supply of native plants for public space plantings to create vegetation buffers and provide groundcover for exposed areas within the city.

5. Handwashing stations – install handwash stations at parks and playgrounds.

6. Nutrition and Hygiene Program – healthy breakfasts and hygiene awareness for children attending early learning centres, kindergartens and primary schools to lessen lead absorption.

HYDROGEN ACTION PLAN

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised:

The 2021-22 state budget papers refer to the South Australian government's Hydrogen Action Plan at pages 110 and 111 of Budget Paper 4, Volume 2. There is no reference to a hydrogen export plan.

I am advised that South Australia's hydrogen export study, modelling tool and prospectus were delivered in October 2020, supported via \$1.25 million allocated from the Economic and Business Growth Fund (now the Jobs and Economic Growth Fund).

ELECTRICITY PRICES MODELLING

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised:

The Australian Energy Regulator has estimated the impact of delivering the project is that the average residential electricity bill in South Australia will increase by \$6 in 2022-23 and \$17 per year over the remainder of the regulatory period.

ACIL Allen modelled the project impact on electricity bills net of the cost of the interconnector itself. The ACIL Allen modelling, which is publicly available on the Australian Energy Regulator's website, forecast that on average in nominal terms from 2024 to 2030, the retail bill of a representative household would reduce by \$100 per annum.

The modelling was based on the physical asset being in place from 1 January 2024, reduced capacity for network testing for six months and additional transfer capacity introduced in stages from 1 January 2024 and 1 July 2024.

MINISTERIAL STAFF

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised:

As at 30 July 2021 no FTEs were seconded from outside the Department for Energy and Mining.

COMPLAINTS AND DISCRIMINATION

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised:

Nil complaints received.

CARRYOVER EXPENDITURE

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised the following:

For the Department for Energy and Mining, the budgeted expenditure on goods and services for the financial year 2021-20 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is as follows:

	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total goods and services	42,436	31,548	30,371	28,475	TBA

The top 10 providers of goods and services for the financial year 2020-21 and the cost for these goods and services were as follows:

Supplier	Total Value (excl. GST)
SA Power Networks	\$9,280,623
Cowell Electric Supply	\$5,685,870

Supplier	Total Value (excl. GST)
Mogas Regional Pty Ltd	\$5,237,957
Hornsedale Power Reserve P/L	\$3,927,943
Electranet Pty Ltd	\$3,600,000
Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT)	\$3,245,552
Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA)	\$1,783,283
Department for Innovation and Skills	\$1,464,070
KPMG	\$1,286,904
Money Mob Talkabout Ltd	\$950,029

The top ten providers of goods and services for the financial year 2020-21 and the description of these goods and services is as follows:

Supplier	Description
SA Power Networks	Operation costs for the state's temporary generators.
Cowell Electric Supply	Electricity generation, distribution and retail services for the Remote Area Energy Supply scheme.
Mogas Regional Pty Ltd	Fuel for the Remote Area Energy Supply scheme.
Hornsedale Power Reserve P/L	Operation of the Hornsedale Power Reserve.
Electranet Pty Ltd	Interconnector Underwriting Agreement.
Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT)	Office accommodation expenses.
Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA)	Information Communication Technology services provided under service level agreement.
Department for Innovation and Skills	Corporate services support provided under service level agreement.
KPMG	Hydrogen Export Study, Modelling Tool and Prospectus.
Money Mob Talkabout Ltd	Provision of education services for the introduction of smart meter education, electricity payment and introduction to energy efficiency in 2020-2021.

PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised the following:

The following two tables relate to the Department for Energy and Mining for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

Between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021, there were 10 roles abolished within the Department for Energy and Mining.

Title	Total Employment Cost (\$)
Data Analyst – SA Geology ASO5	\$108,690
Senior Technical Standard & Safety Officer OPS6	\$108,690
Senior Project Officer ASO6 x2	\$237,132
Program Cost Controller ASO6	\$118,566
Principal Industry Development Officer ASO8	\$142,844
Principal Commercial Adviser ASO8	\$142,844

Title	Total Employment Cost (\$)
Project Geologist PO2 x 2	\$222,466
Director Resources Infrastructure and Investment Taskforce SAES1	\$231,308

The total annual employment cost for these appointments is \$1,312,540.

Between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021, there were 22 roles created within the Department for Energy and Mining.

Title	Total Employment Cost (\$)
Diversity and Inclusion Officer ASO5	\$108,690
Senior Executive Officer ASO5	\$108,690
Renewable Energy Auditor OPS6	\$108,690
Petroleum Geology Data Compliance Officer TGO4	\$108,341
Project Geologist PO2 x3	\$333,699
Spectral Geologist PO2	\$111,233
Industry Analyst ASO6	\$118,566
Senior Content and Relations Coordinator ASO6	\$118,566
Communications and Marketing Officer ASO6	\$118,566
Principal Project Officer JEG ASO7	\$132,896
Project Manager DER Trials ASO7	\$132,896
Project Manager EV Integration ASO7	\$132,896
Team Leader Assets and Business Services ASO7	\$132,896
Leader Information and Records ASO7	\$132,896
Principal Mining Engineer PO4	\$136,966
Manager Mineral Tenements ASO8	\$142,844
Project Manager EV Networks ASO8	\$142,844
Project Manager ASO8	\$142,844
Manager Strategic Policy and Government Relations MAS3	\$145,304
Acting Director Mining Exploration ASO8+allow	\$150,689

The total annual employment cost for these appointments is \$2,761,012.

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised the following:

Table 1 shows the Department for Energy and Mining's total FTE, actual and budgeted, to provide communication and promotion activities for the period 2020-21 to 2024-25:

Table 1: FTE employed in communication and promotion activities

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget
Total	FTE	9.0*	12.0*	8.0	7.0	7.0
	\$m	0.860*	1.437*	1.008	0.884	0.897

*Includes short-term project roles

As an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed. The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and are disclosed on the DPC website:

<https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure>.

ATTRACTION AND RETENTION ALLOWANCES

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised the following:

Employee Title	Branch	Allowance Type	Date Range paid for	Actual Amount paid to employee between 1/7/2020 and 30/6/2021
Manager Exploration Assessment	Mineral Exploration	Retention Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	23,745
General Manager, Licensing & Legislation	Resource Royalty & Commercial	Retention Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	18,012
Manager Exploration Regulation	Mineral Exploration	Retention Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	24,474
Chief Geoscientist	Geoscience & Exploration	Retention Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	23,620
Deputy Director/Principal Reservoir Engineer	Engineering Operations	Retention Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	43,431
Senior Case Manager	Mining Projects	Retention Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	21,677
Manager Gas Systems Regulation	Technical Regulation	Retention Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	10,467
Manager Gas Install & App Safety	Technical Regulation	Retention Allowance	1 Jan 2021 – 30 June 2021	9,968
Principal Mining Regulator Olympic Dam and Uranium	Mining Regulation	Retention Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	18,267
Principal Environment Regulator Olympic Dam and Uranium	Engineering Operations	Retention Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	22,357
Principal Drilling Engineer	Engineering Operations	Retention Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	43,201
Deputy Director Mining Assessment	Mining Regulation	Retention Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	27,536
Principal Mining Regulator	Mining Regulation	Retention Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	17,534
Executive Advisor	Chief Executive's Office	Retention Allowance	4 Apr 2021 – 30 June 2021	5,902
General Manager Oil and Gas	Geoscience & Exploration	Attraction Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	34,233
Community Engagement Lead	Resource Policy & Engagement	Attraction Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	23,881
Principal Mining Engineer	Mining Regulation	Attraction Allowance	1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021	21,687

Further, between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021, \$36,791 of non-salary benefits were paid to public servants.

Position Title	Classification	Benefit Type	Amount
Chief Executive	ECF	Car parking	6,260
Executive Director, Energy Resources	SAES2	Car parking	6,260

Position Title	Classification	Benefit Type	Amount
Director, Geological Survey SA	SAES1	Car parking	6,197
Deputy Executive Director, Mineral Resources	SAES1	Car parking	6,197
Project Director, GFG	SAES1	Car parking	6,197
General Manager, Mineral Tenements / Mining Registrar	Non-executive	Car parking	5,680

MINISTERIAL STAFF

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised the following in relation to staff employed within my office:

- Information on ministerial staff employed as at 16 July 2021 was published in the *Government Gazette* on 22 July 2021.
- The following table lists public sector staff employed as at 30 June 2021.

Title	ASO Classification	Non- salary benefits
Business Support Officer	ASO3	Nil
Senior Business Support Officer	ASO4	Nil
Cabinet and Parliamentary Officer	ASO5	Nil
Executive Assistant	ASO5	Reimbursement of work-related usage on personal mobile phone
Liaison Officer	ASO6	Nil
Liaison Officer	ASO7	Nil
Office Manager	ASO7	Reimbursement of work-related usage on personal mobile phone Car park

- No staff were seconded from the department to my office as at 30 June 2021.

EXECUTIVE TERMINATIONS

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised the following:

No executive termination has occurred since 1 July 2020, for all agencies reporting to the Minister for Energy and Mining.

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised the following:

From 1 July 2020 to 6 August 2021, three new executive appointments were made within the Department for Energy and Mining (DEM). All three of these executive appointments were made to existing vacated roles.

The following table outlines the three executive appointments:

Agency	Role Title	TRPV
DEM	Director, Energy Programs and Services	\$188,632
DEM	Executive Director, Growth and Low Carbon	\$260,007
DEM	Director, Information Strategy and Delivery	\$220,000

In addition, DEM facilitated the appointment of the newly created independent role of Executive Director, Targeted Lead Abatement Program which is funded by Nyrstar.

GRANT PROGRAMS

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): In response to Questions 14 and 15 I have been advised the following:

Department for Energy and Mining

The following table provides the allocation of grant program/funds for 2020-21 and across the forward estimates for the Department for Energy and Mining—Controlled:

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2020-21 Actual result \$000	2021-22 Estimate \$000	2022-23 Estimate \$000	2023-24 Estimate \$000	2024-25 Estimate \$000
Project EnergyConnect	Early works in relation to the planning and design of a new transmission interconnector between NSW and SA.	37,050				
Grid Scale Storage Fund	To support development of grid scale energy storage projects, to help reduce energy costs and enhance reliability of SA's electricity system	2,917	5,000	5,000	6,600	14,691
Renewable Technology Fund	To support further integration of the next generation renewable technologies.	2,612	8,198	4,817	270	333
Energy Productivity Program	To assist large energy using businesses manage their electricity costs and contribute energy supply benefits to the state	1,885				
Bird Lake	To assist the Port Augusta Council to undertake rehabilitation works	1,695				
Demand Management Trials	To advance the use of energy demand response, demand aggregation and integrating distributed generation assets into the grid	1,581	5,695	1,296		
MinEx CRC Exploration	To provide new technologies for improving the productivity of mineral exploration drilling and for the acquisition and incorporation of data into 3D models	650	300	300	300	300
Core Innovation Hub	Establish a space at Lot 14 where resources-focused start-ups, operators and suppliers can contribute	550	420	180		

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2020-21 Actual result \$000	2021-22 Estimate \$000	2022-23 Estimate \$000	2023-24 Estimate \$000	2024-25 Estimate \$000
	skills to unlock insights and commercial collaboration					
Critical Minerals Innovation Challenge	To run and promote a global innovation challenge to stimulate the growth of the critical minerals manufacturing and technology supply chain in South Australia	390				
Accelerated Discovery Initiative	Co-fund innovative exploration and research projects aimed at accelerating the discovery and development of new mineral resources	317	8,274			
Mining and Energy Services Centre of Excellence	To foster and coordinate innovation and applied research initiatives by supporting projects, identified by industry, as priority areas for applied research and development.	233	239			
Australian School of Petroleum Chair	Financial assistance for the position of South Australian State Chair of Petroleum Geology	210		206	211	211
Discovery of Sedimentary Mineral Systems	To help exploration and mining companies in the discovery of sedimentary Cu-mineral systems on the Stuart Shelf.	121	122	122		
Carbon Capture	Research focused on Carbon Capture and storage and hydrogen production.	100	102	110	118	118
Future Fuels	To address future fuel technologies, systems and markets, social acceptance, public safety and security of supply	100				
Race for 2030	To support research to help boost energy productivity, and integrate clean distributed energy into the grid, to reduce costs and carbon emissions of businesses and households	100	100	100		
Global Maintenance Upper Spencer Gulf (GMUSG)	Providing a platform for local business to work collaboratively on mining and resource projects	60				
Future Battery Industries CRC	Support research that will help tackle industry identified gaps in the battery industries' value chain, support battery deployment, and optimise	50	50	50		

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2020-21 Actual result \$000	2021-22 Estimate \$000	2022-23 Estimate \$000	2023-24 Estimate \$000	2024-25 Estimate \$000
	the circular economy for battery waste recycling.					
Multiscale Physics for Enhanced Oil Recovery	To support strategic research alliances between higher education and other organisations, including industry, to apply advanced knowledge to oil recovery problems	20	10			
Explore SA – Gawler Challenge	To run and promote crowd geoscience competitions to obtain multiple research and mineral target models to be provided to South Australia and made available to explorers		1,500	1,650		
Landowner Information Service	The operation of a free, independent information service for landowners seeking information on mineral resource regulatory requirements, including exploration and mining production activities		405	415	415	415
Test Mine and Innovation Centre	To support the development of the Arkani Ngura National Test Mine and Innovation Centre based at Oz Minerals' Prominent Hill mine to test and observe emerging technologies in resources		3,200	3,300	1,000	
Electric Vehicle Charging Network	To establish a statewide electric vehicle charging network to increase the uptake of electric vehicles, accelerate smart charging and vehicle-to-grid charging trials.		8,035	2,097		

The following table details the carryover of grants from 2020-21 into 2021-22 for the Department for Energy and Mining as approved during the 2021-22 state budget process:

Grant/program name	2020-21 \$000	2021-22 \$000
Demand Management Trials	-6,340	6,340
Economic and Business Growth Fund (EBGF)—Accelerated Discovery Initiative	-6,774	6,774
EBGF—Gawler Challenge Phase 2: Next Generation Mineral Systems Mapping	-1,000	1,000
Renewable Technology Fund (1)	-7,164	6,851

1. Remaining budget reprofiled across 22/23 to 24/25

GRANT EXPENDITURE

In reply to the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (30 July 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised the following:

The government has provided a complete list of grants paid during 2020-21 in omnibus question 14.

GOODS AND SERVICES

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (29 July 2021). (Estimates Committee B)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Moriaita—Minister for Education): I have been advised the following:

Department for Education

The budgeted expenditure on goods and services for the financial year 2021-20 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is listed below. These amounts are estimates only and are subject to change.

	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
	\$'m	\$'m	\$'m	\$'m	\$'m
Total goods and services	916.2	923.9	957.3	995.0	1,019.8

The top ten providers of goods and services for the financial year 2020-21 and the cost for these goods and services were as follows:

Supplier	Total Value
Department for Infrastructure and Transport—Building Management	\$164,150,749
Telstra Corporation Ltd	\$32,253,000
Zen Energy Retail Pty Ltd	\$19,185,415
Building Management Acco. Prop	\$18,864,672
SA Water Corp	\$14,144,425
Civica Education Pty Limited	\$11,581,362
Hays Specialist Recruitment	\$7,315,662
Austin Transit Enterprises PL	\$6,726,290
SAICORP	\$6,624,798
Data 3 Ltd	\$6,131,286

The top 10 providers of goods and services for the financial year 2020-21 and the description of these goods and services is as follows:

Supplier	Description
Department for Infrastructure and Transport—Building Management	Across Government Facilities Management Arrangements: Asset repairs and maintenance, facilities contract management fees, minor and major capital building works.
Telstra Corporation Ltd	Network and communication services (including mobile services, fixed line and internet services) plus professional services related to the Schools with Internet Fibre Technology (SWiFT) project.
Zen Energy Retail Pty Ltd	Electricity utilities for all education sites.
Building Management Acco. Prop	Building lease and accommodation services.
SA Water Corp	Water utilities including rates and water charges for water supply and sewer for all education sites.
Civica Education Pty Limited	Professional and implementation services for the Education Management System (EMS) project.
Hays Specialist Recruitment	Recruitment services for temporary staff.
Austin Transit Enterprises PL	Rural bus services.
SAICORP	SA government agency insurance services.

Supplier	Description
Data 3 Ltd	Software licensing services primarily of the departmental Microsoft and Adobe agreements.

TAFE SA

The budgeted expenditure on supplies and services for the financial year 2021-22 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is as follows:

	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total supplies and services	66,105	62,472	60,038	60,855	62,364

The top 10 providers of goods and services for the financial year 2020-21 and the cost for these goods and services were as follows:

Supplier	Estimated costs paid \$'000
Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT)	\$9,306
ISS Facility Services Australia Ltd	\$6,485
Zen Energy Retail Pty Ltd	\$4,272
MSS Security Pty Ltd	\$1,873
ANZ Credit Card	\$1,820
SA Tertiary Admissions Centre	\$1,816
SA Water Corp	\$1,096
Hays Specialist Recruitment	\$1,091
Data 3 Ltd	\$1,082
Ellucian Australia Pty Ltd	\$ 825

The top 10 providers of goods and services for the financial year 2020-21 and the description of these goods and services is as follows:

Supplier	Description
Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT)	Facility Management Contracts – Spotless
ISS Facility Services Australia Ltd	Cleaning Services
Zen Energy Retail Pty Ltd	Electricity Charges
MSS Security Pty Ltd	Security / Guard Services
ANZ Credit Card	Various expenses paid through Corporate credit cards
SA Tertiary Admissions Centre	Student Application processing
SA Water Corp	Water charges
Hays Specialist Recruitment	Agency employment
Data 3 Ltd	Channel partner services for Microsoft software and services
Ellucian Australia Pty Ltd	Maintenance and support of internally developed software, Student Information System

SACE Board of South Australia

The budgeted expenditure on goods and services for the financial year 2021-22 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is as follows:

	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
Total goods and services	\$5.376m	\$5.315m	\$4.897m	\$5.041m	\$5.166m

The top 10 providers of goods and services for the financial year 2020-21 and the cost for these goods and services were as follows:

Supplier	Total Value
Hays Specialist Recruitment	\$ 670,853
Sonet Systems Pty Ltd	\$ 566,192
Talent International (SA) Pty Ltd	\$ 457,148
Paxus Australia Pty Ltd	\$ 413,214
Modis	\$ 280,709
DXC Technology Australia Pty Ltd	\$ 231,351
Data#3 Limited	\$ 180,400
Toll Transport Pty Ltd	\$ 145,608
Objective Corporation Limited	\$ 139,130
Human Dynamics Consulting	\$ 119,625

The top 10 providers of goods and services for the financial year 2020-21 and the description of these goods and services is as follows:

Supplier	Description
Hays Specialist Recruitment	Provision of labour to support service delivery, peak business cycles and project delivery.
Sonet Systems Pty Ltd	Online exam software and hosting platform.
Talent International (SA) Pty Ltd	Provision of labour to support project delivery.
Paxus Australia Pty Ltd	Provision of labour to support service delivery, peak business cycles and project delivery.
Modis	Provision of labour to support project delivery.
DXC Technology Australia Pty Ltd	DCSS management services, whole of government service provider.
Data#3 Limited	Software licensing and Azure monetary commitment for backup services.
Toll Transport Pty Ltd	Local and international courier services.
Objective Corporation Limited	Provider of Electronic Direct Records Management Software.
Human Dynamics Consulting	Strategic organisational design.

The SACE Board procurement framework aligns with the requirements of the South Australian Industry Participation Policy (IPP), aimed at delivering greater economic contribution to the state from procurement.

Sourcing of South Australian suppliers occurs where appropriate and available in accordance with procurement supplier evaluation processes.

Education Standards Board

The budgeted expenditure on goods and services for the financial year 2021-20 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is as follows:

	21/22	22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total goods and services	1,567	1,483	1,538	1,561	1,599

The top ten providers of goods and services for the financial year 2020-21 and the cost for these goods and services were as follows:

Supplier	Total Value
Department for Infrastructure and Transport	\$743,476.70
Zenith Interiors Pty Ltd	\$128,198.88
Empired Limited	\$99,490.00
Pro AV Solutions (SA)	\$51,780.00
RecordPoint	\$42,432.00
Apple Store	\$41,341.30
SA Commercial Blinds	\$28,870.00
Department for Education	\$28,688.18
Department of the Premier and Cabinet	\$26,465.95
LeasePlan Australia Limited	\$25,975.07

The top ten providers of goods and services for the financial year 2020-21 and the description of these goods and services is as follows:

Supplier	Description
Department for Infrastructure and Transport	Fit out management, rent payments
Zenith Interiors Pty Ltd	Office furniture
Empired Limited	ICT contractor & consultants
Pro AV Solutions (SA)	Office computer equipment
RecordPoint	Record management subscriptions
Apple Store	Minor ICT equipment
SA Commercial Blinds	Provision of office blinds
Department for Education	SLA services
Department of the Premier and Cabinet	Website hosting
LeasePlan Australia Limited	Fleet vehicles

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (29 July 2021). (Estimates Committee B)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised the following:

Department for Education

At 30 June 2021, 29.5 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$2.776 million (excluding on-costs) against an original budget of 28.3 FTEs and an original expenditure budget of \$2.808 million.

The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment costs (excluding oncosts):

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget
Total	FTE	29.5	30	30	30	30
	\$m (excluding oncosts)	2.8	3.0	3.1	3.1	3.2

The Department for Education Communications Directorate produces internal and external communications for the department's schools, preschools and children's centres including media management, creative services (including graphic design, videography and photography), social media, webinar production, website and intranet management. Internal audiences for our communications include a workforce of more than 30,000 staff across schools, preschools and corporate offices. External audiences include parents, students, stakeholders and the general public.

The total cost of government-paid advertising, including campaigns, local school advertising, recruitment advertising and general notices across all media in 2020-21 was \$197,899.63.

There is no central budgeted cost for advertising campaign activity in 2021-22, noting that any need for funding will be subject to specific approval.

TAFE SA

The table below shows TAFE SA's total FTE, actual and budgeted, to provide communication and promotion activities for the period 2020-21 to 2024-25:

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget
Total	FTE	19.7	20.6	20.3	20.0	19.7
	\$m	2.2	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6

The TAFE SA Marketing and Communications units undertake a range of functions including, but not limited to, promotional and functional marketing and advertising, TAFE SA website and social media management, media management and internal and external communications.

SACE Board of South Australia

The table below shows the SACE Board of SA's total FTE, actual and budgeted, to provide communication and promotion activities for the period 2020-21 to 2024-25:

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget
Total	FTE	5.6 FTE	5.0 FTE	5.0 FTE	5.0 FTE	5.0 FTE
	\$m (with on costs)	\$0.624	\$0.570	\$0.579	\$0.587	\$0.596

The activities performed by staff are diverse across the function of both marketing and communications and incorporate marketing, internal and external communications, stakeholder liaison and communication, graphic design, event coordination, website and intranet management. Staff involved in communications also deal with media enquiries and proactively promote student success through the SACE.

Communications are integral to the SACE Board services, for example to provide information and support to educators about changes to curriculum and assessment requirements. Similarly, the professional learning offered by the SACE Board is promoted through our communication channels. Regular communications are provided to school Principals and those responsible for coordinating the SACE within schools.

Education Standards Board

The table below shows the Education Standards Board's total FTE, actual and budgeted, to provide communication and promotion activities for the period 2020-21 to 2024-25:

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget
Total	FTE	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
	\$m	0.059	0.06	0.061	0.062	0.063

The Education Standards Board's Communications Officer is employed at 0.6FTE to:

- produce fact sheets and newsletters for the early childhood and schools sector
- prepare communications for the chief executive and various other stakeholders
- manage the board's website and social media site; and
- coordinate the board's annual report.

There was no government-paid advertising, including campaigns, across all mediums for 2021-22.

Commissioner for Children and Young People

In 2020-21, 1.4 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$154,000.

The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment expense:

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget
Total	FTE	1.4	1.45	1.45	1.45	1.45
	\$m (with oncosts)	0.154	0.168	0.169	0.172	0.175

The total cost of government-paid advertising, including campaigns, across all mediums for 2020-21 and budgeted costs for 2021-22.

Year	Advertising Expense (\$'000)
2020-21	8
2021-22	10

Child Development Council

In 2020-21, 0.2 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$24,000.

The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment expense:

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget
Total	FTE	0.2	0.4	0.1	0	0
	\$m (with oncosts)	0.024	0.04	0.014	0	0

The total cost of government-paid advertising, including campaigns, across all mediums for 2020-21 and budgeted costs for 2021-22.

Year	Advertising Expense (\$'000)
2020-21	Nil
2021-22	3

Guardian for Children and Young People

In 2020-21, 0.7 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$78,000.

The table below outlines the budgeted FTEs and estimated employment expense:

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget
Total	FTE	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8
	\$m (with oncosts)	0.078	0.107	0.095	0.096	0.097

There was no government-paid advertising, including campaigns, across all mediums for 2021-22.

History Trust of SA

In 2020-21, 1.85 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$181,000.

The table below outlines budgeted FTEs and estimated employment expense:

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget
Total	FTE	1.85	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
	\$m (with on costs)	0.181	0.159	0.163	0.167	0.171

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget

*Please note Actuals FTE and Employee cost for 2020-21 included staff member on Maternity leave

The total cost of government-paid advertising, including campaigns across all media in 2020-21 was \$272,000, budget for 2021-22 is \$287,000.

Windmill Theatre

In 2020-21, 2.0 FTEs were allocated to communication and promotion functions, costing \$157,000.

The table below outlines budgeted FTEs and estimated employment expense:

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget
Total	FTE	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
	\$m (with on costs)	0.157	0.165	0.167	0.169	0.171

The total cost of government-paid advertising, including campaigns across all media in 2020-21 was \$17,000, budget for 2021-22 is \$20,000.

As an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed. The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and are disclosed on the DPC website at

<https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure>.

ATTRACTION AND RETENTION ALLOWANCES

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (29 July 2021). (Estimates Committee B)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Moriaita—Minister for Education): I have been advised the following:

Department for Education

Attraction allowances, retention allowances and non-salary benefits paid to public servants and contractors between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021:

Position Title	Class	Description	Amount
EALD Hub Coach	SCR01_TCH	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 9,750
Early Childhood Leader	ESB04_PSM	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 7,124
Executive Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 16,161
Executive Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 13,133
Lead Business Analyst	ASO08	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 11,841
Lead Business Partner	ASO08	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 10,587
Leader Band B-5	LDRB5	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 10,430
Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 11,867
Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 11,867
Manager	ASO08	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 20,000
Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 11,867
Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 11,867
Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 23,733
Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 20,000
Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 11,867

Position Title	Class	Description	Amount
Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 12,047
Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 4,000
Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 24,000
Policy and Project Lead	ASO08	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 16,587
Pre School Director	PSDA3	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 7,209
Principal	PRNA6	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 6,691
Principal	PRNA8	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 8,010
Principal	PRNA3	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 7,966
Principal	PRNA9	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 18,403
Principal	PRNA5	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 14,416
Principal	PRNA7	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 6,695
Principal	PRNA4	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 8,000
Principal	PRNA2	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 7,211
Principal	PRNA9	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 17,807
Principal	PRNA3	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 7,701
Principal	PRNA4	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 6,568
Principal	PRNA9	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 18,403
Principal	PRNA9	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 5,000
Principal	PRNA4	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 13,136
Principal	PRNA6	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 16,094
Principal	PRNA6	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 7,211
Principal	PRNA6	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 10,000
Principal	PRNA2	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 23,113
Principal	PRNA9	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 9,201
Principal	PRNA3	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 7,966
Principal	PRNA6	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 7,961
Principal	PRNA6	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 30,000
Principal	PRNA5	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 14,325
Principal	PRNA4	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 5,000
Principal	PRNA2	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 8,186
Principal Consultant	ESB05_PSM	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 9,491
Principal Consultant	ESB05_PSM	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 20,000
Principal Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 17,800
Program Manager	AHP03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 12,000
Project Lead	ASO08	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 17,000
Project Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 9,637
Project Manager	ASO08	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 11,841
Senior Business Analyst	ASO07	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 8,306
Senior Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 12,047
Senior Manager	MAS03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 25,000
Social Worker	AHP02	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 17,176

Position Title	Class	Description	Amount
Solicitor	LEO02	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 14,395
Speech Pathologist	AHP03	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 10,000
Teacher	TCH02_TTC	Attraction/Retention Allowance	\$ 14,505

TAFE SA

The following attraction and retention allowances were paid between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021:

Position Title	Allowance Type	Date Range paid for	Amount
Regional Manager – Mid North A	Retention	1/7/20-4/12/20	\$10,178.92
Senior Project Officer (Procurement)	Attraction	1/3/21-30/6/21	\$2,453.67
Principal Procurement Lead	Retention	1/3/21 -30/6/21	\$1,840.25
Manager Procurement & Contract Management	Retention	5/1/21-30/6/21	\$4,349.21
Manager ICT Service Delivery and Assurance	Retention	29/3/21-30/6/21	\$5,542.26

SACE Board of South Australia

Attraction and retention allowances paid to public servants and contractors:

Position Title	Date Range paid for	Amount
Chief Executive	01/07/2020 to 30/06/2021	\$20,378.00
Director, Assessment Futures	01/07/2020—13/11/2020	\$5,172.76
Portfolio Manager	01/07/2020 to 02/07/2021	\$1,341.86
Manager, Curriculum and Assessment	01/07/2020 to 02/07/2021	\$598.08
Change Lead	01/07/2020 to 02/07/2021	\$235.82
Senior Analyst Programmer	01/07/2020 to 02/07/2021	\$19,702.38
Applications Architect	01/07/2020 to 02/07/2021	\$23,879.35
Analyst Programmer	01/07/2020 to 02/07/2021	\$6,386.67

Further, between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021, \$49,325.90 of non-salary benefits were paid to public servants.

Position Title	Classification	Allowance Type (non-salary benefits)	Amount
Chief Financial Officer	EXA	CPA Professional Membership Fee 2021	\$720.00
Director, SACE International	MAS3	Additional 5 days leave per annum	\$2906.48
Manager, Communications	MAS3	Additional 5 days leave per annum	\$2731.86
Program Manager, Innovation	MAS3	Additional 5 days leave per annum	\$3019.87

Position Title	Classification	Allowance (non-salary benefits)	Type	(non-salary)	Amount
Head of ICT	MAS3	Additional annum	5 days leave per		\$3539.18
Manager, Results and Information Management	MAS3	Additional annum	5 days leave per		\$2731.86
Portfolio Manager	MAS3	Additional annum	5 days leave per		\$2731.86
Manager, Curriculum and Assessment	MAS3	Additional annum	5 days leave per		\$2731.86
Manager, Curriculum and Assessment	MAS3	Additional annum	5 days leave per		\$2731.86
Manager, Curriculum and Assessment	MAS3	Additional annum	5 days leave per		\$2731.86
Program Manager, Change and Partnerships	MAS3	Additional annum	5 days leave per		\$2731.86
Applications Architect	ASO8	Additional annum	5 days leave per		\$3222.35

A number of positions across all agencies have access to car parking which may be considered a non-salary benefit. In general, these positions are 'on-call' or include the use of a government vehicle which must be securely parked.

MINISTERIAL STAFF

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (29 July 2021). (Estimates Committee B)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised the following in relation to staff employed within my office:

Information on ministerial staff employed as at 16 July 2021 was published in the *Government Gazette* on 22 July 2021.

The following table lists public sector staff employed as at 30 June 2021.

Title	ASO Classification	Non- salary benefits
Business Support Officer	ASO3	Nil
Business Support Officer	ASO3	Nil
Ministerial Liaison Officer	ASO6	Nil
Ministerial Liaison Officer	ASO6	Nil
Ministerial Liaison Officer	ASO6	Nil
Office Manager	ASO7	Car park

There were no departmental employees seconded to the minister's office as at 30 June 2021.

EXECUTIVE TERMINATIONS

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (29 July 2021). (Estimates Committee B)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised the following:

Four executive terminations have occurred over all agencies reporting to the Minister for Education since 1 July 2020. The value of termination payments made was a gross amount of \$480,758, plus the value of accrued leave entitlements.

GRANT PROGRAMS

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (29 July 2021). (Estimates Committee B)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): In response to Questions 14 and 15 I have been advised of the following:

Department for Education

The following table provides the allocation of grant program/funds for 2020-21, as well as estimated expenditure across the forward estimates for the Department for Education – Administered Items:

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2020-21 Actual result \$000	2021-22 Estimate \$000	2022-23 Estimate \$000	2023-24 Estimate \$000	2024-25 Estimate \$000
Art entities	Grants provided to Carclew and Patch Theatre to support operation of these organisations in delivering youth arts activities and grant programs.	2 680	2 743	2 806	2 874	2 942
Multicultural grants	Grants provided in support of ethnic and community language schools to deliver language and cultural programs as well as SACE subjects to South Australian school-aged students.	2 048	2 237	2 201	2 256	2 313
Minister's Discretionary Grant	A grant program to assist organisations where the activities and objectives of those organisations are consistent with the responsibilities of the Minister's portfolio. Beneficiaries of the grant program from 2021-22 are subject to approval and can be provided at the end of each financial year.	2 780	2 885	2 957	3 031	3 107

The following table details the commitment of grants in 2020-21:

Grant program/fund name	Beneficiary	Purpose	Value \$
Art entities	Carclew Youth Arts Centre Inc	Grant funding to support their operation in delivering youth arts activities and grant programs.	2 400 000
	Patch Theatre Company	As above	280 000
Multicultural grants	ACHOLI OWINYKIBUL & OPARI CLUB	Grant funding to support ethnic and community language schools to deliver language and cultural programs to South Australian school-aged students outside school hours.	4 012
Multicultural grants	ADEL BANGLADESHI CULTURAL CLUB	As above	6 862
Multicultural grants	ADEL JAPANESE COMM SCHOOL	As above	29 646
Multicultural grants	ADELAIDE MARATHI MANDAL INC	As above	4 604
Multicultural grants	ADELAIDE NEPALESE SOC AUS INC	As above	9 882

Grant program/ fund name	Beneficiary	Purpose	Value \$
Multicultural grants	ADELAIDE PROGRESSIVE JEWISH	As above	5 048
Multicultural grants	ADELAIDE RUSSIAN ETHNIC SCHL	As above	4 163
Multicultural grants	ADELAIDE TAMIL ASSOC INC	As above	12 627
Multicultural grants	Afghan Ethnic School	As above	3 716
Multicultural grants	AFGHAN UNITED ASSOC OF SA INC	As above	46 940
Multicultural grants	AFGHAN WOMEN'S FED OF SA INC	As above	7 320
Multicultural grants	AFRICAN MUSLIM INFORMATION	As above	29 646
Multicultural grants	AL SALAM ARABIC SCHOOL INC	As above	23 424
Multicultural grants	ALHUDA CLUB INCORPORATED	As above	24 339
Multicultural grants	ALLIANCE FRANCAISE D'ADELAIDE	As above	20 862
Multicultural grants	ASSOC OF UKRAINIANS IN SA INC	As above	12 261
Multicultural grants	AUSTRALIAN UNITARIAN DRUZE	As above	15 189
Multicultural grants	BANGLADESH AUSTRALIA SOCIETY	As above	4 604
Multicultural grants	BANGLADESH AUSTRALIA CLUB INC	As above	4 308
Multicultural grants	BANGLADESH PUJA & CULT SCY SA	As above	3 790
Multicultural grants	BOSNIAKS' ASSOCIATION OF SA	As above	7 869
Multicultural grants	BRAZILIAN ETHNIC SCHL OF SA	As above	4 308
Multicultural grants	BURUNDI INTAMBA GASIMBO ASSOC	As above	22 967
Multicultural grants	CEYLON TAMIL ASSOCIATION OF	As above	6 232
Multicultural grants	CHIN COMMUNITY OF SOUTH	As above	14 640
Multicultural grants	CHINESE ASSOC OF SA INC -	As above	12 353
Multicultural grants	CHINESE SCHOOL OF SA INC	As above	33 672
Multicultural grants	CHINESE WELFARE SERVICES OF SA	As above	15 738

Grant program/ fund name	Beneficiary	Purpose	Value \$
Multicultural grants	CROATIAN SPORTS CENTRE SA INC	As above	3 420
Multicultural grants	DINKA BOR ETHNIC SCHL OF SA	As above	6 588
Multicultural grants	Don Quixote School of Language (Registered as Spanish Club SA)	As above	2 680
Multicultural grants	EGYPTIAN COPTIC SCHOOL	As above	19 215
Multicultural grants	ERITREAN MUSLIM COMMUNITY	As above	4 900
Multicultural grants	FILIPINO ETHNIC SCHL SA (SAL)	As above	2 532
Multicultural grants	FREE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH	As above	3 864
Multicultural grants	GABRIELA MISTRAL SPANISH SCHL	As above	5 344
Multicultural grants	GREEK ORTH COMM OF BERRI SA	As above	3 124
Multicultural grants	GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE	As above	8 235
Multicultural grants	GREEK ORTHODOX COM & PARISH OF	As above	29 372
Multicultural grants	GREEK ORTHODOX COMM OF THE	As above	25 071
Multicultural grants	GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY	As above	54 534
Multicultural grants	GREEK ORTHODOX PARISH—COMM	As above	10 065
Multicultural grants	GRK ORTHODOX COM&PARISH/ST.GEO	As above	27 176
Multicultural grants	GURU NANAK SOCY OF AUST	As above	13 542
Multicultural grants	HUNGARIAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL ADL	As above	2 828
Multicultural grants	IGBO CULTURAL SCHOOL OF SA	As above	4 752
Multicultural grants	IMAM ALI MOSQUE AND ISLAMIC	As above	51 698
Multicultural grants	ISLAMIC INFORMATION CTR OF SA	As above	53 528
Multicultural grants	ISLAMIC SOCIETY OF SA	As above	36 875
Multicultural grants	LAC-VIET VIETNAMESE SCHOOL	As above	3 042

Grant program/ fund name	Beneficiary	Purpose	Value \$
Multicultural grants	Lac-Viet Vietnamese School Inc	As above	3 042
Multicultural grants	LATVIAN SCHOOL OF ADELAIDE INC	As above	5 788
Multicultural grants	LET'S TALK TOGETHER ASSOC INC	As above	34 679
Multicultural grants	MUTHAMIL PALLI-SOUTH	As above	10 980
Multicultural grants	MYANMAR ETHNIC SCHOOL OF SA	As above	3 420
Multicultural grants	NEPALI PATHSALA	As above	5 788
Multicultural grants	New Era Persian Language and Culture School Inc	As above	614 10
Multicultural grants	OVERSEAS CHINESE ASSOCIATION	As above	78 599
Multicultural grants	Parish of Saints Raphael, Nicholas and Irene Greek School (with ESASA as auspice)	As above	4 160
Multicultural grants	POLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL TADEUSZ KOSCIUSZKO	As above	4 900
Multicultural grants	POLISH LANGUAGE SCHOOL ADAM MICKIEWICZ	As above	4 160
Multicultural grants	PORTUGUESE ETHNIC SCHOOL	As above	2 532
Multicultural grants	ROMANIAN COMMUNITY OF SA INC	As above	3 272
Multicultural grants	RUSSIAN MOLOKAN SCHOOL INC	As above	11 895
Multicultural grants	SA BANGLADESHI COMMUNITY	As above	11 712
Multicultural grants	SARBAT KHALSA PUNJABI SCHOOL	As above	20 496
Multicultural grants	SCHOOL FOR THE GERMAN LANGUAGE	As above	25 986
Multicultural grants	SCHOOL OF RUSSIAN LANGUAGE INC	As above	5 640
Multicultural grants	SCHOOL OF ST NICHOLAS PARISH	As above	6 232
Multicultural grants	SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH&SCHOOL	As above	12 627
Multicultural grants	SIKH SERVICES AUSTRALIA	As above	8 784
Multicultural grants	SIKH SOCIETY OF SA INC	As above	7 320
Multicultural grants	SINHALA BUDDHIST SCHOOL	As above	40 077

Grant program/ fund name	Beneficiary	Purpose	Value \$
Multicultural grants	SLAVIC BAPTIST CHURCH SA	As above	2 976
Multicultural grants	Somali Ethnic School of SA Inc	As above	11 529
Multicultural grants	St Dimitrios Greek Orthodox Parish School of Salisbury Inc (with ESASA as auspice)	As above	4 456
Multicultural grants	ST MARY'S VIETNAMESE SCHOOL	As above	1 414
Multicultural grants	SUKULU NA BARI	As above	4 752
Multicultural grants	TELUGU ASSOCIATION OF SA INC	As above	8 052
Multicultural grants	The Arabic Language School	As above	22 692
Multicultural grants	THE BANTU ETHNIC COMM OF SA	As above	28 457
Multicultural grants	THE BULGARIAN EDU & FRIENDLY	As above	4 900
Multicultural grants	THE CROATIAN CLUB ADEL INC	As above	7 137
Multicultural grants	THE ERITREAN ISLAMIC SOCY IN	As above	5 640
Multicultural grants	THE ISLAMIC OUTREACH ASSOCIAT	As above	10 980
Multicultural grants	THE JIVAN SHILP SCHOOL OF	As above	11 895
Multicultural grants	THE KENYAN SWAHILI SCHOOL OF	As above	4 777
Multicultural grants	THE KOREAN PURE PRESBYTERIAN	As above	13 908
Multicultural grants	THE SCHOOL OF BHUTANESE	As above	29 463
Multicultural grants	THE SUDANESE CULTURAL AND	As above	7 503
Multicultural grants	THE UNITED VIETNAMESE BUDDHIST	As above	10 706
Multicultural grants	THE VIETNAMESE CATHOLIC	As above	121 266
Multicultural grants	Uighur Language School	As above	17 202
Multicultural grants	VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY IN AUST	As above	67 710

Grant program/ fund name	Beneficiary	Purpose	Value \$
Multicultural grants	VISHVA HINDU PARISHAD OF	As above	4 900
Multicultural grants	XINGGUANG CHINESE SCHOOL INC	As above	5 188
Multicultural grants	Adelaide Japanese Community School Inc	Grants funding to support ethnic and community language schools to deliver SACE programs.	1 650
Multicultural grants	ADELAIDE RUSSIAN ETHNIC SCHL	As above	3 050
Multicultural grants	Al Salam Academy of Adelaide (registered as Islamic Society SA)	As above	3 375
Multicultural grants	AL SALAM ARABIC SCHOOL INC	As above	7 850
Multicultural grants	Alliance Française d'Adelaide Inc	As above	1 700
Multicultural grants	ASSOC OF UKRAINIANS IN SA INC	As above	2 250
Multicultural grants	AUSTRALIAN UNITARIAN DRUZE	As above	3 350
Multicultural grants	BRAZILIAN ETHNIC SCHL OF SA	As above	1 700
Multicultural grants	BURUNDI INTAMBA GASIMBO ASSOC	As above	2 200
Multicultural grants	Greek Orthodox Community & Parish of Norwood & Eastern Suburbs Inc	As above	8 125
Multicultural grants	Greek Orthodox Community of South Australia Incorporated	As above	3 350
Multicultural grants	Greek Orthodox Community of The Nativity of Christ Port Adelaide and Environs	As above	4 750
Multicultural grants	HUNGARIAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL ADL	As above	2 250
Multicultural grants	LET'S TALK TOGETHER ASSOC INC	As above	8 950
Multicultural grants	Romanian Ethnic School	As above	850
Multicultural grants	SCHOOL FOR THE GERMAN LANGUAGE	As above	7 550
Multicultural grants	SCHOOL OF ST NICHOLAS PARISH	As above	3 050
Multicultural grants	SINHALA BUDDHIST SCHOOL	As above	3 400
Multicultural grants	Somali Ethnic School of SA Inc	As above	11 550
Multicultural grants	ST MARY'S VIETNAMESE SCHOOL	As above	6 700

Grant program/ fund name	Beneficiary	Purpose	Value \$
Multicultural grants	The Arabic Language School	As above	11 050
Multicultural grants	THE BANTU ETHNIC COMM OF SA	As above	12 900
Multicultural grants	The Vietnamese Catholic Community in SA Inc	As above	22 700
Multicultural grants	Timbuktu Arabic School (Registered as African Muslim Info)	As above	1 100
Multicultural grants	ETHNIC SCHOOLS ASSOC OF SA INC	Grant funding to support the operations of the Ethnic Schools Association of SA	412 480
Multicultural grants	Australia Day Council	Grant funding provided for the Award for Excellence in languages and cultures on 2021 Australia Day.	6 304
Minister's Discretionary Grant		Grants funding to assist organisations where the activities and objectives of recipient organisations are consistent with the responsibilities of the Minister's portfolio.	
Minister's Discretionary Grant	CEASA Inc	Grant funding for the Council of Education Associations of SA—CEASA (Educators SA) to enable the 2020 Minister's Art Education Awards to include a new category for non-government schools.	10 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	Country Arts SA	Grant funding to meet operating expenses of the Hopgood Theatre.	50 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	Patch Theatre Company	Grant funding to support the Patch Theatre Company's discounted ticket program for disadvantaged students.	20 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	PELVIC PAIN FOUNDATION OF AUSTRALIA LTD	Grant funding in support of the continued delivery of the PEPP Talk Program (Periods, Pain and Endometriosis).	76 450
Minister's Discretionary Grant	ENCOUNTER YOUTH INCORPORATED	Grant funding in support of Encounter Youth Incorporated to deliver alcohol and drug education to SA secondary schools.	20 978
Minister's Discretionary Grant	ADELAIDE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM	Grant funding in support of the development of a new program for the Year 10 Australian Curriculum at the Adelaide Holocaust Museum and Steiner Education Centre Inc.	40 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	REVISE SCHEME	Grant funding to assist cover travel costs of volunteer teachers to stations in SA. This helped volunteers to continue to support the education of children in remote and regional areas.	3 075
Minister's Discretionary Grant	Association of Independent Schools SA	Grant funding to support a Parents initiatives in Education grants program to Independent non-government schools and to be administered by AISSA.	25 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	SPELD SA INC	Operational grant in support of students in the education sector with specific learning difficulties.	141 834

Grant program/ fund name	Beneficiary	Purpose	Value \$
Minister's Discretionary Grant	AUSTN CHILDREN'S TV FOUNDATION	Grant funding to support teachers through outreach to schools, news updates and to provide professional learning delivering education through the use of media and television for Australian Children.	25 881
Minister's Discretionary Grant	DEPT OF HUMAN SERVICES	Grant funding to support the Second Chances SA Family Care Program which aims to respond to the unique needs of children and families with an incarcerated parent/s.	57 500
Minister's Discretionary Grant	THE SMITH FAMILY	Grant funding to support the 'Lets Read & let's Count' Program, which delivered early years literacy and numeracy across the state.	120 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	TEA TREE GULLY TOY LIBRARY	Grant funding in support of operational expenses of the Tea Tree Gully Toy Library.	25 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOL	Grant funding to support the parent and family contribution in the Catholic Education sector, such as advocacy, parent representation and support.	30 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	POWER COMMUNITY LTD	Grant funding to support the Power to End Violence against Women Program.	76 875
Minister's Discretionary Grant	INNOVATION FIRST INTERNATIONAL	Grant funding in support of the VEX Robotics National Competition in SA. The competition is an educational robotics competition that provides educators and students application in STEM fields.	15 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	ADELAIDE FESTIVAL CENTRE TRUST	Grant funding to assist with the delivery of the centrED Teaching and Learning Program that link to curriculum.	52 275
Minister's Discretionary Grant	COUNTRY ARTS SA	Grant funding to support the operating expenses of the Hopgood Theatre.	50 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	2020-21 SAASTA FUNDING	Grant funding to support the SA Aboriginal Football Academy, a sports based education program, for students in years 10, 11 & 12.	50 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION	Funding to support the Parents In Education (PIE) funding in government schools.	83 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS SA	Grant funding to support the Allied health Specialist Support Services Program to make it available to all independent schools with a focus on rural schools or low SES regions.	153 750
Minister's Discretionary Grant	CHILDRENS WEEK ASSOC OF SA INC	Grant funding to support the Children's Week program of events.	28 700
Minister's Discretionary Grant	VIRTUAL WAR MEMORIAL LIMITED	Grant funding to support the war memorial online portal, ongoing management and part time teacher.	84 050

Grant program/ fund name	Beneficiary	Purpose	Value \$
Minister's Discretionary Grant	MARINE DISCOVERY CENTRE VIA STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL	Grant funding in support of the Marine Discovery Program which supports environmental education and student learning in marine ecology.	8 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	HISTORY TRUST OF SA	Grant funding to support repair costs to the Mothers Ward and boiler replacement at the Migration Museum.	280 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE	Grant funding to support the Open Music Academy for students from disadvantaged backgrounds to provide scholarships, workshops and fees bursaries.	47 900
Minister's Discretionary Grant	SPELD SA INC	Grant funding to support students in the education sector with specific learning difficulties.	146 114
Minister's Discretionary Grant	CARCLEW YOUTH ARTS CENTRE INC	Grant funding to contribute to the eastern boundary wall restoration project at the North Adelaide site.	125 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	SPELD SA INC	Grant funding to support the Aboriginal Phonic Book Series.	242 500
Minister's Discretionary Grant	UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE	Grant funding to support the Children's University Program.	200 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	YOUTHINC	Grant funding to support Youth Inc in collaborating with Special Assistance Schools in SA to develop a Special Assistance Schools quality framework.	82 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	ADELAIDE HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND STIENER EDUCATION CENTRE	Grant funding to support the establishment of the Holocaust Education Program.	40 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	ETHNIC SCHOOLS ASSOC OF SA INC	Grant funding to support the development of ICT hardware and systems at the Ethnic Schools Assoc of SA.	84 700
Minister's Discretionary Grant	HISTORY TRUST OF SA	Grant funding for maintenance and repair costs to the panel lift doors at the National Railway Museum.	20 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	AUSTRALIAN MIGRANT RESOURCE	Grant funding to provide financial support for the SA Refugee Week and Youth Poster Awards and Exhibition.	8 200
Minister's Discretionary Grant	SA ASSOC OF SCHL PARENT'S CLUB	Grant funding to support operational expenses at School Parent Communities Inc	50 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF STATE SCHOOLS	Grant funding to support the Association informing and representing state school governing councils and parental involvement in education.	80 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	GIFTED AND TALENTED CHILDREN'S	Grant funding to support the delivery of workshop sessions to academically gifted students.	14 600

Grant program/fund name	Beneficiary	Purpose	Value \$
Minister's Discretionary Grant	MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF SA	Grant funding to support the Remote and Rural Mathematics Program promoting the importance of mathematics to teachers, students and education professionals within remote and regional areas in SA.	76 300
Minister's Discretionary Grant	ROYAL AGRICULTURAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF SA	Grant funding to support the Science Alive Careers Day held at the Adelaide show grounds by the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of SA.	15 000
Minister's Discretionary Grant	ENABLED YOUTH DISABILITY	Grant funding to support Enabled Youth Disability Network to establish a Student Diversity Council.	20 000

TAFE SA

TAFE SA does not administer or control grant programs on behalf of the Minister for Education. In response to questions 14 and 15, TAFE SA has contributed funding to the below programs in 2020-21 and anticipates funding contributions in future years as detailed below.

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2020-21 Actual result \$000	2021-22 Estimate \$000	2022-23 Estimate \$000	2023-24 Estimate \$000	2024-25 Estimate \$000
Study Adelaide	To promote Adelaide as an international study destination and in partnership with intuitions, grow South Australia's international student number.	75	75	75	75	75

Education Standards Board

The following table provides the allocation of grant program/funds for 2020-21 and across the forward estimates for the Education Standards Board—Administered:

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2020-21 Actual result \$000	2021-22 Estimate \$000	2022-23 Estimate \$000	2023-24 Estimate \$000	2024-25 Estimate \$000
Education Standards Board	*Operational funding (no grant funding agreement)	4,199	4,082	4,035	4,105	4,176
Education Standards Board	Department for Education Supplementary funding (funding agreement)	1,121	1,114	557	n/a	n/a

*Funding for HR Systems of \$118,000 was carried over to the 2021-22 budget.

Supplementary funding from the Department for Education for 2022-23 has been confirmed to the end of 2022 at this time. As a result of this, Treasury's Budgetary Monitoring System (BMS) shows a funding reduction.

MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT CHANGES

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (29 July 2021). (Estimates Committee B)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised the following:

There were no machinery of government changes in any department or agency reporting to me from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (29 July 2021). (Estimates Committee B)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised the following:

Section 4 of DPC Circular 13 – Annual Reporting details the use of the annual report template. The template includes sections for an organisational structure and changes to the agency to be included by each agency.

I refer the member to the annual reports which have been published for each of the agencies for which I am responsible.