

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 16 May 2023

The **SPEAKER (Hon. D.R. Cregan)** took the chair at 11:00.

The **SPEAKER**: Honourable members, we acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the traditional owners of this country throughout Australia and their connection to land and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to elders both past and present.

The **SPEAKER** read prayers.

### *Bills*

#### **SUPPLY BILL 2023**

##### *Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 4 May 2023.)

The **Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—Minister for Tourism, Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (11:01)**: I look forward to continuing my Supply Bill speech. In the first half of my speech, I spoke about tourism. I want to reflect on the other portfolio of multicultural affairs. I often say that I travel around the world every week without leaving Adelaide. I have to say that it keeps me very busy, but I am absolutely honoured when I am invited to come and share with our diverse cultures and communities. Whether it is a religious or a cultural event, for people to be able to continue these traditions is incredibly important to their own wellbeing and important in their lives.

We have people from over 200 culturally, linguistically and religiously diverse backgrounds in South Australia, and they call South Australia home. But what they want to be able to do while living here is continue celebrating and making sure their children and their grandchildren understand it is equally important to be Australian and also be proud of their background and where they have come from.

The 2021 Census found almost half of Australians have a parent born overseas (48.2 per cent), and the population continues to be drawn from around the globe. We have in Australia 27.6 per cent reporting a birthplace overseas. As a multicultural community, we celebrate the many vibrant, established, new and emerging cultures we have across our state. It is the best way to embrace diversity and encourage connections among different cultures and nationalities.

Festivals and significant events are a vital way that our multicultural communities retain and share their culture, history and language. As we know, COVID impacted us in many, many ways. For our culturally and linguistically diverse communities these gatherings were impossible during the pandemic. People felt that isolation. They felt that loneliness. While Zoom obviously replaced lots of different things, it did not replace the opportunity to come together, whether it was a tradition, a holiday, a sporting event, an Independence Day—all of them were cancelled during COVID. In particular, in this last year when I have attended these multicultural events, I have seen a renewed enthusiasm and really high numbers returning.

I particularly thank our community leaders over the past few years for their efforts to keep their communities safe and connected during that time. Some of our new arrival groups came here as humanitarian migrants at a time when people were not gathering or connecting. It was quite challenging. Where they would have traditionally worked in hospitality and tourism, they were unable to find work in those areas. They came as international students and, while we saw a change in policy and they were able to work as many hours as they could, often there was a slow uptake in those initial times.

So many people organised food drives, information sessions and the ability to check on people on arrival and help them with accommodation. I really want to acknowledge the leaders—whether they have been here in very established communities, reaching out to support people during this isolated time, or whether they were new arrivals who were supporting people to get settled here to help them find their way around. If it had been a normal time I think they would have just come together and got to know more people, but they were quite separated. We know that the leadership was engaging with government and finding innovative ways to support the aging, vulnerable and isolated, and I want to recognise and commend the work that they did.

Our recent Celebrate Together round, which has additional money—part of the election commitment—allows communities to apply for up to \$30,000 for events and festivals, and we had a record number of applications. We certainly see a renewed vigour in people coming together and celebrating. Every weekend, I am excited to see the vast array of multicultural events taking place across our state and, significantly, the intercultural nature of these events. I saw it first at the festival a few years ago, where the Bhutanese community partnered by providing volunteers. They wanted to understand what it would be like to hold a bigger festival, so about a dozen of the Bhutanese community volunteered for that festival. That enables people to understand that culture, understand that migration journey and that experience as well.

At the Chinese New Year festival we had some displays by someone from our Indian community doing some Indian dances. So what you see is this interculturalism, and part of it is giving the opportunity for people to either learn about how to run a festival or to show part of their culture and their entertainment. We are increasingly seeing cross-cultural involvement by communities, as well as Acknowledgement and Welcome to Country by our First Nations people at multicultural events and festivals.

On 9 March, we tabled in parliament and launched the inaugural Multicultural Charter. The charter acknowledges our culturally diverse history and provides six principles to promote a unified, harmonious and inclusive South Australian community that values, respects and supports diversity. The Multicultural Charter will guide South Australian government agencies, organisations, institutions, businesses and communities, and be a foundation for all service delivery, policy and program development by placing cultural diversity at the heart of decision-making.

I am pleased to report that a number of government departments and agencies have already reached out to inform me how they are implementing the charter in their workplace. The Multicultural Charter was developed in consultation with a working group, which included South Australian Multicultural Commission members, along with representatives from leading multicultural organisations, universities and government, and wide public consultation. The charter is, however, only one of the ways we are supporting and strengthening our multicultural communities.

I think it is safe to say that we went to the last election with a historic multicultural policy. I am excited that we are delivering these outcomes. I know that our diverse community thanked us for taking the time to present a detailed policy. It is important to have additional money for celebration and expansions, but it is actually about recognising more the barriers and the challenges of settling here and, more importantly for me, recognising those people we have welcomed here and asked to come here for what I call their 'stickability'. We have often seen in the past people coming to Adelaide because they get additional points, it is regional status through migration, and they love living here but have not found a job at the level they worked in previously. That is when we sometimes lose people to Melbourne and Sydney.

These are some of the things in that policy, not only additional money, not only bringing back the leadership certificate at TAFE, not only introducing some of the new things about multicultural women, supporting them with intensive case management and starting up businesses and looking at governance and boards, but these other issues, and asking ourselves the question: how do we maximise the economic contribution of migrants in South Australia?

In the 2022-23 state budget, of course, we increased the multicultural budget by \$16 million over four years to assist the delivery of these key commitments. One of the key things and something I am most proud of is a multicultural lens that we have applied to community language schools,

providing unprecedented support to keeping languages alive among the younger generations through additional investment in community language schools. The funding has included:

- an infrastructure support grant and, in the next few weeks, we will be releasing those groups that have been successful in the infrastructure support;
- increased needs-based funding per student for equipment and learning materials; and
- additional host school funding, including first-time funding for private and independent host schools, as well as rental assistance and case management support for new and existing schools.

We have about 99 schools that operate generally on a weekend or maybe after hours on a Thursday. Traditionally, they have been hosted in government schools, and while that gives a lot of opportunity we have also seen a fair bit of churn, where people might have a community language school for maybe a year, maybe two years, and then, for whatever reason, are asked to move on.

The agnostic part of being able to have it at a government or non-government school enables people to deliver stronger connections, and the case management support means that we can troubleshoot any of those challenging areas before they get to that point, to provide that support as people start up their schools, as they mature, and in their relationships as well. Providing rental assistance really helps those schools, and we thank the volunteers who are the basis of making these schools a possibility.

As I said, a community boards and governance program, to build knowledge and understanding about the role of boards and good governance practices and procedures and how to create and maintain strong stakeholder networks, was a key part of the election, and it has been rolled out. We have reinstated the Multicultural Women's Leadership course to provide the opportunity for up to 40 women from diverse backgrounds to gain a Certificate IV in Women's Advocacy at TAFE, cruelly cut by the previous government. It is such a successful program and we have really seen women taking leadership roles, not only in their own community but within their employment.

We have annualised the Multicultural Festival, which will take place for the first time on Sunday, 12 November. We are going to undertake a skills, qualifications and professional experience review of South Australia's multicultural communities to inform how we maximise the value of onshore migrants. At the same time, something quite significant will be the monitoring and reporting on cultural and linguistic diversity in the South Australian Public Service. We are doing that in partnership with the Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment. It is incredibly important that the Public Service reflects the South Australian population. We are going to have a look at that data-driven impact and look at professional growth, and see what the barriers are to having a more diverse public sector.

One of the things I am really pleased about is the establishment of the Multicultural Chambers of Commerce group with a series of short networking sessions with presentations on government investment and activity. I want to thank Business SA and KPMG, which is holding something in the near future that is really quite exciting. This is just the start of the list. Multiculturalism is something that gives enormous connection to people. We are a nation built on migration, and people come here for many different reasons, but what we want them to do is flourish.

**Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (11:14):** I rise today in support of the Supply Bill 2023 so that the government can keep writing cheques for the Public Service and certainly keep us gainfully employed. There is a total of \$6,553 million, or just over \$6.5 billion, of what I am estimating when the budget comes down in a month's time will be around \$22 billion in total for getting us through the finances for the 2023-24 financial year.

We have had a very interesting time over summer with the River Murray floods, which I have spoken about in here on multiple occasions. It is interesting, when I reflect on being here in my first term, from 2006 to 2010, and onwards, that we came to the end of 2006 and we had the Millennium Drought, which lasted pretty close to four years. As I have indicated in this place before, the Darling section of the Murray-Darling Basin is the most unreliable as far as flows go, and I can still remember

that dirty water flowing down—I was watching it from the Swanport Bridge as I drove over it—to refresh the system and get it back on track.

It goes to show, in the famous words of Dorothea Mackellar, that it is the country of drought and flooding rains. We recently came out of a flood that has been the biggest in living history for a lot of people—thankfully, short of 1956—and it has caused a lot of angst but also a lot of renewal in river communities. It has caused problems in farming communities with levee banks being breached; it caused a problem for people with shacks, businesses or homes on the river. I reflect especially on the businesses on the lower end of Randell Street in Mannum, who were engulfed because there just was not an engineering solution to save them down by Beachy's pub.

In this week of saluting volunteers, I really want to commend the work of volunteers and those paid contractors, council workers, mayors and CEOs right up and down the river who took on the huge job of doing their best to support their communities and keep them safe. I have reflected on it here before, when we saw the massive operation at Renmark. It really showed how much Renmark is an island when 150,000 tonnes of clay were moved in to save that town.

Work was done right up and down the river, right through all the council areas, whether Berri, Barmera, Loxton, Waikerie or Renmark, which I have already talked about. Mid Murray, with its 440 kilometres of riverbank, a 220-kilometre long section of river—a large council geographically, but with a small rate base that has worked itself butt off, to be frank—had contractors and volunteers doing their best for their community to save what could be saved. It cost millions of dollars to put in levees, especially in Mannum, and I understand it was several million dollars to remove them.

I have had discussions with the government, certainly with the council and certainly with Senator Murray Watt's office on the federal scene—and I have a direct contact there, which is good—to make sure that all the councils, especially Mid Murray, are not left in the lurch as far as the funding for their management of the recovery time.

The recovery time is an interesting time. We have people who are quite proactive. Some people have spent a huge amount of money, many hundreds of thousands of dollars, and are just getting on with the job to make sure that their business keeps going. One family, the Martin family—I worked with Ash Martin when we were chasing clay to protect Mypolonga—said, 'We're going to sow our pastures in April at Wall Flat, just north of Mypolonga,' and that is exactly what they did. They got on with it, made sure they worked with the departments and got the big Millewa pumps that were being used to pump out those swamps.

We see areas like Mypolonga, where it is about 700 or 800 metres out to the original levee bank of the river, but that is all covered in water. They are getting sheet piling in and getting that levee back into some sort of state so that those areas can be pumped out appropriately as well. South of Murray Bridge with all those swamps down that way, from Riverglades through to Jervois and Monteith, there is certainly a lot of work done by locals and volunteers. The Army were involved for a while, building up those banks to make sure they could save what they could. It certainly was a very interesting time.

I appreciated the direct contact I had with Chris Beattie, the head of the SES; John Schutz, head of the environment department; and other heads of departments. We had real dialogue in real time, whether it was text or conversation, about making sure we could find ways to protect buildings, protect farmland and basically just get clay to where it needed to be. It was quite a good working relationship, but we still need to make sure that someone pays the bill. I will certainly be chasing that up as time goes on, because recovery is going to take a long time.

We have seen the issues with insurance. Insurance companies get very nervous when something actually happens that people are insured for. I saw it once years ago when I had a shed blow down. I rang my insurance company and they said, 'There was no wind that day.' I said, 'I'll tell you where two other sheds blew down.' That cleaned up that argument, but it was a battle and I still did not get all my money.

Plenty of us pay plenty of money for insurance, but there were issues where some companies would just use postcode-based theories, really, on whether they would insure people or not. I can assure you, if someone is living at Rockleigh a River Murray flood is not going to affect them. They

are far more likely, as sadly we have seen in recent history, to be hit by fires than flood. However, we will keep working through all those processes.

I note that a lot of those restrictions have come off, but it is making it interesting for some people with shacks—the thousands of shacks that were affected along the River Murray—and homes and businesses along the River Murray, regarding what their insurance costs are. Some local members, including the member for Chaffey, the Hon. Nicola Centofanti on the river and others of us, have connections to the river. David Basham, the member for Finnis, now looks after the Milang, Clayton Bay and Lower Lakes area heading out to the mouth.

I want to reflect on some of the things that were brought to my electorate, and I am going to talk about its old boundaries. The electorate of Hammond used to go all the way to the Victorian border at Pinnaroo, then head up on the Dukes Highway. A few kilometres north of Coonalpyn is the boundary, which used to be about 18 kilometres south-east of my home. It then went down around the Lakes, around Clayton and Milang, across the Cambrai way, and then up almost to Mount Barker, as it still does. I note that, with the redistribution coming into this election and the population drain in regional areas, which is what happens, sadly, now we look after Murray Bridge, Mannum, Langhorne Creek and Strathalbyn and surrounding communities.

Certainly, in that four-year period, it was great to see funding secured for projects like the \$20,000 Milang butter factory upgrade restoration project, and that was for the facade. Also, \$400,000 went into the great upgrade of the winery at Bremerton Wines. It was already a great place, but it made it a better place to go and do wine tasting and taste those great wines and great foods from the area.

We also had Lake Breeze Wines, which were recipients of a \$300,000 grant from the Marshall Liberal government. We were actually in their function room on Friday, where we had the Langhorne Creek Wine luncheon, and some of the responses I got from some of the winemakers I cannot repeat, but they are quite happy to see this season gone. This was a tough vintage, a very tough vintage. Apart from the fact that there is a lot of wine in storage—three or four years, depending on where you are—a lot of fungicide had to be used to keep grapes going and a whole lot of other management practices, but, sadly, a whole lot of grapes were picked and put straight on the ground in some areas, which certainly happened in the Langhorne Creek area as well.

It was a great event. I want to acknowledge my great friend who I have had for over 40 years, Mark Cleggett—'Clank' is his nickname—who received Viteulturist of the Year. He was quite taken aback when he received that award, amongst all the other awards that were presented on that day, whether it was to Bleasdale or Kimbolton Wines and other people in the wine sector.

Certainly, it was great when we were in government that the Eastern Fleurieu School at Langhorne Creek was promised \$3 million to get new classrooms, and we are monitoring that project as that moves forward. Callington Recreation Community Centre was granted \$197,500, which is a great centre right on the edge of the oval. There is another oval next to that one as well to work with the cricket and football and all the social activities that happen there.

Monarto Safari Park was granted \$4.55 million as part of a \$16 million project with a new entry precinct, which Tony Pasin, the member for Barker, and I got to open. I want to acknowledge Gerry Ryan from Jayco for building the 78-room hotel, which I hope will be open later this year. I think there will be over 20-odd glamping sites to go with that, so it will essentially be another 100 rooms coming into the area of high-quality accommodation. Being right out there amongst the lions, I am told they will keep the lions caged, which is a good thing. It will be great to see that open up into the future to complement all the other levels of accommodation in the area, including the 100 rooms at the motorsport park and the 100 rooms at the Bridgeport Hotel in Murray Bridge.

We put \$36 million into the Old Murray Bridge upgrade, and I note the government put another \$10 million in the last budget to keep that going. It caused a little bit of controversy during the flood event. Some people were indicating, 'Perhaps we will just pull all the scaffolding down so we can make it two ways, in case something happens,' because there were one or two accidents near the Swanport Bridge, but that would have been a massive undertaking—even I knew that. We managed to persevere and get through it.

We put \$14 million into community infrastructure at Thomas Foods, and that was matched with \$10 million by the federal government for roadworks, gas connection, power and water. It is pretty wild that there are only one or two companies or maybe only one or two people in the world who can do these—I am not sure what they are called—I think they are called hot gas connections. They do not turn the gas off and they reconnect. So this does not cost hundreds of thousands; it is north of \$1 million to do one of those connections into a business because the SEA Gas pipeline was not turned off.

It was good to see that the early commissioning of the beef plant happened on Friday, and I am hoping to go through there soon to see that project running, remembering that disastrous day back on 3 January 2018 when the old plant burnt down.

We put in \$7½ million for track work at the Gifford Hill racecourse at Murray Bridge. There has been much money spent there—over \$40 million—to make that racecourse a world-leading operation. I am very proud to have delivered on \$7 million for the emergency department at the Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, which was matched with \$3 million to upgrade the operating theatres, so \$10 million there.

The Murray Bridge High School upgrade was \$20 million. That is fantastic, and some world-leading architecture went into that. Also there is \$5 million for Murray Bridge North School, which I believe is ongoing. The Karoonda swimming pool, which now is in the member for Chaffey's electorate, was a six-year saga that should never have been that long. I do not think these were exactly political decisions being made by MPs, but we did have to dig in and remind people in the department that the people in the Mallee deserved a swimming pool. I was told one afternoon that it was not going to happen, and we sent an email back saying, 'I think you need to have another look,' and thankfully they did for that \$1.6 million project.

The Murray Bridge swimming pool upgrade was \$1 million, another great project for Murray Bridge. We are waiting to see what has happened with the Greater Adelaide Freight Bypass Planning Study, and \$5 million of state money and \$5 million of federal money went to that. Also, I certainly know the Murray Bridge to South East Links business case, which includes looking at the duplication of the Swanport Bridge, is ongoing, with \$5 million going there.

It is not just about the Swanport Bridge, which should have been duplicated when it was built. It was a bit of a shock when I drove up to it for the first time in 1979 and saw that it was only a two-lane bridge and not a four-lane bridge, so only one lane each way. It is also looking at the first five kilometres of duplication of the Dukes Highway to be done in around 40 years, from Tailem Bend out towards the motorsport park and the Mallee Highway turnoff.

The Beston foods Jervois plant upgrade was \$2.5 million, and some of that would have gone into the lactoferrin plant, which is the high-value material they extract from the milk to really value-add to that milk product. An amount of \$99,350 went to the Tailem Bend netball courts. The Tailem Bend new CFS station was \$1.061 million, so just over a million dollars there. The Karoonda Districts Football Club received \$258,000. The Lameroo swimming pool regeneration was \$850,000. For Zerella Fresh up at Parilla, \$2 million for a new packing facility—fantastic facilities, and they have a whole heap of migrants from New Guinea working there.

Also, for the Browns Well Highway and the Ngarkat Highway upgrade, to bring it back to 110 km/h, \$42 million; for Kalimna Hostel at Strathalbyn, \$3 million, and we are still waiting to see where that goes; for the Strathalbyn and District Aged Care Facility upgrade, \$16 million; for the Mannum Community College new STEM building, CAD lab and senior school upgrade, \$3.9 million; for the Eastern Fleurieu school Strathalbyn Campus upgrade, \$1.8 million; for a new SES unit at Strathalbyn, which we got to open recently alongside the government, \$2.65 million; for the new ambulance station at Strathalbyn, \$4.6 million; and funding of \$1.5 million has just gone through to the Strathalbyn abattoir to get it operational again. This is a significant amount of money, well north of \$200 million. Let's see what happens in the budget so that we can keep appropriately funding not just my electorate but the whole state.

Time expired.

**Ms CLANCY (Elder) (11:34):** I rise to speak on the Supply Bill 2023. It is hard to believe that I am speaking on a supply bill already for the second time, because the time has completely flown. But when you look at all our government has been able to achieve so far it makes sense that we are here again, reflecting on what we have achieved and ready to do more.

It feels like our state has well and truly come back to life bigger and better than ever before, and I want to thank our Premier and Minister for Tourism for playing such big roles in that. To lure tourists back to our wonderful state we spent \$45 million to market South Australia to people interstate and overseas, significantly more than our election commitment of \$20 million over two years. The investment was front-ended, with \$15 million this financial year to provide additional support to tourism businesses, with an additional \$10 million per year across the forward estimates.

We are also delivering on our election commitment to the Tourism Industry Council of South Australia of \$1.6 million over four years. These funds are being used to build capability through workshops and one-to-one business coaching as well as a program to encourage young people to consider a career in tourism.

Last year, we delivered on our election commitment to protect the giant Australian cuttlefish in the Upper Spencer Gulf, stopping the taking of the cuttlefish in the waters north of Arno Bay and Wallaroo. Our government worked really quickly to put in place the temporary arrangements during the 2022 spawning event, which saw a 28 per cent increase in cuttlefish numbers compared to 2021, after the former Liberal government allowed protection to lapse.

We have since enacted a regulation change to make the closure on the taking of giant Australian cuttlefish in the Upper Spencer Gulf permanent from the beginning of this month. Making the protection permanent allows the community and tourism operators on the Upper Spencer Gulf to confidently build upon a really popular nature-based tourism experience while also giving the iconic giant Australian cuttlefish the best chance to grow in numbers well into the future. I am very keen to put on a very thick—very, very thick—warm wetsuit and check it out one winter soon.

While on the topic of nature-based tourism, our government has established a \$2 million nature-based tourism fund to show off our state's natural landscapes and to encourage visitors to enjoy South Australia's natural and cultural assets. The South Australian Tourism Commission's Experience Nature Tourism Fund is designed to boost South Australia's visitor economy and encourage investment in nature-based tourism experiences.

The funding program runs over four financial years, with up to \$500,000 available in each year for grants from \$10,000 to \$50,000 for new and improved nature-based tourism products and experiences that are in or near a national park, reserve, wilderness protection area or marine park.

Moving a bit away from nature and into some lights, technology and art, we have Illuminate. Illuminate Adelaide is supported by our government through the Tourism Commission, and last year it attracted more than 1.2 million attendances. Bringing people into the city on cold, wintry nights can be tricky, but Illuminate Adelaide managed to do just that, and the great thing was that many visitors did not just see something and leave; CBD businesses reported the strongest trade they had ever experienced in winter, experiencing the highest ever spending for a July in the city.

Illuminate drove an incredible \$44.8 million in economic activity generated for the state, contributing to the strongest July on record. The night-time economy contributed to a third of overall spend, with spending levels between 6pm and 6am even higher in July than in the Mad March period last year.

The Australian premiere of the major exhibition *Wisdom of AI Light*, by Istanbul-based artists from Ouchhh Studio, attracted more than 40,000 people. *Light Cycles* returned to the Botanic Garden, attracting more than 123,000 people, of which my partner, Miss Six and I were three. I tell you, it went a lot better for our family last year than it did in 2021. In 2021, our little one completely broke down when we walked out of the Botanic Garden when she realised that it was all over and she was not allowed to just walk straight back in. Last year, she learnt from her mistakes, she took it all a little slower and we managed to leave without any tears but still a lot of love for a really incredible experience.

It was not just the city that shone brightly during Illuminate. Illuminate also attracted massive numbers for three regional shows: Renmark's *In Depth*, which attracted 11,213 visitors over four weeks; Mount Gambier's *Digital Garden*, which saw 17,398 people head to the state's South-East over 2½ weeks; and Victor Harbor's *Harbor Lights*, with a total of 21,742 spectators.

In August, we saw close to 37,000 spectators attend as international rugby returned to Adelaide Oval. Before heading into the afternoon games, thousands of people took the opportunity to enjoy our city's pubs, cafes and restaurants, which we love to see. In September, our government partnered with the 36ers to get them to the USA to further raise our beautiful state's profile across the world.

Our relaunched Brand SA—that was another election commitment delivered—backed the 36ers to play against two NBA teams, with our state's brand being prominently displayed in both Oklahoma and Phoenix, including our state's logo on their uniforms. After the tour to the US, the new partnership continued to provide other promotional opportunities and extended through the regular 2022-23 NBL season.

The partnerships then continued with Adelaide's baseball team the Giants and the Tokyo-based Yomiuri Giants, thanks to the hard work of our Minister for Trade. Members of Japan's most successful baseball team came to Adelaide to connect with elite South Australian sporting organisations on a trip set to pave the way for future training and development opportunities. The Tokyo-based Giants have sent a team of experts to gain insight into how local clubs operate, including the Adelaide Crows and Adelaide Giants, as the global superstars explore making Adelaide their long-term spring training destination.

The tour was a direct result of the Malinauskas government meeting with the Giants on a trade mission to Japan, demonstrating the value of sports diplomacy and a growing relationship between Adelaide and the world's third largest economy. The visit by these experts from Tokyo happened just three weeks after South Australia attracted 70 students from some of Japan's top universities to compete in a Junko baseball series against the Adelaide Next Generation Giants, pumping an estimated more than \$100,000 into the local economy.

Controversially, I am not a massive cricket fan. I blame my older brothers. When I was about six years old, I remember walking into the lounge room and asking, 'Who is winning?' Then, with rolling eyes, I was told, 'That's not how cricket works.' Many years later, after that rough start, I did go to and really enjoy some T20 games. I do really like cricket in that format, which I understand is a bit blasphemous to some cricket fans.

I was stoked that with the state government's support, 10 teams played in Adelaide as part of the T20 World Cup. I was even more stoked when more than 100,000 spectators helped international cricket deliver almost \$95 million in economic spend across South Australia in November. Even for those who did not make it to Adelaide for the cricket this time around, the event had 6.58 billion video views across all ICC platforms and a global dedicated TV audience of 1.28 billion, so people still got to see our city from afar.

In November, the fun just kept coming in Adelaide with the return of the National Pharmacies Christmas Pageant to the streets of Adelaide. We made public transport free to make the pageant that little bit easier to get to. I really want to shout out to the children who got to ride Nipper and Nimble. I hope you got to bask in the joy of that honour because that was a dream of mine for many, many years.

While I did not make it to the Christmas Pageant—please do not tell Miss Six that she missed out—I did make it to the Harvest Rock music festival and, despite the rain, had such a great time. I love live music, and so when you throw in some food trucks as well I feel almost as happy as I think I would have felt if I did ever get to ride on Nipper or Nimble.

It was not just me who enjoyed Harvest. The event was such an incredible success, with hotel occupancy rates high and great crowds. The event saw almost 24,000 festivalgoers, more than 30 per cent of whom were from overseas or interstate, and it generated \$16.5 million in total economic activity for Adelaide. I am looking forward to it coming back to Adelaide later this year.

After the Harvest Rock festival, the East End made a quick switch and was once again home to car racing.

After being elected in March, we were able to pass legislation through parliament in July to re-establish motorsports in South Australia more broadly, and we then hosted an epic event in December. In 2019, before the former government axed the Adelaide 500, the race attracted over 200,000 people and generated over \$45.9 million in economic activity. It was a major draw for our tourism and hospitality sectors, attracting 15,200 interstate and international visitors and supporting 90,000 visitor bed nights.

The 2022 VALO Adelaide 500 generated a record \$51.85 million benefit to the South Australian economy, in a resounding endorsement of the race's long-awaited return. Preparations are now well underway for the 2023 VALO Adelaide 500, which will be held in November 2023 to 2026 and headlined by—I am getting all goosebumpy—heart-throb Robbie Williams performing at the Sunday after-race concert. I have not seen Robbie live since I won tickets to his concert at the Entertainment Centre by calling in to SAFM and being the right numbered caller back in 2001. Suffice to say, if you cannot tell, I am pretty excited.

Since the new year and the VALO Adelaide 500, there has been a heap more on. The Tour Down Under included the world's most elite female cyclist for the first time in the event's history. The elevation of the women's event to the UCI Women's World Tour put it on equal footing with the men's competition, which also sees elite UCI World Tour men's teams come to South Australia.

I was also really lucky to attend the tennis and see Novak Djokovic play just weeks before he won the men's singles title at the Australian Open.

**Ms Savvas:** Did you get a selfie?

**Ms CLANCY:** Yes, I did get a selfie. All these events help to put our beautiful state in front of the world. They do not just bring excitement and money to our state while they are on, they help to make us a destination for many visitors in the future.

While January was big in Adelaide, the regions also saw incredible amounts of tourism. The best average occupancy for any January on record and an all-time high revenue of \$25.2 million were among the celebrated figures for regional South Australia in the summer of 2023. All-time highs were clocked for the Limestone Coast in January, which saw its highest ever occupancy of 84 per cent; highest ever room nights occupied, at 31,000; and highest ever revenue at \$5.9 million—all monthly records for the region.

The combined wine regions of Adelaide Hills, Barossa and Clare Valley reached the highest occupancy for any January on record, at 70 per cent, and toppled their pre-COVID occupancy of just 59 per cent in January 2019. The Eyre and Yorke peninsulas saw a combined average occupancy of 77 per cent in January 2023, the best January result for the regions on record.

But, while these regions thrived, it was of course an incredibly difficult time for our river communities. In February, our government announced the Rise Up for our River campaign. This campaign includes three rounds of vouchers, expected to inject millions of dollars into the communities hit hard by the recent flood. More than 25,000 vouchers will be released over three rounds this year, the first of which started to be used in April. With values of \$50, \$100 and \$200, the vouchers can be used for experiences and accommodation in the Riverland and Murray River, Lakes and Coorong regions.

A \$750 houseboat voucher will also be introduced in rounds 2 and 3, allowing South Australians to plan an iconic houseboat holiday in the winter and spring periods, when most houseboats are expected to be fully operational again. For the first time in the commission's voucher program history, caravan park sites have been included, adding several thousand more options across the region as the larger parks reopen, such as Discovery Parks Lake Bonney, BIG4 Renmark Riverfront and Waikerie Holiday Park. An additional \$500,000 will also be provided for a further round targeted towards businesses that are still to reopen, such as affected areas of the Mid Murray Council region, and I am really looking forward to visiting the Riverland with the Suicide Prevention Council later this year.

We have continued to really earn our badge of the Festival State this year with a record-breaking Mad March. Like many in this building, I am sure, I did not get to attend any of the Fringe events last year—we were a bit preoccupied with something else—so it was exciting to get to a few shows this year and to attend a show on the last night of the Fringe, when we hit one million tickets sold for the first time.

WOMADelaide and the Adelaide Festival were also both incredibly popular. WOMADelaide sold out of Friday, Saturday, Sunday and multiday tickets in advance for the first time in its 31-year history, and the Festival exceeded box office targets. Adelaide Writers' Week, one of my personal favourites, also brought so many interesting, engaging conversations into our city and libraries and people out and about into our cafes and restaurants.

Again, it was not just us locals enjoying it all. The week ending 11 March was the strongest week ever for Adelaide accommodation, with an average 9,140 room nights occupied—87 per cent occupancy—and revenue of \$2.5 million each night. Adelaide accommodation occupancy on the Friday and Saturday of the March long weekend was 90 per cent and 93 per cent respectively. On Tuesday 7 March, Adelaide recorded the third highest revenue of all time at \$3 million, driven by Mad March events as well as the Ed Sheeran concert at Adelaide Oval.

Nearing the end of March, we had the Adelaide Motorsport Festival, but things did not settle down in April. Our Premier fought to get the Gather Round here, and it is clear many, many South Australians loved that he did. All nine matches sold out. We saw tens of thousands of people travelling into South Australia. I know local hotels in my electorate of Elder, such as the Marion and the Tonsley, were incredibly popular with people trying to stay there so they could get to the games. Now we have this awesome event secured in Adelaide until 2026.

We then had some glorious weather for horses and golf, with LIV Golf and the return of the Adelaide Equestrian Festival. Tasting Australia wrapped up on 7 May, and I love that Rose Adam, from local Elder cafe The Middle Store but also *MasterChef*, got to show off her skills as part of the program. Now we take a little breath before State of Origin is in town on 31 May. In July and August, we have five games of the FIFA Women's World Cup.

We can and we should be proud of our government's investment in tourism in our state. Visitor expenditure in South Australia in the 12 months to December 2022 hit \$8.3 billion, a new all-time record for the state that is truly worth celebrating. These investments support our tourism sector, bring incredible economic benefits and make our state an even better place to live. The work ethic, determination, understanding and passion of our government mean we can do all of this while also making significant investments in health, education, housing, infrastructure and much more.

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kurna—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (11:53):** It is my pleasure to speak in relation to the Supply Bill 2023, which is important to make sure that all the important services that the government runs keep running, particularly before we pass the Appropriation Bill following the budget. Of course, whenever we look at expenditure like this, a bit over a third of it goes towards our state's healthcare system. Obviously, the increase in funding has been ramping up substantially since we were elected to office a year ago.

We are particularly delighted with some news out this morning in relation to how that money is being used to deliver additional staff working in our hospitals, working in our healthcare system. Over the last year, between March last year to March this year, we have employed an additional 550 healthcare staff, healthcare clinicians, across our system.

That is some 278 additional nurses, some 89 additional doctors, 141 extra ambos, and also 42 allied health professionals across our health system. This far and above exceeds the targets we set for ourselves when we were elected last year. We talked about recruiting, in the first year of office, about 100 nurses, about 100 ambos—and we have exceeded that. We talked about recruiting about 20 to 30 doctors, and we have far exceeded that as well.

Of course, there is much more to do. I am really excited that, in addition to the excellent results we have had so far, we are continuing our aggressive, assertive way of recruiting additional staff into our system by launching a new recruitment campaign that will roll out nationally and internationally to attract more doctors, more nurses and more other healthcare workers to come to

South Australia. This will highlight the benefits of working in South Australia, our great lifestyle and the excellent conditions we have on offer here in South Australia, particularly compared to those we see around the world.

The pay and conditions here in South Australia far exceed those that are provided in many other countries, particularly in the UK. If you look at the UK at the moment, NHS doctors (who are out on strike) are paid much less than they are in Australia. They are out there singing songs about how they want to move to Australia: well, we have the deal for them to come here, right to South Australia. Just this morning I met with a number of doctors who have moved from overseas and interstate to work here in South Australia who are absolutely enjoying that experience.

To make that recruitment campaign even more effective, today we announced additional incentives to help recruit more health staff to come to South Australia, including up to \$15,000 of recruitment incentives to help people relocate here. That will be \$10,000 in metropolitan areas for relocation expenses and \$13,000 in regional areas, going up to \$15,000 in remote South Australia. This is really helping to make the journey to come here and work in our state as easy as possible for those healthcare professionals; helping to pay for their loans, helping to pay for relocation expenses, removalists and the like, which obviously can all add up very substantially.

We have done this because we have listened to our healthcare staff, those who have come here, who have said this would be a great help in attracting more and more people. We have also conducted research with healthcare workers interstate and internationally looking at what we need to do. This brings us in line with what we see in other states; the relocation expenses are exactly the same as what is on the Victorian website in terms of the attraction they have put in place for their staff. Combine that with the fact that we have a much lower cost of living in South Australia compared with other states and it makes it a very attractive proposition.

Unfortunately, this has not been universally welcomed. We have the very negative Liberal Party who have been out this morning criticising this. They have just complete negativity and no solutions of their own. When they were in office, only a year ago, what did they do? They had a program of making nurses redundant. So they made over 300 nurses redundant while they were in office. We have absolutely scrapped that program. We want to hire additional nurses, not make nurses redundant in our system.

They have been out there using all sorts of dodgy figures in relation to what they are claiming is in place in Victoria, claims of up to \$100,000. That is complete rubbish compared to what Victoria is actually putting out, which is the same as we are doing. It is grossly irresponsible to do that, and it makes you question, when they are putting out those sorts of dodgy figures into the market, whether the Liberal Party and its leadership are really backing South Australia or not, or whether they want other states to succeed.

We want South Australia to succeed. There should be bipartisan agreement on making sure that we can attract as many healthcare workers to this state as possible. Unfortunately we do not see that. We see the petty, negative politics from those opposite with dodgy figures that bear no resemblance to the truth whatsoever.

We should be backing getting more staff here to South Australia, because that is absolutely what we need to make sure that we can build on the success that we have already had. Clearly, even without those incentives, without that recruitment campaign, we have had excellent success in recruiting more staff. We now need to build on that in the future and this recruitment campaign and these incentives are only going to make that job easier.

I think that the Liberals should back up their claims with some facts, because they are completely baseless. Unfortunately, these sorts of negative claims seek to undermine our state, undermine our hardworking doctors, nurses and paramedics who are every day going in to bat for South Australians. Unfortunately, all we see from the Liberals is playing politics with people's health with their dodgy figures. They should be backing our healthcare workers instead.

This is a budget that was delivered last year which sets a program over the course of four years of investing in more and more health resources to make sure that we have the capacity that we need. We know very clearly that the issue that we have in relation to our healthcare system is

blockages that happen from one step in a patient's journey to the next, which means that people cannot get through the system and ultimately people get ramped and ultimately people do not get ambulance responses on time.

We are investing right across the healthcare system, from ambulances right through to discharging people out of hospital, and probably the most critical component of that is building the capacity of our beds in the healthcare system. In fact we have increased, since our election, our commitments to additional beds in the system. We came to office promising 300 beds for the system. We are now promising over 550 extra beds and that is funded within the bill which we are bringing to parliament at the moment.

These are additional beds which we have not seen for a long time being brought into the system under successive governments, because these are absolutely critically needed to make sure that we have that capacity now and into the future. We have increased our commitment to Lyell McEwin Hospital. We said at the election we would put 24 more beds in there; now we have increased that to 48 more beds at the Lyell McEwin Hospital. At the election we said that we would put in 24 more beds at Flinders Medical Centre; now we are putting in 136 extra beds into Flinders Medical Centre. We are putting in an additional 24 more beds over what we said at the Repat as well. At Noarlunga Hospital we promised 24 more beds and we are increasing that to 48 beds.

All across the system, not only are we delivering on the commitments that we made but we are increasing those commitments, because we understand the absolute need for those additional resources to go in. We have made excellent progress in relation to that recruitment, as I have said. That has had an immediate impact in terms of the additional paramedics that we have been able to put on the road, which has had an immediate impact in terms of lifting ambulance response times—not back up to where we need them to be, but certainly a lot better than where they were before we came into office.

The additional beds, the additional staff and the additional capital works into the rest of the system are critically needed to make sure that we can get people through the rest of the system, reduce that ramping time and increase those ambulance response times. I am delighted to see progress being made in terms of construction starting at the moment in terms of Lyell McEwin Hospital, where we are putting on those 48 additional beds and progress is being made where we have brought on an additional ward through Flinders Medical Centre in very short order.

There is progress being made in the release of the model of care for our mental health investments. It is important to touch on mental health, because that is a key issue that we face in our healthcare system, not only in terms of improving the outcomes for people who are suffering mental illnesses in our state but also in terms of that leading to a lot more blockages for the rest of the system. Quite often the people who will get stuck in our emergency departments for very long periods of time are mental health patients. Those patients who get stuck there have a much worse outcome. You do not want to be in that sort of environment for a very long period of time.

It also means that other patients cannot come in, use that bay, use that staff in the time that that patient is there. Additional mental health beds are what was recommended by the College for Emergency Medicine as well as the college of psychiatrists. This was ignored by the previous government but we are now delivering those beds across Modbury, across The QEH and across Noarlunga Hospital as well. These will provide step-down rehabilitation beds to free up acute beds to make sure we can continue that flow of patients throughout the system as well.

In addition to all those investments, we need to particularly look at peri-urban needs as our population is growing across Adelaide, and one of those areas where it is growing very substantially is Mount Barker. We have a hospital at Mount Barker that has had in the order of about 30 beds for the past 20 years, despite the massive increase in population growth that has happened in Mount Barker since that time.

We have committed to a hospital that will triple the number of beds at Mount Barker to make sure we can deliver that need for the community up there and to make sure we can reduce pressure on the city hospitals because if we cannot care for patients in that community then, ultimately, they have to be transferred to city hospitals. In addition to that, I really do want to highlight the work that is being undertaken at the moment in relation to the control centre.

People would be familiar that this was a commitment we made connected to establishing the new SA Ambulance headquarters that it should contain a control centre for SA Health. This is something that people may have presumed was in place already for a \$8 billion organisation, the biggest organisation in the state, that we should have a 24-hour control room where we are managing the use of resources, the connection between the system and the connection between the Ambulance Service and our hospitals at all times.

Sadly, that has never been put in place; however, even before we build that new building, we have in recent weeks established the first service at Tonsley. This is being set up as a virtual control centre. It is staffed 24 hours a day and is able to monitor and coordinate between our hospitals and our Ambulance Service and we are really getting some good understanding of where a lot of those blockages in the system are. I really want to thank the team that has been involved in setting that up.

Of course, it is not the only answer, in itself, but providing that level of coordination can mean that we can hopefully get ahead of the game in trying to predict and address blockages in the system before they arise, rather than what has historically always happened which is just responding very reactively when that situation has arisen over time. I do also want to thank our hardworking staff.

I particularly want to say something in relation to those new crews of ambulances that have come on board. Understanding that is not the solution to all the problems in itself, it has meant that we have been able to improve response times for patients right across the city. Those response times were in the low 30 per cent of people in January 2022 who were getting a priority 2, lights and sirens, response time on time. We have now increased that to 60 per cent.

There is still a long way to go to where we want to be, as this figure used to be in the mid-80s before the Marshall government was elected, but it is a very promising sign. We now have additional ambulance resources based in the Norwood area, the inner south through Edwardstown and Marion, the Golden Grove area and the Woodville area as well. These additional ambulances are making a difference in getting to people on time.

We have now announced the sites for all our new ambulance stations that will be built across Adelaide, Norwood, Edwardstown, Woodville and Golden Grove, as well as looking at our peri-urban sites, such as Mount Barker and Victor Harbor. These sites are critical for making sure we can build that capacity in the Ambulance Service and improve our response times to patients, so that, if any one of us or our parents or our loved ones are in the situation where they need urgent medical attention, we have more resources able to get to them on time.

I really want to thank all our hardworking staff who work in SA Health. I congratulate the team that has been so successful in increasing the staffing level that we have seen over the past year. Through the funding we have committed and through the initiatives we have underway, there is much more in store to be able to address those situations—those issues—that we know are in the system.

**Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (12:09):** I rise in support of the Supply Bill presently before the house. This is an important bill to ensure government services continue running ahead of the upcoming budget and Appropriation Bill. First and foremost, I am incredibly proud to be a part of a government that is getting on with the job and delivering for the South Australian people. We are delivering on commitments that are making our streets, our neighbourhoods and our communities healthier, safer, greener and more connected.

As I detailed in my very first speech to this place, health care is incredibly important to me and my family. I am very proud that for the Malinauskas government health is also our number one priority. In our first year in government, we have recruited an extra 550 clinical staff to deliver better health care and lift ambulance response times. That is 278 extra nurses, 89 extra doctors, 141 extra ambos and 42 extra allied health workers. That is 550 extra clinical staff above attrition to support our commitment to open hundreds of hospital beds across the system. This also includes a brand-new ambulance headquarters on Richmond Road as well as a brand-new ambulance station for Adelaide. These are projects that have been long called for by the sector. That is incredibly important to my community as well as to all South Australia.

Another of our commitments is to also build a bigger and better Women's and Children's Hospital. During my campaign for the City of Adelaide, for my community, I would spend many hours out the front of the current Women's and Children's Hospital with two incredible advocates, Professor Warren Jones and Professor John Svigos, with a petition, collecting signatures and talking to staff, doctors, nurses and many parents about the need to invest in a better Women's and Children's Hospital, particularly for mothers and children across our state. So I am incredibly proud that we are also delivering on that commitment.

Another topic I often talk about in this place, and also talked about in my very first speech to this place, is public education. I am a public school student, proudly educated at Naracoorte High in the state's South-East. I am a School Card kid. Thanks to the School Card, my mum could afford to pay for my schoolbooks. It meant that I could be the first in my family to go to university. So to be able to give that precious gift of an amazing education, an amazing public education, to young people in my community is something I am incredibly passionate about.

We took a commitment to the election to expand Adelaide Botanic High and are now delivering on that. We are currently in the process of expanding Adelaide Botanic High so that more young people in my community, more families in my community, can access a state-of-the-art public education. It really is state of the art. For anyone who has visited Adelaide Botanic High, it feels like you will find a 3D printer in every room. There is even a food 3D printer. Given that the expansion in technology for my school was when we moved from blackboards to whiteboards, when you visit Adelaide Botanic High I am pretty sure you will be blown away by the state-of-the-art education that is being delivered for young people there.

I am incredibly proud of my government for really bringing Adelaide alive again. There is a real sense of pride in our state because we are bringing back events. We are bringing our city alive with things like Gather Round. That was incredible, in particular the Crows' win against the Baggers. It was amazing. It really had a grand final atmosphere at Adelaide Oval. I congratulate the Premier on how much he really fought to secure that event for South Australia in coming years.

There are things like Harvest Rock. It was a little soggy, but that did not dampen the spirits of the thousands of people who descended on the city for that incredible event, particularly the huge numbers of interstate guests. Obviously, we brought back the Adelaide 500 as well. I would not describe myself as the biggest revhead, but it was just incredible and had this Grand Prix atmosphere. Again, it brought back so much pride to our state to see people with huge smiles on their faces, enjoying our capital city.

The important thing about those events is not just the pride they bring to our state but the fact that our hotels are full, that our restaurants are full and that it is supporting hospitality jobs. Having worked and managed a pub myself, I know there is nothing better than a full house and people really enjoying themselves.

We are also investing a significant amount in the Adelaide Fringe, and arts and culture and live music grants to boost the arts and creative sector as it resets from the pandemic. I want to congratulate our Minister for Arts, Andrea Michaels, on her continued support for the sector. The fact that we were able to sell over one million tickets for the Adelaide Fringe this year was just the icing on the cake for what is an incredible festival that is supporting people in the arts as they reset after the pandemic.

As a mum of two young children, one thing that often concerns me is what the future looks like for our kids and for our grandkids, in particular the health of the planet. Again, there is a huge sense of pride around South Australia in regard to the legacy we are going to deliver around renewable energy and green energy. That is no truer than our efforts in investing in hydrogen. Our Hydrogen Jobs Plan will deliver a large-scale, green hydrogen production facility and hydrogen power station. It will once again put SA on the global stage of green energy leadership.

I was among the people at Jamestown when the big battery was switched on for the first time. Being part of something that significant is not anything that I will ever forget, being able to build on that, that we are not just the home of the big battery—or as ScoMo liked to say, the equivalent of the Big Banana—and we cannot wait to deliver more big projects just like that.

As well as those major commitments, I am also really proud of the local commitments that I have made to my community and that I am working hard to deliver on for our neighbourhood; I worked on one just last week and received such an amazing amount of feedback on this particular project. It was not the biggest or the shiniest, but it was something that I think really touched a lot of people, and that was a project I have been working on regarding the free City Connector bus. The free City Connector bus now has a bright new look thanks to an incredible person in my local community, a local artist Robert Eckert.

I first met Robert a few years ago. I was at some local markets in Hutt Street, and I came across this amazing gentleman who had all these beautiful and colourful artworks laid out at his stall. One artwork in particular caught my eye. It was called *Bump Along*, and it is where Robert would sit on the free City Connector and let the movement of the bus guide the pen on his page, including all of those bumps and corners. I just loved that story, and at the same time he talked about how important the free City Connector bus was to him.

He cannot drive, so the free City Connector literally was his lifeline. It was his connection to support services, to health services, to his social groups, to his beloved art class, and it was around the time the former Liberal government were considering slashing funding to the free City Connector. It got me thinking about how we can acknowledge and celebrate just how incredibly important this service is. It has been a long time coming, but just last week we were able to unveil the new look of the free City Connector, completely covered in Robert's *Bump Along* artwork.

When he first saw it, he burst into tears. It was so incredible to see his meaningful and colourful artwork completely spread across the free City Connector that for him is his lifeline. He actually calls it an artery that connects him to everything in our community. That artwork will cover four of the free City Connectors, and we are going to wrap the two remaining free City Connectors in Aboriginal artwork by students from the South Australian Aboriginal Secondary Training Academy.

It was really important that we do that because the free City Connector operates on Kaurna land, so it was very important that we acknowledge and respect that. So, as well as two of those buses featuring the work of Aboriginal students, all the buses also carry an Acknowledgement of Country, recognising that this amazing community service operates on Kaurna land.

The students at Gilles Street Primary School had a much safer start to the school year, thanks to an election commitment that I was able to deliver shortly after the state election in March last year. That was for a 25 km/h school zone in front of Gilles Street primary and Pulteney Grammar schools. For our safety, it was such an important priority for these students, so it was amazing we were able to get this funded and constructed as soon as possible after the election. It is a culmination of years of campaigning by the school community that, despite repeated calls for change, was ignored by previous council administrations and the former Liberal government.

Before my election, I joined with the community in fighting for this school zone. We stood out the front of the school, collecting signatures on petitions, and I am very proud that together we were able to deliver this 25 km/h school zone at Gilles Street primary and Pulteney Grammar. I drove down Gilles Street just this morning and it was great to see all the cars travelling at a very safe and slow pace and also the kids out at the school crossing, working together to make sure that all our students are arriving at school safely.

Two weeks ago, I was at the old Franklin Street bus depot with the Premier, Minister Champion, the Lord Mayor for the City of Adelaide, Dr Jane Lomax Smith, and Property Council CE, Bruce Djite. We were announcing an exciting new housing project in the heart of the CBD. We very much acknowledge the challenges around housing both for young people in particular, trying to afford their own home, as well as the real challenges that are faced in the rental market. I myself as a renter experience those challenges.

We are going to transform this particular site into a 392-apartment complex as part of our plan to deliver more affordable housing. What is amazing is that it will be right in the middle of our capital city. It will provide much-needed housing in the form of studios, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments, right across the road from our famous Central Market. It is an amazing location with carbon-neutral targets, electric-vehicle charging, all the amenities within walking distance, a built-in civic community centre and no impact on inner metropolitan suburbs. It is a real

win-win for everyone. The Franklin Street apartment announcement is just one of the many projects our government is doing in this space.

We have a plan for A Better Housing Future: to release a significant amount of land to increase supply in the market, make buying and renting more affordable, as well as increase and upgrade public housing. We are actually committed to building an additional 564 public homes for South Australians in need, and we have stopped the planned sale of 580 others. At the last election, we committed to \$177.5 million for public housing from 2022 to 2026, and then increased this to \$232.7 million in December last year. We also made a promise to build and upgrade public housing when and where it is needed most. With this brand-new home completed in Croydon Park, it is all the way up from there.

In December last year, I also hosted a public housing forum with the Minister for Human Services, Nat Cook, to listen to the community around their housing concerns, particularly in the CBD. We listened to locals, really heard their feedback and took this all on board. Now, six months later, our government is delivering on this commitment and making significant impacts in the public housing space.

We have also committed to significant rental reforms. This includes banning rent bidding and making rental bonds more affordable. This, for example, would save a renter of a medium-priced house in Adelaide \$930 in up-front payments. I want to thank one of my local constituents, Ariba, and her partner, Toby, who first brought the issue of rent bidding to me last year. They talked about moving interstate, having to apply for up to 20 rental properties and, in some cases, not even knowing what the cost per week would be.

The fact that we had people in my local community thinking they were going to a rental inspection but actually going to an auction instead was completely unacceptable. I really want to thank Ariba for bringing this issue to my attention and allowing me to advocate on her behalf and on behalf of so many others in my community to our minister, Andrea Michaels, on this area.

During my two-year campaign for the seat of Adelaide, one of the other issues that would constantly be raised with me when I was out doorknocking was in the Collinswood neighbourhood, and that was around the notorious Howard and Rosetta streets intersection. I would hear about this intersection daily. It is the scene of regular accidents and near misses, and that is why I made the election commitment to our community to fix this intersection once and for all with a new mini roundabout. I want to give a shout-out to a local resident, Jackie, and her little boy, Sam. She lives just a few doors from the intersection and so I really want to thank her for her advocacy on this. She would walk and ride with her young children across the intersection every day and would see the constant danger to motorists and pedestrians.

There is also Tom, who lives on the corner of the intersection, who has had to rebuild his fence too many times to count after cars constantly ploughed into his fence when they were trying to avoid a collision with another vehicle. Thanks as well to the City of Prospect that is delivering this election commitment with me. They have come to the table to support me and my commitment to make this area safer for motorists and pedestrians. I am pleased to share that the construction of the new mini roundabout at the Howard and Rosetta streets intersection is expected to start later this year. I look forward to a much safer neighbourhood for the Collinswood area.

Growing up in a regional community with plenty of green space and open trees I would often take it for granted, so I am a huge supporter of ensuring that my local community where I live today can also experience these benefits. It is why I delivered on my election commitment to fully restore Parklands protection to Helen Mayo Park, ensuring that the park's trees and open green space are saved for current and future generations.

We have also invested \$1.5 million to revitalise degraded areas of Helen Mayo Park to be delivered by Adelaide City Council. Under the former Liberal government, Helen Mayo Park was rezoned as entertainment, to pave the way for a \$662 million basketball stadium to be built on the site. Upon winning government, we immediately scrapped the former Liberal government's basketball stadium and began the process to return 2.61 hectares of Parklands to the community.

By reinstating the Adelaide Park Lands Zone, Helen Mayo Park once again has full Parklands protection, ensuring that no development can occur on the banks of the River Torrens. It is also the first time that Helen Mayo Park has been formally protected as a gazetted parkland regulated entity. I am thrilled that protection for Helen Mayo Park has been fully restored, delivering on the election commitment I made to our community to save this park, its trees and open green space.

I am also creating green spaces in the local Prospect and Ovingham communities to increase our tree canopy and open green space in the suburbs. The first pocket park is on the corner of Main North Road and Da Costa Avenue—some might know this as opposite the famous giant Scotsman, on Scotty's Motel—and this is going to bring some much-needed space and trees to this part of our community to provide locals and dog owners a space to connect with nature.

At the recent Ovingham overpass project community event, to celebrate the completion of the level crossing removal, I was also incredibly excited to announce to the Ovingham community that we were going to develop another three pocket parks for this local area. At the southern end of Churchill Road I was proud to fight for and secure a new pocket park on a disused area of land. A local, James Maybank, was the driving force behind this grassroots campaign to secure the land as open green space, and I congratulate James on his enthusiasm and vigour in pursuing this result.

It is also really wonderful to see the community coming together to create a new group, Churchill Greening, and to share their ideas on how they will bring this new green canvas to life on Churchill Road. In addition, pocket parks will be created at Brompton and Bowden at Chief Street and Drayton Street, which is a credit to the advocacy of locals Steve and Iolanthe Sutton.

Almost 2½ years ago I stood out the front of the Walkerville YMCA as staff moved out of the beloved sport and recreation facility. An image ingrained in my memory was the large skip sitting in the car park with the YMCA sign ripped off the building and sticking out of the dumpster. Having knocked on almost every door in Walkerville and Gilberton, it was hard not to find a local who did not have a story or a special memory about the YMCA. It is why I joined with the community in fighting to save this beloved hub but, despite the hard-fought campaign, the then council proceeded with the closure as the former Liberal government sat back and watched.

It is an example of why elections matter because I committed that, if elected, I would return a sport, recreation and community hub to the former YMCA site, delivering \$5 million to the Town of Walkerville to make it happen. I am very excited to see this project come to life, with an expression of interest for community groups commencing soon, and building works expected to start later this year.

**Mr BROWN (Florey) (12:29):** I am pleased to rise today to support the Supply Bill 2023, especially given that this bill is designed to enable the funding of the Malinauskas government for another year. Whilst the budget for the forthcoming year has not been presented to the house yet, I would like to draw to the attention of the house a number of projects impacting on my local area, for which funds have already been allocated.

First, there is the upgrade of Modbury Hospital. Earlier this year I was pleased to attend, along with other local members, the Premier and the Minister for Health, the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of Modbury Hospital. While there we were able to commemorate the official conclusion of the major \$98 million works package, begun by the Weatherill government in 2017, including a 26-bed, short-stay general medical unit, a 20-bed palliative care unit, expansion of the surgical unit and an additional emergency care unit.

We were also able to inform those gathered that funds have been allocated for a mental health rehabilitation unit, set to open in 2025, which will be combined with a 20-bed older persons mental health unit in a single build, representing a total of 44 purpose-built new mental health beds at the hospital. These additional mental health beds were committed by Labor during the 2022 election campaign, following the former Liberal government's decision to close Woodleigh House, leaving Modbury Hospital with no adult mental health beds.

Work has also commenced on the government's commitment to a Modbury Hospital cancer centre, introducing cancer services to the hospital for the first time. The cancer centre will include

12 chemotherapy chairs and outpatient consulting rooms to deliver cancer services closer to home for north-eastern suburbs residents. The centre is expected to be completed in 2025.

Another series of projects I am glad to see in my local area is that of upgrades to local schools. Two of those projects in particular are the upgrade of the gym at Ingle Farm East Primary School, and the Bridge across Dry Creek at Mawson Lakes School. First, as I have spoken in this house before, the gym at Ingle Farm East Primary School is one of the oldest and smallest school gyms I have ever seen, and is definitely not fit for purpose.

I am grateful that my colleagues saw fit to allow an upgrade for the gym to be put forward as an election commitment and that funds for the upgrade were included in the government's first budget. The school community has begun working with the department on the design, and I for one cannot wait for it to be built and used by students and the community.

Another school project I wish to highlight is that of the bridge across Dry Creek that joins the eastern and western campuses of Mawson Lakes School. Ever since I have been elected I have been advocating for funds to enable this project to be completed. The current causeway is simply not sufficient. When it rains the causeway is closed, causing students and the local community to be not just inconvenienced but potentially exposed to additional risks involving traffic.

Finally, after years and letters, speeches, petitions and campaigning, a bridge is under construction in cooperation with the City of Salisbury. In fact, I understand that the bridge itself might be delivered to the site today. I am looking forward to attending the official opening in a few weeks to demonstrate to the local residents of Mawson Lakes the level of commitment the Malinauskas government has to their safety and that of their children.

I am also pleased to be able to inform the house that upgrades to sporting infrastructure in my electorate are also progressing well. I recently attended a competition at the Para Hills Bowling Club and was able to see the progress of the installation of the artificial playing surface on one of their rinks. It is already an excellent club, with dedicated leadership, but this surface will help make it even better. I look forward to working with the club to make it one of the best playing facilities in our state.

Two other projects in the planning stages, but for which funds have been allocated, are the change room upgrades at the Pooraka Football Club and the Ingle Farm Sports Club—two institutions of our area, but sadly neglected by the previous government. Work continues on these important projects.

Finally, on the subject of local projects, I thank the government, and especially the Deputy Premier, for their support regarding the upgrade of the irrigation at the Pledger Wetlands at Mawson Lakes. This project, which is being delivered in cooperation with the City of Salisbury, is due to be formally completed next week with a community day. Although I am, indeed, not much of a gardener myself, as a local resident of Mawson Lakes I am very grateful for all the work that the volunteers of the Friends of the Pledger Wetlands, especially Mr Colin Taylor, have done to make our community a greener place.

Today, I also wish to talk about the importance and likely positive impact of the direction of government effort into increasing the diversification of the South Australian economy. We live in a beautiful state that is blessed with an abundance of natural resources, fertile land and a highly educated workforce. But, as we all know, it has been a long time since our economy was diversified enough to be truly resilient.

Today, we face a rapidly changing global economic landscape, with geopolitical shifts, decarbonisation and technological innovations transforming the way that we do business. The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted to the world the importance of a resilient and diversified economy, as we have seen firsthand the devastating impacts of over-reliance on a single sector on national and subnational economies.

Now is the time for South Australia to take proactive steps to diversify our economy, build resilience and seize the opportunities of these global trends. Diversifying our economy will not be an easy task, but it is a necessary one. It will require collaboration between governments, businesses and communities, but if we can achieve it the potential benefits for our state are enormous. We can

unlock new opportunities, create more jobs and improve the standard of living for all South Australians.

So what are the global opportunities that exist for us? First and foremost, there is the growing demand for renewable energy, which South Australia is already well positioned to supply. With our abundant sunshine and windy plains, we have the potential to be a world leader in the production of renewable energy, but to truly capitalise on this opportunity we must invest in research and development and build the necessary infrastructure to support the growth of the sector.

A major part of our response to this opportunity is the Hydrogen Jobs Plan taken by the government to the last election, having at its centre a demonstration of the government's dedication to embracing this sector, with the construction of a hydrogen plant at a cost of nearly \$600 million. This is not the end of the story, however, and I am pleased that ongoing work is being done to make sure that our state continues to be a leader in renewable energy while enhancing the opportunities for our citizens to benefit from a low-carbon future.

As the only member of this house with a solar panel factory in their electorate, I am determined to make access to solar power, in particular, more accessible to the citizens of our state. I know this is also an issue that the Minister for Energy is passionate about.

Another opportunity that exists for us is the growing demand for high-value agricultural products. South Australia is already a leader in the production of premium food and wine, and we have the potential to expand our capabilities further. By investing in research and development and leveraging our natural advantages, we can unlock new opportunities to export high-value agricultural products to the world. We have already taken steps in this direction with the re-establishment of Brand SA as part of a program to provide cohesive and cooperative assistance to exporters.

The mining and resources sector also presents significant opportunities for us. South Australia is already a major producer of minerals such as copper, uranium and gold, but as the demand for clean energy technologies increases there is a growing demand worldwide for critical minerals such as lithium, nickel and cobalt, which are used in batteries. South Australia has significant deposits of these minerals and we have the potential to become a major supplier to the world.

There is perhaps no other sector that provides an example of where considered industry regulation can provide dividends than in mining. The government's policies of broad support, for example by providing open access to geological information while working to enhance the maintenance of the industry's social licence, will ensure that quality projects continue to materialise. This will provide not only royalties to the people of our state—who are, after all, the owners of the minerals—but growth and further diversification of our economy.

As with any major economic transition, there will be challenges that we must face. One of the key challenges will be ensuring that our workforce has the skills and training required for the jobs of the future. As industries transition, the demands of our workforce will change as well and we must be proactive in ensuring that our workforce has the necessary skills to succeed. To not properly address the challenge of skills will lead to further skills shortages. As we shift towards new and emerging industries, there may be a shortage of workers with the necessary skills to fill these new roles. To address this, we will need to continue to invest in education and training programs to help ensure that our workforce has the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in new industries.

Another challenge we will face is the need for new infrastructure to support the growth of these new sectors. This will require significant investment, both from governments and from the private sector, but if we can work together to build necessary infrastructure we can unlock new opportunities for our state. We must also be mindful of the need to protect our environment and preserve our natural resources. As we seek to diversify our economy, we must ensure that we do so in a sustainable and responsible way, minimising our impact on the environment and ensuring that our natural resources are used in a way that benefits all South Australians.

An increase in diversification may also result in workers in existing industries being displaced as a result of a shift towards new opportunities. It is important that we address this challenge head on, by providing support and assistance to those impacted and by working to ensure that they can

successfully transition into new and emerging industries. In both this and the concern of addressing skill shortages, it is important that we have a viable and responsive training capability. This government is continuing to invest in TAFE so that the role of government in providing training is preserved.

The need to diversify our economy is clear, as I have said. The benefits of doing so are enormous and the risks of not doing so are too great to ignore. By doing so, we will help to expand our economy and we must be inspired by and build on the work of those like Playford and Bannon, who sought to bring new industry to our state, not to replace our existing economy but to build diversification.

An increase in economic diversification can create new and exciting opportunities for South Australians and also help to address some of the underlying employment issues that we have been facing. This will build on our recent turnaround of the long-running brain drain, as talented workers will no longer need to leave the state to find exciting and meaningful work opportunities. A properly diversified economy means that South Australia will no longer be seen by many as simply a place where successful people used to be from.

As I said previously, like so many people of my community, I am very much looking forward to seeing the budget being presented by the Treasurer in the coming weeks. I have every confidence that the Malinauskas government will not only continue to build on the good work that it has been doing over the last year or so but also look forward to the future and help to make our state a better place, not just a more resilient economy but also a place that actually provides for the citizens of South Australia in terms of health, education and also for the economy more generally.

I am looking forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to develop more projects in my local area. There are a number of things that I have not talked about today that I am looking forward to giving good news to the house about in the forthcoming weeks and months and even years to come of this government. It is on that note that I commend the bill to the house.

**Mr TELFER (Flinders) (12:42):** I rise to speak on this Supply Bill 2023 and recognise that in an electorate as big as mine there are a lot of different varieties and a lot of opportunities for government to be involved in making sure that our regional economy, in particular, is streamlined and as efficient as possible.

One of the key areas for government to invest in within our regional communities, and especially within the electorate of Flinders, is infrastructure and roads. Every time I visit the different parts of my electorate, I am reminded of the importance of having a strong and durable road network to get, firstly, products which are produced within our regional areas to an export market or an endpoint but also to make sure that we have safe passage for people who are spread many hours apart.

It has been encouraging to look back and see the significant expenditure by the previous Liberal government on the upgrade works on the Eyre Peninsula highways. We saw shoulder sealing on the Tod Highway and on the Eyre Highway, which traverses east to west. We saw overtaking lanes and intersection upgrades on the Lincoln and Tod highways. Unfortunately, it has been a bit of a challenge with some of these works, which were instigated over two years ago now. That work, which was completed, is still defective—it is not good enough. We have been so frustrated with the missed opportunity, the missed potential we have within our region in particular, because of the work, which has been proven to be not actually up for the task that is ahead.

We have seen one, two, three, four lots of reseal on work that should have been done right the first time. It is not good enough and it is an absolute frustration for me as the local member and for my people in the electorate of Flinders. It needs to be better and we need to make sure that the work done within our regional communities is actually appropriate for the traffic going down our roads.

There is an exciting opportunity within the township of Port Lincoln. I was optimistic with the recent announcement from the federal government around the intersection between Liverpool Street and Porter Street, which is necessary to look at the modern transport needs of our community, to make sure that the interaction between heavy vehicles and domestic use is done in the safest way

possible. This is why as the local member I am always looking at what are the necessary next steps for roads and infrastructure within our community.

I look ahead at the Flinders Highway, in particular, which is a really necessary next step for what has been highlighted as one of the poorer roads in the state. For me, it is especially the section between Streaky Bay and Ceduna, and the area south of Elliston, an area which is used by significant freight but also significant tourism traffic. It is incredibly important that those interactions are done in a safe way. To have caravans going down the same road as heavy vehicles could potentially lead to a dangerous situation, and this is why the government need to be investing in these sorts of roads. I am hopeful that they are actually listening to local communities so that they can put well-earned taxpayer dollars back into the areas that are producing those taxes.

Health within our regional communities is an incredibly important need and an incredibly important investment which has to happen for both our regional hospitals and our regional health delivery. We need to have a health system within our regions which is suitable for our needs going forward. We need proper GP services within our regional areas if we are going to truly maximise the opportunities for that economic potential which is driven in our state from our regional areas. We need to have those services in place.

I hope that between the federal and state governments we can get some of those initiatives in place that the northern Eyre Peninsula Health Alliance has put forward, get them funded and get them delivered. Without proper investment within our regional health, we end up with a situation where those who are most vulnerable within our communities—that is, our very young and our very old—are going to be put at risk of whether or not they are going to stay there. Without that in place, we do not have a balanced society and we do not have a balanced community.

We need to be investing in the foundations of our community which ensures the quality and sustainability of our regions, and that starts with our health network. That starts with making sure we have proper GP services within our regions to make sure that we are healthy and that we have longevity for the future.

Across our regional coastal communities the importance of jetties as part of the social and community fabric should never be underestimated. I, myself, in the electorate of Flinders, have 20 jetties dotted around a couple of thousand kilometres of coastline. At the moment, the Tumby Bay jetty is one which is definitely front of mind, after being closed now for over six months due to the degradation of the more than century-old structure, leading to it being assessed by the council as unsafe for the community.

This is a terrible outcome for both locals and visitors alike, and this is why the community is coming together to ask for action, to press the state government to invest back into this important infrastructure. The Tumby Bay jetty is owned by the state government, as all jetties around the state are, and leased to the District Council of Tumby Bay for maintenance, but this lease is soon expiring and major works are needed on this structure.

I am encouraged that the department has been undertaking a body of work looking at five jetties around the state, including Tumby Bay, to put together a business model that can be considered for funding from the state government. Appropriate funding for the future of the jetty at Tumby Bay is so important, as it is a key component of a vibrant community which is used by locals and visitors to experience a unique marine environment, to go fishing, to go swimming, to go diving or to simply walk along and take in the sea air. It is so important for our community wellbeing, as I said, both for locals and visitors alike.

The council and the community at Tumby Bay are willing to partner with the state government on this project. It is time for the state government to commit to helping provide a solution. I have spoken a number of times to the minister. I have written to him, I have spoken with his department, I have worked closely with the District Council of Tumby Bay to try to get this sorted. I have also tabled a petition here in this place from several thousand South Australians who are urging the state government to fund the Tumby Bay jetty. As the local member, I will not give up until we get a suitable solution for the jetty at Tumby Bay and, indeed, for jetties around my whole electorate, as we cannot afford to lose such important pieces of our coastal communities.

Our South Australian communities deserve to feel safe in their homes, in their streets and in their towns. Some of the alarming increases we have seen in offending, especially in areas such as assaults, thefts, break-ins and other antisocial behaviours in areas such as the CBD in Adelaide but also in some of the regional centres such as Port Augusta, Whyalla, Port Lincoln and Ceduna are really concerning—really worrying for our community safety.

As the shadow minister for police and community safety, I have deep concerns about the resourcing of the police force within our state. I hear too many stories about some of these struggles, including hearing that for every recruit that is coming into the police force we are losing more to retirement and resignation. This issue of recruitment and retention of police within our state is only exacerbated within the regional areas of our state, which is often where there is an ever-increasing need.

The stories I am hearing from communities such as Ceduna and Port Augusta are frightening, as are the anecdotes I hear from police on the beat in these types of communities. They are getting worn out. They are getting worn down. They are getting overburdened with work and questioning their long-term career. This is happening at the same time as, interstate, governments such as Queensland's are offering significant incentives and financial supports to recruit police officers from interstate and overseas.

Here in South Australia we have heard nothing from the government on this at all. There is apparently a Premier's Taskforce into policing, but we have barely heard or seen anything from them despite being formed over a year ago. The communities of South Australia and communities within my electorate are crying out for action from the government, as they need to feel safe, and they want to have these offenders held accountable for their actions.

So where is the strategy for recruiting more police officers? Where is the appropriate resourcing for the police force within our regional areas? Where is the action from the government? What do you say to the communities at Ceduna, at Port Lincoln, at Port Augusta around appropriate policing resources to actually keep our communities safe?

Our regional communities put so much into our state and federal economies—tens of billions of dollars—and this is why we need to continue to invest as a government in regional communities and in areas such as primary production. Ag technology was a real focus of the previous Liberal government, and I hope that the now Labor government have an eye to the potential of the agricultural industry.

Also, the fishing and aquaculture industry within my area is something which needs continual government investment, not government handbrakes and red tape. We need investment such as the previous Liberal government's South Australian Seafood Growth Strategy, which actually put some structure behind the often different perspectives of the different aspects of the aquaculture and seafood industry.

There are exciting mining opportunities within our state and within my electorate. There are exciting export port facilities and proposals that could really make a difference in our regional economy. With those opportunities comes the need for the state government to be investing in, accompanying and enabling infrastructure such as roads and export facilities that are so vital. Along with that, we need continued investment and an eye to making sure that the community structures within our regions are properly invested into.

Within my electorate, you can barely find a rental home. The regional housing shortages are incredibly concerning. Although there are some positive noises from the government, we are yet to see positive action. We need to make sure that the government is investing in incentives and programs that actually enable the regions and the state as a whole to truly thrive.

The things that we take for granted day to day in the city areas are an absolute luxury for us in regional areas, such as child care. There is a real need for the state government, through the Department for Education, to play a proactive role in making sure that there are childcare options for regional communities that put so much into our state's economy.

These are the sorts of structures we need a proactive government looking at, diversifying some of the options that are already in place and maybe trying to widen out some of the

arrangements that are there. We need a proactive government that actually understands regional South Australia to make sure they are investing back into the things that add so much into our state's economy.

As I said, our regional communities and our regional economy put tens of billions of dollars into our state and federal economies and that really needs to be reflected back in investment into our regional areas, especially into the electorate of Flinders.

**Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (12:56):** I rise to make a brief contribution to the Supply Bill and to talk a little bit about some of the commitments made by the Malinauskas government in my electorate that are starting to bear fruit now. As well as in my electorate, also the adjacent electorates, because the Elizabeth-Salisbury area is often split between Elizabeth, Taylor, Ramsay and Light up to the north and we do share a lot of facilities, including Lyell McEwin Hospital, which I will get back to.

The first commitment I made before the election that is now starting to bear fruit is the commitment to construct a roundabout at the intersection of Adams Road and Yorktown Road in Craigmore, actually the corner of Elizabeth Downs, Elizabeth Park and Craigmore. It is an area I know very well. Indeed, there are two intersections along that stretch of Yorktown Road opposite Eastern Park Football Club that do require attention.

If it were entirely up to me, I would have chosen the Yorktown Road-Adams Road intersection because that is the one I use far more frequently than the Adams Road one, but I do accept the argument that was put to me many times that the Adams Road-Yorktown Road intersection, directly opposite Eastern Park Football Club, causes significant problems.

It is very difficult to turn right onto Yorktown Road in the morning. For those of you who do not know the area, east of Elizabeth Downs is what we call a new area, which is in fact about 20 years old and some of it is significantly newer and stretching up the hill and it is most of Craigmore stretching into Blakeview.

If you want to access the city, for example, or even Elizabeth City Centre in the morning, you almost certainly have to use either Uley Road, heading straight down to Main North Road, or go across Adams Road and then down Yorktown Road. Of course, everyone has the same idea in the morning. Everyone is barrelling down Yorktown Road and it is very difficult, under current circumstances, to turn right onto Yorktown Road.

Yorktown Road is a major thoroughfare; it is an arterial road, a state road, and therefore the Department for Infrastructure and Transport have to be engaged to do the work, obviously with some council approval.

My understanding, by way of an update, is that the department met with council in February. Geotechnical surveys have been on site for the last couple of months and I have a meeting with the department and the minister's office tomorrow to finally look at a concept plan, which I will then take to the community, and the department, in a separate engagement exercise, will take to the community, in order to gauge the response of the community and particularly Eastern Park Football Club. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

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

*Parliamentary Procedure*

### **CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III AND QUEEN CAMILLA**

The Governor informs the House of Assembly that in the course of her official visit to the United Kingdom to attend the coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla at Westminster Abbey on 6 May 2023, she presented her respectful congratulations and best wishes to His Majesty The King on behalf of South Australia.

### **PAPERS**

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Deputy Premier (Hon. S.E. Close)—

South Australian—Victoria Border Groundwaters Agreement Review Committee—  
Annual Report 2020-21

Regulations made under the following Acts—

First Nations Voice—General

Freedom of Information—General—First Nations Voice Principal Officer

Victims of Crime—Statutory Compensation—Application Requirements

By the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water (Hon. S.E. Close)—

Environment and Water, Department for—Annual Water Security Update 2023

Murray-Darling Basin Authority—Annual Report 2021-22

By the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport (Hon A. Koutsantonis)—

Regulations made under the following Acts—

Motor Vehicles—Written-off Vehicles

Road Traffic—Miscellaneous—Form 7

By the Minister for Health and Wellbeing (Hon. C.J. Picton)—

SA Health—

Coroner's Findings of 26 October 2022 into the death of Virginia Anne Weekes and  
Craig Malcolm Files—Report on Response to—February 2023

Monitoring the performance of the South Australian health system 2018-19 to  
2021-22—Report—March 2023

Regulation made under the following Act—

Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (South Australia)—Amendment of Law

By the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport (Hon. A. Koutsantonis) on behalf of the Minister for  
Education, Training and Skills (Hon. B.I. Boyer)—

Skills Commission, South Australian—Annual Report 2021-22

By the Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services (Hon. J.K. Szakacs)—

Correctional Services, Department for—Report on actions taken following the tabling of  
Official Visitor Annual Reports 2022

*Ministerial Statement*

**JOHNS, MR K.**

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and  
Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:02):** I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** I do so to express condolences and draw to the attention  
of the house the passing of Keith Johns OAM, a key figure in the history of our state's mining sector.  
Mr Johns was Director-General of the South Australian Department of Mines and Energy from 1983  
to 1992, the culmination of a career in the department, which he joined in 1948.

Keith was a brilliant and creative individual, a real professional who epitomised the level of  
talent in this state's public service that we too often take for granted. Keith studied geology at the  
University of Adelaide and was among the last students of the famed explorer Sir Douglas Mawson.  
He joined the department to work on regional mapping projects, rising through the ranks to lead as  
director-general 35 years later.

His larger-than-life way of managing was, in his own words, flying by the seat of his pants, and he was renowned for fostering a positive culture that he called 'jollyng people up'. Keith was across every brief, and he had a deep understanding of policy development. Under his leadership:

- crude oil and condensate were first exported from Port Bonython;
- codes of practice for petroleum exploration were drawn up and implemented;
- mining and petroleum acts were amended to improve efficiency and governance; and
- the initiative began to create a drill core library in Glenside.

In retirement, Keith became a renowned author, telling the story of the Olympic Dam mine in a book called *A Mirage in the Desert?* The book provided his personal account about the development of this iconic mine in the face of scepticism and opposition.

During his career in the department, Keith had worked as deputy government geologist and supervising geologist for the Mineral Resources Division of the Geological Survey. From the mid-1960s, the Geological Survey oversaw private sector exploration that led to the discovery of sedimentary uranium deposits at Beverley in 1969, Honeymoon Hut in 1971 and eventually to the copper, gold and uranium resource of Olympic Dam in 1975.

He authored several papers on the history and opportunity for mining in Australia and served as a foundation member of the Geological Society of Australia. In 2009, Keith was awarded the Bruce Webb Medal by the Geological Society of Australia's SA division, an award which recognises a distinguished person for leadership to advance earth sciences. He received the Medal of the Order of Australia, general division, for his services to the mineral resources sector for research and leadership.

We extend the condolences of the house and the department to the family and friends of Mr Johns. Like the little rocks he loved to explore, the legacy of Keith Johns will survive the test of time. His contribution to the mining sector helped set up generations of South Australians to enjoy prosperity in a sector which is governed safely and sustainably. As we go to grow the energy and mining sector, developing our hydrogen sector, decarbonising the economy and adding value to our resources, we do so thanks to the efforts of those who went before us. Keith Johns was amongst those who stood tall and showed us the way ahead.

#### *Parliamentary Committees*

### **NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**Ms HUTCHESSON (Waite) (14:07):** I bring up the third report of the committee, entitled Belair National Park Fact-Finding Visit, 2 March 2023.

Report received and ordered to be published.

#### *Parliamentary Procedure*

### **VISITORS**

**The SPEAKER:** Before I call questions without notice, I acknowledge the presence in the gallery today of year 12 legal studies students from Salisbury East High, guests of the member for King. Welcome to parliament.

#### *Question Time*

### **SA HEALTH FOCUS WEEK**

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (14:08):** My question is to the Premier. Has Focus Week failed already? Sir, with your leave and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS:** Yesterday was day 1 of Focus Week, yet last night all metropolitan hospitals were Code White, meaning the entire health system is over capacity.

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurua—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:08):** I am very happy to answer this question because this is a government that is investing in our health system to make sure that we have more doctors, more nurses, more paramedics on the frontline. Just this morning, we gave an update in relation to our work on the health system and what we have done just in the first year of office. We have hired an additional, above-attrition—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON:** —550 clinicians in SA Health. So 278 extra nurses, FTE, working in SA Health now, 89 additional doctors working in SA Health now, compared to what we inherited when we came to office.

We have also ended the program of redundancies of frontline workers, where we saw over 300 nursing positions made redundant. We have now ended that and we are hiring additional staff. In the meantime, while we are hiring even more staff, of course we are trying to find any way we can improve flow through the system. That's what the health system is doing this week and every week.

We have been very clear about the ambitions of Focus Week, which is to try to find different ways, hospital by hospital and ward by ward, that we can improve systems, improve flow through the system. We have also been very clear that the answer to our fundamental issues of a lack of capacity is to build more capacity. That's why as a government we have committed 550 extra beds in the healthcare system, which we are in the process of building, of delivering—because that's what is ultimately needed to make sure we have the capacity to get patients through the healthcare system.

I want to thank all our doctors, nurses, allied health professionals and paramedics for the work they are doing this week, but also each and every week, to care for South Australians. They know they have a government that is not making health workers redundant but is now investing in additional staff, additional beds, to make sure people can get the care they need.

*Parliamentary Procedure*

#### VISITORS

**The SPEAKER:** Before I call the member for Schubert, I also see in the gallery year 9 students from Unley High School, guests of the member for Unley. Welcome to parliament today.

*Question Time*

#### SA HEALTH FOCUS WEEK

**Mrs HURN (Schubert) (14:11):** My question is to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. What, if any, analysis is SA Health conducting about Focus Week, and will the minister publicly release the findings and recommendations? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Mrs HURN:** Dr Robyn Lawrence said the aim of Focus Week was to 'make sure our patients get the right care, in the right place, at the right time, 100 per cent of the time'. Last night, on the first day of Focus Week, we had Noarlunga Hospital operating at 185 per cent capacity, Flinders was at 171 per cent capacity and The Queen Elizabeth Hospital was at 152 per cent capacity.

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurua—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:11):** I am not exactly sure what the opposition are suggesting. We know their extreme negativity to every single measure, but are they suggesting that we shouldn't try to find any improvement in the healthcare system whatsoever? Are they suggesting that we shouldn't trial any additional staff, any models of care in what is going on in the healthcare system? We were very clear—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON:** We were very clear in terms of our ambitions and what we said. I said very clearly that this was not the answer for everything in the healthcare system. What we need to do is build capacity—which is what we are doing—but while we are doing that we should be taking

every opportunity to try to improve the way systems work, to improve the way discharges work, to improve the way we bring people into the emergency department. Our clinicians, ward by ward and hospital by hospital—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON:** —are spending the time this week trialling things, putting things in place to see what will work, to see what additional measures could work.

As you would know, sir, since the previous government devolved the healthcare system to local boards there are a multitude of things happening across the 10 local healthcare networks in South Australia. Just last week, I met with general medicine doctors from across South Australia, and ward by ward they are all thinking of different measures they are going to implement this week to try to improve the flow of patients.

There is not one central list of measures or one central list of recommendations. We have over 47,000 staff who work at SA Health, and all of them are focused on trying to improve patient outcomes. All of them are focused this week on making sure they can put in place measures that can improve the flow of patients, which is what we know needs to happen and which is what patients have been calling for to happen for the last five years. It is what we are determined to do.

We know that additional capacity is needed as well, and we are doing that. We know additional staff are needed as well, and we are doing that, and we will take every opportunity to try to improve processes in the meantime. I am not sure why the Liberals and why the member for Schubert—

*Mrs Hurn interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON:** —are all so opposed to people trying to improve systems in the healthcare system.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

#### *Parliamentary Procedure*

#### **VISITORS**

**The SPEAKER:** Before I turn to the member for Schubert, I wish to acknowledge the presence in the gallery of Bronwyn Ireland, Mary Brumton and Julia Rivers, guests today of the member for Waite. Welcome to parliament.

#### *Question Time*

#### **HEALTH WORKER INCENTIVES**

**Mrs HURN (Schubert) (14:14):** My question is to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Does the government have nationally competitive policies in place to attract and retain frontline health workers and, if not, why not? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Mrs HURN:** The Victorian Labor government has over \$100,000 worth of incentives on the table, from HECS fees to sign-up bonuses to scholarships. The Queensland government has put \$70,000 worth of incentives on the table for interstate and international medical practitioners to come to their state, and last week the Western Australian government announced \$28.5 million worth of new attraction and retention initiatives, including HECS support.

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

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The Treasurer is called to order. Order, member for Chaffey!

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kurna—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:15):** I really appreciate this question because it gives me an opportunity to talk about the excellent incentives that we are putting in place and to correct some of the wrong statements that we heard earlier today from the most negative political party in Australia: those opposite. Nothing positive to say whatsoever. They have been putting—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member the Schubert is warned. The minister has the call.

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON:** They have been putting about figures which are plainly wrong and plainly misleading to not only people in South Australia but potential healthcare workers around the country. Very clearly—

*Mrs Hurn interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON:** Very clearly, as you can see on the Victorian Health website, the incentives that are offered in Victoria for people to relocate to metro areas are the same as what's here in South Australia. For regional areas, it is the same: \$10,000, \$13,000 for both of those. And then we have gone one further and we have put in place a \$15,000 incentive for remote areas here in South Australia. I think the opposition should check their facts. I think that they should actually spend some time supporting getting more healthcare workers in South Australia, supporting getting more people here—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for West Torrens is called to order. The member for Schubert! The member for Frome knows better.

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON:** We know when they were in office, only 13 months ago, what was in place—absolutely zero, and redundancies. They were making our staff redundant.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The Premier is called to order. Member for West Torrens! Member for Frome! Member for Chaffey! The minister has the call.

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON:** It takes a bit more front than David Jones to come in here—after when you were in government—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON:** —cutting staff and having no incentives—with some dodgy figures that you are bandying about. How about supporting staff? How about supporting our calls—

*Mrs Hurn interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Schubert is warned for a second time.

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON:** —and our campaign to get more healthcare workers here in South Australia?

### HEALTH WORKER INCENTIVES

**Mrs HURN (Schubert) (14:17):** My question is to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Does the government have internationally competitive policies in place to attract and retain frontline health workers and, if not, why not? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Mrs HURN:** The Victorian government have invested in billboards across Ireland. Victorian public health representatives are involved in attending job fairs right across the UK as well as offering incentives such as relocation support, worth \$33,000, and visa sponsorships. Here in

South Australia, it's a reimbursement of up to \$15,000 into the regional areas and \$10,000 for the city.

**The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:18):** The answer to the member for Schubert's question is yes.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS:** More than that, we have evidence to substantiate that answer in that there are now over 550 clinicians working in SA Health, over and above attrition, than was the case when we came to government. Now, 550 extra: that talks to well over 200 extra nurses in the system, an extra 89 doctors in the system and over 141 paramedics in the system, over and above attrition, and we have achieved all that in the space of 12 months.

Only this morning, the health minister and I were able to be joined by a gentleman who had moved from Queensland and another young doctor who has moved from the Philippines, because they have actively chosen to work for SA Health here in the state of South Australia. They could have chosen to work anywhere in the world, but they have chosen to work here in South Australia, along with over 550 additional over and above attrition. Why? Because we have chosen to fund those places. We have given them a job to come to, which of course stands in active contrast to the policy of the former government, which was to make health workers redundant in none other than a global pandemic.

*Mr Whetstone interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS:** We haven't seen a better example of two contrasting policy positions than the one that this government has and the one the former government had over 14 months ago.

More than that, more than the fact that we already have over 550 additional people working in the system, we know that there are more to come, because this government is going to continue to remain competitive and actively recruit additional health workers, because we need them. The reason why we need them is we are opening more beds. We are not in the business of opening beds without the practice of staffing them, or creating the illusion of opening more beds but then making staff redundant behind the system.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS:** We are doing everything it takes. Already, we are heartened by the fact that it is actually starting to deliver results. There is a long way to go—that is without question—but there are results when it comes to elementary key points of improvement around ambulance response times. When South Australians call 000 today, they have a demonstrably better chance of their ambulance rolling up on time than was the case 14 months ago. Priority 2 callouts have improved dramatically. Priority 1 callouts have improved dramatically. We should remember that 14 months ago when someone called 000 with a lights and sirens emergency in the form of priority 2, the ambo was rolling up only 33 per cent of the time on time. Today, that number has dramatically improved.

We will continue to be competitive in the global marketplace for health workers. We will continue to put additional funding in the budget to attract people to move here. What we have done already works, but we are going to continue to improve it because this government is committed to improving our health system and is going to do whatever it takes to ensure we achieve that end.

#### **NILPENA EDIACARA NATIONAL PARK**

**Mr HUGHES (Giles) (14:21):** My question is to the Deputy Premier. Can the Deputy Premier inform the house about the recent opening of the Nilpena Ediacara National Park?

**The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Premier, Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Minister for Defence and Space Industries, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water) (14:22):** I am delighted to. I thank the member very much for his question and also for his attendance at the official opening of Nilpena Ediacara National Park.

This park celebrates something literally unique about South Australia that very few South Australians know about and yet, as increasingly we discover it, we have much source for pride and celebration. What I am talking about are the fossils of the Ediacaran period, named after the Ediacaran Hills—in fact there was an Ediacaran mine in the Ediacaran Hills—that are the first examples of multicellular life on earth. They are more than—

*The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:*

**The Hon. S.E. CLOSE:** Reg Sprigg 1946. They are the first examples of multicellular life and mark the moment when we went from unicellular life—basically gas exchanges—to animal life capable of movement. That is a remarkable moment in the history of life on this earth, and it is named after a place in South Australia. What that means is, because the entire period is known as that, other nations are forced to call their fossils of the same era by the same name. This has caused some dispute. The Russians apparently are still a little unhappy. They want it to be called the Vendian, but it is called the Ediacaran.

If you go to Brachina Gorge, there is a golden spike that has been driven in to mark the line between the Cryogenian and the Ediacaran eras. That is the golden spike in the world to mark that transformation, that transition between periods of life on earth. This is now being captured in a national park, one that people can go to and can visit not just to understand generally the history of these fossils but to go and see them in situ where they are being studied by scientists. Nowhere else on earth is that possible.

The Department for Environment and Water, indeed the national parks service, have worked very hard to make this visitor experience exceptional. Not only are you able to go and book a guided tour to see the fossils in situ but the blacksmith's workshop has been transformed into a place that teaches you about the history of that era.

There is a large table that has been established with a bed—Alice's Restaurant Bed—that's been located. It has the real fossils; you can touch them. Sandpit, a company that specialises in audiovisual presentations, brings to life what each of those fossils looked like when they were moving animals. It is a remarkable experience and I highly recommend it to all.

There are many, many people who ought to be thanked for the success of the establishment of this national park. I start by acknowledging the Adnyamathanha people, who have been very welcoming of the establishment of the park and have indeed introduced the beginning of that audiovisual presentation with the foundation story of the Adnyamathanha people. Ross and Jane Fargher were the lessees of the pastoral lease. They have sold that over to the government in order to enable the establishment of the park. Professor Mary Droser and Dr Jim Gehling, both remarkable scientists, have spent the last 20 years working on these fossils. There are three organisations who have been able to raise money to assist in the presentation: the Flinders Ranges Ediacara Foundation, headed up by the remarkable Mary Lou Simpson; the Foundation for National Parks and Wildlife; and The Nature Conservancy.

Introducing this to the world does three things for South Australia: it celebrates the best of our research and science effort, it celebrates our natural environment and our First Nations history and it is also going to be the stimulation for further economic growth through extraordinary tourist interest in South Australia.

#### **GREATER ADELAIDE FREIGHT BYPASS**

**Mr TARZIA (Hartley) (14:26):** My question is to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Is the government building the Greater Adelaide Freight Bypass and, if so, when? With leave, sir, of you and the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Mr TARZIA:** There are flyers being distributed in the eastern suburbs stating, and I quote, 'Finally, the state government has committed to building the Greater Adelaide Freight Bypass. It's great news that finally the Greater Adelaide Freight Bypass will become a reality.'

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:26):** Many politicians have come to this house and promised all sorts of things.

**The Hon. C.J. Picton:** 'Globlink.'

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** 'Globlink' was one of the great lies if it were perpetrated on the people of the Adelaide Hills. Just to reinstate to the house what my young friend is talking about, the Greater Adelaide bypass is the theory that somehow the South Eastern Freeway can be liberated of all its freight movements and that the freight line, which runs through the Adelaide Hills down into Adelaide, along the freight line, all the way through the city of Adelaide, which has had two grade separations spent on it, spending hundreds of millions of dollars on those grade separations—there is the Goodwood Junction and Torrens Junction—that somehow they would be ripped up and that there would be another rail line built around the back of Adelaide costing billions and billions of dollars—

**The Hon. S.C. Mullighan:** Just for freight.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** —just for freight—all on the power of the personality of the member for Dunstan—not a dollar behind it: just through the sheer power of that personality, just through the sheer power of the spoken word.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** This bypass could move mountains—

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Point of order, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** Minister, there is a point of order, which I will hear from the member for Morialta.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Standing order 98—the question was very straightforward: 'Is the government building the Greater Adelaide Freight Bypass and, if so, when?' and then the explanation included a description of a flyer saying that the government was building it. This is debate and it is not answering that question.

**The SPEAKER:** I remind the minister of the standing orders. I will listen carefully. We are early in the minister's response.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** I will give you some context from my answer, 30 seconds in, and I think it's important to build the context for the Greater Adelaide Freight Bypass and where did this idea firstly originate. The idea firstly originated when there was a fear of losing Adelaide Hills seats to the Xenophon group, so through sheer panic and the power of his personality the member for Dunstan came up with a policy called GlobLink.

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

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

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** A unique achievement in Australian politics.

*An honourable member interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Any freight work done on the national highway projects, whether it be through rail, air or road, cannot be funded by the state alone and must be funded alongside the commonwealth government.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The Premier is called to order. Order, member for Chaffey!

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** I will just say, Premier, where you are is a matter of context for the member for the Riverland.

**Mr Whetstone:** What did you get out of it?

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Chaffey is called to order.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Where you are is subjective at any particular time. As I said earlier, any funding that is allocated to any freight bypass is something that is done with the commonwealth government.

I would be very happy for the member to let me know of this pamphlet he has. I would like to see a copy of it; it would be great to see it. I look forward to further questions, other than to say that there is no government in the history of South Australia that has spent more on infrastructure than this current government. We are spending a great deal on infrastructure.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** We are righting—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Hartley, order!

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** —the wrongs of the past. We are upgrading what has been left behind. We are making sure that the plans are workable and buildable and, of course, once they are built, are not white elephants.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Mawson is warned. The member for Chaffey is warned. I will turn to the member for Hartley, although I observe that I am still waiting for GlobeLink. I would like any government to deliver it.

### **GREATER ADELAIDE FREIGHT BYPASS**

**Mr TARZIA (Hartley) (14:31):** A supplementary question again to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport: has the Greater Adelaide Freight Bypass planning study been delayed?

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:31):** Not that I'm aware of. If it has been delayed, I would like the member to show me some evidence of that, because we are doing a lot of work in planning. In the most recent federal budget, there was a \$200 million fund announced by the commonwealth government to assist state governments in their planning, because one of the great tragedies of infrastructure spending and freight planning is that we don't do sufficient planning in advance.

For example, on coming to office in preparation for the 2022 election, the then opposition leader, the current Premier, asked of all his shadow ministers, 'What are the deficits in the portfolio areas you represent that can be improved upon?' Like all good shadow ministers, I went around and did my diligent work—when we weren't having inquiries into the Deputy Premier and other things, balancing a lot of things all at once, distractions—one of the things I noticed was that South Australia was the only state in the federation not to have a freight policy, a freight strategy. We had no freight strategy. I thought, 'That sounds important. I think we should have a freight strategy.'

As part of the Treasurer's first budget and an election commitment, we have funded the work to be done for a freight strategy, and we will be announcing more about that very, very soon. We are working with the commonwealth government on all these studies to make sure we have the appropriate planning in place.

I have no advice before me that I'm aware of that says that any planning studies are delayed, but I do demand this of my department: proper planning studies, not planning studies that come up

with solutions that are fit to meet a political timetable. For example, the previous government of blessed memory conducted—

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Point of order, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Minister, there is a point of order from the member for Morialta, which I will hear under 134.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** The minister, having answered the question, is now debating. Standing order 98: setting up a straw man argument, saying 'for example', and comparing something the previous government did or did not do, is very much in the wheelhouse of standing order 98.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! There is some merit in the argument or, rather, the matters that the member for Morialta puts to me. I remind the minister of the standing order and bring him back to the substance of the question.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** It's straw person.

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** You know how I feel about these things.

**The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner:** Your backbenchers' faces are showing me.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** If they are amused. There are planning studies and there are planning studies. There was one planning study done by the previous government about a rail corridor to the Adelaide Hills. That planning study came back and, surprisingly, told the then government, who had promised a rail corridor to the Adelaide Hills, that it was unaffordable and unachievable.

We have come to the election saying that we are going to do a proper study about whether we can deliver mass transit to the Adelaide Hills or not—and not a study that is self-serving, that is going to come back and give us the answer we want. We want the difficult answers. We want the answers that mean that we have to consider actually what is required.

**The Hon. L.W.K. Bignell:** Can the tram turn right?

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Mawson is on two warnings.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Can the tram actually turn right? Can we actually have a mass public transit system to the fastest growing city on the outskirts of Adelaide that will eventually overtake Mount Gambier as our second largest regional city? Is that achievable? According to the previous government, in their three-month study, it's unachievable.

What we want is a proper study, so our studies are being done properly and they will take the time that is needed to conduct them. If they need longer, they will get longer. That's how you do proper studies. You trust the public servants, the independent experts, to go away and do the work and inform government without bias, without prejudice, and give us the difficult questions to answer, to pose the difficult questions, to say, 'This will be expensive,' or, 'This is unachievable,' or, 'This is what you would need to do to achieve this outcome.' That is what we want of our public sector—to give us the proper answer, the independent answer, to speak truth to power, not to give the government the answers it's looking for.

#### **GREATER ADELAIDE FREIGHT BYPASS**

**Mr TARZIA (Hartley) (14:35):** Supplementary: why is the Greater Adelaide Freight Bypass planning study being delayed? With the leave of the house and yourself, sir, I will explain.

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Point of order.

**The SPEAKER:** I see a point of order. I anticipate it's for argument.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Yes, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** Very well. I will give the member for Hartley the opportunity to recast his supplementary question.

**Mr TARZIA:** When will the planning study be delivered? With the leave of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**Mr TARZIA:** On 25 July 2022, the Department for Infrastructure and Transport told the Budget and Finance Committee, 'We are looking to get the first stage of that report by the end of 2022.'

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:36):** I know I am being berated for not achieving in the first 13 months what the previous government didn't achieve in its four years. But, sir, like I said—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** What my young friend fails to appreciate is that we actually have experts now running our Department for Infrastructure and Transport. We have people—

**Mr Tarzia:** Like yourself.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** No, no. That's the difference: the minister does not run the Department for Infrastructure and Transport. What we do is we administer budgets and we set priorities and policies. That's the problem because what we used to have was Corey Wingard running our bus timetables. That's the difference: we have experts running this. We are the democratic face of the public sector—and that's how it should operate.

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** If my department need more time to do work to get it right, they will get more time. They will get more time. They will have to justify themselves—and they will. When my department deliver reports—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** —when my department deliver projects—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** —they do so properly. They don't do it half-heartedly, they don't do it in a mealy-mannered way, they don't do it to try to fit a political agenda: they do what they think is right and they leave the politics to us. We are the ones who decide what goes ahead and what doesn't go ahead, not public sector officials. We do. We ask for an independent, honest assessment of what is required.

There are plenty of examples of this across the public sector, not just in infrastructure and transport. Health: you might remember the day when the former health minister just made an order that ramping would end. Remember that? 'I instruct you. Ramping ends today at midnight.'

*Mr Whetstone interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** How did that go? What we have is an independent Public Service that have been reinvigorated with the election of the Malinauskas government. Why? All of

a sudden, they are trusted again; all of a sudden, they are given the resources that they need again; all of a sudden, we respect their expert views. We take them up, we judge them and we allocate according to what we have in a budget that is affordable. That is what governments do.

We don't outsource our thinking to the public sector, but what we do is rely on independent advice, and that is the best way to run a government. You have the political overlay, the democratic overlay, to make sure we can get proper accountability from our public sector, but at the same time there is accountability of it. What my young friend has not done yet is outline an alternative policy.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Point of order, sir.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** Why is it—

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Member for West Torrens, there is a point of order from the member for Morialta, which I will hear.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Standing order 98, sir: we are not interested in advice from the leader of the house.

**The Hon. A. Koutsantonis:** Well, why are you asking me questions?

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for West Torrens may well be engaging in a degree of rhetorical flourish, and I return him to the substance of the question.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** I have not received any advice that this report is delayed. If, at the time of the Budget and Finance Committee the report was due to be delivered, sometime late in 2022, that could mean at that time it was ready, but things come up. For example, at the most recent—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** At the most recent International Conference on Transport, the duration of electric trains has increased from about 80 kilometres to 120 kilometres, and that is changing yearly. We are seeing now hydrogen fuel cell trains having longer duration. We are seeing the ability of electrification working on buses with either hydrogen fuel cells or batteries. What we are seeing is changes of technologies, so if it takes longer, it takes longer.

**The SPEAKER:** The minister's time has expired.

## BUSINESS CONFIDENCE

**Ms THOMPSON (Davenport) (14:41):** My question is to the Treasurer. Can the Treasurer provide the house with an update on business confidence levels in South Australia?

**The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Treasurer) (14:41):** I thank the member for the question. Indeed I can because there was good news today released by Business SA and William Buck. Their joint business survey for the March quarter had some very pleasing results once again for the South Australian economy.

The results show that business confidence in South Australia continues to climb. From the previous quarter, business confidence in South Australia rose by 5.8 index points, and this follows the total increase in business confidence rising over the previous two quarters by 16.3 index points, so well over 20 index points increased in the last three quarters. This is very good news for how business sees the state's direction.

As a result, business confidence is now 13.2 index points higher than the national average. Nationally, business confidence actually fell by 1.1 points in the quarter. Across most measures, business confidence nationally has softened recently in the face of inflation and rising interest rates hitting households and businesses. Notably, the report released today called out measures implemented by the Malinauskas government as drivers of the increase in business confidence levels here in South Australia relative to the rest of the country, and I quote:

The more positive response to the local economy could be influenced by the South Australian State Government's prioritisation of large-scale events, such as the VAILO Adelaide 500, AFL Gather Round and LIV Golf,

which all took place between December 2022 and April 2023. An overwhelming number of business operators surveyed (77.9%) viewed large-scale events as beneficial to business in the state.

It is heartening to hear the business community exhibit so much support for major events here in South Australia, which is of course the exact opposite approach to that taken in the previous four years. Business SA also cite the signing of the AUKUS deal as another driver of the increase in business confidence. The report says of the AUKUS deal:

Another contributing factor could be the AUKUS announcement, which is expected to bring \$2 billion in infrastructure investment into South Australia over the next four years and billions more in the next three decades, with total project costs estimated at \$368 billion.

The AUKUS announcement is a direct result of the Premier's lobbying of the federal government to ensure that the work is done right here in South Australia. The praise of the South Australian economy continues of course with the Business SA and William Buck survey noting our ranking in the recent CommSec State of the States report. As I mentioned last sitting week, South Australia's economy now ranks second in the nation according to that report, tying with Queensland for second spot, behind Tasmania. South Australia topped the State of the States report for construction work done, with current levels of work now at 18 per cent above the decade average.

Investing in major events pays dividends for the South Australian economy. Those opposite cancelled the Adelaide 500 and chose to invest in such events as Barossa Contemporary, a 'Festival for the Curious'. Unfortunately, no-one was. It was an event completely unencumbered by attendees, except of course the member for Dunstan. The member for Dunstan didn't miss a minute. But we've got major events back on track. It's good for the community, good for business confidence and good for the state's economy.

### SA TOURISM, SOCIAL MEDIA

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:45):** My question is to the Minister for Tourism. Can the minister advise the house how much her agencies have spent on events held for social media influencers since the election of the Malinauskas Labor government? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** The Budget and Finance Committee last week heard that, in addition to the Sam Smith event, SA Tourism also spent an undisclosed sum on an influencers' camp that brought east coast social media influencers to South Australia at taxpayers' expense. The number of social media influencer events quantum has not been provided to the South Australian taxpayers at all.

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

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The Treasurer is called to order. Minister.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—Minister for Tourism, Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (14:46):** Thank you very much for the question. We all know that tourism commissions around Australia are accessing this new way of engaging with people, the new marketing tools—TikTok, Instagram and YouTube—because we want to gain traction with the younger audience. We are all trying new things; it's not to everyone's taste, and of course it's not for every audience. When we think about these things, it's about getting out there and building back our tourism economy. We have done a fantastic job at building back; at \$8.3 billion we are ahead of our pre-COVID visitor economy. Can I just say that I am sick of this constant negativity. Just like the Treasurer said—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** —when you were in government just a moment ago—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** —all you did was cut, cut, cut.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for Chaffey! The minister has the call.

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** When it was the Adelaide 500, a much-loved event, what a misjudgement you made there. The Motorsport Festival: cut, cut, cut. All you do is criticise what have been the best events we have had. What we have is criticism about a very—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** —minor spend out of the marketing budget, but what we don't have is support for South Australia.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Morialta! Member for Florey! Member for Newland! The minister has the call.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** What we have is people saying, 'We don't want to challenge those perceptions. We don't want to build back South Australian tourism. What we want to do is knock, knock, knock.' It's all you ever do.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Morialta is called to order.

*The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Morialta is warned, and the member for Chaffey is on three warnings. The Treasurer is called to order, and the member for Florey joins the list of warnings.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** What we know is that business confidence is up. Business SA: we have the highest confidence in the nation on the back of major events. I was just up at ATE (Australian Tourism Exchange) two weeks ago. Everyone was talking about South Australia.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The member for Florey is warned for a second time. The member for Colton is warned. Member for Mawson, order! Member for Morialta on a point of order.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Thank you, sir. The question was very straightforward: how much was the campaign involving influencers?

**The SPEAKER:** Very well.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! I understand by implication that the standing order raised with me is 98: debate. There is some force in the member's submission. I will listen carefully. The minister has the call.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** I have answered that question: a very minor part of the marketing campaign. But what do we see? What do we see out there? Everyone talks to me about how great the AFL Gather Round was. Whatever we were doing—we were out on the doors and in street-corner meetings—people were coming to us.

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** But let's talk about the Tourism Exchange.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** More than 50 operators were in Brisbane, and I got to catch up with the tourism minister of Queensland. The first thing he said to me: 'Fantastic job you're doing there.' We are seeing the Premier, we are seeing South Australia. We are out there. We are building that. People are talking about us—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** —in a way they never talked about us before.

*Mr Whetstone interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Chaffey!

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** This is an exceptional time for tourism—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** —with more to go.

*The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Morialta!

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** This government is looking at the future. We see a great opportunity for us to continue to grow tourism, and with tourism comes investment. We see the hotel sector. They were here at a major conference just last week, 1,400 delegates. This is where the hotel deals are done, and they are excited about South Australia, so excited they are coming back for a fourth year next year.

#### **MOUNT GAMBIER EDUCATIONAL PRECINCT**

**Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (14:50):** My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier update the house on any progress with regard to the educational precinct being developed in Mount Gambier?

**The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:50):** I thank the member for Mount Gambier for his question. It is an important one because this state government is not just committed to skills more broadly. We have a particular interest in realising all the potential that clearly exists in the South-East of our state, particularly in and around the Limestone Coast and more specifically in Mount Gambier. We went to the election with a comprehensive policy for the South-East. Overall, it was a \$100 million package.

One of the key focuses of that package, beyond the obvious need to address underfunding in health services around the Limestone Coast, is to invest in the opportunity to grow the economy within that area. There are a range of industries in and around the Limestone Coast that are truly world leading, genuinely world leading, whether it be aquaculture, what we see in terms of protein production, more traditional agriculture or indeed the forestry sector, which is why we turned our mind to, what role can state government play in investing in that specifically.

What is clearly obvious on any basic perfunctory analysis is that we need to do more in the area of skills, which is why we committed to an investment of, from memory—I am hoping the member for Mount Gambier will correct me if I get this wrong—\$5 million to TAFE in Mount Gambier. But then there is also what can we do prior to that. The state government has a policy in respect to building five brand-new technical colleges, one of which is set to be in Mount Gambier.

The original plan was to build it at one particular high school. On the back of advocacy, not least from the member for Mount Gambier along with others in the community, we decided to change

that from building the technical college at the high school to building it at the location of the TAFE site. There were a range of synergies there that spoke to the virtue of that. Quite separately, the state government had yet another policy to invest in a Forestry Centre of Excellence. From memory, that policy was \$15 million. We had to identify a location to build that too.

As it turns out, what has become evident since the election is that we do not want to do each of these things on their own. We should actually put a degree of planning around it to make sure that this investment, which adds up to \$59 million between those three policies, realises as much potential as we can in terms of the sum of the parts. What the state government has decided to do, again as a result of advocacy from the local community, including the member for Mount Gambier, is appoint someone to conduct a piece of work to coordinate that policy effort to get the best possible outcome.

I am pleased to report to the house that the government has appointed the Hon. Kevin Scarce AC to undertake that effort. He will be leading that for the state government to make sure individual decisions that are made, whether they be around curriculum, particular offerings, the nature of the upgrades or the investment in the capital, are all done with a view to maximising the outcome of those policies put together.

We want the Hon. Kevin Scarce to be able to complete that work in a short time so that the government can actually get on with building those facilities in line with the time lines we committed to at the election—which include, of course, having that technical college, the centre for excellence, and the upgraded TAFE completed before the beginning of 2026.

We are on track to deliver that, and I thank the member for Mount Gambier for his interest in this area. We look forward to the Scarce review being concluded in due course.

#### SA TOURISM, SOCIAL MEDIA

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:54):** My question is to the Minister for Tourism. How many views did the government's Sam Smith partnership generate on social media? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

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

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

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** In January, the minister told media that Sam Smith had 14 million Instagram followers and a potential reach of 740 million people. In March, the government advised *The Advertiser* that the project had a potential reach of 1.58 billion people. Last week, the SA Tourism Commission released its report saying that it reached 4.8 million people.

*Ms Savvas interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for Newland! The minister has the call.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—Minister for Tourism, Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (14:55):** Once again, I thank the member for his question. I am very happy to continue talking about tourism in all its forms, because we—

*Members interjecting:*

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

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Mawson! Member for Florey!

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** —knew that we had to build back tourism and hospitality, because they suffered, they suffered by deafness from your side. When they were in their deepest despair you were nowhere to be seen.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! There is a point of order from the member for Morialta, which I will hear under 134.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** Sir, standing order 98: the minister is debating. Just insulting other members of parliament does not actually provide any value to the people of South Australia. She should answer the question as asked.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! If members are individually concerned with matters that have been raised or put on the record then of course they can seek redress through the standing orders. I understand the force of the member's submission to me is standing order 98. I understand there may have been some rhetorical flourish from the minister. I also observed that the volume of interjections from both sides is considerable and that the minister is reasonably softly spoken—or, alternatively, the level of interjections are so high that what she has to say is inaudible. In any case, the interjections are contrary to the standing orders and we will hear the minister.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I think what the member is referring to is our return on investment and the advertising value equivalent. What I said at the time is that we would do an evaluation, which has happened, and we gave a point in time, which was the 14 million. Now we have come, as a reflection and an evaluation, to the full understanding of what that return on investment was—and it is \$32 million in advertising value.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** A statistic that was used time and time again when the opposition was in government.

*The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order, member for Morialta! The minister has the call.

*Mr Cowdrey interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Colton! The minister has the call.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** Really? You're going to lecture me on getting things wrong? That's very interesting.

*The Hon. P.B. Malinauskas interjecting:*

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

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The only member with the call is the minister.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** Thank you very much, sir.

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** The evaluation report detailed all the areas that were measured. They are there for you to read, and I stand by those remarks. Obviously we are talking about social media coverage, and that is what we were focusing on here.

But let's remember where we were and where we are now. There is something we have seen: a positive momentum about South Australia. It is led by tourism, but it is led because there is a new, renewed confidence. Business SA, once again, said this this morning—

*The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner interjecting:*

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

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** I have said very clearly that the evaluation report details all you need to know, and it is out there. I stand by that report. What I am saying here is that you may not

have found this to your liking, but we have to get out there and be unique and disruptive, and that is what this event was.

We stand by this alongside traditional marketing. We have \$15 million extra this financial year for that and that is what has backed up these major events. These major events have been fantastic—the diversity, the response—whether it be the Harvest Rock music event, whether it be the VALO Adelaide 500 or the Motorsport Festival. When I look back, there are about six events that we have either brought in new or improved.

We see this positive momentum out there for tourism that we haven't seen and we certainly did not see when you had the opportunity to lead this portfolio, so I will stand by what we do. There was a \$16.5 million economic impact for Harvest Rock; 30 per cent of the people coming to that event were from interstate.

We supported that event. We rolled it out and it's coming back again this year. We wait with excitement to see who will be leading that event. This is what we're here for: to build back and go beyond. We are going to try different things. We are going to be innovative.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! Unless the minister has a point of order, I am going to turn to the member for Elder. The member for Elder, who has been waiting patiently, on your third government question for today's question time.

#### **CHILD PROTECTION EXPERT GROUP**

**Ms CLANCY (Elder) (15:00):** My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. How is the government bringing expertise in research, policy and practice together to help drive change in the child protection system in South Australia?

**The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (15:01):** Thank you to the member for her really important question and also for her enduring interest in the incredibly important area of child protection. I'm sure that almost every member in this place has been called upon to help a community member navigate the complexities of child protection, whether they are a parent, a foster or kinship carer, or a young person themselves.

As members, I think we all appreciate the deeply complex and fundamentally interconnected challenges that families face: intergenerational trauma, mental ill health, poverty, domestic violence and substance misuse. We all rightly appreciate the continuous risk and tension that workers in the system face and the choices they have to make every single day about whether to continue to work to strengthen the family and build parenting capacity or to remove a child.

I'm pleased to report that in line with the specific recommendation of Kate Alexander in her report to government last year, a child protection expert group has been established and its first meeting will be held next week. This group, chaired by national leader in this field Professor Leah Bromfield, brings together 15 government and non-government members from across Australia who have recognised expertise in child protection research, policy and practice.

Supported by robust data and evidence, their aim is to challenge and examine current practice and new ideas to contend with the increasingly complex challenges facing our state's child protection system. Members of the group have been selected based on their recognised expertise in one or more areas, including child abuse prevention, statutory child protection, out-of-home care, assessment and the development of therapeutic responses to people who have experienced abuse and neglect in their own lifetime or indeed across generations.

Expertise may include specialised understanding of the needs of specific and diverse populations or knowledge of different jurisdictions and contexts. The group will report to and be responsible for the provision of expert advice to myself and to our incoming Chief Executive of the Department for Child Protection, Ms Jackie Bray, whom I congratulate on her appointment and look forward to working with.

I have asked the chair to ensure that attention be urgently focused on the issues of cumulative harm as well as neglect and squalor, as highlighted by former police commissioner Mal Hyde in his recommendations. I've also asked that the group contemplate how it can review child deaths.

The expert group, broadly, is tasked with improving child protection response models and quality of practice, working with me to develop and implement the 20-year vision for transforming child protection, enhancing therapeutic responses and targeted interventions, improving out-of-home care support for young people and assisting me with the development of our child protection summit. The core membership of the group may be supplemented through the invitation of others to support a specific area of focus and to attend meetings to present on particular topics.

The government is committed to listening to all stakeholders, and this group will sit alongside the direct experience group and Carer Council, which are being established alongside the other groups we have invested in. To ensure the voices of children and young people are amplified, we have provided an additional \$800,000 in funding to the CREATE Foundation, and additional funding has also been provided to Grandcarers SA. I thank the chair and each of the members of the expert group for their ongoing determination to drive reform that helps make a lasting, positive difference in the lives of children and young people.

**The SPEAKER:** I turn to the Leader of Government Business on a point of order.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS:** I rise on a point of order on a ruling I have sought from you from the last session of parliament, and I was just wondering if you have made a determination on the offering of opinions in the parliament.

#### *Parliamentary Procedure*

#### **SPEAKER'S STATEMENT**

**The SPEAKER (15:05):** I have considered the matter that the Leader of Government Business raised with me on 4 May 2023. I took that point of order and also I took advice from the Clerk. The point of order was raised in response to a question asked by the member for Morialta regarding the rules for questions seeking an opinion of a minister. I remind members that standing order 96(1) provides:

questions relating to public affairs may be put to Ministers...

As well, I remind members of standing order 97, which provides:

In putting any such question, a Member may not offer argument or opinion, nor may a Member offer any facts except by leave of the House and only so far as is necessary to explain the question.

In seeking to assist the house, the Leader of Government Business referred to *House of Representatives Practice* at page 558, which provides:

Questions may not ask Ministers for an expression of opinion, including a legal opinion, for comment, or for justification of statements made by them.

That passage reflects House of Representatives standing order 98(d), which expressly provides that questions must not ask ministers 'for an expression of opinion, including a legal opinion'.

By contradistinction, I observe that the following passage appears at page 640 of *Parliamentary Practice in New Zealand*:

Questions may seek an expression of opinion from the member to whom they are addressed, provided that that member has responsibility for the matter about which the opinion is sought.

The standing orders of the Parliament of New Zealand are quite different from the House of Assembly standing orders. In the absence of any specific prohibition in the House of Assembly standing orders against asking questions that seek an opinion, the Chair is guided by the practice of the house.

It is a convention consistent with the practice of the House of Commons, described authoritatively in Erskine May, that questions seeking an expression of opinion on a question of law are disorderly. Likewise, questions seeking an opinion on the accuracy of media or other reports must be ruled out of order. Where questions have sought an opinion from a minister on a matter of

public affairs for which the minister is responsible to the house, Speakers have permitted ministers to respond should they wish.

I make the following further observations. I observe that the question asked by the member for Morialta asked the Minister for Education, Training and Skills to explain how the model of preschool education proposed by the Royal Commission into Early Childhood Education and Care compared with the government's pre-election commitment. I do not consider that the member for Morialta was seeking the minister's opinion at large. On balance, the member appeared to be seeking clarification on a matter for which the minister is responsible.

Resolving points of order in this area is likely to require fine judgement. To offer practical guidance to the house, the formulation of a question remains important. Questions which seek information or require the minister to update the house in relation to a matter for which they are plainly responsible to the house are more likely to complement the standing orders.

Questions seeking a bare opinion are discouraged, and I would invite the house at an appropriate future time to consider expressly resolving this matter in the standing orders. As Speaker, Sir William Aston observed in the House of Representatives on 27 October 1970, 'Often honourable members seem to overlook the fact that the true and only valid purpose of the question is to seek factual information—not opinions—or to press for action.'

#### QUESTION TIME EXTENSION

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:08):** I seek that the time that was on the clock when you began the ruling be restored at three minutes.

**The SPEAKER:** I will take advice from the Clerk as to whether that is permissible under the standing orders. The advice I have received is I can only extend the time permissible for an answer, and it may be that that is the device by which we achieve the outcome the member for Morialta is seeking. I would myself seek to achieve that outcome.

**The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (15:09):** I move:

That question time be extended by one minute to allow a question to be asked by the member for Morialta.

Motion carried.

#### *Question Time*

#### SAM SMITH CONCERT

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:09):** My question is to the Minister for Tourism. Was the minister given business cases for the Sam Smith event and the influencer camp, and did she personally authorise expenditure on the projects?

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—Minister for Tourism, Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (15:10):** The Sam Smith opportunity was part of a marketing campaign. It was a publicity event and therefore it was presented in that way—

**The Hon. A. Koutsantonis:** You're still talking about it.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** —and, as I made clear—

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

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** —the return on investment—

*Members interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** —was much higher than expected. We expected to have about a \$7 million advertising value equivalent and we got \$32 million, so it was successful and I stand by that.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The minister has the call. The member for Unley is called to order.

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** It was a marketing campaign and, of course, it was something that it was sought approval for and supported because it was something that was exceptional. It was something that hadn't been done before in South Australia. We said very clearly—

**The Hon. D.G. Pisoni:** Will you do it again?

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Unley!

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** —if this opportunity hadn't come for a partnership with Frontier Touring with us, it was highly likely that this publicity event would take place in front of the Sydney Opera House or the Harbour Bridge. We are committed—very committed—to challenging the perceptions of South Australia. We are getting out there because we know we are a great place to visit. We are committed to building our visitor economy. We need to turn heads.

What we looked at with this opportunity was a much younger and a global audience. We are still building back our international tourism. We are at just over 50 per cent of the visitor economy that we were prior to COVID. Obviously, we are doing some innovative things, like the ten-pound Pom opportunity that was done very early—

*An honourable member interjecting:*

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

**The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON:** Well, this is the whole point: it's about getting out there, and that's what we are doing.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Morialta, I observe that the time for questions has expired.

#### *Grievance Debate*

### **GOVERNMENT MARKETING CAMPAIGNS**

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (15:12):** There is an old saying that there is one born every day, and in this cabinet, in this government, Frontier Touring and the people organising influencer camps and freebie deals have found their mark. This government has been willing to sign off on campaigns and, indeed, the Minister for Tourism just admitted that she herself personally approved expenditure on campaigns that have left other states laughing at South Australia that indeed had been identified by advertising experts and gurus—including Labor's favourite, Dee Madigan, who ran the ambos' union campaign in the election—as completely missing the mark.

It is extraordinary that the minister comes in here with so much front to suggest that these innovative campaigns, such as getting influencers to come to a Sam Smith concert, paid for largely by the people of South Australia, to promote Sam Smith's album, to promote Sam Smith's tour, allegedly to promote South Australia but with no evidence suggesting that it has done so.

Meanwhile, this government is paying influencers to come here, fly here, stay in fancy hotels, drink taxpayer paid-for alcohol and, indeed, have the time of their lives to get, as one of the TikTok stars described themselves, 'a bit messed up', to talk about vaping and to post photos of themselves at McDonald's and talk about South Australia in some really unusual terms for a marketing campaign. This is what this minister said was disruptive, was quirky, was reaching a new audience. There are people who have different views on the quality of this campaign, and I will advise the house of a few of them. Dee Madigan, as I mentioned, from Campaign Edge said of the campaign:

I get what they're trying to do, but it's not a smart strategy.

Barry Urquhart of Marketing Focus, when he was asked if these campaigns worked, replied:

...does influencing actually work? Increasingly not so. I think a lot of people are now starting to say that there is a credibility gap on what they are trying to influence if there is a financial gain.

Which, of course, everyone knows there is. Matthew Abraham, not a well-known cheerleader for the South Australian Liberal Party, told FIVEaa listeners last week:

The influencer strategy is morally bankrupt, and they should dump it and so I am giving Zoe Bettison 2 out of 10.

On ABC radio last Monday night, the Minister for Human Services was asked about this. She said:

...with this particular one I think they've certainly learnt some lessons and these are decisions that people have to make all the time—do you have this face fronting your brand, or do you have this face fronting your charity, ambassadoring for you, they are difficult choices and due diligence has to be shown.

In this case, it is very clear that due diligence was not shown.

A case was put to the Minister for Tourism. She just admitted it was put to her herself, and she thought that it was a good idea. She thought that amidst a cost-of-living crisis, where South Australian taxpayers are fighting hard to deal with escalating bills—\$17,000 a year increased cost of living for the average mortgage holder in South Australia—and they are asked to stomach the idea that an innovative, quirky, disruptive campaign that the Minister for Tourism likes is worth their hard-earned. It is actually really galling. It is an extraordinary misuse of taxpayers' funds.

Despite the fact that their estimates of how many people would see the campaign have been wildly overblown, and shown to be so by their own research, the minister is still out there defending it day after day, talking about disruption. In fact, today in question time the minister was asked three questions, and most of her responses talking about the government's approach to tourism were to talk about the events: the Gather Round (which, of course, the opposition supported), LIV Golf, where the South Australian government gave money to the Saudi Arabian government—

*Mr Brown interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** The member for Florey is called to order.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** —and indeed, of course, the 500, which is not even in the Minister for Tourism's portfolio. It was taken away from her and handled by the Premier and, for some reason, the member for Mawson. The fact is that the minister's running of the tourism department is in serious—

**The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL:** Point of order, sir.

**The SPEAKER:** I see there is a point of order from the member for Mawson.

**The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL:** The member said that the South Australian government gave money to the Saudi Arabian government. It did nothing of the sort, and I ask the member to withdraw.

**Mr Tarzia:** Bogus, chuck it out.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! I am not certain that the point of order that has been raised finds a home in any of the standing orders before me. If it is the case that the member has taken offence in relation to matters raised in the house, then I will need to know what it is, exactly, that identifies the member himself, and I am not sure necessarily the comments did—

*An honourable member interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! We are addressing the point of order raised by the member for Mawson.

**The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL:** I was saying that the member was misleading the house. He caused no offence to me.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! If that be the case, there is a procedure for ensuring that that matter, if it be the case, be dealt with. But this is not the appropriate course to do so. I am going to return to the member for Morialta.

**The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER:** The South Australian government gave money to LIV Golf; the Saudi Arabian government has a financial interest in LIV Golf. That was the point I was making.

Amidst a cost-of-living crisis, this government is giving money to influencers to get drunk and to talk about South Australia in completely unflattering terms. It is giving money to Sam Smith, an

international superstar, to promote his album and to promote his tour. Sam Smith and Frontier Touring got great value out of this deal; South Australians did not. It is a disgrace.

It took 10 years for South Australians to find out that the Labor Party in government paid nearly \$4 million to Lance Armstrong. They should front up and admit how much they have paid for these influencers and for Sam Smith, so that the South Australian people can judge whether this extraordinary waste was worth their dollars.

#### *Parliamentary Procedure*

#### **VISITORS**

**The SPEAKER:** Before I call the minister, I do see in the gallery nurses and midwives from across South Australia and the South Australian health sector. Welcome to parliament.

#### *Grievance Debate*

#### **NURSES AND MIDWIVES**

**The Hon. N.F. COOK (Hurtle Vale—Minister for Human Services) (15:18):** I will not acknowledge all of the people in the gallery, because that will take up the entire five minutes of my speaking time. I just want to say thank you so much for turning up and showing up all of the time, to all of you. You can certainly take the nurse out of the hospital but you cannot take the hospital out of the nurse—or, indeed, the nurse out of the nurse. I often joke about nursing being the most consistently respected profession in our community and I think I have cracked this joke more than once. Well, here I am: I will always be a nurse.

It is volunteer week. I have also been reflecting on the journey that you take to a career that is something that you fit. I started volunteering as a St John cadet. It turned my mind to providing assistance and support to people who were not always experiencing the best of times in their life. I am just so pleased that that encouraged me to make those decisions to take on the role of a nurse in my community.

Like I said, you cannot take the nurse out of the nurse and I always feel that even in all the work I do here in parliament that it is a way for me to try to make life better for people, make life more livable for people and also to help others in our community to see what they can see and be what they can see. I think that is about how we as nurses do project ourselves. We are not just in the clinical setting, but I think of midwives in the most challenging times of somebody's life, and nurses as well, and how they can demonstrate to the people around them and the people they are looking after how to actually make that lemonade out of lemons type thing and see that journey forward.

This year, there are two really excellent themes for midwifery day: 'Together again: from evidence to reality'. In itself I think that speaks to the way that nurses and midwives go about collectively using the evidence to develop the skills and the capacity in their practice to move forward, actually thinking about what they are doing, reflecting on what they are doing, evidence-based practice. The theme for nurses, of course, is always about that leadership: 'Our Nurses. Our Future'.

Last Friday, I had the great pleasure of starting my day at the Nursing and Midwifery branch conference. During that time I listened to some excellent early morning addresses from the State Secretary, Elizabeth Dabars, whom I hold dearly as a friend and respect enormously in the work that she has done now over many years. She talked about how we are doing much better, I think, at trying to transition workers into the workplace and the work we are doing as leaders in our community.

She talked about some of the challenges that we are still facing around aggression and violence in the workplace and how the ANMF is leading that call to encourage SA Health and encourage workplaces to put in place better strategies so that nobody at work has to face the violence that they face. This goes down to a deep-seated heart of reality in our community where, sadly, drug taking, alcohol and also deep-seated generational poverty are making challenges almost insurmountable for some people, which is increasing that drug taking and escalating that violence.

Leadership is not accidental. It sometimes is built deeply within a person, but I think that the workplace itself can encourage and nurture nurses as leaders. There are so many amongst us who have those skills, who can demonstrate how to work not just in a health setting but in a general

community leadership setting. I often talk in public to encourage nurses to take that next step as leaders to bring people on that journey.

When I discuss my portfolio around housing and shelter being this material linchpin to wellbeing, what holds the capacity for people to do better in their lives, I think nurses and midwives in the workplace are most definitely the human linchpin to wellbeing, and I say happy nurses and midwives day to all of my friends, particularly those here in the chamber today.

**DI FRANCESCO, REV. CANON M.**

**Mr TARZIA (Hartley) (15:24):** Today, I rise to speak about a farewell service I recently attended for Reverend Canon Mara Di Francesco. We recently gathered for what was quite a bittersweet service as we said farewell to Reverend Canon Mara Di Francesco. Mara has been a vital part of our community in Campbelltown for many years and it is certainly difficult to imagine St Martin's Anglican Church Campbelltown without her very significant leadership.

We were joined by a number of dignitaries that morning. I certainly would like to thank Mara personally for her extensive service to the church and also to our community. She was ordained in 1995 and ascended to rectorship at St Martin's in Campbelltown in late 2000 where she has been a very significant beacon for the community ever since. Her ministry at St Martin's has provided multiple generations within the Campbelltown community with the ability to learn but also endure their faith as well.

Being part of St Benedict's Monastery, Mara is no stranger to the Christian presence in the world today through prayer, service and community and has been known for her high-energy approach to ministry and also defined by her strong leadership, her vision and of course her very cheeky sense of humour. What better way to reflect on Reverend Canon Mara's rectorship than by looking to the important role St Martin's plays within our community.

That community serves in a number of ways, from food and backpacks for homeless youths to care packages for women's shelters. The good the congregation does for our community cannot be understated. As Mara moves on to her next endeavour, whatever it may be, I think it is important for all of us to consider sowing the same seeds of goodness within our community as she has during her tenure at St Martin's. We wish her all the very best for the next part of her life's journey.

I also wish to speak about the Campbelltown Art Show and Sale, which ran from 6 May to 13 May and featured many paintings, pottery, porcelain pieces, photography, youth pieces and also Aboriginal and Islander people's art. There were demonstrations by well-known artists throughout that time. I attended on the evening of the start of the show.

The Campbelltown Rotary art show celebrated 40 years of great art but was also a fantastic opportunity for local artists to showcase their work. The show highlights the arts in Campbelltown every single year. There are various traditions—painting, photography, pottery, porcelain—that offer everything to delight but also inspire visitors not only from Campbelltown but across metropolitan Adelaide and beyond. These artistic demonstrations are an exceptional way to learn more about the skills but also the techniques of the various modes and forms.

Thank you to the Rotary Club of Campbelltown. I would like to thank Michael McCabe, the 2022-23 President of the Rotary Club of Campbelltown. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the artists involved, as well as Margaret Beare, who was the convener this year. I would like to thank the Campbelltown City Council for their significant assistance as well, and of course all the sponsors who assist in putting the art show together, such as the Neale family of Paradise Mazda, who sponsor not only this event but many events throughout the Campbelltown area. Thank you to those sponsors who continue to be generous supporters of the show, with a particular mention, as I said, to Jennifer and Jeff Neale of Paradise Mazda for their substantial contribution.

We know that a lot of planning and work are required within the Rotary Club of Campbelltown to make this event run as smoothly as it does, and it does not just happen, so thank you sincerely again to Margaret Beare, who was the art show convener, for all the hours that she contributed towards making that show such a success. I would also like to thank the many Rotarians and partners of Rotarians who helped put on that event and congratulate all the artists on submitting their works and those who won prizes. Congratulations on your amazing creative achievements. I will end with

a quote pointed out by Michael McCabe. As Pablo Picasso said, 'The purpose of art is washing the dust of daily life off our souls.'

### NURSES AND MIDWIVES

**The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Karna—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (15:29):** I have great delight in rising to speak about the incredible nurses and midwives we have in South Australia. Just in the past two weeks we have celebrated, firstly, International Day of the Midwife and then International Nurses Day last Friday.

It was a great occasion to be able to celebrate with thousands of nurses across South Australia and to have the annual nursing and midwifery awards, held on Friday night, where we got to celebrate some incredible achievements by nurses and midwives in this state, in the public system, our SA Health system, and also in the private, aged-care and university systems. I also acknowledge so many of our hardworking nurses and midwives who are here today as part of this celebration.

The nursing profession really is the backbone of our healthcare system. It is what provides care day in, day out to so many South Australians across our system. Nurses and midwives are known for that: for their care and their devotion to their patients. I did joke that nursing and midwifery rank as some of the most highly regarded, most professional and ethical professions in the community and that politicians are a few rungs down from that, sadly.

Nurses and midwives are regarded so highly because of not only that care but also the high professional standards and education that go into becoming a nurse and a midwife. I do not think people really realise the high level of education and training that goes into becoming a nurse and a midwife, as well as the high degree of specialised training that is provided. People who do extra cardiac training, extra ICU training, extra mental health training and training in so many other areas really do undertake a high degree of specialisation and clinical knowledge in their practice, let alone—something I am a big supporter of as well—nurse practitioners and the high degree of training and clinical knowledge they have across the system.

This is one reason why we are expanding the number of scholarships that we do through SA Health: 3,000 more scholarships are being provided to help nurses get that high degree of specialisation in particular areas. Of course, we are employing more nurses and midwives right across the state as well. So, across the first year of this government, we have increased the number of nurses and midwives in our healthcare system by 278. At the election, we set a target of 300 more, so we have almost reached that four-year target within the first year. But we are still hiring more: today we announced even more incentives, and relocation incentives, to be able to help people to get here to become nurses and midwives in South Australia.

I think it is also worth noting the amount of research that happens in the nursing profession as well. My good colleague the member for Hurtle Vale, Associate Professor Cook, is a testament to the high degree of work that happens in our university sector, and between SA Health and the university sector, in training and research that occurs across the sector.

We are also working very hard in relation to delivering a number of key commitments to our nursing profession. One that we are very passionate about is bringing to this parliament, to debate within the term of this parliament, legislation to enshrine nurse-patient ratios in our law. While we have had nursing hours per patient day for some time, we will now join Queensland and Victoria, who have legislated nurse-patient ratios to make sure that that care is provided. The evidence from interstate is that, by doing so, we get a higher level of care and ultimately fewer readmissions and earlier discharges because that care is able to be provided in the healthcare system as well.

So, to all our nurses and midwives, whether you work in the public system, in the private system, in aged care or in primary health care, we thank you, day in, day out, for the incredible work that you do. I would like to thank the team that we have in SA Health, led by Jenny Hurley and her team in the office of the Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer. I would also like to thank the ANMF, who do a sterling job in representing nurses and midwives in this state and who keep us honest in terms of what we need to do for both those professions. Particularly, I will give a final shout-out to

Rob Bonner, who has for many decades been advocating on behalf of nurses and midwives and is about to retire. Thank you, Rob, for your service.

### NATIONAL WALK SAFELY TO SCHOOL DAY

**Mr BATTY (Bragg) (15:34):** I rise because this week is National Road Safety Week and this Friday is National Walk Safely to School Day, which is an event that has been celebrated over the last 24 years, encouraging children to walk to school safely and commute to school safely. Unfortunately, I think it is going to be very difficult for many children at many schools in my local community to participate in Walk Safely to School Day because at many schools, particularly those on main roads in my electorate like Kensington Road and Portrush Road, it is very difficult to walk to school safely.

In my view, there is a lot more we need to be doing to improve road safety around our schools in the eastern suburbs because at so many of them we see an accident just waiting to happen. Of course, my community was left devastated by an accident that happened a couple of months ago at Marryatville High School, when two students were tragically struck by a truck at a pedestrian crossing on their way to school after that truck failed to stop at a red signal.

This shocking incident was witnessed by so many in the school community but also impacted so many in our wider community. I have been contacted by a number of parents, caregivers and others who are very concerned about pedestrian and road safety around our schools and ensuring that our schoolchildren can get to school safely.

Since that accident, I have called on the Department for Infrastructure and Transport, in conjunction with the Department for Education, to undertake a review of road safety around our schools and make recommendations that might improve road safety near our schools. I want the review to identify any area where we can improve, ideas like improved infrastructure or changed infrastructure, whether it be reviewing speed limits and reducing speed limits around schools, particularly on main roads, or perhaps considering traffic safety wardens, which I know is a scheme working very successfully interstate.

I have also begun a process of consulting on this issue with schools in my own local community to seek their views and also to take on board their own ideas at each particular school. Already I have had a lot of feedback, whether it be from schools like Seymour College on Portrush Road, which has raised concerns with the location of the pedestrian crossing out the front of their school as well as the speed vehicles travel down Gilles Road. There was also a very concerning incident when teachers had to direct traffic on Portrush Road, Highway 1, when the lights went out at that pedestrian crossing and SAPOL was unable to attend.

I met with the principal of Loreto College, who has raised similar concerns. She has reported incidents of drivers running red lights at the pedestrian crossing out the front of that school and has also suggested reduced speed limits, introducing traffic wardens and perhaps, as a longer term solution, a footbridge at that particular school. Of course, I have had a lot of communication with Marryatville High School since the accident. I met with their principal just last week, and I am meeting with their governing council again in a couple of weeks.

Quite shockingly, I am told that at that school in the two days following the tragic accident on 22 March, there were two further incidents of cars going through a red light at that very pedestrian crossing, so clearly there is a lot more we need to do. At Marryatville High School, I am calling on the government to install a fixed red-light camera at that particular crossing. It is a sensible suggestion. Research has shown that a red-light camera at crossings can reduce the risk of injury crashes by up to 21 per cent.

The government's very own criteria for high-priority locations consider whether there are vulnerable pedestrians like school students and consider whether there is a main road with incidents and accidents. Marryatville High School meets all those criteria, and its students deserve to be able to walk safely to school not only this Friday but every day.

## NURSES AND MIDWIVES

**Ms CLANCY (Elder) (15:39):** I also rise today in celebration of International Day of the Midwife and International Nurses Day, and I acknowledge the nurses and midwives in our parliament right now, including nurse Bonnie, who I have known since she was little. Welcome, and welcome to Louise Miller-Frost MP as well.

I celebrate today not only as the member for an electorate of which more than 20 per cent of the working people are employed in healthcare and the social assistance industry but also as the Premier's Advocate for Suicide Prevention, knowing the incredible work of our mental health nurses. We know that at the best of times midwives and nurses face a challenging workplace environment. Like all feminised industries, midwives and nurses have historically been underpaid and not afforded the same conditions and benefits of similar industries with lower women's participation.

Our government recognises these challenges, particularly those faced through the COVID-19 pandemic, and for generations—it has been said before—we will tell of the heroes of the frontline, not those in capes or Buffy the Vampire Slayer (although she is also great) but those midwives nurses and other healthcare professionals who risk their safety, and the safety of their families and loved ones, for the benefit of all in our community.

However, you deserve more than our thanks, more than our celebration: you deserve good pay and good working conditions. I am glad the state government and the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation came together on a new enterprise agreement to provide a 9 per cent pay rise over the next three years, and I am glad there will be another one of the additional one-off payments of up to \$1,500 to nurses and midwives to be made in October following this agreement. Our government is also working hard to recruit more nurses to help lighten your load.

Last year (around this time, actually) I spent a few hours in the emergency department at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. While completely run off their feet, every nurse I interacted with was confident and skilled and showed me so much kindness. The triage nurse, Loz, stayed calm and focused while trying to keep so many balls in the air. She was also compassionate and, despite having so much on, could see that I was silently suffering—and I swear I genuinely was being silent. She came over to me and checked in and offered more pain relief, which was gratefully accepted.

Then, once I was in there, Monica made sure I was warm enough and brought me another blanket after talking me through what were the next steps, and Alicia tried to take blood out of my terrible veins. If anyone knows Alicia in emergency at the RAH, I just want to assure her that it was not her fault that it did not work: as Taylor would say, 'It's me. Hi, I'm the problem. It's me,' or, more accurately, my veins.

When I thought about today I realised that nurses and midwives are some of my favourite people. I met midwife Anna when we were fostering siblings a few years ago and were waiting for their contact visit to wrap up. This magical woman, who was raising her own four children and bringing children into the world at work, was also fostering little bubbas. My old school friend Talia has worked in neonate more than 10 years. She takes such incredible care of those little ones and is a fierce advocate for those vulnerable bubs who cannot speak for themselves. While no longer practising, my friend the member for Hurtle Vale is pretty great too—and I tell you what, it is so handy having a nurse in the building.

On the weekend, my friend Nat (not this one) posted a message on Instagram about her disability workers, words that I think apply to our nurses and midwives too. She wrote:

These days I often find myself rallying against the narrative that seeks to divide disability workers and disabled people. The narrative that dismisses care in their role because they are paid.

She went on to say:

No matter what I am doing in my life, I spend 5+ hours of my day with workers and they do care. Care is quietly leaving the hotel room to give me some time alone with my audiobook while I put on my make up, and leaving my heart drugs in a spot I can reach, with a cold water glass I can lift—because it is not full. Paid care is still care.

I know you, our nurses and midwives, care too.

So not just on International Day of the Midwife and International Nurses Day but every day, we thank you for the enormous contribution you make to our community. Keeping mothers and patients safe, empowering them to heal and recover in a nurturing environment, is work that every South Australian has relied or will one day rely on, so thank you. Now, go get a cuppa and have some scones.

*Bills*

**SUPPLY BILL 2023**

*Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading (resumed on motion).

**Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (15:44):** I do want to continue my remarks on the Supply Bill but I just very quickly want to add my voice to those who have much more eloquently thanked and acknowledged our nurses and midwives today. It was my enormous pleasure, with the Minister for Health and the member for King, to attend the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birthing unit of the Lyell McEwin.

It was an enormous pleasure to catch up with Jill and Anita, who delivered my six and seven year olds—six and seven years ago, funnily enough—and they are still heroes in my household. We talk about them every day and it was such a pleasure to meet them, and I just want to add my voice of thanks for all the work you do and may you keep on doing it. Thank you. Now you can go and enjoy your afternoon tea.

I will now continue my remarks on the Supply Bill; thank you for your indulgence, Mr Deputy Speaker. I was talking about the commitment made before the election to a roundabout at the intersection of Yorktown Road and Adams Road in Craigmore, or in Elizabeth Park, whichever way you look at it. I will just finish on that particular commitment by saying that I hope, and I will check tomorrow, that the department have consulted with the Eastern Park Football Club. If not, then the next stage of the consultation I promise will be very much centred on the needs of the people in the Eastern Park Football Club.

It is very clear that the residents of Craigmore and Blakeview will benefit from this commitment to a roundabout. We just want to make sure that we get it right, get the design right, so that the people who use the Eastern Park Football Club—especially the children who use it—can continue to use it safely, whether that means altering their entry and exit way onto a different site other than Yorktown Road or incorporating their entry and exit from the roundabout. It is very important to me; it is very important to the people at Eastern Park Football Club.

I visited Eastern Park Football Club a couple of weeks ago. To my surprise, I was joined by several local councillors and I was very pleased by the commitments they made to looking at improvements to Eastern Park Football Club.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Including Councillor Arifi?

**Mr ODENWALDER:** Of course Councillor Arifi was there. There were others who were unexpected, but the more the merrier I say. The more councillors on board the better, and from what I heard from the councillors there that day, there certainly seems to be a commitment to improving Eastern Park Football Club. I think it is fair to say that it is a club that has been neglected for a while. I think the roundabout commitment has really brought into sharp focus some of the problems particularly around parking that they had, but not only that. They along with many other clubs, of course, have a continuing problem with changing rooms, with their visitors' changing rooms and particularly female changing rooms. If the message I am picking up from the local councillors is right and they are committed to improving those things, then I look forward to working with them in the future on ways we can make those projects happen.

The second commitment which I committed to is related to the first and is very close by: the Dwight Reserve. It is immediately across the road from Eastern Park Football Club and adjacent to the roundabout area I have been talking about. It is a smaller commitment. It is a commitment of \$400,000. It is part of a larger package that the council has put forward in a masterplan of \$800,000 to improve that playground and recreational space, both for general users of the playground—

including my kids, which had no bearing on the funding—but also for the kids that use the area both as a recreational space for the Eastern Park Football Club and as an extra training space for the Eastern Park Football Club.

I think that the development of Dwight Reserve as a facility adjacent to Eastern Park Football Club is important. It was my hope when I made the commitment that that would be a total \$800,000 commitment from state government and council to be completed together. I am hearing that that will be changed and that the \$400,000 from the state government will fund stage 1, with stage 2 to be completed at some other time. That, of course, is the council's prerogative. It would have been good to see them both happen and I do not think a final decision has been made. In the end we committed \$400,000, and that will fund stage 1. So I look forward to the construction of that particular project. I think it will enhance the community. It will also enhance the facilities available to Eastern Park Football Club.

Part of the problem is that Yorktown Road itself is obviously a major arterial road, and so joining the two facilities is difficult for pedestrians, particularly young pedestrians. It is my hope that, whatever we do with Dwight Reserve, the roundabout itself will provide some safety to those children as a natural crossing point for those children who are using Dwight Reserve.

The third commitment I would like to talk about in my electorate is the promise of a local traffic management plan, in the Blakes Crossing area. Traffic management and parking—and you will know this yourself, sir, from your dealings with the school there—particularly around the school but also around the general precinct, has always been a problem. Parking and traffic management have always been a problem.

The development itself I think is a good one. It is a well-designed, walkable neighbourhood, but part of the problem is that it is clearly a modern design of a neighbourhood. It is based on what you might see in a European city and increasingly in American cities and Australian cities, where walkability and density are valued and prized, as I think they should be. The problem, of course, in the context of an outer suburban development is you do not have the adequate transport connections that you might have in a much more dense European city. You may well design a development which looks like a part of a European city, and it looks very modern and it is very walkable, but it does not negate the need for every member of that family of driving age to have a car to get anywhere. Hence, you get this problem where you have a dense environment where parking and traffic management, particularly around the school, is a major problem.

The idea is that the Department for Transport are funding the council's traffic management plan. I welcome that. A certain amount of that money has been put towards surveying the community, developing the design, and then there will be a further tranche of money set aside for actual works, which will be matched dollar for dollar by the council up to the value of \$375,000. Every time I have a street-corner meeting in Blakes Crossing, or indeed every time I talk to Councillor Karlsen in Blakes Crossing, I am reminded of these traffic problems, and I think the council survey bore that out.

Everyone seems to have a different solution, including raising speeding limits, more off-street parking, safety crossings, blind spot remediation and school traffic management. I am pleased now that Playford council's 'What We Heard Report' has been finalised, with 259 feedback forms received. Council asked the residents and the property owners within the study area to provide feedback on traffic-related issues they were experiencing on their street and in the broader study area.

The study area is bounded by the natural northern boundary of Blakes Crossing, beyond which is the green belt leading up to Gawler; on the eastern side, it is bounded by Bentley Road; Uley Road to the south, and Main North Road to the west. This is deliberate. It deliberately cuts out traffic management problems related to, first of all, Main North Road, which of course is a very major highway and has its own issues and is almost in a constant state of reassessment, but also Curtis Road. As the member for Light will know and as the member for Taylor will remind people, Curtis Road is a perennial problem for everybody. It has not been included in this local traffic management plan because it is a perennial problem but also because the member for Taylor and the member for Light have during their own election campaigns made commitments around looking at traffic around that, and I look forward to seeing the results of that.

Of course, people in Blakes Crossing do use Curtis Road all the time, which is why I hear about it all the time, but that is the subject of a different traffic management plan, and hopefully the two things will be complementary. I look forward to having conversations once we reach the planning stage of some of these works. What did the council do? They direct mailed letters to residents and property owners in Blakeview—a promotional flyer, a background about the survey and so on. They established an engagement hub online. They surveyed people online and in hard copy. They also, very importantly I think, reached out to local schools and sought their feedback on the possibilities of local traffic management. As I said, Blakes Crossing Christian College particularly and also the nearby Playford primary, Blakeview primary, Trinity College and Craigmore high all contribute to some of the traffic congestion, particularly along that Uley Road stretch to the south of Blakes Crossing.

The following things were identified by the community in the City of Playford surveys: residential traffic issues, such as inadequate on-street parking, ability to access and exit properties, large vehicle access and illegal parking, largely due to narrow streets and roads, which is what I talked about before; the safe crossing of pedestrians; traffic congestion during peak times, particularly in and around schools, as I said, during pickup and drop-off; and also, of course, the ever-present problem of hoon driving and speeding.

I also held my own specific street-corner meeting. I often hold street-corner meetings in Blakes Crossing, and I always get a good response in Blakes Crossing. This one was in particular about this plan, and I received a lot of feedback both at the meeting and in the subsequent social media campaign that followed. It almost all centred around parking, speed and congestion around schools, and safety around schools.

A similar problem exists on the Yorktown Road-Adams Road intersection we talked about before. As I think the member for King will attest to, in places like Wynn Vale, Salisbury Heights and Greenwith, there are very limited ways to get in and out of some of these developments at certain times of the day. That is something that we really need to look at in the absence of a very well-established public transport network such as you might see in a denser European city. These are problems we are going to have to grapple with. If we are going to have developments that are dense, we are going to have to grapple with traffic management and/or greater investment in public transport.

The fourth commitment is somewhat more straightforward: a public toilet in California Reserve, Craigmore, to a cost of \$250,000. This may seem like a minor thing, but obviously public toilets are important. The council, as I see most councils do, have a matrix where they grade different types of playgrounds. The type of amenity that is available at different playgrounds is subject to various factors, such as the population size around the playground and who visits and so on, but these arguments get pretty academic when you have a seven year old who needs to go to the toilet.

On balance, a public toilet was needed there. It was a very easy commitment for me to make. It is going to be a modern toilet, and one of those self-cleaning toilets, I understand, and I look forward to that being constructed later this year.

**The Hon. N.F. Cook:** Fancy.

**Mr ODENWALDER:** It is going to be fancy. It is going to be a Rolls-Royce toilet, I am told. I am assured by the council it will be a Bentley of a toilet.

The final commitment that I made is one probably closest to my heart, and that is around the Argana Park sporting precinct. I joined with the member for Taylor in making various commitments around Argana Park, and I am sure there will be more in the future. I am particularly excited about this one. I grew up in and around Argana Park, and it is really the heart of the community in that northern part of Elizabeth: Elizabeth North, Elizabeth Downs, particularly, and now, increasingly, Craigmore and Blakeview.

I went to school immediately adjacent to Argana Park at South Downs Primary School. Incidentally, I visited South Downs Primary School just last week with the Minister for Education. It is under the new leadership of Caitlin Manser and her team and they are getting some really good results at South Downs Primary School, including a 57 per cent reduction in suspensions. The

minister was certainly surprised about the quantum of that reduction, and I think Caitlin and her team should be commended for that.

Argana Park, as I said, is close to my heart. I am really pleased that we are able to allocate substantial money as part of the council's master plan. Councillors Akram Arifi and Misty Norris both came to me and said, 'We've got this master plan for Argana Park; it involves work which will take several years. What can the state government contribute?' I am really pleased that we are able to contribute \$1.115 million for change rooms for the soccer club and the netball club. This is the soccer club where my son Jimmy got his start and then returned to later, so it is one close to my heart. I do not have as much contact with the netball club, but I understand the member for King knows it fairly well. They will have female change facilities and adequate change facilities generally.

*Mrs Pearce interjecting:*

**Mr ODENWALDER:** Yes, that's right, for the member for King to enjoy. Additional to that, there will be \$345,000 for lighting. This is just a small part, a small stage of the overall master plan. I think what the council has in mind for Argana Park is very exciting, and I look forward to that all coming to fruition. I am told that planning is well underway and that both the change rooms and the lighting—and I hope I have not got this wrong; I am sure Councillor Arifi will tell me—should be completed by February next year.

In the very little time I have left to me, I want to commend the government for its commitment to health in the north. I, the member for Ramsay, the member for King and others all benefit from the Lyell McEwin Hospital being in the heart of our community. I am really pleased there will be 48 more beds. Our commitment at the election was, of course, for 24 more beds; that has been expanded to 48 more beds. Construction has begun. There will be more emergency department space, and there will be more renal dialysis chairs—a new nine-chair dialysis unit.

I am very proud of the work the Malinauskas government is doing in terms of investing in local community, investing in sporting clubs, investing in health, and I hope that we can do more as our time progresses.

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

*A quorum having been formed:*

**The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (16:03):** I am pleased to rise today in support of our Supply Bill, this very important contribution that many members of this place are making and have already made to this bill. Today, I will touch briefly on a number of matters that are very close to my heart within my portfolio responsibilities, namely, police, emergency services and correctional services. I am also very keen to talk about the good work, the excellent work, that has been undertaken over the last 12 or so months in delivering election commitments in my electorate of Cheltenham, in the beautiful western suburbs of Adelaide.

The Department for Correctional Services is a critical agency in South Australia. It is responsible for the humane and safe operation of our state's nine prisons with just over 3,000 prisoners in the adult population. I am pleased to report to this house that in my 12 months as minister I am yet to privatise a prison, and certainly will not be privatising a prison, as was done so promptly by the former Liberal government.

Approximately 5,700 offenders in the community under various supervision orders by the courts or by the Parole Board are supervised by DCS. These individuals are supervised by the incredible staff from our 15 Community Corrections centres around the state. The DCS mission is to contribute to public safety through the safe, secure and humane management of offenders and the provision of opportunities for rehabilitation and reintegration. This is supported by a vision for a safer community by protecting our community and reducing reoffending. It is this commitment to reducing reoffending that I am incredibly proud of. I know that all on this side of the house have demonstrated for a number of years our immense commitment to reducing reoffending.

The reality is that an outdated, archaic approach to justice is to lock people up and forget about them, lock people up and throw away the key. The truth is that the vast majority of people who

offend will at some stage be released and once again in our community. The best thing that we can do as a state, where possible, where meaningful and where able to impact on someone's life, is to address those causes of offending whilst somebody is in custody. It is critical and exceptional work that DCS undertakes.

This particular focus on reducing reoffending, reducing recidivism, was born from the 10by20 program in a formal approach that was launched by the then Minister for Correctional Services, now Premier of South Australia, in what was a particularly progressive and thought-provoking policy shift in the way that we focus on rehabilitation in South Australia. It has been an immense success. Sir, I know from your time you will have seen the immense contribution that our staff in DCS make every single day in contributing to this.

Not only have we met our target of reducing reoffending by 10 per cent by 2020 but we have surpassed it and we have reduced reoffending by 15 per cent. But that is not enough. That is why in my tenure as minister I have been incredibly pleased to launch a new target, a more ambitious target of 20 per cent by 2026, where the dial has to keep shifting. It is good for community safety. It is also good for people who, through a suite of matters not of their doing, often find themselves within the criminal justice system.

There are many things that ministers find in their incoming briefings, their first meetings with their departments and certainly their first opportunity to immerse themselves within, in my case, prisons or other facilities. Certainly, one of the things that shocked me the most was the number of people incarcerated, the number of people who find themselves under a custodial sentence or even remand for that matter, who cannot read and write.

The impact the lack of numeracy and literacy has on someone's ability to get a job, to participate in our economy, to support their family by no means excuses criminality but gives us cause as a government and as a community to unpack and understand better the why. It is very much my view that improving basic things like literacy and numeracy will improve community safety by impacting the lives of people when they are in a correctional facility, as, too, will other programs that connect people and prisoners with work.

Work brings dignity. As the Premier often says, all work brings dignity and we, the Labor Party, are a party that believes in the dignity of work, and the dignity of good work, meaningful work and secure work. Programs that we can undertake within our prison settings to better equip people to work, to find work, to stay in work always improve the outcomes for those individuals involved. The way that we embark on investing significant money, both capital and recurrent, on prison industries is a really critical part of that.

As I have travelled around the state, I have seen firsthand the skills that are being attained by prisoners as they work. It might be metalwork, woodwork or the extraordinary baking abilities that I have witnessed and also tasted firsthand. There is the work being undertaken in very large-scale commercial kitchens and also the dairy operations at Cadell, which I am very pleased to have announced in the last 12 months is receiving a very significant capital upgrade to modernise and increase capacity. These are all skills that are leading directly to better employability for people when they are no longer in prison.

The programs that connect people with work are also critically important, and Work Ready, Release Ready is just one of those. Work Ready, Release Ready links people with a job prior to leaving prison because we know, again, if all of this work is invested in our prison population whilst someone is in custody, it is also important that when they leave custody they are already connected, they are already in an attainable pathway that keeps them in work, in employment and on the straight and narrow. That is why Work Ready, Release Ready is so critical.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the people from Workskil who are leading this program. They do an outstanding job. I have met with a number of the people involved in the delivery of this program and want to thank them for the dedication that they have to this program.

We have also delivered on our election commitment to improve and increase the cleaning of major arterial roads by prisoners. For some reason this was downgraded and dispensed with by the former government. We have committed to doing this and I am so pleased that one of the very first

things that was attained when coming to government was exactly that: getting prisoners out there as part of this outdoor experience but also, very importantly, leading to better outcomes on our major arterial roads.

I will now move on to emergency services. I do so recognising that this week is National Volunteer Week and take the opportunity to thank every single volunteer across the state in whatever capacity they volunteer, but particularly our emergency services. About 15,000 South Australians volunteer as part of our emergency services. Just within my portfolio areas, they are members of the Country Fire Service, the State Emergency Service, and Volunteer Marine Rescue.

Whilst not directly responsible but certainly through some funding partnerships, I also want to thank and recognise the thousands of people who volunteer their services to Surf Life Saving South Australia. I note that Surf Life Saving South Australia were out on the beach today as part of National Volunteer Week, recognising the week. For those who ventured outside today, it is pretty cold and wet and windy, so I make a particular note of mention for our surf lifesavers for braving the cold to recognise surf lifesaving contributions today.

Within our emergency services we have those volunteer agencies I have mentioned, as well as the MFS and SAFECOM. I particularly want to note the excellent collaboration that exists and that is continuing to be fostered amongst those agencies.

Observing this sector now for many years, and certainly for many years before I was in parliament, and having had the privilege of serving on the South Australian Fire Commission Board, I have seen the impact that improved central emergency services headquarters have had on our sector, and not just from an operational perspective, increasing and improving the ability for agencies to respond to acute emergencies, to plan for emergencies and to coordinate emergencies. It is greatly improved from the time that SAFECOM, the Country Fire Service and the SES were housed in Waymouth Street.

The fostering of a work environment that leads to collaboration is also incredibly clear and evident in the move to Keswick as part of a single, central headquarters. That has been demonstrated so well through the coordinated flood response since August 2022, throughout late 2022 and through the Christmas and new year period—seeing peak flows happen in that period between Christmas and new year and into the start of 2023.

I think that there are very few times that anybody in our community can see the full suite of resources responding and being deployed in the way that we saw during our flood crisis here in South Australia. I know that I and a number of members of this place have already spoken at length about this: the coordination, the service and the work of our agencies through that period were outstanding—outstanding—and of course the Supply Bill I rise in support of supports that entirely.

This has been an exercise that has not been without cost. I am thankful and grateful that the cost has not been one of life; it has been one of those rare emergencies where a loss of life has not occurred, but there has been great cost from a household perspective and from a community perspective. The support provided directly through grants and other mechanisms by the state government has been around \$200 million, but there have also been the additional operating expenses from our agencies, particularly the State Emergency Service.

As most people in this place would be aware, our emergency services levy does not contemplate the proactive or prospective funding of major emergencies such as this. That is why we have a Community Emergency Services Fund that has a holding capital that funds, in the time of acute emergencies, this type of activity. During the estimates process, I will be in a better position to provide and furnish details, but the expenses incurred by the SES are into the many, many millions of dollars as part of the response to this emergency. That is on top of the capital that was very quickly and very deliberately invested by the state government around the purchasing and procurement of the DefenCell product to protect our communities where they needed this flood protection so quickly. I am very pleased to advise just how successful the rollout and deployment of that has been.

I also want to note the contribution of SAFECOM, SAFECOM staff and SAFECOM personnel, not only from a logistical and functional perspective through the flooding but well and truly

over the last 12 months. The last 12 months have seen SAFECOM distribute and coordinate the RAT distribution program in South Australia.

They were also absolutely instrumental in supporting the exercise of people's democratic rights on election day back in March 2022. It is a relatively small, at times unknown to the broader community agency at SAFECOM that has coordinated the logistical support and logistical outlay of RAT testing and voting all the way through the pandemic and even post the declaration of that emergency. I want to particularly note the contribution of SAFECOM through that time.

The emergency services sector is, was and continues to be one that relies heavily on plant and equipment, fire trucks, fire appliances, rescue appliances and farm firefighting units as part of a coordinated approach to emergencies. I am very pleased to report that the first round of the reintroduction of farm firefighting unit grants by this government was a resounding success: \$500,000 quickly went out into our communities and into people's hands before the fire season.

Most importantly, the way that we as a government committed to and executed the delivery of this program was to ensure that to every extent possible we were promoting the purchasing of equipment from local suppliers, from local businesses, to support those small and medium-sized businesses as well as regional enterprise at every step possible. I will be able to return to this place soon with an update on the next round of farm firefighting unit grants. Without doubt in my mind, I know that they will be equally popular in the community.

I am also very pleased to reflect on the prompt and expedited tendering and procurement of 12 new fire appliances for the MFS, a \$14.1 million investment by this government that has seen, in a very quick way, a modernising and a future modernising of fleet. The headwinds of the global pandemic were certainly taking a toll and have been taking a toll on the delivery of major fire appliances right across the world, but the best advice I have is that, because of the quick movement of the MFS and the prompt delivery of our election commitment as a government to source and procure these appliances, we have in large part been able to circumvent and get around what would otherwise be delays in getting these on the frontline as quick as we can.

With my time closing rapidly, I commend this bill to the house and thank the Treasurer for his ongoing work in this area.

**Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (16:23):** I am sure this house will be enthralled as I provide a quick update about the priorities and happenings within the electorate of Narungga and perhaps list and outline some of our hopes and dreams as we progress forward to the budget in the coming days and some of the things that desperately need attention in our part of the world.

In doing so, I should start by saying that we do, I still believe, live in the greatest part of this state. Yorke Peninsula is flying along at the moment. There is a bit of moisture in the ground, crops are going in and there is a genuine feeling of optimism in our farming community about how a wonderful season might be ahead of them. It has been my experience that that confidence flows throughout our community and we feel that benefit whether we are in a town or on the land.

Whilst there is plenty of good going on in Narungga at the moment, there is always something that we think the government should work on or improve, and at the top of that list is, obviously, health care. This has been of the greatest concern to my constituents for quite some time, and it was certainly a vote mover at the last election where people were voting, I would like to think, for someone who would be a staunch advocate for local health care and the provision of local services for people to access. We still need more movement on that front, an opportunity still exists for further improvement.

In the interests of impartiality, and to give credit where credit is due, there does appear to have been a renewed interest in regional health care from this government. It is wonderful to see a new hospital being built at Mount Barker, and work being done at Mount Gambier and Port Pirie as well as other places around our state where, I am sure, health care was front of mind for quite a few people and at the top of the list for improvement.

We would still like to see more done in our community, more done locally for us. Perhaps the best case in point regarding that is Wallaroo Hospital. The three towns of the Copper Coast—Wallaroo, Kadina and Moonta—have roughly 14,000 or 15,000 people inhabiting them yet the only

hospital we have, the only emergency health care you can access on the Copper Coast, is a 21-bed hospital. That is wildly insufficient, and it finds itself full quite regularly. There should be scope to improve and enlarge that hospital.

The Port Pirie hospital up the road—and I might get my numbers slightly wrong here—has a similar catchment area. The city of Port Pirie might have 16,000 people at a guess, but that hospital is far bigger, and I think we well deserve to have our local Wallaroo Hospital increased to a similar size, as it is servicing a similar-sized catchment area. Those capital works that are on the mind of the LHN, the local health network, and that have been the subject of submissions to Infrastructure SA regarding their feasibility, should be front of mind for the government as it considers its next budget and the priorities it might have in the healthcare space.

Wallaroo Hospital could do with significant improvement and enlargement. That is not to detract from other hospitals we have up and down the peninsula. The public hospitals at Maitland and Yorketown would both benefit from realignment of their A&E departments. As acting chair of the health advisory council I know architectural work has been done to develop a plan so that Maitland Hospital could be a bit more user-friendly for the doctors who service it. It is currently a bit of a rabbit warren, if you ask the people who work at that hospital, and would certainly benefit by being a bit more free-flowing and open plan so that people who are in the unfortunate position of needing to be at that hospital can receive better care due to the improved space on offer.

We have capital needs right up and down the peninsula, and all of them could do with attention at some point—hopefully sooner rather than later. However, the primary concern—and this is true right across South Australia, but I believe is felt most acutely in regional South Australia—is that we need to see some action from a government, whether at federal or state level, to guarantee the equitable distribution of doctors, nurses and healthcare professionals right across our state.

When you live remotely or regionally and suffer an emergency it is a difficult thing to find your way to hospital but have no-one there medically trained as a doctor to meet you, and I imagine it would be a scary thing. When you are in a state of shock or are in desperate need of some pretty significant service you would like to think your local hospital could at least provide that accident and emergency service when you get there.

We are not asking for complicated surgeries or specialities to be transplanted out to regional South Australia, but there is a basic level of service that should be required for regional hospitals. In a lot of hospitals around our state that service is currently lacking, and we desperately need to see action from a government on that front to resolve that crisis—I do not use that word lightly—so that we can guarantee the equitable distribution of those healthcare professionals and make sure our regional communities remain attractive places to live and, for quite a large percentage of the population in those towns, to retire.

It is no good retiring to a regional town at the end of your working life only to find that those healthcare services that you are increasingly going to need to rely on are all the more difficult to come by. That is the highest priority for the people of Narungga I believe. It is something that I hope will be addressed in the budget in a couple of weeks and, if not in the budget, then I will continue to push forward for the budget thereafter and the one thereafter that. We look forward to, hopefully, at some point finding that we have achieved our goal there and that we have a result incoming.

There are another couple of priorities I wanted to talk to this house about briefly, and the second one again is a topical one around South Australia, that is, the shortage of housing that we have on the YP. Often, we have these heartbreaking stories of people you would not normally associate with homelessness coming into the Narungga electorate office to report the difficulties they have in accessing rental properties.

It is extremely difficult. I meet with as many of them as I can and we offer as much help as we can to make sure that they are not thrust into homelessness, but it is an extremely difficult thing to meet with people in that situation, who have that prospect in front of them, and to try to come up with a solution when the clock is ticking on the time they have left. I am sure there is a solution out there that would provide immediate relief.

In fact, just by way of an idea—I have not considered in complete totality all the outcomes it might provide—I wrote to the minister recently and suggested that maybe, with the proliferation of Airbnbs or short-term rentals I suppose, Housing SA could contract with them for category 1 people who are homeless just for a week at a time or something like that so that they can have a shower, refresh themselves and gather their thoughts.

I imagine that that time under a roof with the amenities provided would be refreshing and reinvigorating to launch back into the intimidating task of securing housing. I am sure there must be ideas out there like that we can lean on to open up immediate relief for people, but something needs to be done to address that problem because it certainly is a really, really prominent one across our state.

Aside from immediate relief, it does need longer term thinking. There has been some wonderful news on that front in our electorate recently, with a new land release at Fisherman Bay, to complement the freeholding of that destination by the council recently. In the not too distant future—or, in fact, if you drive out there now—you can see significant work going on at Fisherman Bay to bring that community into the 21<sup>st</sup> century and to provide it with the amenities it deserves and the people who have leased there for so long deserve.

It will be wonderful to see those old shacks that have not experienced the investment they need due to the uncertainty of tenure to finally have a bit of an upkeep and a bit of maintenance provided to them and, I can imagine in some cases, a complete rebuild to turn them into some quite palatial shacks. That community will be a radically different one in the next decade. It will be really fascinating to drive by there and compare what we have now to what will be there then.

That is thanks in large part—or in an absolute majority—to the work of the council and its CEO, Maree Wauchope, who has done a wonderful job unlocking that investment, and the councillors, Mayor Leonie Kerley and all the other people involved. It was a difficult problem to solve, but now that that the freeholding is happening, and that land release behind it is happening, it will turn into quite a town in its own right. I look forward to seeing that evolve in the future.

Having met with Wakefield Regional Council with the member for Frome and Minister for Local Government only last week, I am led to believe that the Sea Breeze proposal at Port Wakefield, which has been on the cards for quite some time (I am guessing decades), is not too far away from starting as well. That land release, those blocks—and I reckon the signs have been up forever—should be open and for sale relatively soon.

Again, that will provide some options for people who are looking to build in that wonderful little town. It is not too far from Adelaide and should be a nice little destination for people to build. There are a couple of really exciting things happening on the housing front and we look forward to seeing them and how they shape our electorate going into the future.

Thirdly, without dragging on too long, we really sincerely hope that the government continue to fund the road improvements in our electorate. We have had quite a prolific four or five years and we have managed to get some significant projects achieved, not the least of which is the massive development at Port Wakefield with the Crash Corner overpass and the duplication of the highway through the town which is now well on its way to Lochiel. That was a huge project, and it has had a significant impact on the safety of that corner, one that claimed many lives over its journey. It is a risk and no more, thankfully.

It is wonderful to see the traffic flow freely through Port Wakefield now and a sight to behold. The best indicator is that every long weekend or public holiday we used to have to put up with a story on the news about the traffic jam at Port Wakefield and how slow it was getting back. Now they are absolutely silent on it. The news channels do not have anything to report because the traffic is flowing freely. Those cameras and those journalists I think have relocated to the south of Adelaide to report on the traffic jams down there. That is a wonderful indictment on the work done there.

In the lead-up to the 2018 election, I vividly recall doorknocking and telling people that it would be wonderful and that it will be a priority of mine to get the road right up and down the middle fixed, the one between Arthurton and Minlaton, and we have managed to achieve that too. The stretch between Arthurton and Maitland was an absolute shocker, and it is now a smooth ride on a

wide road and a lot safer for everyone, not least the people driving fully-laden grain trucks down that road. It has had a wonderful impact for the people who live in those communities.

They are just two examples of roads across the electorate that needed doing and got done, but we need to continue to see that investment. GPSA have done a wonderful job lobbying for the Artherton to Kulpara stretch of road—an infamously bad stretch of road that is quite long but definitely needs doing. It is well used by farmers along that stretch. There is some quite fertile land there that produces significant crops, and that would be a wonderful road worth doing. There is the Bute to Port Broughton road, which is a really bumpy, undulating surface, as well as countless other roads. I risk missing some, but I have to accept that risk. Obviously, we look forward to hopefully seeing some continued funding to maintain that good momentum we have had on roads going into the future.

The final absolutely key priority I would like to mention today is the coastline, and it is arguably the electorate of Narungga's greatest asset. It is its biggest strength and the reason we have so many people come and visit and stay overnight: to see the wonderful beaches and amenities we have on our coastline. We need to make sure that we continue to preserve that. That is multifaceted. That is ensuring that the boat ramps that we install do not interrupt the sand drifts, causing one side to have no sand and the other to have a build-up.

It is ensuring that we have an adequate fund to start to address the backlog of jetty maintenance that has crept its way around the state. Golly, that will be an expensive but vital proposition for a government to take on. In a lot of cases, jetties are the lifeblood of small regional communities and the tourism asset of many regional towns, general stores and caravan parks. They are vitally important, and once they start to fall over, at that point they will be all much more expensive to replace. Certainly, I think making sure that we have a maintenance program to preserve them, rather than a fund to replace them, will be a far more economical prospect, so we need to make sure of that.

We need to ensure that the beach camping phenomenon that was arguably born during COVID is addressed. We know at Wauraltee Beach in the years leading up to COVID there were zero cars camped on that beach. Over last Australia Day, we had something like 400 people camped on Wauraltee Beach, which is wonderful for the community—400 caravans came up, stayed, shopped, bought petrol, went fishing and did all those wonderful things—but it poses a whole lot of other problems.

It poses problems with the sand dune preservation—people enjoying their four-wheel driving over precious sand dunes. It poses problems in litter disposal, as four hundred caravans produce a lot of waste, and not many bins are provided to dispose of it. It also provides problems with policing, with disputes between caravans and camping sites, and a whole host of other problems.

It pains me to say this, but it might be that some increased regulation may be necessary to ensure the safety of our precious sand dunes, which, as we have already articulated, are perhaps Narungga's greatest asset. We certainly need to do something because, if we wait too long to act, it could be that the sand dunes are beyond repair at that point. A multifaceted bunch of considerations need to be taken into account, but our precious coastline certainly needs some attention, and we need to make sure that we care for it and look after it.

By way of conclusion, and I will not take too much longer, I want to touch on a couple of things that came up at community cabinet, which was a wonderful, productive couple of days we had with the cabinet in Narungga recently. Embarrassingly, it surprised me how often it came up at the community forum, but the Wallaroo swimming pool is an absolute priority for us to get funded. A few years ago, the pre-existing jetty structure where we all learnt to swim was blown over in a storm. It was then replaced with a supposedly storm-proof pontoon system that stretched out from the front of the cafe on the foreshore, but that then blew away in the first storm that came along.

Unfortunately, council have been tied up in court and in mediation trying to get their money back for that investment. In the meantime, the community has had very little facility to conduct swimming lessons as a means for people to enjoy the sea water safely, protected from the waves and whatnot, so we need to see a solution for that. I know that a cross-section of the community wants that jetty-like structure replaced almost as was. That would be fine, but I would also urge the

community to consider the benefits of an inground heated pool with a lap pool that people could use for fitness as well. Hopefully, we can find a way to replace that in the not too distant future.

Next, I want to touch on emergency services. We just heard from the minister that there is a desperate need—and I talked to Chris Beattie about this only Saturday evening—to have a new sea rescue vessel for Point Turton. We currently have a wonderful group of volunteers down there doing an amazing job, but they are limited by the fact that the boat they possess is only able to go two nautical miles offshore.

I am not a boater myself, but I suspect that most boat breakdowns do not happen that close to shore and that there is a requirement for those boats to go further. Without that boat, there is a gap in the water between Port Victoria all the way around to Edithburgh, which is a significant body of water and one that needs covering. The people there are ready and willing to help, but we just need to provide them with a vessel in which they are able to do so.

A little bit of a pet project of mine is the SES team at Port Broughton, which is currently co-located in the council work shed. On one side, there is an artificial divider. There are lawnmowers and council machinery on one side and, on the other side, there is a boat, a truck, a rescue trailer and all that sort of stuff. I think that the SES volunteers would certainly deserve their own facility and perhaps one that is co-located with the CFS, which has a rather space-inhibited shed. I would love to see a way that we could achieve that outcome.

On a final note, I want to thank and congratulate the government on a grant recently to the Wallaroo Golf Club. They are now in the position where they should be able to commence the greening of their golf course, that is, to put in greens rather than scrapes. That will become the first golf course on the entire peninsula to have 18 holes of greened golf course. That will be a massive benefit for our community. Golf tourism is really lucrative, and there will now be people who can come up from Adelaide, they can play the dunes at Port Hughes on a Saturday, they can play Wallaroo on a Sunday and they can have a fulsome weekend playing golf out in the open air.

The Wallaroo Golf Club, a wonderful club, have been working toward this for a number of years. They have had a lot of setbacks from different grant programs, but they have done an incredible job fundraising their own money. They have a significant cache of money they are willing to put in, and now they will be able to make that dream a reality. So I sincerely look forward to seeing that happen in the not too distant future. I am going to get a membership myself and join up, and I look forward to seeing that club grow from strength to strength with this new green. I speak in endorsement of the Supply Bill.

**The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley) (16:43):** I will use this opportunity to speak about events in my electorate. I had a tour of year 9 students from Unley High School in here for lunchtime today, and Supply Bill speeches were happening in the chamber. They were not aware of the process of a Supply Bill speech and why it was required. I explained that it is about actually paying people who are on the government payroll, making sure that our schools and hospitals stay open and that our police are paid—everybody who delivers the services of the state government are the beneficiaries of the Supply Bill. Without the Supply Bill, the government would come to a grinding halt.

That happens often in the United States of America. When I was over there in January 2019, government offices were closed because there was a dispute or a fight over supply of money to pay public servants. Even things like presidential museums were closed because, although they are set up with private sector foundations, they are usually staffed by public servants. They were not being paid and they were not there to service those who were visiting such museums.

There is some government spending that is causing some distress in my electorate of Unley, and that is the move of the Forestville Hockey Club to Unley High School. This has a bit of history to it, this project. Originally, there was a commitment from the previous Labor government in 2017 for \$1 million to be granted to the Forestville Hockey Club to help them relocate. A site was identified by the previous government at Pasadena, at the Memorial Playing Fields. We committed to honour that commitment as the Liberal Party in opposition.

We won that election and then we worked through with that promise, but unfortunately I am advised that, once the proper planning was done, there simply was not room for a north-south hockey

pitch at that site. The Labor government promised something that could not be delivered and consequently put the Forestville Hockey Club in a bit of a bind. We agreed that we would allow them to consult with the community and Unley High School to see if that was a solution.

We made no commitments about funding because it was a very early stage. We do know, because the Labor Party were promising money to anybody who asked at the last election—without any due diligence, without any understanding of the size of the project and the impact it would have on local residents and the school itself—they found another \$2 million and committed that as an election promise, making that grant now \$3 million.

The federal government, with Louise Miller-Frost as the candidate for Boothby, also committed over \$1 million. The Mitcham council, who are always very quick to jump to support Labor Party promises, committed \$140,000, but interestingly they said 'only if the synthetic pitch that was being used was sustainable and environmentally friendly'. They do not exist; those pitches simply do not exist. I have commissioned a lot of research from the parliamentary library to identify where such synthetic pitches are available, and they simply do not exist.

It will be interesting to see how the Mitcham council now deal with that \$140,000. Mitcham council in a recent briefing also told me that they have had to find extra money so Labor could deliver their promises in the City of Mitcham, whether that be a share of a grant or, alternatively, ongoing costs for the new facilities, which are mainly council owned, which will be a burden for ratepayers in the City of Unley.

There seems to be some confusion about the nature of the promise to fund and commit to Unley High School as the new home for the Forestville Hockey Club. It is very clear in a press release that was put out by the member for Badcoe on 17 February 2022 where the then candidate for Elder, Nadia Clancy, states:

Forestville Hockey Club's proposal is outstanding. This new hockey hub at Unley High will reinvigorate hockey in the southern and eastern suburbs.

This was done without any due diligence, without any consultation with the school or with the local community. Do not forget, this is a very large grassed area that is used by the community that will be replaced with a fenced area that will be artificial turf. This is causing an enormous amount of concern.

We are very keen to see the Forestville Hockey Club have a home, but we did not commit funding to this project in the lead-up to the last election because the work had not been done to do that. Just like in 2017, the then Labor government committed funding to a separate site or a different site for the Forestville Hockey Club before the work had been done to know whether the hockey pitch would actually fit on that site.

Here we are seeing a repeat of history: mouth opening, words coming out for electoral benefit for the Labor Party without any work being done as to whether, first of all, it is something that the community wants and what effect it is going to have on the community. There are questions for the council and the state government on this project. Will there be limitations on access to the grounds for local residents currently?

We know that the Department for Education has policies to work with local government, in particular, to enable school grounds to be available for residents' use on weekends when not being used for school sport. I know that Unley Primary School, where my kids went, was very successful in that they actually managed to shift all their cost of maintaining the grassed areas to the Unley council, who agreed to do that in exchange for allowing people to use the green areas in Unley Primary School after hours. It was a very good deal.

People have become used to using these school grounds as part of the open space, particularly in the inner suburbs. Unley has the smallest amount of open space of any electorate. It is the smallest electorate geographically. There are about 26½ thousand people living in an area of just over 12 square kilometres.

We are losing trees all the time from private properties as people are putting extensions on, putting in swimming pools or knocking down one home and putting up three or four on the same space. It is always a challenge for access to open space in an electorate like Unley. The press release sent out by Jayne Stinson, which is absolutely true, states:

So far, the Liberal Government has not committed any funds to the hockey hub, though the Department of Education has supported the project being built at the school.

That is because the consultation was not finished. The consultation up to this stage has not even started. Even after the 14 or so months since the election, there has still been no consultation. To give you some idea as to the dog's breakfast that this whole project has been, it was a thought bubble, a group of people sitting around a table thinking, 'How can we capture maybe another 200 or 300 votes in surrounding seats around this fallout from the Forestville Hockey Club?'

I received a briefing in March, which was several months after I asked for a briefing. The briefing was an oral briefing; there was nothing in writing presented. One of the things I was told at that briefing was that the development application is currently being finalised by the Forestville Hockey Club ahead of being lodged with the City of Mitcham, and the public consultation process is commencing.

My understanding is, as of May, the public consultation process has not started. I asked for written confirmation on 17 March from the Minister for Education's office as to whether it was the case that the City of Mitcham was in fact the body that would be deciding on the planning application. To this day, I have not received a response to that request. There is even a question on notice in the other place through the Leader of Government Business from the Hon. Jing Lee that was supposed to be answered, according to standing orders, last Tuesday but still remains unanswered. So we still do not know who will be approving or not approving the project.

It is a very unusual situation where we have government land, a government school. The government has outsourced the consultation to a hockey club. As I was advised in my briefing, there is no consultation being done by the Department for Education or the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, or by the City of Mitcham. Consultation is being done by the Forestville Hockey Club. People who live nearby tell me that they have received very little information or very little opportunity to present their case.

The City of Mitcham is surprised at the suggestion that they will be the ones who will be deciding whether this project goes ahead or not, and that is important because I asked the officer from the Department for Education at that briefing what happens if the City of Mitcham does not approve the development, and the answer that came back very quickly was it will not go ahead.

So there is the challenge for the City of Mitcham, who are raising concerns about the use of such a large area of artificial turf, particularly after they have recently moved a motion saying that there is a climate emergency in the City of Mitcham and they need to do everything they can to arrest that emergency. Knowing full well that there is no such thing as an environmentally-friendly synthetic pitch, are they going to approve this proposal when it goes to the City of Mitcham CAP, whenever that is? We do not know when that is going to be. I and a group of residents in Hawthorn are monitoring that to try to establish when it will happen.

It is important to understand that this is not something that the Labor government inherited. The Labor government initiated this in 2017, making a commitment before the work was done for the Forestville Hockey Club to move to the Women's Memorial Playing Fields without looking to see whether it would actually fit. My understanding is you cannot fit a north-south facing hockey pitch on that site.

A process was started to see if there are other sites. Unley High School was approached. The then Minister for Education gave approval for Unley High School to do some due diligence on that to see whether that would work and to work with the community. That work is a long way from being completed but, nearly two years ago now, the Labor Party promised that money for that site regardless. That is the situation the people of Kingswood find themselves in. They are the victims of a government that was buying votes in the lead-up to an election and did not care what the consequences were. There are massive consequences for the quality of life and the environmental impact that this will have on the site.

Do not forget, on those two soccer pitches where this fenced hockey pitch will be soccer is played every weekend. There are cars that will overflow from the car park. There are licensed facilities that will be part of the planning approval for evening events. This is a significant shift in use, and it is a significant change in the amenity of those who use Unley High School, whether that be

students or whether it be those who use the grounds after hours. I am calling on the government to look for another site.

It is pretty obvious, from what we are seeing now, that this was not thought out before the money was offered. Maybe the money should have been offered subject to finding somewhere else. I would not consider it a broken promise if the government said, 'Look, we're going to move it somewhere else.' They did that when they promised, in 2014, that they were going to build a second city high school at the old Royal Adelaide Hospital site. When they won that election, they realised it would not work at that site, so they built it down the road. They still built the school; they delivered what they said they were going to deliver. They can deliver this new pitch for the hockey club, but what I am saying is, 'Don't deliver it at Unley High School.'

I was open-minded about the concept initially, and I will be making my mind up based on the consultation. Even before the formal consultation has started, it is very obvious that this is not a suitable site for this project. So, Premier, what I am asking you to do is to find somewhere else for this project. I support you in doing that so that we do not take more public open space away from the very limited public open space that there is already in the electorate of Unley.

**The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL (Mawson) (17:01):** I rise to support the Supply Bill 2023, to commend the Malinauskas Labor government for some fine investments and to talk today about major events in particular. Today, Business SA released the details of their business survey for the March quarter of this year. The result showed that business confidence in South Australia continues to climb from the previous quarter and that it rose by 5.8 index points. This increase followed a total increase, in the previous two quarters, of 16.3 per cent, which means business confidence has risen by 22.1 points in the past three quarters.

Anyone who has been out and about in South Australia in the past few months will know that South Australians are believing in themselves and believing in this wonderful state once again, because things are happening here. People in South Australia are noticing, but, more importantly, people around Australia and indeed around the world are noticing the difference that South Australia makes.

Business SA called out measures implemented by the Malinauskas government as possible drivers of the increase in South Australian business confidence relative to the rest of the country. They said:

The more positive response to the local economy could be influenced by the South Australian State Government's prioritisation of large-scale events, such as the VAILO Adelaide 500, AFL Gather Round and LIV Golf, which all took place between December 2022 and April 2023. An overwhelming number of business operators surveyed—

that is, nearly 80 per cent—

viewed large-scale events as beneficial to business in the state.

These events did not come around by accident. We went to the election with the promise of providing \$40 million for a major events fund. I am really pleased to be chairing the major events committee here in South Australia, with a very small group of business leaders, one of whom was on the Liberals' major events committee. Every single recommendation that that committee put up to the Liberal government was knocked on the head. Everyone who was on that committee became so frustrated with the former government that they walked away from it.

I have to say, it is a complete contrast to see how the Premier treats major events in South Australia. We saw with LIV Golf that he was in direct contact with Greg Norman, talking about the possibilities of LIV Golf coming here to South Australia. When we look at the AFL Gather Round, there is no doubting the influence that the Premier had in getting that here to South Australia. He was in constant contact with the CEO of the AFL, Gillon McLachlan.

Also, at last year's AFL grand final, it has been well documented how he worked the room and basically tagged every AFL club president and CEO that he could to tell them about the benefits of having the games in South Australia and why the AFL needed to get behind Adelaide for the positive result that we would give the AFL and all the teams. Everyone I have spoken to, even those

who did not go to any of the nine AFL games that were on in and around Adelaide on the Gather Round weekend, is absolutely delighted with the way it went.

People were telling me it had that feeling like the Grand Prix back. Everyone was wandering the streets and so happy. It reminded me of the Sydney Olympics, a time when Sydneysiders actually started talking to each other on trains and public transport again. Here, we would walk up and down the mall, down and around the town to the Adelaide Oval, out to The Parade in Norwood and up at Mount Barker, and everyone was out there in their Freo scarves, or Saints, Bombers, Lions or whatever it was. People were saying, 'Go the Lions,' or, 'Go the Dockers.' There was just so much goodwill and fun that was had here as well as the tens of millions of dollars that were pumped into the state over that Gather Round weekend.

The pride that comes to South Australians from hearing people around Australia talk about Adelaide and talk about South Australia in such glowing terms cannot be measured. State pride is an important part of the confidence building that this Malinauskas government has set about from day one after winning the state election in March last year. I know that on the Monday after Gather Round was over, the Premier was on 3AW in Melbourne. A journo mate of mine told me that when the Premier had finished on the radio, the switchboard lit up with Liberal and Labor voters in Victoria saying, 'We wish we had Peter Malinauskas as the Premier of Victoria.'

It is quite incredible, the national stage that the Premier of South Australia now commands, which I do not think we have seen on this level for many years. The Premier needs to be commended for the hands-on involvement that he has. We have gone from a Premier who said, 'I don't get involved in the decision-making because I would never get any work done.' That was the attitude of the member for Dunstan, the former Premier of South Australia, towards doing things.

Let us look at what happened in the major events area. We had built it up. I had five years as tourism minister, and we had built it up. We had doubled the visitor economy in South Australia from \$3.9 billion to \$8 billion in those five years. What we had done was really made sure that we got behind the tourism operators in South Australia. We increased jobs, and of course the jobs in the visitor economy are not just in Adelaide: they are right across regional South Australia as well. That is why it is such an important sector.

We had built up amazing events, some one-off, like the Anthony Mundine versus Danny Green fight down at Adelaide Oval. What a fantastic night that was. That was something we had not seen in Adelaide ever, and it probably will not be seen in Australia for a long, long time. Again, it was those sorts of events that turned the minds of people around Australia to Adelaide. The focus was on Adelaide. We built up the Adelaide Fashion Festival; the Liberal government came in and killed it off. We went out and worked really hard to get the Women's Australian Open golf here to South Australia; the Liberals killed it off.

We went out and grew the Adelaide 500 motor race. I could not believe it: I was driving down the expressway, it would have been in 2019, and Brad Jones, the director of Brad Jones Racing, who has four cars in the Supercars, rang me and said, 'Have you heard that the Libs are going to get rid of the Adelaide 500?'

I said, 'You're kidding, that's crazy. As if they would do that.' But, sure enough, some public servants decided that it was not a good idea, that it was all a little bit hard to run the Adelaide 500. They recommended that to the then Premier and, instead of getting in there and fighting for the people of South Australia and maintaining something that this state has always loved, he just took on the public servants' point of view and said, 'Yes, let's get rid of it.'

The NRL used to have a game between the Sydney Roosters and the Melbourne Storm here at Adelaide Oval. That was a fixture we fought hard to get because we know that people will travel from Sydney, will travel from Melbourne, to come and watch NRL here. As well as that, you are supporting a sport at the grassroots level, and we all know that 'you can't be if you can't see'. If you have some of the best rugby league players in Australia coming in once a year from Sydney and Melbourne to play here at Adelaide Oval, that is a good thing to diversify the sports we all play and watch in South Australia.

We fought hard to get the State of Origin here, and that was another great victory. I think it was in about 2017 that we announced we were going to have the State of Origin here. The first one was delayed a little bit because of COVID, but in two weeks from today we will see the State of Origin return here to South Australia—another great investment, another great initiative of the Labor Party, because that is what we do. Like those respondents to the Business SA survey, we get the value of major events.

I have to say we have a few big announcements to come in the major event space over the coming months, some of them massive and some of them important strategically. That means there will be some in the regions, and there will be some that might give us the opportunity to sell ourselves as an education state. We can market into other parts of Australia, other parts of the world, by having certain events here in South Australia.

We are taking a whole-of-government approach. Most of it is about heads on beds or the impact on the visitor economy, but sometimes we look for other key indicators. One example of that is the 10 test matches we have organised between India and Australia. Back in late November or early December, we had five Kookaburras versus India test matches. I reckon you could go back 40 or 50 years to tally up when we had five Kookaburras—the men's Australian hockey team—matches in Adelaide.

We had five matches in the space of a week, and what a successful campaign that was for Australia. It was tremendous to be out there to see Eddie Ockenden, that amazing Tasmanian and Australian hockey player, notch up his 400<sup>th</sup> game, a record. He was only the third person in the world to play 400 tests at the international level and the first Australian to do so.

This week we are seeing the Hockeyroos, the Australian women's team, take on India. What we are doing here, like we did with the Kookaburras, is really pushing the game into the market of India, the subcontinent, and right across the world where large Indian populations live. The telecast, which will go out live on hockey websites and which will be broadcast live throughout India on Star TV, is really important.

The message we are putting around that is how great South Australia is for Indian and other people around the world to send their children to, to come and study in Adelaide. We are really pushing StudyAdelaide because the largest cohort of students in the education system here in South Australia comes from India. Our fastest growing cohort of migrants to South Australia is also Indian, so we are taking a whole-of-government approach to the way we go after major events.

We certainly support major events here, unlike the Liberal government that did nothing except cut major event after major event after major event. One of the really exciting things I am looking forward to about going out to see the Hockeyroos is seeing Jane Claxton, a South Australian woman who went to Seymour College here. She will be the captain of Australia when the Hockeyroos take on India from Thursday night, and again on Saturday and again on Sunday.

We will also see Hattie Shand play. Hattie comes from Naracoorte and I am in a very small little chat group with a few mates and two of them claim to have been a major influence on Hattie. One of them is a guy called Craig Hole, who I am not sure rose to any great heights in the sporting arena, but Holey says he taught Hattie everything she knows as a junior coach. Another mate, Tim White, is the assistant women's coach of the Belgian team and was the Australian junior Hockeyroos coach for many years, the Jillaroos. He might have had a little bit more influence over Hattie's development and rise to the Hockeyroos than Holey did. Anyway, there will be a lot of discussion on the chat group between Holey and Whitey about who actually helped the most in her career.

I can say, as a South Australian, that I am really looking forward to seeing these two great South Australians go out there and represent their country at Gepps Cross over the weekend. I think it is going to be tremendous—again, getting back to that point of 'you can't be who you can't see'. If we do not have these international hockey games here, what does that say to all of these club members and these juniors who are out there playing week in, week out when they have to travel interstate or overseas to go and see the best players in Australia?

When the Olympics in Paris happen next year, in 2024, I am sure a lot of Australians will be tuning in to watch the likes of Hattie and Jane Claxton playing for Australia and cheering them on.

Well, you can go out there this weekend to Gepps Cross and do it in person and let these great athletes know just how much we appreciate having them here in South Australia.

Other things that we are concentrating on in South Australia include building infrastructure. I am really proud of the investment that we are making in my local area, which is the electorate of Mawson. It extends from McLaren Flat across to Maslin Beach down that western side of the Fleurieu, to Aldinga, Sellicks, Myponga, Yankalilla, Normanville, down to Second Valley, Cape Jervis and across to all of Kangaroo Island.

We went to the election with a number of promises—I think it was over 740 across the state—and one by one we are ticking those promises off and delivering those promises. For the people of Aldinga, we are about to embark on the promised community consultation to determine the need for a swimming pool and an aquatics centre in the Aldinga area.

Working with the Onkaparinga council, we have partnered to deliver \$2.3 million and 21 intersection upgrades, because we know that we have had visitors to the area who have caused fatal car crashes in and around McLaren Vale during the past few years. It has been devastating for our community. The roads are not technically at fault.

In every case, it has been driver error, inattention, perhaps drink-driving in some cases that have caused these crashes, but what we have to do is invest in making these intersections literally idiot-proof because we are sick of losing members of our close-knit community to the inattention and the disgustingly bad driving of people who come to our area and do not respect the local roads and intersections.

We are seeing a massive investment in Main South Road, something that we promised in our 2017-18 budget and then had to look on as the Liberal Party came to power and eroded that investment. They took what was to be a dual-lane road system from Seaford to Sellicks and decided to have one lane going one way and two lanes going the other way.

Does that sound familiar? Yes, it was the Southern Expressway: the Liberals' one-way Southern Expressway that had the boom gate come down across the lanes of traffic so it could close for an hour so the tow trucks could go up and down and make sure there were no cars on it. Then, an hour later, the boom gates would go up and all the traffic would flow in the opposite direction.

Diana Laidlaw, the Liberal minister at the time, said, 'We don't want to build those bridges wide enough for a future expansion because everyone in the world is going to have these reversible one-way roads.' I can tell you there was only ever one, and that was something that the people of South Australia will never forget: the Liberals' embarrassing one-way Southern Expressway. It ranks up there with another great Liberal Party decision, which was to sell off ETSA, which has caused us a huge explosion in the cost of electricity in our state.

We have the massive infrastructure build on our roads down in the south. Just as importantly, there are those more modest investments—the \$50,000 for the Myponga Hall; \$50,000 for the Second Valley Hall. I went in there a couple of years ago dressed as a koala at a fancy dress quiz night. I said, 'How long has this kitchen been like this? It looks like it's the original.' It pretty much was the original. Well, the original would have been built 100 years ago, but this was a post World War II kitchen. We did some quotes and worked out that \$50,000 will get them a new kitchen. So I am really looking forward to getting down and seeing all my mates in Second Valley in a couple of weeks' time—maybe not in the koala suit this time—but we are going to open that kitchen in the Second Valley hall.

At Maslin Beach—I wouldn't wear a koala suit to Maslin Beach, would I ?

**The Hon. K.A. Hildyard:** I don't know. Would you?

**The Hon. L.W.K. BIGNELL:** I don't know—maybe. Anyway, I will be at the Maslin Beach Community Hall, because we gave them \$50,000 to upgrade their community hall. At McLaren Flat the ceiling was falling in on their community hall, so they got \$50,000. At Cape Jervis they got \$72,000 to fix up the area and the infrastructure around their community halls. There is government money there to be spent on behalf of, and for, the taxpayers around South Australia. There is no better investment than improving the quality of life for people in their local vicinity. In most of these

places where there are no local gathering spots, these community halls are really important. I commend the Malinauskas government, and I fully support this Supply Bill.

**The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (17:22):** I am really pleased to speak in support of this Supply Bill, a bill which will enable our government to build on the considerable investments made over the past year across all parts of government and which will enable us to continue to respond to the needs of South Australians and to advance our state. It is, of course, with South Australians in our hearts and in our minds that we approach this Supply Bill and the ensuing budget process.

Every day, I feel incredibly strongly the privilege, the honour, that I have to serve as the member for Reynell, the Minister for Child Protection, the Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence and as the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. Every day, I feel very strongly the deep responsibility that comes with doing so. Our entire government is committed to undertaking actions that will make positive change with and for our community and for our economy. We want to help ensure equality of opportunity, fairness and inclusion for all, and we want our economy, environment and community to thrive.

Through the portfolios that I hold, I am utterly determined to drive reform that creates a state where women and girls can equally and actively participate in our economy and in every aspect of community life, that supports and empowers children and families facing really complex challenges, that understands the risks and deeply interconnected issues in child protection, and creates a community where more people experience the physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing benefits and sense of community connection that come through being involved in sport.

Every child and every young person in South Australia deserves to be safe, cared for and loved. As I said, it is such an honour to serve as the Minister for Child Protection. In stark and positive contrast to the former government, whilst we acknowledge we cannot change the trajectory for every child, the Malinauskas Labor government is investing in the child protection system. We are investing in the future of children and young people.

It is often said that child protection is everyone's responsibility. It is. To help ensure children and young people are protected and provided with every opportunity to thrive, whole-of-government, whole-of-sector and whole-of-community effort is required. Our government aims to bring that mantra to life. We want more people to have more awareness about the complex issues families face, and we want the whole of the child protection system to be focused and aligned.

This is not easy work, and really difficult issues will arise in families, but we are steadfastly determined to help drive improvements that make a lasting difference in the lives of children, young people, their families, carers and communities. That is why to date, in the 14 months since coming to government, we have invested \$171 million of additional funding into the child protection system. This funding focuses on growing the workforce to support children, young people and their families and on establishing an independent community-controlled peak body to improve care and protection outcomes for Aboriginal children and young people.

A properly resourced peak body for Aboriginal children is a step that community leaders have wanted for some time. The peak body will represent the voices of Aboriginal children and their families, recognising that supporting and empowering families is essential to improving children's wellbeing. The role of the peak body will be an integral part of how we as a government partner with the Aboriginal community-controlled sector to design and to transform child and family services for Aboriginal children.

We have invested \$13.4 million to improve opportunities to keep children safe and supported within their family unit through an expansion of family group conferencing, recognising the strength and love that exist in extended families and enabling that strength to help support children and families when needed. This family group conference will be led by families for families and will provide an opportunity for family and community members to come together with support and resources to make decisions that enable children to be safe and strong at home. It will include opportunities for families to make decisions together before children, for whom there are concerns, have been born.

Within all these programs and all our work focused on the wellbeing of children, we must address the cycles of violence within family units. With recognition of the deep and troubling intersection between domestic violence and child protection, we contemplate these cycles and how we can help prevent them across both the child protection system and our efforts in domestic violence prevention.

In partnership with the Social Work Innovation Research Living Space, we are delivering a training course to DCP workers, to build on their expertise when working directly with families experiencing domestic violence and to help improve outcomes for children. We have invested in the Children and Young Person's Visitor Scheme. In September 2019, following the cessation of a trial of the visitor scheme, repeated requests for further funding for the scheme to continue were shamefully not met by the previous government, even though it was a recommendation of the Nyland report. This funding ensures that this very important function can and will continue.

The Guardian for Children and Young People, including through her role as visitor, plays a critical role in advocating for children and young people in care and empowers their voices. I had just met with Guardian Shona Reid, and it was excellent to hear of her incredible commitment and passion for this crucial role. I thank her for it.

Our government is investing in the establishment of a registration scheme for social workers through a \$4.7 million commitment to support the introduction of that scheme. Social workers are incredibly committed, qualified professionals who make a difference every single day in the lives of South Australian families. Our government is hiring more social workers. We have already recruited many of these workers—41 out of the 42 promised—and they are now directly supporting children and families. Alongside this, we are recruiting an additional 10 principal Aboriginal consultants to strengthen cultural competency and understanding in the system.

Our government is focused and determined to support children and young people to reach their full potential. We are determined also to support those who support children and young people and ensure their voices are amplified. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

#### **STATUTES AMENDMENT (SERIOUS VEHICLE AND VESSEL OFFENCES) BILL**

*Introduction and First Reading*

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

#### **CRIMINAL LAW CONSOLIDATION (CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE) AMENDMENT BILL**

*Introduction and First Reading*

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

At 17:32 the house adjourned until Wednesday 17 May 2023 at 10:30.