

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 21 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 this parliament is assembled and the custodians of the sacred lands of our state.

Parliamentary Procedure

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENSION

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (11:01): I move:

That standing orders be so far suspended up to and including Thursday 23 September to enable ministers and members to speak and conduct business from any seat within the chamber and the Speaker's gallery and that members of the Legislative Council be prohibited from admission to the Speaker's gallery.

The SPEAKER: An absolute majority is not present, ring the bells.

A quorum having been formed:

The SPEAKER: An absolute majority is present, I accept the motion. Is it seconded?

An honourable member: Yes, sir.

Motion carried.

Condolence

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH

The SPEAKER (11:04): I have to inform the house that I have received from His Excellency the Governor the following reply to the address of condolence presented on the occasion of the death of his Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh:

Thank you for your letter of 6 May requesting that I convey to Her Majesty the Queen an address from the House of Assembly on Tuesday 4 May conveying the House's great sorrow on the then recent death of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Her Majesty much appreciated the kind sentiments expressed in the address and has asked me to pass on her thanks to the Parliament of South Australia.

Government House, 24 August 2021.

H.V. Le, Governor.

Bills

LEGISLATION INTERPRETATION BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 26 August 2021.)

Mr PICTON (Kaurua) (11:05): I rise as the lead speaker from the opposition to speak in relation to this important, but hopefully largely uncontroversial, piece of legislation. The opposition, Labor, will be supporting this bill as we have already done in the other place. The government said when they introduced this bill that the bulk of the bill essentially repeals and replaces the Acts Interpretation Act. Language is modernised and definitions are added.

Most of what will become the Legislation Interpretation Act appears to be already in the Acts Interpretation Act in some way and a few elements are moved around to appear in other acts, as most of the updating does appear to make a lot of sense. In the past 106 years, the way that

legislation is interpreted has evolved. The Acts Interpretation Act has also evolved from being amended in some form or another over 40 separate occasions.

We need to be very careful when we change legislation that governs how legislation is interpreted. Any unintended consequences will have the potential to be far reaching and change the way that all our legislation works. That being said, there are probably no better people to undertake this important endeavour than parliamentary counsel. Parliamentary counsel do excellent work drafting the legislation that comes into this place and will likely have the best overall view about how the legislation is intended to work. I am sure that all members of the house pass their thanks to parliamentary counsel for the many hours they spend deliberating and trying to make our ideas into very sensible pieces of legislation.

New acts of what will be the Legislation Interpretation Act that may have not existed in the Acts Interpretation Act are, for the most part, updating or codifying the existing practice. There were some changes made in the other place around extrinsic materials, which the Law Society had raised as an omission from the original bill, that do more to codify existing practice.

There is one part of this bill that is not merely an update or a codifying of practice and that is clause 18. Clause 18 changes current practices where headings within legislation are simply administrative. This clause will make, and retrospectively make in acts that are already on the statute book, these headings part of the act. In practice, what it means is that the court will be able to use headings when interpreting legislation and what the parliament meant by the legislation. Current headings can be added or omitted by the Commissioner for Legislation Revision and Publication.

It appears that we will be one of the first, if not the first, jurisdiction in Australia to retrospectively include headings as part of an act—truly history making. The government has assured the opposition in briefings and the other place that this will not cause any problems going forward. Through a savings provision in the bill, the Commissioner for Legislation Revision and Publication will have the power to change a heading that had not been enacted by parliament at one time.

Being the only legislation to have this retrospective change, any difficulties arising from this particular change will ultimately be for the government to explain. I would like to thank parliamentary counsel for providing a more comprehensive explanation of clauses than would usually be the case to make these changes easier to navigate. As I indicated, the opposition will be supporting this important legislation.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (11:09): I acknowledge and thank the opposition for their indication of support. The matter has been significantly traversed and, as best I understand it, there have not been specific matters raised in consultation. There is a short amendment proposed to accommodate the fact that the Statutes Amendment (COVID-19 Permanent Measures) Act 2021 has since passed. As members would be aware, we are progressing legislation in that area often well in advance of other legislation and from time to time we need to make some minor amendments, so I indicate that we will need to go into committee to accommodate that. I also record my appreciation for the work undertaken by members in the other place.

Bill read a second time.

Committee Stage

In committee.

Clause 1.

Mr PICTON: Attorney, in relation to the changes that have been made in relation to headings, which I outlined in my second reading contribution, can you give some clarity to the house in terms of exactly what that process will be in terms of the interpretation of headings and, if there are problems encountered, what will be the process in terms of addressing those issues, should they arise?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Members may recall, and for the benefit of the question that has been raised, the provision to allow for section headings to be amended once administratively.

The amendment would be undertaken by or under the supervision of the Commissioner for Legislation Revision and Publication. This is to ensure that any errors in headings that have been inserted administratively can be corrected without having to undertake legislative amendments.

I can advise the house that parliamentary counsel have now reviewed that issue and it appears that there are no identified areas of concern that would be required at this point. I do not know if they have been through the treason act, which is attached to our Criminal Law Consolidation Act, but it was written in about 1600, so I suppose they have not looked at that one.

Clause passed.

Clauses 2 to 38 passed.

Clause 39.

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

Amendment No 1 [AG-1]—

Page 23, after line 38—Insert:

- (2a) Subsection (1) does not apply to a meeting or transaction, or meeting or transaction of a class, prescribed by the regulations.

As indicated, I advise that the government amendment to the bill is required as a result of the passage of the Statutes Amendment (COVID-19 Permanent Measures) Act 2021. That act contained a provision that amended the Acts Interpretation Act 1915 to include a new section 53 which allows certain meetings or transactions to be conducted remotely or by audiovisual means. Accordingly, the new section also allowed certain meetings and transactions to be excluded from the operation of that section by regulation.

Clause 39 in this bill largely replicates the new section 53 of the Acts Interpretation Act inserted by the COVID permanent measures act, but it does not contain the power to exclude certain meetings or transactions by regulations. Therefore, this amendment inserts a new subsection (2a), which replicates the new section 53(3) of the Acts Interpretation Act, to allow certain meetings and transactions to be excluded from the operation of clause 39 by regulation.

In short, we have fixed this up on the way through with the COVID act and therefore we now need to accommodate that, the fact that it has overtaken the passage of this legislation, and that is entirely its purpose.

Mr PICTON: Thank you very much. I certainly follow the explanation from the Attorney in relation to her amendment. I am wondering if she can outline whether there have been any identified meetings or transactions of that class already that would be necessary for such a regulation to take place?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: It appears to be mostly local government-based matters. This is my understanding and my adviser here confirms it. I will give you a list:

- meetings of a council, a council committee, a subsidiary established under section 42 of the Local Government Act or a regional subsidiary established under section 43 of the Local Government Act;
- meetings of electors under section 93 of the Local Government Act;
- meetings of the Stormwater Management Authority under schedule 1A of the Local Government Act; and
- public meetings for the purpose of consultation if required under section 123(4), section 151(7) and section 156(14d).

I am advised that these meetings will be allowed to come within these provisions when the relevant community engagement charter reform under the Statutes Amendment (Local Government Review) Act 2021 is proclaimed to commence. I think that is all that has been identified at this point.

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Remaining clauses (40 to 60), schedule and title passed.

Bill reported with amendment.

Third Reading

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (11:19): I move:

That this bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

BURIAL AND CREMATION (INTERMENT RIGHTS) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 9 September 2021.)

Mr PICTON (Kaurna) (11:20): I rise to speak in relation to the Burial and Cremation (Interment Rights) Amendment Bill 2021. I indicate that I am the lead speaker for the opposition, which is fitting in terms of my responsibilities representing the shadow attorney-general but also because this is a bill which had its genesis from an issue that I have raised with the Attorney-General. It has been an issue that has been of significant concern in my own electorate.

There are two things that are certain in life: death and taxes, as it has been known. We deal with both of them in this parliament. We deal with more taxes than we do issues around death, but issues around death are particularly important. We have debated in this parliament issues of voluntary assisted dying legislation in the past year. We deal with issues of the Coroner and investigations around death. We deal with issues of how we are trying to prevent death from occurring in relation to road traffic accidents and making sure the health system is sufficiently resourced, as we have done in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, we also need to deal with what happens when death occurs. The Burial and Cremation Act 2013 covers these issues in terms of what happens after people pass away and whether they are buried or cremated and how those processes are regulated. This is something that we all have to face. Our loved ones will have to face it in relation to us one day, and we will have to face it in relation to our loved ones who pass away. It can be an incredibly distressing time. It can be a time when we know that people's emotions are understandably very frayed.

We know that this is a very costly time for people as well. For many people it is a burden in terms of the cost of funerals and either burial or cremation arrangements that need to be put in place. Because of that, many people will seek to make sure that it is not a burden upon their loved ones after they pass away and that they have arrangements in place to make sure that, if they are going to be buried, there is a plot arranged, payments have been made and funeral arrangements are in place.

Many people have funeral insurance. You only have to turn on daytime television to see about 7,000 ads for funeral insurance being displayed. I think it would be worthy to look at that industry at some point in terms of making sure people are getting fair value for money, but you can understand that people want to make sure that when they pass away their death is not going to be a burden upon the children or the partner of the loved ones in terms of the cost of that arrangement.

Because of that, many people have relationships already established in terms of their rights for interment, their rights in relation to plots at cemeteries. Some people have paid significant amounts of money to make sure that they have those rights kept and it is not something that they need to worry about in the future, which leads us to the concerns that have been raised that have led to this legislation being introduced.

This is something that started to be raised with my office, in the Kaurna electorate, last year. For people who do not know, there is a beautiful church in Old Noarlunga. It is an Anglican church. The church has been there for many years and has been a clear landmark for the community. This is the St Philip and St James church. Many people in my electorate will have been married there, many people will have attended church services there, many people will have attended funerals there and many people are laid to rest there in the cemetery adjacent to that church.

Very clearly, we are seeing throughout Adelaide, and probably throughout the Western world, an issue where different churches—and by that I mean church organisations—are going through a process of considering what facilities they have and whether or not they need to sell or consolidate those church holdings. You only have to drive around Adelaide—we are of course the City of Churches—to see that many churches have been converted into other uses. I have been to people's houses; they have bought a church and converted it into residential accommodation.

Drive down Goodwood Road and there is a very notable former church that is, I think, a rug shop in the Goodwood area. This is an issue that clearly was an issue in the inner city, where we used to have a much more densely populated inner suburban area. We now have suburban sprawl, so more churches have been opening up across South Australia over the past few decades. But now some of those in more peri-urban areas, if you like, have been sold and are being considered in terms of what their future is.

Clearly the Anglican Church has been going through such a process in relation to the churches that they have. They decided to put the Church of St Philip and St James on the market to be sold. This attracted quite a lot of interest at the time because, as I said, it is such a landmark of the area. It really is an absolutely stunningly constructed church. It was built not long after South Australia was settled and is one of the very historical heritage buildings of my electorate and of the Old Noarlunga township, which clearly has a huge historical element to it.

It attracted a huge amount of interest—I think there was quite a bit of publicity that the real estate agents were trying to drum up—and they put it to auction. If I recall, it had to have a couple of goes before they found a suitable buyer, but then a suitable buyer purchased the property and has taken ownership of that property away from the Anglican Church. I think people probably thought, 'Well, that's the end of it. We might hear down the track what they want to use that site for, whether that be a venue or a private residence or the like.'

We then started hearing issues, though, in terms of people who had arrangements in place already with the Anglican Church, in relation to the cemetery adjacent to the church. Those people were very concerned that they had paid significant sums to make sure they had rights for a burial plot. Some of those people are very concerned because not only did they see this as an important place for them but clearly some people already had family members who were buried at that site.

Clearly it is the desire of many people to make sure that there is a family burial site, to make sure that their loved ones can be adjacent in the same location. We started to receive concerns raised that those rights were not going to be upheld or, if they were, that there were going to be significant sums of additional funding that would be required from those people to make sure what they thought they had locked in would be able to be locked in in the future.

With the recollection that this legislation fell under the role of the Attorney-General, I raised this with the Attorney-General on a number of occasions on behalf of those people. It has been well over a year until we have got to this point now, where legislation has needed to be enacted, but it has been a fraught process. My first letter to the Attorney-General in relation to this was on 19 June 2020. I wrote:

Dear Deputy Premier,

I write to you on behalf of—

in relation to these letters I will omit the particular constituents' names—

[my constituents] regarding their concerns in relation to grave lease arrangements at the St Philip and St James Church in Old Noarlunga. [My constituents] advise that they were recently advised by the new owners of the church that they are redeveloping the gravesite attached to the church. To facilitate this they have relocated the ashes of several people interred at that site.

[My constituents] state that the owners also advised the lessees that they will be reimbursed for any paid sum and required to repay for any new leases at a much higher rate. [My constituents] are concerned that this will disrupt the existing leased graves whose relatives are unable to afford higher rates, especially in the case of [this particular constituent] whose father and sister are already interred there.

As such [my constituents] would like to know whether you can examine the actions of the church owners and the Anglican Church, as former owners, and advise what rights the lessees have in maintaining the existing lease arrangements. [My constituents] would also like to know what happened with the funds that they previously paid for the sites to the Anglican Church.

In your investigations could you advise whether there is any need for law reform in South Australia to ensure people's loved ones are protected from being moved in the event a cemetery is sold.

I trust that you will take [my constituents'] concerns into consideration and provide a response in due course. I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Picton MP

Member for Kaurna

Clearly, in that letter of 19 June 2020, well over a year ago now, I raised a number of very significant concerns with the Attorney-General, asked for them to be investigated and, importantly, asked whether the law had to be reformed to make sure that people could be protected. I wrote to the Attorney-General knowing that not only was she the Attorney-General, not only was she the responsible minister for the burial and cremation legislation, but she was the minister responsible for consumer law and consumer affairs in this parliament as well.

People were concerned about the redevelopment, the relocation of ashes, whether there would be reimbursement for sums, whether there would be new, higher rates for leases to be put in place, whether there would be disruption of the existing graves, especially in the case of the father and sister already interred there, about the actions of both the current owners and the Anglican Church, about what rights people have and about what happened to the funds they had previously paid to the Anglican Church.

All those were very important issues I raised with the Attorney-General well over a year ago, asking her to consider investigating not only those issues but also whether the law had to be reformed to address those concerns. A month later, on 9 July 2020—still well over a year ago—I received a response from the Attorney-General, which read:

Dear Mr Picton,

Thank you for the letter dated 19 June 2020 and email dated 2 July 2020 on behalf of your constituents in relation to grave lease arrangements at the St Philip and St James Church (the church) in Old Noarlunga. I understand that the church is undergoing redevelopment in its attached cemetery after a transfer of ownership and your constituents have raised concern about an increase in leasing rates.

As you know, I am not able to provide legal advice to members of the public. Given these limitations, I am unable to examine the actions of the Church owners, nor advise what rights [your constituents] may have in maintaining existing lease arrangements with respect to grave sites at the Church. Further, I am not in a position to explore what has happened with the funds that [your constituents] have previously paid for the grave sites at the Church.

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

A quorum having been formed:

Mr PICTON: Continuing in relation to the letter the Attorney wrote to me on 9 July 2020, I quote:

Accordingly, if they have not already done so, [your constituents] may wish to consider obtaining independent legal advice in relation to their concerns. The Legal Services Commission of South Australia provide a free advisory service on most legal matters. The service is available by calling 1300 366 424 or (08) 8436 3555.

Alternatively, the Law Society of South Australia can help in referring [your constituents] to a private solicitor who deals in the area of law they require. The referral service is available by calling (08) 8229 0288.

I trust this is of assistance to your constituents.

Yours sincerely

VICKIE CHAPMAN MP

DEPUTY PREMIER

ATTORNEY-GENERAL

Well, that was not of assistance to my constituents. I appreciate that the Attorney-General has a busy job, I am sure, but this was a significant failure to address the concerns that were raised by my constituents well over a year ago in this letter. This is a complete failure to address the issues that fell in relation to her responsibilities to this parliament, in relation to consumer affairs and in relation

to the management of cemeteries, cremations and burials under the legislation, and also to consider whether there was any area of law reform that needed to happen in relation to this.

To fob it all off and say, 'You should consider going to a lawyer or ring the Legal Services Commission,' was not sufficient to investigate the issues I had raised with the Attorney-General. If those issues had been investigated, we could well be dealing with this legislation a lot more quickly and it may well have passed last year, if that was to be the case.

Of course, that did not stop the issue because more and more people became affected by this. A bit later in November 2020, people who had been assigned leases in relation to the St Philip and St James Old Noarlunga church started to receive letters from the new owners of the church and were asked to pay additional sums. One constituent received this letter in November 2020:

Dear [constituents],

We would like to introduce ourselves as the new custodians and owners of The Cemetery On The Hill, which is formally known as The Cemetery of St Philip and St James at Old Noarlunga.

The records provided to us by The Anglican Church at the time of sale of the Church and Cemetery indicate that you have a lease arrangement with St Philip and St James Anglican Cemetery, Old Noarlunga for [particular rows and bed numbers] and that you paid The Anglican Church \$800.00.

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that if you wish to commence a lease with us (The Old Noarlunga Cemetery Pty Ltd), you will need to complete a new interment rights lease. Please find [attached] our pricing booklet. We are able to apply any monies previously paid to the Anglican Church towards a new interment rights lease with us.

If you are not wanting to renew your lease with The Cemetery On The Hill, please complete the relinquishing form enclosed...in the envelope provided...any questions, please...[email us, etc., etc.]

Kind regards,

The Cemetery On The Hill.

Clearly, this letter enraged and concerned more constituents in my electorate who have leases arranged, that they are being told, 'Your lease that you thought that you had, that you paid hundreds of dollars for, is no longer current and you now need to buy a more expensive lease and here is our new pricing booklet that you can consider.'

The Attorney-General herself then received a letter on 18 December 2020—so almost a year ago, some 10 months ago now—from more constituents of mine and they wrote directly to her:

Dear [Attorney-General],

We respectfully request that you review our situation. On 27/12/2015 my wife and I purchased the leases on 3 plots (for ashes) at the cemetery of St Philip & St James Anglican church at Old Noarlunga. These being for myself...my wife...and our son...who is [sadly already interred]...

We paid \$400 for each lease, plus...fees, [that were paid] in good faith from the church, the full payment being [over \$1,700]. The leases run for 25 years from the interment of the ashes. However as time has transpired the church has now been sold...We received a letter from [the new owners] informing us that we now have to take out a new lease on our plots at the higher rate of \$2,500 each.

Which is a significant amount in addition. It continues:

They apparently have received the money we paid to the church, being \$800 for the 2 plots, and now demand us to sign a new lease or sign a relinquishing form.

Our view is that the cemetery was never closed and we had paid our monies in full, or so we thought. We [believe] this is outrageous, surely they should honour the leases purchased from the church without us paying these extra high prices.

As an aside, to go from \$800 to \$2,500 each is taking all three leases that they had including, sadly, their son, who is already interred, up to \$7,500 each. The letter continues:

We ask if you could intervene and review the current situation honouring our contract, also, we would like to know the basis of their approval and how they have the right to terminate our lease from the church.

Please find [attached] copies of receipts of purchase and documentation of leases plus the letter from the new owner showing the new lease prices re their brochure on ashes interment...

We ask that you give this matter your earliest attention to rectify our situation.

...yours sincerely,

[the constituents]

The Attorney-General received that second letter in relation to this last year as well. I then wrote to her on 4 January on behalf of the same constituents, and I said:

Dear Deputy Premier

I write to you on behalf of [my constituents] of Old Noarlunga, regarding their concerns in relation to increases in lease prices at the Cemetery On the Hill, previously owned by the Anglican Church.

[My constituents] are concerned that the new owners of the Cemetery have taken steps to significantly increase the costs of leases held by the Church prior to its sale.

[My constituents] believe that lease holders have been misled throughout the process of the sale and that they have been unfairly issued new leases at the higher cost.

I understand that [my constituents] have written to you directly and they have provided me a copy of this letter. I have enclosed a copy for your reference.

As such, [my constituents] would like to know whether there are any measures that can be taken to prevent lease holders being forced to pay much higher costs for these plots. [In particular, is this a breach of consumer law?]

I trust that you will take [my constituents'] concerns into consideration and provide a response in due course. I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Picton MP

Member for Kaurna

Eventually, a few weeks later we received a letter from the Attorney-General dated 20 January 2021, some eight months ago, in relation to that, which states:

Dear Mr Picton

Thank you for your letter of 4 January 2021 on behalf of your constituents in relation to their concerns regarding increases in interment right prices at the Cemetery on the Hill (the Cemetery).

It is regrettable to learn that the new owners of the cemetery at St Philip and St James Church are declining to honour the interment rights previously issued by the Diocese to [your constituents]. It is equally disappointing that the new owners are demanding payment of substantial additional fees from [your constituents] to secure their interment rights.

Unfortunately, I am not able to directly assist members of the public to resolve disputes involving matters of private concern. However, I do take the issues raised by [your constituents] very seriously and have referred them to Consumer and Business Services for investigation.

While I am not able to discuss the nature of the investigation, I trust that Consumer and Business Services will take appropriate action if the actions of the new owners of the cemetery constitute unlawful business practices or are in contravention [of] the Australian Consumer Law.

I have responded directly to [your constituents] to advise them of the action that I have taken. If they have not already done so, [your constituents] may...wish to seek independent legal advice in relation to their concerns.

I trust this information assists.

VICKIE CHAPMAN MP

DEPUTY PREMIER

ATTORNEY-GENERAL

At least we have progressed one step in relation to January. In January, the Attorney is at least willing to refer it to the office of consumer and business affairs to investigate, whereas last year, when this was raised, back in June and July, she simply told them, 'Here's a phone number for some lawyers. Go ring some lawyers. You deal with it. I can't do anything.' At least we have had some progress now with the Attorney-General being willing to at least refer it to her department to look at what are quite serious and concerning issues for my constituents.

The matter then became a public matter on 18 February 2021 when *The Advertiser* and the *Messenger* ran an article, 'Families shocked to find expiry stickers on loved ones' graves at Old Noarlunga cemetery'. This was written by Kaysee Miller on 18 February 2021 and it states:

Families have been shocked to find lease expiry stickers on graves of loved ones at a cemetery in Adelaide's south—despite some having more than 30 years remaining.

Southern suburbs families have been shocked to find lease expiry stickers on the plaques and headstones of loved ones at an Old Noarlunga cemetery—despite the leases having years to run.

Stickers at the Cemetery on the Hill at Church Hill Road state that the lease has expired and families need to contact the cemetery to organise renewal.

But some families claim to still have more than 35 years remaining on their contracts.

One man—who wished to remain anonymous—said a contract showed the lease for his family member's ashes plot had 38 years remaining.

'We were in disbelief when we saw the stickers everywhere and it's had a severe emotional impact for us,' he said.

'I think they should be honouring the leases that stand and honouring it as a cemetery and not as a money-making exercise.

'Some of the gravestones in there are of historical significance and shouldn't be tampered with, full stop.'

Another family who took out a \$600 lease in 2017 was told a new, 25-year lease would cost more than \$2900.

Owner and cemetery curator Darren Bacchus bought the cemetery and connected church—previously known as St Philip and St James—from the Anglican Diocese of The Murray in late 2018.

Mr Bacchus—who plans to restore the church and grounds and host functions there—said no leases were transferred to him at the time of purchase, leading him to use the stickers and newspaper advertisements to contact families.

'Unfortunately the Anglican Church did a disservice to the people that were there, they never communicated any information to them,' he said.

'It's a hard job to do when you're talking about a passed one that's buried there but we have to [be] financially responsible and it does cost money to run cemeteries.'

Mr Bacchus said as a 'goodwill gesture' he would honour leases of 25 years for ashes and 50 years for burials.

A spokeswoman for the Anglican Diocese said the Diocese fulfilled its obligations—in accordance with the Burial and Cremation Act—for the transfer of cemetery leases at the time of the sale.

'Our expectation has always been that the existing leases would be honoured by the new owner in accordance with the legislation,' she said.

'As from settlement the new owner was obligated to permit the interment of remains of the person to whom the interment rights relate and to leave the remains undisturbed at the interment site for as long as the interment rights remain in force.

'The owner does not have a unilateral right to terminate interment rights nor to vary the terms upon which interment rights are held.

'We are disappointed at the action of the new owner and concerned for the interment rights holders who have been confused and misled.'

The spokeswoman said lawyers for the Diocese contacted Mr Bacchus regarding the matter and later Consumer and Business Services and the Attorney-General's office.

A Consumer and Business Services spokesman confirmed the department was investigating a complaint in relation to the matter.

So this, eventually, as you can see, did hit the media, but some, I believe, seven or so months after the Attorney first had the issue raised by a letter from me and decided to ignore those concerns. The article that was published included a picture of the stickers that were being stuck onto headstones at the lease. The sticker is labelled 'The Cemetery on the Hill' and says:

The lease for this grave site has expired. Please contact our office on 8317 6044 to discuss renewal options.

Please note this site may be used for a new interment in the future if this plot is not renewed.

You can see that there would be very significant concerns in relation to those constituents. So we had the issue raised back in June last year, we had the fob-off response from the Attorney in July, we had it raised again with her from constituents in December and again by me in January, we had a slightly less fob-off response from the Attorney at the end of January, then we had the article published in February, and then still there was no news.

Still there was nothing the government said in relation to their investigation, and I spoke to a number of very stressed, very concerned constituents in relation to the status of this—in relation to

their lease rights and whether payments were going to be forced upon them to continue what they thought they had very substantial lease rights in place for. So with no news coming—again, for months—on 4 May this year I wrote again to the Attorney-General:

Dear Deputy Premier,

I write to you on behalf of several of my constituents regarding their concerns in relation to the management of leases at the Cemetery on the Hill in Old Noarlunga.

These constituents all received letters from a representative of the Cemetery that indicated their intention to upgrade the grounds.

In this correspondence, the representative recognised that despite previous arrangements being in place with the former owners of the Cemetery, the Anglican Church, interment rights must be re-negotiated with the new owners.

These constituents advise that the representative offered a significantly increased price—which I underlined—in comparison to their original agreement.

They are concerned that despite being dated as 21 April, these letters were only received on or around 28 April.

Clearly there had been another round of letters that had just been sent to people before this letter. It continues:

These letters noted that the price would have a further substantial increase in price if it were not agreed to by 5 May, affording only one week to agree to a significant financial outlay or obtain legal advice.

These constituents were under the impression that the existing leases must be honoured irrelevant of the transfer of cemetery ownership, and that this interpretation was confirmed in a letter from the Bishop of the Murray, The Right Reverend Keith Dalby, dated 10 July 2020.

I understand that the office of the Diocese of the Murray has recently communicated the details of a Senior Investigator for Consumer and Business Services (CBS), who has been assigned to investigate these concerns.

As such, these constituents would like to know whether:

- An investigation by CBS is ongoing and if there is an anticipated time of completion
- The details of this investigation are being publicised to ensure that all stakeholders impacted by these new arrangements have an opportunity to voice their concerns
- The Attorney-General's Department has any scope to request a delay of the 5 May deadline communicated by the Cemetery on the Hill until these concerns are adequately considered

I note that I previously wrote to you regarding related concerns on 19 June 2020 and received a response from you on 9 July 2020. I have attached this correspondence for your reference.

I trust you will take these concerns into consideration and provide a response in due course. I look forward to your reply.

Then I received a letter from the Attorney-General, dated 31 May 2021:

Dear Mr Picton,

I write in response to your letter of 4 May 2021 regarding concerns with the management of leases at the Cemetery on the Hill in Old Noarlunga. I have sought advice on this matter from the Commissioner for Consumer Affairs (Commissioner). I apologise for the delay in formally responding and note that my office has already contacted your Electorate Office to provide an update.

Consumer and Business Services (CBS) is currently investigating potential breaches of the Australian Consumer Law and the Burial and Cremation Act 2013 by The Old Noarlunga Cemetery Pty Ltd (Cemetery). As the investigation has not yet concluded, I am unable to provide you with any specific details.

I am advised that the Cemetery has deferred their price increase for leaseholders who have been in contact. The Commissioner will consider whether to seek an injunction to further safeguard the interests of leaseholders.

Whilst the Commissioner does not publicise investigations unless a public warning is issued or an enforcement action occurs, investigators are attempting to contact all leaseholders.

For further information, please invite your constituents to contact...[the] Manager, Inspections and Enforcement Operations...

Thank you for writing on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

VICKIE CHAPMAN MP

DEPUTY PREMIER

ATTORNEY-GENERAL

That was the latest correspondence that we had from the Attorney-General in relation to this matter but, clearly, what was identified was that there was a deficiency with the legislation. What clearly has been identified, as I raised with the Attorney-General in June last year, is that some change to this act may be necessary to make sure that these sorts of situations do not arise again or can be remedied in this specific case.

To date, I have not had a confirmation from the Attorney-General in relation to where the specific investigation from Consumer and Business Services is up to. Have they formed a view in relation to—as she said—potential breaches of both the Australian Consumer Law and the Burial and Cremation Act of our parliament, and what action has been taken, if any?

Clearly, this legislation has now been introduced, as I said, to address what I suggested to the Attorney-General in June last year, that law reform may be required, but I think we do not yet have confirmation as to whether this will address this specific case of my constituents, who are clearly very concerned about their own status in relation to what is now the Church on the Hill.

This bill seeks to amend the Burial and Cremation Act 2013 to address, as I said, these issues faced by the holders of valid interment rights who have had difficulties enforcing their rights against the cemetery authority. This bill clarifies that interment rights may be enforced against the relevant authority and also creates various new offences. In most instances, a cemetery authority is the owner of the land.

As we have talked about over the past few decades, changes in population levels, church attendance and church incomes have seen increasing numbers of churches being decommissioned and sold for residential or commercial use. Where a cemetery is attached, the new owner becomes the cemetery authority, unless there is another body that is responsible for its administration.

This is an important fact in relation to what has transpired at Old Noarlunga because, although not being an investigator—and we may hear a proper report from the Attorney in relation to that investigation—my suspicion is that probably the purchasers of the Old Noarlunga church and cemetery were not aware of their responsibilities in relation to the cemetery that was attached. I am sure the real estate agents who were selling it off were not saying, 'By the way, here are all the details and obligations you are going to have in the future that are quite arduous to manage.' I am sure that was something they have been finding out as they have been going.

It is going to be a continual issue. We do see more of these properties being sold and we need to be very clear about what the obligations are on people who purchase these properties. This would say that the new owner becomes the cemetery authority, unless there is another body that is responsible for its administration. The increasing number of churches and cemeteries that are owned by people or organisations with no background in managing cemeteries may lead to greater issues around misunderstanding or noncompliance with the laws.

Under the proposed bill, the relevant authority for an interment site must comply with their obligations. This was previously a civil offence only and this bill is proposing to criminalise this activity. The maximum penalty for noncompliance with this obligation is \$10,000 for a natural person and \$20,000 for a body corporate.

The bill proposes a new offence of removing cremated remains from or reinterment of cremated remains in a cemetery or natural burial ground. An offence is also proposed should a person or body corporate cause, suffer or permit either act. The maximum penalty for these offences is \$10,000. Notably, these interment or removing offences do not apply to cremated remains interred directly in the earth or where authorised or removed by the relevant authority for approved site maintenance purposes.

I understand that in the other place there was a considerable amount of confusion on this matter from the Hon. Rob Lucas, who had carriage of it, and we look forward to some better

understanding and further clarity during the committee stage around how these defences would work in relation to moving for site maintenance purposes.

Clearly, as I have said, this has come in relation to what has happened at the St Philip and St James church. As I said, this is a very historical church. It was established in 1850, only 14 years after the colony of South Australia was established in 1836. This obviously led to a very emotional situation for those families and it has been certainly my honour to represent them to try to advocate for these changes. I am glad that we have now got to this stage after over a year of advocating that we should have some changes to this area of law to hopefully address their situation and also others in the future.

This bill seeks to prevent what has happened to the leaseholders of the Old Noarlunga church from occurring in the future. Notably, it is not a defence for a defendant to claim they were unaware of the existence of an interment right when they assumed administration of the cemetery or natural burial ground. That issue of 'I wasn't aware of this' would no longer be potential defence under this legislation.

The exception to this is if they can prove that they took reasonable steps to identify interment rights in existence at the time they took over. I am certainly not aware of any issue about that at the Old Noarlunga site. In fact, it is apparent that there was an awareness of those interment rights because the new owners were able to write to the leaseholders and say, 'Here's our brochure for the new lease payments that you're going to have to make.'

We were told by the Attorney-General's Department that targeted consultation has occurred and that the bill has received general support from various groups, including relevant cemetery authorities and associations. The opposition have raised a number of questions with the Attorney-General's Department, some of which are about where the public register is currently located for burials and cremations. This will become increasingly important for buyers of the increasing number of cremation sites or churches that come onto the market. The absence of an accessible and clear register may add an unnecessary burden to both prospective land buyers and to people who have had an interest in the remains of their loved ones.

I am very eager to hear the Attorney's contribution both in the summing up of the second reading and in the committee stage to know some very clear answers to questions about what has happened in my electorate. Is that investigation is ongoing? Has any action been taken? Why were the concerns that were raised with her in June last year ignored? Why was there no action on this sooner? Importantly, will this legislation, once passed, apply to the Old Noarlunga site, i.e., would it have some retrospective ability to consider that situation that people are facing? Or is this now dealing with future cases where the sales may occur but the people in Old Noarlunga will not be able to get relief in relation to the provisions of this act? These are questions we must have answers to in relation to the debate on this legislation.

As I said, I think this will be an increasing issue over the next decades for a number of reasons. One is the future sale of these churches, which is likely to occur across metropolitan Adelaide and also in regional areas across South Australia, where in many of those regional areas, cemeteries are attached to the churches. Therefore, the people who purchase those churches will have no experience in running cemetery operations and will therefore be in a similar situation to what has happened in Old Noarlunga.

At the same time as that is occurring, there is an increasing need and demand for burials and cremations across the state. It sounds a bit morbid to talk about it, but we are expecting the death rate in South Australia to increase over the coming decades. The population projections in terms of age make it very clear that the number of people who will pass away in South Australia will increase over future decades.

There needs to be appropriate planning for where either cremations or burials, which are particularly intensive in terms of the use of space, take place. Of course, we already have legislation that parliament has decided about the re-use of some sites. I believe that it already occurs in places like Centennial Park and others, where sites can be re-leased after a certain time but demand will increase. Perhaps very timely, only yesterday there was an article in *The Advertiser* by Miles Kemp, entitled 'Plotting for burial surge', which raised this very issue. It states:

The search is on to find land with the same space as 11 Adelaide Ovals to help cater for growing demand for burials.

Adelaide Cemeteries CEO Robert Pitt said 20ha of extra land was needed to service Adelaide's southern suburbs.

Very fitting in this current discussion. It continues:

The ideal option would be a single site south of O'Halloran Hill.

Mr Pitt said the challenge was caused by an ageing population and estimates of an increase in Adelaide's death rate from 14,000 a year now to between 29,000 and 36,000 by 2050.

'This has broad implications not only for cemeteries, but for the entire community, with South Australians becoming increasingly exposed to death and grieving,' Mr Pitt said. 'We need to be prepared for the social, as well as logistic challenges.'

The state government's 30-year plan for Adelaide identified the need for a new cemetery in the outer-southern metropolitan area.

Adelaide Cemeteries runs four large sites: Enfield Memorial Park—

I am sure very well known to the member for Enfield—

West Terrace Cemetery, Cheltenham Cemetery—

I am sure well known to the member for Cheltenham—

and Smithfield Memorial Park. It also runs three smaller sites for councils.

West Terrace and Cheltenham are both full, and Enfield has 9.4ha of available space.

'The next challenge for Adelaide Cemeteries is to locate and obtain a site to serve communities in the south,' Mr Pitt said.

'Any new cemetery must include an area for natural burials and landscaping featuring indigenous plant species.

I think natural burials are something the parliament has previously debated and created a regulatory process for as well. It continues:

'With the number of sites set at 3000 graves per hectare, plus buildings, road networks and gardens, we require 20ha to implement a long-term plan for more than 60,000 burial sites.'

Mr Pitt said about seven out of 10 people who died in South Australia last year were cremated.

'(But) this figure has plateaued as many emerging cultural and religious groups have faith-based commitments to burials.'

The authority is also modernising crematorium filtration standards and planning for a third crematorium at Enfield Memorial Park.

'Cemetery planning requires foresight far beyond the practicalities of acquiring land and cremators,' Mr Pitt said.

'Ultimately, we help families navigate one of life's most significant events and that requires a broader community discussion about expectations and values.'

The authority's death rate estimates are based on extrapolations from census data and immigration rates.

To help meet demand for burial plots, the authority recently acquired 34ha of government land to expand Smithfield Memorial Park.

Smithfield will eventually become Adelaide's largest cemetery.

Clearly, you can see that the demand, in terms of burial plots, is going to go up. As such, there is going to be a demand in terms of people making lease arrangements.

I am sure people who are going via the Adelaide Cemeteries Authority, as a government authority—and we know that based on a recent Ombudsman's report into the conduct of former Minister for Transport and Infrastructure in relation to that—will be certain in terms of their rights being upheld, but for those people who are looking for other burial sites we need to be very clear about what the rights and responsibilities are in relation to those matters. That is why it is very urgent that we progress with this legislation and that we make it as clear and as robust as possible.

I have to say that the best burial site I have ever seen is that of my mother's father's family, the McKinnons, who immigrated from the north of Scotland well over a hundred years ago. They

settled in the region of Clare in the member for Frome's electorate. The McKinnons made a good contribution to the Clare area. I once went to the tourist information desk in Clare and, using some family tree information that had been collated by a relative, was able to find where the McKinnons were buried.

I have to say, you could not find a more idyllic location to be buried than where some of my ancestors, the McKinnons, are buried, about 20 minutes outside Clare, overlooking a beautiful vineyard, completely undisturbed. Nobody is going to be coming there anytime soon, I would imagine, to revise those leases that have been there for well over 100 years.

However, for those people who want to have their burial plots in Adelaide, around Adelaide or in some of our regional centres, there will be demand. There will be increasing issues in terms of demands on those sites and also the management of those sites when they inevitably, many of them, end up in private hands as we are seeing that change in church ownership.

That is why getting this right is so important. That is why I raised the need for law reform in this area with the Attorney-General last June. I am glad that we are finally getting to this stage, but there are still many unanswered questions that we need to address through this debate and others to make sure that those people who have been affected in my electorate and Old Noarlunga can get the rights they believed that they had satisfied in relation to this case.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay) (12:15): I rise today on the Burial and Cremation (Interment Rights) Amendment Bill 2021. We have heard at length from the member for Kaurana how this is an issue that he first raised with the Attorney-General last year in a request to investigate and have a response to this very concerning situation. As I understand it, the problems were experienced by the interment rights holders in a cemetery attached to the decommissioned Anglican Church of St Philip and St James, which was established in 1852. This church is in Old Noarlunga and the situation has been raised in the media, in particular the actions of the new owners of the site. It is no longer owned by the Anglican diocese, which was the former owner, and now is owned by what one would say are non-traditional owners.

It is interesting looking at this today because I think it was just on Sunday that *The Advertiser* ran an article about churches that were redesigned and re-used. In fact, they are in great demand with people interested in doing up old churches, but of course many of the churches, particularly in regional areas, also have a cemetery out the back. This issue is likely to come up more often as people seek to purchase churches. As there is less attendance and perhaps fewer people living in a particular area, those churches go on the market.

In this particular issue, the new owners of the site refused to honour the interment rights issued by the Anglican diocese and in fact some rights holders were asked to repurchase the rights at inflated prices. Obviously, that was a shock, and I guess when they sought remedy they were disappointed that they were not immediately supported by these actions to seek remedy from these non-traditional owners in repurchasing and asking them to pay an inflated amount.

Although this is not the subject of the bill, I understand the new owners also changed the appearance of the cemetery, removing all the trees and replacing the traditional fences and gates with bare metal. This, it seems, has been a much-supported cemetery in the past, and even though it was an Anglican church for more than 150 years, I am advised that the cemetery caretaker for much of the last 20 years was a person of the Catholic faith, who lived across the road.

What this bill does is amend the Burial and Cremation Act of 2013 to address the issues faced by the holders of these interment rights who have had difficulties enforcing their rights against a cemetery authority. The bill was triggered not only by the media reports but by the member for Kaurana writing to the Attorney-General, who eventually, as I understand it, requested that her Consumer and Business Services division investigate this very issue.

The bill clarifies that interment rights may be enforced against the relevant authority and creates various new offences. A relevant authority for an interment site must comply with their obligations, with a maximum penalty of \$10,000 for a natural person and \$20,000 for a body corporate. In addition, removing cremated remains from, or reinterment of cremated remains in, a cemetery or natural burial ground, or to cause, suffer or permit either act, carries a maximum penalty of \$10,000.

When I consider that these penalties are being put forward, and we are debating them today, I also think it would be important to have an education program for people who purchase former churches that may have had a cemetery attached, with the greatest intention of purchasing a brand-new property to convert, to live in or maybe to use as a commercial enterprise. The new owners, who will probably then subsequently become the relevant authority, need to make sure that they are aware of the commitment that they have, the commitment to this purchase of a burial ground and a cemetery. I raise with the minister here today, the Attorney-General, that discussions of the implementation and the assenting of this legislation must come with an education program and an understanding of those obligations on those new authorities.

The bill does introduce new offences for removing remains but does not introduce any offences for interfering with remains and, as such, once you remove the corpse or remains there are no other further offences or penalties. Labor will introduce separate legislation to deal with people who conceal a corpse to try to cover up a crime and will include further offences that impose penalties for dismembering or interfering with a corpse.

When I talk about death, and I think about burials or cremations, I consider that I had a unique upbringing because my father was an undertaker. We lived in a country town and the funeral parlour, as it was called, was attached to the house. In general, my father would bury or potentially cremate and participate in about 80 funerals a year, so I had a unique connection to death during my childhood. The one thing it taught me is that grief and loss are experienced very differently by every person. Depending on how death occurs—if it is sudden or expected—everyone's grief is different.

In particular, often when people have unresolved issues within a family and there is a death, it causes very deep distress, so I can only imagine the trauma for the people who experience this unexpected request to pay an additional amount for leases, an increased amount, or had no knowledge that an expiry of the lease was coming up. We cannot underestimate the impact that this has on people.

People deal with death in different ways. Some people have said to me when experiencing a sudden loss, 'I don't know if I'll ever get over this,' and others say, 'It's not about getting over, but you never forget.' For people who have been shocked by this request, together with the feeling that there is no remedy to support them and a lack of voice, it is incredibly important that we are debating this legislation today.

One of my jobs when I was growing up was to rewrite the records for Pfitzner Funerals, and they went back more than 75 years. Different family names would often come up. People were buried at small locations in the Mid North, such as Eudunda, Robertstown and Kapunda, and then sometimes very, very small places, which I suspect would probably come under this type of information because those churches are not active anymore.

At the time, they held vibrant populations with very vibrant church attendees, but as people changed and more people came to the city those churches were abandoned. When reading this bill, I reflected on the work that I did as a teenager recording and summarising when those deaths occurred and where people were buried.

It was a unique experience for me to be that close to death. I know why my father sought that career—because he wanted to help people. He wanted to be there to support them at a very, very difficult time. When death occurs decisions have to be made quickly. Sometimes people have had time to prepare. As we have seen advertised, people often pre-plan their funerals now, but that is not always the case.

I often see in the old cemeteries around the area that very young children lost their lives because of diseases that we no longer suffer from. You can see families who have lost multiple children at very young ages, and these families want to support those cemeteries because that is their connection.

When I was looking into this, some research described what a burial plot or a cremation plaque means. It is a valuable and emotional anchor point and a comfortable and soothing place for family and friends to return and reflect. I think it is important for us to consider what the Centennial Park website talks about, which is the importance of cemeteries because they are fundamental to us in terms of how we respect and how we remember.

Recently, we have had some discussions about our needs here and, of course, the reality is that we have an ageing population. Right now we have the need for about 14,000 burial sites a year, and that is expected to grow to about 36,000 burial sites by 2050. When interviewed, Robert Pitt, the CEO of the Adelaide Cemeteries Authority, talked about the need for a potential super cemetery in O'Halloran Hill equivalent to 11 Adelaide Ovals. He also talked about Smithfield Memorial Park, which has recently been expanded to 53 hectares.

One really interesting commentary I took from that was not only the growth of the need but also a changing movement, in that almost 80 per cent of South Australians refused to be buried and 20 per cent cremated, but that has now levelled out. Last year, seven out of 10 South Australians chose to be cremated. Of course, what this goes to is choice, and the choice for South Australians now is to be buried traditionally, to have a natural burial, to be embalmed, I imagine, and be in a mausoleum or, of course, to be cremated.

As we have an increasingly diverse community, we often see that different groups have different desires from a religious perspective or from a cultural perspective. In fact, in 2016, I was very honoured to attend the first dedicated Buddhist burial area in Enfield Memorial Park. I attended along with the Governor at the time, Hieu Van Le, this very important opening. The Adelaide Cemeteries Authority took the time to sit down with the Buddhist community, to talk to them about customs, experience and the traditions.

The Enfield Memorial Park Buddhist Garden has 115 burial sites and 200 sites for cremation. There is a Bodhi tree that was planted, which was very important to that tradition, and a Buddha statue 13 feet tall. Most importantly, a circular road was built which enabled the family to walk with their loved ones three times around the Buddhist statue in that circular roadway to respect what they do.

I had the opportunity at a similar time frame to be at Centennial Park Cemetery and have a time with the Hindu community, who had been having a series of consultations about how they would like to have their faith and their culture respected. They took a series of consultations and an understanding of how their community could be best supported. And of course we have had requests from the Italian community, reflected in both the Cheltenham Cemetery and Enfield, for a mausoleum, which was opened in September 2020 in Cheltenham with 96 companion areas and 16 singles.

The reason I talk about this and our diversity is that it is about choice and it is about respect and it is about honouring people who have gone before us and to acknowledge how important it is in going forward that we respect people. This is an incredibly important area of life: that we respect those who have gone before us.

We do know that, when places of worship are deconsecrated and decommissioned, we must show that human remains are shown the proper respect and care, and this bill goes to the heart of how we will do that, because now there will be penalties if that is not complied with. It is true that sometimes people make the decision to reuse burial sites. Culturally, for example, in Cheltenham Cemetery almost 40 per cent of burial sites are re-used. This is a choice, this is through transparency, and it is through providing certainty to families.

I would like to congratulate Chris Picton on his advocacy, an advocacy because this is such an important area for his constituents. Everyone knows, in elected office, you never know what someone might come and ask you to help with, what their area of need might be. To the member for Kurna, I think you have taken a dignified path to raise this with the Attorney-General and, after some time, it has been brought here to the house. I give my support for this bill but raise some concerns regarding education, and obviously some questions about how we best can support these non-traditional owners, which numbers are likely to grow in the future.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (12:34): I rise to say a few words on this important bill and to speak about a couple of cases in our local area. One that has been raised is about the church at Old Noarlunga, which was in the electorate of Mawson for a while but is now in the seat of Kurna. The Anglican church in Old Noarlunga, built in 1852, is somewhere I drive past quite often. I think it would have been an appealing place for people looking for a final resting spot: sat high on

a hill, overlooking the Onkaparinga Gorge and out towards Gulf St Vincent, named after the patron saint of grapegrowers—a very pleasant resting spot, I would have thought.

Driving past there in recent years, you can see that the church and the surrounding cemetery are not in as good a condition as they were back when it was a functioning church. I get it that in recent decades we have seen across most denominations a decline in the number of parishioners and churchgoers and that it has become harder and harder for those who are members of a church to be involved in working bees and weekly or monthly programs aimed at maintenance and keeping the gardens neat and tidy.

When someone picks their final resting spot, they do expect it to be forever and for someone not to be allowed to come in and buy up the cemetery and not honour agreements that were done by the deceased or their family members. I know a lot of people are very set on where they want their final resting place to be, and they predetermine it before they die—in many cases, they put it in their will as an instruction of where it is they want to be buried. You expect that to be forever or for at least the term of the lease you have on your particular plot.

I had an interesting experience just a few weeks ago. I drove around the corner from Seaview Road at West Beach into Stanhope Street. I was with a friend, the mother of a couple of really good mates of mine, Tim and Grant White, and I said to Patsy, 'This is my old house.' As I looked up, my house was not there anymore. The house I grew up in had gone and there was a for sale sign up for two blocks of land saying that they were going to subdivide it.

That hit me in an emotional sense—the place I lived from the age of 10 through until 20, where so many funny things happened, where so many life-changing things happened, and you can imagine that as a teenage boy there was a bit of action down there. Dad had a pool table and a big bar and he wanted all our mates to congregate at our place; if we were going to smoke cigarettes, we had to smoke his cigarettes so we were not getting any wacky tobacky. That is the sense you had of where you lived.

It was just 10 years of my life that were spent there, but they were very important 10 years. A lot of things got done in that 10 years and there were a lot of awesome memories. Then I thought about it, and I thought, 'Well, someone else is going to make their memories there in those two houses that will replace the one that we lived in in my teenage years.'

It is a bit different when you talk about real estate of the dead and the people who have picked their plot, picked where they want to spend their forever, and I think we need to protect those people because it is a lot different from a house or a subdivision. I support anything that will strengthen those ties and stop people coming in and changing what was the intent of a person or indeed the intent of the relatives and family of the person who has died.

We have an issue at the moment in McLaren Vale. The Uniting Church is selling a 2½ thousand square metre plot. There is an 1844 pioneer hall and graveyard on that site, right in the dead centre of McLaren Vale, and there are grave concerns about what is going to happen in the future with this cemetery.

Chris Cotton is from Harcourts Wine Coast Real Estate and is a good mate of mine, and I ran into him at the supermarket the other day. This issue exploded on Facebook when it came up; it is a real concern for people in the local area. He said that he might not be selling too many cemeteries into the future because he cannot get to a lot of other listings because his phone is running hot from people who have all sorts of questions about buying a cemetery. I think he said there are 40 or 48 plots still to be sold there, so it is actually a bit of a money-making concern for someone with the right sort of experience dealing in funerals.

I like the way that Chris has pointed out the issues quite publicly and openly in his advertising, and also in the editorial that *The Advertiser* ran a couple of weekends ago, where they have quoted Chris as saying that the property's new owner would also be required to adhere to government regulations regarding the care of cemeteries. Most important is that no-one can ever build on top of it or desecrate it in any way, and they have to keep it clean and tidy. Any future burials that have already been booked have to be honoured by whoever buys the property as well. He said that people with loved ones buried on the site would also be able to visit as they please.

I think he has done a very good job, but sometimes we do not know the intent of people who buy places like this who then try to do something that goes against the will of the people who are

buried there and goes against what the people in the town would like. Obviously, cemeteries play a vital role in local communities. Scattered throughout Willunga and Aldinga are churches—there are two in Aldinga on either side of the road and both have little graveyards—and there are a couple of cemeteries at least in McLaren Vale that have been associated with churches and they mean a lot to the local people.

We can go and look at the names on the gravestones and see how they correspond with road names around the place or suburb names. At the Aldinga church there are people called Maslin buried there and, obviously, Maslin Beach was named after them. There are names like Sellick and Caffrey that you come across, and many others, that talk to the pioneers of our local area.

When you look at the Uniting Church block and cemetery that is for sale by Chris Cotton of Harcourts Wine Coast in McLaren Vale, it dates back to 1844. My great-great-great-grandfather came out on *The Buffalo* in 1836 with the pioneers who set up the colony. He had a beautiful plot of land in Partridge Street at Glenelg, but he thought he knew better and he swapped that for a block at Prospect Hill. He was going to find his fortune in gold prospecting but, of course, he did not come up with any gold. He had 15 kids and they used to go to McLaren Flat and do a lot of grape picking and things like that.

Back in 1844, some of the people that my great-great-great-grandfather was knocking about with probably ended up in the cemetery that Chris Cotton has for sale, and of course there have been hundreds of people who have followed after them who have been buried there, and they would all expect the sort of protections that we are looking to give them with the changes to the rules to make sure that we can do the very best by them and the very best by those who are to join them in the future.

There is a beautiful little cemetery in between McLaren Vale and Willunga called the Strout Road Cemetery. This year, we had a massive battle that went over a year—one that the government did not help us out with at all—to stop PFAS being dumped in the McLaren Vale wine region. It would have been a complete disaster if it had been approved. We rallied the community. Thousands of people signed petitions and 348 people turned up to a public meeting at Tatachilla Lutheran College in October last year. We really had the community behind us on that battle. We asked the government to step in and direct the EPA not to even consider this when we have an \$850 million a year food, wine and tourism industry in the McLaren Vale region, one that employs thousands of people across hundreds and hundreds of small businesses.

We have a pretty strong feeling in our local area about protecting what we have. It is why we came up with the character preservation legislation that has locked in forever—unless the Liberal Party want to go in there with their developer mates and try to sneakily change things, because we know the Liberal Party were against this legislation when it went through. The Deputy Premier at the time said that this would bugger up everything.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Mawson, we are actually talking about cemeteries.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Yes, and I am going to get to the point.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You will get to it?

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Absolutely.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Thank you.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: It is a crescendo worth waiting for, Deputy Speaker. What I am about to say is a beautiful thing, a very emotional thing, and I just want to build the picture for everyone, those viewers at home watching the telecast of this wonderful session of the South Australian parliament House of Assembly proceedings in the green house on the World Wide Web.

We really care about our place, and one of the reasons why we are so strongly involved in fighting to protect what we have is someone who went before us, someone who was not only a leader in the wine industry but a leader in terms of protecting what it is that we have environmentally, whether that be stopping the subdivisions or whether it be protecting the groundwater from all sorts

of attacks. That man is Greg Trott. Greg was the founder and owner of Wirra Wirra wines in McLaren Vale and very much loved by everyone.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: Yes, well, he would be very ashamed of the Liberal Party these days, of how they want to trample all over McLaren Vale. I am sure that he allowed you to have the meetings there because he wanted to educate you about how important our local area is and he wanted to—

The Hon. V.A. Chapman: He was a great member.

The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL: He was a very nice fella. He wanted to wrap his arms around you. Anyway, when we got news that the PFAS proposal had been knocked on the head by the Environment Protection Authority—something that our whole community had aimed for—the first thing I did was send out a message to a fair few people saying, 'Let's get to the pub at 4 o'clock.' So we went to the McLaren Vale pub.

On the way, I went and picked up Joe Petrucci, a very good friend of mine and someone who is passionate about protecting McLaren Vale. Joe was a neighbour of Greg Trott and loved Greg because he was one of those people who welcomed the Petrucci family into the area of McLaren Vale, and, of course, the Petruccis are held in the highest esteem

On the way to the pub, I picked up Joe half an hour early and said, 'Let's go around to Trotty's grave and have a little drink.' He was the person above all people who was the caretaker of the area of McLaren Vale. He was someone who inspired me and so many of us to aspire to protect and really look after the region. Even in death, we can go to graveyards and have a drink with our mates or spend time with them or pay tribute to those people who have done wonderful things.

That little Strout Road Cemetery is a place where so many people aspire to be. I know another great friend of Trotty's, Philip White, had a close encounter with cancer three Christmases ago now. He has had a couple of bonus Christmases, as we say. I sat down with him one night and we had a couple of local reds. I said, 'Well, Whitey, you are going to have to plan now. Do you want a burial or do you want cremation?' We worked it through and he said, 'Ooh, I want to go into that Strout Road Cemetery. Imagine being under the ground in there with Trotty.'

We talked a little bit further about what he wanted on his tombstone and he said, 'I saw this one once, and this is what I want on my tombstone.' He said that he wanted 'What are you looking at?' He said, 'When people go through the graveyard, they'll be able to have a bit of a laugh.'

There are some very funny tombstones around the place. One of my favourites is the one that says, 'I told you I was sick,' and someone else put, 'I was hoping for a pyramid.' These are not all in the Strout Road Cemetery; these are ones I have collected over the years. Mel Blanc, the *Loony Tunes* guy, who we all know as the voice of a thousand characters, what do you reckon he has on his? 'That's all folks!' Anyone who watched the cartoons would remember that was the final line. This one here I really like:

Uncle Walter loved to spend
He had no money in the end
But with many a whisky and many a wife
He really did enjoy his life.

Someone said on theirs, 'Reincarnating. I'll be right back.' Then in brackets they said, 'So don't touch my stuff.' Someone else said on their tombstone, 'I will not be right back after this message,' and another fellow, who died at 78, said, 'I was supposed to live to 102 and be shot by a jealous husband,' so his aspirations were not met.

Getting back to the point of this bill and my support of it, we really do need to offer every possible protection we can, because people can come in and buy up these cemeteries and do bad things, do things that were not the intended purpose of that particular piece of land when people asked be buried there or when their family decided that was where they were to be buried.

I go back to Millicent for funerals, hopefully not too often. It is where a lot of my family are buried: my grandparents on my dad's side are buried there, and we were back there towards the end

of last year for the funeral of my godfather and uncle, Uncle Kevin. While you are there, you want to go around and have a look at where Nan and Pa Bignell and a few of those others are.

I had Dusty with me, and I told him to be careful, that he was not allowed to dig anywhere because, as much as we loved Nan and Pa Bignell, it has been 20 years for Pa and probably eight for Nan and we did not really want him digging them up. Dusty was good. He had a bit of a lick out of the fountains. He got a drink because there were some flowers and there was some water and he had a little drink out of that. It is a nice place to go and remember your loved ones, remember those people.

If people do not know, Dusty is my dog—Dusty the Kangaroo Island kelpie. He is on Facebook, he has his own beer called Dusty Draught and he is quite a character. He actually did a Facebook post from the cemetery saying, 'The old boy's told me I'm not allowed to dig anywhere here.'

We walked around and we saw lots of our relatives' gravestones. I had attended some of those funerals when I was six or seven, eight, nine or 10 years old. They really allow you to do that. I would hate for those people who have their loved ones in the Anglican church down at Old Noarlunga cemetery to go along there and find that something has happened to their loved ones or the gravestones of their loved ones. It is a very special connection.

You do hope that in death you will live on in people's memories but also that you will live on in a place where people can go. I think you would find that, in any town or suburb anywhere around South Australia, people do make pilgrimages to these places. People who are interested in the local history of a suburb or town or village can go and look at those who went before them, who played an important role in a community sense or in a leadership sense, or just in the sense that they were very much loved by their family. The kids, grandkids, great-grandkids and so on of those people can go back to those places and spend some quiet time giving thanks to their forebears, as well as others, whether they be related to them or not.

I really hope that as a parliament we can all come together on this and do the right thing by the dead, do the right thing by those of us who will be dead one day and by everyone who comes after us, that we give them the protection that in many cases the church cannot give them anymore because of the decrease in their congregations. It is really important, and I hope we can give those protections to people in the future.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee) (12:54): I also rise to speak on the Burial and Cremation (Interment Rights) Amendment Bill 2021 and I congratulate the government on bringing this issue to the parliament. As we have seen from a fairly well-publicised case of a cemetery not being protected and not being revered in an appropriate way in the outer southern suburbs, it is certainly my concern that this is something that will not be restricted to that one incident and that one location.

As you would be aware, as a member of parliament representing a regional constituency, Mr Deputy Speaker, there are many towns and communities across South Australia, both in metropolitan and in regional areas, where people have settled, particularly over the last 170 years or so. Over time, they have congregated together to establish a church in one of the various—predominantly, but not exclusively—Christian faiths in their area. They have erected a church and, of course, as members of the congregation have passed on, they have wanted to be buried in those locations.

You only have to look every so often at the stories that run in the local media, including in *The Advertiser*, about the current state of the real estate market, where there seems to be an increasing trend for people—particularly in regional South Australia, but not exclusively—rather than purchasing what we might regard as a more traditional home to instead purchase a church and presumably choose to renovate it and live in it. Of course, there are also others who choose to purchase these properties with more commercial intentions at heart.

While we have had this particularly well-publicised problem, this is something that is likely to continue. I would hazard a guess to say that perhaps most members, like me, were not aware of the current legal framework that applied to this particular problem and what the law allowed, what it precluded and what the penalties were for those activities that the law precluded. It is nice to get some additional stricture around this.

Of course, while many of us might think that most of those former church properties have either left the ownership of the church or that they have left the ownership of those organisations that had not just the responsibility but also the intention of maintaining these cemeteries, we should not rest assured that this will be the extent of this issue's frequency emerging in the community.

This is likely to happen more often. It is likely to impact more and more communities, particularly—and, as many including me would say, regrettably—as more and more people drift away from the church, even if they do identify as being religious or following a religion, let alone what was previously the dominant religion here in Australia and South Australia, that is, Christianity. That drift may continue to occur.

The capacity of churches to maintain the numerous assets they have will likely continue to diminish unless there is a sudden reversal of this trend. I do not think that many are expecting that to occur. With this problem well identified, now is of course the time for something to be done to better set some more contemporary community expectations around how this should be managed. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Sitting suspended from 13:00 to 14:00.

APPROPRIATION BILL 2021

Assent

Her Excellency the Administrator assented to the bill.

CRIMINAL LAW CONSOLIDATION (BUSHFIRES) AMENDMENT BILL

Assent

Her Excellency the Administrator assented to the bill.

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE (EXPIRY) (NO 3) AMENDMENT BILL

Assent

Her Excellency the Administrator assented to the bill.

Parliamentary Procedure

ANSWERS TABLED

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

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Speaker—

Parliament of South Australia—Minutes of the Joint Sitting of the two houses for the choosing of a Senator to hold the place rendered vacant by the death of Senator Alex Gallacher

By the Premier (Hon. S.S. Marshall)—

Government Boards and Committees Information, South Australian—Annual Report 2020-21

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

Regulations made under the following Acts—
Controlled Substances—Controlled Drugs, Precursors and Plants—Miscellaneous
Rules made under the following Acts—
Magistrates Court—Criminal—Amendment No. 91

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

Regulations made under the following Acts—

City of Adelaide—

Elections and Polls—Local Government Review

Members Allowances and Benefits—Local Government Review

Local Government—

Fees Notice—Application for Review Fee

General—Review

Members Allowances and Benefits—Review

Procedures at Meetings—Review

Transitional Provisions

Local Government (Elections)—Elections—Review

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

Child Development Council—Annual Report 2020-21

Parliamentary Committees

ENVIRONMENT, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (14:05): I bring up the fifth report of the committee, entitled, 'Commissioner for Kangaroo Island Act 2014: report under section 20.'

Report received and ordered to be published.

Question Time

MEMBERS, ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCES

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:05): My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier stand by his public statements regarding claims for the country members' allowance by the Hon. Terry Stephens MLC? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: On 21 July 2020, regarding the conduct of his MPs the Premier publicly stated, and I quote, in relation to the country members' allowance, 'I am not of the opinion there has been any deliberate dishonesty.'

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:06): Yes, sir, I stand by all my public comments.

MEMBERS, ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCES

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:06): My question is to the Premier. Did the Hon. Terry Stephens MLC claim from the country members' accommodation allowance using a different address from the one he declared to the South Australian Electoral Commission as his principal place of residence on his nomination for election to the Legislative Council in 2018? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Mr Stephens told parliament he had been living in Victor Harbor since 2011. From May 2017, Mr Stephens had declared to the parliament that his address that entitled him to claim from the country members' allowance was unit 10, 2-5 Flinders Parade, Victor Harbor. However, on his nomination form to the Electoral Commission of South Australia for the 2018 state election the Hon. Terry Stephens MLC declared a different address.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:07): Sir, as you would be more than aware, I don't have any details regarding that. That is the country members' allowance, which goes to the parliament not to the Premier.

MEMBERS, ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCES

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:07): My question is to the Premier. Has the Premier spoken to his party room colleague the Hon. Terry Stephens MLC about why he is trying to keep the address he nominated for the 2018 state election secret?

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

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Yes, sir. That question contained argument—supposing what Terry Stephens may or may not be wanting to do.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Lee! The question certainly asserted argument, and the member for West Torrens might seek leave or otherwise rephrase the question. I will give him the opportunity to do that.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Thank you, sir. My question is to the Premier. Will the Premier speak to his party room colleague the Hon. Terry Stephens MLC regarding the country members' allowance? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Public statements today by the ABC show that the former President of the Legislative Council, the Hon. Terry Stephens MLC, is considering legal action to overturn a decision of the South Australian SACAT to release details of his address, which he nominated for the 2018 state election.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:09): As I answered in a previous answer, this is not something that is my responsibility. The country members' allowance is something that is presided over by the parliament and I have nothing further to add.

DEFENCE NAVAL SHIPBUILDING

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:09): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier please update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is creating more jobs for South Australians, particularly in defence, and is the Premier aware of any alternative plan?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:09): I thank the member for Colton for his excellent question. Unlike those opposite who want to get into the gutter at every single opportunity, we have questions here, from the member for Colton, which are focused on the future of South Australia and he asks very important questions about employment in South Australia.

He is a father of two wonderful children and he wants jobs for them into the future, and that is exactly and precisely what we are delivering here in South Australia. I was very delighted when I heard the ABS statistics—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Playford!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —only a few days ago that the unemployment rate in South Australia is 5 per cent.

Mr Szakacs interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Cheltenham!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: That is 1½ per cent lower than what we inherited when those left opposite, when they left the treasury bench, and we now have more full-time employees in South Australia than ever before in the history of South Australia. I also was delighted to see that the youth unemployment rate was lower than it has been for 12 years in South Australia, and it doesn't happen by accident. It certainly doesn't happen by accident when you are going through a global pandemic. It means that you are putting policies in place that provide opportunities for South Australia.

One of those areas is of course the area of defence. Wasn't it a great morning last week when we woke up to that joint press conference between President Joe Biden, our Prime Minister Scott Morrison and Prime Minister Boris Johnson when they made that announcement—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —the AUKUS announcement that really will secure jobs here in South Australia for decades to come, for decades and decades to come? I can't believe those over there are doing anything other than cheering—

Ms Cook interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Hurtle Vale!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —the outcome for future generations in South Australia.

Members interjecting:

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

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: They have been talking about it for a long period of time, but we secured the full cycle docking to remain in South Australia. We were able to secure the life-of-type extension for the Collins class for decades to come. This is a project that will run from 2026 right through to 2038, creating hundreds and hundreds of additional jobs. Of course, the other fantastic news is that the life-of-type extension for the Hobart class will be done right here in South Australia beginning in 2024.

On top of that, of course, is the new AUKUS arrangement, where we will be producing a nuclear-powered submarine fleet here in South Australia, so young people who are doing their year 12 at the moment and thinking about their subjects at university will be able to think to themselves that there are now decades and decades of work in the defence sector, so why not look at this important sector. It's not just for the people currently at school; it's also for people that had to leave South Australia under the previous Labor government because they had no plan for jobs here in South Australia. They will be able to come back to South Australia. We will be able to provide—

Mr Szakacs interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Cheltenham!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —challenging, rewarding, sustainable, long-term jobs in South Australia for decades to come because of the great outcomes from this fantastic relationship that we have—

Mr Szakacs interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Cheltenham is warned.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —developed with the federal government. The question said am I aware of any other alternative plans. Well, the answer to that is no, because Labor still, with less than six months until the election, have absolutely nothing. In fact, the Labor Party policy—actually, I will tell you: the Labor Party policy was to transfer the full cycle docking and the life-of-type extension to Western Australia. That was the Labor Party policy. The federal Labor Party said, 'Let's ship them all to Western Australia.' The Leader of the Opposition was so weak, he couldn't even convince his own colleagues to back our South Australia.

Members interjecting:

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

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 98, sir.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, Leader of the Opposition, the Premier!

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Minister for Innovation and Skills!

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for West Torrens has the call. He is entitled to be heard in silence.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 98: the Premier is debating the answer.

The SPEAKER: I listened carefully to the Premier, particularly over the course of the last 25 seconds or so, having listened carefully also to the question asked by the member for Colton. The question was primarily concerned with matters the subject of recent announcements in relation to defence; it also addressed the question of context and, in particular, other plans. The question was otherwise in order, the Premier was answering the question and I invite the Premier to conclude his answer if he hasn't already done so.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: As I was saying, the Rudd-Gillard-Rudd governments of six years delivered not a single new vessel for Australia, not even a commitment. What we have done is push ahead. Only a Liberal government can actually secure defence jobs in this state for decades to come.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The time for answering the question has expired. Before I call the leader, I call to order the Minister for Trade and Investment, I call to order and warn the Minister for Innovation and Skills, I warn the member for Playford and I call to order the member for Ramsay, the member for Lee and the leader.

AUKUS

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:15): A supplementary question to the Premier: given the Premier's earlier remarks regarding the single biggest defence procurement contract in the history of the Commonwealth of Australia, and celebrating that announcement, could the Premier please outline what boat is being built, when it's being built, who is building it, how many jobs will be associated with it and a ballpark estimated cost?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:15): It's an absolute delight—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Lee is warned.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —to be able to answer a question. I think this is possibly the first question on defence that's been asked by the shadow defence minister in the last 3½ years. I thank him for that, and I note that he will be getting a briefing from Defence SA fairly soon. They have been very busy in recent times working on a range of projects that will bring thousands and thousands of jobs to South Australia. I don't know what he gets by way of briefings from his own team within the dream factory up on the second floor here, but there was a lot of information that was provided by our Prime Minister, the Hon. Scott Morrison, who is actually overseas at the moment talking through the details.

As the Leader of the Opposition will be more than aware, our historic trusted partners in so many areas have been the United States and the United Kingdom, and this new partnership—this new alliance which has been formed, the AUKUS alliance between Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States—will be working on a fleet of new nuclear-powered submarines for our country. The full details of that, the Prime Minister has already announced, will be worked out over the next 12 to 18 months, and I think this—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Here we go, sir, talking down probably the biggest contract in the history of South Australia. That's why they can never, ever be trusted—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —with the defence portfolio into the future. As we know, the US has a great fleet of nuclear-powered submarines—the Virginia class—and we have the UK with the Astute class. We will be drawing on the expertise which exists within those two great fleets and producing a fleet of nuclear-powered submarines for Australia. It's not going to happen overnight, and that's why we were so grateful that the Hobart class upgrade, which is a \$3 billion-plus program, will be started in South Australia in 2024. So not long to wait for that great opportunity: get that Hobart class back out in the water, put the new systems onto those vessels. It is a great opportunity for people in South Australia.

We also know at the moment that the Hunter class is underway at the moment down at Osborne—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: We hear these little quips from the Leader of the Opposition—

The SPEAKER: The Premier will not respond to interjection.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: It would mean more if, when his party was in power—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: Yes, AWDs—

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —in government—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: —Future Submarines.

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

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —they might have actually delivered something. They didn't commission a single vessel.

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader!

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: AWDs or the Future Submarines—

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: And the member for Lee talks about—

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan: —or building Techport?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —air warfare destroyers.

The Hon. S.C. Mullighan interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Lee will cease interjecting.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: He might like to check the record books as to when they were commissioned because we know that they were commissioned by a coalition government. Yes, he remembers banging a bottle of champagne on the side of the vessel—in fact, I think that occurred under a coalition government as well, by the way.

The reality is that the Coalition has done two very important things which every Australian should know. One is that they have increased defence spending back to more than 2 per cent of GDP. Under the hopeless years of Labor, defence spending had gone to a level we hadn't seen since before World War II. The second is that the Coalition have been able to identify the defence industry as a strategic defence capability for our nation.

They have invested in sovereign capability for Australia, and that's been great. South Australia has been the very happy beneficiary of those two important decisions.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Before I call the member for West Torrens, I call to order the member for Chaffey, I call to order the Deputy Premier and I call to order the deputy leader. The member for Lee will leave for 10 minutes in accordance with standing order 137A.

The honourable member for Lee having withdrawn from the chamber:

MEMBERS, ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCES

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:20): My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier stand by his statement to the house on 30 June 2020 regarding the residency of the Hon. Terry Stephens MLC while claiming the country members' allowance? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: On 30 June 2020, the Premier was asked in this house, and I quote:

Given all the media attention about where Terry Stephens lives, why didn't the Premier ask him where he lives?

The Premier then responded:

It is quite clear that the Hon. Terry Stephens resides in Victor Harbor. He also, like many members have, has accommodation here in metropolitan Adelaide.

Do you stand by it?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:21): I refer the member to my previous answer.

MEMBERS, ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCES

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:21): My question is to the Premier. Has the Premier discussed with his party room colleague the Hon. Terry Stephens MLC the recent findings by the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Public reports today show that the South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (SACAT) accepted a media outlet's argument that the Hon. Terry Stephens MLC did not live at the address he nominated for the 2018 state election and that he was using a different address to claim tens of thousands of dollars in the country members' accommodation allowance.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:22): I just have no knowledge of the matter that the member raises.

MEMBERS, ACCOMMODATION ALLOWANCES

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens) (14:22): My question is to the Premier. What steps has the Premier taken to satisfy himself that the Hon. Terry Stephens MLC has not breached the Electoral Act?

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

MEMBER FOR MACKILLOP

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:22): My question is to the Premier. Why did the member for MacKillop have to threaten to quit the Liberal Party before the Premier agreed to improve the flow of communications between the parliamentary party and regional members?

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN: Point of order, sir: argument in that question. It is against standing order 97.

The SPEAKER: I uphold the point of order. I might add that it's also squarely out of order pursuant to standing order 96. I disallow the question. I will move along.

DEFENCE INDUSTRIES

Dr HARVEY (Newland) (14:23): 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 defence industries?

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON (Morphett—Minister for Trade and Investment) (14:23): I thank the member for Newland for his question. Of course, he is very interested in jobs for people not only in his electorate but also for people in South Australia. There is no doubt that there are jobs in the defence and space industries being created here—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

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

The Hon. S.J.R. PATTERSON: —in South Australia. The recent announcement last week of nuclear-powered submarines being powered here in South Australia is fantastic news. It is going to be fantastic. However, I think that, as the Premier alluded to, there was more to that announcement than just those submarines. The full cycle docking is retained here in South Australia.

It is fantastic news, and I commend the Premier for his hard work in making sure that those South Australian jobs are retained here. It's good for the nation. It helps retain our national sovereign defence capability here, and it's good for South Australian jobs as well.

Of course, in addition to that there is the life-of-type extension of these Collins class submarines, starting in 2026 going through to 2038. That's going to be fantastic, to build out the ability of that platform and make sure it is futureproofed as well. That's further futureproofed jobs here in South Australia.

Added to that are the lifetime extension works on the Hobart class air warfare destroyer as well—again, significant jobs in the naval shipbuilding industry. I think what's also really important is when we saw the trilateral agreement for AUKUS and we saw Prime Minister Morrison, Prime Minister Johnson and President Biden speak. What was really telling was how President Biden emphasised that the collaboration between these three countries is really important in areas such as cyber, AI and also in quantum. These are really future-focused technologies, high-tech technologies, where there is nation-leading capability here in South Australia.

We've got the Australian Institute for Machine Learning based right in Lot Fourteen, one of the top three institutes in the world for artificial intelligence. Added to that, we've got the Australian Cyber Collaboration Centre—again based in Lot Fourteen here. Just think of what those opposite wanted to do in Lot Fourteen: they just wanted to sell it off for housing. Now it is going to be the engine room of these future technologies, as pointed out by President Biden.

On quantum as well, we've got the Institute for Photonics and Advanced Sensing based out of Adelaide University—again, important work being done right here in South Australia on quantum. These are technologies that are going to propel the South Australian economy forward. They are going to be great for jobs not only now but into the future as well. It's a fantastic announcement for this state.

If I could talk also about last week and my Department for Trade and Investment, we held the first defence export and networking event in Adelaide. This brought together all the companies in the defence community, and it was fantastic. They got to hear from the Premier how the government is supporting the defence industry here. But, importantly, it was a great opportunity for us to hear the positive mood that companies have going forward, primes such as BAE, and we also met with SAAB, and, importantly, South Australian companies—Nova Systems, Sage, REDARC.

Interestingly enough, we also got the chance to speak to other companies that people might not naturally think of as part of the defence industry, such as A. Noble & Sons, which is a crane and lifting company. I talked to Andrew Pascoe, and he spoke about the opportunities defence brings for their crane company, bringing them into the supply chain. NDE Solutions is another one. They do testing and inspection work, which really can help them get involved from a defence perspective to help our South Australian companies produce world-class platforms but also for them to get involved in the supply chain.

There are fantastic opportunities for South Australian companies. There are going to be jobs for the future in defence based right here in South Australia. I commend the Premier for his work in securing these jobs and also for bringing the jobs to South Australia. It was a good day for South Australia.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Before I call the leader—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The minister will not respond to interjection. Before I call the leader, I call to order and warn the member for Mawson and I warn the Minister for Trade and Investment. The member on their feet, who has the call, is entitled to be heard in silence. As I have said, on now a number of occasions, the minister in answering the question is entitled to be heard in silence. The leader is seeking the call.

MEMBER FOR MACKILLOP

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:28): My question is to the Premier. Did the member for MacKillop have to threaten to quit the Liberal Party under the Premier's leadership before the Premier finally agreed to regular monthly regional member forums?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:28): I am happy to answer this question because I love talking about the regions. We love the regions here in South Australia. Admittedly, I haven't been to 'Cockburn' or the 'Marree' river, like the Leader of the Opposition, who was one day I think fantasising about his party's interest in the regions. On this side, it is absolutely heartfelt and it is in our DNA. It's not just a matter of sticking on a pair of chinos and a pair of RM Williams boots and masquerading as somebody who knows where the regions actually are. We love the regions in South Australia. They were neglected under 16 years of hopeless Labor government and they have been a major priority for us, as we prioritise the future of this state overall. I've got to say—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —we have some fantastic regions represented on this side of the house but, similarly, there are some fantastic regions represented on that side of the house. Only yesterday, I had the opportunity to meet with the mayor and the chief executive of the City of Whyalla, a very important part of our state. We are very pleased—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —to make sure that all regions have the ear of the government.

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

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 98, sir: the Premier is not answering the substance of the question; he is debating it now. He is not answering about the member for MacKillop and his involvement in these regular monthly meetings and why they were instigated.

The SPEAKER: I rule on the point of order: the scenario posited by the leader in the question raised the question of threshold in relation to attention. The Premier, in answering the question, is directing his answer, as I perceive it, to the substance of the question, being the interests of the regions. In doing so, he may address the specific threshold that is identified in the leader's question. The Premier has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: Thank you very much, sir. They hate hearing about the regions over there; we are talking with great pride about the regions in South Australia and they are raising bogus points of order.

But we will not be silenced. We love the regions in South Australia and, as I was saying, we have excellent, excellent regions right across our state; in fact, I think they are second to none. Of

course, they are going through a bit of a mini boom at the moment in terms of tourism. Winter tourism here in South Australia is at record levels in this state, as people previously travelling interstate or overseas maybe at this time of year are spending money in their own backyard. I think we have had seven record—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —months in a row. Who would have thought that? Only in South Australia have we had such an incredible boom, and we are very, very proud of that.

The member for MacKillop is a passionate member, and he has an excellent electorate. It is a very attractive part of our state and a very productive part of our state, and we are happy to back it at every single opportunity.

On this side of the house, we do have a regional affairs committee that has been in place for a long period of time, and many members on this side of the house have been chair of that regional affairs committee. My friend the member for Hammond has been an excellent chair of the RAC in the past, and I think the current chair is Dr Nicola Centofanti in another place. We love hearing matters raised by regional members. One of the things we are going to do going forward—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —is to have a more direct dialogue with me—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Kurna!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —and the cabinet for people who care about the regions. This is something I feel very, very positive about.

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Leader!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: We have a specific ministry that looks at primary industries but also at regional development, a very important opportunity. Of course, we put a very significant fund in place to guarantee some funding on an ongoing basis for regional development in South Australia. That was put in place by the previous minister in charge of that important portfolio in our government, the member for Chaffey.

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The regions were neglected for 16 years. They have become a major priority for our government in our first 3½ years and a major priority—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —for our government continuing into the future, whether that be roads, whether it be other important infrastructure, whether it be port infrastructure in South Australia—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —whether it be the health system, and I know there is some very important expenditure going into—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —regional hospitals and the development of more country local health networks. We have moved away from the centralised model put—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Chaffey is warned.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —in place by the former Labor government in South Australia, which wanted to centralise power into a centralised government. We have devolved that decision-making down as close to the action as possible within those regions. They are very important to us, past, present and future.

The SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Frome, I warn the member for Mawson for a second time and the member for Cheltenham for a second time. I warn the leader.

MEMBER FOR MACKILLOP

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (14:33): Supplementary question to the Premier: it was great news about having the forum with the regions. Does that extend to all regional members of parliament?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:33): As I was saying before I was cut off by the member for West Torrens, when I was talking more broadly about the regions, every single region in South Australia is important to our government. Every single person in this state is important. No longer are people being neglected. I love visiting Frome, I love visiting the entire state, and my door is always open to every single person who has important projects. I was only in the member for Frome's electorate—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: —recently, where we had an excellent meeting with significant people within that electorate, including the Mayor of Port Pirie. There are some very significant issues, challenges and opportunities right throughout regional South Australia. I must say that I was very pleased to receive a briefing from the Mayor of Port Pirie about some of the exciting opportunities, but also some of the challenges that exist in regional South Australia. These are the things that we as a government are trying to address, whether these be education related, health related, infrastructure related, services related. The people in regional South Australia deserve a government which is tuned in to their needs.

Of course, we can't solve every issue overnight, but what we want to do is make sure that the whole state receives support from this government. I will give you a classic example: the Whyalla school. This was a school which I must say was, for a long period of time, promised by the former Labor government, but was it ever delivered? They really missed out, and the reason why they missed out was that it was a safe Labor seat, so they got nothing—they absolutely got nothing. When we came to government, there was a plan to upgrade that school. It needed an upgrade.

Members interjecting:

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

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my right! The leader rises on a point of order.

Mr MALINAUSKAS: Point of order: standing order number 98. The member for Frome simply was asking whether or not the regular monthly meetings that the Premier has now instituted will be extended to other regional members. He wasn't asking about Whyalla High School.

The SPEAKER: The member for Frome's question—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Chaffey is warned for a second time. I am in the—

The Hon. A. Piccolo interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Light is called to order. I will rule on the point of order. The member for Frome's question asked the Premier in relation to the extent of the scope of regional engagement and with respect to every member, I presume including himself, but not limited to himself. I listened carefully to the question. The Premier, in the course of his answer, is addressing, including by way of example, areas of interest in regional South Australia. I am listening carefully to the Premier's answer. The Premier is in order and he has the call.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: The simple fact of the matter is that the new committee that we are putting up is a subcommittee of our joint party room. It probably would be extended to some of our candidates in regional South Australia as well. But this doesn't mean that if people aren't attending they don't have the ear of government. I have just been providing advice to the house, which most people were listening to.

Those people over the other side want to frustrate, but the reality is that I think most people are genuinely interested in the regions in South Australia. We have a decent question from the member for Frome and I was providing advice to him about my recent visit to his excellent electorate and my meeting with the local government there. I was providing information with regard to a recent visit to Giles, where I attended the USG conference, which was being held, which is held on a very regular basis.

I know, and most people in here would appreciate, that we have a very regular dialogue between key members of the cabinet and the councils of Port Pirie, Port Augusta and Whyalla, because the Upper Spencer Gulf, like many other parts of our state, were completely and utterly neglected by those opposite when they were in government. They have a long list of things that need to be addressed and so we work with those areas because we want to see every single person in South Australia and every single region in South Australia achieve their full potential. That's what we have been doing since we have come to government.

I was giving the example of the Whyalla school. It was very easy for us to basically do an extension to one of those schools, but the Minister for Education came into the cabinet and said that the people of Whyalla deserve the very best school in South Australia, and that is what is being built at the moment. It is a fantastic new school, which will be an inspiration to the students in Whyalla. I know they are extraordinarily excited about the opportunities that will be available to them very soon—in fact, in term 1 next year.

DEFENCE INDUSTRIES

Ms LUETHEN (King) (14:39): My question is to the Minister for Education. Can the minister please update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is creating a skilled workforce to meet unprecedented demand for jobs in defence, space and cyber?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (14:39): It is a great pleasure for me to get this question from the member for King, who, like all members on this side of the house, is acutely aware of the really important need for our students to have the opportunity to take advantage of some of these extraordinary defence contracts and the fact that we have the Australian Space Agency, significant growth in our space industry and the Australian Cyber Collaboration Centre here in Adelaide, with significant growth there.

Indeed, last week we had the space, cyber and defence expo for school students at Lot Fourteen. More than 500 students from 33 schools across South Australia came to Lot Fourteen to participate in that expo and to learn about exciting careers in defence, space and cyber. It was a brilliant time, an extraordinary week, to be able to showcase careers in these areas. The announcement of the AUKUS alliance was an extraordinary time to have people focus on the opportunities for South Australia, absolutely locked in now as the defence state in Australia for decades to come and with thousands of jobs secured for today, tomorrow and the years ahead.

The expo was an amazing opportunity for students to be inspired by, to meet with, to hear from and to learn from some of the state's leading innovators. We know that Lot Fourteen is attracting some of the world's leading innovators and companies in high-growth sectors across defence, space and cyber. There are more South Australians now employed than at any other time in our history,

and last week's event showed the next generation that those jobs of the future in very exciting industries are right here in South Australia.

Students and teachers explored the exciting developments at the vibrant innovation hub that is Lot Fourteen. They enjoyed tours of the Cyber Collaboration Centre and indeed the Space Discovery Centre. They had interactive sessions with employers and industry representatives about pathways to future careers. They also engaged directly with defence, space and cyber industry experts to learn about the skills and the knowledge they require for the jobs of the future.

At the moment, this government is enhancing careers education by bringing industry and schools closer together to improve outcomes. By engaging with schools, industry—and I thank them—plays a key role in helping us build a pipeline of skilled workers to meet that unprecedented demand. For students, the opportunity to explore the world of work by connecting with industry and employers supports them to develop in-demand skills, make informed decisions about their future and transition successfully to full-time employment or study when they leave school.

Another way we are supporting students to think about their career sooner is through the new Student Pathways website. I encourage all members, families and students to check it out at studentpathways.sa.edu.au. The message for young South Australians is that it is your career, your pathway, your choice. This website is the first student-focused pathways website of its kind for school students from any sector here in South Australia. It offers a unique opportunity for students and parents to think about possible careers, and it empowers young people to take the lead in their own career journey.

It supports students to discover pathways for study into jobs and careers in high-growth industries—potentially careers those students may not have heard about or thought of before—based on their skills, aptitude and disposition, helping them to find a pathway to a career that will give them great joy in the years ahead. It will also help them to start building a portfolio of their achievements through the new World of Work Challenge. The website is available to school students from all sectors, so I encourage all students to start thinking about this.

I was also pleased to speak to more than 500 Aboriginal students, leaders, scientists and thought leaders at the STEM Aboriginal student conference on Friday last week. Those students are also keenly engaged and interested in this exciting future, where space, cyber and defence industries will have a significant demand for workforce. Our school systems, particularly in public education, under the Marshall Liberal government are getting ready for that and giving those students the opportunities for pathways to success.

MEMBER FOR MACKILLOP

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (14:43): My question is to the Premier. Why is the member for MacKillop so publicly canvassing the prospect of quitting the Liberal Party under your leadership?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (14:43): I think there has been some media attention on this issue. I think that there is a great level of frustration from many members and, in fact, many South Australians with regard to the exemptions process for people coming into South Australia, and I think this is very natural. I think that there are many very difficult stories for people who are stranded interstate at the moment.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: As I was saying, there have been about 11,000 applications now for people to come back into South Australia. Some of the stories that we are hearing are very compelling. But, at the same time, we have been, if you like, given that requirement to balance the need for people to come back in with the need to keep South Australia safe, and that's not an easy decision to take, I will be honest with you.

We have to make sure that we do everything we can to protect South Australians, to keep our state safe and our economy strong. I was saying in a previous answer that we have more people in full-time employment now than any time before in the history of the state. Whilst this is causing a lot of people hardship, these are the sacrifices that South Australians have collectively made that have made sure that we have kept the Delta variant at bay for such a long period of time.

Of course, we are very strongly advocating for people to get vaccinated here in South Australia. It's not mandatory, and I make that point very strongly. We have seen some incredible scenes around the country with regard to calls for different areas of employment to be made mandatory. We haven't done any sort of call to make any areas mandatory over and above what the national cabinet has decided.

But what I would say is that we are strongly advising people to get vaccinated. We in South Australia are going to stick with this plan, this national plan, to make sure that we can get to this 80 per cent double vaccinated, 16 and over, and do that before Christmas, when we can end state lockdowns and we can end statewide lockouts. That's the situation that is causing the problem in South Australia at the moment.

We have been forced because of the Delta variant, because of the transmission rate of the Delta variant, to make some pretty tough decisions with regard to whole-of-state lockouts. Despite there being very compelling stories and much hardship being endured by people, the alternative—allowing the Delta variant to come into South Australia—means that the whole state would be suffering.

We recently had—and you would be well aware of this, sir—a devastating seven-day lockdown in South Australia. Some businesses are still feeling the effects of that seven-day lockdown in South Australia, so we want to avoid that at all costs. We look across the border at the moment into New South Wales, into Victoria and into the ACT. They have been in lockdown for weeks and weeks, and it looks like they will continue to be in a form of lockdown right through to when they can get that vaccination rate, that double vaccination rate, up to the 80 per cent.

I completely appreciate the frustration that South Australia is feeling. I completely appreciate the frustration that members of parliament are feeling because they are on the frontline responding to some of these requests, but what I can assure all members of parliament of and all South Australians about is that we are doing everything we can to keep South Australia safe. We will process those exemptions. We will do it as expeditiously as possible, but also having one eye very, very firmly focused on keeping the Delta variant out of our state.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AND ECONOMIC SECURITY STRATEGY

Mrs POWER (Elder) (14:48): My question is to the Deputy Premier. Can the Deputy Premier update the house on how the Marshall Liberal government is empowering and promoting women in South Australia, and is the Deputy Premier aware of any areas of concern?

Members interjecting:

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (14:48): I thank the member for Elder for her question and I—

The SPEAKER: Order! The Deputy Premier will resume her seat for a moment. The conclusion of the question is not a general invitation to members on my left or on my right to commence interjection. The Deputy Premier has the call. The Deputy Premier has an opportunity to answer the question. I am listening carefully.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Further, I thank the member for Elder, who I know today has been working with stakeholders in relation to women's personal security in the future, and this is a very important aspect of the role she has in providing advice to the Premier.

But the issue in relation to financial security of women and the opportunity for them to have that in leadership and in a direct economic way has been the basis upon which we have, last month, launched the new Women's Leadership and Economic Security Strategy. It is a four-year project. It is one that we are immensely proud of and I thank the Premier and, indeed, Minister Lensink of another place for her role in ensuring that we actually tackle this very important area.

The three key components of this are employment and entrepreneurship—financial independence and security is critical—leadership and recognition, and financial wellbeing. We have tackled this hard topic as part of a strategy in relation to the development of women's opportunity in our state because when cyber and other areas come to the fore for employment and business opportunities for women, they are a match made in heaven unquestionably.

Leading South Australian women have praised this highly respected and important project. Fiona Dorman, Isobel Marshall and Karen Briggs have come out and complimented the significance of what we are doing here. The Premier has revitalised the Premier's Council for Women so that we can make sure that we do develop the now near record of women employed in South Australia.

But it hasn't always been followed by some others. We already know publicly there have been statements exposed of the pay gap in the Leader of the Opposition's office himself—women are paid 35 per cent less in his office, so we know that problem. Let me explain an area which I think is very important: often it's discussed about women's representation here in the parliament, and part of the important process, one of the most key things—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —that is being asked—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my left!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —and what we do here in the parliament is question time, and what do we find? Of the seven women here—

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The leader!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —in the Labor Party and an Independent, who is apparently courting the idea of going back in the team but, in any event, whatever we do—

Ms Bedford: I beg your—point of order, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The Deputy Premier will resume her seat.

The Hon. V.A. Chapman interjecting:

Ms BEDFORD: Point of order, Mr Speaker.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for West Torrens is not seeking the call. The member for Florey on a point of order.

Ms BEDFORD: I think the Attorney-General is being unnecessarily—what is the word I am searching for? There is absolutely no truth to that—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Ms BEDFORD: —and for you to be saying that is disingenuous at best. The only thing I did say is that I was threatening to rejoin the Labor Party to get some things done for my constituents.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! I don't detect a point of order.

Ms BEDFORD: She misrepresented me, sir.

The SPEAKER: Is the member for Florey seeking—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my right! The Minister for Education is called to order. Is the member for Florey indicating that she has been misrepresented and seeking the call to make a personal explanation, or is there a standing order in relation to a personal reflection that the member for Florey is drawing attention to?

Ms BEDFORD: I think the personal reflection is that I flip-flop as much as other people do in this house, sir.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 127—

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens on the point of order?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Yes, sir. Standing order 127:

A Member may not

1. digress from the subject matter of any question...
2. or impute improper motives to any other Member,
3. or make [any] personal reflections on any other Member.

That is exactly what the Attorney-General has been doing on members on this side of the house.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for West Torrens has identified what might be a relevant standing order. It is a matter for the member for Florey as to whether or not the member for Florey wishes to press a point of order under that standing order and, if so, to identify the—

Ms BEDFORD: I don't wish to waste another minute of the house's time.

The SPEAKER: There is no point of order. The Deputy Premier has the call.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: The concern is that 79.2 per cent of the questions asked here in the parliament by the opposition are by men and, of course, we know which ones are always doing the dominating.

The SPEAKER: The Deputy Premier will resume her seat. The member for West Torrens.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The Attorney-General has—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! There will be silence. The member for West Torrens has the call and is entitled to be heard in silence.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 98: the Attorney-General has no responsibility to the house whatsoever for the opposition's questions or question time. She is reflecting on it, sir, and she cannot. She is debating the answer.

The SPEAKER: I will rule on the point of order insofar as it relates to standing order 98. I don't uphold that point of order. The Deputy Premier is addressing the question by reference to examples, and a range of them. I draw the Deputy Premier's attention to the question. The Deputy Premier has the call.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: So the area of concern, of course, is that in relation to an important parliamentary responsibility, which is question time and the accountability of government and everything else, is to find a situation—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —where 1,422 questions have been asked by the blokes and only 678 have been asked by all the women here—

Ms Cook interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, member for Hurtle Vale!

Ms Cook interjecting:

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

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —only that number, and that inconsistency just is very concerning.

The SPEAKER: The Deputy Premier will resume her seat. The member for Hurtle Vale is warned. The member for Lee rises on a point of order.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Standing order 98: this is nothing other than debate. This has absolutely nothing to do with the question that was asked by the member for Elder. The Deputy Premier attempts to draw a very long and irrelevant bow.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, members on my right!

Mr Szakacs interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Cheltenham will leave for 10 minutes in accordance with standing order 137A.

The honourable member for Cheltenham having withdrawn from the chamber:

The SPEAKER: In response to the member for West Torrens' point of order raised a moment ago pursuant to standing order 98, I did not uphold the point of order insofar as it related to debate. The Deputy Premier was addressing the question by reference to a number of examples. The point of order subsequently raised by the member for Lee addresses the same subject matter. I am listening carefully to the Deputy Premier's answer. The Deputy Premier will address the substance of the question. The Deputy Premier has the call.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: As members of parliament, we all have a responsibility to demonstrate the significance of ensuring that women and girls also have an opportunity in leadership. That is a critical part of our strategy—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Member for Lee!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —and we are committed to it. I am deeply disappointed that they are clearly not committed to it on the other side, but we are committed to it.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Reynell is called to order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: And we will ensure that that representation is heard and that they have an opportunity—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —to ask questions, to answer questions, to be part of this process of airing questions. So instead of denying women—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Deputy Premier will resume her seat for a moment. The subject matter of interjections does not make interjection more or less disorderly. Interjection is disorderly. It is open to members on my right and on my left to raise points of order. The Chair will rule on points of order. Interjection is not an alternative to following the procedures that are laid down in the standing orders. The member for Lee will leave for the remainder of question time in accordance with standing order 137A.

The honourable member for Lee having withdrawn from the chamber:

An honourable member interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Playford is warned for a second time. Has the Deputy Premier concluded her answer?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: The time has gone, sir.

The SPEAKER: The time for answering the question has expired. The Deputy Premier's capacity to answer the question in the circumstances of the level of sustained interjection was rendered difficult. Has the Deputy Premier concluded her answer?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: No, sir. I would just like to say this: we on this side of the house are absolutely committed to giving all our children opportunities, whatever their gender, and that is something we are committed to do and we will continue with this strategy throughout our term.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP AND ECONOMIC SECURITY STRATEGY

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:59): Supplementary to the Attorney-General: what is the government doing to make parliament a safe workplace? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Dr CLOSE: A declared candidate for the next election has recently contacted members on this side of parliament indicating that she is concerned that this is no longer a safe workplace, having heard allegations—of sexual harassment, urination and public exposure—in the other place and having had the Premier refuse to investigate.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (14:59): Let me start by saying that the exposure, publicly, in relation to the weaknesses in the equal opportunity law to ensure the protection of our workplace has been taken up by this government. We have had extensive reports prepared by the acting equal opportunity commissioner and, indeed, has done a separate one in relation to judicial officers. We have changed the law.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: We are introducing other laws to ensure that they are all consistent with those recommendations.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Deputy Premier will just resume her seat for a moment. The deputy leader has asked a question. I for one regard it as a question of substance and a matter of particular moment in the circumstances that we find ourselves in in recent times. Just like any other question, the deputy leader is entitled to hear the Deputy Premier's answer and, for the benefit of all members, the Deputy Premier must be heard in silence in order that that answer may be heard by all members, including me. The Deputy Premier has the call.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: It is important that we have had these inquiries, and it is important that as a government we take up the recommendations, and that's precisely what we have done. In addition, we have supported the parliament doing so. Indeed, sir, there is a committee of inquiry under your stewardship to now consider matters such as code of conduct and the establishment of a unit here in the parliament to ensure that, as a parliament, we do respect the significance and ensure the protection of those who are in this workplace—whether they are here full time, whether they come in on a part-time basis, whether they are our staff or whether they are employed here by the joint parliamentary committee.

They come in different types, and so that has to be accommodated. We accept that. But we have—for the first time that I know of and in the time we have been in the parliament—actually on this side of the house, in government, made sure that that has taken place.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Of course, there are individual inquiries. I know the Leader of the Opposition has indicated he is going to have an inquiry in relation to the member for Light's electorate office. I don't know what has happened to that. It may be that he is doing other inquiries in relation to other electorate offices. He still hasn't answered the question as to whether the

candidate for the next election—who was the authorised signatory of the most disgraceful racist campaign against the member for Elder in a prior election—is even going to stand as his candidate. But, no, they have done nothing. I am very proud of what we have done on this side of the house, and we will continue to action that.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! Before I call the deputy leader, the member for Playford will leave for the remainder of question time in accordance with standing order 137A.

The honourable member for Playford having withdrawn from the chamber:

Mr Malinauskas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, the leader!

PARLIAMENT HOUSE STAFFERS

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:02): My question is to the Premier. What action has the Premier taken to identify the Liberal staffer who allegedly urinated in the corner of an MP's office and exposed himself to others?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (15:03): To date, there has been an allegation in a report—which I have just referred to, in fact—by the acting equal opportunity commissioner in relation to a staffer as to certain conduct. The Hon. Tammy Franks, as I indicated to the parliament just recently, has repeated some of that in the other place and hasn't identified it.

As has been made very clear, the staff members here—and a number of them did go to the equal opportunity commissioner in her inquiry—provided confidential information. Obviously, it is entirely a matter for them whether they take any other action as to any circumstances that they find themselves in, and they are matters which we on this side of the house respect and, indeed, the equal opportunity commissioner respects.

The acting equal opportunity commissioner has made it very clear, publicly, the circumstances in which she invited people to confidentially come to her and provide that information to populate the information and evidence that might be needed for her.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: So she understands that. She understands the personal nature, the difficulty for some to be able to come forward, and ensuring—

Dr Close interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order, deputy leader!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: —that we don't destroy or cause further harm to anyone who may have been injured in that circumstance.

Dr Close interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Deputy leader!

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: That is something that we respect and we will continue to protect.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The Premier is called to order!

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: What happened in the Newland Office?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Why did you move a staffer out?

The SPEAKER: The member for West Torrens is warned.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The deputy leader seeks the call. When there is silence, the deputy leader will have the call.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE STAFFERS

Dr CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:04): My question is to the Premier. Has any Liberal staff member been dismissed following the allegations that, during Liberal Party drinks in 2019, a Liberal staff member urinated in the corner of an MP's office and exposed himself?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (15:05): I just repeat and refer to my previous answer. The matter has its origin in a report of the acting equal opportunity commissioner, who provided a report to the parliament, including ensuring that the government had a list of things do.

We have listened to that. We have respected her envelope of confidentiality and we will not breach that, obviously, or ask her to be able to disclose that. I just reassure anyone in the parliament—staff or members of parliament—that if they have a concern they wish to have advice on, that they need further assistance on, my door is always open.

ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:06): My question is to the Premier in his role as the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. Is the proposed Aboriginal representative body bill 2021 repealing or replacing progressive legislation already in place? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Ms BEDFORD: Concerns have been raised with me about the proposed bill, starting with parts 1 to 4, containing archaic definitions of Aboriginal persons, with further questions on how the bill will impact on the existing Aboriginal Heritage Act, the Native Title Act and others, including the Aboriginal Lands Trust Act, the Maralinga Tjarutja Land Rights Act and the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Land Rights Act.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:06): Sir, as you would be aware, this is not a bill that has come to the parliament. It hasn't been finally considered by the cabinet. I think that we have been speaking about this for an extended period of time.

On coming to government, we inherited the South Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council, and I thank all the members on the South Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council for the work that they have done with the previous government. The same members actually transferred over to our government. They have been in place for 3½ years. They have been working with our first Aboriginal Affairs Action Plan, which identified that we wanted to have a higher level of engagement with Aboriginal South Australians and that we look to ultimately develop a model.

The Commissioner for Aboriginal Engagement in South Australia, Dr Roger Thomas, has been doing consultation right across South Australia with respect to where we would implement a new body. However, as I said, final consideration of that has not been made by cabinet, but it is something which I think is an important reform.

As I was saying, under the previous government we had the South Australian Aboriginal Advisory Council. This was completely and utterly appointed by the government of the day. What we would ideally like to do is to move towards elections, and in the first instance the advice that we have received from the commissioner is that it would be partially elected and partially appointed, but ultimately I think it is envisaged that this would be good to be fully elected over time.

There is still more work to be done on this. I think it is an important reform to have a voice to the government, to have a voice to the parliament, but of course it wouldn't change the very important legislation which we have here in South Australia and which has been identified by the member for Florey with regard to Aboriginal heritage, the APY Land Rights Act, the Maralinga Tjarutja Land Rights Act and the also the Aboriginal Lands Trust Act.

COVID-19 ESSENTIAL WORKERS

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (15:08): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier advise the house on the testing arrangements for truck drivers bringing goods from interstate into South Australia given their irregular working hours? With your leave, and that the house, sir, I will explain further.

Leave granted.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: As we know, there have been occasions just recently when visiting truck drivers have attempted to have the required testing according to the rules. However, no testing facilities were open or could not accommodate their test or immunisation at that time, especially in regional South Australia.

One of the things that we are all concerned about, as we understand—and I had a briefing with the assistant to the CEO of SA Health today; we had that but we couldn't get this question in—is that we don't want these people to stop bringing goods into South Australia because otherwise we will be completely in a lot of trouble.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan—Premier) (15:09): I thank the member for Frome for his question. We have been working with the transport sector right throughout this coronavirus pandemic and it has been a very, very tough burden on our truck drivers and those working in the transport sector right across the country. Right throughout this coronavirus pandemic, they have been subjected to higher level testing and surveillance than just about any other sector in our economy and have done an outstanding job.

They have kept our country rolling, so to speak, and they have kept food on the table and goods moving between jurisdictions when other people have not been able to go across that border. We did, at the national cabinet level, working with all the individual transport ministers, negotiate a transport agreement.

Since that time, and in particular in response to the situation that occurred in South Australia where we had six separate positive cases in about a two-week period, we did move to even further tighten the arrangements with regard to truck drivers in South Australia and move towards requiring them to be vaccinated. We wanted to make it as easy as possible for that vaccination to be completed.

One of the things that SARTA said to us is, if you are going to require people to be vaccinated, then you have to make it as easy as possible for them. They can't really basically pull up their truck, go in and have a test that might take an extended period of time with them in line. Certainly, if they had just got into the queue, it would take sometimes weeks or months for them to have that vaccination. So we worked with SARTA, we worked with the transport companies in South Australia, to try to make that vaccination process as streamlined as possible.

With regard to the current arrangements for testing, which I think was the substance of the question from the member for Frome, we do have differential arrangements so people can come across the border. My understanding is that they must have had a test that returned a negative result within 72 hours of coming into South Australia. If not, they are required to have a test within 12 hours of entering South Australia, but I will just check that that remains current; it does move around.

I am hopeful that as a greater proportion of our truck drivers in South Australia and our transport workers in South Australia and across the border—those people coming into South Australia—are vaccinated, our risk reduces and that means that we can move to a less onerous testing regime for these people.

I do want to place on the record my grateful thanks to all those working in the transport sector. As I said, it is very, very tough for those people and we are very grateful for what they have done. We are very grateful for the way that they have subjected themselves to very, very high-level surveillance and scrutiny. They are often dislocated from family for extended periods of time. We would have been absolutely lost without them and so I do want to put on the record my grateful thanks to them.

REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (15:13): My question is to the minister representing the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. What would the minister tell Dean Marshall from Clare, who needs to have chemo treatment but is not able to have the treatment at Clare Hospital but would need to travel to Gawler to have the treatment after having to collect the medical items—that is, the tablets—at Clare Hospital prior to travelling to Gawler? With your leave, and that of the house, sir, I will explain a bit further.

Leave granted.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: Dean's treatment was arranged by staff at the Royal Adelaide Hospital to be carried out at Clare Hospital but, upon arriving, he was advised that the tablets that were required were missing, and after several phone calls the tablets were found. However, Dean was then told to come back the next day, prior to having to then travel to Gawler with the tablets that he had to collect at Clare prior to going. He has now been advised that he will have to travel to Gawler each time for treatment and not to Clare Hospital.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:14): I thank the member for the question. Obviously, for any individual case I encourage people to take very seriously the advice of their doctors. I wouldn't propose to give them advice myself. That said, in the circumstances the member has outlined I think the member and members of the house would understand I am not familiar with the individual case and the circumstances there. I will seek advice from the minister and bring back further information for the member.

FARM FIREFIGHTING UNITS

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (15:14): My question is to the Minister for Emergency Services. Has the minister consulted with farmers regarding the requirement to register farm fire units with the CFS? With your leave, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr BELL: Farmers have begun approaching me saying the requirement to register their farm fire units involves an inspection and a sticker being applied, and they are concerned the process will become a bureaucratic nightmare that may potentially result in farm fire units not being allowed to fight fires.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (15:15): I thank the member for Mount Gambier for the question. Firstly, can I say thank you to the farm firefighting units. We just could not do what we do in this state in terms of fighting fires without our hardworking, diligent farm firefighting units. Often, they are the first to attend the scene, and I know that a wide variety—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: —of members on this side of the chamber also share with me their thanks for the farm firefighting units and what they do in helping to protect lives and protect property when, unfortunately, fires do break out in our regional areas.

With respect to the member's question, though, I certainly haven't had any negative feedback brought to my attention, but if the member does have any particular feedback from farmers in his electorate I would certainly encourage them to get in contact with me. I am more than happy to pass on their concerns to the CFS about what is quite clearly an operational matter. I am happy to talk through those issues. All in all, I would certainly encourage our farm firefighting units to work with our CFS because we all know that it will achieve better results when our CFS and our farm firefighting units ultimately work together.

MOUNT GAMBIER HOSPITAL

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (15:16): My question is to the minister representing the Minister for Health. Can the minister detail how the Mount Gambier hospital will cope with a COVID-19 outbreak? With your leave, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr BELL: Concerns have been raised with me regarding the fact that the Mount Gambier hospital has no dedicated COVID facilities, including a ventilator, and no COVID-approved area with appropriate ventilation requirements.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:17): I thank the member for the question. I will check the details that he has suggested may be the case and bring back an answer for the house.

COUNTRY ROAD SPEED LIMITS

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (15:17): My question is to the Minister for Road Safety. Can the minister advise whether the lowering of speed limits on all country roads to 100 km/h has had the desired effect? With your leave, and that of the house, I will explain just a little bit further.

Leave granted.

Mr ELLIS: On Monday, in *The Advertiser* it was revealed that a new road safety campaign focused on country roads would be launched because the road toll remains proportionately higher in the country because, arguably, the lowering of speed limits has not worked.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (15:17): I thank the member for Narungga for the question. As we know, everyone's got a duty to do the right thing on our roads. Of course, any life lost on our roads is an absolute tragedy and travesty and we need to do everything we can to try to avoid this carnage on our roads. Road safety obviously involves a whole range of factors. That's why we work very hard on this side of the chamber. I know my colleague the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport is helping to spend, on behalf of the people of South Australia, literally billions of dollars in this state, across the forward estimates, improving the road and also the rail safety network.

Of course, it's not just about infrastructure. It is also about people's attitudes, and that's why we also spend millions of dollars in this state working with South Australia Police, working with DIT, making sure that we continue to drive down those lives lost and serious injuries on our roads through very targeted campaigns, making sure that we bring these things to people's attention, making sure we continue to support our agencies in tackling what are the fatal five causes of death and injury on our roads. They are things like speed, things like distraction, things like drink-driving and drug driving. Then, of course—

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: Yes, the member for Chaffey reminds me of a very successful campaign recently. The first word is 'selfish', and I won't refer to the second word in this chamber. Making sure that we target people's attitudes is very, very important to bring about better road safety behaviour.

Then you also have legislation, and on this side of the house—whilst there are certain bills that are before the house, I will talk very briefly—we are tackling things like extreme speed, things like excessive speed, making sure we continue to deter people from engaging in dangerous conduct on our roads.

Of course, there are also speed limits, which are a factor. The article in the paper this week did point out that, although about 30 per cent of people reside in country areas in this state, this year over 70 per cent of lives lost have occurred in the country, in areas like the Barossa, like the South-East, like in the member for Narungga's electorate.

It is very complex and not necessarily accurate to say that, because of one particular treatment and one particular area, it is attributable to some of the broader causes of crashes and fatalities across our state. It really is an area where we need to work collectively across a whole range of these issues—infrastructure, speed limits, attitudinal behaviours—and also do everything we can to work with those specific areas with our agencies, with police, with the Department for Transport, to continue to reduce lives lost on our roads.

*Grievance Debate***DEFENCE SHIPBUILDING**

Mr MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Leader of the Opposition) (15:21): I appreciate the opportunity to address an incredibly significant series of announcements made last week by the Prime Minister of Australia in conjunction with Boris Johnson and President Joe Biden.

We should be under no illusion that last week was significant in terms of what was announced in a geopolitical context. On this side of the house, Labor has always been committed, as I am, to the alliance we have with the United States of America. We very sincerely hope that alliance continues to strengthen in decades to come as we face a degree of uncertainty within our region at home. However, in the South Australian context it is also worth contemplating what was announced regarding future industry in our state.

It is worth remembering that the history of naval shipbuilding in South Australia is intrinsically linked to the South Australian parliamentary Labor Party. It was, of course, the Hon. John Bannon who was able to secure the Collins class submarines in South Australia, which was the beginning of an extraordinary series of projects that have contributed not just to our state's prosperity but also to our sovereign capability as a country, to be able to set our own course when it comes to shipbuilding and strategic defence policy.

On the back of the Collins class submarine development, we saw the Rann Labor government invest \$300 million in the Common User Facility at Techport, which allowed us to have the ambition of being able to procure new contracts and new shipbuilding projects to our state, as evidenced by our success in getting the air warfare destroyer program built here in Adelaide despite fierce competition from other jurisdictions around the nation. On this side of the house, we are proud of our record of delivering for the South Australian economy in procuring new projects, new shipbuilding projects.

Of course, we do not have to cast our minds back very far to recall that, when it comes to the Future Submarines project, it was the federal Coalition government whose first plan to deliver that program was to build the submarines in Japan. It is only because of the leadership shown by the South Australian parliamentary Labor Party under then Premier Jay Weatherill that we were able to use all our political might, all our force, to work collectively, despite utter silence from the member for Dunstan, to put the political pressure on and persuade the federal government to change its position—which they ultimately did, to their credit.

They changed their position and they set us on a course of having Naval, or the then DCNS, French shipbuilders building a new program in the Barracuda class submarine. That is what we had as of a week ago: a \$90 billion contract that was going to deliver 12 new, conventionally powered submarines for our nation. We were told by those opposite, and by the federal defence minister the Hon. Christopher Pyne, that this was a deal that was going to set South Australia up for future generations of prosperity and growth and that it would be the best thing that has ever happened to our state's economy.

We took them for their word, only to find out that none of it was true. The government has now backed away from plan B and now moved onto plan C. Plan C may indeed be in the national interest in the long term. It may indeed be a good deal for our country and our federation. But what we are being told in terms of our sovereign capability—all the jobs, all the economic power that program was going to be—is, 'Trust us. We are serious this time.'

We do not have a contract. We do not know how many people are going to be employed to build the submarine. We do not know who is going to build the submarine. We do not even know what type of submarine we are going to build. We do not know when it is going to be built, and we do not know what technology is actually going to be transferred to South Australia. We do not even know what it is that we are actually going to be building.

We know more about what we are not building than what we are. We know it is going to be a nuclear-powered submarine, but we are not going to have the nuclear industry here in South Australia, which begs the question: how can we trust the commonwealth that this project is actually going to be delivered? The only people in this state parliament who are going to ensure that

the commonwealth actually keep their word this time, unlike last time or the time before that, is if we have a Labor government putting pressure on Scott Morrison to ensure he actually does what he says he is going to do this time.

We will continue to advocate that. We know that the current Premier always goes silent when it comes to putting pressure on the commonwealth—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr MALINAUSKAS: —whether it be the Murray, whether it be the GST, but we will not let this opportunity slip the state by and we will continue to advocate for the long-term interests of the people of South Australia.

Time expired.

MORIALTA ELECTORATE

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education) (15:26): It is a great pleasure to rise to talk about some of the extraordinary investment the Marshall Liberal government is putting into schools and preschools around South Australia. I will take this opportunity to reflect on some of the investments in my electorate of Morialta, which are reflected in every other electorate in this state.

In the last budget, this government took the opportunity to provide a grant to every single public educational institution in South Australia. Every school and every preschool in the public education system has benefited. Our preschools have benefited from two rounds of grants totalling \$50,000 over the last year and half. They are putting those \$50,000 grants to great use in building shade structures, landscaping, kitchen upgrades, tiling, roofing, painting, creating jobs for trades and small businesses in regions and in the suburbs across South Australia and providing a lift to all those preschools.

In addition to that, there have been grants of between \$20,000 and \$100,000 to every single public school in South Australia for similar purposes, for whatever the priorities are for those schools. There have been grants of \$20,000 to schools that already have major infrastructure works underway, going up to \$100,000 grants for the larger of the schools that do not have major works currently underway.

In Morialta, we have some outstanding education facilities, and indeed across the public schools and preschools it is just a small number of those 900 grants that have gone out across South Australia, but I want to reflect on some of the great work that has been underway and the sorts of things these grants have enabled. A perfect example is Highbury Preschool, where there has been landscaping and painting, and a new playground or possibly a nature play area is being worked on. At Magill Kindergarten, they are looking at landscaping, creating a new playground or nature play area again.

At Rostrevor Kindergarten, they are replacing storage facilities, replacing flooring and landscaping and also taking the opportunity to put work towards their playground and their outdoor spaces. At Thorndon Park Kindergarten, there has been storage replacement. Athelstone Preschool and Dernancourt Kindergarten are doing important work with these grants too.

These \$50,000 in grants for preschools, indeed millions across South Australia, are a unique program because every single one of nearly 400 public preschools, whether they be standalone or school-based preschools, has had the opportunity for this lift. I remember visiting the St Agnes preschool to 7, where the work being done on their playground is going to be very significant. That follows on from the money they spent last year on upgrading their kitchen facilities, which has been very much appreciated not only by the children in St Agnes but also by those in Vista, in my electorate, who will be using that facility in the years ahead.

It is not just preschools that have benefited; the schools have as well. The \$70,000 grant Athelstone School received is going towards landscaping, the upgrade of the oval irrigation and wiring—important projects. That is on top of some further funding out of our department's maintenance boost they received last year, when we put forward \$75,000 to improve the sewer line condition. I know from having visited that school on a number of occasions the improvement that has

meant for the main block of classrooms. The toilets do not provide the same stink in the summer months, which has been tremendously important. It is a world-class school that obviously requires world-class infrastructure and those children deserve it.

At Magill School, the \$20,000 stimulus grant went towards landscaping and a kitchen upgrade. That was on top of \$140,000 provided last year for perimeter paving replacement and stormwater rectification and, indeed, the \$7 million significant upgrade that is currently in the concept design phase. We are looking forward to seeing those plans in the not too distant future.

Norton Summit Primary School in your electorate, sir, although servicing some of my constituents going forward—it had been in Morialta for a long time previously—has a \$60,000 grant, and I am looking forward to seeing that put to good use. In addition, they recently spent \$150,000 on their bitumen, hard play and perimeter path replacement.

Thorndon Park Primary School has \$20,000 on top of their recent STEM works project, and at Stradbroke School there is a \$7 million capital works upgrade, which looks fantastic and is going to be tremendous when it is finished. They have also been able to use their \$20,000 stimulus grant for an outdoor shade structure.

This government is putting unprecedented funding and resources into our public education system. The extraordinary efforts the Marshall Liberal government is going to invest in world-class education, both in these infrastructure projects and in maintenance grants, totalling a \$1.4 billion record investment, highlight the importance the Marshall Liberal government puts on education. I cannot wait to see the improvement this will provide to lifting our facilities across South Australia.

Time expired.

GRANDPARENTS FOR GRANDCHILDREN SA

Ms HILDYARD (Reynell) (15:32): I am very proud to rise today to speak about an extraordinary group of South Australians: the 3½ thousand-odd grandparents who care full time for their grandchildren. This is a group of people who, without any expectation of reward or recognition, give their love, time and energy every day to their grandchildren.

This is a group of people who, through some very difficult circumstances, have often been traumatised by challenges their own children face and, whilst dealing with their grief, worry and care about their own children, selflessly take on the additional responsibility of caring full time for their grandchildren. They do so with little formal support. They are, however, committed to supporting one another and are generously supported, empowered and advocated for by Grandparents for Grandchildren.

Grandparents for Grandchildren state that they began as a small group of concerned grandparents who met in a lounge room to discuss ways to support their grandchildren in their care and to provide support for one another. The group was subsequently offered a small shared office space in the Torrens Building to continue their important work. The group was frustrated with the responsibility of being primary carers of their grandchildren whilst being unable to make fundamental decisions in relation to their grandchildren's education, health, wellbeing, care and other matters.

Grandparents for Grandchildren now meet all over our state. I had the pleasure of meeting with one of their many groups last week in our southern community. I went to their meeting to talk with them about what they need advocacy and assistance on and to offer support where I could and to listen to them—and listen I did.

In listening, I was touched, upset and deeply worried by what they expressed to me. Every one of them spoke of their heartbreak at the challenges their children faced and every one of them spoke about their steadfast commitment to giving their much loved grandchildren the best possible support they could. They had opened their homes and their hearts and, without thought for their own wellbeing, acted as a parent in every aspect of their grandchildren's lives.

I have spoken in this place about the issues that foster carers confront in their dealings with this government. Those issues are significant and ongoing. Grandparent carers are classed as informal carers. The issues they experience through their dealings with the minister through her department are also significant and ongoing.

From these grandparents, I heard of an overwhelming sense of being treated unfairly, of being communicated with very poorly, of feeling taken for granted and of being alarmed at how matters crucial to their grandchildren's wellbeing were handled. One grandparent spoke about making more than 45 reports to the Child Abuse Report Line before the risk posed to their grandchildren was addressed. Others, as I have directly communicated with the minister about, spoke about having seen their grandchildren who were supposed to be in residential care of the minister and her department out late at night with adults.

Many spoke about an utter lack of communication afforded to them when their grandchildren were in residential care. Many advised that they had spent all their life savings, their superannuation, on court fees on matters pertaining to their interactions with DCP. Others shared how confronting it was to be simply left with their grandbabies with utterly no support from DCP whatsoever.

One grandparent spoke about the positive relationship that they had had with their grandchild, only to have that child then placed with a kind foster carer without any adequate communication from DCP. Another advised that they were utterly worn out from advocating and advocating and advocating for additional support for their grandchild with disability and of that support simply not ever being forthcoming.

A common thread that brought many of those in the room to tears was how much better they wanted for their grandchildren and how little this government was doing to support that fervent, shared wish. They described communication with the government as utterly wanting in compassion, kindness and understanding.

Grandparents caring full time for grandchildren deserve to be cared for too. They deserve to be seen, heard and have their understanding of and care for their grandchildren respected. They are often the difference between young children who have already faced much trauma, dealing with even more severe challenges, and those children living full productive lives in homes where they are loved. Grandparents caring for grandchildren deserve so much better. I am certainly committed to advocating however I can for as long as it takes to ensure that they are indeed treated better.

Time expired.

BLESSING OF THE FLEET

The Hon. D.C. VAN HOLST PELLEKAAN (Stuart—Minister for Energy and Mining) (15:37): It gives me huge pleasure to rise today to talk about a wonderful local event that I attended on Sunday 12 September with my wife, Rebecca. It was in Port Pirie at St Mark's Cathedral. It is locally known as the Blessing of the Fleet celebration. It was a wonderful mass at St Mark's Cathedral. Rebecca and I were made incredibly welcome. The mass was followed by a procession with a wonderful statue of La Madonna dei Martiri, which was physically conveyed a very significant distance from the cathedral to the main boat ramp in Port Pirie.

The weather was unkind on the day, but let me say it made absolutely no difference to the fantastic warm celebration on the day. It was explained to me by Mr Philip Amato, who is the president of the Blessing of the Fleet committee for this year, and his wife, Tina, that their normal tradition is to have a deb ball on the Saturday night beforehand, but unfortunately because of COVID that could not go ahead.

On the Sunday morning, they have the mass in St Mark's, then the procession to the boat ramp, and they were able to go ahead. They have a very short ceremony at the memorial to lost fishermen at Port Pirie and the laying of some flowers, which was able to go ahead. Then traditionally, I am told, there is a bit of food and drink and a celebration and then the procession goes off to a different church for a benediction. As it happened on the day, we went back to St Marks for the benediction. The food and drink could not occur, but everybody understood, because of COVID.

I have to say that it was an absolutely fantastic, warm event. Port Pirie has a tremendous tradition of fishing. This was very close to the 90th time that this event has been held, and Rebecca and I could not have been made more welcome. I would like to particularly thank Mr Dino Gadaleta and his wife, Liz, who hosted us for the day and made sure that we were made very welcome. They could not have looked after us more warmly or more kindly, and really that goes for everybody we met on the day. Many people we knew and were already friends with, some were acquaintances and many we had not met.

It is a fantastic tradition. Dino Gadaleta told me that he had been the president of the organising committee for 40 years until about 10 years ago, and since then Mr Philip Amato has been doing it. It was an outstanding event. The religious aspects—the mass, the ceremony at the memorial and the benediction back at St Mark's—were all overseen by Bishop Karol Kulczycki, who came to Port Pirie from Western Australia in October last year, and he did a tremendous job. The reverence of the ceremony was absolutely outstanding, and of course he communicated in a very direct and down-to-earth way, so being a part of that with him was especially good as well.

It was lovely for that Sunday to be followed so closely by the 70th anniversary of the Caputo fish shop in Port Pirie, a wonderful family business now run by Maurie Mezzino, who is actually part of the Caputo family. It was a fantastic day. The bishop turned up to Caputo's as well. It was tremendous to be there with many local people also supporting the event. The Mayor of Port Pirie was there, as were the local member, the member for Frome, many other community leaders and members of the local Italian community.

It speaks incredibly well of that community that an event like that has been running for so long, that it manages to capture the tradition of Italian fishermen, that it captures the importance of a cathedral mass and that it is also so welcoming and part of mainstream, everyday life in Port Pirie—a fantastic community.

MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRANSPORT

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (15:42): Today, I would like to bring to the attention of the house the behaviour of a relevant minister in this chamber. I bring this to the attention of the house because I think the minister's behaviour towards people in my electorate is quite disrespectful, and I will explain why.

We have already heard today from members of the Liberal Party who feel that their areas are being neglected by the government, and certainly what I am about to say shows the disdain this particular minister has for my electorate and the people who live in my electorate.

I wrote to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport on 22 April 2021 about a range of transport and traffic matters. The letter, of which I have a copy and which I am happy to share with anybody, was a very polite letter indicating some concerns raised by people in my electorate that I was bringing to the minister's attention. I was raised to think that if you have a problem you also suggest a solution, so not only did I bring the matter to the minister's attention but I also suggested some things that should be done.

I received a response from the minister only two or three days ago. It took five months to respond to this letter. On 6 July, we sent a reminder to the minister. After three months, we sent a reminder to the minister's office and we were told that the response was in progress. On 4 August, we sent another reminder. Then, on 14 September, we sent another reminder, and in that last reminder I said, 'Clearly I am not going to get a response. I should raise these matters in parliament.' I got a response within minutes of sending that email to the minister's office. I do not think I should have to do that to get the attention of a minister. I know members of the Liberal Party have to do that. They actually have to threaten to leave the party to get the Premier's attention.

That said, what was really annoying was that the response was dismissive and full of self-congratulatory and gratuitous comments. It was really quite rude and offensive to the people in my electorate. I must say that has not been my experience with other ministers. In fact, I would say that my experience with other ministers, bar one or two, has been quite good. Even if I do not agree with the answer, at least they had the courtesy to respond to the letter in a timely fashion and, in most cases, address the issue I raised in the letter.

In this case, the minister was able to avoid the four issues I raised in the letter. The way he normally addresses us in this chamber, the way he ignores the questions we ask and answers his own questions, he did that to the people of my electorate. It is one thing to do it in this place, but to do it to my constituents is appalling behaviour.

These are the things the minister quite clearly took offence to because of the nature of his response. First of all, I congratulated the government on introducing some express bus services to make up for the lack of train services. Then I said that people had raised with me that it was great

the minister had raised new express services for peak hour but that not everybody works peak hours—people work at other times, people need to go to hospitals and people have to do a whole range of things. The response I received was just a self-congratulatory response and did not address the question at all.

Then I said to the minister that we are told that we will have a new train service starting sometime next year and that perhaps he might want to start engaging about the timetables. It would be great to use this downtime to actually engage with the community to work out what the timetables should look like so there is support for it. Again, the minister did not address that issue at all.

The third issue I raised was one raised by a person in my electorate who gets on at the Tambelin station. He is in a gopher and the problem is that the distance between where he parks to get on the train, when the trains are operating, and where the shelter is is 100 metres, so he actually has to stand in the rain or the sun to be picked up by the train. The question I asked was: will this issue be addressed during the revamp of the train station? Did I get an answer yes or no? No. He talked about all the other things he wanted to talk about, except address this specific issue raised by this constituent.

I then raised an issue on behalf of the students in my area. Due to the lack of train services for the last year or so, most of the school excursions for students in my electorate have unfortunately been curtailed. They have not been coming into the city, to Parliament House or any other place, so their education has been compromised by their inability to get to Parliament House. Did the minister address that issue? Not at all. He just told me what a fantastic government they are, what money they are spending, but he did not address this issue at all.

I know members of the Liberal Party are used to getting the political middle finger from the Premier, but I do not think that my constituents should get the political middle finger from the minister.

Time expired.

FLINDERS ELECTORATE

Mr TRELOAR (Flinders) (15:47): I rise today to talk about the most recent sporting events in the electorate of Flinders. Of course, it is finals time for our winter sports, primarily football and netball, but also hockey and soccer, and I guess golf goes just about all year round now. It is a very exciting time, particularly because during the 2020 season there was no organised winter sport outside Port Lincoln, so the broader Eyre Peninsula community had to do without.

Many members in this place realise and fully understand how critically important organised sport is to our country communities. It is often a full day out on a Saturday, it is a family day out and it really provides some fabric to our country communities and our society.

What came as a resurgence in local football was the Mortlock Shield being played, as it has always been played, over the June long weekend, but we also saw some restructuring within the football and netball leagues—forgive me, football and netball often do go together, and almost always go together in country areas, so if I talk about football I am talking about football and netball as well.

In the 2020-21 season, we found that some restructuring occurred within leagues and within clubs. It was instigated by the amalgamation of the Wudinna united football club with the Central Eyre football club, which was a combination of Kyancutta and Warrambo. The new team, Wudinna United, decided to approach the Eastern Eyre Football League. Eastern Eyre accepted them into that league, which turned Eastern Eyre into a five-league competition.

That meant that the old Mid West league was at five teams but, that said, both Streaky Bay and Wirrulla decided to leave Mid West and go into a new Western league, previously known as Far West. Really, that led to the demise of the Mid West league, and it was finalised by Elliston football and netball clubs amalgamating with the old Poochera and Minnipa club to become Elliston Districts. That new club approached Great Flinders, which essentially is the first league to the north of Port Lincoln on Eyre Peninsula.

It all sounds rather complicated, and no doubt there was a bit of pain experienced by some of the club members, but in the end the season worked out well and we have just finished our finals. We had finals in Ceduna where Streaky Bay were successful and we had finals in the Eastern Eyre league where Ports were successful. Ports is a combination of Port Neill and Arno Bay. They were

the underdogs but managed to win the A-grade final. In the Port Lincoln league, Marble Range got up in the A-grade grand final and, in Great Flinders, United Yeelanna got up in the A-grade final.

I focus on football because certainly the primary part of the day revolves around A-grade football. However, there are any number of junior grades, both in football and netball, which play all the way through the season and play a final series at this time of year as well. So I would like to congratulate, firstly, all those who were involved in winter sports. I have been talking about football and netball, but of course hockey as well, and soccer. I would particularly like to congratulate and thank all the volunteers who make Saturday sport possible. They do it with great love and enthusiasm, often with no thanks, and they do it because they want to see their friends, colleagues and counterparts have an enjoyable time.

I managed to get to the Great Flinders grand final at Tumby Bay last Saturday, having first been up to Wudinna to the Wudinna show. Some of the shows are being cancelled this year, but the Wudinna show was not one of them; it was decided to carry on. It had a pretty good crowd. I was there in the morning, and I heard that the crowd grew during the afternoon. They had a COVID plan in place. I then travelled back down to Tumby Bay where, once again, there was a huge crowd. People were just so pleased to be able to go out once again to interact and socialise. The football league had a COVID plan in place, and the day was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Congratulations.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS MUSIC FESTIVAL

Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (15:53): Today, I would like to congratulate everyone involved with the 130th anniversary of what we now call the Primary Schools Music Festival. This year's concert at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre was billed as Stars in the Arena, and it certainly was a showcase of current stars and stars of the future.

I was glad to attend three of the four concerts, because that is how many I could fit in, to see nearly all the north-eastern schools involved in this wonderful event: schools like Ingle Farm, Ingle Farm East, Modbury, Modbury West, Para Vista; and schools I have been associated with or known for many years, including Modbury South, East Para Primary School, Wandana Primary School, The Heights School, Ardtornish Primary, Banksia Park, Fairview Park, Redwood Park, Tea Tree Gully Primary, St Agnes, Highbury, Surrey Downs, Keithcot Farm and Mawson Lakes—all wonderful schools in the north-east.

The board led by Stephen Measday, and creative team led by Irene Solowij, are too numerous to mention here, but I would like to thank each and every one of them for all they have done to make this year's event as special as it was and for the invitation to something I look forward to every year. Thanks, too, to the music and choreography leaders and staff, and to the commissioned work composer Glyn Lehmann.

There were some amazing performances by the choirs who have been keenly practising all year to present to us things like *South Australia—It's My Home* and *Eye of the Sound Storm*. Those segments included other songs of course. There were a lot of them and too many to name. There were a selection of things from *Mary Poppins*, and what has now become my favourite song, *Sounds of the Public School*, which dates back to some of the earliest concerts.

Great work went into all the commissioned pieces within the title *Water is Life*, and that message was not lost on all those in attendance on each of the evenings I was there. The dance items were spectacular, and everyone was thrilled with the wow factor the Adelaide Entertainment Centre provided through its marvellous technical teams and special effects. I think the kids really enjoyed performing on a very big stage and with the very best of backup they could possibly have from the industry.

What I really enjoyed, though, were the many guest artists, and I would like to mention in particular a piano item by Jaycey Anand of the Walkerville Primary School entitled *Midnight Rhapsode*, which was spectacular, and the absolutely knockout performance called *Steam Train to Mallaig*, by William and The Mullighans from the Marryatville High School featuring that well-loved rock instrument, the bagpipe. My golly gosh, they were amazing. I think the whole audience was on their feet cheering at the end. It was an absolutely amazing performance, and I am hoping a CD is available from Marryatville High because that is something I really want to get.

Thanks, too, must go to the student comperes, particularly for their seamless work in bridging and joining all the items together, and for the history lessons during the evening, particularly about how the concert actually started out as the Thousand Voice Choir, and all the information on the dress codes and shirts that have been available through the decades.

Thanks, too, to the supporters and sponsors. Again, there are too many to mention. However, I give a particular shout-out to the Adelaide Entertainment Centre staff and its security staff. The venue worked really well for me. It enabled me to park nearby and race in and out, and I hope it was also useful for others. While price is always a sensitive feature for many families, particularly in these COVID times, it was wonderful to see so many schools still able to participate. Without the dedication and extra hours put in by all their schoolteachers to make this concert season so successful it certainly would not have been able to happen.

The Primary Schools Music Festival has gone on for many years—as I said, 130 years this year. It is a real testament to the staff involved that last year, despite all the COVID problems, they were able to go ahead with something, and this year again, with the help of the South Australian health department, so many people were able to actually attend at the Entertainment Centre.

For those of you who missed it this year, do yourself a favour and do not miss it next year. Next year, I am sure it will be back bigger and better than ever, and I really look forward to supporting all my schools with their music awards later on this year.

Time expired.

NYRSTAR SERVICE AWARDS

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Frome) (15:57): Today, I would like to talk about the recent Nyrstar long service awards. I want to talk about the recent Nyrstar Port Pirie Smelter Award presentations I had the great privilege to attend on 27 August both as the local member and also as a previous long-serving employee of the plant.

The night was carried out under the very strict and relevant COVID-19 criteria and it was very well attended. Dale Webb, the vice-president of the Australian operations was attending, as were other managers of the plant. During the night, several employees received their 10-year service award, as well as employers receiving their 25 years service and safety awards.

One of the great attributes of the history of the Port Pirie smelter has been the number of very long-serving personnel working at the plant. On the night, 18 recipients received their 10-year award, two recipients received 25-year service and safety awards, plus 13 employees received their 40-year service awards.

With just those few receiving their long service awards on this particular occasion, it totalled in excess of 750 years' service to the plant. Each of the recipients was interviewed by their line manager or superintendent, and every one of them acknowledged not only their great appreciation for what the organisation had done for them individually and personally as workers but also very importantly what the organisation and the company has provided to Port Pirie and the surrounding regions over many years.

Everyone acknowledged the past operations that have been carried out across the various owners of the plant over many years and, very importantly, the nature of the safety commitment of not only the company but also, very importantly, the safety attitude of all the workmates across the whole site. They all acknowledged the history of the plant but also the new direction that Nyrstar is taking with regard to the plant transformation and the great work that is being carried out with regard to environmental improvements. We have to work very closely with the Environmental Health Centre and with the organisation TLAP, which is funded by Nyrstar, with \$3½ million a year for 10 years for lead abatement outside the works.

Over the many years, there have been many long service workers who have travelled their employment over the years across this plant. At several times previously, there were three or four generations working across the site at the same time. One family I will mention is the Scarman family, who still have some newer generations working at the site. Several employees at various times have served in excess of 50 years at the site. As mentioned previously, the loyalty of the workers over many years is a testament not only to the commitment the various companies have given to the plant

and the economic survival of our community but also to the way the various companies have treated their employees over the years.

I have attended many long service leave awards over the years, but this award presentation took a different approach to the way that each recipient was acknowledged: it was far more personal. It is not an easy task to arrange these sorts of presentations under the current situation, with the COVID restrictions. However, even under the very strict conditions, the night was a great success. I sincerely thank everyone who was there and the people who organised the night.

At the closing section, long-time employee Andrew 'Pinky' Davidson gave an overview of the practices that were in place many years ago, and this certainly brought memories back of my days at the works and my connections to the workplace from when I started there in 1978. Some of those receiving the 40-year awards were apprentices when I was working in the engineering department, so that is how far it goes back.

The 40-year awards went to Mick Bowering, Mark Cousins, Andrew 'Pinky' Davidson, Frank Dite, Graeme Eberhard, Ian Leske, Brenton Loizeau, Christopher Norton, Craig Richardson, Terry Smale, Brian Smith, John Stapley and Steven Willis. The 25 years and safety awards went to Jack Mieglich and Andrew Phillis. The 10-year awards went to Craig Aitchinson, Wayne Barnett, Matt Bessen, Tate Bradley, Michael Brill, Daniel Chivell, Billy Crowkamp, Shaun Edwards (not from the Liberal Party), Ben Ervin, Ben Fenk-Gould, Andrew Gill, Ben Hammer, Mark Larcombe, David Nguyen, Adam Piper, Shane Scarman, Nick Tattoli and Darren Witty. That shows there is also a Scarman there, as I mentioned earlier.

Over many, many years the people there have shown dedication and commitment, and the plant itself and its companies have certainly looked after their employees over many years and been a very great economic driver for not just Port Pirie but the whole of South Australia and Australia.

Bills

OPCAT IMPLEMENTATION BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 24 August 2021.)

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (16:03): I rise to speak on the OPCAT Implementation Bill 2021. I indicate that I will be the lead speaker for the opposition in this place. This is an important bill. This is an important body of work that has been done internationally and nationally, and it is something the Minister for Correctional Services and I have discussed in this place. I am pleased that we are finally discussing it now. The Attorney said in her speech, when she introduced this bill on 25 August, and I quote:

I am pleased to finally introduce the OPCAT Implementation Bill 2021. The Australian government ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in South Australia on 21 December 2017. The optional protocol is known as OPCAT.

The opening sentence says it all, the word 'finally', because it is almost four years since OPCAT was ratified, and the government brings this legislation to the house now with something like 11 sitting days to go. I mention in passing that the minister for corrections and his department seem to be more on the ball in terms of getting this type of legislation to the house. We have had that done and dusted, and even enacted by now. This is almost a tidying up and replication of the work Corrections did across the other agencies.

The deadline is cutting it extremely fine. It is due to be enacted—if we are to stick with our national agreements—by February next year. That gives us 11 days to digest and debate what is fairly complicated and actually fairly radical stuff in terms of the intrusion of not only inspectors into our police stations and mental health facilities but also foreign inspectors, inspectors sanctioned by the United Nations. This is not a decision to be taken lightly by any sovereign house of parliament.

This bill, even though it was listed on the previous week's *Notice Paper*, suddenly appeared this week. I will have some questions in the committee stage today, but the opposition reserves its

right to examine things more closely between the houses and perhaps arrive at some very different questions and even a different outcome by the end of the debate in the upper house.

This kind of delay has been a consistent approach from this government, where nothing happens for years. Reports may be tabled, reports may be digested and mentions of things made in the media, but nothing is actually done in a concrete way and nothing is brought to parliament to be discussed and enacted. In this term of government, we have seen expert reports, on everything from sentence discounts to child sex offenders to succession law, sitting on the shelves for years at a time.

We are now facing the same with a raft of electoral laws, which will change the electoral landscape of this state for a long time to come. They are being debated right now, at the end of a term, in the shadow of a general election. Again, the Electoral Commissioner's advice, which much of this legislation is purported to have been based on, has been sitting on a shelf in the Attorney's office for the last four years.

All of that notwithstanding, the bill before us broadly proposes two things. As I said, it allows international inspectors into places of detention. Between the minister for corrections and I, and I should mention the Hon. Connie Bonaros in another place and her important contributions, we have already done that in the area of Corrections. It also establishes local inspection systems for the commonwealth and each state and territory. This second item, the local inspections component, is known as the National Preventive Mechanisms (NPM).

The primary function of the NPM under OPCAT is to undertake regular and unannounced inspections of places of detention, including their installations and facilities. The purpose of the inspections is to examine the conditions and treatments of persons deprived of their liberty. NPM functions are directed towards preventing ill-treatment and other human rights abuses from occurring. This is, of course, distinguished from other existing inspectorate bodies that exercise complaints and advocacy functions. That is the importance of the unannounced, within reasonable bounds, 'free and unfettered access' to facilities and information.

With regard to local inspections, the bill proposes to rely on the inspector system for correctional facilities—which we enacted several months ago in this place—while establishing new ones for youth detention and also, importantly, police detention. Again, the irony should not be lost on anyone in this place: it was only on 25 August this year, less than a month ago, that South Australia's inaugural Child and Young Person's Visitor resigned due to a lack resources.

Despite this being a recommendation of the Nyland royal commission, the visitor had to stop her critical work because the government refused to provide dedicated resources for her to do the job. In question time on 25 August, the Leader of the Opposition asked the Minister for Child Protection:

How can the statutory role of the Child and Young Person's Visitor be performed without any funding?

The minister responded:

...the Child and Young Person's Visitor Scheme was a two-year pilot program, as recommended in the Nyland royal commission. Recommendation 137 was to legislate for the development of a community visitor scheme, which we have. We have done that.

I continue to quote:

There was a two-year pilot program started in 2017 under the former government. The pilot program ended, and at this stage we are not reinstating it...The guardian—as every guardian before her—has the ability to visit every single residential care facility, as previous guardians have, and to advocate individually for children and to see systemic issues and deal with those.

I continue to quote:

She can still do that, like she always did, like all the guardians did before her. She has resigned from one position, which was a visitor scheme. The act states that the minister may instigate—'may'. It's not a 'must'; it's a 'may', and at this point, as you know, it is not being continued.

Noting that it was the former Labor government that had established the initial two-year pilot, the only action this government has taken on the issue is to subsequently refuse the funding and let the visitor scheme wither and die. The opposition was quite surprised when the government not only introduced this bill late but did so when the ink on the former visitor's resignation was not even dry.

Then we have consultation. As noted earlier, OPCAT was ratified in 2017 and I said we are under the pump now to meet what we are told are our national and international obligations by February 2022. Over that four years, presumably some work has been done on that within the machinery of government.

We were told at the briefing that the following groups have been consulted: the Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement; the Human Rights Commissioner; Associate Professor Laura Grenfell at the University of Adelaide, who was also very helpful in the discussions around the OPCAT provisions of the amended corrections act; Mr Steve Caruana, Coordinator of the Australia OPCAT Network; the Minister for Police; the Department of Human Services; the Department for Health and Wellbeing; the Department for the Premier and Cabinet; the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People; the Commissioner for Children and Young People; the Commissioner of Police; the Commonwealth Ombudsman; the Crown Solicitor; the Law Society; the Legal Services Commission; the Public Advocate and Principal Community Visitor; the South Australian Ombudsman; the Bar Association; the Training Centre Visitor and Guardian for Children and Young People; and the University of Tasmania and the Tasmanian Institute of Law Enforcement Studies, which apparently specialised in OPCAT.

This, I admit, is a pretty comprehensive consultation process, through government agencies, universities, academics, ministers and so on. But we did not see any consultation and we have not seen any evidence of any consultation with the people who are at the coalface and who would actually be implementing and working with and around this new regime.

There has been no consultation with the Public Service Association that I am aware of. There has been no consultation with the Police Association that I am aware of, and this is particularly important. I have spoken to various police officers, both formally and informally, about this bill and they can confirm that they have not been properly consulted.

There are particular issues for police detention which I intend to ask some questions about in this place, and certainly in more depth in the other place there will be some questions about the way the police detention system will work and how it has worked in other states and jurisdictions. The police detention system is quite different from the corrections detention system, as the minister will know, in that, in general, prisoners are detained for a very short period of time—hopefully, not very long at all, but sometimes over the course of a weekend, and the Easter weekend is a particularly long time to be in police custody.

Generally, they are arrested and either bailed or very quickly transported, as soon as practicable, to a court. Therefore, the conditions which might be expected within a corrections facility may not be the same conditions you would expect in a city watch house or in the Elizabeth police cells or any of the other designated police station facilities. I think particularly of something like food. I have spent a significant amount of time working in police cells. Certainly 20 years ago—I do not know how times have changed—breakfast was always two pieces of toast with Vegemite and coffee was always white with two sugars. There was never any deviation from that. If they were in for the weekend, they might get pies and pasties and that sort of thing.

I cannot imagine things have changed and there is a very good reason for that, and that is that people are in police custody for very short periods of time. You cannot expect to fund things like fully serviced kitchens, as you would in a prison setting, or, as we saw spectacularly, at the Adelaide Remand Centre. There are differences in the way you approach detention. That is not to say that the detention should be any more cruel or inhuman than it would be in a place of more permanent detention, but there would be differences. From my initial reading of the bill, I do not know that any of that has been addressed.

I do note that there will be a reporting mechanism to parliament, recommendations will be made, and you could reasonably expect that recommendations would include that something like two pieces of toast with Vegemite is not a healthy breakfast. Again, I question whether police facilities have the resourcing available at every one of the I think 19 police detention facilities that we are talking about, even if they should, to provide an à la carte menu to every prisoner that comes through awaiting bail.

These are the types of things that might have been teased out had the consultation process included, for example, people from the Police Association of South Australia. I assume SAPOL was spoken to, but it would have been probably a good idea to speak to people who were currently working in a police detention environment: a cell sergeant, a station officer who may be in charge of a busy police station like the Elizabeth Police Station, or the City Watch House for instance.

I will have questions, obviously, in the committee stage about that, and in the upper house as well we will be teasing that out further, once we have had an opportunity to formally brief and get briefings from the Public Service Association and the Police Association of South Australia and I assume others in the mental health space too. This approach of the government mirrors their approach on recent changes to the impairment assessment guidelines for workers compensation where unions again did not appear on the consultation list.

Notwithstanding my comments about the extensive consultation with government agencies and legal representatives on this bill, consultation has never been this government's strong point. When the government undertook public consultation on the Freedom of Information Bill, it did not publish the submissions and then refused to release the public submissions to a public consultation process about freedom of information reform, even when these were requested under a freedom of information request.

When the Ombudsman disagreed with the government's position, the Attorney-General or her agencies then demanded that the Ombudsman recuse himself from the process because of alleged apprehended bias. After a second examination by the Deputy Ombudsman, a similar recommendation was made to release documents. This whole FOI process dates back to February 2020. How many documents has the Attorney-General or her agency handed over in that process? Zero.

I have to say again that the exclusion of the Public Service Association and the Police Association of South Australia is glaring in this bill. When this government consults, it either does not talk to people because it is afraid of what they will say, or it will not release what people said because the government does not like their comments. As a result, as I have said, the opposition will be reserving its final position on this bill, depending on the consultation that we undertake that the government has failed to undertake, and depending on the answers to questions which we receive in the committee stage here today, if we get to that, and certainly between houses and in the committee stage of the upper house.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (16:18): I rise to offer just a brief contribution to the OPCAT Implementation Bill. Obviously, the federal government ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (OPCAT) on 21 December 2017. As a result of ratifying the treaty, we know that our country is required to have implemented OPCAT, including the establishment of, as we have heard, National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs) by 20 January next year.

The OPCAT Implementation Bill seeks to give effect to South Australia's international obligations under OPCAT and will make related amendments to the Mental Health Act, Youth Justice Administration Act and, of course, the Police Act. The primary function of an NPM under OPCAT is to undertake regular and unannounced inspections of places of detention, including their installations, beds, etc., and also facilities.

The bill also provides for the specific powers and functions of the NPMs, including to carry out regular and unannounced inspections of places of detention, to conduct interviews with detainees, to make inquiries about the detention of detainees, to require persons to answer relevant questions or produce documents relevant to the NPM's functions and to make reports and recommendations relating to the detention of people and for those reports to be tabled in parliament.

OPCAT obligations are particularly critical for South Australia Police and Correctional Services. As minister, my agencies have undertaken a significant body of work to meet their independent national preventive mechanism requirements. NPMs will conduct regular and unannounced inspections of places of detention and closed environments where people are deprived of their certain liberties. OPCAT requirements will also see states facilitate visits to domestic places of detention from the UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

The Australian government has taken the view that the implementation of OPCAT will initially focus on a number of primary places of detention, including but not limited to adult prisons and police lockups or police station cells where people are held for 24 hours or more. Accordingly, the bill designates an NPM or NPMs for each primary place of detention. The NPMs for correctional institutions will be the official visitors, as provided for in the Correctional Services (Accountability and Other Measures) Amendment Bill 2021. There will also be an official visitor appointed as the NPM for prescribed custodial police stations.

Importantly, and as has been traditionally the case in Corrections, the bill ensures the independence of the NPM, requiring them to be provided with resources as reasonably required to exercise their functions effectively under OPCAT. For correctional institutions, the bill provides that the powers and functions of the NPM are as set out in the Correctional Services (Accountability and Other Measures) Amendment Bill 2021. The government has taken this approach in recognition of the fact that the official visitor scheme is a new scheme that has been specifically developed with the intention that it would be designated as an NPM under OPCAT.

A significant body of work has been undertaken to establish the official visitor scheme and extensive consultation occurred as part of the passage of the Correctional Services (Accountability and Other Measures) Amendment Bill earlier this year. Steps have already been taken to establish the scheme, and I look forward to having visits and inspections occurring across our prisons and our police cells. I commend the bill to the house.

Ms COOK (Hurtle Vale) (16:22): I rise to speak on the OPCAT Implementation Bill. While the member for Elizabeth is the lead speaker on behalf of the opposition for this bill, much of what occurs within this bill and its coverage is relevant also to me as the shadow minister for human services. I carry the advocacy and policy work on behalf of the opposition for youth justice, but I also have a special interest in respect of mental health and the respect and treatment of people in facilities, such as those who have forensic illnesses.

The bill provides a framework for the implementation of the OPCAT (the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment). I understand that the Australian government's ratification of OPCAT in 2017 created new obligations for the states and territories to give effect to OPCAT across the country, as corrections and justice are primarily a state responsibility.

No person in South Australia's justice system should be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading punishment. Some offenders need to serve time in prison for the harm they have done, to send a signal to the community and to facilitate their rehabilitation. That is a core principle of the way the justice system works not only here but all around the world—restorative practice.

But that does not mean offenders should be subject to torture or to abject cruelty. We are better than that. I think this is especially true when it comes to the youth justice system. This is the area that I have responsibility for on behalf of the opposition as shadow minister. I fundamentally believe that children are never born criminals. It is what we do with our children, the example we set, the lessons we teach them and the environments in which we place them which frame and shape their behaviours. While we hope beyond hope that all our children become good, functioning, emotionally adjusted, empathetic individuals, sometimes that does go wrong.

Sometimes factors in their lives such as trauma, disadvantage and their upbringing can lead to criminal behaviour. We should be proud as a state that under governments of both persuasions, started by the Labor government and now continued under the current Liberal government, the numbers of young people in detention have come down significantly.

The earlier a young person is placed into a custodial sentence, the more likely they are to become a lifetime recidivist; that is a great shame. That is what we need to prevent, so it is very important that we look at prevention, rather than reactive processes, in the youth justice system. Of course, the numbers are still too high, especially the shameful over-representation of Aboriginal children in the justice system.

It is a good thing that the numbers of children in detention in South Australia are falling, but for those children who are in detention we must have strong safeguards in place to ensure their

safety and wellbeing during that time. Of course, we have put in place some environmental and structural changes.

Those changes saw us move young girls and the younger male cohort from the old Magill site over to Cavan, which was then for the older boys. Now we see Magill close and the opening of the new training centre, the Kurlana Tapa youth justice centre, to accommodate the older boys. Now with the numbers the way they are, of course, we have been able to shift all of our youth justice clients across to the Kurlana Tapa youth justice centre, which is set up in a much more modern for-purpose way to deal with the issues, and the ambitions in fact, of young people who find themselves in the youth justice system.

But to put in context what we are doing, in the 2020-21 budget year there were 256 young people who had been admitted across that year to the Kurlana Tapa youth justice centre; 43 per cent of those, that's 110 young people, were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander. That is a great shame. Let's be clear. In that total number, these are hundreds of children we are talking about who have been detained.

We know that often many of these children have not actually been sentenced to time in the youth justice centre yet—another great shame. In estimates in July this year, I asked the Minister for Human Services how many children were held on remand in the youth justice centre. On that day in estimates, of the 28 children who were in the youth justice centre 26 did not have a custodial sentence. They were on remand. That is more than 90 per cent. So there is still a lot of work to be done in youth justice and those statistics demonstrate just why it is so important that we keep young people safe during their time at Kurlana Tapa youth justice centre.

This bill is not the only piece of the puzzle. In fact, it builds on reforms of the former Labor government, which I will be discussing further. The bill provides for National Preventive Mechanisms (NPMs) to conduct regular and unannounced inspections of their designated correctional facilities. Clause 5 of the bill specifically provides that for training centres, and I am advised that that term includes the Kurlana Tapa youth justice centre. The training centre visitor will be the NPM. This is important, as it builds on the already excellent and existing work of the visitor, who is currently Penny Wright.

I thank Penny Wright for her unrelenting advocacy and her absolutely principled position she has taken in respect of her work. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with Penny Wright since I was appointed to this portfolio, and I would recommend anyone to reach out for a briefing if they wish to understand more about the current challenges in youth justice. She does exceptional work with very limited resources. I genuinely believe that children in the youth justice centre are safer because of her and more likely to be rehabilitated effectively, educated, and have life ambition and outcome because of the efforts of Penny Wright and her team.

Unfortunately, with respect to Penny Wright and her team, I have been frustrated by the Marshall Liberal government and how it seems not to hold the training centre visitor position in as high esteem as we do on this side of the house. Last month, the visitor resigned from one of her other government roles as child and young person's visitor. She described it as 'a role in name only, without resources, which does not enable me to fulfil its functions even to a minimum standard'.

Let's not forget this position came about as a result of a recommendation of the Nyland royal commission. It is a disgrace that the Minister for Child Protection, the member for Adelaide, has allowed that to happen. That should not have occurred. Then the member for Adelaide came into this place and said that it did not matter because Commissioner Nyland only recommended a pilot program. Margaret Nyland would have heard that and would be suitably horrified by that comment. Pilot programs, of course, that work—

Mr Odenwalder: They are the beginning.

Ms COOK: They are the start of something often brilliant. I understand sometimes pilot programs do not get funded as an ongoing thing and there is no guarantee that they are going to happen as an ongoing project, but when the outcome and the bang for buck in terms of the dignity and the safety of young people within such vulnerable environments can be demonstrated, I think it is a no-brainer to invest that very small amount to ensure that it is a functional, ongoing project. Just to say it is a pilot and fob it off is not good enough.

Given these failures to ensure an inspection program for residential care homes, I was surprised to see the government introduce this legislation to strengthen inspections in the youth training centre. Perhaps this is a sign the Attorney-General is a more competent minister with respect to these matters than the member for Adelaide. That is probably for others to decide. This bill would give additional responsibilities to Penny Wright, who would pick up yet another hat as the national preventive mechanism, in my understanding. Those responsibilities are listed in schedule 1, part 4 of the bill.

I also want to outline some concerns I have regarding the scope of the NPM's powers in the youth training centre. The bill provides a range of powers for the NPM to inspect training centres; however, I am concerned that these powers are related to the physical premises of the training centre rather than a more general approach to ensure the safety and wellbeing of training centre residents. I understand these things are difficult but it is not insurmountable, and it is a challenge that has already been raised by the training centre visitor in relation to clients who go off centre—that sounds a bit weird—off site maybe.

Some of the feedback I have had from stakeholders is that children are being detained in adult correctional facilities as well. If that is the case, and I am happy for feedback on that in relation to what we have been advised, my understanding of the bill is that the training centre NPM would not be able to inspect those facilities. Instead, the NPM for the relevant facility would be empowered to do so.

This might seem like a small difference but it is an important one. We know the particular challenges facing young offenders. They are children. They have often had a very traumatic start to life and they need specialist care. We know that effective advocacy relies on specific skills and a good relationship between the visitor and the training centre residents. This is an issue I will also be seeking to explore in the committee stage of the debate.

I also want to note that this is a broader concern of mine and of the Labor opposition. The reality is that a resident of the training centre does not spend the entirety of their sentence within the centre's walls, nor should they. As I have outlined, sometimes they are in adult correctional facilities—that is an issue—but they go to many medical appointments, they often go to funerals, they often go off site to attend ceremonies and to a range of other approved visits. Those visits do not change the fact that these children are detainees of the Youth Training Centre and all the challenges in their life that suggests.

In my view, specialised advocates, like the training centre visitor, should be able to advocate for those children even if incidents occur outside the centre's walls. This was the motivation behind the bill I introduced in the last session of the parliament and I was disappointed that the minister and the government made it clear that they would not support the changes I was proposing at that time. But I want to place these concerns on record again because I do think there is a gap in oversight here and I am worried about the consequences of that.

Lastly, I would like to reflect on the consultation done by the government on this bill. The Attorney-General's office has provided—thank you—a list of stakeholders who were consulted during the writing of this bill and its construction. There are many appropriate ones on that list—absolutely. But in my view the glaring omission has been the representatives of the workers who will have to facilitate the support of children, of prisoners, and of people with forensic mental health conditions moving forward under this law.

Unions, like the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation, the Public Service Association, as well as PASA—I believe the member for Elizabeth would certainly have acknowledged their role in looking after people who look after those who will fall under this bill—all have an important role to play in the process. Their members are at the coalface. They are the ones who will be working with the NPMs, who will be held accountable and who will see the changes in their workplaces. I was really concerned to see that these unions were absent from the government's list of consulted stakeholders.

I have reached out to them in my capacity as shadow minister for human services. To clarify, I have reached out to the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation and the PSA, and I understand the member for Elizabeth would have consulted with the Police Association. I would like to place on

record my deep thanks and gratitude for the speed at which they were able to provide us with some feedback. For the life of me, I cannot understand why you would not consult in the first place with those representative bodies who are representing thousands of people in the workforce, even if you do not care much for unions. Not all people in the Liberal Party hate the presence of unions or do not want to talk to them.

Even if you are not inclined to respect the place of unions in our workforce, I would have thought it would be a no-brainer to reach out to get the commentary and feedback from them just to say you have. It is not like it is the first bill that has come in here that has not had union consultation. We ask for it all the time, and we talk to our people in the community about the lack of consultation with their representative bodies who they trust to make sure they are working in a safe workplace.

Today, I have raised issues via questions in the other place regarding the welfare of workers at the Youth Training Centre. We have been advised that there are dozens of workers on WorkCover and leave related to stress, injuries and bullying—a whole range of complaints. In fact, we have been advised that the roster to staff the Youth Training Centre at best is only 30 per cent of FTE filled and that it is relying on overtime by stressed and strained workers to fill the shifts. This does not lead to a happy working environment, nor does it flow on to be an environment conducive to the support and growth of young people who are in the Youth Training Centre for training, education.

Alarming, we have been advised that, because there is not enough staff, young people are not getting their education. They are not going to classes. We have been advised that under many circumstances young people are kept in their rooms, where they stay overnight in their units, I guess, because there is not enough staff to take the young people to the classroom to get the education they are entitled to. I also wonder whether there have been any critical incidents as a result of this, what is being done to placate the children and young people to keep them calm and quiet because they are mixing with their friends and peers in the classroom. They are not doing their learning. So there is a range of questions to be asked.

In closing, I would like to thank all the unions for their feedback, I thank the stakeholders for coming to us and I reiterate the member for Elizabeth's comments that we will not be opposing the passage of the bill today but will reserve our position in the other place while we finalise our consultation and consider answers to our questions. I look forward to exploring some of the issues I have raised today during the committee stage of debate.

Mr PICTON (Kaurua) (16:43): I am going to make a quick contribution, given the importance of this debate. I think it is incredibly important we make sure that we have strong protections in place to prevent torture occurring. We have incredible power, vested through this parliament, in the ability for people to be detained, whether it be via the police, whether it be via Corrections facilities, whether it be via mental health services, whether it be in youth detention, and it is important that, as a parliament, we make sure that those detentions are lawful and that they do not have the risk of torture.

We have all seen in the past few days, as we have had the 20th anniversary of the awful September 11 attacks, some documentaries going back over the past 20 years of the war on terror. You can see how, in the wake of that, there were moves by the United States in particular to push at the edges of what could be acceptable ways of treating people in the hands of the government—waterboarding, sleep deprivation and these sorts of things. This should never be acceptable. This should never be a way in which we treat people, and I do not think it is productive, either, because it just leads to forced confessions and people saying what they want to hear. I absolutely stand with the need to make sure that we have strong protections.

I am very concerned that this has been significantly delayed. This was agreed back in 2017. We are now here in 2021. It is meant to be coming in a few months' time, and here we are right at the last minute debating this legislation. I recall in my brief time as the minister for corrections that we introduced corrections legislation that was seeking in many ways to make sure that we updated the legislation to be in line with the OPCAT guidelines and requirements under that treaty. That was then deferred and delayed by the government for years after the election, after they were elected.

We are here now. We clearly want to make sure that this is considered, but one of the key reasons why we still need to do additional consultation is that this has not been properly consulted with people in the workforce in those particular areas. The member for Elizabeth and the member for Hurtle Vale have talked about some of those areas. In particular, as the shadow minister for health

and wellbeing, I would raise the point that there are key requirements and needs for the mental health system to be part of this regulatory system.

I do not see it mentioned anywhere that we have been talking to our nurses, that we have been talking to our doctors, our psychiatrists and our psychologists in the health system, as well as allied health professionals, with respect to making sure that we have worked through this arrangement with them. There does not seem to be any consultation with those frontline healthcare workers at all, and if the government is not going to do that we will undertake to do that work ourselves in between the houses and make sure that their views have been properly considered as we consider this legislation.

Mental health is obviously a key area for very important reasons. We have a Mental Health Act that deprives people of their ordinary liberties. It detains them, and we need to make sure that their rights are maintained and that we are not doing anything that could be considered the definition of torture to those people. I fully support a very strong inspection regime to take place there, and I look forward to speaking with our healthcare workers, as well as with people with lived experience—mental health consumers—to make sure that what the government has proposed is the right approach. As well as the workers, I do not see any evidence that the government has consulted with mental health consumers. Clearly, we should be making sure that they are also comfortable and support the approach that has been taken in this legislation.

I support the need to implement these measures. I want to make sure that we do everything we possibly can to prevent something being defined as torture happening within a state facility, but unfortunately we have not seen the work. This is a last-minute sloppy job by the government right before the bell rings of this parliamentary term and right before OPCAT is meant to start. Hopefully, we will be able to fix their work between the houses and further consider this in the next few weeks.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN (Bragg—Deputy Premier, Attorney-General, Minister for Planning and Local Government) (16:48): I will start with consultation. Members may not be aware, but with respect to consultation I advise that all the Australian OPCAT network membership were part of that, and I will just quickly read them: Amnesty International, Australian Association of Social Workers, Australian Council of Social Service, Australian Child Rights Taskforce, the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses, Advocacy for Inclusion, Anglicare Australia, Asylum Seeker Advocacy Group, Being—Mental Health & Wellbeing Consumer Advisory Group, Civil Liberties Australia, Community Mental Health Australia, Disabled People's Organisations Australia, and Doctors for Refugees, Federal Loves Refugees, which some members might know also includes the Rural Australians for Refugees group.

It also includes Human Rights Law Centre, Human Rights Council of Australia, Jesuits Social Services, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Service, National Ethnic Disability Alliance, National Justice Report, New South Wales Council of Civil Liberties, Public Health Association of Australia, People with Disability Australia, Queensland Advocacy Incorporated, Refugee Council of Australia, St Vincent de Paul, National Council of Women Australia and Women With Disabilities Australia.

That is not to distract from the fact that, if there are unions that specifically have workforces working with persons in some form of detention, they are not important people to be considered if they have a view. In relation to the police, yes, I confirm the police commissioner has been consulted and indicated his support. Can I just explain the issue of the delay? Signing up was in 2017 by George Brandis, the then Attorney-General, nationally. To the best of my knowledge, South Australia is the first state to introduce this bill to complement and support this arrangement, so it is far from being delayed.

What we made very clear—and I thought it was clear in the contribution I made but, if not, I will make it absolutely clear—is that we are of the view that the model that would be employed in South Australia, which is optional, is that we either move to establish another grand scheme in Canberra of inspectorate, of supervision of this, by which they would administer all of the role of the ad hoc and without notice attendances at these places of detention, or that we do it ourselves under an approved system but with accountability to the office in Canberra. We chose the latter.

It was very clear that we had an inspectorate system for almost every area of detention in South Australia: mental health, hospitals in detention, the Adelaide Youth Training Centre at Kurlana Tapa—which has been referred to in the contribution today, which is now on one site—and of course the prisons under Correctional Services and our police cells.

It was only really the police cells that did not have supervision at every level. I think the member for Taylor mentioned in his contribution the supervision in these areas. This can be police cells in a police station at Peterborough or it can be at the watch house, so there is a diversity in how they operate. To be frank, in the development of what we were having under the South Australian model a lot of the time was taken up as to who was going to undertake that responsibility.

We are very pleased that Correctional Services and the police got together—and, I assume, their respective unions—to work out that Correctional Services, which had a very sophisticated area of work, would undertake the work in the police cells for the police. That process was discussed and negotiated. Those arrangements came into agreement between the parties and apparently they stack up with the commonwealth requirements under the OPCAT treaty and we would come into play with that.

I do not mind if there are issues raised that are matters of concern. None of the reference groups that I have referred to—the Australian College of Mental Health Nurses or the BEING: Mental Health and Wellbeing Consumer Advisory Group, etc.—have raised any problem directly with us. We have committed to putting into statute our commitment to an international treaty, which Australia signed us up to but, as has been pointed out I think by the member for Hurtle Vale (it may have been the lead speaker, but either one of them) the state responsibility is overwhelmingly with us as states to provide the services of detention.

We worked through that and, to the best of my knowledge, other states have worked through that with whatever deficiencies they have in relation to their supervisory arrangements, so that you can have visitor schemes and/or persons who are vested with that responsibility. Ironically, notwithstanding that the member for Hurtle Vale raised a concern about the supervision in Kurlana Tapa, which is the youth justice centre, independent of the Guardian for Children and Young People's temporary role as a training centre visitor under a pilot scheme, is one of about four people who regularly visit that centre. Importantly, they have identified issues like spit hoods in children's facilities and have reported that to the parliament. We have acted on it, our government has acted on the recommendations in relation to that, and they are no longer there. I think the adult prisons already have a policy in relation to that.

So, yes, it is important that we have these, for compliance with our own laws but also as part of this treaty. For example, Judge Penny Eldridge, who is head of the Youth Court and also chair of the training equivalent of the Parole Board, has access to that facility, and my understanding from my meetings with her is that she regularly visits there. We also have availability for the Ombudsman, and we also have the children's commissioner now as well as the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People. So we have four who can regularly go down there, and do, and they raise these issues.

It is important that we have inspectorates. Ironically, it is that facility that on the day I visited a few months ago had 17 children in it, and two more came in that day. So we are talking about a facility that is actually very low in number relative to other areas under surveillance.

The member for Hurtle Vale also raised the question of children apparently being retained in their rooms, not having supervision or people available to attend to their lessons and education. I have not heard of that concern; it would certainly be very concerning if it had been raised. I am not aware of any of the parties who report to the Minister for Education, for example, having raised that concern as to whether that is occurring or, if it had occurred, that it has ceased.

However, I am more than happy to make some inquiries about that, because those matters would be concerning. I can honestly say that, of all the people who have a role in relation to an inspectorate and/or a role of responsibility for children who are out there, to the best of my knowledge it has not been raised by them, but I will certainly make that inquiry. On the day I visited there was a workforce that heavily outnumbered the children in the facility, and that is a great compliment to the Hon. Michelle Lensink, who has worked tirelessly to reduce the number of children in that facility.

In relation to the Kurlana Tapa reference, I also remind members that as of this year's budget there has been a capital injection of funds into a bail house and upgrade of other services for those children. I do not disagree with the member for Hurtle Vale: we do not want to have children in any custodial situation if there is an adequate bail facility. Already the minister, in addition to the \$40 million being spent on those improvements, is upgrading a facility for bail outside of the Kurlana Tapa facility. That is to be applauded and will certainly be welcomed when it is available, because nobody wants these children in custody.

I will conclude by saying that police cells hold people for very short periods of time. The responsibility for police to supervise people once they have been charged is very short lived, and the lead speaker would be aware of this. However, in South Australia, one of the reasons we have such a very high level of bailees in prison is because in other states they remain under the responsibility of their police organisation. They maintain responsibility, sometimes for several weeks from the arrest to the time they are ultimately transferred to the responsibility of Corrections.

If you look at the national data, you will see a really high level of people who are on remand in custody in South Australia, but that does not show up anywhere else in the country because those people have already been transferred to Corrections. Corrections are holding all these people and Minister Tarzia is responsible for them, but his equivalents around Australia leave them back with the police.

Mr Odenwalder interjecting:

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Yes, as part of his portfolio. We have a different system in South Australia. In any event, wherever they are in care, whenever they are under supervision in a detained circumstance, this is designed to make sure they are kept free of torture or any other cruel or inhumane behaviour. One of the cruellest things I have seen in the time I have been here, which was several years after coming into office, was the strip searching of a woman in the watch house, naked and left naked. I was given assurance at the time by the then commissioner that that would not happen again.

I found, in a very short time, it did happen again and I had to go back to the police commissioner of the day and say, 'This is just completely unacceptable conduct.' It defies any comprehension as to how that could be even allowable or an acceptable process of interrogation in a confinement situation. It is absolutely unacceptable.

I think it is important for all members to be conscious of the importance of what we are signing up to here. I am proud of the fact that we are progressing this in South Australia as the first one to initiate the bill. I hope it has the support of the opposition and swift passage through the parliament because obviously we are looking to commit to all being ready under the new regime by the beginning of next year. For that reason, I think it is important that we do acknowledge the responsibility that we have signed up to and now put it into effect.

Bill read a second time.

Committee Stage

In committee.

Clause 1.

Mr ODENWALDER: As I outlined in my second reading speech, this will be a sort of preliminary committee stage and the main guts of it will be conducted in the upper house when the Attorney is not there, I guess, but also after significant further consultation has been undertaken by the opposition, since that consultation clearly has not occurred.

I want to preface all my remarks, though, by reiterating that we do not oppose the measures in this bill. Indeed, it may turn out, at the end of all our consultation, at the end of all our discussion in this place and in the other place, that this is a very good bill and a very timely bill. Indeed, the intention of the bill is unmistakably good, and I think we all agree on that. We all agree that cruel and inhuman treatment of prisoners is definitely a thing of the past.

We have different methods of trying to achieve it, but I think there is a bipartisan agreement at least that we should be heading towards a corrections system, and a custodial system generally,

that cares for people to the extent that it reduces recidivism and reduces reoffending and, in particular in regard to this bill, amongst those youth that are caught up in this system, of whom a despicable number are Aboriginal kids. It is a continuing sadness and a blight on this nation that that continues to be the case. I hope that this, and other measures we can all in a bipartisan way continue to enact, will address that in some way.

I have a couple of questions, and this seems like the opportune time to ask them. In her closing remarks, the Attorney-General stated that we will be the first state to ratify—

The Hon. V.A. Chapman: To table a bill.

Mr ODENWALDER: —to table a bill, which ratifies OPCAT. During the very good briefings I had from both the government and others, including Professor Laura Grenfell, when we were discussing the OPCAT measures contained within the corrections amendment bill, we had some pretty strong representations from Western Australia, that certainly their prison inspection system was consciously OPCAT compliant.

I wonder if the Attorney has any information about what Western Australia has done in terms of the other areas that this bill addresses, as they have done in Corrections, whether their equivalent systems confined to this bill are OPCAT compliant and whether they have essentially ratified the protocol?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Just to explain, there are two processes. One is that, in the last few years, having all agreed that we would do it, we have worked with the commonwealth to have whatever models we have in our respective states qualify, so to speak, or satisfy the standard. My understanding is that Western Australia has so far gone down the road of having its NPMs approved. What is happening in Western Australia is that, through their legislation, they have had a designated person allocated to do that role of the Inspector of Custodial Services. So far, whether it has been populated yet, we have no idea. That is what is happening over there.

In relation to the two other territories, the NT and ACT, they have enacted legislation to have their inspectorates done by the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT). That is a different process. What we are doing here is signing up the whole thing and we are ready.

Mr ODENWALDER: I will get back to the crux of my second reading contribution. You did provide a pretty comprehensive list of consultees and you expanded upon that comprehensive list. Why did you not consult the PSA and PASA?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: ANF, PSA and PASA were the three that were raised in the contribution, so I will not ignore the Australian Nursing Federation (ANF) because I think they were raised as well. There were three unions that were raised, not just the ones the member has raised, so I will do them all in that category.

There are a number of associations and groups that I think we have covered. I appreciate that the member says, 'Just dealing with the police commissioner and his bevy of advisers isn't enough. This should have been dealt with with the Police Association of SA as well.' From time to time, we do. This is in relation to signing up to a treaty. The implementation of that is under the responsibility of the Commissioner of Police, for example, if we are using that as the example, and we would certainly expect that in relation to those matters they would be considered.

My understanding is that they were involved in relation to the question of negotiating the available personnel from the corrections department to undertake work for the police department from their inspectorate group. These are the people who actually do the job, so it was agreed that pool of people would be available—at a fee, no doubt, that is negotiated between them—to provide that service. Of course, if the opposition want to specifically consult with them, they are welcome to do so.

Mr ODENWALDER: I would have thought that with a list so extensive, there are such glaring omissions from that list. These are unions that represent the people, the cell sergeants, the police security officers—

Ms Cook: The youth workers.

Mr ODENWALDER: Sorry, I am just talking about police at the moment; it is the only thing I know anything about. It just seems like a glaring omission not to have consulted the body that

represents those workers who will be directly affected. I understand that this is a treaty, I understand the NPM process, I understand those people should be consulted about those people's roles, but what I am talking about is the impact those people have on the people working there currently.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: In that regard, let me make it very clear: the treaty is something Australia has signed up to. We provide the service. This is not a question of going along and saying to the workforce, 'How do you feel about us coming in and doing this inspection?' if there is a visiting group from Africa, for example, who are signed up in the international community to do these visits and we do not want them to come in without notice.

For example, during COVID, there was an international group from the United Nations subcommittee of some kind, who came to actually inspect our prisons and it was clearly identified, at least from South Australia's point of view—I think the others followed suit—that it really was not a smart time to have people who did not need to go into prisons to go in there because we were in a COVID shutdown arrangement and we wanted to make sure we were keeping COVID out the prisons, which is exactly what we have achieved so far. I am sure that Minister Tarzia is making sure that that will continue.

That ended up being a situation where I think they certainly came to Australia; I am not sure whether they actually got to South Australia because we said, 'This is really not a good time to visit.' This is not a question of consulting with workforces on how they feel about the arrangements. This is an inspectorate. Again, if anything, it is to deal with the premises, including issues in relation to the wellbeing of those who are in custody or in detention of some form or other. That is what it is about.

Therefore, certainly I would make it clear here today that we are not in a situation where we would be in some sort of consultation with the process. Of course you have to speak to management and say, 'Is there a practical issue? Do you have workforce available? Is there a better time of the day? What time do you change over your shifts?' Management obviously needs to be able to tell the personnel when it is going to be difficult or inconvenient to have a visit. There are practical things to be taken into account, but that is what management is there to do.

Ms COOK: Attorney, when did work on this bill actually commence?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: It went out for consultation on 3 June this year. Certainly, it was a few months ago that we finally got the bill because it was only in the earlier part of this year that we finally had resolution of the outstanding issue of who was going to do the police cell arrangement. That had to be sorted, still. Once everyone was in check, the Public Advocate was ticked off. She supervises the visitor program for mental health facilities, etc., aged health facilities and so on. So everyone else was in order and the final one was in Minister Tarzia's area between Corrections and police.

Ms COOK: I heard you talking just before about the process that has been undertaken in WA. Are there any other parallel processes happening interstate at the moment and how does this compare with how other states are undertaking the consultation in the process?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I do not know specifically of those. We are all under arrangements where we are working with the commonwealth. They are the ones we are having to sign up to and do everything in 16 copies. It is bureaucratic overload over there in Canberra, let me say. So we are dealing with them; we are not dealing with the other states as such. The attorneys have met and canvassed as to what we would each do, so I have not been keeping any oversight over my colleagues in other states, other than to know that they are progressing.

I am just advised by my adviser that Tasmania now has a draft bill in train—whatever that means. Presumably they are getting it ready. We all know what the deadline is, but we thought that we were comfortable in having had the tick-off as to what was acceptable and we are putting it in the envelope of the legislation now.

Ms COOK: Just to be clear, there is no other legislation in other states that has been complete in relation to youth justice at this point; is that what I am hearing?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Not in youth justice, no.

Clause passed.

Clause 2.

Mr ODENWALDER: I hope that this is the right time to ask the question. This gets to, again, why this bill has taken so long and I think that we have exhausted the Attorney on that particular subject. But I do note, as I have noted before, that there was a Corrections amendment bill in the house some six months ago, eight months ago, that we debated at length. As I said, there was extensive consultation and very good briefings. Professor Laura Grenfell and the people from WA were very good with their time. The Hon. Connie Bonaros, too, made some very good amendments.

My question is if corrections could do it—and, from memory, it was a more substantial bill in terms of the schedules being much longer and it was a much more substantial piece of work. I guess there are two questions. Why was that bill completed before this bill? A supplementary to that: why was it not considered that the bills could be put together as one OPCAT compliance bill and be done with it?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: The corrections bill, of course, was comprehensive in relation to corrections, not just the question of the OPCAT obligations. But within that, they were formalising—I think we had pretty much agreed what they were already going to be doing—so they put it in their comprehensive bill. Police, in short, were the ones who needed to be looked at because they just did not have anything; they had to start from scratch. Their negotiations were in relation to the police cells and they needed to start from scratch. They had to look at whether they were going to train up their own or have another new visitor system. They ultimately agreed to negotiate with corrections to look at their model and utilise their inspectors. I think it was an excellent outcome.

Mr ODENWALDER: Since this is about the commencement, if all goes to the government's plan and we pass this bill in a timely way in the other place—presumably next sitting week would be the hope of the government, I imagine—when do you expect this bill to commence? Do not say the date fixed by proclamation.

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: Sometime before 20 January next year which, of course, we have all committed to sign up to.

Ms COOK: In respect of that process, what work needs to be done between now and when the bill does come into effect? What other work needs to be done in order to get that happening?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: We need regulations, but I think we have given you a full list of what we understand to be the places of the institutions that are to be prescribed through that process; so regulations, and the protocol for the NPMs formally we still have to sort out. It has to be then worked out what the process is physically going to be with the arrangements with the central body in Canberra, the National Preventive Mechanisms. The agency is the NPM Coordinator. That is a typical bureaucratic Canberra description.

Ms COOK: How does the implementation time line then relate to what happened in WA to put in place their regulations in relation to corrections? Are you confident that that in fact is going to be met within that time?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: I cannot tell you the program. They seem to have done it the other way around. They have passed the legislation to appoint an inspector of custodial services. They have done it the other way around. They have set up that framework and they have to populate it. I do not keep an eye on them or identify how they have progressed or whether they have deficiencies yet. We all have to sign off to the Canberra arrangement, the Canberra coordinator office.

Ms COOK: Is there any money or budget that you have attached to the implementation of the functions of the people who sit under this bill in order to get work done, the NPMs and such?

The Hon. V.A. CHAPMAN: The commonwealth have made commitments in this regard and they are in discussions between the commonwealth and the NPMs on those matters. They do that directly.

Clause passed.

Progress reported; committee to sit again.

ELECTORAL (REGULATION OF CORFLUTES) AMENDMENT BILL*Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 24 August 2021.)

Mr PICTON (Kaurua) (17:20): I rise to speak in relation to the Electoral (Regulation of Corflutes) Amendment Bill 2021. I indicate that I am the lead speaker for the opposition and I indicate that the opposition is opposed to this legislation.

This is legislation that has been designed and brought to this parliament because the Attorney-General and the Premier believe that it will help them to win the next election. That is the whole reason why this legislation has been brought to the parliament. This is legislation that has previously been considered in relation to another bill the Attorney brought to the parliament that was defeated at the second reading stage in the other place. This is being done for one reason only: because the Liberal Party believes that it will help the Liberal Party's chances of retaining government at the next election.

It is only 179 days until the next election next year. We are not in the last half, we are not in the last quarter, we are now in the last eighth of the time that this parliament has been elected for over those four years. This is effectively the second half of the last quarter of a sporting match, and here we are with the government time after time introducing pieces of legislation to try to change the rules right at the last minute in relation to how the electoral system should work.

We have seen that in relation to other bills that we are still debating, we have seen that in relation to the previous legislation that has now been defeated and now we are seeing it here in relation to this bill that is seeking to ban not only corflutes but also other electoral posters from being displayed. It is very clear that the government believe that if they stop the display of these corflutes, then it will reduce the chances of their MPs being defeated at the next election. This is the reason why they have introduced this.

This is a redrafting of one of the sections of their previous electoral bills they had in the parliament last year. It would prohibit the exhibition of any electoral poster on a public road that is made of corflute, plastic or other material prescribed by regulations, which is worth considering for a moment. We are specifying the type of material that could be used as corflute or plastic or whatever the government introduces by way of regulation.

Presumably, unless the government introduces a whole range of different types of materials, there could be some materials that could be displayed on public roads or could be displayed outside polling booths. If you could determine a cardboard poster, then that would be able to be explained. I have seen in other states the use of wooden backing and then paper posters stuck to that. There is nothing in this legislation that would ban that from operation. You have to ask why.

It is a very bizarre situation in which particular types of material are being banned but others would be allowed and presumably would still be able to operate on public roads. Are we going to be in the situation where some parties end up using wooden signs or cardboard signs and they would be allowed? Based on the legislation we have here before the parliament, then that may well be the case. The legislation would also seek to limit the number of election posters within 50 metres of a polling booth to four per House of Assembly candidate and four per Legislative Council ticket or candidate.

South Australians have been very used to and understand that there is a variety of posters outside polling booths. In the eight years I have been a member or a candidate, I have never had anybody complaining to me about posters outside polling booths, but we are now going to specify a limit of four per lower house candidate and four per group of or individual candidates for the upper house outside polling booths. There is seemingly very little justification for why that should be the case, which we will get to later.

The opposition opposes this bill for the same reason it opposed the previous bill that was defeated in this parliament. The central reason we are putting this forward is that we should not be changing the rules of the election this close to the election. We already know that we are—as far as

the Electoral Commission and the Electoral Act are concerned—already in the campaign period in relation to funding and disclosure requirements. That started from 1 July and we are now towards the end of September.

We are already in the election season as far as our laws are concerned, yet here we have the Attorney trying to push through legislation that would change the electoral processes right before the election would happen. Parties would be already in the planning stages of their various election processes, and corflutes and posters no doubt would be one of those elements they would be planning for, and here the government is trying to change that at the last minute.

If this were being put forward by the government straight after the election with years and years until the election, that would be a very different matter. That is not to say I would necessarily support it, but I think that would be a matter we would consider, that we would have time to consider and that everyone would have notice of before the next election takes place, whereas we are in a very different situation when it comes to putting this legislation before the parliament with very little notice.

Very clearly, this is about Liberal self-interest. Very clearly, they believe that this is going to help them in relation to their marginal seats. They believe that, when it comes to their key marginal seats they are concerned about—whether it be the electorate of King, the electorate of Newland, the electorate of Adelaide and the electorate of Elder, as well as a number of other country seats where they may well be subject to strong challenges from Independent candidates—it would be helpful for the government to not have the ability for challenges to their MPs who have had posters up advertising themselves.

Those MPs have had four years as a member of parliament to promote themselves, to use the resources of incumbency, including their electorate office, including their staff, including their global allowance, to get their name and face out there amongst the masses, and any challengers to that would not have an equal ability to do the bare minimum in terms of having their poster up before an election. The crux of this matter is that they believe this will help them to win those seats.

This will be very clearly a disaster for minor parties and for Independents who are seeking to get elected to this parliament. Those parties are not going to be able to have advertisements on television or, if they are, the budgets are going to be quite minimal. They are not going to be able to spend millions and millions of dollars to blitz the airwaves. Nowadays, a lot of the spending goes on digital to blitz the YouTube, to blitz the Facebook and to blitz the Google advertising, which both major parties will be spending literally millions of dollars doing.

Minor parties and Independents rely upon low-cost ways of campaigning. This is one of those ways that minor parties and Independents can get their name out there, can get their message out there and can be considered by the public. When you are considering the government's push to have this legislation introduced, always back self-interest. Self-interest here is that there is a key concern from the government that they may well lose seats to minor parties and Independents, as they have done historically as the Liberal Party over the past 50 years.

The history is that many of their safe seats have been lost to minor parties and Independents and it has been very difficult to win them back. Clearly, part of the government's decision-making in bringing this in is to make it harder for those people to get their name out there. I am already aware of a number of what you would consider blue ribbon, traditional Liberal safe seats that have strong Independent challenges to the Liberal incumbents at the next election, and there may well be others that I am not yet aware of.

Those people will be campaigning hard. They will not have the resources of the government at their disposal, but bringing in this legislation would be a key way for the government to try to deprive them of the ability in a low-cost way to get their name out there, get their message out there and campaign, particularly in those regional areas.

I think the government have not even properly addressed the fact that the drafting of this legislation is so radical that it may well capture all sorts of other unintended consequences in terms of people trying to protest appropriate local issues, political campaigns and things that people want to protest about. That sort of advertising on signs made out of plastic or corflute or other materials subject to regulation would now be an offence under the Attorney's proposed legislation. I think that

there is a real doubt over whether the breadth of this is so far that we are outlawing all sorts of other unintended activities that would not be envisaged.

I can think of one very strong example of that in my own electorate of Kaurua. We have a piece of land on Commercial Road, between Seaford Meadows and Port Noarlunga South, which has been approved for development. It is currently an empty paddock that is the home of a mob of kangaroos that have been beloved by the community, particularly kids in the community, and over the past few years there has been a strong protest from local residents about that development going ahead. A significant petition was delivered to the house about it and this has been a strong concern for many people.

Part of that campaigning from the local community has been to put up posters on the public road area, displaying their concern and their desire for that development to stop. From what I can see, the government is now outlawing that sort of protest activity. The government is now saying that people who put up such posters could be subject to offences and fines. I do not think anybody in the community in my own electorate wants to see concerned people who put up posters about this issue fined. Rather, I think the vast majority of people support those people who have been raising those concerns.

I think we need to seek detail and assurances from the Attorney-General in terms of what the unintended consequences are in relation to non-party and non-political candidates who use posters who could be subject to fines and offences by the legislation that the Attorney is trying to introduce to safeguard and sandbag Liberal vulnerable seats. So for all those reasons, this legislation is quite outrageous.

The government previously put this bill and various changes from the Electoral Commissioner, as well as the government's desire to have optional preferential voting, in a bill before the parliament. I am not going to debate the subject of the electronic documents legislation, which parliament is concurrently debating. We have talked about it in some detail, as you might recall, Mr Deputy Speaker, so I will not traverse that legislation.

Clearly, the Attorney was given recommendations from the Electoral Commissioner, and she decided to introduce legislation to implement some of them—not all of those recommendations, mind you, and there were some that were pointed out in particular that she did not do—as well as chuck in corflutes and optional preferential voting that the Electoral Commissioner did not call for, that nobody called for. The only reason why she sought to do those things is that they thought the Liberal Party would do better if those amendments had been passed.

The upper house quite wisely saw this for what it was, an attempt by the government to try to benefit their own situation, and they opposed and rejected that legislation. Then we have the Attorney at the last minute—really at the last minute, one minute to midnight—coming into the parliament to try to reintroduce part of that legislation in relation to corflutes and get us to consider and pass that legislation.

Why would the government be so concerned about potential support for Independents and minor parties? Well, one reason is that they believe that they stand to lose the most seats to those parties. What we have seen is a very real and angry concern from people in regional South Australia that this government has let them down, that this government is the most city-centric government that we have ever seen and that their concerns have been fundamentally ignored time after time.

I am very concerned about the fact that this is such a city-centric government, but I believe that this is leading to the concern of many people in regional South Australia about what they are going to do in response to that. They have been listening to Liberal candidates and Liberal MPs for the past 20 years telling them, 'The Labor Party is awful. They are city-centric. You've just got to get rid of them. Elect us, and we will look after the regions at last.'

Now that they have finally had a Liberal government for 3½ years, they have found that they have been ignored even more than they thought they were before. We have even had the spectacle in the past week of what has happened in relation to the member for MacKillop, who has been very bravely standing up on behalf of his own constituents and very bravely taking stances in this parliament, against the party view, in relation to what is going on at the border and in his community in the South-East, standing up for his local residents.

We have heard the very real and serious concerns about how people in the South-East have been ignored in relation to the management of exemptions and the delay in exemptions. He reportedly went to the party room to try to raise those issues and was reportedly howled down by the Premier. The Premier stormed out of the meeting, rather than listening to and addressing those concerns. The member for MacKillop has just been through a week's consultation process where he has considered leaving the party, but has now agreed to stay in it for now.

It is very clear from the off-the-record sources that are speaking to various media outlets that tensions are still running very high in the Liberal Party, and one of those key reasons is his concern about regional South Australians. I thank the member for MacKillop for his bravery in speaking up on behalf of his constituents because that would not be an easy thing to do when you have the Premier being so angry and concerned in relation to his own behaviour.

These sorts of things add up to the concern that people have, which would lead them to want to support Independents and minor parties instead of the Liberal Party. They are not traditional Labor areas; I am sure we acknowledge that. I am sure we would like everybody in these areas to support Labor, but we recognise that will not be the case. They have been traditionally Liberal areas. You can look at electorate across electorate in South Australia and recognise that in the past many have supported minor parties and Independents that take to this parliament a different viewpoint.

Deputy Speaker, as you know well, your electorate has been one of those that in the past has been represented by a minor party, and there are many others in regional South Australia. If those candidates do not have the ability to use low-cost ways of letting people know they are running, letting people know who they are, letting people know there is another option at this election and you do not just have to vote the same way you always have, it creates a real risk to their ability to get the word out. Hence, the government are trying to protect their base, and their regional safe seats that are really concerned about the city-centric government.

One of the key reasons for the concern arises when they see \$662 million being spent on a CBD basketball stadium. They say to themselves, 'We didn't vote for that. We wanted our local health services fixed. We wanted our local roads fixed. We wanted our local schools and other important services fixed and addressed.' And here we have the government chucking a whole bunch of money into something that nobody called for, nobody wanted, particularly not the people in regional South Australia. I think that will be another reason the government want this legislation, so that it is another reason why they do not want people to know about Independents.

Another issue is that there is a long history of where these Independents are elected. It has actually been the Labor Party, not the Liberal Party, that has been able to work with Independents. We have consistently had an approach of being able to work with people on the crossbenches in the parliament decade after decade, whereas the Liberal Party do not have that ability. They do not have the ability to work with or negotiate with people in the crossbench. They are concerned that they would not have that ability in the future if more people were elected.

We have the likes of the many Independent members of this house who have served as cabinet ministers under Liberal governments. It was even the case after we won very convincingly the 2006 state election, when the member for Light and others were elected in that very significant election victory. We kept on the likes of Karlene Maywald and Rory McEwen in our cabinet to provide an additional voice for people in the regions, and they played a very valuable role in our cabinet. We recognised their value to good government and the wider community. We also even notably had a former leader of the Liberal Party in our cabinet before the last election, which was certainly a surprise to many, particularly in the Liberal Party.

It is very doubtful that the Liberal Party would reach across the aisle to bring onboard Independents and minor parties into their government. They are so hopelessly divided that they will not even let some people from the right faction into their cabinet, inside their party. The conservative wing of their party has been so totally crushed and defeated that they are not even speaking or allowing them to be represented in the cabinet.

We have heard many contributions in this debate already about the reasons this legislation is not necessary. However, there is one contribution I think is worth reflecting on, and that is not a contribution from now, nor from last year's debate, but from back in 2009. This was a contribution from the former shadow attorney-general and former Attorney-General Robert Lawson MLC, who spoke very passionately against having restrictions on confluents put in place.

He denounced the proposition that was then being put forward by the then member for Croydon, the Hon. Michael Atkinson, as a reason to help the incumbent government, help the Labor Party, retain office in government. Very clearly, the Liberal Party have completely swapped their position in relation to their opposition to the bill back in 2009. Robert Lawson said:

We on the Liberal side oppose these amendments in the strongest possible terms... They are a very important way in which candidates can put themselves before the electorate to gain some name recognition for themselves and/or their particular party... It is a clear example of this government's desire to close down the debate, to restrict opportunities for political engagement, and to limit the capacity of small parties and newcomers to participate. The reason is obvious. This government sees itself as riding high in the polls; the Attorney-General has said publicly, and somewhat arrogantly, that he regards the Australian Labor Party as a natural party in government in South Australia. Clearly, he wants to keep it that way.

Of course, I would agree in relation to that comment from the member for Croydon, but Robert Lawson went on to say:

We do not pretend that corflutes are popular with the public or with local council; many regard corflutes as visual pollution. However, that is not really surprising, as many people are disdainful of the whole political process, and regard letters and brochures from aspirants to political office with annoyance and irritation. All the polling shows that they can get heartily sick of electioneering. The way to overcome that cynicism is for us, as political parties and candidates, to engage the public and enthuse them. The government has chosen the easy way—namely, banning the most visible form of political activity—but the opposition does not believe that is the way to go.

He concluded by saying:

...the opposition is strongly opposed to the restriction on electoral advertisements. They are already an important part of our political process. There are already in place adequate controls and regulations over them. Indeed, one might say there is actually over-regulation of electoral signs, but this is a politically motivated proposal to improve the prospects of the current government and should be opposed.

It is very interesting to see the change that has occurred between 2009 and now in the Liberal Party's view in relation to corflutes. Back then, they opposed changes because they said that it was important for political debate and that this was a cheap and easy way of stopping that debate and stopping challenges to the then incumbent government, the Australian Labor Party, who was in office at the time. Now they are in government they want to do exactly that and try to stop people challenging them at the next election.

I would like to talk about an issue that has been raised in relation to the environmental aspects of this legislation. It is important to note that if this legislation passes it does not mean there will be no corflutes produced. Let's be very clear about that. If this legislation passes there will not be an environmental benefit because there are not going to be corflutes produced because you will still be able to put them on public property, you will still be able to—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for King is on her feet. Do you have a point of order?

Ms LUETHEN: I would like to move that the debate be adjourned.

The SPEAKER: What we will do, member for King, given the time, is that we will get to a point where—

Mr PICTON: I seek leave to continue my remarks.

The SPEAKER: Yes, thank you. We will get to a point where the member for Kaurua seeks leave, which he has done now; is that correct?

Mr PICTON: Yes.

The SPEAKER: Member for Kaurua has sought leave to continue his remarks. Is leave granted?

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

STATUTES AMENDMENT (CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE) BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

CIVIL LIABILITY (INSTITUTIONAL CHILD ABUSE LIABILITY) AMENDMENT BILL*Introduction and First Reading*

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (OVERSIGHT AND ADVOCACY BODIES) (COMMISSIONER FOR ABORIGINAL CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE) AMENDMENT BILL*Final Stages*

The Legislative Council agreed to the bill with the amendments indicated in the following schedule, to which amendments the Legislative Council desires the concurrence of the House of Assembly:

No. 1. Clause 25, page 13, line 8 [clause 25, inserted section 20(3)]—Delete 'should' and substitute:

will

No. 2. Clause 25, page 13, line 11 [clause 25, inserted section 20(3)]—Delete 'should' and substitute:

will

Consideration in committee.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: I move:

That the Legislative Council's amendments be agreed to.

I would like to thank the Legislative Council for their consideration of the Children and Young People (Oversight and Advocacy Bodies) (Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People) Amendment Bill and indicate that the government will be supporting these amendments. I therefore move that the House of Assembly accept the amendments recommended by the Legislative Council.

I would like to reflect briefly on the situation, if I may. The bill, which I believe in the next five to 10 minutes we are going to see the conclusion of, is a culmination of a significant body of work over several years. It is a particularly good moment for Ms April Lawrie, the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People in South Australia, and I spoke to her a few moments ago after the passage of the bill with these very minor amendments in the Legislative Council.

I commended her for the work she has done over nearly the last three years in the role without the legislative powers that are hereby to be conferred on people once appointed to this important role in the future. She was able to indicate to me her absolute pleasure with that progress. Also, I would like to share with the house that it is her mother's birthday today. I think we would all wish her the joy of the day for both her birthday and the important improvements and enhancements to the role her daughter currently holds.

This bill has been the work of many people in the Department for Education in collaboration with many people across government, stakeholders, Aboriginal community leaders and elders who have had input over the years, a number of the other oversight and advocacy bodies and, indeed, Mr Richard Dennis, parliamentary counsel of years gone by, who undertook a review of the Oversight and Advocacy Bodies Act in accordance with that legislation.

One of his key recommendations was the value of enshrining the role of Aboriginal children's commissioner in legislation rather than continuing the status quo, which was an appointment under the Constitution Act. We believe that these powers will enhance the role. It will enhance the opportunity for Ms Lawrie or future commissioners to assist government services to be improved for Aboriginal children and young people, giving a voice to many Aboriginal children and young people in a very formal way, with the role of the commissioner acting as a significant megaphone.

I thank the Legislative Council for their consideration of the amendments. A number of amendments were proposed by the member for Reynell in the House of Assembly that the Labor Party did not proceed with in the Legislative Council. I want to reflect briefly on that because I think it was the right decision by the Labor Party to do that. The issues raised, and we discussed them in this chamber at the time, were not unreasonable. Many of them we believed were issues where the intent was to be supported, but we felt they were better dealt with by policy or regulation rather than by legislation.

The shadow minister will no doubt reflect on whether I am accurate in my summation. I think the Labor Party seems to have accepted that, both from the perspective that we want those things to happen and that we think they can happen without legislation, and indeed to ensure the timeliness of the legislation could be dealt with, with regulations able to now be done by the end of this year. I would like to thank the Labor Party for that pragmatic approach that will lead to the best outcome for the role.

Other amendments were put forward, as I understand it, in the Legislative Council by the SA-Best party. Once more, I think the intent of those amendments was sound. Certainly, I believe they offered them in an absolute sound spirit, good spirit and fairness and they would like to see those outcomes achieved. Again, I believe the things they were seeking to deliver are best done as a matter of policy and as a matter of the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People, Commissioner for Children and Young People, the guardian or any other relevant oversight and advocacy bodies working together with goodwill. I think that will happen.

The complexity that would have introduced into the legislation was the reason for our opposition there, but I thank them for that contribution. Mr Darley's amendments, which we believe are capable of being dealt with suitably in the legislation, we are happy to accept. I thank all members for their support for this bill. It is a very important piece of legislation that every member of parliament has now supported.

Ms HILDYARD: I rise just to make a few remarks about the passage of the Children and Young People (Advocacy and Oversight Bodies) (Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People) Amendment Bill. In doing so, I want again to wholeheartedly commend and thank Commissioner April Lawrie for her incredibly strong and passionate advocacy for Aboriginal children and young people.

I want to commend her for undertaking work that I think we in this house would all agree is crucially important in ensuring the voices of Aboriginal children, young people, their families and communities are heard. It is work that I think we would all agree is crucially important in ensuring action on what is important to Aboriginal children, young people, their families and communities and action that will continue to make a difference in their lives.

I certainly look forward to continuing to find ways to support the commissioner in my role as shadow minister, and I look forward to seeing what she progresses and how she continues to do that really important work of providing a voice and advocacy for Aboriginal children and young people. I also join the Minister for Education in wishing her mum a very happy birthday and I do hope that she can enjoy a lovely celebration with her this evening.

Finally, in these last few seconds, thank you to the Minister for Education for his work on this bill and to department officials also. Thank you to all who spoke on the bill. Thank you to the Hon. Emily Bourke, who had carriage of the bill in the upper house for the opposition, and to those who made very thoughtful amendments to the bill. With that, I support the amendments.

Motion carried.

At 18:01 the house adjourned until Wednesday 22 September 2021 at 10:30.

*Answers to Questions***FUEL PRICE MONITORING**

732 Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (26 August 2021). How much is the Fuel Price Transparency Scheme costing the state?

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

In the 2020-21 financial year, the government spent \$0.22 million towards the implementation and establishment of the Fuel Pricing Information Scheme (Scheme) which commenced in March 2021, including on:

- Project resources required to undertake tasks to implement the scheme, including the drafting of supporting Regulations, development of technical specifications and IT business requirements, management and undertaking of procurement processes, management of stakeholder engagement and communications, coordinating the onboarding and registration process of fuel retailers.
- A compliance and enforcement officer to undertake targeted risk-based enforcement activities, assess consumer complaints and liaise with non-compliant retailers.
- Engagement of a third-party aggregation service to collect and collate fuel retailer price information and make it available to app developers, and in turn, consumers.

It is expected that approximately \$0.40 million will be dedicated to the ongoing support and management of the scheme in the 2021-22 financial year, including towards:

- Maintenance of the funding of a compliance and enforcement officer to continue to undertake targeted risk-based enforcement activities, assess consumer complaints and liaise with noncompliant retailers.
- Continued engagement of the third-party data aggregator.
- Media campaigns to encourage consumers to take advantage of the benefits of greater access to fuel pricing information.
- Communication and education campaigns directed towards fuel retailers to ensure ongoing compliance with the Scheme.
- Assessing the scheme to determine the merits of continuing it beyond the two-year trial period.

FUEL PRICE MONITORING

733 Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (26 August 2021). What are the regulatory costs associated with the Fuel Price Transparency Scheme and the fee paid to the data aggregator?

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

In the 2020-21 financial year, the government spent \$0.22 million towards the implementation and establishment of the Fuel Pricing Information Scheme (Scheme) which commenced in March 2021, including on:

- Project resources required to undertake tasks to implement the scheme, including the drafting of supporting regulations, development of technical specifications and IT business requirements, management and undertaking of procurement processes, management of stakeholder engagement and communications, coordinating the onboarding and registration process of fuel retailers.
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- Maintenance of the funding of a compliance and enforcement officer to continue to undertake targeted risk-based enforcement activities, assess consumer complaints and liaise with noncompliant retailers.
- Continued engagement of the third-party data aggregator.
- Media campaigns to encourage consumers to take advantage of the benefits of greater access to fuel pricing information.
- Communication and education campaigns directed towards fuel retailers to ensure ongoing compliance with the scheme.
- Assessing the Scheme to determine the merits of continuing it beyond the two-year trial period.

- In relation to the fee paid to the data aggregator, the Government approached the open market to secure a data aggregator and released a tender invitation on tenders.sa.gov.au in October 2020.
- The procurement process that followed this tender was overseen by senior procurement officers and was undertaken in full compliance with government procurement policy.
- I am not able to provide specific details to the member of the contract that resulted nor the fee negotiated with the data aggregator as it is part of confidence procurement process.

CLOSE THE GAP

735 Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (26 August 2021). What steps are being taken to Close the Gap for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders to complete year 12 or equivalent qualifications?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Moriaita—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

The South Australian Aboriginal Education Strategy 2019-2029 outlines how the Department for Education is improving the education outcomes for Aboriginal children and young people, whether in the early years, throughout their schooling, or as they embark on pathways to further education and employment.

The strategy includes implementation of the Aboriginal Learner Achievement Resource which requires school leaders to specifically address the learning needs of each Aboriginal child in literacy and numeracy, while continuing to build a culturally responsive approach for each learner.

The following targeted programs or initiatives are available to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in government schools to facilitate the completion of high school:

- The Enter for Success Program is available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students who are starting primary or secondary school in the following year. The program gives Aboriginal students the opportunity to enrol and be accepted into any government school they nominate the year before starting school.
- Dame Roma Mitchell Scholarships provide financial support for Aboriginal students undertaking studies in years 11 and 12 to complete the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE). Scholarship winners receive \$2,000 over two years (\$500 per semester over years 11 and 12). In 2020, nine scholarships were awarded across the state.
- Amy Levai Teaching Scholarships support senior secondary students on track to commence initial teacher education and students enrolled in an initial teacher education program. In 2020, 34 students were supported through the program including four senior secondary students.
- Clontarf school-based academies provide a boys-only program embedded in identified school sites, using sport and other activities to build school and community engagement. A feature of the program has been Clontarf's work in supporting post school transitions and pathways. The program currently operates in Ocean View P-12 College, Port Augusta Secondary School, Port Lincoln High School, Whyalla, Coober Pedy Area School, Paralowie School and Salisbury High School. At the end of 2020, there were 203 students enrolled from year 4 to 12 with 18 students achieving their SACE. These numbers are intended to grow as the Coober Pedy, Paralowie and Salisbury academies all opened this year.
- South Australian Aboriginal Secondary Training Academy (SAASTA) provides Aboriginal school students with a sporting and educational program through locally established academies. The academies work with school leaders and local communities across South Australia to provide students the specialist support programs in the areas of sport, education, employment, healthy living and connection with culture. Both male and female students in years 10, 11 and 12 who are studying for SACE can apply to join SAASTA. There are 26 SAASTA locations across the state. At the end of 2020, there were 477 students enrolled in SAASTA with 109 students achieving their SACE.
- The Workabout program provides a range of programs and services to support Aboriginal students transition from school to work, higher education or further training. The program is targeted to students in year 10-12. At the end of 2020, there were 379 students enrolled across year 7 to 12, with 65 students achieving their SACE.
- In 2020, 12 applicants accepted offers for Flexible Traineeship Education Support Placements. Due to COVID-19 impacts the traineeships were deferred to commence in 2021.
- The Shooting Stars Academy commenced in Term 3, 2021 in three Whyalla Partnership Schools. This is a targeted initiative to establish Aboriginal girls (netball) academies to further support student engagement, retention and achievement. The Shooting Stars Academy, delivered by the Glass Jars Foundation, will be delivered in all Whyalla Partnership Schools by 2023.

BLUE BOOK

736 Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (26 August 2021). How is the government planning to implement and maintain a digitalised platform for the Blue Book for early child development checks?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

The Department for Education is currently in the scoping and planning stage of the expansion of the child development screening system in South Australia, including the appropriate data and information sharing systems to support and monitor the system.

The Australian Digital Health Agency is currently developing a proof of concept for national Child Digital Health Records (Baby Books).

The national proof of concept learnings to date will inform the planning to implement and maintain a digitalised platform for child development checks in South Australia.

TAFE SA SCHOLARSHIPS

737 Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (26 August 2021). How much of the budget has been allocated to scholarship opportunities for TAFE, increasing public accessibility to courses?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

There are a range of initiatives implemented by the government to increase public accessibility of courses delivered by TAFE SA. These include:

- subsidised training through the Department for Innovation and Skills
- fee waivers for students under the Guardianship of the Chief Executive of the Department for Child Protection
- fee waivers for students who are prisoners, through the Department for Correctional Services; and
- additional subsidies for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

TAFE SA also promotes a range of scholarship opportunities that are available to its students. These include:

- Destination Australia. An Australian government initiative to attract and support Australian and international students to study in regional Australia. For the period of 2020-21 to 2022-23, a total of \$775,000 is expected to be granted to eligible students.
- Busy At Work. This program is to support young Australians or ex Australian Defence Force to gain critical employability skills, receiving up to \$5,000 in study assistance.
- Veolia Scholarships. Providing scholarships opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander South Australians. Veolia offer up to five scholarships to the value of \$1,000.
- Sisters of Charity Foundation – Tertiary Scholarship program. The program empowers students from out-of-home care backgrounds to access education, helping students with study expenses such as course fees and textbooks.
- Redkite Education and Career Support grants. Redkite provides financial grants to help students aged 15-24 who have experienced cancer.
- Playford Trust – TAFE SA Study Awards. The Playford Trust will provide up to eight (8) awards of \$2,000 each for TAFE SA students undertaking a cert II, III or diploma.
- June Opie Fellowship. Grants one fellowship annually for up to NZ\$12,000. It is intended to support people with a severe disability who are planning to undertake a postgraduate study.
- Wyndham Richardson Scholarship Fund. Provides scholarships valued at \$1,500 to assist full time students enrolled in a certificate IV and above who are experiencing significant financial hardship.
- Wyatt Work Start and Financial Assistance grants. Financial assistance may be sought by individuals experiencing financial hardship.
- Trevor Prescott Memorial Scholarship. Available to South Australian and Northern Territory residents aged between 20-30 requiring financial assistance
- Stand Like Stone Foundation Educational Scholarship. There are several grants and scholarships available to assist people who identify with the Limestone Coast to undertake educational studies at a range of levels.
- Robert Rose Foundation. This foundation provides grants to support those with spinal cord injuries and their families.
- Pinnacle Foundation Scholarships. The Pinnacle Foundation provides multi-year educational scholarships and mentoring support to young adults across Australia where their gender identity, sexual orientation or characteristics prevent or hinder their career aspirations or personal development.
- Jorge Castillo-Riffo Scholarship. Open to TAFE SA students studying a Certificate IV in Work Health and Safety with an aim to progress studies.

- Dawn Slade-Faull Award. Awards are available for South Australian residents who have an intellectual, physical, sensory or psychiatric disability.
- Dame Roma Mitchell Grants. Financial assistance is available for young people aged to 29 to contribute to the achievement of personal goals, health and wellbeing, and personal development.

The total amount of the budget allocated to scholarship opportunities or TAFE SA varies year by year and reflects the needs of individual students enrolling each year.

PARK-AND-RIDE FACILITIES

750 Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (26 August 2021). How much of the \$4 million allocated in the 2017-18 Budget for the park-and-ride at Tea Tree Plaza, which was shelved to build one at Golden Grove instead, is included in the \$48.5 million in the 2020-21 budget for the long overdue Modbury facility?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

The \$48.5 million announced for the Tea Tree Plaza park-and-ride is all new funding.

SERVICE SA

751 Ms BEDFORD (Florey) (26 August 2021). What assurances are in place to retain square meterage of floor space and staffing levels at the Service SA Centre in Modbury, Prospect and Mitcham, and other centres in the network?

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

Following the decision to keep the Modbury, Prospect and Mitcham Service SA centres open, future lease arrangements for all three sites have now been finalised.

For the Prospect centre, a five-year lease for a new site within the Northpark Shopping Centre has been secured. The new centre will adopt the new service format recently delivered at the Adelaide, Mount Barker and Port Adelaide centres. This modernised service format has been designed to promote, educate, and encourage customers to complete transactions digitally whilst maintaining traditional face to face service for those customers that need or prefer it.

The new Prospect centre will adopt a smaller more efficient footprint with service flows that crystallise the benefits of investments in better online services, with the centre being built to support and assist customers in completing their transactions online where possible. This will result in the new centre providing more service points than what is currently provided at the existing centre. The new centre at Prospect is expected to open at the end of 2021.

For the Mitcham centre, a new five-year lease at the existing site has been secured.

For the Modbury centre, an option to extend the existing lease for a further year until February 2024 has been secured.

There are no plans to change staffing levels at the Prospect, Mitcham and Modbury Service SA centres.

KANGAROO ISLAND WHARF FACILITY

760 The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (27 August 2021). Do you have a conflict regarding the decision-making process around the Smith Bay Wharf proposal?

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

In responding to the Member for Mawson I refer to the ministerial statement I provided to the house on 26 May, 2021, correspondence sent to the Member for Mawson dated 17 July, 2021, statements made by me to the estimates committee on 2 August, 2021 and subsequent response to a question without notice where I responded to the same request on 25 August, 2021: no.

CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS

761 Mr BOYER (Wright) (27 August 2021). How much of the \$10 million granted to The Heights School under the Building Better Schools program has the school been allowed to keep? What is the total tendered cost of current capital works at The Heights School?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Moriaita—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

In May 2020, the final pre-tender estimate provided by the project's cost manager indicated that the project was over the approved budget of \$10 million by 3.3 per cent prior to going to tender.

The building works are in the final stages of documentation completion with final costings being part of that process.

Under the Department for Education's capital works program, contracts are awarded through a competitive tender process following a rigorous evaluation. Savings from any projects that come in under budget are retained by the department to be used as a pool of funding for managing any higher costs that may arise for projects that exceed tender budgets or face particular cost pressures due to unforeseen issues.

This is standard practice for Department for Education capital works programs over many years and is a key component in mitigating risk to the delivery of the overall program of works.

THE HEIGHTS SCHOOL

762 Mr BOYER (Wright) (27 August 2021). Was The Heights School told by you or anyone in the education department that whatever remained of that original \$10 million grant after initial scoping/tendering were budgeted for could be spent by the school to expand their new single gymnasium to a double gymnasium or another project of the schools' choosing?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

The Heights School was not provided with advice from the Department for Education or myself that the remaining funding, following the final total expenditure, could be spent by the school on additional works.

SCHOOLS, SPECIALIST TEACHERS

764 Mr BOYER (Wright) (27 August 2021). What is the breakdown of additional specialist teachers required for next year in high schools (Maths, Science, Tech, Chemistry etc.)?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised:

Given each school makes local decisions about its staffing profile, year on year, including how it deploys existing teaching staff, the Department for Education is not able to answer with certainty the 'additional' number of specialist teachers required by subject when compared to 2021.

Each school determines its employment needs based on its current arrangements, program offerings, student subject selections, as well as the skills and expertise of both current teachers already at the site and those who have been placed into the site through teacher placement.

Recruitment to ongoing secondary teacher roles will continue with the final round of advertisements to go live in week 8, term 3 and close prior to the end of term.

SCHOOLS, TEMPORARY PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

765 Mr BOYER (Wright) (27 August 2021). How many temporary contract primary school teachers are currently employed by the education department?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

As at 19 August 2021 there were 2,749 (headcount) temporary primary teachers representing 2,405.5 FTE.

This number reflects temporary teachers employed in stand-alone primary schools. This data does not capture temporary primary teachers who work in combined schools (Reception to Year 12), special schools or Aboriginal schools.

This number is representative of classroom teachers only and excludes leadership positions.

SCHOOLS, TEACHER TRANSFER

766 Mr BOYER (Wright) (27 August 2021). What will happen to temporary contract teachers in primary schools, who currently teach year 7 students who elect not to transfer to a secondary school from 2022?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

Primary teachers are generally qualified to teach all primary year levels.

The Department for Education has not asked any teacher to 'elect' to transfer to a secondary school. The recruitment process designed has enabled primary qualified teachers to demonstrate their skills and capabilities when applying for secondary positions.

Schools make local decisions about their staffing needs each year, led by the principal in consultation with their Personnel Advisory Committee. Decisions to offer further employment are based on enrolments, student need, current staffing composition, as well as individual teachers' experience, skillset and performance.

SCHOOL SIGNAGE

767 Mr BOYER (Wright) (27 August 2021). How many sites across SA will need to have signage changed to reflect year 7 moving into high school next year?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

In preparation for the move of Year 7 to high school, the Department for Education identified 27 primary school sites with registered names that referenced Year 7, and an additional nine primary school sites with logos or signage that reference Year 7.

The department is providing each of the 36 primary schools \$2,100 to assist with the costs associated with changing their names.

No secondary sites were identified as referencing year 8-12 in their official name.

SCHOOL BUDGETS

768 Mr BOYER (Wright) (27 August 2021). What is the total budget for schools to change their signage, stationery, websites etc to reflect Year 7 moving into high school next year? Is this a central budget or do individual schools need to fund this?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

Grants of \$2,100 are being provided to the 36 primary sites that have been identified as referring to year 7 in their official name or logo.

Sites are managing their resources, including these grants, to address local priorities.

SCHOOLS, YEAR 7 REFORM

769 Mr BOYER (Wright) (27 August 2021). As a result of moving year 7 into high school: how many primary schools in metropolitan Adelaide and how many primary schools in regional South Australia would have less than 30 students at the start of 2022?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

Current departmental forecasts indicate that around 30 primary schools and one area school in regional South Australia are likely to have fewer than 30 students at the beginning of 2022, compared with 24 schools in 2021.

It should be noted that one of the schools with fewer than 30 students in 2021 is forecast to increase in size to more than 30 students next year, and that not all fluctuations are exclusively related to the move of Year 7 to high school.

No primary schools in the Adelaide metropolitan area are forecast to have enrolments of fewer than thirty students at the beginning of 2022.

SCHOOL AMALGAMATIONS OR CLOSURES

770 Mr BOYER (Wright) (27 August 2021). Have any schools or governing councils inquired with the department as to amalgamations or closures due to low enrolments next year?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

The Department for Education has not been approached by a school or governing council regarding an amalgamation or closure due to low enrolments next year.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, PARA HILLS OFFICE

771 Mr BOYER (Wright) (27 August 2021). How many Truancy Officers are employed at the education department's Para Hills office? What is the total FTE's employed at the Para Hills Office?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

The Para Hills Education Office has six officers providing a truancy service which consists of two FTE Senior Social Work Truancy positions and four FTE Social Work Truancy positions.

SCHOOLS, TRUANCY OFFICERS

772 Mr BOYER (Wright) (27 August 2021). How many truancy officer positions are currently vacant at the Education Department's Para Hills Office?

- (a) How long have they been vacant?
- (b) In the absence of these truancy officers, who is doing the work?
- (c) Who has been undertaking the work of these truancy officers in their absence?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

All social work truancy positions at the Para Hills Office education office are currently filled.

FLEXIBLE INDUSTRY PATHWAYS

773 Mr BOYER (Wright) (27 August 2021). Are there any VET facilities in schools that will no longer be used from next year with the changes to the Flexible Industry Pathways?

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

The Department for Education is not aware of any VET facilities that will not be used as a result of changes relating to the state government's VET for school students policy and Flexible Industry Pathways.

South Australian government schools are making good use of their facilities to support student learning across the range of programs they offer.

Decisions about use of specific facilities are made by individual schools in response to their students' needs and demand.

Facilities are used in the delivery of a range of learning programs and activities including Australian Curriculum subjects, South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) subjects, VET programs and extra-curricular activities.

Areas of some schools are being upgraded as part of the Marshall Liberal government's \$1.4 billion education capital works build. This may result in re-purposing buildings and facilities. These are decisions for individual schools and their leadership.

QUAD BIKES

In reply to **Ms BEDFORD (Florey)** (25 August 2021).

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

Unfortunately, it is extremely difficult to obtain injury data for quad bikes as there are limitations with identifying specific product-related injuries using the hospital classification system, and access to hospital data is generally limited across some Australian jurisdictions, including South Australia. Consumer and Business Services continues to have discussions with key stakeholders to source more meaningful data.

In July 2020, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) published a factsheet on non-injury specific data which reported that nationally, approximately six people present to an emergency department and at least two people are admitted to hospital daily.

In relation to the number of quad bike deaths in South Australia, SafeWork Australia has reported that no deaths have occurred in the last three years.

A new national mandatory safety standard for quad bikes was introduced in October 2019 by the federal Assistant Treasurer, Hon Michael Sukkar MP, aimed at reducing the risk of injury or death to consumers who operate these vehicles for work or recreation. The new safety standard involves two stages and was introduced following a two-year investigation undertaken by the ACCC which found that there were safety issues with the current design of quad bikes, particularly general use model types, and that important performance and safety information about these vehicles were not being disclosed to consumers at the point of sale.

Stage 1 of the mandatory safety standard commenced on 11 October 2020 and requires that all new and imported second-hand quad bikes meet specified mandatory design requirements, and that important safety information is disclosed to consumers about the vehicles. The mandatory requirements for quad bikes include that:

- they meet the specified requirements of either the US or European standard for quad bikes;
- they have a clearly visible and legible rollover warning affixed to the vehicle;
- information about the risk of rollovers is disclosed in the owner's manual or information handbook;
- appropriate testing for lateral static stability be completed and a hang tag be attached to the quad bike showing the angle at which the vehicle tips onto two wheels; and
- they have a spark arrestor that conforms to the appropriate Australian or US Standard.

Stage 2 will commence on 11 October 2021 and will require general use quad bikes to:

- be fitted with, or have integrated into the design, an operator protection device; and
- meet minimum stability requirements.

The Stage 2 requirements will not apply to quad bikes where the vehicles were ordered before 1 July 2021 and were not subject to a condition that they will be delivered after 31 December 2021. This exemption aims to help dealers who have experienced delays with receiving quad bike orders due to COVID-19.

Further information about the new mandatory safety standard is available at www.productsafety.gov.au/product-safety-laws/safety-standards-bans/mandatory-standards/quad-bikes.

MODBURY HOSPITAL

In reply to **Ms BEDFORD (Florey)** (4 May 2021).

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): The Minister for Health and Wellbeing has been advised:

As at 14 May 2021, 92.6 full-time equivalent (FTE) nursing staff and 38 FTE medical staff were employed in the Modbury Hospital Emergency Department, and eight FTE vacancies across the nursing and medicine were being recruited to.

The Modbury Hospital emergency department was staffed to the appropriate patient numbers on both 31 March and 1 April 2021, with no positions vacant on any shifts.

Estimates Replies

BRIGHTON ROAD

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

On 22 June 2021, the state government announced that the Hove Level crossing removal will not be proceeding.

As previously stated in media following the state budget, that decision was made on 14 June 2021.

This decision was made after extensive community and stakeholder consultation and detailed analysis of design options which found that all of the project options exceeded the budget allocation.

POINT TO POINT LEVY

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

The \$12.395 million in 2021-22 includes the following two revenue streams:

- \$11.375 million relates to point to point levy
- \$1.020 million relates to Passenger Transport Act revenue

The total revenue raised each year from the point to point levy is:

Point to Point Revenue	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
	\$000s	\$000s	\$000s	\$000s	\$000s
Collected	825	9,885	11,484	10,787	11,509

The budgeted amount projected in the forward estimates for 2021-22 is \$11.375 million.

A valid breakdown of point to point levy revenue between taxis and rideshare is not possible as operators who are responsible for collecting the levy may operate more than one service type.

TAXI INDUSTRY

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

The Accreditation and Licensing Centre of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) has recorded 37 transfers of taxi licences changing ownership during the period January to December 2020.

Regarding the value licences are sold for, the collection of this information is not a requirement under the Passenger Transport Act 1994. As such, DIT does not have valid information on the values of licences sold. Any additional information taxi operators voluntarily provide to DIT is not mandatory and is not validated.

FARE REVENUE

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

The Department for Infrastructure and Transport forward estimates for Metro ticket revenue by mode is as follows:

Mode	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26

	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Bus	79,488	81,991	84,013	86,058	88,210
Train	18,429	19,010	19,479	19,953	20,452
Tram	3,965	4,090	4,191	4,293	4,400
Metro Ticket Forward Estimate	101,882	105,090	107,682	110,303	113,061

SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

The South Australian Public Transport Authority 2021-22 supplies and services budget is as follows:

Supplies & Services	\$000
Bus	238,473
Train	142,154
Tram	24,843
Other (inclusive of Taxi)	2,073
Total	407,543

STATION UPGRADES

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

Stations upgraded between March 2014 and March 2018:

- Seaford
- Seaford Meadows
- Showgrounds
- Bowden
- Millswood
- Albert Park
- Marion
- Seacliff
- Ascot Park

Stations upgraded between March 2018 and June 2021:

- Croydon
- Oaklands
- Tonsley
- Flinders
- Broadmeadows
- Woodville Park
- West Croydon
- Grange
- Peterhead

- Cheltenham
- Taperoo
- Seaton Park
- East Grange
- Parafield Gardens

During the 2021-22 financial year, the Station Refresh program will deliver a refresh of a further 14 stations on the Gawler line funded from a \$20 million allocation. In addition, works will begin on Woodlands Park station (Seaford Line) funded from the Department for Infrastructure and Transport Annual Program, and on Ethelton station (Outer Harbor Line) funded from a new \$5 million allocation. The Ovingham station is also being upgraded as part of the Torrens Road grade separation works as well as Goodwood station as part of the Mike Turtur Bikeway works.

BUS SERVICES

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

Over the past four financial years the results are:

Ratios of cancelled/incomplete services			
FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21
0.34%	0.39%	0.29%	0.20%

Current performance for service availability has been above benchmark since the start of the contract.

Failure to meet the minimum performance benchmark results in financial abatements and demerit points. Should the performance target be achieved then demerit point credits are awarded.

NORTH-SOUTH CORRIDOR

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

As at 3 August 2021, no consultants have been engaged.

NORTH-SOUTH CORRIDOR

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

The breakdown of the estimated result of \$41.5 million is provided. Note that the actual expenditure for 2020-21 is subject to finalisation of audited financial statements.

- \$17.4 million – Planning works and program management, including final business case, traffic modelling, planning studies and staffing resources.
- \$12.2 million – Engineering and design, including the reference design.
- \$7.5 million – Early and enabling works, including ground investigations, engineering surveys and utility relocation works.
- \$4.4 million – Land acquisitions and associated costs.

NORTH-SOUTH CORRIDOR

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

There were 60 privately owned properties identified as being required for the southern laydown area for the Torrens to Darlington project, which include 22 commercial and 38 residential properties.

SERVICE SA

In reply to **the Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

Original site: 12.2 FTE

New site: 12.2 FTE

CARRYOVER EXPENDITURE

In reply to **Ms WORTLEY (Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised the following:

For the Department for Infrastructure and Transport, 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
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total goods and services	771,243	775,171	753,361	758,158	776,483

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
Spotless Facility Services Pty Ltd	\$203,353,000
Torrens Transit Pty Ltd	\$145,457,000
Keolis Downer Adelaide Pty Ltd	\$62,545,000
Torrens Connect Pty Ltd	\$60,892,000
Busways South Australia Pty Ltd	\$31,150,000
CBRE (V) Pty Ltd	\$28,054,000
Scania Australia	\$25,677,000
Bombardier Transportation Aust	\$23,962,000
Australian Transit	\$17,661,000
Zen Energy Retail Pty Ltd	\$16,638,000

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
Spotless Facility Services Pty Ltd	Across Government Facilities Management Arrangement Services Provision
Torrens Transit Pty Ltd	Provision of Regular Passenger Services
Keolis Downer Adelaide Pty Ltd	Provision of Regular Passenger Services, rail maintenance
Torrens Connect Pty Ltd	Provision of Regular Passenger Services
Busways South Australia Pty Ltd	Provision of Regular Passenger Services
CBRE (V) Pty Ltd	Office Accommodation Leasing
Scania Australia	Bus Fleet
Bombardier Transportation Aust	Rolling stock Trains
Australian Transit	Provision of Regular Passenger Services
Zen Energy Retail Pty Ltd	Electricity Provision

For the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, 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
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total goods and services	66,958	64,830	28,938	7,332	7,515

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
Department for Infrastructure and Transport	\$10,153,571
Department of the Premier and Cabinet	\$882,180
YMCA Aquatic & Event Services	\$693,635
Zen Energy Retail Pty Ltd	\$239,459
Department of Treasury and Finance	\$233,785
SA Water Corp	\$173,546
Viv Sportings Pty Ltd	\$144,551
SAicorp	\$138,703
Qbt Pty Limited	\$121,736
Co-Create Solutions Pty Ltd	\$113,360

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	Major capital projects, and facilities management under the Across Government Facilities Management Arrangements
Department of the Premier and Cabinet	Business support services under Service Level Agreement
YMCA Aquatic & Event Services	Capital works, facility and equipment hire, outgoing and plant and equipment repair and maintenance at the SA Aquatic and Leisure Centre
Zen Energy Retail Pty Ltd	Electricity provider at various Agency facilities
Department of Treasury and Finance	Machinery of Government transition costs and Shared Services SA fees
SA Water Corp	Water at various Agency facilities
Viv Sportings Pty Ltd	Sporting apparel and uniforms for SA Sports Institute athletes and staff
SAicorp	Insurance
Qbt Pty Limited	Business travel provider for the Agency (airfares, accommodation), largely related to sporting event attendance
Co-Create Solutions Pty Ltd	Construction services at Adelaide Superdrome

PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES

In reply to **Ms WORTLEY (Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised the following:

The following two tables relate to the Department for Infrastructure and Transport for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021.

Between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021, there were 74 roles abolished within the Department for Infrastructure and Transport.

Title	Total Employment Cost (\$)
Operations Controller	111,325
Senior Driver	112,317
Team Leader Rollingstock Engineer Mechanical	113,505
Rail Incident Review Engineer	113,505
Team Leader Maintenance	116,258
Project Officer	118,413
Project Officer	118,413
Urban Manager Construction and Specialist Maintenance	118,413
Unit Manager Amenity Programs	118,413
Project Manager	118,413
Business Planning and Performance Manager	118,413
Workforce Transition Manager	118,413
Unit Manager Signals Maintenance	118,413
Unit Manager Tram Operations	118,413
Project Officer	118,413
Shift Manager	119,160
Unit Manager Technical Service	120,467
Manager Safety Strategy	120,467
Program Manager	120,467
Manager Strategic Development	120,467
Project Officer	120,467
Operations Coordinator	121,529
Operations Controller	122,360
Zone Transition Manager	122,722
Shift Manager	125,684
Shift Manager	125,684

The total annual employment cost for these appointments is \$8,274,858 (excluding on costs).

Between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021, there were 70 roles created within the Department for Infrastructure and Transport.

Title	Total Employment Cost (\$)
Senior Project Officer	110,107
Development Operations Lead Developer	110,107
Aboriginal Procurement Supply Chain Liaison	110,107
Principal Engagement Officer Rail Major Projects	110,107

Title	Total Employment Cost (\$)
Senior Business Engagement Officer	110,107
Manager Project Controls North-South Corridor	110,107
Land Acquisition Project Manager—North-South Corridor	110,107
Program Manager North-South Corridor	110,107
Manager Internal Communications	110,107
Full Stack Developer	110,107
Project Manager North-South Corridor	110,107
Manager Digital Channels	110,107
Principal Engagement Officer Congestion Busting Major Projects	110,107
Team Leader Support Services	110,107
Principal Engagement Officer Road and Marine Major Projects	110,107
Principal Engagement Officer Northern Area Major Projects	110,107
Principal Engagement Officer Southern Area Major Projects	110,107
Senior Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Officer	110,107
Principal Media Officer Programs	110,107
Senior Project Officer	110,107
Workforce Assignment Manager	110,107
Senior Strategy and Portfolio Analyst	110,107
Project Manager North-South Corridor	110,107
Senior Category Manager	110,107
Unit Manager Law Reform	118,413
Unit Manager Road Safety Projects	118,413
Senior Project Manager	118,413
Senior Manager Systems Development and Support	118,413
Manager Government Services and Office Chief Executive	118,413
Project Manager	118,413
Commercial Finance Manager	118,413
Project Manager Across Government Facilities Management Arrangements Reform Change Management	118,413
Strategy Policy and Program Development	118,413
Unit Manager Legislation	118,413
Project Manager	118,413
Project Manager	118,413
Manager Transition Rail Operations	118,413
Team Leader Procurement North-South Corridor	118,413
Manager Information Services Project Delivery	120,467
Manager Redeployment and Retraining Program	120,467
Program Management Lead Kangaroo Island Ferry Service	120,467
Manager Delivery Zone 3 and 4	120,467
Manager Stakeholder Engagement—North-South Corridor	120,467
Manager Marketing and Communications	120,467

Title	Total Employment Cost (\$)
Manager Legislative Services	120,467
Manager Media and Government	120,467
Senior Cost Controller North-South Corridor	120,467
Manager Business Engagement	120,467
Manager Procurement and Contract Management North-South Corridor	120,467
Project Engineer North-South Corridor	100,887
Planning Project Manager—North-South Corridor	100,887
Project Manager Utility Services—North-South Corridor	100,887
Asset Engineer—Zone 4	100,887
Maintenance Engineer Lead	100,887
Project Manager	100,887
Project Engineer North-South Corridor	100,887
Maintenance Engineer Lead Zone 2	100,887
Project Manager	100,887
Project Manager	100,887
Manager Environmental & Cultural Heritage North-South Corridor	100,887
Senior Contract Manager Zones 3 and 4	113,505
Kangaroo Island Ferry Service Senior Project Officer	113,505
Geotechnical Engineer North-South Corridor	113,505
Project Engineer Reference Design Contract North-South Corridor	113,505
Project Manager	113,505
Planning Project Lead North-South Corridor	113,505
Manager Early Enabling Works—North-South Corridor	122,722
Manager Contract Management	122,722
Senior Project Manager North-South Corridor	122,722
Senior Project Manager North-South Corridor	122,722

The total annual employment cost for these appointments is \$7,907,162 (excluding on costs).

Between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021, no roles with a total estimated cost of \$100,000 or more were abolished or created within the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing.

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Ms WORTLEY (Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised the following:

Table 1 shows the Department for Infrastructure and Transport'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	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
		Actual	Budget	Budget	Budget	Budget
Public Affairs	FTE	22.6	23.0	23.0	23.0	23.0
	\$m	2.027	2.653	2.693	2.733	2.773
SAPTA	FTE	0.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget
	\$m	0	0.108	0.110	0.111	0.113
Total	FTE	22.6	24	24	24	24
	\$m	2.027	2.761	2.802	2.844	2.886

Table 2 shows the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing's total FTE, actual and budgeted, to provide communication and promotion activities for the period 2020-21 to 2024-25:

Table 2: FTE employed in communication and promotion activities

		2020-21 Actual	2021-22 Budget	2022-23 Budget	2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget
Communications	FTE	1.7	2.0	2.0	1.6	1.6
	\$m	0.125	0.190	0.194	0.163	0.167
Total	FTE	1.7	2.0	2.0	1.6	1.6
	\$m	0.125	0.190	0.194	0.163	0.167

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 **Ms WORTLEY (Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised the following:

Department for Infrastructure and Transport:

Position Title	Allowance Type	Actual Amount paid to employee between 1/7/2020 and 30/6/2021
Manager Real Estate	Attraction / Retention	\$39,771.16
Manager Across Government Accommodation	Attraction / Retention	\$36,283.94
Manager Construction Procurement	Attraction / Retention	\$24,245.95
Manager Digital Channels	Attraction / Retention	\$24,016.46
Manager Ticketing	Attraction / Retention	\$24,016.46
Manager Maritime Safety	Attraction / Retention	\$24,016.46
Manager Contract Management	Attraction / Retention	\$23,915.70
Delivery Manager—Projects	Attraction / Retention	\$23,900.89
Manager Construction Contract Management	Attraction / Retention	\$23,900.89
Manager Governance Projects and Business Services	Attraction / Retention	\$23,806.78
Manager Construction Commercial and Advisory	Attraction / Retention	\$23,691.76
Manager Property Acquisition	Attraction / Retention	\$23,606.96

Position Title	Allowance Type	Actual Amount paid to employee between 1/7/2020 and 30/6/2021
Senior Contract Manager Zones 1 and 2	Attraction / Retention	\$23,516.52
Delivery Manager—Projects	Attraction / Retention	\$22,810.49
Principal Field Testing Officer	Attraction / Retention	\$19,565.79
Manager Environmental and Cultural Heritage	Attraction / Retention	\$18,474.20
Project Lead Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity	Attraction / Retention	\$18,012.28
Manager Future Mobility and Passenger Transport	Attraction / Retention	\$18,012.28
Manager Budgeting and Reporting	Attraction / Retention	\$18,012.28
Principal Across Government Facilities Management Arrangements Contracts Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$17,899.54
Unit Manager Network Control	Attraction / Retention	\$17,705.22
Principal Project Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$17,705.22
Rail Infrastructure Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$16,888.06
Manager Traffic Management Centre	Attraction / Retention	\$14,952.08
Unit Manager Tram Operations	Attraction / Retention	\$14,779.36
Manager Passenger Information and Information Communication Technology	Attraction / Retention	\$14,527.36
Senior Contract Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$13,737.63
Unit Manager Technical and Operation Assurance	Attraction / Retention	\$13,455.00
Manager Road and Marine Assets	Attraction / Retention	\$13,038.24
Unit Manager Construction and Specialist Maintenance	Attraction / Retention	\$12,518.24
Delivery Manager—Projects	Attraction / Retention	\$12,013.20
Project Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$11,803.48
Manager Across Government Facilities Management Arrangements	Attraction / Retention	\$11,707.98
Manager Contract Management	Attraction / Retention	\$11,386.09
Manager Delivery Zone 3 and 4	Attraction / Retention	\$11,176.88
Project Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$10,848.39
Rail Network Engineer	Attraction / Retention	\$10,365.94
Unit Manager Policy and Strategic Assessment	Attraction / Retention	\$10,160.81
Manager Investment Program Development	Attraction / Retention	\$7,647.28
Manager Program Development	Attraction / Retention	\$7,551.52
Unit Manager Track and Civil Engineering	Attraction / Retention	\$7,263.68
Unit Manager Development Assessment	Attraction / Retention	\$7,204.94
Unit Manager Electrical Engineering	Attraction / Retention	\$6,962.56

Position Title	Allowance Type	Actual Amount paid to employee between 1/7/2020 and 30/6/2021
Business Services and Development Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$5,264.14
Operational Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$5,175.36
Senior Electrical Engineer	Attraction / Retention	\$5,028.27
Senior Electrical Engineer	Attraction / Retention	\$5,028.27
Senior Planner	Attraction / Retention	\$4,982.20
Manager Health Operations	Attraction / Retention	\$4,812.34
Manager Metropolitan Operations	Attraction / Retention	\$4,812.34
Senior Economic Evaluation Officer	Attraction / Retention	\$4,312.81
Senior Project Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$3,764.00
Program Management Officer	Attraction / Retention	\$3,431.07
Manager Business Partnerships	Attraction / Retention	\$3,325.34
Senior Cost Controller	Attraction / Retention	\$3,232.98
Senior Facility Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$3,217.08
Senior Facility Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$3,217.08
Senior Facility Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$3,217.08
Senior Facility Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$3,217.08
Trade Coordinator	Attraction / Retention	\$2,946.78
Facility Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$2,946.78
Manager Stakeholder Engagement	Attraction / Retention	\$2,913.73
Manager Across Government Service Reform	Attraction / Retention	\$2,771.13
Across Government Facilities Management Arrangements Agency Advocate	Attraction / Retention	\$2,469.48
Across Government Facilities Management Arrangements Agency Advocate	Attraction / Retention	\$2,469.48
Across Government Facilities Management Arrangements Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$2,042.91
Senior Safety Engineer	Attraction / Retention	\$1,789.47
Operational Manager	Attraction / Retention	\$1,203.08

Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing:

Employee Title	Allowance Type	Actual Amount paid to employee between 1/7/2020 and 30/6/2021
Head Hockey Coach	Retention	\$4,567
Head Rowing Coach	Retention	\$10,788
Head Swimming Coach	Retention	\$30,032
Rowing Talent Pathways Coordinator	Retention	\$7,225

Employee Title	Allowance Type	Actual Amount paid to employee between 1/7/2020 and 30/6/2021
High Performance Lead	Retention	\$5,394
Assistant Swimming Coach	Retention	\$13,574

MINISTERIAL STAFF

In reply to **Ms WORTLEY (Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): 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
Office Manager	ASO8	Nil
Executive Coordinator	ASO6	Nil
Government Liaison Officer	ASO6	Nil
Ministerial Liaison Officer	ASO6	Nil
Ministerial Liaison Officer	ASO6	Nil
Team Leader Business Support	ASO6 (0.8)	Nil
Digital Communications Officer	ASO5	Nil
Business Support Officer	ASO3	Nil
Business Support Officer	ASO3	Nil
Business Support Officer	ASO3	Nil

No staff were seconded from the department to my office as at 30 June 2021.

EXECUTIVE TERMINATIONS

In reply to **Ms WORTLEY (Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised the following:

One executive termination has occurred since 1 July 2020, for all Agencies reporting to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. The value of termination payments made was a gross amount of \$277,488 plus the value of accrued leave entitlements.

Nil executive terminations have occurred since 1 July 2020, for all Agencies reporting to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing.

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

In reply to **Ms WORTLEY (Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised the following:

Since 1 July 2020 the following new executive appointments were made within the Department for Infrastructure and Transport. Some appointments were made to existing vacated roles.

Agency	Role Title	TRPV
DIT	Director Contract Management	\$170,532
DIT	Director Across Government Services Reform	\$170,532

Agency	Role Title	TRPV
DIT	Director Road Network Maintenance	\$170,532
DIT	Director Financial and Procurement Services	\$170,532
DIT	Director People and Capability	\$170,532
DIT	Director Asset Management	\$170,532
DIT	Director Engagement	\$170,532
DIT	Director Communications and Engagement Transport Projects	\$170,532
DIT	Director Media	\$170,532
DIT	Director Land Planning and Environment North-South Corridor	\$170,532
DIT	Project Director Ticketing	\$170,532
DIT	Director Engineering North-South Corridor	\$236,109
DIT	Executive Director Public Affairs	\$236,109
DIT	Director Commercial Procurement and Legal North-South Corridor	\$236,109
DIT	Director Delivery North-South Corridor	\$236,109
DIT	Project Specialist Operations Systems North-South Corridor	\$236,109
DIT	Executive Director South Australian Public Transport Authority	\$236,109

The total annual employment cost for these appointments is \$3,292,506 (excluding on costs).

Since 1 July 2020 the following new executive appointments were made within the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing. Some appointments were made to existing vacated roles.

Agency	Role Title	TRPV
ORSR	Director, Corporate Strategy and Investment	\$183,535
ORSR	Director, Infrastructure and Planning	\$203,926

The total annual employment cost for these appointments is \$387,461 (excluding on costs).

GRANT PROGRAMS

In reply to **Ms WORTLEY (Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): In response to Questions 14 and 15 I have been advised the following:

Department for Infrastructure and Transport

The following table provides the allocation of grant program/funds for 2020-21 and across the forward estimates for the Department of Infrastructure and Transport—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
South Australian Transport Subsidy Scheme (SATSS)	Taxi subsidies payable to individuals with limited mobility.	8,442	9,664	-	-	-
Country and Provincial Concessions	For passengers eligible to travel at concessional rates.	3,016	9,679	-	-	-
Mount Gambier Airport upgrade	To contribute toward direct jet services from Mount Gambier to Melbourne and Sydney.	404	-	-	-	-

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
Future Mobility Lab	Driverless vehicles	1,552	-	-	-	-
South Australian Boating Facility Advisory Committee	To establish and improve recreational boating facilities in South Australia's coastal and inland waters.	960	2181	-	-	-
Asset Improvement program	Funds transport infrastructure improvements, including bridge renewal and road safety black spot projects.	5,411	2079	-	-	-
Kangaroo Island maintenance project	The conduct of construction works to upgrade specified unsealed roads	2,034	2000	-	-	-
Way2Go grants (bike facility grants)	Way2Go is an innovative program to get more students safely walking, riding and using public transport for school travel. Way2Go provides schools and councils with resources, strategies and ideas to make school travel safer, greener and more active.	219	148	-	-	-
Centre for Automotive Research	Funding provided by Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) and the Motor Accident Commission for continuing operation of CASR within the University of Adelaide.	1,522	955	-	-	-
National Transport Commission – national road, rail and Intermodal Transport	To contribute to the national road, rail and intermodal transport reform agenda.	523	627	-	-	-
State Bicycle Fund	To assist with the building and maintenance of bicycle and active transport infrastructure – bike paths, ramps, 'cut throughs', road crossings, bike parking, signs etc.	786	779	-	-	-
Rail Industry Safety and Standards Board	Funding for RISSB 2018-19	82	45	-	-	-
Australasia Rail Corporation	ARRC yearly grant to provide services to the community.	150	190	-	-	-
Greenway Cycle Paths	Cycle path improvements	1,256	-	-	-	-
KESAB Road Watch Program	Delivery of the Road Watch Program	85	87	-	-	-
Community Rail Corridor Program	Toward the development of rail corridors.	0	17	-	-	-

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
Local Government Association Grant	Contribution to LGAMLS Aerodrome Risk Management Programme for the provision of services to councils and outback areas.	41	42	-	-	-
Marine Package	Funding to council for the upgrade of the Beacon 19 Boating Facility	-	650	-	-	-
Administrative Grant to active Community Road Safety Groups (CRSG)	All active Community Road Safety Groups are insured by DIT for public liability and accident and health insurance. These active Community Road Safety Groups are eligible to invoice for a \$500 administration grant.	5	-	-	-	-
Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Programme	Australian Government initiative to fund infrastructure projects that improve the productivity and safety outcomes of heavy vehicle operations across Australia.	425	-	-	-	-
SA Freight Council	Promote the welfare and development of the freight industry in South Australia	100	-	-	-	-
South Australian Road Transport Association (SARTA)	Heavy vehicle simulator package for safety-focused heavy vehicle training, assessment and research	50	-	-	-	-
Council Maintenance	DIT contribution towards council maintenance issues.	36	-	-	-	-

The following table provides the allocation of grant program/funds for 2020-21 and across the forward estimates for the Department of Infrastructure and Transport—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
Catchment Management Subsidy Scheme	Flood mitigation	-	100	-	-	-

The following table details the carryover of grants from 2020-21 into 2021-22 for the Department of Infrastructure and Transport:

Grant/program name	2020-21 \$000	2021-22 \$000
Marine Package	-650	650

Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing

The following table provides the allocation of grant program/funds for 2020-21 and across the forward estimates for the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing—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
Active Club Program	Provides assistance to active recreation and sport clubs with programs and equipment.	2,494	1,024	1,050	1,076	1,103
Community Recreation and Sport Facilities Program	Provides assistance to eligible organisations to plan, establish or improve sport and active recreation facilities.	4,328	5,670	5,724	5,780	5,837
Grassroots Facilities Program (Previously the Grassroots Football, Cricket, and Netball Facility Program.)	To assist eligible organisations to develop core infrastructure that directly impacts participation through the development of good quality, well designed and utilised facilities.	15,000	10,000	—	—	—
Regional and Districts Facilities Program	Provides assistance to eligible applicants to create regionally significant sport and active recreation precincts by developing sporting infrastructure.	5,000	5,000	—	—	—
Partnerships Program	Supports projects that enhance the sport and recreation sector and industry through addressing priorities set out in Game On: Getting South Australia moving.	—	2,303	3,591	3,681	3,773
Regional Support	Regional Field Officer support to assist sport and recreation clubs in regional South Australia.	—	—	513	525	538
Sport and Recreation Development and Inclusion Program	Provides assistance to eligible organisations to develop and implement projects that will grow the sport or activity, improve services or address barriers to inclusion.	2,941	500	—	—	—
SASI Individual Athlete Program	Provides assistance to eligible elite and country athletes who are engaged in an Olympic, Paralympic or Commonwealth Games sport and event.	137	135	138	142	145
State Sector Fund	Provides financial support to state sport and recreation organisations to help ensure a sustainable and thriving sector	—	—	1,538	1,576	1,615

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
Sport and Recreation Sustainability Program	Provides assistance for the leadership, policies and services provided by South Australian state sport and active recreation organisations and industry representative bodies.	2,544	2,700	—	—	—
Racing Industry Fund	Provides assistance for a variety of purposes to the racing industry in South Australia. Grants are approved by the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing, Treasurer, Premier, Cabinet or State Budget, where there is no public call for applications.	3,463	4,100	4,200	—	—
Sports Vouchers Subsidies	The program provides an opportunity for primary school aged children from Reception to Year 7 to receive up to a \$100 discount on sports or dance membership or registration fees. The purpose is to increase the number of children playing organised sport or participating in dance activities by reducing cost as a barrier. This is being expanded to Year 9 age children from 2021-22.	8,317	9,200	10,005	10,215	10,431
VACSWIM	Provides assistance to eligible organisations to provide children aged 5 to 13 years old with opportunities to develop a range of water skills and positive experiences. 2020-21 final year of program being run as a grant program.	464	—	—	—	—

The following table provides the allocation of grant program/funds for 2020-21 and across the forward estimates for the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing—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
Sport & Recreation Fund	The Office has responsibility for two Administered funds; both of which are created and governed by legislation. Monies in the funds are transferred to Controlled and applied to sport and recreation activities as prescribed in the relevant	4,500	4,524	4,551	4,578	4,605
Recreation and Sport Fund		—	—	—	—	—

	legislation and approved by the Minister.					
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The following table details the carryover of grants from 2020-21 into 2021-22 for the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing:

Grant/program name	2020-21 \$000	2021-22 \$000
Other grants – State Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Plan	-9,000	9,000

GRANT PROGRAMS

In reply to **Ms WORTLEY (Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised the following:

The Government has provided a list of grant programs administered by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport and the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing during 2020-21 in omnibus question 14.

BULLYING, HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION

In reply to **Ms WORTLEY (Torrens)** (3 August 2021). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. C.L. WINGARD (Gibson—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing): I have been advised:

Department for Infrastructure and Transport

15

Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing

1

CAPITAL WORKS PROJECTS

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (29 July 2021). (Estimates Committee B)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I am advised of the following:

Currently the budget remains at \$5 million, which is based on the current design, noting the project is still in the concept phase.

The Black Forest Primary School project is due to be completed by Term 4, 2022.

PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES

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

Consistent with advice provided previously, between 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, there were two executive roles abolished within the Department for Education:

Position Title
Assistant Director, EMS Business Transformation
Director, Aboriginal Education Funding Reform

During this period there were 11 executive roles created at the SAES1 level:

Position Title
Assistant Director, ICT Projects
Assistant Director, People and Culture

Position Title
Assistant Director, Review, Improvement and Accountability
Assistant Director, Workforce Strategy
Assistant Director, Workforce Year 7 to High School
Director, Divisional Projects
Director, Instructional Leadership
Director, Reform Coordination
Director, Social Policy and Projects
Director, STEM Aboriginal Student Congress
Executive Leader, Online Curriculum Resources and Publications

TAFE SA

Between 1 July 2020 and 31 June 2021, there were 34 roles abolished within TAFE SA:

Classification of Position
ASO-7 x4
ASO- 8 x18
EMA
MAS3 x6
Principal Lecturer (LET007) x3
Senior Lecturer (LET006)
SAES-1

Between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021, there were 39 roles created within the TAFE SA:

Classification of Position
ASO-7 x10
ASO- 8 x16
EMA
EMB
MAS3 x3
Senior Lecturer (LET006)
Principal Lecturer (LET007) x3
SAES-1 x4

SACE Board of South Australia

Between 1 July 2020 and 31 June 2021, there were 11 roles abolished within the SACE Board of South Australia:

Position Title
Marketing Coordinator
Change Manager
Director, Assessment Futures
Senior HR Consultant
Senior Finance Officer

Position Title
SACE Officer, Curriculum and Assessment
Manager, CAG
3x Senior SACE Officer
Procurement Officer

Between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2021, there were 27 roles created within the SACE Board of South Australia:

Position Title
Agile Business Analyst & Scrum Master x2
Automation Specialist
Change Lead x2
Chief Financial Officer
Continuous Improvement Lead
Digital Content Producer
Education Consultant x3
Education Innovation—Project Officer x4
Manager, Office of the Chief Executive
Program Manager, Change and Partnerships
Program Manager, Innovation
Quality Assurance Team Leader
Senior Analyst Programmer
Senior Business Partner
Senior Business Partner—Finance & Procurement
Senior Test Analyst
Test Analyst x4

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

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

Since 1 July 2020, the following new executive appointments were made within the Department for Education. Some appointments were made to existing vacated roles.

Position Title	SAES Level
Assistant Director, Curriculum Development	SAES1
Assistant Director, Curriculum Policy & Standards	SAES1
Assistant Director, ICT Projects	SAES1
Assistant Director, Literacy & Numeracy Policy	SAES1
Assistant Director, People and Culture	SAES1
Assistant Director, Review, Improvement and Accountability	SAES1
Assistant Director, Workforce Strategy	SAES1
Assistant Director, Workforce Year 7 to HS	SAES1
Director, Curriculum Support	SAES1

Position Title	SAES Level
Director, Divisional Priority Projects	SAES1
Director, Early Childhood Services, Strategy Development	SAES1
Director, Employee Relations	SAES1
Director, Engagement and Wellbeing	SAES1
Director, External Relations	SAES1
Director, Funding	SAES1
Director, Governmental Relations and Policy	SAES1
Director, ICT Projects	SAES1
Director, Instructional Leadership	SAES1
Director, International Education	SAES1
Director, Reform Coordination	SAES1
Director, Social Policy and Projects	SAES1
Executive Director, Infrastructure	SAES2
Executive Leader, Online Curriculum Resources and Publications	SAES1

TAFE SA

Since 1 July 2020, the following new executive appointments were made within TAFE SA. Some appointments were made to existing vacated roles.

Position Title	TRPV
Executive Director Finance and Performance	\$250,000
Director RTO Quality and Compliance	\$175,000
Director Student Experience	\$180,675
Director Global Engagement	\$175,000
Director Education Partnerships	\$185,000
Director Workforce Alignment	\$210,000
Director Strategy, Culture and Diversity	\$155,000

SACE Board of South Australia

Since 1 July 2020, the following new executive appointment was made within the SACE Board of South Australia. No appointments were made to existing vacated roles.

Position Title	TRPV incl. on-costs
Chief Financial Officer	\$232,388.81

GRANT EXPENDITURE

In reply to **Ms STINSON (Badcoe)** (27 July 2021). (Estimates Committee B)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Minister for Education): I have been advised the following:

List of grants programs administered by agencies reporting to the Minister for Education during 2021-21 has been provided in response to omnibus question 14.

Further information about other grants paid by the Department for Education can be made available later based on audited financial statements, noting that the department is currently in the process of having its financial statements audited by the Auditor-General's Department.

BUILDING WHAT MATTERS SIGNAGE

In reply to **Mr BOYER (Wright)** (29 July 2021). (Estimates Committee B)

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Moriaita—Minister for Education): I have been advised of the following:

The most recent figure I have been provided from the Department for Infrastructure and Transport for fence screening material is \$62,014, noting that this does not include three schools for which we are awaiting advice.