

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 31 August 2023

Parliamentary Procedure

SPEAKER, ABSENCE

The CLERK: I inform the house of the absence of the Speaker. Pursuant to standing order 17, the Deputy Speaker to take the chair.

The Deputy Speaker took the chair at 11:00.

The DEPUTY 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 DEPUTY SPEAKER read prayers.

Parliamentary Committees

ECONOMIC AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY 2023-24

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (11:01): I move:

That the third report of the committee, titled Emergency Services Levy 2023-24, be noted.

Under the Emergency Services Funding Act 1998, the Economic and Finance Committee has an annual statutory duty to inquire into and consider a report on the Treasurer's determinations regarding the emergency services levy. The committee must provide a report on the written determinations within 21 days after referral to the committee. This year, the committee received the Treasurer's statement on 2 June.

The Emergency Services Funding Act 1998 compels the Treasurer to include determinations regarding the funding targets required via the levy to deliver emergency services, the expenditure on specific kinds of emergency services and the benefits for South Australians across the state. The emergency services levy funds the following organisations to deliver vital emergency services across Adelaide and the regions: the South Australian Country Fire Service, the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service, the South Australian State Emergency Service, Surf Life Saving SA, Volunteer Marine Rescue organisations, SA Police, the Department for Environment and Water, SA Ambulance, state rescue helicopter, and the shark beach patrol.

On 19 June, the Economic and Finance Committee held a public hearing with representatives from the Department of Treasury and Finance, the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission, the MFS, the CFS and the SES. The witnesses outlined the funding targets, rate setting and expenditure for the proposed levy for the 2023-24 year. In accordance with its 21-day obligation under the act, the committee considered the determinations and tabled this report on 15 June.

Firstly, the committee would like to thank the staff and volunteers of our emergency services for providing vital assistance to South Australians when they need it the most. All the agencies have their own operational activities, challenges and opportunities, and all complement each other to play an essential role in the safety and resilience of all South Australians. They work tirelessly in our communities to protect life, property and the environment, deploying personnel and resources to not only South Australia but other states and territories and, indeed, other countries.

Recently, we witnessed major floods and bushfires across the nation. The SES and CFS deployed personnel to New South Wales to work in flood-damaged communities in Sydney, the Central Coast, the Hunter region and the South Coast between July and October last year before returning to our state to assist with the largest flood in South Australia's history in the last 50 years.

The River Murray flood was a protracted and complex event impacting 11 major towns across seven local government areas. Over 1,000 staff and volunteers were involved in the coordination and response to the event, often collaborating and demonstrating leadership outside of what may be their expected type of emergency response.

That said, I would like now to highlight the key elements of the 2023-24 emergency services levy as observed by the Economic and Finance Committee. The Treasurer's statement noted that the 2022-23 total expenditure on emergency services was projected to be \$365.1 million. Total expenditure in 2022-23 is now budgeted to reach \$373.2 million, mainly due to additional funding required for the significant River Murray flood event. Total expenditure on emergency services for 2023-24 is projected to reach \$380.6 million. ESL receipts for 2022-23 are expected to be \$4.7 million above original expectations due to higher than expected remission payments and fixed property ESL revenue.

Expenditure on emergency services for 2023-24 will be funded primarily by ESL payments from fixed property of \$325.1 million, mobile property of \$52 million, minor revenues of \$2.2 million and a \$1.2 million cash run-down in the Community Emergency Services Fund (CESF). On 30 June 2023, the cash balance in the CESF was forecast to be \$14.2 million. For 2023-24, the government will pay \$140.1 million into the CESF.

In regard to this year's emergency services levy, bills are calculated by applying the prescribed rate on assessable property value in accordance with the property's purpose and location. For 2023-24, the committee can provide the following information. With calculations based on an average median house value of \$670,000 in the metropolitan area, the average residential bill in metropolitan Adelaide should be \$151.30. This is \$6.95 more than last year, or 4.8 per cent. For a median commercial property figure of \$1 million, the average bill for the commercial property owners should be \$1,221.85. This is \$43.95 more than last year, or 3.7 per cent. Rates in major country towns were based on median sale values of \$350,000.

Property owners should receive their bills from 1 August through to the end of September. Given recent increases in the cost of living, I would like to draw attention to the flexible payment options available to property owners. ESL bills can be paid in four equal instalments upon contacting RevenueSA prior to the bill's due date. Revenue raised from the ESL strengthens the frontlines and operational capacity of our emergency services. The 2023-24 target expenditure of \$380.6 million is \$7.4 million more than the 2022-23 figure of \$373.2 million.

The additional expenditure will include \$6 million to enhance the CFS aerial firefighting fleet, \$1.3 million for the SES acquisition of a strategic flood barrier cache, \$1.2 million carryover of expenditure from 2022-23 for the surf lifesaving club facilities development, \$6.9 million for enterprise agreements outcomes and increases to the superannuation guarantee, and half a million dollars for additional mental health and wellbeing support for emergency services volunteers, staff and their families.

The Economic and Finance Committee has fulfilled its obligations under the Emergency Services Funding Act 1998. I would like to thank the members of the committee, the representatives from the Department of Treasury and Finance, the Chief Executive of the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission, and the chief officers of the Metropolitan Fire Service, Country Fire Service, and State Emergency Service for their contributions. Therefore, pursuant to section 6 of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Economic and Finance Committee recommends parliament note this report.

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (11:10): I would like to begin my contribution today by putting forward thanks from this side of the house to those emergency services employees and volunteers who have served the state over the last 12 months. Obviously, the fundamental underpinning of the emergency services levy is to fund, to a degree, the activities and work that are undertaken by those emergency services across our state.

It feels that we have been reflecting each and every time these particular reports come to this chamber over the last couple of years that the work for those services has been above and beyond in terms of natural disaster, and again this year, when we look at the bushfires that the Chair of the committee has reflected on, both interstate in New South Wales and, in more recent years,

here in South Australia. There were not just bushfires this year, of course, but also an unprecedented flooding event through the River Murray and surrounding jurisdictions that led to one of the biggest recovery efforts, which I think everyone would reflect on in terms of mitigation and things that we can potentially learn and do better next time.

Part of the evidence of the committee, and something that I still do not quite understand, has been the resistance from this government to this point to undertake any sort of independent review in terms of the flood response. Evidence that was provided to the committee certainly outlined the fact that there is clearly precedence to undertake an independent review into flood events and also major natural disaster responses. It is certainly something that we on this side of the house still see as being necessary—not so that we can point fingers, not so that anybody can say that things were not done as well as they could be, but so that we can learn and do better next time.

It is silly and it is perverse to say that there were not lessons that could be learned from this significant event. Again, as per evidence given by the witnesses who appeared before us through the committee, it is clearly the view of some within the emergency services that there is precedent. Certainly from our view, it would be a worthwhile exercise for the state to undertake an independent review so that we can do better next time.

In terms of the other evidence given to the committee, the committee Chair has also already touched upon the increase coming for South Australian households this year of nearly \$7 added to their emergency services bill. I just want to take this opportunity this morning to contrast the clear difference in approach from the previous government to this, in terms of tax burden and cost-of-living burden to the South Australian public.

While there was a commitment from those opposite to no new taxes, what we have seen is that, in the absence of actually doing anything in terms of the settings of those existing taxes, essentially the relative tax burden for every South Australian is increasing and will continue to increase over the forward estimates. We had the Treasurer present the budget just a couple of weeks ago, and that is clear: the significant increase in tax revenue across the forward estimates is clear. It is black and white and it is on paper, despite the fact that the Treasurer was not too keen to confirm any of those things through his own words. He has simply let his budget documents do the talking for him.

Whether that be the significant changes that were made to the threshold in regard to payroll tax by the former government that saw a number of businesses no longer needing to pay payroll tax, what we have seen obviously over the last couple of years is wage increases across the board but no relative change to the threshold in regard to payroll tax. There are now, one would assume, more South Australian small businesses—and, certainly anecdotally, that is what the opposition is hearing—paying payroll tax than there were previously.

When you look at stamp duty and rates, obviously we have seen property values go up across suburban Adelaide, and there is strong property growth across really the whole of the state. Again, what does that lead to? Increased collections from stamp duty and rates. With ESL, one of the key commitments the previous government made—with the Liberal Party taking government in 2018—was to provide significant remissions for South Australians in regard to the ESL levy paid. What have we seen from this government so far? Again, just increases.

One of the other significant costs to South Australian families is water, SA Water prices. Again, under the previous government, those prices came down for South Australian families. There is a clear and stark contrast between this government and the previous government in terms of an approach to reducing the cost of doing business in South Australia and also reducing the cost of living for South Australians.

We will be watching very closely as the next 12 or so months unfold, when we get the rubber hitting the road in terms of the changes to the regulatory cycle for SA Water and the rate setting, to see what will be delivered by this Treasurer in that regard. We know that the previous Labor government had seen the regulated asset base significantly overvalued which just delivered higher SA Water corporation costs to South Australian families. We know that the Treasurer had an intimate connection to that fiasco, so we on this side will clearly be keeping a close watch on where SA Water prices go into the future.

One of the most concerning pieces of evidence that I think came through the hearing in regard to the ESL this year actually linked back to the flood issues that we talked about previously. It was uncovered that somewhere in the order of 1,500 to 2,200 residents within flood-affected communities had not, to that point of the year, paid their ESL bills, and RevenueSA did not decide to contact those families and households to say, 'You haven't paid your ESL bill. Could you please perhaps try to find a way to do that?'

Instead of acknowledging that your ESL bill may have been stuck on your fridge or sitting on your desk but instead of being on your desk or your fridge it may now be down the river or out into the sea, RevenueSA made the decision to roll over that debt, to charge penalty provisions, interest provisions, on that owing amount, and to roll that over to a bill that was soon to be put out to those families and households, without any communication to those families or households.

It was conceivable that these families and households that had gone through one of the most traumatic events in terms of being affected by floods could foreseeably have received a bill for two years' worth of ESL levy, plus penalty provisions, without any knowledge that they had not paid the fee for the previous year. When pushed on this, RevenueSA's view, and the view of the Treasury officials, was that there was no issue here—no issue whatsoever—no issue that there was no communication with those families and no appreciation that perhaps letting them know this may be helpful.

I know that since there have been some changes in that regard to what the initial view was from Treasury for this, but I think that underpins the approach from government to some of these issues. We really need to have a greater appreciation, greater communication, particularly when we know that people are being impacted. To just make assumptions simply is not good enough. It just simply is not.

I reflect on the evidence given before the committee, particularly with respect to that issue. Frankly, I think everybody here should be rightfully disappointed with the approach that was taken originally by Treasury. In the remaining time I have, I would like to provide my thanks to those organisations within my local community covered by and funded by the ESL, in particular the surf lifesaving clubs of Grange, Henley Beach and West Beach, for the work they continue to do to keep my local community safe.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (11:20): I rise to speak to this report by the Economic and Finance Committee on the emergency services levy. This is a levy that has been in place for just over 20 years to be the main funder of our emergency services because there are a lot of lessons to be learned from events such as the two Ash Wednesdays to make sure we have the appropriate funding in place, especially for our volunteer firefighters and also our paid staff in firefighting.

Obviously, there are a lot of them in the Metropolitan Fire Service, and there are paid staff throughout the Country Fire Service as well. That translates also through to the State Emergency Service. The beauty of it is that there are at least 15,000 volunteers who contribute to these services. In the long run, we must never forget that. As to all the bureaucracy that goes on, bureaucracy is necessary, but sometimes it does become overburdensome, and that does have an impact on volunteer retention, I can guarantee it. I am a CFS volunteer, and I know there are others in this place who are as well.

It is interesting to note that in this report there was extra funding that had to be spent in regard to the River Murray flood event. The total expenditure funded from the Community Emergency Services Fund for 2022-23 was budgeted to reach \$373.2 million, up from \$365.1 million, and that was mainly due to the additional funding required for the significant River Murray flood event.

I must say, as a local member but on the other side of the house from the government, I was proud to play my role, certainly in Hammond and certainly as the shadow emergency services spokesperson, to work with communities right up and down the river and with the government. I would suggest that around 95 per cent of the time we worked hand in glove because we had to get the right outcomes for the communities up and down the river.

That is why, as the member for Colton said, he is astounded and I am astounded at why the government has not instigated an independent inquiry into the management of the River Murray

floods, because a lot of good outcomes were achieved. A lot of it was done with collaboration across the sector. I am not sure what the government has to fear about that. Certainly, it was pleasing to have the ear of the emergency services minister, Joe Szakacs, and also the Premier, Peter Malinauskas, during this event. They were my main ministerial keys during the flood event.

To have direct access to chief executives, like Chris Beattie from the SES, John Schutz from the Department for Environment and Water and others, was so handy, and that direct contact was kept up. I certainly want to acknowledge the great work of Scott Denny, who was the local police superintendent for the Riverland and Murraylands. They saw how well he operates and transferred him to Adelaide: our loss is Adelaide's gain, as he is a fine police officer.

It was a very difficult time with the flood event and the coordination with communities right up and down the river with what needed to be done. A lot of the speakers from the various departments, the public servants, came out and spoke to communities right up and down the river. I went to several meetings at Mannum and Murray Bridge and, if I could not get there, my staff went. I commend those public servants because it was a bit hard to get across to some people that they were going to get wet feet. Some people did not think they were going to get flooded and it was a bit of a surprise when they did.

I remember the meeting at Mannum and both myself and the Mid Murray Council said to people at that meeting, 'You should prepare for up to 250 gigalitres a day coming down.' One of the confusing things was that there was always a low number predicted and then a high number for the flood, and that gave some people surety that perhaps it would not get as high as we thought. It came through on the reader that it was about 194 gigalitres a day at the high flow—that is a heck of a lot of water. After about two and a half days of that you have a Sydney Harbour.

I commend all the volunteers and staff, the thousands of volunteers, who did that vital work, along with the contractors, who I have spoken about before, shifting the 150,000 tonnes of clay to protect Renmark, the volunteers who worked alongside them and the staff who would have done overtime for no reward. Certainly, as you came further down the river, to towns like Cobdogla and Mannum, it had the effect of having to protect the lower reaches of the town. At Mary Ann Reserve, we had to get the levee banks in place.

I take my hat off the Ben Scales, the CEO of Mid Murray Council, who I think at midnight on New Year's Eve was there when there was no one else to man the pumps to pump out around the rowing club. So many people stepped up to the plate, and I acknowledge the work of our emergency services, as I said before.

The SES got that DefenCell in place when we could, in a timely manner. Sometimes councils balked at delivering that decision, but that was not the fault of the SES. Volunteers stepped up and put sandbags in place, and I met many volunteers at the relief stations who had come from Adelaide or other places to assist people filling their sandbags and getting on the job. It really showed a sense of community, and the community downstream from Murray Bridge along the levee banks—a few got flooded out towards the Swanport Bridge—put in a massive effort, along with emergency services. Certainly, the Army came into play as well.

I want to also acknowledge the vital work of all our fire services. They were all encompassing in this event, both the CFS and the MFS. They work right across the community in keeping us safe through fire events, certainly the 13,000-odd volunteers and staff from the Country Fire Service and the many people who work for the Metropolitan Fire Service, whether they be the staff, retained firefighters or full-time firefighters—they do magnificent work to save life and property—and people who rescue people; whether it is the surf lifesavers or those who rescue people who get in trouble offshore, I take my hat off to them. They are prepared to put their hand up. They are prepared to go above and beyond to rescue people in need.

I commend this debate around the emergency services levy and I commend everyone involved in the field, especially in relation to the recent River Murray flood event.

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (11:30): Once again, I join with everyone who has spoken today, all members of this house, in acknowledging the amazing work done by our volunteers, professionals, when it comes to the emergency services in our state. We would be seriously lost without them.

When you sometimes look to the future, look at what has gone on in the Northern Hemisphere, in parts of Europe, in Canada, you just wonder what might be in store in the Southern Hemisphere come the warmer weather and the shift in climate patterns. With those words, once again, I thank all members for their contribution. I commend the report.

Motion carried.

ABORIGINAL LANDS PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE: ABORIGINAL HERITAGE

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (11:33): I move:

That the final report of the committee, entitled Inquiry into Aboriginal Heritage, be noted.

The inquiry into Aboriginal heritage was self-referred by the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee on 15 February 2021. The committee received 36 written submissions from stakeholders and heard from 27 witnesses in the inquiry overall. A consistent theme in the submissions received was that Aboriginal heritage laws in this state and around the nation are severely outdated and in need of urgent attention.

The destruction of the 46,000-year old rock shelters at Juukan Gorge in Western Australia in March 2020 highlights the absolute devastation and cultural and spiritual loss that can occur when sites are destroyed as a result of inadequate Aboriginal heritage laws. When destruction to an ancient heritage site such as this occurs, it is lost forever.

The committee read with interest the subsequent federal parliamentary joint committee report, which led to a renewed call for reforming and modernising Aboriginal cultural heritage protections across the Australian jurisdictions. That joint committee's final report commented that Rio Tinto's actions, and I quote:

...demonstrated the profound lack of care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage in this country. But perhaps the tragedy may, at least, be a catalyst for change.

It is with these remarks in mind that the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee sought to establish just how out of date our state's 1988 Aboriginal heritage legislation is.

The overwhelming stakeholder views received by this committee are that this outdated legislation does not reflect modern-day community expectations for cultural heritage protection. It was enacted prior to native title recognition and requires urgent reform. One only has to look at what happened in Western Australia in 2020 and only recently at the historic Koonalda Cave in the far west of our state for examples of ancient cultural heritage being destroyed.

However, as the joint federal parliamentary committee said, this may be the catalyst for change that we needed. This is the time to modernise Aboriginal cultural heritage protection so that the devastating destruction never happens again. The committee has followed the lead of other jurisdictions, including Western Australia, and recommends that our 1988 Aboriginal Heritage Act be comprehensively reformed by the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs based on the evidence received in the inquiry. This is not an argument to replicate what the Western Australians did. There were some serious deficiencies. It is not every day that you see such a quick repeal of legislation as a result of the response to that legislation.

The committee makes these recommendations over and above the recently proposed amendments to the Aboriginal Heritage Act introduced by the minister. The committee also supports a modernisation of the state's Aboriginal heritage protection regime in accordance with Dhawura Ngilan, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People and the best practice standards in Indigenous cultural heritage management. This includes encouraging free, prior and informed consent to be provided by traditional owners in heritage matters.

Our current 1988 Aboriginal Heritage Act was amended in 2016. The committee received oral and written evidence from many stakeholders suggesting that these reforms have not worked or have not produced the desired outcomes. One major example of this was the introduction of the Recognised Aboriginal Representative Bodies (RARB) to be appointed by the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee. The only Recognised Aboriginal Representative Bodies to be appointed by the committee were the APY Maralinga Tjarutja lands bodies.

The appointed Recognised Aboriginal Representative Bodies were to advise the minister regarding matters affecting Aboriginal heritage with respect to the area for which the RARB is appointed. Registered native title bodies also require approval for RARB status under the act. Where this system has fallen foul of the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee is the requirement that the committee must be satisfied that the applicant RARB is able to represent the views and knowledge of traditional owners of the relevant area. The applicant RARB must also satisfy the model principles recently produced by the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee.

This committee heard that since the amendments commenced operation in 2017, only one RARB has been appointed by the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee. Other applicants have resorted to costly legal proceedings to force the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee to make a decision about their RARB application, whilst others have struggled to respond adequately to the lengthy model principles.

It seems that the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee's main concern about registered native title bodies becoming RARBs for large land areas is that it may not represent all traditional interests. This is always complex. They maintain that a RARB introduces opportunities for planned activities to be amended in favour of avoiding heritage or at least mitigating against its disturbance. It seems that, in their view, not all registered native title bodies are set up to adequately advocate for all traditional owner views of all heritage sites and intangible storylines in existence. Overall, the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee does not see their role as appointing RARBs as a rubberstamping process.

The committee has heard evidence both in favour and against registered native title bodies being appointed as RARBs as a matter of course. We have heard examples where large areas of land covered by registered native title bodies may include areas or sites not always represented by members who sit on those native title bodies but who are nevertheless the traditional owners and knowledge holders of a particular area.

The committee has therefore recommended that the function of a registered native title body that is appointed as a RARB be clarified so as to impose the requirements that it must promote and safeguard the rights of traditional owners of Aboriginal heritage and not be limited to consultation only with members of the native title bodies. The committee also recommends that RARBs be resourced adequately with ongoing support for them to undertake their statutory duties and to ensure compliance with State Aboriginal Heritage Committee's model principles.

The committee was interested in learning how a system of traditional owner identification might also be established in our state in order to assist with providing free, prior and informed consent regarding heritage matters. It heard how the Northern Territory land councils are obliged to maintain a register of traditional owners that can be searched to determine the traditional owners of a particular area.

The committee has recommended that the South Australian Aboriginal Heritage Fund be used to resource a system of traditional owner identification for Aboriginal heritage matters, as this remains intrinsic to the Aboriginal heritage protection system working effectively in the long term. It is vital that this occurs to enable representation to be provided by the true traditional owners of this state's land and waters and to preserve the intangible spiritual connections that may be lost if it is not recorded.

The committee also recommends that intangible heritage be recognised in the definition of Aboriginal heritage in the Aboriginal Heritage Act. The committee supports the expansion of the definition to include all bodily remains, and not just skeletal remains, which has recently been reformed in the Western Australian Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2021.

Numerous stakeholders complained to this committee about the low financial penalties currently provided for the Aboriginal Heritage Act, with South Australia's penalties being significantly lower than those in other jurisdictions. All offences in the act are criminal in nature, with not one fine or successful prosecution imposed since the introduction of the 1988 legislation. The committee was told that this may be due to the burden of proof required in order to secure a prosecution under the act. It is therefore recommended that the financial penalties be significantly increased and that civil

penalties and expiation notices be introduced for harm to Aboriginal heritage, similar to that which has been introduced in other Australian jurisdictions.

Some stakeholders were critical of the current section 23 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act, which allows ministerial authorisations for the damage, disturbance or interference with Aboriginal sites, objects or remains. One such example provided to the committee was the lack of publicly available information on the consultation conducted by the minister when making such authorisations. When the then Premier authorised drilling at Lake Torrens, consultation materials were obtained only as a result of a freedom of information application, which showed that several stakeholders were against this authorisation, including the State Aboriginal Heritage Committee and Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation.

The committee was concerned at the lack of transparency afforded to ministerial authorisations that grant damage and interference with Aboriginal heritage. We therefore recommend that transparency of consultation conducted by the minister be increased, and consultation information be publicly available.

The committee also recommends that the Aboriginal Heritage Act provides for a merits review process to enable such ministerial authorisations to be reviewed on application by traditional owners or proponents. This will limit the need for costly judicial review applications when ministerial authorisations may be granted against the wishes of traditional owners, and provides for a more affordable and quicker access to reviews of decisions that could significantly impact cultural heritage preservation. It is important to note that even major proponents such as BHP support this recommendation.

I also wish to note the committee's recommendation concerning the outdated Roxby Downs (Indenture Ratification) Act 1982 and its reference to the old 1979 Aboriginal Heritage Act in relation to the management by BHP of Aboriginal cultural heritage at Olympic Dam. The 1979 Aboriginal Heritage Act was even more outdated than our current 1988 legislation and provides BHP with indenture rights and legal privileges over and above those currently in existence in heritage protection legislation.

The committee heard evidence about the scale of BHP's operations at Olympic Dam, expected to expand with recent announcements about their operations in the area, and the pressure that the level of water extraction puts on the complex groundwater system of the Great Artesian Basin. Despite BHP committing to voluntarily transition to current 1988 legislative standards, the committee recommends that the required amendments be expedited by the minister in conjunction with the traditional owners of the Lake Eyre area. This would bring BHP into line with, at the very least, the processes and expectations of those contained with the current Aboriginal Heritage Act.

During these inquiries, the committee became aware of recent vandalism inside the Koonalda Cave destroying 30,000-year-old finger flutings. The cave is a registered Aboriginal heritage site and is on the National Heritage List, with the Department for Environment and Water responsible for the site.

After hearing the distressed concerns from the traditional owners of the site, the committee wrote to the Minister for Climate, Environment and Water as well as the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. Three months later, the federal government announced it would provide a \$400,000 grant to assist in protecting the cave with increased security measures at the site. The grant will be administered by the Department for Environment and Water.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Giles, you need to wind it up.

Mr HUGHES: Yes, sir. The committee is encouraged by the response and sincerely hopes the grant will be provided. With those few words, I would like to thank all the committee members for the amazing work they have done on this inquiry and the work they have done in the past. I commend the report.

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (11:48): I rise to endorse and adopt the contribution made just now by the member for Giles. In the short time available to us in this committee time, he has stepped through the bulk of the recommendations in an orderly way.

The one he did not quite get to perhaps address fully is the final and sixth recommendation of the report. It really goes to the heart of what the committee has been able to do in the course of not only this inquiry but others. That sixth recommendation in the report, as the member for Giles adverted, is that the committee found in the course of its work that there was very significant damage that had been done to Koonalda Cave and that there was action that could be taken to, if not rectify it, address and prevent further damage.

The committee firstly wrote to relevant ministers; it had a very significant part to play in the securing of \$400,000 of federal money to better secure the site. At the end, as I say, the final recommendation is that the committee recommends there be proper ongoing consultation between the minister and the Mirning Council of Elders in relation to the expenditure of that \$400,000 grant from the federal government to make sure that we see Koonalda Cave secured and protected.

I dwell on this for a moment because it is work that the committee was able to do in the course of an inquiry precisely of this nature. This inquiry has resulted in publishing six recommendations. It is really one leading recommendation as to the reform of the Aboriginal Heritage Act, and there are seven recommendations within that first one. So there really is quite a thoroughgoing spotlight on what is an aged regime from the 1988 act. As the member for Giles has said, it is legislation that predates the advent of native title and has been moved along over the journey in no small part due to the engagement of this committee in its work now and over the course of many parliaments here in this state over the last 20 years.

In relation in particular to the Koonalda outcomes, this is not the kind of outcome that could have been achieved more easily by the work of a local member or by one or more private members in concert. It is exactly and precisely the kind of thing that can be achieved through the committee process. The committee, in the course of this inquiry, had 36 submissions and 27 oral contributions. The report sets out the wideranging nature of those who were able to engage with the committee in the course of its work. The committee really did afford a wide range of interested, expert and impacted parties the opportunity to engage in a very thoughtful way.

Those who might look more closely at the outcomes, particularly on the Koonalda front, might focus on pages 65 through 67 of the report, which really spell out a way forward. I remain interested, as a private member, to see those very precious and ancient caves properly protected.

It is quite apt that, as we stand here in this house today contemplating the final report into the inquiry into Aboriginal heritage, we are in fact contemplating the final work of the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee. The committee has been wound up. At the end of June the committee ceased to exist, and I think it is a matter of great regret that that has occurred.

The member for Giles, I think among many of us, has observed that the committee has for some time been a committee that affords engagement between the parliament and Aboriginal communities, and it is a committee that might well be reformed over time to improve its capacity to do that work. But, just like members of this place appreciate, it is a committee of the parliament, resourced by the parliament to afford, in a cross-party way, the parliament to go about the important work of engaging in depth with subject matter of importance.

That will no longer be the case. We see, instead, that the government has made a virtue of bringing an end to the committee directly in the same motion as it would move to establish the state First Nations Voice, and we have seen the legislation that will establish the Voice passed earlier this year.

We have heard in recent weeks that elections that were due to take place in September for that body will not take place now until at least March next year. As we sit here in 2023, the report card for parliamentary engagement with Aboriginal communities and issues of importance is one of going significantly backwards. We are facing a period of what might be expected to be at least a year, maybe more, where we have seen the government bring an end to the committee altogether and put what it describes as the appropriate body to replace it in some sort of medium-term hiatus.

I just contrast that again with the model which was proposed by the then Premier and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs in the last parliament, the Hon. Steven Marshall, and which I was proud to reintroduce in this parliament and then argue for by way of amendment in the course of this legislation

with an emphasis on bringing parliamentary committee work, that productive process of this place, in direct connection with those who had advanced the cause of Aboriginal people in this state. It has been rejected by this government and that is a matter to be regretted and it ought be noted loudly and clearly on this occasion.

I am glad that the committee has been able to complete this work. I hope that it is of use to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs as he deliberates on important amendments that are required in reforming the Aboriginal Heritage Act. I commend the report to the house and I hope that at some stage in the future this parliament may see fit to reinstate serious committee work in the interests of Aboriginal people in the state of South Australia.

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL (Dunstan) (11:57): I also rise to make comment on this report into Aboriginal heritage by the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee, which has been received, making important recommendations for a review of the act, which is long overdue. I thank the member for Giles for bringing it to the house's attention today.

As the member for Heysen notes, and in some ways laments, this is the final report of the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee and I thought it would be appropriate at this point to remind the house of the establishment of the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee first introduced in the other place in June 2003 by the Hon. Terry Roberts, then Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation.

It passed through both houses in almost record time and by the middle of July 2003 the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee was formed. Interestingly, in that very first committee, we had the then member for Cheltenham, the Hon. Jay Weatherill, who went on to become the Premier and in some ways a great advocate for Aboriginal affairs and reconciliation in this state. This committee has had many people who have served and learnt about Aboriginal lands in South Australia.

This committee came to an end at the end of last financial year. As the member for Heysen brings to the house's attention, the current hiatus with regard to the alternative is leaving us in a position where we do not have a body as part of this parliament to look into matters that are so pertinent, especially at a time when matters of reconciliation are very much on the national agenda.

I must say, I was very privileged to serve on this committee when I first came to parliament back in 2010, when I was elected on to that committee and I served through to 2012. These were very important times for me learning about the issues associated with people living on Aboriginal lands throughout South Australia. I was very fortunate when I became Premier to appoint myself to the portfolio of Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation—of course, that was done by His Excellency the Governor—and I really thought it was a privilege to serve in that capacity.

This committee has delivered very many important reports to this parliament over its time, not just the Aboriginal heritage inquiry report that we are discussing this morning. Earlier this year, in fact late last year, there was the inquiry into Aboriginal governance—an inquiry that I actually asked the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee to do when I was minister. Other important reports include the Aboriginal languages report, which resulted in quite a considerable investment into recovering the Tanganeakald—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Excuse me, member for Dunstan, would you like to seek leave to continue your remarks or do you wish to finish off?

The Hon. S.S. MARSHALL: I am happy to conclude by saying that there have been many important reports and inquiries conducted by this body over a long period of time, and I regret that we do not have a replacement in place at the moment.

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (12:00): I thank all members for their contribution and commend the report to the house.

Motion carried.

*Parliamentary Procedure***STANDING AND SESSIONAL ORDERS SUSPENSION**

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services) (12:01): I move without notice:

That standing and sessional orders be and remain so far suspended as to enable Private Members Business, Other Motions, Notices of Motion Nos 97 and 98, set down on the *Notice Paper* for 13 September 2023, to take precedence over Government Business forthwith.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: An absolute majority is required. A majority not being present, ring the bells.

An absolute majority of the whole number of members being present:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I accept the motion. Is it seconded?

An honourable member: Yes, sir.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any debate on the motion?

An honourable member: No.

Motion carried.

*Motions***FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP**

Ms HUTCHESSON (Waite) (12:04): I move:

That this house—

- (a) congratulates the Matildas for their incredible efforts at the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023;
- (b) acknowledges the efforts of the volunteers—particularly those in South Australia—who provided countless hours of work to make the World Cup a huge success;
- (c) acknowledges the power this tournament had in advancing gender equality within sport and the broader community;
- (d) welcomes the Malinauskas Labor government's \$18 million investment in women's sport, including \$10 million quarantine for football alongside \$1 million towards legacy efforts; and
- (e) congratulates all players, coaches and officials on all their effort towards the tournament.

'Til It's Done:

'Til we outrun them.

'Til the pain pays off.

'Til we make you roar.

'Til we tell a bigger story.

'Til we settle the score.

'Til we stop them all.

'Til we do you proud.

We're not done, 'Til it's done.

Released just weeks prior to the FIFA Women's World Cup kick-off in Australia and New Zealand, the Matildas' campaign 'Til It's done aimed to rally support for the national football team in the lead-up to and during the World Cup and beyond. Let's face it, they smashed it! Our Matildas may not have won the World Cup, and I am okay with that—I think we are all okay with that—but they won something much more important, and that is the heart of a nation.

A record-breaking 7.2 million Australians watched the semifinal against England on free-to-air TV, making it the most watched TV program in more than two decades. At the 2019 Women's World Cup, 1.39 million Australians tuned in; the difference is striking. Almost two million

people attended a World Cup match in Australia and New Zealand and over 740,000 fans attended FIFA Fan Festivals. The Matildas' journey inspired us all. They definitely made us roar.

It may be said that it was a watershed moment, but what exactly does that mean? If you consult the internet, it suggests the following:

A watershed moment is a turning point, the exact moment that changes the direction of an activity or situation. A watershed moment is a dividing point, from which things will never be the same. It is considered momentous...

I think we can all agree that the Matildas' journey through the World Cup and their lead-up to the challenge have been nothing short of momentous. They absolutely have done us proud and things will never be the same.

Support for the Matildas and the entire FIFA Women's World Cup was, and I think forevermore will be, powerful and transformative. The Matildas' grit and determination faced with the injury of one of the game's legends, Sam Kerr, was outstanding. You could tell by just watching them that they were driven, focused and never going to give up. This inspirational effort has changed not only the sport in this country but women's sport of all types. We are seeing women being celebrated for their strength and talent. This is changing the way women and the roles they can play are seen. This is such an incredible opportunity for young girls. No longer will they play second fiddle to the boys.

The World Cup brought people together all over the world: Australia, New Zealand, everywhere. In South Australia alone, the statistics were incredible. On the pitch, we saw five sold-out matches at Hindmarsh Stadium, including one round of 16. There were 65,757 attendees who experienced the world game at Hindmarsh Stadium, and 53.9 million—let me repeat that: 53.9 million—viewers in China watched the People's Republic of China game against England, the highest reach for a single match anywhere in the world in the tournament, and they were all watching Adelaide. They all know about Adelaide, and that is one of the legacies of this tournament.

We hosted teams from England, China, Brazil, France, Morocco, Korea, Haiti and Panama. Panama and China PR teams called South Australia home for their time in the tournament, with Adelaide selected as their base camp. The fan experience in Adelaide was electric. More than 87,000 fans experienced the two fan sites—the FIFA Fan Festival at Festival Plaza, which offered an official FIFA World Cup experience over the duration of the tournament, and the pop-up live site created at Memorial Drive.

As a first for a FIFA World Cup, the FIFA Fan Festival was a resounding success, with a full capacity of the site for the Australia v England semifinal, and a program of entertainment, including dance, concert series, cultural performances and a showcase of the state's culinary scene drawing crowds. Even pubs and clubs said they saw a huge increase in midweek trade, which is one of the key points of having the World Cup here—to bring trade, to make it worthwhile—and they absolutely smashed it.

That does not account for the people watching at home, with families, friends and neighbours coming together to watch in awe. My own family—my mum, sister, brother-in-law, both aunties and uncles, my son and nephew—and the neighbours all piled into my sister's lounge room to watch the Matildas play.

No other sporting event, no other World Cup has seen that kind of excitement. I was very sad and disappointed to have to fly to Canberra while the semifinal was on. Qantas, shame on you for still having flights with no streaming services after posting such a huge profit, especially on that night. So my sister and I sat not knowing what was happening.

As soon as we landed, I put it on my phone to see England score a goal. People were gathered round me, waiting in the aisle in the plane and we were all watching it. It did not work out for the Matildas, but it did not actually matter. Their job was done. They had captured the nation and they can be proud of what they have achieved, both on and off the field.

In South Australia, the lasting legacy is immense, with a \$53 million redevelopment of Hindmarsh Stadium and an \$18 million commitment from the Malinauskas government to create better accessibility to sport for women and girls. Ten million dollars of that money has been quarantined for football (or soccer as many call it), with Football SA agreeing to match the funding

through a range of sources including clubs, Football Australia, and local and federal governments, securing at least \$28 million for women's and girls' sport in SA.

One thousand attendees were at the sold-out gender equity symposium, The Power of Her. It was an incredible event where you could feel the buzz in the room. Our government anticipated the impact the FIFA Women's World Cup would have on the state. Last year, we announced a \$1 million dollar legacy funding that in part allowed Football SA to deploy development officers to South Australia's regions, resulting in 16 per cent growth to date in the world game outside metropolitan Adelaide and that includes places like the Adelaide Hills, Eyre Peninsula, the Riverland and the Limestone Coast.

Football SA are also anticipating a 50 per cent increase in their school-based competitions by 2026. When we were last in government, 41 projects with a total investment of more than \$42 million were funded through the Female Facilities Program and co-contributions launched in 2015. In a noticeable trend, that program was cut by those opposite. In fact, they jump up and say they brought the World Cup here. Some investigation, though, reveals that they were not too keen on the idea originally. Some may say they might have been dragged kicking and screaming. They do have a very short memory.

In fact, in August 2019 the Marshall government did not want the World Cup. At that time, trade, tourism and investment minister, David Ridgway, said he would not want to displace the AFL fans and, given there was no certainty on who might actually come and play here, they were not going to make a bid for the games. However, a very enlightened Leader of the Opposition at the time said sports fans would be disappointed, particularly young girls who would have been inspired by watching the Matildas play in a home World Cup and that is exactly what happened.

A petition led by our now Minister for Sport, the member for Reynell, with the help of our grassroots soccer clubs, urging the then state government to find a way to host the World Cup was launched and finally those opposite read the room and made a deal. In this government's first budget, we invested \$13.2 million in female facilities and, while not female specific, it is important to note that in the last decade the government has invested more than \$100 million supporting football infrastructure.

As mentioned previously, on the back of the successful World Cup we have now announced a new \$18 million investment to support women's sport. Ten million dollars of that will be quarantined for football and Football SA will partner with us to unlock another \$10 million from other funding sources, be that council, commonwealth government or other supporters. This investment demonstrates our government's steadfast commitment to enable girls and women to equally and actively participate in the sport they love and to truly harness the momentum of the tournament.

Football fever, as it could be referred to, is still raging. Locally for me, our own Sturt Lions have launched Monday night come-and-try sessions and at the one on Monday just gone they saw 44 new girls turn up. That is an incredible story, but it is not just the girls; the boys were enthralled by the Matildas' journey as well. I attended the round of 16 match where France took on Colombia.

I went with my sister, friend and his daughter Talia, who is nine years old. She is a big football fan and a player. In front of us, about 10 rows down, my brother was there with his daughter, another football player aged 12. They were loving it and they were inspired, and also sitting next to me were three boys, maybe aged 11 to 12, who were right into it as well. They told me that they wanted Colombia to win because that would be better for Australia. Their mum and older brothers were sitting behind us and they were constantly on their feet, cheering and making suggestions.

It was so lovely to see these boys watching sport—not women's sport, just sport. That is the legacy: to these boys, women's sport is just sport. No longer will it play second fiddle to the men's game and, let's face it, you see more of the game when women do play as they spend less time rolling around on the ground carrying on like pork chops and just get on with the game. Boys, it is time to play like a girl.

The support for the Matildas from this fan festival is huge. More Matildas jerseys were sold during this World Cup compared with the Men's World Cup in Qatar—not just more, but double—and 150,000 people signed a petition to have Nike make replica goalie jerseys after they refused to do

so. They are now going to make them. Let's face it, Mackenzie Arnold was a national hero after 17 minutes of nailbiting penalty shootout with 49,500 fans roaring in the background. She won the game for us.

The Matildas have done us proud, but their journey is not done yet. Their campaign 'Til It's Done rages on. They were there to do their best in the game, but that is only half of what they have set out to achieve. I found the following tribute to the Matildas and their campaign:

Matildas—'Til It's Done

If 'it' was inspiring an entire generation of young girls, it's done.

If 'it' was uniting a nation, it's done.

If 'it' was bringing millions of people on a journey, it's done.

If 'it' was making people who have never watched or followed the game fall in love with it, it's done.

If 'it' was making a country fall in love with you, it's done.

If 'it' was opening the eyes of thousands of people who didn't understand the magnitude and impact women's sport could have, it's done.

If 'it' was changing the way female athletes are perceived, it's done.

If 'it' was giving your absolute all for your country and each other, it's done.

If 'it' was breaking records so we can start breaking down systemic barriers, it's done.

Whether it was none or all of those things, it's done anyway, and we thank you, Matildas.

But they are not done yet. They have a few more things to do, according to their campaign which was developed by Ogilvy in collaboration with Football Australia. They have four more things to cross off their list. They are, and I quote:

grassroots football gets funded

we bring it at Paris 2024

we go again in 2027

we leave a legacy...

We're not done #tilitsdone.

We say: bring it, Matildas. We are all behind you 'Til It's Done.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley) (12:16): I am the lead speaker for the opposition on this particular motion. I am pleased to present to you, sir, especially yourself as a football fan, even if I might think it is the wrong team. I would like to move an amendment to the motion. I would like to support most of the motion. However, I move:

Remove paragraph (d) of the motion and insert as follows:

- (d) calls on the Malinauskas Labor government to further invest in women's sporting events, infrastructure and programs;

There is no doubt that we are so proud of the Matildas for their absolutely incredible efforts at the FIFA Women's World Cup. They did tremendously well. The overwhelming majority of South Australians—and, in fact, millions and millions of Australians—tuned in to watch their games like never before. In fact, the World Cup semifinal between England and Australia brought in some say a peak viewership of around 11 million viewers, with a match average of roughly seven million. That is absolutely extraordinary. These figures mean that that match between the Matildas and England was actually the single most viewed program in Australian television history since the current recording system began.

I, too, acknowledge the efforts of the volunteers, particularly those in South Australia. What a privilege it was to be able to go to some of these games and witness the volunteers and also the staff who gave their all to help put on several fantastic games here in South Australia. Those volunteers have provided countless hours of work to make the World Cup a huge success.

I was grateful to meet the FIFA president, Gianni Infantino. I thought, 'Do I or don't I? Do I go and say hello or I do not?' Gianni Infantino: congratulations to you, sir, and thank you very much for putting your faith in Australia, in South Australia. What a privilege it was to meet him. He was highly complimentary of Coopers Stadium. That might allow me to also talk a little bit about the former Liberal government's investment in Coopers Stadium.

Our government at the time provided funding for the \$53 million upgrade to Hindmarsh Stadium, Coopers Stadium, in preparation for the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup. It is very clear that without the upgrade to that stadium we would not have been able to host games in Adelaide. It is as simple as that, and it is something that we should be very proud of: that we, as a former government, were able to invest in these facilities, but the government before us did not. Coopers Stadium is a clear example of that.

The current government has a long way to go when it comes to infrastructure, especially in women's sport. We know that at the moment grounds are at capacity right across the state. While this might be a good start, it is certainly not enough. In life, you have summer friends and you have winter friends. During the summer, we know that everyone wants to be friends with you but what about in the winter? What I am saying is that I smell somewhat of a pattern by this government, that when things are popular, of course they want to jump on the bandwagon. Women's sport in this town needs more investment than it is getting now.

I will give you an example of that. Do you know when it was that the Matildas last played here in South Australia? Do you know when it was? It was a long time ago. We got a game here in 2019, but before that time the Matildas had not played here in a decade. They had not played here in a decade, so if this Premier and this government are serious about supporting the Matildas and supporting women's sport in this town, why does the Premier not lobby to get the Matildas here to South Australia? Right here, right now, today, what I am doing is asking the Premier to do whatever it takes to get the Matildas here in South Australia.

The Hon. N.F. Cook: No, you are rewriting history, mate.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: What part of that is history? In 2019—but before that they did not play here for a decade. They did not play here for a decade. It is an absolute disgrace.

The Hon. N.F. Cook: We're talking about you and your passion about female sport, mate.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: Love female sport, love it.

The Hon. N.F. Cook: Yes, I bet. That is why you cancelled the female change room program.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Odenwalder): Order! The minister will not interject, and the shadow minister will not respond to interjections.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: Thank you, sir. We know the World Cup brought together 32 magnificent different teams from across the world, the contest, as we have heard, selling around two million tickets; it is absolutely extraordinary stuff. As I said, it is important that governments of both persuasions continue to invest in women's sport, whether it be programs or facilities.

We know that many of these facilities are at capacity at the moment, and that is why I cannot understand the prerogative of this planning minister, who makes comments about things like the Magill uni campus site. Do you know what is on that site at the moment, sir? Guess what? There is a soccer pitch. Every single week in my electorate—and it is not just my electorate, there are other electorates as well—at the moment hundreds of kids play on that soccer pitch.

But do you know what this planning minister wants to talk about? He wants to talk about a master plan. He wants to talk about potential housing developments going on some of that uni land. It is all well and good to talk about fluffy motions, it is all well and good to talk about things when they are popular, but remember what I said about summer friends and winter friends. You do not just get to play elite sport. Do you know where it starts? At the junior level. This government needs to take consideration of this matter and invest in sport at the grassroots, not always when it is popular, by the way. This is what we need: we need courage from this government to actually invest in the future, invest in our junior teams and our women.

Members interjecting:

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Odenwalder): Order!

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: We did not cut anything. What are you talking about?

Members interjecting:

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: What are you talking about?

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Odenwalder): Order, members on my right! I am sure someone will get the chance to rebut these arguments.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: The record will show that if the former Liberal government did not invest in Coopers Stadium we would not have got games in Adelaide—and that is all she wrote. That is it, that is a matter of fact. I always wanted the World Cup here, and I was very grateful that we got it. What can I say? I was very grateful that we got it.

China and England, what a fantastic game that Adelaide was able to host, and with France and Morocco the town was alive. If the government is going to go after these events, I would welcome the government going after world-class events that bring vibrancy to this state. If they come up with a good idea, I will back it in 100 per cent. The town was alive like I have not seen in several years.

We even had the Moroccans here, some social media influencers from Morocco. They were very impressed to be here in South Australia. We brought them into the chamber, we showed them the beautiful tapestries that we have here and we told them about the proud progressive nature that we have had in South Australia and about our strong record on things when it comes to the women's suffragette movement here in this state. My point is that South Australia was on show to all the world—and we passed with flying colours. The city was alive. There were certainly scenes that we have not seen in several years, that is for sure.

Because the success of the Matildas has been so well received and has been so good, we know that now there is going to be extra demand when it comes to soccer in our community clubs, when it comes to soccer in our schools. There is going to be increasing demand, and that is why I plead with this government to do things smartly and make sure that they do invest in our grounds, in our infrastructure, in our programs, in grounds like the Magill university campus.

That campus cannot turn into high-rise housing. There is a soccer pitch right there at the moment. That needs to be preserved. Open space needs to be preserved, and we have to continue to invest in these facilities. We know that women's sport has got better and better, and we as an opposition will continue to support women's sport and build on our proud history wherever we can. I commend the amended motion to the house.

S.E. ANDREWS (Gibson) (12:26): I rise to speak in support of the motion. My biggest congratulations to the Matildas on Australia's most successful football campaign at a World Cup ever. I think none of us are ever going to forget those 17 minutes, the longest penalty shootout we have ever experienced. What an exciting time that was. The fact that they held their resolve and won that game is an absolute credit to them and it will never be forgotten.

What this World Cup gave us was that we saw women being celebrated for their strength, for their compassion towards each other and their professionalism. That is their legacy. We did not spend time obsessing on the fact that 100 of those players we saw playing in the Women's World Cup are out as gay. We did not spend time obsessing about differences and cultural diversity as the player from Morocco was the first ever in a FIFA World Cup game to wear a hijab. These football players gave women visibility.

We celebrated them for who they are, and they achieved this despite having careers in which they did not have the development opportunities that men have always had. We think of Sam Kerr. She started playing her sport of choice, Australian Rules, and came to football late in the scene because Australian Rules did not have a place for her. So many of us in our sporting lives as women have not had development opportunities that we would like to see, yet despite all this we have been successful.

Unfortunately, at this Women's World Cup, we only received 25 per cent of the prize money that men receive if they win a World Cup. In response to women calling this out, the FIFA president says, 'Well, women should just come and knock on the door,' yet they are well aware that we do not get equal pay. This is not women's responsibility to knock on the door; in fact, FIFA have the money now to pay women equally, and they choose not to. Part of the problem is that only four of the 29 people of the executive committee members of FIFA are women. It is no surprise that women's voices are not heard at this level. We need representation at all levels of this game.

It was fantastic to see all the referees, officials and our lineswomen at all the games, yet we do need more managers at all levels of the game. I know that, as a woman having played football for so much of my life, I have never had a female coach. I know that so many of us would really respond so positively to the opportunities and understanding of having a female coach, and we really need to take this opportunity to develop more females into managerial roles in this sport. I think it is worth noting, too, that internationally we have a long way to go. Prince William is the head of the Football Association in the United Kingdom. He did not come to Australia despite the fact that we are in the commonwealth.

He did not come to watch the Lionesses play in the final of the World Cup. That says a lot. I suspect he might have been there if the men were playing in the World Cup. However, he did kindly take some time to create a video sitting next to his daughter—not his sons, his daughter—because only girls care about women's football. We have absolutely proved that wrong, as the member for Waite said. In his video he said to the Lionesses to 'go out and enjoy yourselves'. He is not taking our game seriously. We have a long way to go and this is our opportunity to build on the legacy that the Matildas gave us.

I am proud to say, though, that our Premier has read the room. He wishes to celebrate women in sport and acknowledge this as an opportunity to build on the success of the Matildas as he announced \$18 million for women's sport in South Australia with \$10 million of that quarantined for women's football, and with clubs in Gibson still lacking female facilities this is very welcome. It will not be forgotten by sports players in Gibson that it was our previous member and the previous sports minister who cut the program for female sports facilities. We are here to build it back. We want girls and women to have the same opportunities as men.

We know that all the games at Hindmarsh were sold out, as they were across the country, and it was brilliant to go to many of those games and see the diversity of the crowds. We have families attending women's football events, we have young boys asking whether there is a male Matildas team and we have a whole bunch of people who are watching football for the first time in their lives and really getting excited and backing the Matildas.

This diversity of crowds creates an inclusive culture, and I would like to acknowledge women's sport for creating that. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers who spent an awful lot of their own time to make this campaign such a success. They really were brilliant at their jobs because as you attended the games you probably hardly noticed them so seamless were they in their operations.

I would like to once again thank our Premier for seeing the opportunity that the Matildas legacy has presented us and so quickly responding and giving an investment in women's sport in South Australia.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: State of the house, sir.

A quorum having been formed:

Mrs PEARCE (King) (12:35): I would also like to thank the Matildas for their exceptional sportsmanship, both on and off the field during the FIFA Women's World Cup. I have mentioned a few times in this place that you cannot be what you cannot see, and these incredible women captivated an entire nation, showing just how incredible women in sport can be.

Among the many inspired are two lovely girls from my local community—Darcy and Poppy Jo. Darcy is a rising star at St Augustines Soccer Club, an incredible club based in Salisbury Park. She also dreams of playing for our state team and is someone I believe has a bright future ahead of her. I do note, however, that with her family originating from England her loyalties during the cup may

have been a little torn, much like another member in this chamber currently, who I am aware may have originated from England. There may be one game we will not discuss when we catch up next, but what is absolutely certain is that this cup showed her that it can be done, that there is a place for her in the future of this sport.

Poppy Jo is another rising star in my community who is kicking goals at the Salisbury East Junior Soccer Club. In fact, this incredible club tells me that Poppy Jo is an amazing little person with the best personality. She was absolutely over the moon during the cup. I hope she enjoyed every moment of seeing our dear Matildas absolutely thrive and make cup history for our country.

I am sure that seeing something she holds dear celebrated on the world stage has absolutely locked in her determination to one day be there, wearing the green and gold and doing us all proud. In fact, I hope that not only these two incredible girls but all girls in our community were inspired by what they saw during the cup. Perhaps for some it does not necessarily ignite a passion for soccer (or, as many would correct me, football), but maybe it helps show that women can dominate in a field traditionally associated with men, which is just as special and important.

The cup in so many ways was an incredible feat, and with that in mind I would also like to thank those who worked behind the scenes and all the volunteers who helped make the cup what it was. The countless hours they have put in have certainly paid off. I am proud that we as a government will ensure the Matildas history-making FIFA Women's World Cup campaign will leave a lasting legacy here in South Australia, through delivering an \$18 million grant program over the next three years for dedicated female sporting facilities and improvements that help grow female participation. I am even happier that Football South Australia has agreed to match the \$10 million of grants allocated for soccer, dollar for dollar, through a range of funding sources, including clubs, Football Australia, local and federal government.

Growing up participating in sports traditionally associated with the boys was not much of an option for me. Too often I was told that I could not do some of the things my brother could do because, what if I hurt myself. I know it came from a good place, but I do not want to utter these words to my daughter because I know how disempowering such a comment can be, and I am glad to see that things are changing. I am proud that in my son's football team we have three incredible girls who in fact I would say are some of our team's best players. Halle is absolutely made for the wing, no-one can tackle like Jaya and young Meadow is fiercely determined and gives it her all.

We also have incredible women's football teams in the north-east, with special mention to Golden Grove Football Club and Modbury Hawks Football Club. In fact, a huge congratulations to 'mad dog' Katie and the Bs crew, who took out an outstanding win in the grand final last Saturday. I want to help encourage more of this, to help deliver more of a level playing field for girls and boys, and this investment will make a tremendous difference. The Matildas have shown us that nothing is impossible, and I am absolutely here for that. Yeah, the girls!

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (12:39): I rise today to address the success both on and off the pitch of the recent FIFA Women's World Cup, hosted both here in Australia and across the ditch in New Zealand. Our Matildas captured the heart of the nation with their captivating performances throughout the group stage and all the way through to the third-place play-off, the furthest any Australian team has ever gone at a FIFA World Cup. The magnificent FIFA Fan Festival, just next door at Festival Plaza, was a great place to go to watch the games on big screens, keeping warm around the fire pits, grabbing a bite to eat with eyes glued to the screen, along with the other fans. The atmosphere there was electric.

This is exactly what I did, along with thousands of other fans, for all three of the Matildas group stage games. I was fortunate enough to attend the quarterfinal against France in Brisbane, and it illustrated to me just how far we have come as a nation with our sport. Football fans, young and old, were at Suncorp Stadium that day. I saw young girls and boys with the name of their favourite Matilda on the back of their shirt. I saw fans with handmade signs for their favourite players, but, most significantly, I saw and was part of a sold-out crowd of 50,000 people at a female sporting event.

On top of this, the quality of the football was incredible. It was one of the most entertaining games I have ever been to, including A-League games and international Premier League games.

The penalty shootout was incredibly nerve-racking, but thanks to some heroics from our outstanding goalkeeper, Mackenzie Arnold, it quickly became a very memorable night, with Ellie Carpenter, Tameka Yallop, Katrina Gorry, Mary Fowler, Sam Kerr and Caitlin Foord scoring penalty shots before Cortnee Vine's winning penalty that took the Matildas into the semifinal of the 2023 FIFA World Cup. The crowd roared, people were jumping in the air, and strangers were hugging each other. What a moment.

This World Cup has, far more than anything, highlighted the need for further investment in the world game across the board to support female participation in sport. This is why I welcome the commitment by the Malinauskas state government of an \$18 million grant program over the next three years for dedicated female sporting facilities and to promote female participation in sport, with \$10 million of it allocated to football, or soccer, as it is often referred to in Australia.

Locally, in my electorate of Torrens, the North Eastern MetroStars Soccer Club, who on Tuesday night made history by qualifying for their first ever Australia Cup quarter-final and found out last night in the draw that they will be up against A-League club Melbourne City, are starting in September on inclusive change facilities at their home ground T.K. Shutter Reserve in Klemzig. I know this will be most welcome by the Metro United women's team as well as their opposition teams.

Investment in local women's sport is so important because we know our Matildas did not just start off at the top. They came from grassroots football clubs around the country. Two of them, Charlotte Grant and Alex Chidiac, started off right here in South Australia. It is becoming increasingly obvious that in the future, to keep our Matildas and other national sporting teams competitive with high-profile sporting nations in the world, we need to start at the grassroots.

The investment by our government in women's sport will help us to continue to ride the wave of enthusiasm for the world game that the Matildas have brought us and enable more young girls and women to participate and eventually become the next generation of Matildas who will go on to win the FIFA World Cup. Congratulations, Matildas, coaches and support staff in the 2023 FIFA World Cup. You did Australia proud.

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) (12:43): Mr Acting Speaker, 102 years ago the first women's football game in Australia was held at the Brisbane Cricket Ground. Just after that, the English Football Association banned women's football, with the FA arguing that, quote, 'The game of football is quite unsuitable for females and ought not to be encouraged,' a statement for which they have rightly subsequently apologised.

In the seventies, eighties and nineties, the first Matildas trained in the dim light of car headlights and fundraised to raise their fares to compete. On 24 July 2006, 400 spectators rolled into the Marden Sports Complex to watch Australia's final group game of the 2006 AFC Women's Asian Cup against Thailand. The Matildas won 5-0 and went on to play in the final, losing to China on penalties. If I took a straw poll, I am confident there would be many who would not know that Adelaide hosted that brilliant tournament, let alone that the Matildas made the final. It almost seems unfathomable to say that out loud but it is the true reality of how far support for women's football has come.

Sam Kerr, Mary Fowler, Hayley Raso and Caitlin Foord are now, rightly, household names and athletes who have inspired a generation to follow their dreams. We wholeheartedly celebrate them, we love them, we are inspired by them—as we are by those who have come before, those who blazed the trail. Dianne Alagich, Sharon Black, Moya Dodd, Sonia Gegenhuber, Tracey Jenkins, Kristy Moore and Kristyn Swaffer are just some of the South Australians who represented the Matildas in the times when women's football, indeed women's sport, was shamefully an afterthought. I acknowledge their hard work and toil, hard work and toil before any conversation about what this nation has just experienced at this brilliant FIFA Women's World Cup.

There are so many moments that stand out for me—moments of joy during the FIFA Women's World Cup. I remember being there during that 17-minute penalty shootout at the FIFA Fan Festival. I looked around for a moment and I realised I was hemmed in by about 50 young men, probably in their 20s, who were all wildly cheering.

When we announced our significant \$18 million investment into women's sport, I remember meeting young Gisela Morrow, who absolutely wants to follow in the footsteps of these Matildas. I remember the excitement of a number of people in the crowd at Hindmarsh when, in the Moroccan team, there was a player who played in her hijab. It was the first time ever that a woman in the Women's World Cup had played in the hijab.

I remember that at our incredible The Power of Her so many women from so many diverse communities said that through the Women's World Cup they saw themselves being celebrated. I recognise the incredibly powerful role that sport, and this magnificent Women's World Cup, plays in advancing equality. Seeing women being celebrated as they were on the world stage for being strong, physical, powerful, not on the sidelines and not judged for how they looked, absolutely transforms the way that women—and the roles that they can play—are seen, giving us an unprecedented opportunity for change.

I honour the women we watched in this World Cup, I honour those first Matildas who trained in those dim car headlights and I honour all individual athletes throughout history who have seized moments to make a difference. As sad as it is that the astonishing Women's World Cup has concluded, we have a moment before us. It is a moment steeped in unique power to enable us to impact all that our communities and our world confronts, to lift women up, and a moment that follows other moments for change that other women in sport have seized:

- Kathrine Switzer entering the 1967 Boston Marathon using an alias, as women were prohibited amidst concerns that distance running would be damaging to their health;
- Billie Jean King embracing the Battle of the Sexes moment to elevate the status of women's tennis forever;
- Yusra Mardini, after fleeing her home to escape the brutality of war and traversing the most difficult of journeys to reach safety, stepping back into the pool to compete on the world stage with the Refugee Olympic Team; and
- away from sport, Rosa Parks refusing to move, utterly rejecting segregation and strengthening the civil rights movement forever.

Together, let us harness this powerful opportunity that comes from the FIFA Women's World Cup for change and make a difference—and make a difference we must, for girls and women across the globe, because:

- across the globe, 130 million girls are prevented from attending school;
- across a woman's lifetime, she will earn less, accumulate less retirement savings and be more likely to live her old age in poverty;
- women in this country are impacted by violence every single day, with 39 per cent of us having experienced sexual or physical violence, with this fact significantly worse for women facing intersecting forms of inequality;
- there are teams who competed in this recent Women's World Cup who relied on GoFundMe pages to attend; and
- women continue to be under-represented in leadership, including in sport.

In football, we sometimes push forward and then fall back, but we win when we work together. With the largest sporting event in the world having been on our shore, this is our opportunity here in South Australia to embrace, ignite and harness the role of women and the unprecedented opportunity to push for equality. Achievements towards gender equality in sport here in South Australia look like:

- five sold-out matches at Hindmarsh Stadium;
- 53.9 million viewers in China who watched the China PR v England match played here at Hindmarsh Stadium;
- more than 87,000 fans who experienced the two fan sites here in Adelaide;

- pubs and clubs across the state seeing an increase in trade;
- an increase in girls and boys participating in football, with at least a 16 per cent growth in participation in our regional communities, an anticipated 50 per cent increase in Football SA's school-based competitions and an expected 33 per cent increase in participation of girls and women over the next three years; and
- clubs across South Australia experiencing a huge increase in requests from parents looking to find a team for their future Matildas, reporting that their inboxes are literally exploding with requests from parents looking for a team for their child to play in or for a team for themselves.

As you can tell, South Australia absolutely and proudly embraced this transformational moment. It is a moment that we shamefully almost would not have participated in given the utter disregard those opposite have for women's sport. We will not be supporting the amendment of the shadow minister. I was there. I heard the then minister, Mr Ridgway, speak about the fact publicly that they would not participate in the bid. It is on record, it is in print, and it is absolutely a fact. Also, his call was supported by others who are still in this place. It was when we went to clubs and worked with them to develop a petition that called and called on the government to change its mind.

We will not be supporting that motion. Particularly we will not be supporting it from those who cruelly cut—again, it is a fact—the \$24 million dedicated Female Facilities Program. They did so with \$10 million of grant funding that people had already applied for. Clubs across the state had already applied for the last round of that funding, the \$10 million round, and yet those opposite cruelly cut that program. It was shameful—absolutely shameful.

I was not actually going to speak about this today, but when I heard the shadow minister speak in the way that he did about their record I was compelled to raise these terrible issues. Whatever he says in here, the community knows. The community absolutely knows, so we will not be supporting the amendment.

Finally, thank you again to everybody who made the FIFA Women's World Cup possible. I look forward to harnessing the power for change that comes as a part of the legacy of this incredible event.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Odenwalder): Minister, thank you; you have had enough injury time.

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (12:54): It is with great pleasure that I make a small contribution on this motion, which I support. When trying to think of a way of doing this, I asked my staff what their greatest memories were of the Matildas, in a quick sentence. Denise from my office said her everlasting memory of the Women's World Cup was when Sam Kerr took on three players and scored the goal of the tournament.

The response from Trav, my office manager and a sporting tragic of basketball and soccer and almost everything else—the hours he dedicates to local sport are quite phenomenal—was Mackenzie Arnold's performance in the quarterfinal penalty shootout against France. To remain 100 per cent focused, after missing a match-winning goal, and lead the team to victory was his highlight.

Ilana, my research officer, said, 'Sitting in my lounge room on a Saturday night with my two teenage daughters, who would normally be more interested in being in their rooms looking at their phones, and watching them cheer on the Matildas was such a special moment. It was exciting to see their interest in women's sport and what they can achieve themselves.' It was quite unbelievable how the entire nation got behind the Matildas.

My memory of it all was being at a local Aussie Rules football match on the Saturday. After the game (Souths played Easts), the clubrooms, which are very big clubrooms, held about 250 people, and every TV in the clubrooms had the Matildas on. There were 250 people—old, young, male, female—barely speaking to each other, just fixated on the TV, genuinely supporting our Matildas. There was nothing fake about it; it was a genuine desire and pleasure to see female sport at the highest level, with the highest skill set, being played in Australia. There was a moment when I

felt great pride, I suppose, having two daughters myself, that Australia was coming together to support our own.

In terms of my family, I left during that match, and when I got home our children were all there in the lounge room watching the penalty shootout. What an amazing experience! Two or three times I said, 'We're going to win it. We're going to get this penalty in,' but we would miss, so my wife very quickly told me to be quiet and not to call the winning goal. On the last one, I said, 'I don't think we're going to get this,' because we were so deep into our players shooting, but of course that was the winning goal.

On a brother-sister level, I found it quite amazing that our son, who is 17, was quite often going to McDonalds not just for the thick shakes but to grab the playing cards to give to his sister, who was collecting them. As a dad, that was really quite special.

On a slightly sad note, we were aiming to host an A-League women's soccer match between Adelaide United and Western United this December in Mount Gambier. Shane Dycer rang me this morning and said that would not be progressing, but it would be on the cards for next year. I was confident we would get between 4,000 and 6,000 people in Mount Gambier for that women's A-League soccer match.

I do thank the government for the support around that—and I will be looking for its next year as well. It is pleasing to see so much money going into female sport and, obviously not forgetting the regions, making sure that some of the \$18 million goes into our regional areas. With that, I commend the motion. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Sitting suspended from 13:00 to 14:00.

Parliamentary Procedure

ANSWERS TABLED

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

Ministerial Statement

FALSE REQUIREMENTS TO REPLACE GAS APPLIANCES

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:00): I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I have been made aware of accusations made on FIVEaa that customers are being told by contractors that if they change their gas water heater to an electric water heater there is a legal requirement in South Australia for customers to change over all their gas appliances to electric appliances. No such requirement exists.

The government is concerned to hear multiple reports of various operators, including a major industry player, telling customers it was a government requirement to remove all gas appliances from their property and change to electrical alternatives, at considerable cost. Any South Australian who receives this advice should report it to the Office of the Technical Regulator, either by calling them on 1300 760 311 or by sending them an email at otr.plumbregulator@sa.gov.au.

In response, the South Australian government will take action and penalties apply. A \$315 fine, plus the victims of crime levy, applies for performing noncompliant work. The Office of the Technical Regulator will also refer allegations of misleading conduct to the Commissioner of Consumer and Business Services, as there are a range of civil and criminal penalties that apply for breaches of Australian Consumer Law. For offences relating to unfair practices, such as false and misleading representations, bait advertising and wrongful accepting payment:

- a body corporate can be fined up to \$50 million, and

- an offence committed by a person other than a body corporate can face fines of up to \$2.5 million.

In addition to the Australian Consumer Law, the Office of Consumer Business Services can take disciplinary action in regard to the contractor's licence that could result in suspension or cancellation.

To be clear, there is no such requirement in South Australia to replace appliances when changing your water heater. I am warning operators that we will fine and even ban companies that engage in this type of conduct.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would like to acknowledge visitors in the gallery today. The following people have been brought to my attention: there are members and their partners of the Probus Club of Flagstaff Hill, as guests of the member for Davenport. There are also year 3 to year 6 students from Swan Reach Area School, and they are the guests of the member for Chaffey.

I also have in the gallery, brought to my attention, Alan and Christine Hall and Georgie Cornish, who is the Deputy Chief Officer of the CFS, who are guests of the member for MacKillop. Author John Wilson is also in the gallery today.

As guests of the member for Mawson, we have the Japanese delegation who sell Kangaroo Island products in Japan. They are from the following companies: Hirata Industry, Pal System and Kanematsu Corporation. Welcome to our parliament.

Question Time

AMBULANCE RAMPING

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (14:04): My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier guarantee that ramping will be reduced to 2018 levels and, if so, by when? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS: Some 3,354 hours were lost on the ramp in July 2023, which is 2,701 more hours than in February 2018, the last full month of the 16-year-old Labor government.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:05): I thank the Leader of the Opposition for his question. As the Leader of the Opposition is well aware, and I think many people within the public health system and the broader South Australian public are aware, this state government is throwing an extraordinary amount of resources addressing the challenge that we have in South Australia about growing hospital demand and what we can do to make sure that ramping is reduced.

An honourable member interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member on my left, you have asked a question; wait for the response.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: We made it very clear that our objective was to reduce ramping to the extent that—and those opposite would go back and familiarise themselves with the huge amount of commentary on the public record—we can get ambulances rolling up on time. To that end—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: That's what fixing ramping means. Fixing ramping means reducing ramping so that ambulances roll up on time. That's exactly what we said at the time and that's exactly what we are getting on with delivering. What we are aiming to get back down to—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Premier, just hold on a second. Members on my left, can you please listen to the answers. I call a number of members to order. You don't want to leave today, I can assure you.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: The objective of the government is to get ambulance response times back down to 2018 levels, and the reason why we want to do that is because when this government was elected to office two out of three times when South Australians called 000 with an emergency response being required, two out of three times the ambulance didn't roll up on time and people were literally dying waiting for an ambulance—literally dying waiting for an ambulance. What we have done is invest heavily in our public hospital system—

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members on my left! The member for Morialta is brought to attention and given a first warning. The member for Schubert is brought to attention and given her second warning. The member for Frome is also brought to attention and given her first warning. The member for Chaffey is brought to attention and given his first warning. On the third warning, you will leave.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: What we have done is methodically invest in a lot more resources that are progressively being rolled out through the system to the extent that I think that we've now got about 130 extra ambulance officers working within the system. We have literally hundreds more beds in the system than was the case only 15 to 16 months ago.

The results of that are starting to manifest themselves. What we have seen over the last three months during the course of this winter is a dramatic improvement in performance in our public health system. That is not to suggest that there isn't more work to be done. But in the month of May, May versus May last year, dramatic improvement; June versus June last year, dramatic improvement; July versus July last year, dramatic improvement.

The system this winter is performing demonstrably better than was the case in the last winter and that is a trend that we have the objective to continue. It won't be easy. There is more work to be done, but this minister and this government have made it a priority and we are seeing results.

More than that, when South Australians call 000 today versus what was the case when we came to office, we now know that the ambulance is rolling up on time—the ambulance is rolling up on time—to the tune of almost twice the rate of what was the case 15 months ago. So on every objective metric we see a stark contrast in terms of the performance of the health system, particularly when it comes to emergency responses, which is what matters to 000 calls and which is what South Australians rely on most.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Schubert, the member for Morialta is on his second warning and the member for Colton is on his first warning.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I advise that the Flagstaff Hill Probus Club has just entered the gallery. They are guests of the member for Davenport. Welcome.

The member for Schubert, and I actually want to hear the response too.

Question Time

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

Mrs HURN (Schubert) (14:10): My question is to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Does the minister guarantee that construction works of the emergency department waiting room at the Royal Adelaide Hospital will be completed by October this year? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mrs HURN: It has been publicly confirmed that a transportable is being used as a temporary waiting room and triage centre while the RAH ED waiting room undergoes a construction. On 18 August, the Central Adelaide Local Health Network Interim Chief Director, Rachael Kay, said on FIVEaa, 'We hope by the end of October to be able to open the new waiting room.'

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurua—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:10): Certainly the advice I have is that that's on track for October, for that that project to be complete. This project is important. This has been designed by our clinicians. The clinicians have looked at contemporary models that are operating in emergency departments across the country, looking at innovative models in terms of how to best maintain flow through the emergency department and, importantly, allowing an area for fast track of people, to be able to start their work in terms of blood tests or other pathology that might be required, or other tests might be required as people first come into the emergency department, which means that ultimately their treatment can be faster and the length of time that they spend in the emergency department can be faster.

We have certainly supported the clinicians in terms of the work that they have identified to do. We thank people for their patience while those works need to be done. The works have been funded through the Health's Charitable Gifts Fund—donations to the hospital—and we think that, based on the feedback we have had from our frontline clinicians, that will provide a benefit in terms of improving people's experience as people get through the emergency department.

Of course, that is not the whole answer to the picture. Of course, we know that is just one piece of the puzzle that needs to be done to address the issues that we face in terms of our hospital system. However, we think that, when we have a proposal that is put forward by the clinicians in a sensible way where they have done the research, that deserves to be supported.

But, of course, we know that we need the throughput through the hospital. We know that one of the issues we have, and a really significant issue that leads to ramping and that leads to the delayed response times, is the people who get stuck in the emergency departments waiting for a bed because there are no beds for them to get to.

So the vast majority of our investments and capital infrastructure are about creating that additional capacity elsewhere in the hospital system. Particularly one of those issues that faces the Royal Adelaide and the Central Adelaide Local Health Network that is very significant is in terms of mental health patients, who spend sometimes days in the emergency department because there are not enough mental health beds.

That is why a very significant amount of the extra investments that we are making is in terms of additional mental health beds to enable those patients to get the treatment they need for very serious mental health conditions in appropriate wards, meaning that they are not stuck in the emergency department and people can continue to flow through the emergency department and use those beds.

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

Mrs HURN (Schubert) (14:13): My question is to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Has the minister received any advice on risks to patient and staff safety in relation to the temporary emergency department waiting room at the Royal Adelaide Hospital? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mrs HURN: *The Advertiser* on 18 August reported that the temporary waiting room barely has room for new arrivals to queue to be seen, with the desk close to the sliding automatic doors opening, and that the small entrance was chaos as patient, staff, wheelchairs and barouches, and more, jostled for space coming and going.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurua—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:14): This is something I have certainly had discussions on with the Central Adelaide Local Health Network, before and since that arrangement has been put in place, to make sure that we are doing everything that we possibly can to assist patients during the interim while that construction work is undertaken. I think a key element that hasn't been mentioned by the shadow minister is there is still part of the existing waiting room which can be used as an overflow area. If there is a high demand in the emergency department then that area can be used in terms of a waiting room as well.

There has also been a lot of work done in terms of making sure that not only in that waiting room there is a comparable number of seats to what the previous waiting room had but that also

there is the same amount of triage space for triage staff, and also that there are areas for people to get initial treatment inside that area before they are transitioned into the emergency department. Of course, we want that project to be done as soon as possible. Involving these construction sites, we always appreciate people's patience during that period, both the staff and the people using it, the patients coming into those service.

This is a construction, in terms of what has been put there temporarily, that is akin to what the Marshall government put at The QEH outside its emergency department. It is a structure which has been used since the Marshall government outside The QEH. I certainly didn't hear any complaints about it then. But we will be making sure that that work is done as fast as possible. Certainly, the government stands willing to provide whatever assistance is necessary in terms of making sure that the Central Adelaide Local Health Network can provide care for those people in the interim until the new emergency department waiting room opens.

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

Mrs HURN (Schubert) (14:16): My question is to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Does the minister guarantee that there will be no adverse patient outcomes as a result of the temporary emergency department waiting room at the Royal Adelaide Hospital? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mrs HURN: Patient Kath Lovell was quoted in *The Advertiser* on 18 August as saying:

This transportable is Third World—there was a man lying on the floor. People vomiting, people looking terribly unwell, all crammed into a tiny space...

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurna—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:16): Certainly, the advice that I have from the Central Adelaide Local Health Network is that people are getting the appropriate care and that they are doing everything possible to support people during that period. I noticed, when this issue was raised in the media, there were a number of patients who were commenting positively in terms of the treatment that they had just received at the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

We are by no means saying that the interim solution, while construction is underway, is where we want to be. Obviously, we want that construction to be done as soon as possible and to make sure that that area can provide the ongoing care in the best possible way, as the clinicians have asked for, and we are backing those clinicians who have instigated and designed this upgrade to hospital, to make sure that they have the best possible facilities to care for their patients.

MOUNT BARKER COUNTRY CABINET

Ms SAVVAS (Newland) (14:17): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier please update the house on the recent country cabinet held in Mount Barker?

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members on my left! I call the Premier.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:18): Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Hartley, you are warned, and you are warned for the first time.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I want to thank the member for Newland for her question because this government has reinstated country cabinets. After a bunch of hashtags and a few little slogans, now we've got a government—

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The member for Chaffey—

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am on my feet. The member for Morialta will leave the chamber.

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: For how long, sir?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: For 15 minutes. And the next member on the left to speak out will follow him.

The honourable member for Morialta having withdrawn from the chamber:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I call the Premier.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. This government has reinstated country cabinets; they were abolished by the former government. We are very serious about getting out there and engaging with people.

As I have said on other occasions, you can read all the briefs in the world, and many of us are lucky enough to get a lot of them, but nothing replicates stories that you can hear from people on the ground—whether they be small business owners or people in any number of different circumstances. There is a power by ensuring we are getting out there and talking to people firsthand by not just members of the executive of the government in terms of the cabinet but also senior executive members of the public sector more broadly.

I am very grateful that, only last week, we were at Mount Barker talking to people in and around that community. We had a very substantial community forum in Mount Barker in a school gymnasium that had somewhere between 600 and 700 people attend—600 to 700 constituents from the electorate of Kavel and also the electorate of Heysen. The member for Heysen wasn't there but the member for Kavel was.

There were a lot of thoughtful questions from constituents there: everything from planning issues to health-related questions. There was a lot of interest in the massive expansion of the Mount Barker hospital that this government is undertaking. There were questions and welcome feedback in respect to the installation of more ambulance officers and more crews in Mount Barker and also Strathalbyn, and interest in a lot of work the government is doing in schools. There were questions around infrastructure, particularly around Hahndorf, and also questions around Mount Barker traffic.

The government was very excited to be able to make a number of announcements in regard to traffic, banning trucks from the main street of Hahndorf, but also addressing Heysen Boulevard. There were a whole range of issues that were addressed over the course of the week; indeed, there were even examples of other inquiries that the government will follow up on following the success of the event.

I do want to take the opportunity, and it is probably almost fortuitous that we are doing this in the Speaker's absence, because otherwise my praise would be seen to be too gushing, but the member for Kavel provided a particularly substantial degree of assistance to the government in facilitating a lot of meetings with a lot of people in the community that I am very grateful for. I do want to take the time to acknowledge staff of the member for Kavel, the Speaker: Kayla, Nicole, Lukas and Airlie for their assistance in putting their program together. The member made sure that each and every one of us from the cabinet were flat out with a pretty comprehensive program in our own right, and it made for an incredibly productive couple of days.

We are going to continue the country cabinet program. I am very excited to announce to the parliament that the next country cabinet is going to be in the seat of MacKillop where there is a good local MP who wants to make sure that the government is working hard for his local community.

Members interjecting:

Mr Cowdrey: You're losing control, sir.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, no. If you want to waste your question time, that's fine by me. I will give the call when members on my left stop interjecting, okay?

HAHNDORF BYPASS

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley) (14:23): My question is to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Can the minister advise what feedback he has received from local Hills residents along Strathalbyn and River roads, and was any consultation undertaken with them?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:23): I think my young friend in his incomplete question forgot to mention the reason why we were consulting on Strathalbyn Road-River Road. It's because the state government is deciding to ban heavy vehicles from the main strip of Hahndorf.

Mr Pederick: Some of them.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: No, heavy vehicles from—

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members on both my left and my right! Minister for Police!

The Hon. V.A. Tarzia: Chuck him out, sir.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think there would be a few on my left going out first.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The state government has been grappling with issues in Hahndorf. One of those issues is that one of the instigations for a \$250 million Hahndorf township bypass program that was announced by the previous government but not implemented is the fact that Echunga Road funnels a lot of heavy vehicles into the main street of Hahndorf.

Anyone who has been to the main street of Hahndorf will see how narrow that road is. A lot of the complaints from local residents have been that the heavy vehicles, especially those with the logs and the livestock, that use that main street are clogging up what is one of the most pristine tourism destinations anywhere in South Australia or the Adelaide Hills.

The Adelaide Hills being a tourist destination is not new to this parliament. The government made a decision on the Bird in Hand Terramin mine application in order to attempt to protect the amenity of the tourism offerings and the wine offerings of those areas—opposed by members opposite. That decision was opposed. Now we are attempting to maintain a balance between preserving pristine farmland, which is the Beerenberg—

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: Point of order: standing order 98. The minister is debating the question badly. The question was very specific and it was about Hills residents along Strathalbyn and River roads. This is just debate.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! My reading of what the minister was saying was that he was providing background and context to the answer.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: A wise adjudication, sir, very wise.

Mr Telfer interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Flinders, you are warned for the first time.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: It should be the second time, yes, I know.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: We are attempting to do this because the trucks that are entering through Echunga Road into the main street of Hahndorf to either get to the highway or to go to other destinations are causing a great deal of congestion. Local businesses want those trucks out. Local residents want those trucks out. Hahndorf is being used as a thoroughfare to get onto the highway and get off the highway into Echunga and other destinations in both directions.

The decision made by the previous government to build the interchange through Paechtown and the Beerenberg facility would have caused a lot of compulsory acquisitions and carving up of what I think is pristine farmland. We decided against that plan. What we have come up with in the interim is to move that heavy traffic, which already uses River Road and Strathalbyn Road and is already authorised to use those roads. Without any compulsory acquisitions, we can use those roads as a bypass for heavy vehicles and get them off the Hahndorf main street.

I know this does not have the support of the local member of parliament. I know that the local member of parliament would prefer carving up Paechtown and the Beerenberg land to put the bypass in, as articulated by the spokesperson for the Adelaide Hills, the shadow minister for regional roads, who has said quite clearly that he opposed the decision on banning the mine at Terramin and opposed the decision on not carving up Paechtown and Beerenberg. It is clear, on the record, that that is the position of members opposite.

What we have done is simply ban these trucks from entering Hahndorf. They will be using Strathalbyn Road and River Road as access points to either the freeway or, of course, to other parts of the Adelaide Hills. Logs and livestock do not belong on the main street of Hahndorf. This is what we are attempting to do. We are trying to do this to make sure we get a good outcome for the people of the Adelaide Hills. I'm not sure why members opposite don't support it.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Supplementary?

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: Another question, sir.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will give you another question.

HAHNDORF BYPASS

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley) (14:28): Thank you very much, sir. You are doing an outstanding job today. My question is to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Can the minister advise if any trees, including trees of significance, will need to be removed along Strathalbyn Road or River Road?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:29): My advice is no. There will be some tree trimming, which people in the Adelaide Hills are well aware of, especially around powerlines and roads. Some tree trimming will need to be done. I'm not advised of any significant trees. There will need to be some junction upgrades. There will be no compulsory acquisition of properties, as members opposite are proposing, in Paechtown. There will be no compulsory acquisition of pristine farmland, like members opposite are proposing.

It is important to note that the government is planning to use the Hahndorf investment from the commonwealth government and the state government to upgrade the interchanges at Mount Barker and Verdun, which are vital pieces of infrastructure that are vital to the people of the Adelaide Hills. They are something that is long overdue and weren't planned by the previous government. Despite calls from members opposite to upgrade infrastructure at Mount Barker, those calls were ignored by members opposite.

We are answering those calls. We are doing our very best to try to make a limited amount of infrastructure money go a long way. Yes, it is an interim measure, but it's more than members opposite did in the entire four years they were there. The member for regional roads, who never once sat on a Treasury bench in his life, knows—

An honourable member: That's fine.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: That's fine? Good, tick, a great career achievement, knows this: those plans were ready to go. The former Minister for Infrastructure and Transport—I have forgotten his name; Corey Wingard—had those plans ready to go and—

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: Point of order, sir: 98. This is now debate.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: If anything, the minister was partly out of order for responding to interjections, which brings me back to the interjections on my left. It gives me an opportunity to warn

the member for Flinders for a second time, the member for Hammond for a second time and the member for Chaffey for a second time. I think the clock has broken down.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Does that mean, sir, I have three minutes in perpetuity? What a happy coincidence. I might buy a Powerball ticket tonight.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Knowing that I have 33 minutes left in my answer—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, you don't have 33 minutes.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I know that this is not the permanent solution that the people of Hahndorf would want, but it does go a long way to solving the solution that they have been calling out for from the very beginning. Hahndorf receives over a million visitors per year, and the long trucks and livestock trucks that are using the main street as access to the rest of the Hills or the freeway are inconsistent with the feel of the town and the amenity of the town, and we are acting to deal with it. Why members opposite are not supportive of this is a mystery. It is a mystery. Could it be one of the core reasons that they are perpetually a one-term government?

CREDIT RATINGS

Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (14:32): My question is to the Treasurer. Can the Treasurer provide the house with an update on the South Australian government's credit ratings following the release of the recent budget?

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Treasurer) (14:32): In fact, I can. I am grateful to the member for Badcoe for her question because, sir, as you would know, each year following the budget, international independent credit ratings agencies Standard & Poor's Global, Moody's and Fitch release their credit rating opinion on the government's finances. Both Moody's and Fitch reaffirmed South Australia's credit rating at Aa1 and AA+ stable, respectively. These are the second highest rankings that both agencies offer.

Moody's noted that in its opinion it expects the Malinauskas government will achieve its target of a net operating surplus in 2023-24. It also noted that South Australia's debt affordability is projected to remain solid, with Moody's concluding that the state's debt burden will remain lower than our domestic peers. Fitch also had some high praise for the South Australian economy, saying that South Australia is a:

...relatively low-tax jurisdiction, driven by a focus on moderating the tax burden on its citizens while maintaining competitiveness of the state tax system, which promotes inward investment and supports a sturdy labour market.

Fine words indeed. While it was welcome news that Moody's and Fitch had reaffirmed our credit rating, it was the credit opinion of Standard & Poor's Global that I was most keen to see. I am pleased to report to the house that S&P Global's opinion was most notable given that South Australia's credit rating has now been removed from negative watch. You might remember that South Australia's credit rating was placed on negative watch in 2020 under the former Marshall Liberal government after the release of their 2020-21 budget.

It's great that we have been able to rectify yet another mess left to us by the former Liberal government and it's great to have the member for Dunstan here to hear this report. S&P Global have now seen enough from the Malinauskas government's first two budgets to give confidence that our credit rating of AA+ is now stable and can be taken off the negative watch it was placed on in 2020.

The Hon. V.A. Tarzia: You're welcome. We laid the groundwork.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: The member for Hartley says, 'You're welcome,' forgetting the credit rating placed on negative watch in 2020. I take a slightly different view, just like the international ratings agencies take a different view from the member for Hartley.

In its report, S&P says that it also anticipates the state will achieve operating surpluses reversing from three years of operating deficits during the pandemic. As for the South Australian

economy, the entire house will be pleased to hear that S&P notes that South Australia now has higher new business investment than in the past. Significant defence projects under construction and in the pipeline will support growth in the economy and labour market over several years. Public infrastructure investments and a pipeline of mining projects will support economic growth—unalloyed good news.

The credit opinion of all three ratings agencies reflects the Malinauskas government's demonstrated fiscal responsibility. This fiscal responsibility was demonstrated while delivering our comprehensive election commitments and responding to priority needs. Maintaining a strong credit rating for the state is important, as it ensures our interest costs remain competitive, while also indicating our capacity to respond to future needs and opportunities. This is great news for the state. It is further good evidence that we are getting the state's finances back on track after the four years under the previous Marshall Liberal government.

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Mr BATTY (Bragg) (14:36): My question is to the Minister for Planning. Has the minister referred the government's new Women's and Children's Hospital development to the federal environment minister for approval under the commonwealth's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act and, if not, why not? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr BATTY: The Adelaide Parklands have been nationally heritage listed since 2008. Actions that will have a significant impact on their heritage value may trigger an obligation of referral under the commonwealth's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurna—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:37): Thank you very much for the question. I'm happy to confirm what we have said all along since the beginning, which is that we very much understand the role in terms of the commonwealth government and that we make the appropriate referrals to the federal minister to consider, but it is worth noting and it is worth remembering that the new Women's and Children's Hospital is going to result in a net increase in additional useable parkland space.

If you go down near the jail at the moment, there is land behind barbed wire fences, there is rubbish all over the place and there are storage areas for the council. Part of the development of the new hospital is to uplift that Parklands area to be useable space for families, for people to recreate and for playgrounds to be established all through that area. This is a significant improvement for that Parklands area, so not only are we going to see a bigger and better new Women's and Children's Hospital, rather than what was proposed previously, which was going to have one extra overnight paediatric bed compared to the current hospital, but we are going to see significant uplift in terms of beds for the hospital and also significant uplift in terms of usable, accessible Parkland space around the hospital.

ADELAIDE AQUATIC CENTRE

Mr BATTY (Bragg) (14:39): My question is again to the Minister for Planning. Has the minister referred the new Adelaide Aquatic Centre development to the federal environment minister for approval under the commonwealth's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Act and, if not, why not?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:39): Like I said earlier, the member for Bragg has started shaving; I would be worried if I were other members in the area. I hear he's got that glint in his eye.

The state government does assess whether referrals are required. We will follow all the procedures that are necessary. At any stage, at any time, the EPBC can intervene and refer any project it wishes to. Of course, they will do their own work, as do we. We are also returning Parklands back to the people of South Australia through our development of the Adelaide Aquatic Centre. What I am disappointed in is how members opposite are now actively opposing the brand-new Adelaide

Aquatic Centre. The member for Bragg is out there opposing the development of the Adelaide Aquatic Centre.

Despite having proposed to put a basketball stadium on the Parklands, they are now, all of a sudden, the great saviours of the Parklands. The basketball stadium, don't talk about it. They imagined a basketball stadium.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of order, minister.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: What basketball stadium? They don't even know what basketball is.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, point of order.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: He should be named for that. Point of order, sir.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: It's your colleagues who are holding us up.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey! Member for Chaffey, you are on your third warning, as is the member for Hammond and also the member for Flinders.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Sir, standing order 98: the minister is debating.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think the minister was being irresponsible in responding to interjections.

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: Which is also out of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Which is also out of order, but I have identified individual interjections, so would you like me to chuck out the people who interjected?

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: If you are chucking the minister out, sir, then yes.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, I am looking at the people who caused the interjections first.

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

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: You are treading on thin ice here.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Sir, you asked a question and I am offering an earnest—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, it was a rhetorical question.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Morphett, are you making any commentary on my ruling?

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: My ruling was that he was responding to interjections, not debate.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: They were laughing at me, were they? That's okay. You can laugh at me from the outside. You can leave now for 15 minutes.

Mr Cowdrey: What standing order, sir?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Interjecting and causing disruption. Member for Chaffey, you can leave for 15 minutes under 137A.

The honourable member for Chaffey having withdrawn from the chamber:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: It was all net in that exchange, sir, all net—nothing but net in that exchange, sir. We will do our own assessments on the EPBC referrals if they are necessary. If the department feels that they are necessary, it will be done. Ultimately, the EPBC and Minister Plibersek, at their own volition, at any stage—

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Flinders, you will leave for 10 minutes as well. You have been warned three times.

The honourable member for Flinders having withdrawn from the chamber:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The minister will now speak uninterrupted.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Thank you, sir. We do our own self-assessment, and if we think there are referrals we have intergovernmental agreements in place with the commonwealth government. If the state government feels there needs to be a referral, we proactively refer. If we think there doesn't need to be a referral, we won't refer to the EPBC. But, ultimately, the commonwealth government at any stage, including Minister Plibersek at any stage, can put any development they see fit to put into the EPBC process and do an assessment.

Mr Cowdrey interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I think the member for Colton's frustration is boiling over. It's not my fault his leader is silent and invisible. It's not my fault that the opposition are in the position that they are in. It is not my fault.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Point of order, sir: ad hominem attacks are inconsistent with standing order 98.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: From my reading of his answer, the minister was actually trying to provide a comprehensive answer to the question asked. If it weren't for the constant interruptions, his answer would be over now and you would be on your next question.

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: He hasn't answered.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, he has answered the question, in my view.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: As I said in the first minute of my answer, we have not referred it, but members opposite were not listening because they were interjecting. What I did say was that at any stage we have intergovernmental relationships with the commonwealth government, as did the previous government, is where government departments self-assess. If they think there is a need to refer to the EPBC, we refer it. Why do we do that? We pre-emptively refer if we think it would be triggered regardless.

There is no way of us stopping an EPBC referral or a pull in from the department because they do their own assessments. These questions are moot. If the federal agency or the federal minister think that it is warranted for a referral, then they will call it in regardless of what the state government's view is. I suppose it could be lack of experience, lack of understanding of the process that could lead to these questions, but ultimately the truth is this: we have done our assessment and we don't think it requires an EPBC referral. We are returning more parklands back to the people of South Australia.

Members opposite are opposing now the development of an aquatic centre, despite taking not only a brand-new basketball stadium built on Parklands to the election, they were also taking an aquatic centre development to the election.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Point of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think the minister has finished his answer.

UNMET NEEDS REPORT

Ms PRATT (Frome) (14:46): My question is to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Will the minister commit to fund the Unmet Needs Report findings and, if not, why not? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Ms PRATT: In July this year, the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist released the Unmet Needs Report, which was commissioned two years ago. The report states that 19,000 South Australians have unmet mental health needs and the cost to deliver the necessary psychosocial services is \$125 million per annum.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The Minister for Health has the floor. Member for Unley, did you speak? Minister, hold on for a second. Member for Unley, did you speak? Did you speak, sir?

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: I am under no obligation to answer your question.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Unley is warned for the third time.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurna—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:47): I appreciate the question because certainly we on this side of the house treat issues in terms of mental health and suicide prevention extremely seriously and we think that there are significant issues that need to be addressed in terms of mental health in this state. We appreciate the release of the Unmet Needs Report, which was commissioned through a consultant through the department, which highlighted issues in terms of one area of our mental health services, which is in relation to psychosocial NGO contracted mental health services.

This is, of course, one of many of the mental health services that need addressing right across South Australia. We have already put a generational increase of investment into mental health in our budget. I am happy to report in relation to this particular area of psychosocial NGO funded services exactly where we have been over the past couple of years, because under the previous Liberal government, these services contracted by the state government were actually cut, were cut by the previous state government by 19 per cent over the course of two years, which is—

Ms Pratt interjecting:

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: And that number is higher because you cut the funding to those services.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Ms Pratt interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: When I call order, member for Frome, that means you do not speak further. Is that understood? Thank you.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: So between 2018-19 and 2020-21 we saw a cut of 19 per cent in the funding going into these services, and what's our response?

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: In our first year in office we have increased the funding to these services by 11.8 per cent. We acknowledge that there is a lot more to do, not just in this area of mental health but right across the board. However, you can very clearly see the record in terms of these services—significant cuts under the previous government and now significant increases just in our first year in office.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I call the member for Playford.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Mr FULBROOK (Playford) (14:50): My question is to the Minister for Planning. Can the minister inform the house on South Australia's home building activity?

The Hon. N.D. CHAMPION (Taylor—Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Minister for Planning) (14:50): I thank the member for Playford for his question. There is no doubt that we are in a housing crisis, and it does not matter which community you go to, which country town you go to, whether you go to street-corner meetings or shopping centres, or whether you talk to employers or people generally in the community that a housing crisis is really being felt out there.

What it stems from—and this might seem to be obvious—is a chronic undersupply for many, many years of housing. This state government is taking action in response to this chronic undersupply, and that action has led South Australia to top this year's HIA National Housing Scorecard. South Australia is leading the nation across a number of building activity indicators, and it has led the HIA chief economist Tim Reardon to say:

SA's position is supported by state government policies that aim to increase the supply of housing.

That is a strong endorsement by the HIA of this government's position after so many years of seeing undersupply and so many years seeing inaction. We are now seeing the HIA at a national level endorsing this government's policy.

And, of course, they are endorsing things like the Treasurer's abolition of stamp duty for first-home buyers. They are endorsing the largest land release in South Australia's history: Onkaparinga Heights, Dry Creek, Noarlunga, Sellicks Beach, Aldinga and Concordia, all of these being released in just our first 18 months or so of government.

We have initiated or determined council and private proponent code amendments, including Golden Grove, Murray Bridge, Goolwa, Barunga West, Kidman Park and many, many more. We have put in place a new Housing Infrastructure Planning and Development Unit to make sure that communities and houses and all of that new greenfield housing that we want to put in place has appropriate infrastructure. We do not want to repeat the mistakes of the past, and we have appointed Elinor Walker—

Mrs Hurn interjecting:

The Hon. N.D. CHAMPION: —a resident of Lyndoch, and of course a constituent of the member for Schubert—as the director of that unit. We are backing in affordable and social housing on Greenhill Road, Playford Alive, Bowden and Prospect. These projects include 96 affordable rental apartments at Bowden and 72 new affordable rentals in Prospect. Franklin Street has been announced. There are 392 apartments for the city aiming for a 35 per cent affordable rate on that site.

We are partnering with Sentinel to produce the state's first institutional build-to-rent community. We have put in place the Office of Regional Housing, which includes the Regional Key Worker Housing Scheme delivering homes for government workers in the Copper Coast, Mount Gambier, Port Augusta, Ceduna and the Riverland. We are investing in public housing under Minister Cook adding an additional 564 Housing Trust homes and stopping the scheduled sale under the previous government of 580 trust homes.

Let us just understand this. The HIA is predicting for the rest of the country a crash as the pipeline of COVID and homebuilder work ends. We want to build in a pipeline of supply. We know the previous government released just 185 hectares of land in its time in government—less than Hackham. They sold off Housing Trust stock, they ignored build-to-rent, they ignored CHP investments, they ignored the 30 per cent of people in this state who rent. They basically sat on their hands for four years while housing supply got worse and worse and worse. Most shamefully, you ignored the regions.

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

Members interjecting:

The Hon. N.D. CHAMPION: Most shamefully, you ignored the regions.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of order?

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: I think he's finished now.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The minister's finished his answer?

The Hon. N.D. CHAMPION: I haven't, Mr Deputy Speaker, but am happy to conclude. This government is backing in housing supply for South Australians.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The minister has completed his answer.

GOVERNMENT COUNTRY HOUSING

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (14:54): My question is to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. Can the minister please advise what is being done to allow empty police houses to be used by government departmental staff, such as teachers? With your leave, Mr Deputy Speaker, and the leave of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr McBRIDE: The Kalangadoo Police Station has been without a police officer for many years. Adjacent to that station is a perfectly good, relatively new home that has been empty for that time. My office has been contacted by a number of constituents who, quite rightly, would like to see this house utilised by other government staff. My office has been advised that this can't happen, as the house in question is managed by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport and therefore is deemed a single agency; location can only be used by SAPOL employees. We have a housing crisis in the region. What is the government doing to cut through the red tape so that these homes can be used by other government staff, such as teachers, nurses and doctors?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:55): That is a very good question—a very, very good question. The member for MacKillop, in his new-found independence, is able to, I think, expose a lot of the bureaucracy that goes on behind the scenes, and it has freed him up. The research that I had to do on this really, quite frankly, was extraordinary, given the level of bureaucracy in place.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Yes, so, what my young friend is forgetting is that, now the member for MacKillop is an Independent, it gives him the ability to be able to reach out and actually ask questions rather than relying on the wisdom from the backbench over the top there.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Why are members—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members on my left! The Minister for Police!

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Hammond, I don't need your assistance at this point in time. Minister.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I am advised, through my research, that the property was owned by the minister for government enterprises who was the predecessor to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport. The Public Employees Housing Act 1987 is dedicated to the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, and the public employee under the act is defined as a person employed by the Crown, i.e., not specifically reserved for SAPOL. If it wasn't for the inquiries of the member, this may not have been discovered. On the surface of it, there's nothing preventing my department from allowing this property to be available for other key workers. On the basis of your advocacy, the work that we've done means that this property now is no longer hypothecated just to SAPOL.

What we are doing now is I will be writing to my friend the police minister and SAPOL seeking confirmation of what the home's future use is. If SAPOL return that direction to me in an appropriate time, we can make this housing available for key public servants, like teachers, in the middle of the housing crisis.

There are small victories that members of parliament can have, and this is a good small victory for common sense. Cut through red tape, cut the green tape, cut through the bureaucracy, got to the heart of matter, got government working to get this done. I apologise for the delay that it has taken. I thank the member for MacKillop on his advocacy and his hard work. I think he is showing everyone in this chamber what a hardworking regional member can achieve, especially if they are an Independent.

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (14:58): My question is to the Minister for Energy and Mining. Can the minister offer South Australians a guarantee that they will not suffer from blackouts the summer? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PATTERSON: Today, the Australian Energy Market Operator revealed that South Australia is at increased risk of blackouts this summer, six years after the last statewide blackout.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Morphett!

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! We've got five minutes left. Let's make it peaceful.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (15:00): Let's make it exciting, sir, I say. There has been a risk of blackout each and every year the ESOO has been released, including each and every year of the former government.

Mr Patterson: It didn't make the front page of the papers Australia-wide.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Morphett, do you want to actually hear the answer to your question? Well, I suggest you listen.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: One of the ironies in this report is that the ESOO is actually calling out for more investment in renewable energy—more renewable energy—and then members opposite are still interjecting against that investment in renewable energy. Even as the expert report they are quoting as the pinnacle of their attack on the government's energy policy, that same report is calling for an acceleration of renewable energy and members opposite are interjecting, 'Orderly transition.'

At the heart of this is that we are moving from La Niña to El Niño. These are weather patterns. These weather patterns, and an updated methodology within AEMO, mean that they have elevated the risk of a blackout from a one-in-10-year event to a one-in-six-year event, decreasing to the following summer back down to the one-in-10-year event. I don't remember a single time when the previous members opposite were in government when there was a one-in-10-year event or a 10 per cent chance of rolling blackouts that members opposite got up and said a word about it—not a word about it, nothing.

Instead, what they do—the lovers of base load generation opposite, the members opposite who love base load generation so much—is every time they get their hands on it they sell it and they sell it to the highest bidder.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Point of order, sir, standing order 98: there was a period of silence during which the minister chose to debate, not responding to interjections.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: There was a period of silence. I missed it, actually, it must have been that short, but the minister is getting to the answer.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I do not think that South Australians should be alarmed. I do not think South Australians should be worried despite the best efforts of members opposite. I think what you are seeing—

Mr Cowdrey: Guarantee it then.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Well, members opposite yell out, 'Guarantee it.' Premier Playford, looking down disapprovingly on members opposite, would know that when he was facing blackouts—and he was facing control from New South Wales on South Australia's electricity supplies—he held a royal commission to nationalise and created the Electricity Trust of South Australia. Why? He didn't want to be relying on other states for our power. What did members opposite do? We built 250 megawatts of generation, they privatised it, then they built an interconnector to New South Wales to be reliant on New South Wales' base load again.

Here we are, history repeating. Every time we lose an election, they sell whatever we build. We built 250 megawatts of generation, they sell it; we are building 250 megawatts now, if they win they will sell it. We build up ETSA, they sell it. And then they have the temerity to come here and say, 'Hey, despite us selling Northern power station, why didn't you keep it open? Despite us selling Torrens Island power station, why don't you keep it open? Despite—

The Hon. J.A.W. Gardner: Dirty diesel.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Dirty diesel? The diesel generators that they privatised are still on diesel. They were on diesel for the entire time of the previous government. They have only just been converted to gas. This is just a ridiculous argument. What we are seeing is a coordinated investment in renewable energy in this state and more storage. When we built the Hornsdale battery, members opposite laughed. It is now the template not across the country but across the world. We're investing in hydrogen power, green hydrogen. They are ridiculing it and mocking it. It will become the template around the world. Members opposite are harking back to solutions that just do not exist.

FELMERI GROUP

Ms THOMPSON (Davenport) (15:04): My question is to the Minister for Consumer and Business Affairs. How is the Malinauskas government assisting my constituents regarding the Felmeri developer?

The Hon. A. MICHAELS (Enfield—Minister for Small and Family Business, Minister for Consumer and Business Affairs, Minister for Arts) (15:04): I thank the member for Davenport for the last question of the sitting week. I also thank her for her very strong advocacy for her constituents in O'Halloran Hill. As I have previously advised the house, I really feel for these customers of Felmeri, particularly in the O'Halloran Hill development. They have gone through a very stressful time over a number of years with building their homes. Most of these are first-home buyers who have struggled through the last couple of years.

You might recall that Felmeri Homes, which is Felmeri Builders and Development Pty Ltd, went into liquidation on 17 July this year. Consumer and Business Services (CBS) has been helping consumers in the lead-up to the liquidation and continues to help consumers going through the process of getting their houses finished. CBS is investigating Felmeri; I can confirm that to the house.

There have been very serious allegations made against Felmeri and its directors. CBS acted promptly to stop Felmeri Homes taking on new contracts that would have put those new customers at risk in the lead-up to them going into liquidation by imposing a condition on their building work contractor's licence.

As members are aware, builders do need to take out building indemnity insurance (BII) before commencing a major domestic building work in South Australia. Most of the projects commenced by Felmeri did have that required insurance cover, and QBE is now taking claims and processing those claims so that these home owners can finish their homes or have any defects rectified under their warranties.

I can also advise the house that earlier this year the Treasurer and I commenced a review of the building indemnity insurance scheme and related consumer protections. It is important to me that consumers receive as much protection as is practicable, and this will be taken into account in the review. Of course, BII doesn't cover roads. As members might recall, there was a major issue with the O'Halloran Hill development, with 20 homes that can't be completed or occupied until that access road for the subdivision has been completed.

The companies responsible are two development companies that are related to Felmeri Homes. Arguably, the City of Marion has some responsibility as well, given that the original development approval by the City of Marion in 2015 contained a condition that required the road to be constructed before issuing a certificate from the Planning Commission. It turns out that condition was subsequently varied by the council in 2020, simply requiring that road to be constructed within 24 months. Clearly, that has not occurred.

There were discussions with CBS, with the developer and with the City of Marion to attempt to resolve the road dispute issue. It became obvious that neither the developer nor the council were going to complete that road, which is why the Minister for Infrastructure, the Treasurer and I, with the support of the Premier, worked on solutions regarding the road. Quite frankly, regardless of who is legally responsible, the fact remains that this road needs to be finished so that these people can get in their homes. As the Premier said, they have been left in a dire position through no fault of their own.

Thanks for the very strong advocacy by the member for Davenport for her constituents. She worked hard to ensure that the special circumstances of those 20 families were understood, resulting in the Premier announcing earlier this month that the government would step in to finish that road. I understand work is underway.

In relation to the City of Marion, that raised a planning issue which caused me some concern in terms of when those ancillary works would be completed. I have raised that issue with the Minister for Planning, and I understand he and his department are doing some work on that and hopefully will have something to announce on that shortly.

I would like to thank Commissioner Soulio and the CBS team for working with DIT, DTF and PLUS on this issue to try to resolve it for those home owners.

Grievance Debate

MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (15:09): I rise to grieve on something very dear to my heart, and that is the Murray-Darling Basin plan and the indecisiveness of state Labor governments and now a federal Labor government announcing the worst kept secret going—that is, that we are going to achieve the 450 gigalitres by voluntary buybacks.

The voluntary buybacks are all very well and good, but what the minister fails to understand is that buybacks have been on the table for 12 years. Now, we see they are reinventing the wheel. They are kicking the can down the road. They are putting indecisive decisions into river communities that now have people on the edge of their seat. We are currently dealing with low commodity prices. We are currently dealing with workforce shortages and housing shortages. Now the Labor governments both state and federal are putting another layer of complexity into the future of a healthy working river.

As I have said, after months of indecisiveness, there is this voluntary buyback measure. I do not know whether many people understand that if the government are going to go to the market and buy water back, does anyone have a guess of just exactly what it is going to cost? What is it going to cost the taxpayers not only of South Australia but of the nation? Someone said \$3.5 billion. Now they are estimating it could be \$12 billion. Well, how about that!

We have a water minister in South Australia who continues to use her commissioner as the mouthpiece for the government. His foul-mouthed antics at public forums, his foul-mouthed antics in radio interviews, are nothing short of a disgrace. A publicly engaged commissioner for water in South Australia all of a sudden has an opinion and the government need to sling off at the former Coalition government, saying that he has drunk more water than they achieved in the 10 years they were in government. I think it is just outrageous.

While we have a water minister in South Australia, we have premiers in New South Wales saying that they do not want to see buybacks used for water recovery. In Victoria, Labor would not even agree to come to the table. Now Victoria has been ostracised. I think it is an absolute crime that

we have a federal water minister that, for the first time in 12 years, has seen a basin state ostracised, not at the table anymore for negotiating a basin plan.

What we are also seeing now, as I have said, is the water commissioner doing the minister's job. I am just wondering what he gets paid to do the minister's job. The minister is on a wage and the commissioner is on a wage. They have not achieved any water in the time they have been in recent office. We have had a water commissioner in for 12 months—not a drop. We have a South Australian water minister claiming somewhere in the vicinity of 27 gigalitres of water. That was all water that was negotiated and put into a pipeline by the former Coalition and the former South Australian Liberal government, yet we have a Labor government in South Australia taking all the credit. It is an absolute disgrace.

We are going to see federal Labor have to force legislation through Canberra. This is completely abandoning what was agreed to in 2012. The initiation of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan was locked and loaded and ready to go. What we have seen over that decade of water buybacks, infrastructure on farm and off farm, is 2,100 gigalitres of water achieved, yet we hear the commissioner, we hear the Premier and we hear the water minister say, 'Nothing to see here. Not in a decade have we received anything but two gigalitres of water.' It is an absolute disgrace.

Then we have the former water minister, the now Leader of the Opposition, who went to the table, keeping all the basin states in agreeance and keeping them all at the table. All basin states were at the table, and they all agreed on achieving the 450 gigalitres. Yes, we do not want to see social and economic impact by the water buybacks, but what I can say as a former irrigator and former representative of all the irrigators in South Australia is that infrastructure projects are a way of doing more with less. It is about putting water back into the environment at the same time we are producing food and fibre.

We are doing an outstanding job in South Australia. We are not only leaders in the nation but world leaders in water efficiency targets and achievements. Now, we are going to see a federal government lead some of these Labor state water ministers and premiers around by the nose to say that we are going to take voluntary buybacks as given. Let me assure you, as someone who has participated in water markets, that we are going to see a rise in water costs. We are going to see a rise in the competition of who can actually access that water when we go into seasons of food production.

Every time a government enters a water market, it drives the price. Every time a government goes to the water market, it creates uncertainty. What we are seeing here is that we have a water minister in South Australia who is being led around by the federal water minister, which will create absolute chaos—absolute chaos. We talk about growing our economy. Those ministers have no interest in a growing economy. They only have an interest in their own selfish agenda.

What I am very concerned about is that voluntary buybacks are one solution. Yes, it should be on the table, but so should every other opportunity to be able to achieve that environmental water. We need to put money into on-farm projects. There are many projects here in South Australia that should be achieved, just like off-farm projects.

Time expired.

HALL, MR R.

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (15:15): I rise today to acknowledge and pay tribute to Naracoorte resident and CFS stalwart Mr Rex Hall AFSM. Rex passed away aged 84 on 2 June this year. I also acknowledge Rex's son, Alan; daughter-in-law, Christine; and CFS Deputy Chief Officer, Georgie Cornish, who are here today in the chamber.

Rex was remembered at a memorial service on 15 July. Hundreds attended to celebrate the life of not only a father, family man, expert chrysanthemum grower and champion ram breeder but also a dedicated volunteer, author and lifelong member of the South Australian Country Fire Service.

Rex began his CFS career on 2 December 1960, when the One Tree Hill EFS brigade was formed. This resulted in Rex becoming inaugural secretary and substation officer for all his 15 years

at One Tree Hill. In early 1975, Rex and his wife, Dawn, and son, Alan, moved down to a property they purchased between Willalooka and Keith called 'Gadang'.

During this time, Rex became a champion ram breeder, with his Poll Dorset and later White Suffolk Studs. His expertise was recognised, with championships at many Adelaide and Melbourne royal shows. Rex later went on to judge at many shows, including Royal Adelaide, Wagga Wagga, Melbourne Royal, Hobart, Perth Royal and many more.

Being a community-minded man, Rex was a foundation player, member and inaugural president of the Willalooka Cricket Club. He was heavily involved in the Willalooka Progress Association and helped develop the Willalooka Oval. For many years, Rex was the brigade captain of the Willalooka CFS and sat on several committees, including the Tatiara Fire Fighting Association training committee, communications committee, and equipment committee. This led to roles of regional and state training committee representatives and CFS board liaison positions.

Rex was passionate about training, and during these years he spent countless hours training volunteers across the South-East. In the mid-nineties, he was an instigator and a driving force behind the establishment of the CFS South-East Training Centre in Naracoorte. In 1994, Rex was awarded the Australian Fire Service Medal for his distinguished service to the Australian Fire Service.

In the late nineties, retirement beckoned and with it a move to Naracoorte; however, Rex could not sit idle. Once again, the CFS played a large part in his life and Rex took on the role of deputy group officer with the Naracoorte CFS. He was on the State Incident Management Team for several years, which saw him deployed to all corners of the state, as well as to incidents in Victoria and New South Wales. He also spent many years as both local and state representative for the CFS Volunteer Association.

It was his involvement with the CFS Volunteers Association and a trip to New Zealand that sparked his passion for preserving our CFS history, along with fellow volunteer Russell Branson of Cummins. Rex had a vision for a South Australian firefighters' museum to honour the history of the CFS and preserve and protect memorabilia and vintage fire vehicles. This vision came to fruition in his town of Naracoorte. Stage 1 of the museum was opened in February 2020. Sadly, he did not live to see stage 2 completed, which involves a visitor and training centre and a conference facility.

Rex and his committee of volunteers were also the driving force behind the state's first CFS memorial to honour volunteer firefighters who lost their lives in the line of duty. This was opened in Naracoorte in 2016 and every year a memorial service is held. Rex was held in such high regard that dignitaries, including state and federal politicians, ministers and mayors, would attend. The memorial is hugely important, especially in regional communities. It represents the ultimate sacrifice made by enormously important volunteer CFS firefighters who dedicate their time to protect lives and infrastructure.

Bushfires have and will continue to be a massive threat to our regions. I thank Rex for recognising the need for a memorial where we can pay our respects to those who, through their volunteering, paid the ultimate price while protecting our communities and our livelihoods.

Since 2016, Rex has written six books, all about the CFS, its history and fighting fires. His last book, *Volunteer Fire Fighting in South Australia*, was launched at his memorial service. In 2022, his dedication to the CFS family was recognised when he received the South Australia CFS 60-year Service Medal, and, on 16 May this year, Rex was awarded the first life membership of the South Australia Volunteer Fire Fighters Museum, a truly deserving honour.

Over the past few years, Rex's mobility decreased and, with that, his ability to undertake active roles in the CFS. However, he still loved to organise functions that brought people together. One of his last was a gathering in Nuriootpa for Australian Fire Service Medal recipients. He was determined to attend this function, but unfortunately it was not to be. Rex passed away before seeing his event be a huge success.

Rex has left an enormous void in the South Australian Country Fire Service, but his legacy will live on in the South Australia Volunteer Fire Fighters Museum and in the CFS memorial. I thank Rex for his service to the community. His passion and drive for the CFS and his Volunteer Fire Fighters Museum and memorial will long be remembered. May he rest in peace.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I call the next speaker, on behalf of the house I would like to extend our condolences to the family. I had the privilege of meeting Rex in Naracoorte and also of visiting his museum. He was a great man—a gentleman, I would say.

REGIONAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Hon. D.J. SPEIRS (Black—Leader of the Opposition) (15:21): I want to talk today about regional South Australia, and some regions in particular. Since becoming leader of the Liberal Party some 17 months ago, I have set out to ensure that we are the party of regional South Australia, that we provide a strong voice to regional South Australia and for regional South Australia, that we champion their challenges and their issues and that we have their backs whenever they need us.

There is no such place as 'regional South Australia' per se. There is no homogenous place called regional South Australia. Our regions are all different: Ceduna is very different from the Barossa, Eyre Peninsula is very different from the Limestone Coast and Fleurieu Peninsula is very different from the outback. The regions need a nuanced approach, a nuanced policy approach, and they need a tailored approach to advocacy. More than anything else, they need a strong voice in this place to ensure that the inevitability of a city-centric Labor government that invests its resources and its energies within metropolitan Adelaide is countered.

One region that I have visited more than any other since becoming leader of the Liberal Party is the Limestone Coast region. I have visited that region eight times since taking on this role, and I have visited the City of Mount Gambier, South Australia's second largest city, a total of six times. The Limestone Coast region bats above its weight in terms of its economic contribution to South Australia. It is a great part of our state, it has a great natural environment, it is a highly productive part of our state and it deserves strong, consistent voices in this place and voices grounded in Liberal values.

One of the areas of most concern for me when I visit the Limestone Coast region is in terms of regional healthcare services. Time and time again, we are told by people who live across that region, no matter where I visit in that region—whether it is in Mount Gambier or Naracoorte (the town that I have visited more than any other since becoming Leader of the Liberal Party), or towns like Keith, Padthaway, Bordertown, Kingston and Robe, and the list goes on—that regional healthcare services are an absolute priority and they are not where they should be.

One of the reasons I appointed Penny Pratt as the shadow minister for regional health services is so that we have a specific approach to the needs of regional health care. There are a couple of issues of particular concern to the Limestone Coast at the moment. Firstly, on the radiotherapy provision for that region, we know that that region has received a contribution from the federal Liberal government secured by Tony Pasin, the member for Barker, to provide radiotherapy services. We know that money has not been taken up by the local health network. It has been rejected by the health minister with his relentless city-centric approach and instead looks like it will be wasted on toilet upgrades and car park resurfacing, things that absolutely disgust people living in the City of Mount Gambier and the broader region.

We need to fight for that radiotherapy service in that region. We need to make sure that it is delivered and we need to make sure that the hundreds, actually thousands of people, 16,000 people, who have signed that petition across that region have a voice. Let me tell you, that voice is here and it is on this side of the house. It is the voice of Tony Pasin and it is the voice of Ben Hood, who has been appointed as the Liberal voice across that region. We will fight for that service.

The other service that that region really needs continuity on is the hospice in-home project. That is a project which received a grant under the former Liberal government and which is crying out for ongoing support. Just a little over \$100,000 a year will provide that special level of volunteer care in people's homes at the end of their lives. People who live in regional South Australia, particularly on the Limestone Coast, should not be expected to travel to Adelaide for critical care. They should not be expected to travel to Adelaide, quite frankly, to spend the last days and hours of their lives. I want to make it abundantly clear, as I head to the Limestone Coast and Mount Gambier tomorrow for my seventh visit to that city, that it is the Liberal Party of South Australia that will have their backs 100 per cent.

RAILWAY BOB

Ms SAVVAS (Newland) (15:26): Today, I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge my guest, John Wilson, a local railway historian, author and, most importantly, a Banksia Park resident. I would also like to acknowledge his wife, Pat, who is unwell and could not join us here today.

John and his wife are responsible for a large number of books, but today I would like to focus on the subject of many of them and that is Railway Bob, also known as Terowie Bob, very much part of railway folklore and history in South Australia and beyond. I do have a number of the Railway Bob books with me here in the chamber.

Bob, put simply, was a remarkable dog that lived on the railways in South Australia in the late 1800s. He is remembered across our state. His collar is currently on display in the National Railway Museum and we were joined by Bob Sampson from the Railway Museum over lunch as well. There is a statue of Bob in Peterborough and there is a trail with facts about Bob in Terowie, a place that was very much home to many of Bob's adventures.

In John's book, *Bob's Railway*, the first book about Bob, subtitled *Turbulent Political Times in South Australia and a Remarkable Railroading Dog*, Pat and John used over 100 contemporary newspaper reports and archive items to commemorate not only the stories of Bob but the political events of the time.

On page 27 of the book, there is a wonderful poem about a member of parliament. I assured John I would share this poem with the house for the record, written by a fictional character named Alfie, and the poem states:

When a Member of Parliament encounters a hound
He makes no bold promises nor lies expound
For his want from the humans is purely their mark
And once been to the ballot, they are kept in the dark
I oft ponder the world would be much better now
If the dogs were in Parliament and the toffs had to bow
But the dogs are an awful lot smarter, I sense
Their existence not burdened by pounds, shillings and pence
But the House full of canines would be quite a noise
So we're stuck with a band of those silly old boys.

And I add for the record, of course, that we are also stuck with some 'silly old girls' today in the parliament.

I would like to acknowledge the fictional Alfie for the house, and the very real John Wilson, who has become a dear friend of mine—a wordsmith extraordinaire He is always ready to give me a bit of a laugh and a chat and brighten my day coming into the office to visit.

On the back of the book you can see Bob's world from 1888, and I have mentioned some of the towns that are mentioned in Bob's story. There are a large number of regional towns that make up a part of Bob's journey, such as Murray Bridge, of course, home to the *Overland*, which our government is happy to be supporting.

I joined John and a handmade Railway Bob on the *Overland* in January 2022 to celebrate its 135th birthday. We propped up the handmade Bob—I believe it is papier-mâché—put him in the front of the carriage and took some photos, which are also in some of the books. There is mention of Riverton, which was halfway to Bob's ultimate destination of Terowie and the location at which they stopped for refreshment.

Macclesfield in the Adelaide Hills is mentioned. Bob was owned—though I would argue he was very much a free dog and not owned by anyone specifically—by the publican of the Maccie pub, one of the best places in South Australia for a schnitzel to this day. Also mentioned are Petersburg,

Quorn, Port Pirie, Moonta, Strathalbyn, Islington, Dry Creek, and my favourite place, of course, is called Cold and Wet, which was the former name of the station at Coonalpyn. He also goes into Serviceton, which is a key part of the story, and of course Terowie.

Bob is very much the definition of an ambassador for South Australia, and I often think he would be a great mascot accompanied by *I've Been Everywhere* because Bob, of course, for 16 or 17 years during his time in South Australia visited everywhere across our great state. John and Pat are very keen to see Bob the Railway Dog story make it into a film, and they have been sending submissions back and forth to make that a reality.

I do want to wish them all the best in their endeavour. I see Bob as a very worthy ambassador for our great state, particularly regional South Australia, and I will continue to follow the adventures of John, Pat Wilson and Railway Bob.

SCHUBERT ELECTORATE

Mrs HURN (Schubert) (15:31): Today, I would like to rise to address a couple of the exciting things that have been happening in my local community and ultimately to get on the record my best wishes to all the football teams, netball teams, hockey teams and all those fantastic sports that are heading into the winter finals which we love so much.

Just last week, I had the great pleasure of attending a couple of schools for their Book Week. I started out my week at Paracombe Primary School, which is in the southern part of my electorate, and they asked me to choose a book to read. Given that I know that the Matildas have been a topic of conversation right across the globe, I could not go past looking at a book called *We Are Matildas*. That was a really fantastic book that talked about teamwork. When I arrived at Paracombe Primary School to speak to everyone, from all the little kids from reception all the way up to year 6, they were so excited about the book I had chosen.

A number of the kids had Sam Kerr as their favourite player and, as has been reflected on in the motion before the parliament at the moment, the passion and the pride we are seeing in not just adults across the state but in the nation and the world, and the inspiration that is giving to all South Australians, whether they are male or female, have been truly remarkable. It was lovely to be able to bring them along that journey, although the book did predict that it would be a Matildas' victory. That did not happen in the end, as we have seen, but hopefully in the years to come and world cups to come we can see the Matildas, led by Sam Kerr, taking out that trophy once and for all.

I also had the opportunity to visit Tanunda Primary School, where all the kids from reception up to year 6 did a fantastic job in their Book Week parade. I think that Book Week is a fantastic opportunity for kids to really express their creativity, to be able to put themselves in the shoes of their favourite fictional or non-fictional character and to share that with their friends.

A couple of favourites I saw included Parker Stollznow, who was dressed up as the Lorax. His mum did a remarkable job, and he actually won. For his last Book Week, he took out the Best Dressed, so that was fantastic. His younger sister Ivy dressed up as Cindy-Lou Who from *The Grinch*. It was fantastic, and all the intricate details were remarkable. Once again, I think that all schools right across my electorate did a really great job promoting the importance of reading books and all those types of things.

I love sports season, particularly in my local community. I am really fortunate to have a number of extraordinary football and netball associations—hockey, soccer, you name it, we have every single sport available. When it comes to the BLG, we have just finished the Barossa Light and Gawler Women's Association finals. Unfortunately, I was not able to be there for the grand final on the weekend, as I was in Perth celebrating my brother's last game, but I sent them a container of oranges they could enjoy at half-time.

We also have the Adelaide Hills finals, which have kicked off, and that is set to be a really exciting time. This weekend is the last weekend for the BLG men's team. I very much look forward to getting out and cheering on all the teams right throughout their finals series. I think we all understand this, as local members of parliament in this place, but the volunteer hours that go into not just doing the minor round games but particularly being able to put on the finals series is just so fantastic.

At every point in your journey of going to the local footy, you are seeing a local volunteer. Whether you are getting a barracker at the gate, whether you are going to get your chips and your lollies from the canteen, or you are seeing the coach or the runner, these people are all volunteers in our community who are giving up their time. I think it is amazing. I wish all the teams that are participating in finals this year all the best. For all of you who did not make it, better luck next year.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: And congratulations to the Gawler teams that won.

ROWE, MR R.

Ms HUTCHESSON (Waite) (15:36): I would like to take the time today to talk about an important member of my community, Robert Rowe. Robert was born in 1943. War was still raging in Europe and Darwin had been bombed only a year earlier. It was a very tough time here in Australia and, indeed, South Australia, with extreme rationing of everything to aid the war effort. His family had little money. They did not have a car, and in those days people walked everywhere or caught the tram.

In 1947, the total family income was £7 a week. Robert's father was a big, strong man. He was even asked to play cricket for South Australia by Sir Victor Richardson, but declined due to the need to support his family. His health failed him, and in 1948 he was bedridden and passed in 1950. As such, Robert and his brother were raised by their mother. Life became even tougher for the family.

Robert remembered that they had no money for school uniforms, textbooks or other school needs, but this did not stop Robert from taking every opportunity he had to make the most of his education. He graduated early from school, as he had an incredible intellect, and attended university as a 16 year old. He studied engineering, becoming an electrical engineer. Robert went on to meet and marry his wife, Mildred, and they had three children of their own.

Robert's career led him all over the world, as he specialised in Grands Prix. He worked on all but one of Adelaide's Grands Prix from 1987 to 1994. As a senior electrical engineer, it could be said that on multiple occasions the race may not have gone ahead without his work. He worked on the race in Melbourne, Indonesia and China. He even did the full lighting design for the Singapore Night Race. It was his passion, and he was good at it. He was the founding engineer of the Clipsal 500, and was chuffed when our government brought it back. Even after he retired, he was still asked to consult on The Bend Motorsport Park. His commitment to motorsport is to be commended. He also worked on the Olympics and the Commonwealth Games.

Robert always worked hard for his family. He and his wife, Millie, as I said, had three children of their own, and the three have flourished, having children of their own. Robert and his wife now have six grandchildren. Their eldest is also an engineer, designing the future rockets of our country, and the youngest is just 10 years old.

Robert cared about his community, running for local council in 2014, often keeping abreast of local issues and raising them with his local member when required. His passion for making things better, for helping others, may have rubbed off onto his children. Robert's health, sadly, deteriorated after years of smoking as a young person. He worked not only around the racetrack but previously in a car repair and spray-painting lot, in mines and in other places. He spent his twilight years building a boat but did not wear appropriate PPE. His lungs had decreased to only 30 per cent capacity when he was diagnosed with COPD.

Robert fought hard to stay—hard for his wife, hard for his kids and his grandkids. When given a diagnosis of one, three or five years he hung on for all five years. Sadly, on Sunday 18 June, Robert lost his battle. He slipped away in the arms of his wife. I know he was very thankful to the ambulance officers, to the Country Fire Service, who were called in to assist on several occasions to help SAAS, and to the nurses and doctors at the Flinders Medical Centre who helped bring him back to health on numerous occasions.

On 13 August, we said our farewells to Robert in a way he would have appreciated. Not wanting any fuss or a funeral, we celebrated his life at the Adelaide Oval watching his favourite team, Port Adelaide, take on Greater Western Sydney and win with a convincing victory. It was a fitting tribute. Yesterday, Robert's grandson, Finn Hutchesson, turned 20. Robert was a great influence in Finn's life, who ironically also lost his father when he was four.

Robert and Finn spent many hours talking, doing woodwork, watching football and Grands Prix together. He helped raised Finn, he helped guide him and Finn is now an upstanding CFS volunteer, he is an apprentice carpenter and he is my son. Happy birthday to Finn, we are all proud of you, and thanks to dad—thanks for always being there, for teaching us about our work ethic, about never giving up and about family. We miss you every minute. I thank all the members who are here supporting me today for the opportunity to have his name recorded in the history books for all time.

Parliamentary Procedure

SITTINGS AND BUSINESS

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurua—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (15:41): Firstly, I thank the member for Waite for that incredible speech. I move:

That the house at its rising adjourn until Tuesday 12 September 2023 at 11am.

Motion carried.

Bills

ADVANCE CARE DIRECTIVES (REVIEW) AMENDMENT BILL

Committee Stage

In committee.

(Continued from 21 February 2023.)

New clause 5A.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: I move:

Amendment No 1 [HealthWellbeing–1]—

Page 4, after line 8—Insert:

5A—Amendment of section 19—Binding and non-binding provisions

Section 19—after subsection (1) insert:

- (1a) Despite any other provision of this Act, a provision of an advance care directive that purports to be a refusal of health care arising out of, or directly related to, the attempted suicide or self-harm of the person who gave the advance care directive will be taken to be a non-binding provision.

I move to amend sections 19 and 36 of the principal act to clarify the effects of an advance care directive on the provision of health care when a health practitioner reasonably suspects that a person has attempted suicide or self-harm.

During the 2019 review of the Advance Care Directives Act, Professor Wendy Lacey was made aware of a small number of cases where advance care directives were applied to prevent the delivery of life-saving medical treatment following an attempted suicide. Professor Lacey recommended the act be amended to ensure that an advance care directive cannot be used as the basis for refusing life-saving treatment following an attempt of suicide or self-harm.

The former Marshall Liberal government, in particular the then minister, the Hon. Stephen Wade, made a regulation to address this matter and, realising that they had not undertaken broad community consultation, committed to further consultation in response to Professor Lacey's review. The Malinauskas government has committed to bringing this matter to parliament for debate and we have worked closely with clinicians and the community to get the form of this amendment right.

The government is treating this matter as a conscience issue, to highlight the fact that the amendment was not included in the tabled bill. I am therefore moving it as an amendment to the government bill as a private member. In 2021 the Hon. Stephen Wade moved a similar amendment to include section 36A into the principal act, with the intent to address Professor Lacey's recommendation. Members will recall that bill to amend the act did not pass before parliament was dissolved for the 2022 state election.

The amendment that I bring to you today improves upon previous iterations of legislation by ensuring additional safeguards are in place against misuse. I stress that there has been a significant amount of work done to try to resolve differences between some of the key stakeholders in addressing this issue. These additional safeguards include:

1. That provisions written into an advance care directive that explicitly refuse health care arising out of or directly related to an attempt of suicide or self-harm will no longer be binding provisions;
2. That a healthcare practitioner will need to have reasonable grounds for believing that a suicide or self-harm attempt has been made and the provision of health care is necessary to save the life of that person;
3. That healthcare providers will be required to record and report health care provided in contravention to a binding provision of an advance care directive;
4. That these amendments will not compel healthcare providers to provide treatment, nor force them to disregard binding provisions; and
5. That there will be further clarifying notes and examples on the effect of the amendments for the avoidance of doubt.

There are various ways in which a binding provision and advance care directive might relate to an attempt of suicide or self-harm. For example, an advance care directive might be explicit in expressly stating that the person does not want to be resuscitated following a suicide attempt. This is addressed by the proposed amendment to section 19. Alternatively, a binding provision in an advance care directive might be a series of wishes expressed by the person regarding outcomes that should apply in all health care. This is addressed by the proposed amendment to section 36.

These amendments do not authorise a health practitioner to provide health care. If a health practitioner wants to provide health care they still need consent, either by obtaining it under the Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care Act 1995 or by some other statutory authorisation. Nor do these amendments compel a health practitioner to disregard a binding provision. A health practitioner may choose to comply with a person's refusal of health care and not provide health care to that person following an attempt of suicide or self-harm. Such a decision would be subject to the usual professional standards of that health practitioner.

I believe that the overwhelming majority of South Australians support suicide prevention. This was shown in the broad support of the community of the Suicide Prevention Act. Supporting this amendment accords with the views of the community to prevent suicide but also balances the other concerns in this area.

I acknowledge the concern of some members of the community that the amendment will, in limited instances and scenarios envisaged by this amendment, remove the autonomy of the person to make their future decisions binding through an advance care directive. However, on balance I am confident the amendment supports health practitioners to provide the best care for our community.

I again reiterate that I want to thank all the key stakeholders for their work in working with the department to try to reach what we hope is at least a consensus position. It was not necessarily everyone's initial view, but I thank people for working constructively on this matter. Hopefully this can be endorsed by the house.

In particular I would like to thank former minister of this place the Hon. Martyn Evans for his work and his passionate advocacy in relation to advance care directives for many, many years. I thank the Australian Medical Association and their officials who have been part of this process for a long period of time as well. I also thank the Chief Psychiatrist, Dr John Brayley, who has been a passionate advocate in relation to this matter as well. Everybody has worked constructively to try to reach this outcome, and I am hoping that this compromise will be considered favourably by the house.

Mr TEAGUE: I am grateful to the minister for that introduction and perhaps putting into some context the history of this going back at least, anyway, to Professor Lacey's review in 2019. I just take the chance at the outset, as the minister has, to recognise the work of the Hon. Stephen Wade,

then Minister for Health and Wellbeing, as he led, navigating through the early days of the legislation and then the significant moment of the Lacey review, identifying as it did a whole range of different recommendations back then.

I was fortunate to be asked by Minister Wade to review the Lacey recommendations, consider the report and come back and think about it at the time, so I have had some engagement with the process that Professor Lacey undertook and had the opportunity to speak with her about it. I expressed my gratitude for her work at that time.

As the minister has indicated, the response from Minister Wade was expressed in two ways, firstly by regulation to respond to the relevant recommendation and then what we saw introduced into the other place and passing the other place in the last parliament, an amendment bill that was very substantively in the form of the amendment bill that is before the house now. So we are in familiar territory as we navigate this in the Fifty-Fifth Parliament.

What, as I heard it, the minister might have perhaps skipped through and what might assist the committee at the outset is a recognition or indication that the amendment bill as it was introduced by the minister omitted to incorporate a provision of any kind dealing with this and that the amendment that we have then seen moved by the member for Frome is what was included in that amendment bill.

There has clearly been some conscious deliberation about what was brought to the parliament initially and then, as the minister said at the outset of his remarks, some considerable amount of time passed since the introduction and the commencement of the process in relation to the debate on this bill before the minister has now come to the committee with a form of amendment on this subject matter.

I would be interested if the minister might perhaps put on the record some indication as to how the bill came to be presented absent treatment of this particular aspect and how come we are now seeing—and we will get to the merits of it in a moment—this subject matter being put forward. Of course, that is in no way to characterise the merits of it one way or another, just to understand the steps in the process and to be clear about how we had in the first place an omission by reference to legislation that the parliament had previously seen and now something that is reintroducing the topic and may be covering it in even more slightly comprehensive terms.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: I thank the member for Heysen for his question. Essentially, if my recollection serves me correctly, what Minister Wade did was introduce the bill in the same way that we introduced the bill, then he introduced an amendment that became the functional conscience vote issue in the Legislative Council. I do not think it ever actually came to our house in the end before the election.

We sought to do the same thing: introduce it without that clause but with the expectation that there would be a debate. Obviously, the member for Frome moved the amendments in a similar if not identical form to that which Minister Wade did, and that became therefore the substantive conscience vote issue.

We have obviously continued to consult and discuss this. We had a forum for all members of the house to hear various people's views on this matter, which brought out some of the complexities and also the differences of opinion on this issue. I have encouraged the department to keep working with those relevant stakeholders, Chris Moy from the AMA, Martyn Evans and Dr John Brayley, to work together to see if there is some way that could find an improvement that could lead to more consensus in relation to this matter. That is now where we have brought this to the parliament and I am hoping it will get more consensus than where we were previously.

Ms PRATT: I wish to thank the minister for the efforts he has taken to work with those stakeholders in improving on the amendment that I filed last year in good faith in that we were all striving for a similar outcome. While I think it is unfortunate that much time has passed, because there are so many people dependent on the conclusion and the passing of this bill, if the silver lining is the amendment we currently have before us—and hopefully today we see a positive outcome—I will accept that the delay was worth it. I genuinely thank the minister, public servants and staff who have been working in the background on this to find some common ground.

Minister, I am taking my focus straight through to (1b), so I am looking at the amendment of section 36, 'Health practitioners to give effect to advance care directives', where the insertion of (1b) directs that—

An honourable member interjecting:

Ms PRATT: I do not have any questions for the new one.

New clause inserted.

Clause 6.

The CHAIR: Member for Frome, you have an amendment at clause 6. Do you want to speak to that? It is schedule No. 34(1) and amendment No. 2. It deals with clause 6, page 4, after line 14; is that correct?

Ms PRATT: That is not how I read it.

The CHAIR: That is what I am advised. So 34(2) and 34(3) relate to later clauses. We are now at clause 6, which is actually 34(1). That is what I am advised. We are now going back to clause 6, which is the amendment put by the member for Frome—that is, 34(1), amendment No. 2.

Ms PRATT: I would like to ask some clarifying questions because it has been a long time. My amendments were filed a long time ago. There were two amendments, and the minister has filed his amendment, which I understood he was speaking to. If we are not now addressing his amendment in committee and that was just an introduction—

The CHAIR: No, we dealt with amendment No. 1 because that was dealing with clause 5.

Ms PRATT: So we are going back to the amendment I filed on requirements for witnessing advance care directives—amendment No. 2, clause 6, page 4, after line 14.

The CHAIR: Yes, we are doing that now.

Ms PRATT: Which is where the committee was interrupted at that point.

The CHAIR: That is correct, but because this clause dealt with the previous clause, we finished that one off.

Ms PRATT: Yes. It was messy, Chair, but we are back on track. Those clauses and that amendment, or the two parts of those amendments, obviously were addressing the order of signing. It is unfortunate that it was interrupted part way through, so I am looking to the Chair now for guidance or instruction on this amendment. From memory, I spoke to the purpose of my introducing it. I assume I am not asking questions of the minister about my own amendment.

The CHAIR: All you need to do is move your amendment.

Ms PRATT: This is part 2 and this committee was stopped after part 1 with not a lot of notice. I move:

Amendment No 2 [Pratt-1]—

Page 4, after line 14—Insert:

(2) Section 21—after subsection (3) insert:

(3a) Without otherwise limiting the requirements that may be set out in regulations made under this section relating to the appointment of substitute decision-makers, the regulations—

(a) cannot require an advance care directive to be signed or witnessed in a particular order; and

(b) cannot require a substitute decision-maker to complete a part of an advance care directive form before the advance care directive can be witnessed.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: To be clear for the committee, this is not in the conscience vote discussion; this is the order of signing issue, as I understand it, which we had previously discussed. Certainly, the government's position is that we are opposed to this amendment. We will be opposing

this amendment for the reasons that we previously articulated in the previous amendment during the committee stage.

Amendment negatived; clause passed.

Clause 7 passed.

Clause 8.

The CHAIR: I understand there are two amendments to clause 8. We will proceed with the minister's amendment first, but I am also advised that if the minister's amendment is passed it does not stop you from moving your amendment.

Ms PRATT: I am seeking clarification from you, Chair. Separate to clause 8, my amendment looks to insert a clause at 8A, which was filed first, and so before we address the minister's amendment—

The CHAIR: I am advised that because the minister's amendment, even though it is 8A, deals with an earlier part of the bill it takes precedence. Even if the minister's amendment is passed, it does not preclude you from putting yours. They are two separate matters and it does not stop you from moving yours. My understanding is that the minister's amendment is amending section 36. Your amendment seeks to introduce a new 36A and that is why it takes precedence.

Clause passed.

Clause 8 passed.

New clause 8A.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: I move:

Amendment No 2 [HealthWellbeing-1]—

Page 5, after line 17—Insert:

8A—Amendment of section 36—Health practitioners to give effect to advance care directives

- (1) Section 36—after subsection (1) insert:
- (1a) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply in relation to a binding provision of an advance care directive to the extent that—
- (a) the health practitioner reasonably suspects that the person has attempted suicide or self-harmed; and
- (b) the health practitioner is of the opinion that the provision of health care is reasonably necessary to save the life of the person.
- (1b) A health practitioner who, pursuant to subsection (1a), provides health care in contravention of a binding provision of an advance care directive must, as soon as reasonably practicable after doing so—
- (a) make a written record setting out the information required by the regulations in relation to the provision of the health care; and
- (b) provide a report in relation to the provision of the health care in accordance with the requirements set out in the regulations.
- (1c) Subsection (1)(b) does not apply in relation to a non-binding provision of a kind referred to in section 19(1a).
- (1d) Subsection (1)(c) and (d) do not apply in relation to a binding provision of a kind referred to in subsection (1a), a non-binding provision of a kind referred to in section 19(1a), or to health care of a kind referred to in subsection (1a)(b).
- (1e) Without limiting subsections (1a), (1c) or (1d), but to avoid doubt, the effect of those subsections is as follows:
- (a) a health practitioner may disregard a provision of a person's advance care directive that is a refusal of health care if—
- (i) the need for the health care arises out of the attempted suicide or self-harm of the person; and

- (ii) the health care is reasonably necessary to save the life of the person;
- (b) in such a case, the health practitioner—
 - (i) may nevertheless decide to comply with the person's refusal of health care in their advance care directive and not provide such health care to the person; or

Note—

Such a decision would be subject to the health practitioner's usual professional standards.
 - (ii) may, if authorised to do so under another Act or law, provide health care to the person despite the person's refusal of the health care in their advance care directive if, and only if, the health care arises out of the attempted suicide or self-harm and is reasonably necessary to save the life of the person;

Note—

Such Acts would include the *Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care Act 1995* and the *Mental Health Act 2009*.
- (c) nothing in those subsections operates to authorise the health practitioner to provide health care without being authorised to do so under the *Consent to Medical Treatment and Palliative Care Act 1995* or the *Mental Health Act 2009* or any other Act or law;

Note—

Those Acts operate to deem consent to have been given, or to dispense with the need for consent, in specified circumstances.
- (d) the person's refusal of health care in their advance care directive (for example, in the case of a general 'do not resuscitate' provision) would continue to apply in relation to any health care that does not arise out of the attempted suicide or self-harm, or that is not reasonably necessary to save the life of the person.

Example—

If the person were to need stitches for a non-life threatening laceration, the person's refusal of treatment would, even in the case of self-harm, continue to apply.

(2) Section 36(5)—delete 'subsection (1)' and substitute 'this section'

I would love to take credit for the tricky parliamentary manoeuvre that has occurred, but certainly it was not intentional.

We have previously articulated, and as the member for Heysen outlined, the comments that I made in relation to my previous amendment essentially covered the two amendments together and obviously the comments in relation to the work that has been done to try to reach a consensus position applies to this amendment as well as to the previous one.

I would like to put on the record, following the member for Frome's previous comments, my thanks to her in terms of the constructive way in which she has worked on this matter. It is certainly not, in my view, a party political matter and it is certainly something on which there has been broad bipartisan agreement in terms of this area of policy for some time, and long may that continue. Hopefully, through the work that has happened over the past few months in reaching some level of consensus, this can broadly get consensus across both houses.

Mr TEAGUE: This is just an indication of my attitude to the amendment before there might be more particular questions about the provisions that have been presented and, as it turns out, first for that numbering reason. I want to indicate to the committee the reasons for my support for this amendment, and I want to recognise also, with particular gratitude, the work the member for Frome

has undertaken in making sure that this is attended to. It has been a significant and dedicated commitment to this particular aspect of the legislation.

Of course, when we are talking about advance care directives we are in a space as a matter of principle which is concerned with an engagement between an individual and a healthcare provider in circumstances where a directive is able to be given by someone who is capable to do so in advance of circumstances that might befall them down the track in terms of their health and later life.

It is not, in my view, an occasion by which the parliament ought to find itself legislating in such a way as provides or in any way regulates a pathway towards the taking of one's life. We have focused as a parliament over a sustained period of time on an understanding of how to prevent suicide. We have indeed legislated specifically in that regard in what is a particularly difficult, mysterious, unknown and still one of those few remaining taboo areas of life and wellbeing; nonetheless, we have grappled with it with a view to understanding how it can be prevented.

It ought to be, I think, a matter of straightforward understanding that every suicide is an unmitigated disaster, and there is no occasion that, through a legislative instrument that is designed to facilitate the engagement of an individual with the health system, ought to be in any way distracted by those particular circumstances. Without traversing further into the area of the voluntary assisted dying legislation, which passed the parliament in recent years, there are a number of ways through statute, public policy intervention and other public engagement, where we can grapple with end of life, we can grapple with autonomy of individuals in their engagement with the healthcare system and indeed with we can engage proactively in better understanding and working towards suicide prevention.

It is my view as a matter of clear principle that advance care directives have no role to play in those circumstances, and it is right that the legislation provide a robust pathway for health practitioners to navigate when dealing with those particular and unfortunate circumstances. I commend the amendment, and I think there are some questions more particularly directed to those aspects of it that expand upon the version that has previously been elucidated, and I might take the opportunity in due course, but I otherwise commend the inclusion of it in the amendment bill.

Ms PRATT: Minister, the clause that got my attention with most interest was the insertion and addition of requiring a doctor or a health practitioner providing that life-saving treatment where the health practitioner must, at (1b), make a written record or provide a report. I am looking for an explanation of the origins of this clause and further details around whether it will be a digital record. Who is this report for? Who is it reporting to? What oversight will there be? What necessitates this report? While I am mindful of the details in this question, my interest goes to the data that is going to be recorded, captured, and the purpose behind the origins of that clause. I think I will reserve a follow-up question.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: As I mentioned earlier, this is one of the additional safeguards that has been added. This came out of the consultation that I discussed earlier. I am advised that this particular one was a suggestion from the Hon. Martyn Evans, who is someone who has been significantly involved in advance care directives work for many years. The idea is for this not to be an onerous requirement. The provision sets out that the specific requirements will be set by regulation, but it is envisaged that this could be in electronic form, i.e., it could be added to in SA Health way through the Sunrise electronic patient record system that we have and operate across our hospitals, and that would be duly noted within that electronic record system.

Ms PRATT: Following on from that, can the minister speak to who will have access to this record and report once it is created? Does it allow for the substitute decision-maker or a family member to understand the decisions made by that health practitioner? Who will receive this report?

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: In relation to the report, it is envisaged that that it will be a statistical report, not going into the particular clinical details about individual people. Essentially, there is a safeguard to detect if this issue is becoming abused, for lack of a better word, in the sense of numbers more than would be expected as a safeguard to be able to track the statistical data of it.

On the other hand, the information that we put in somebody's electronic health record is obviously subject to the standard procedures required under the Health Care Act in relation to a

patient's data, and medical information would be subject to their personal privacy provisions or their permissions or the next of kin's permission for that information to be accessed or as authorised in another way under the Health Care Act.

Mr TEAGUE: This goes to the same subsection (1b). To be clear, there are a number of aspects that are not spelled out within the subsection. It is a matter of interest as to exactly what purpose these obligations upon the health practitioner are intended; they are just not spelled out on the face of the record. The thrust of my interest goes to the practical burden upon the health practitioner in terms of complying with these two requirements and, as the member for Frome has commenced to inquire upon, the place that these reports and written records will be recorded and the purpose for which they will be applied. To be clear, (1b) provides:

- (1b) A health practitioner who, pursuant to subsection (1a), provides health care in contravention of a binding provision of an advance care directive—

again, we have already deemed it to be non-binding, so I will perhaps move on from that. If I am understanding it correctly, it might have been expressed as a non-binding provision by operation of the new section 19(1a) of that advance care directive—

must, as soon as reasonably practicable after doing so—

- (a) make a written record setting out the information required by the regulations in relation to the provision of the health care; and
- (b) provide a report in relation to the provision of the health care in accordance with the requirements set out in the regulations.

We have requirements that are to be set out in the regulations, but we don't have anywhere there to whom the written record is to be provided for the purposes of (a) nor to whom the report is to be provided for the purposes of (b).

The minister has given an indication about the kinds of places where one might expect to find such a written record or such a report, and it may be that the regulations are capable of encapsulating both the contents of each of those documents and their destination, but we do not see anywhere on the face of the provision that it is a kind of report or written record that fits within a certain category, therefore it is always understood to be headed in a particular direction, nor do we see anything indicating the purpose for which that written record or report is to be provided.

It is a question about the capacity of the new provision and an opportunity to put on the record where those documents are to be directed. I realise there is a bit of a catalogue in working through that, but the minister might care to address whether or not there is a need to address the fact that this is presumably not a binding provision; it is an otherwise binding provision but deemed to be non-binding by virtue of section 19. I apologise for ending up wrapping all that up in one combination of questions.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: Some of that was commentary, which I will accept as commentary. In relation to the reporting requirements, as the section says, that will be set in the regulations. Our thinking in putting it as part of the regulation is to enable that obviously to be as less burdensome as possible to make sure that we are reducing the burden on clinical staff. For instance, what is envisaged is that in SA Health it would be something that would be part of the Sunrise electronic health system, it would be something that could be easily entered within there, and then there would be no separate reporting requirements because it would be within that system; it could be pooled centrally.

If it were to be outside that system, then there would be—in the regulations that we are envisaging—a way in which that information could be provided to the Chief Executive of SA Health so that that statistical information can be compiled and can be reported against to ensure, as we said, there is no overuse or abuse of these sections that are being legislated.

Mr TEAGUE: That answer from the minister just now helps in terms of the body of information that might be available to anybody who is seeking to interpret the provision. I guess to look at it from the other end of the spectrum, in terms of what it actually requires as a minimum, as opposed to what might be expected as a form of compliance against quite a straightforward proposition, if you are a health practitioner and you consult the regulations in each case as to the

contents of the written record and the report respectively then, on the face of the provision, you are complying if you make for yourself a form of written record and you make for yourself a form of report.

I just emphasise that the regulations do not contemplate indication as to the required destination of each of those two documents. The regulations are only going to be concerned, on the face of it, with the contents of the written record and the report respectively. I wonder if the minister has anything further to say about that and whether or not it may be necessary to provide for further regulation as to the required destination of those two documents.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: I think in the vast majority of these cases—to the extent that there is a significant number of these cases, which I think remains to be seen—the requirements in terms of record keeping will be essentially what a clinician will be doing in any case in terms of recording the care and the decision-making that were provided, and there are numerous professional or statutory requirements on clinicians in terms of their record keeping requirements.

To the extent that there is, through paragraph (b), a report in accordance with the requirements and the regulations, this has enabled that information—particularly the statistical side of that information, not the direct care and clinical notes but the statistical information—to be provided ultimately to the department so that that can be kept track of as a safeguard measure to ensure that there is no overuse of this section.

Mr TEAGUE: This is a third one, but it is giving you another go to answer what was in the first one. I realise that that came along as part of the narrative. I will just come back for a clear answer, if I may, about the point that I raised in the first question: (1b) sets out to say that you have a health practitioner who provides health care in contravention of a binding provision of an advance care directive. Is it consciously set out that way so, therefore, it provides for not only the circumstances of this particular amendment that we are here talking about but is applicable more broadly, or is it necessarily addressing itself and should be read as an otherwise binding or a non-binding provision by virtue of section 19(1a)?

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: The member has raised a good question. It is complicated and I will try my best to answer it. In relation to the amendment we have just passed in relation to new clause 5A, amendment of section 19, that is about a specific provision within the advance care directive that relates to a suicide outcome—so saying, 'If I do this, don't resuscitate me'—whereas section 36 is broader than that.

Mr TEAGUE: Do not stop there. It is a supplementary, if you like. Do not stop there; it is important. The point is that if it is intended to apply across the board—that is, every time a health practitioner provides healthcare treatment in contravention, therefore, of a binding provision, and there might be any number of them—then are they by virtue of this provision now having to provide the written record and the report in terms that we have talked about?

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: I just draw your attention to the starting of new subsection (1b), which is 'pursuant to subsection (1a)', so it is only in relation to those binding provisions that are discussed within (1a) where the practitioner reasonably suspects that the person has attempted suicide or self-harmed and the health professional is of the opinion that the provision of health care is reasonably necessary to save the life of the person. It has to be seen in that context. It is broader than section 19, but is narrower than everything under the sun because it is limited to subsection (1a) as well.

Ms PRATT: My questions were about the origin of this clause and the purpose for collecting that data, and you have certainly been addressing them in a fulsome fashion. Given the engagement that has occurred with stakeholders, I wondered whether the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist was engaged with the creation of or gave feedback on these clauses in regard to making a written record or providing a report, and whether—to the member for Heysen's questioning in terms of the destination—there is any action or connection to the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist where these records are given, noting that I do not think South Australia has a suicide register, but—we do?

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: Yes.

Ms PRATT: We are talking about collecting information or creating reports that will document those attempts. The question is about the interaction with the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist contributing to the clause or feedback back to the OCP.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON: Firstly, the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist has been very much involved in all the discussions around this clause over the past few months, so that is certainly in relation to number one. Secondly, in relation to whether they are supportive, that consensus provision has been arrived at, so there is support.

Thirdly, in relation to whether they will receive the reporting, it is envisaged that we will put it in the regulations that will go to the chief executive of the department, but certainly via that mechanism it may well be that that information is provided through to the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist as well as part of their statutory role.

I will quickly sum up and thank all members for their contributions and work on this clause over a long period of time and thank all the stakeholders who have been involved in the discussion. I think it is good that we have reached this consensus provision. No matter what side people were coming to, there was a lot of passion for making sure that this was a good outcome, and I think we have achieved that.

New clause inserted.

The CHAIR: It is my humbling duty to advise the committee that something that was said earlier has been proven incorrect—I was wrong, simple as that. As a consequence, the member for Frome cannot proceed with her amendment to 8A, as that would be in contradiction of the two amendments already passed. Having said that, I will give the member for Frome an opportunity to speak about what she intended to do if she wishes so that we have it on the record.

Ms PRATT: Thank you, Chair. The minister knows my views based on previous discussions and comments today in committee. I again thank parliamentary counsel for the work in drafting both amendments, colleagues on both sides for their consideration of both amendments and the opportunity to reflect on former Minister Wade's original amendment in a previous iteration.

The intention of the original bill was, in my words, not to facilitate or be a vehicle for suicide. This current amendment that has just passed is indeed an improvement on the amendment bill introduced by the minister, and I thank the Chair for his recognition of due process for the amendment that I filed. I thank him for that opportunity to address that oversight. I thank again all members of the house who have considered this amendment.

Remaining clause (9), schedule and title passed.

Bill reported with amendment.

Third Reading

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurua—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (16:38): I move:

That this bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Motions

FIFA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP

Adjourned debate on motion of Ms Hutchesson (resumed on motion).

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (16:39): I would like to take a moment to touch on how much these moments like the Women's World Cup mean in particular to country kids. This week, former Matildas player Jenna McCormick visited our region to run clinics for the Limestone Coast All Abilities program. Jenna grew up in Mount Gambier and attended Tenison Woods College. She excelled at many sports, including Aussie Rules football and cricket, but found her options were limited locally. Like many SA country athletes, Jenna eventually made the move to Adelaide in 2010 as a 16 year old to further her sporting pursuits.

Since then, as well as being part of the Matildas squad, she has played for the Adelaide Crows in the AFLW and recently signed with the Brisbane Roar in the women's A-League. It was a once-in-a-lifetime moment for local athletes to hit the pitch with an elite sportswoman. It is so important for country kids to have access to these opportunities and in particular for young girls. At a time when over 50 per cent of girls are dropping out of sport by the time they are 16, having role models like Jenna to engage with and aspire to is vital.

Two young girls who are hoping to replicate Jenna's success are Mount Gambier locals Emmy Jeffrey and Ashlyn Cornolo. Both girls have been playing soccer since they were six years old and are the perfect example of what is required by country families. A normal week entails training two nights a week for their local clubs followed by a Saturday morning game. Immediately after the game, they jump in the car and make the five-hour drive to Adelaide. On Sunday mornings, they play for Fulham United in the Adelaide under-13 girls' competition then make the five-hour drive back to Mount Gambier.

On top of these commitments, they are also part of the state under 13 girls team, which means additional trips to Adelaide for training and games. In 2022, Emmy scored a total of 204 goals while playing in local and state competitions and is well on her way to achieving her dream of being Australia's next Sam Kerr. Ashlyn is currently training to join the under 14s full-time state squad, which will require her to move to Adelaide.

Since Jenna left Mount Gambier in 2010, things have improved locally, with both soccer and Aussie Rules football now having dedicated women's local competitions. It is essential that we now continue to invest in women's sport. After the Matildas' recent performance, Football Australia is anticipating a 20 per cent jump in female participation.

We need to have the facilities to cater for these numbers, especially at the grassroots level and, more importantly, in country areas, where junior sport numbers continue to decline. I welcome the recent announcement of \$18 million for dedicated female sporting facilities and improvements and look forward to seeing that money filter down to the Limestone Coast. With those words, I commend the motion to the house.

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (16:43): I will add a few words to this great motion. Clearly, not all Australians but nearly all were caught up in the fantastic wave of enthusiasm that surrounded the Matildas and their sterling effort at the world game. It is one of those issues; this is a world game so, when it comes to ranking, you are up against just about every country in the world. You have to get to the World Cup and then you have to fight your way through against the best in the world.

To see what happened over those weeks was electrifying. I come from a football family. I have said in this place before there were only two rules in our household: north of the border you go for Celtic, and south of the border you go for Man United. I did have to add, 'You have to go for Port Adelaide, as well,' but that was my addition.

Football was the original love. I was a pretty mediocre football player. Way back then, my sister used to play football here in Adelaide and she was a good player. Indeed, she went on to play Gaelic football for New South Wales in the national championship, so she was a little bit of an athlete. She had the pleasure of taking her two daughters to watch the game in Sydney—the lucky bastards got a ticket. I did say, 'As an uncle, I could piss off one of your daughters and you could give me one of those tickets,' but I did not figure my life would be worth living if I were to do this.

By pure coincidence and accident, I happened to be in Brisbane when that incredibly exciting game was on. In fact, that would have to be one of the most exciting games of football I have seen. We could not get a ticket into the stadium. We went to the fan base, but the line was so long we ended up in a nearby pub. There were lots of big screens, it was crowded and the atmosphere was fantastic. I am not a nailbiter, but that night I manicured all my nails. That game was just so tense. To come down to 20 sudden death penalties, you just go, 'Wow!' The tension was amazing. When they won that game, the way the pub erupted in unison was a sight to behold.

People all over the country—whether in the stadium, at the fan base, in pubs, in clubs or in their homes—were transfixed by that game. I think it has done amazing things for women's and girls' football endeavours in this country. When we went on to play the Lionesses in Sydney, alas, it was

not to be. The English did play a very good game of possession football and it looked as though they were on top, but to watch that Sam Kerr goal—that was a stunning goal from a distance. You go, 'Wow, what a goal! Fantastic!'

One of the important things is: how does this now ultimately translate? The member for Mount Gambier talked about that, at the regional level. I know that in Whyalla there has been an attempt to get a female league going, and that met with mixed success. I have to acknowledge Kirsty Arbuckle for all the work she did to try to get that league going. When you looked at some of the facilities that the female players were using, one in particular stuck in my mind, out at Steel. The male change facilities are pretty ordinary but the female facilities were appalling. So there is a lot to be done in terms of infrastructure, organisation and a whole range of things.

At the moment, in Whyalla there are 71 girls and women playing football in mixed teams so there is something there to build on. With the announcement of additional state money to assist female sport specifically—but also some of the money allocated to football—hopefully, regional communities like Mount Gambier and Whyalla will benefit. Of course, in Whyalla we have a strong history of football. We had seven teams once upon a time; we now have five teams in a city of 22,000 people. We want to encourage female participation and there is a lot of work to be done around that.

I came down last weekend to meet with the CEO of Football SA to look at some of their facilities and to see what could be replicated for football in general but also specifically for female football in Whyalla. I am hoping there are going to be some opportunities to work with Football SA, with the already secured \$6 million that we have for a general sport hub, to see what we can do and what other money we can bring in.

As I said, watching those games over those nights was some of the most entertaining football I have seen and I think it has made a real difference. Others speakers referred to the massive TV audience for these games. They were breaking records that have not been seen for many, many years and I think that is an indication of how the nation got behind the Matildas.

Of course, we should all be proud of the fact—and they should be especially proud of the fact—that they did not get gold, they did not get silver and they did not get bronze but they came fourth and in the world game that is something absolutely amazing. Let's hope the Matildas go from strength to strength in the future and in order to go from strength to strength, we need to focus on grassroots football.

As the member for Mount Gambier said, when you play soccer in the regions, whether you are male or female, there is not the same degree of support that Aussie Rules players get, but in recent times Football SA have people out in the regions as an extension of Football SA to assist building up grassroots football by getting academies going in regional communities. I hope to see Mount Gambier benefit and I hope to see Whyalla benefit and possibly some other communities, but I am going to be very parochial, given our proud football history, and say that I want to see Whyalla benefit.

Ms HUTCHESSON (Waite) (16:51): I want to thank all members for their contribution to the motion. It was such an important one to make sure that we all had an opportunity to congratulate the Matildas on their incredible efforts not only in the World Cup but on all the legacy work they have inspired throughout our state with our record investment in women's sporting facilities, both for soccer and other sports.

I will quickly give a shout-out to my own soccer club, Sturt Lions, which has eight girls' teams and three women's teams. They have recently had one of their girls' teams promoted to the WNPL, so we are all very proud of them as well.

I commend the original motion. We will not be supporting the amended version for the reasons provided by the minister. I commend the motion to the house.

Amendment negated; motion carried.

ADELAIDE THUNDERBIRDS

Ms HUTCHESSON (Waite) (16:53): I move:

That this house—

- (a) congratulates the Adelaide Thunderbirds on winning the Super Netball Championship, their first title in 10 years;
- (b) acknowledges the eight South Australians and SA Sports Institute (SASI) athletes that played in the grand final—Maddy Proud, Maddy Turner and Sarah Klau from the Swifts, and Hannah Petty, Maisie Nankivell, Georgie Horjus, Tayla Williams and Lucy Austin from the Thunderbirds; and
- (c) welcomes the commitment by the Malinauskas Labor government for securing the 2024 Super Netball Grand Final and for working with the Adelaide Thunderbirds to secure the Adelaide Entertainment Centre as their new home court.

As if we were not geed-up up enough in celebrating the Women's World Cup, it was not the only exciting achievement our women in sport have made this year. Our very own Thunderbirds also brought it to the 2023 Suncorp Super Netball Championship and walked away winners. One goal went up and it went in, one goal to win the championship after needing extra time to get it done. The Thunderbirds and the Sydney Swifts could not be separated at full time and, as such, with all the pressure of the whole state watching on, the Thunderbirds made it happen.

Eight South Australians and SA Sports Institute participants took to the court in the grand final: Maddy Proud, Maddy Turner and Sarah Klau from the Swifts, and Hannah Petty, Maisie Nankivell, Georgie Horjus, Tayla Williams and Lucy Austin from the Thunderbirds. The Thunderbirds are an incredible all-of-state team. With members from all over our great state, some of our smallest, most isolated towns have produced some of Australia's best netballers, netballers who can be so proud of the places they hail from—Wudinna, Mundulla, Balaklava and Parndana.

Netball is such a fast-moving game. The players are on the move constantly, and the skill, the training and the hard work required to compete at such a high level and then ultimately take home the win is to be acknowledged and admired. Inspiring thousands of young girls to take up the sport, our team should hold their heads high with pride, and we are all very proud of them.

We must also pay tribute to the loyal and loud fans. Fans play such an important role, inspiring our teams to do their best, and the pink army, who have been unwavering in their support of the Thunderbirds since 1997, do an incredible job. Our government is serious about supporting netball. In the lead-up to the grand final, our government made a significant announcement that South Australia will be hosting the 2024 Suncorp Super Netball Grand Final, a game in which we know the Thunderbirds can successfully defend this hard-earned 2023 title.

Our government has also announced that next year the Thunderbirds will be using Adelaide Entertainment Centre as their home court facility. The move of elite netball to the Entertainment Centre will allow the state government to begin immediate work developing a plan to rejuvenate the ageing Netball SA Stadium at Mile End and ensure it is rightly a home for South Australian netball long into the future.

Having attended the mixed netball championships last year and seeing the state of the centre, it is necessary and urgent, and I am so glad we are going to get on with its rejuvenation. Ensuring these athletes have the facilities they need and deserve will enable them to inspire even more young people to get active and involved. Netball SA has close to 35,000 members, most of whom are women and girls.

Our government is serious about backing women and girls in sport. We have re-established the Women in Sport Taskforce, led by the minister, of which I am the deputy chair. We are doing the work to understand the hindrances faced by women and girls in sport to hopefully clear the way, to encourage girls to take up sport but more importantly to continue and aspire to great things. Linking funding for state sporting organisations to diversity on their boards opens the door to women to be in leadership positions, to drive change in their clubs and to ensure there is equality of access.

We have also recently announced an \$18 million investment into supporting women's sport, with \$8 million of this being available to clubs of any code—including netball—to support female sports, whether they be through new or upgraded facilities or training courses to support the development of coaches or officials. This investment demonstrates our government's steadfast commitment to enable girls and women to equally and actively participate in the sport they love and truly harness the momentum of the tournament.

We are a sporting state, and our government understands that. We are also supporting SASI, the South Australian Sports Institute, with their new facilities. Announced in June 2021, the original budget was \$49 million, which did not include any car parking or public realm upgrade. Our government has approved an additional allocation for the project to deliver a scope that includes car park redevelopment and public realm upgrade and factors in unprecedented market escalation. The additional budget also leveraged investment of \$20 million by UniSA for education outcomes.

The new budget, including car park and public realm upgrade, is \$68 million. The facility will include a strength and condition gym capable of accommodating multiple sports and teams; a specifically designed indoor court with smart technology; sport-specific ergometer training zones; indoor bounding areas; an environment chamber for simulated heat, humidity and altitude stress training; and a dedicated UniSA education and research floor.

As part of the precinct development, the National Centre for Sports Aerodynamics will also be located at Mile End, which will redefine high-performance sport, research and education in South Australia. The future of sport in our state is bright for everyone. Next year, we will host the 2024 Super Netball Grand Final right here in SA. What an incredible opportunity for netball in South Australia, and it will no doubt leave a lasting legacy. Congratulations again to our Thunderbirds for an incredible achievement. We are so proud of you all.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley) (16:59): I move:

Delete paragraph (c) and amend as follows:

Notes that the 2024 Super Netball Grand Final will be played in the Adelaide Thunderbirds' temporary new home at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre.

On Tuesday the 29th, the member for Waite gave notice that she would move the motion, as has been pointed out. What a game that grand final was. The Adelaide Thunderbirds were able to defeat the New South Wales Swifts in what was an incredibly close grand final match, ending a 10-year premiership drought. The Thunderbirds of course secured the grand final by just a single point.

I was watching the game with my son and my wife at the time, and what an absolutely nerve-racking game it was. The result was a 60-59 grand final, attended by a sellout crowd, with over 9,000 people turning up to support both sides. Excitingly, the Thunderbirds took the lead with around just one minute and 44 seconds left in extra time.

The South Australian government has won the right to host the 2024 Super Netball Grand Final in Adelaide. The Adelaide Entertainment Centre will be the temporary home of the Thunderbirds from the next season, with the grand final match being played at the venue, regardless of whether the Thunderbirds make it to the grand final in 2024.

Obviously, as a former government we worked tirelessly to commit around \$400 million into sport during our time in office, and that supported thousands of jobs and better health outcomes and also increased economic investment in the state. The former government also led South Australia into a sporting golden era with its 20-year road map for the state's sporting infrastructure needs. Of course, we also invested \$12 million into the upgrade of the Netball SA Stadium in Mile End.

We support paragraphs (a) and (b) of the motion but, as I said, we have moved to amend paragraph (c). I look forward to hearing the debate. Go Thunderbirds. It was also really pleasing to attend a ceremony here in the parliament celebrating their victory. In terms of netball in this state, I think our best days are ahead of us in South Australia. I offer congratulations to the girls on their grand final victory and I wish them all the very best in the future.

Mrs PEARCE (King) (17:01): I may be biased, but I think netball is one of the absolute greatest sports that there is. I know I am not alone in that; in fact, there is a champ player sitting across the chamber from me today and there are another 35,000 girls and women who love participating in netball.

Netball is played in suburbs and regions all across our state, helping to bring communities together. In fact, in the heart of my local community is one of the busiest and best netball associations you will find in our great state: SADNA. Comprising 20 courts, with over 2,600 members from all across the north and the north-eastern suburbs, with teams aged seven and up, SADNA facilitates

an amazing opportunity for many to get outside, be active and contribute in a healthy way to my community.

They host games multiple times a week, they facilitate local team training sessions and they hold netball tournaments, all while developing the next generation of netballers through programs such as NetSetGO. They help to strengthen the social fabric of the north and north-east and continue to contribute significantly to our local community. I am proud of their efforts in bringing together players, family and friends and our wider community.

I know that the Thunderbirds' incredible season will only empower more people to take up this amazing sport, in not just my community but across the state. In fact, my little one cannot wait to start her second season of netball, and it is not because her mum won the C2 summer grand final last year; it is because she met Tori, the Thunderbirds mascot, during a tournament last year and became absolutely enthralled—just as the magnificent Thunderbirds have enthralled us all throughout this season.

I would like to congratulate all players on an incredible season and an exhilarating grand final against the Sydney Swifts. I still cannot believe that it came down to a solitary goal after going into extra time. Extra special congratulations go to the eight South Australians and SA Sports Institute participants who took to the court in the grand final, those being Maddy Proud, Maddy Turner and Sarah Klau from the Swifts and Hannah Petty, Maisie Nankivelle, Georgie Horjus, Tayla Williams and Lucy Astin from the Thunderbirds.

These players inspire so many girls and women to participate and chase their dreams in sport, so it is only fair that we as a government ensure that these magnificent women have the facilities they need and deserve to enable them to inspire even more young women to get active and involved. I know that having the impact of moving the Thunderbirds to the Entertainment Centre will be significant and cannot be underestimated. It will provide an opportunity to grow crowds at the elite level of the game, but more importantly it will provide us the freedom to take proper action to upgrade Mile End netball stadium for the tens of thousand of netballers who use it each year.

Our state is developing a reputation for hosting outstanding major events, and I am thrilled that the 2024 Super Netball Grand Final will be right here in Adelaide, in no small part due to this move. I hold high hopes for the Thunderbirds mounting a defence of their 2023 premiership title and to hold their crowns as the ultimate champs when it comes to the 2024 grand final. Either way, I do know that our state will be buzzing with excitement, and I am incredibly proud of these amazing players. Our government is serious about backing girls and women in sport, and the actions we are taking shows that we are not just talk—we are getting it done.

Mrs HURN (Schubert) (17:05): I, too, rise to congratulate the Adelaide Thunderbirds on what was a truly sensational season for them. It was one of those heart-stopping games. I could not believe that it went into overtime, and it was just an absolute cracker. To see elite netball having such a showcase—I agree with the sentiments of the member for King—really does inspire the next generation, seeing these Adelaide girls particularly, girls from the country like Hannah Petty and even girls from the city like Maddy Proud, who plays for the NSW Swifts. To know that they, too, can achieve something great like that I think is truly remarkable.

In thinking about elite sport, one of the things that I am always passionate about reflecting on is grassroots sport because everyone has to start somewhere. There is no better example of that than the Thunderbirds captain, Hannah Petty. She spoke so passionately and proudly about her country roots. To see about 50 Wudinna locals who made the 6½ hour drive from Wudinna to Adelaide, to then get on the plane to Melbourne to support her, I think was so fantastic. It is something that all of us in the house are so proud of. I know that Sam Telfer, the member for Flinders, is right behind that family as well.

That was just one small example of the travel that kids from that country have to do to be able to play elite sport. It is not just for netball; it is right across different codes. I was reflecting on this because Hannah Petty has a profile that has risen and will continue to rise even further. For her to have the opportunity to speak about country areas and the need for country communities to be equipped with better tools for coaching and those types of things I think was remarkable.

She was reflecting on all the travel her family did just so that she could get the opportunity to play at that level. Obviously, it is not just her; her brother is playing for the Melbourne Demons as well. I was reflecting on that because I remember that when I was in year 12 my mum and dad used to drive me down to town. We had a Holden Commodore at the time, and I would do my year 12 homework with the torch on because that was the only opportunity I had to get it done.

That is just one very small sacrifice and adjustment you have to make to be able to go to the city to follow your dreams. That is why I will always champion investment in sport because, as has been reflected on here in the house, it does bring community together. I think you really feel that at a personal level in the country because your community fuels your success, and that was great to see for Hannah Petty.

As I was reflecting back on the last few years the Thunderbirds have had, it is pretty remarkable they were able to take out the championship this year because their last premiership was in 2013, and then they had many, many years when they finished completely bottom of the ladder: they won only one out of 28 games. That all changed this year. I think part of the reason for that change was their new coach, Tania Obst. I have had the privilege of being coached by Tania.

Tania is an absolute taskmaster. She does keep things really simple, but she is very clear in her direction. She is very much supportive of making sure that you do the one-percenters for the team, and I think that was so clear in the game that we saw for the Adelaide Thunderbirds and the win they had. Even Hannah Petty as the captain, and leading into that final series, did not necessarily take part in every quarter of every single game. What an amazing character Hannah Petty is.

I would like to pay commiserations to a couple of my mates but particularly Maddy Proud, who was on the losing end of that game. She is an absolute trooper. I know her star, the star of Sarah Klau, another South Australian netballer I had the privilege of playing with—she played for the Australian Diamonds in the world cup—and the stars of all those Adelaide Thunderbirds girls are going to continue to rise.

I think that is particularly exciting not just for netball in this state but for all those junior girls coming through the ranks at clubs like my home club in Angaston and right across regional South Australia. On that note, I would like to again congratulate the Adelaide Thunderbirds. I really hope they can do it back to back. It would be great to do it in front of a home crowd right here in Adelaide.

The ACTING SPEAKER (The Hon. L.W.K. Bignell): Thank you, member for Schubert. While we are on the subject of country sports stars, I think we should acknowledge the great contribution your brother, Shannon Hurn, made to the West Coast football club as premiership captain retiring at the end of this season after more than 330 games.

Mr FULBROOK (Playford) (17:10): I rise to make a small contribution to this timely motion, and I thank the member for Waite for bringing it to the house. To begin, I am definitely speaking in support of her motion and want to offer my personal congratulations to the Adelaide Thunderbirds on taking out the Super Netball championship.

Their thrilling 60-59 point win over the New South Wales Swifts in extra time will be the stuff of legends and it is fantastic that as a parliament we can imprint this very happy memory into *Hansard* for future generations to appreciate. Regardless of sporting code, when you have tight final matches like this, the sport itself is the big winner. While this moment belongs to our local team, it is right to thank the New South Wales Swifts for giving it their all and making the win for the Thunderbirds that extra bit special.

It has been a long 10 years between titles for a team that does have a pedigree of success. While the Super Netball championship has only been running since 2017, it is worth noting that when factoring in the ANZ Championship and the Commonwealth Bank Trophy, this is the fifth premiership they have taken out since their inception in 1997. I do feel the loss of the Trans-Tasman competition is something to lament but, given I am not an administrator, I am sure there are lots of good reasons why netball reverted to a national competition.

With Australia recently reconfirmed as netball world champions and a large number of foreign imports, not just within the Thunderbirds but playing across the league, it does not take much to

argue that we do have the best competition in the world. When we have the best of the best pitted against each other, it does make this win all the more special. While this is the first in a decade, let us hope it is a sign of things to come.

The infrastructure is now in place to show how much this state rallies behind its teams. The Malinauskas government has not only locked in all home games to the much larger Entertainment Centre for the next season but also secured the playoff for next year's final. The Thunderbirds, of course, are world-class professionals. I do not want to put any undue pressure on them, but we are all set and ready to hopefully now cheer them on for two in a row in the comfort of their home city.

We have just recently celebrated the success of the Matildas, not just today in parliament but across the country. Both events have proven that gender is no barrier to a good sporting spectacle. We have seen this through the local euphoria, very large crowds and remarkable television audiences, locally and across the world. This point is reinforced by the attention and adoration the Thunderbirds have received from across South Australia.

In a world where sport is heavily commercialised, these events should serve as a massive wake-up call to sponsors, administrators, governments and everyone else linked to the success of sport, to ensure equal billing and resources, including wages, go to everyone involved, irrespective of gender.

Of course, netball in this country has been somewhat of a trailblazer in the journey to attracting respectable levels of pay for female athletes, thanks in part to a lot of solidarity and support from Bill Shorten and the Australian Workers' Union. With the recent pay dispute showing that there is still a long journey ahead, it is worth remembering there is a strong link between reasonable remuneration and the quality of sport played at the elite level and there is no better example of this than this close and exciting final that we saw between Adelaide and the Swifts.

Do not get me wrong, we still have a long way to go, and I hope it does not get ugly, but a strong signal has been sent out of Adelaide and South Australia that gender is no barrier to the teams we support.

As a male, I want to make it clear that it is ludicrous to feel threatened or worried by this wrong being rewritten. I might be a bloke, but I am also a father who wants any boy or girl to grow up believing that they will be properly compensated for the level of sacrifice they are prepared to make in anything they choose to excel in. In offering my congratulation to the Thunderbirds I want to take this opportunity to stress to the administrators that now more than ever we as a state are watching very closely how well you treat our team and all the other players participating at the elite level.

Before I close I want to send my sincerest thoughts to Latanya Wilson, who has, sadly, lost everything after her home in Jamaica was destroyed by fire. This included her 2022 Commonwealth Games silver medal and her Super Netball premiership medal that she won with the Thunderbirds this season.

I understand that her former Thunderbirds teammate and England World Cup silver medallist Eleanor Cardwell has also set up a JustGiving page to help out her teammate. While it is a UK page, I understand that through JustGiving you can donate in Australian dollars, so this might be an opportune moment to express our thanks to the team by standing with Latanya. I say hats off to Ms Cardwell, and wonder if the remuneration was better aligned to the more recent euphoria, perhaps this support may not be needed.

While this fantastic story is tinged with sadness from afar, it should still take nothing away from the dedication, hard work and great success of Tania Obst and Hannah Petty and the entire team. Judging by the comments made today, we are all very proud of you and, with this in mind, I am pleased to stand in support of this motion.

Ms HUTCHESSON (Waite) (17:16): I want to thank all members who contributed to the motion today and once again congratulate the Adelaide Thunderbirds and wish them all the best in the next year as they prepare for the 2024 recontesting, and hopefully bringing the win for us again in their home state. We will not be accepting the amendment to the motion, and I commend the motion as originally moved.

Amendment negated; motion carried.

Bills

APPROPRIATION BILL 2023

Estimates Committees

Adjourned debate on motion:

That the proposed expenditures referred to Estimates Committees A and B be agreed to.

(Continued from 30 August 2023.)

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (17:18): It is good to speak on the estimates side of the Appropriation Bill. Obviously, before we had estimates we got to speak on the Appropriation Bill itself, which gave us the opportunity to speak about the recent state budget. From my perspective, I was able to highlight that what that state budget was really about was a buy now, pay later budget, done in the face of a massive cost-of-living crisis in South Australia.

As I mentioned, we put that down and were able to follow that up in the estimates process, where we could actually drill down into each of the different portfolios. I had the opportunity to sit on quite a number of the estimates sessions and it gave me the opportunity to investigate, in quite good detail, the spending in various departments, such as the Department for Energy and Mining, the Department for Industry, Innovation and Science, the Department for Trade and Investment, the Department for Health, and also Defence SA in relation to the defence and the space industries.

While all these portfolios are very important, I want to take some time, to start with, discussing the defence and space portfolios, because in my Appropriation Bill speech I focused a lot on the energy and mining side of things. I was able to focus on the skyrocketing power prices that are facing hardworking South Australians. Even as we sit here today, we have just had the report released by ESCOSA showing again that the average South Australian household faced power prices of another \$169 as an increase, and then small businesses even more: they are up nearly \$650.

These are massive price increases and, at the same time for all that money, what was also revealed today by AEMO is that South Australia is again at risk of blackouts this coming summer. For all those massive increased payments in power bills that South Australians have had to face, they still have massive unreliability problems and blackout problems.

If I then move on to space and defence, as I have said previously, thank you to all the staff who were there. I note that Richard Price, who is the CE of Defence SA, joined the Minister for Defence and Space Industries. I would like to thank him. He has recently announced that he will be retiring later this year. He has certainly worked really hard in that role and I think has had some good results for the state. We know that South Australia is the defence capital of Australia, and so it is important that in South Australia we have a good focus on that, and I think Richard, in his role, certainly had that.

If we talk about space, that is also a really good emerging opportunity for South Australia, and that was one that the former Liberal government leaned into heavily. I think most people would agree it is one of the legacies of that government because, increasingly, there are more and more opportunities in space in South Australia. The rapid rise in technology has seen a renaissance in where space is going worldwide, and we have some fantastic South Australian companies that are taking part in that, companies such as Fleet Space Technologies, Inovor, Myriota, Neumann Space, Southern Launch and Space Machines Company.

These companies are small, but Fleet has done fantastically in some capital raisings and has a value related to that of about \$350 million. The other companies are growing too, but they are starting out on their journey. It is important that as a state government, as a federal government, we support this industry because it will be important for sovereign capability as well. We saw in the recent Defence Strategic Review space becoming part of defence planning.

The US now have their own space force in their armed forces, and it is not too hard to see something similar happening here in Australia, so sovereign capability is really important. We need

to back these companies in so that they can continue. When we were in government there was huge momentum in South Australia with capability being established in lots of these companies.

One of the forward leaning approaches to that was when the former federal government was running its Modern Manufacturing Initiative, which came out of COVID, and that recognised the need to retain manufacturing capabilities here. The federal government had their Modern Manufacturing Initiative where they looked to grow manufacturing in Australia, and companies could bid into via consortia. That was what happened in South Australia, where we had Fleet Space Technologies joining up with other space-related companies—AT Space, Q-CTRL, Alauda—looking to set up a space manufacturing facility.

They put in money. The state government has said before it is really important we lean in and leverage that. The state government also provided \$20 million towards that to be able to have what was known as the Australian Space Park, which was forecast to be at Adelaide Airport and that would provide a Common User Facility for not only those four companies but other companies in the space supply chain to be able to use.

This equipment is very specialised, and it is also very expensive, and so it is really hard, especially for these smaller companies, to be able to afford that. That bid was put up and, pleasingly, it was supported by the federal government, when in March 2022 they agreed also to contribute \$20 million. A combined total of \$66 million was to go towards this Australian Space Park.

Interestingly, with the Modern Manufacturing Initiative, the way the funding was structured was that the federal government committed that they would put in money but no more than a third of any bid's value. At the same time, they encouraged state governments to also contribute but also not to a third. Effectively, you could have bids where it was about a third federal, a third state and then a third private consortia, and that was quite approximate to what happened here at the Space Park. That was a really important breakthrough here in South Australia, with money being invested into the state for the long term. I questioned the minister about the progress of that because, as I said, it is a really important initiative.

Unfortunately, we saw in this year's state budget that the state government had withdrawn their \$20 million contribution to the Australian Space Park and repurposed it to put towards a Common User Facility at Lot Fourteen. The net result, though, is that the federal government, in terms of their funding contribution, wanted to make up more than a third of any particular bid. It really causes alarm bells. We already know that the federal government have pulled back some significant areas in terms of their funding in the space industry. They are going through all these Modern Manufacturing Initiative bids, and the silence from Canberra is really concerning.

I talked to the minister about this and the reply was, 'That's up to Fleet to be able to deal with the federal government. We've got our \$20 million over here and we're going to put it at Lot Fourteen and we will just hope for the best, but it's uncertain.' It is always a lot easier when you are trying to tell the federal minister, Ed Husic, 'You should continue your funding here in South Australia,' if you can actually say, 'We're putting our money where our mouth is because we are also backing this.'

Well, that is not the case here, and really there are huge concerns as to what is going to go on there. It would be a real missed opportunity because what we could be left with now in South Australia is that, instead of having a \$66 million Australian Space Park with a significant Common User Facility with equipment such as PC boards and a manufacture testing assembly, yes, we will have a \$20 million Common User Facility, but it will be much less in scale.

Another thing that we have learned in estimates is that of those four consortia parties, two have now left, companies that really would have added significantly to it. ATSpace have significant-sized rockets with a hybrid propulsion system rather than the traditional one, and that would have been really important, and Q-CTRL is a company specialising in high-speed quantum analytics and technology. With space and the immense amounts of data, high-speed compute is really important and something Q-CTRL would have brought to it. They were even looking at setting up their head office; unfortunately, that does not seem to be the case.

This all points to the fact, as I have said in parliament before, that the Minister for Defence and Space Industries is thinking, 'We will just continue on with the great work that the former Liberal

government did. I won't have to actually put effort into this; it will just look after itself.' Sadly, that is not the case. We saw how hard the member for Dunstan, the former Premier, worked in this area. It required a lot of hard work.

It required convincing his federal counterparts that this a future industry for Australia at scale that will create plentiful jobs. It is not some niche industry. It actually brings high tech, highly skilled calibre into your economy and also allows you to have national sovereign capability. This is a really concerning development, and the minister needs to work very hard to ensure that the federal government continue on with their funding in this area.

The other aspect around the questioning is that we talked about what it is going to look like; what the footprint is going to be like at Lot Fourteen. It was revealed that the federal government is not pursuing building Australia's own satellites to be able to have our own data, and therefore that means that we will not need to build these bigger satellites that were envisaged at the Australian Space Park. They will be smaller satellites. This could well be a big missed opportunity for our state but also for our nation in terms of sovereign capability.

We know there are significant defence projects in the pipeline. I have talked before about how defence is getting more and more closely aligned and interested in space, to the point where there is the capability with these newer satellites to launch constellations quickly.

You can have them on standby ready to launch over an area of operation within an hour or two, and can actually have surveillance there. If you think of the Indo-Pacific, the big Indian Ocean with thousands and thousands of square kilometres and trying to offer surveillance, being able to put satellites up here quickly is a really important sovereign capability that we need to have in Australia. That is what would have been possible, but it seems like that is being backed away from.

Interestingly also is that, while we are struggling to get funding here in South Australia for our modern manufacturing initiative related to the Australian Space Park, over in Queensland Gilmour Space Technologies was able to get confirmation that they will get their \$52 million federal funding as part of the MMI grant for their Australian Space Manufacturing Network initiative in Queensland. It was another separate bid but it actually includes some South Australian companies. I have spoken before about Space Machines Company.

Now, all of a sudden, we are going to have this significant investment into space in Queensland rather than in South Australia. Where we once could quite easily claim that we are the space capital of the nation, we need to ensure that that continues. That is at risk and begs the question: why is the federal government prepared to fund in Queensland but not here in South Australia? Is it because Queensland's state ministers work harder for their state than what is happening here in South Australia? There are some real concerns around that.

In terms of some of the other broader cuts that have been going on federally—and I did make the point in estimates that while the cuts are a federal decision they have rippled down and had direct effects here in South Australia. In the recent federal Albanese budget nearly \$80 million in space-related programs were axed. One of those, the Moon to Mars supply chain facilitation grants, was aimed at helping small and medium space organisations get part of the supply chain to NASA's plans to go to the moon and then to Mars. That would have given an opportunity for companies to get involved in the supply chain.

Also cut was a \$30 million program which was designed to support faster access to space flight by Australian companies. We have seen how important these programs are. The South Australia government, in a first for the country, provided money for a state-based satellite to get launched, Kanyini. That is able to give spaceflight heritage to a company here, Inovor, that I spoke about previously. That was a hope also, that it would have occurred had that \$30 million program gone ahead. That is a real concern as well.

Finally, another federal funding program cut was the \$32.5 million that was allocated to support the development of Australian spaceports. Again, here in South Australia, we have a fantastic company, Southern Launch, that is trying to get their Whalers Way spaceport up and running. At Koonibba they have their test range and there has been some fantastic progress there,

but we are waiting eagerly for Whalers Way to get off the ground, and certainly that funding would be important.

When talking, I raise these matters with the minister just in terms of what the impact has been on the ground with our space sector. It would be fair to say that they are certainly not as up and about as they were previously. That is not to say that they are not an entrepreneurial set of companies as it is. They are very positive, but certainly we need to be backing in our companies here.

Finally, an even bigger cut which happened after the federal budget, but which was potentially on the books because it was quite uncertain in the federal budget papers, was the \$1.2 billion National Space Mission for Earth Observation. It was intended to be the nation's first space mission to launch satellites, which would have helped us as a country to detect bushfires and floods and undertake maritime surveillance. Those programs directly come down and cause diminished opportunities here in South Australia.

It is really important, too, for this state government to continue to work hard in this area, to work alongside private industry and not just expect them to go it alone. It really helps them, in terms of their ability to help employ South Australians and to help advance their technologies, if they know that the state government is supporting them. That really needs to be the case. I want to see this Minister for Defence and Space Industries working hard, as we did when we were in government, because we know that when every other government around the world is investing in their space industry and capability it is not happening here in Australia. That is a real concern.

That being the case, and talking through that, maybe one final point to talk about is the effects, and different South Australian companies are affected in different ways. One of the effects has been that there was previously a massive interest in international investment into what was happening here in South Australia in relation to space. We had international companies wanting to set up here. One example is Airbus, who were interested in getting involved in the Australian Space Park during the early days, but that has evaporated now.

We need to continue to attract these international companies. Realistically, as I said before in terms of the defence projects, the ones that are going to lead them are the primes, so you need these big international companies. We want them to set up in South Australia and then we want them to utilise the South Australian companies in their supply chain as well. It is crucial.

In estimates, Richard Price explained that perhaps the greatest group affected is the international companies who are looking at their strategic plans for Australia. They are now revisiting the strategic plans, and that rings alarm bells. Again, we need the Minister for Defence and Space Industries to be working hard to attract these international companies here into Australia.

We also touched on AUKUS, and I do not want to undersell that, but certainly it is a massive undertaking and project for the country. The former Prime Minister Scott Morrison took the bold decision to do that, principally to have nuclear-powered submarines constructed here in South Australia. Pleasingly, the Albanese government has continued that, so it is certainly going to be massive for the state. We need to make sure we are capturing those opportunities while also understanding the massive step change that is going to be required.

Without going into the questions chapter and verse, we certainly covered a lot of those topics in the estimates as well. You would have to say that, where we are at with the AUKUS, on some of those questions we will have to wait until next year to be able to understand them further. That will be something we will be following up on this side of the house going forward—certainly in the next estimates committee. With that, I will finish and say thank you to the Deputy Speaker for his chairing of the committees I sat on, and I thank all members for their input as well.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Basham.

NEW WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL (RELOCATION OF SA POLICE FACILITIES) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

**PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (ADELAIDE PARK LANDS)
AMENDMENT BILL**

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

At 17:40 the house adjourned until Tuesday 12 September 2023 at 11:00.

*Estimates Replies***EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS**

In reply to **Mr BATTY (Bragg)** (29 June 2023). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier): I have been advised that for South Australian Motor Sport Board:

Since 1 July 2022, # executive appointments were made as follows:

Role Title	Classification
Commercial Manager	SAES1

The total annual employment cost for these appointments is \$# (excluding on costs).

Individual executive total remuneration package values (TRPV) as detailed in schedule 2 of an executive employee's contract will not be disclosed as it is deemed to be unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

In reply to **Mr BATTY (Bragg)** (29 June 2023). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier): I have been advised that for South Australian Motor Sport Board:

Since 1 July 2022, there were NIL executive positions abolished.

Role Title	Classification

The total annual employment cost for these abolished positions is NIL (excluding on costs).

Individual executive total remuneration package values as detailed in schedule 2 of an executive employee's contract will not be disclosed as it is deemed to be unreasonable disclosure of personal affairs.

EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

In reply to **Mr BATTY (Bragg)** (29 June 2023). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier): I have been advised that for South Australian Motor Sport Board:

The total value of the termination payments was NIL which excludes the value of accrued leave entitlements.

CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

In reply to **Mr BATTY (Bragg)** (29 June 2023). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier): I have been advised that for South Australian Motor Sport Board:

As required by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet Circular PC013—Annual Reporting Requirements for 2022-23 information relating to expenditure on consultants and contractors including the vendor, total cost and nature of work undertaken, will be detailed in annual reports published by agencies.

CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

In reply to **Mr BATTY (Bragg)** (29 June 2023). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier): I have been advised that for South Australian Motor Sport Board:

The estimated total cost for engagement of consultants and contractors in 2023-24 is \$66,479.

The following is a summary of external consultants that have been engaged at a total estimated cost above \$10,000, the nature of work undertaken, and the estimated cost for 2023-24.

Consultancies	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost

The following is a summary of external contractors that have been engaged at a total estimated cost above \$10,000, the nature of work undertaken, and the estimated cost for 2023-24.

Contractors	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
Abbie Elaine Lane	Provision of participant liaison and related event specific services for the Bridgestone World Solar Challenge and Community Relations Services for the VAILO Adelaide 500	\$41 502
Chris Selwood	Event Director and related event-specific services for the Bridgestone World Solar Challenge	\$24 977

GOODS AND SERVICES

In reply to **Mr BATTY (Bragg)** (29 June 2023). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier): I have been advised that for South Australian Motor Sport Board:

The budgeted expenditure on goods and services for the financial year 2023-24 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is as follows:

	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total goods and services	35 725	37 255	39 680	39 100

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr BATTY (Bragg)** (29 June 2023). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier): I have been advised that for South Australian Motor Sport Board:

Table 1 shows the total budgeted FTE to provide communication and promotion activities for 2023-24 and the forward estimates:

Table 1: FTE employed in communication and promotion activities

Unit/Branch		2023-24 Budget	2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Budget	2026-27 Budget
Office for South Australian Motor Sport	FTE	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
	\$m	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
TOTAL	FTE	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.0
	\$m	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr BATTY (Bragg)** (29 June 2023). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier): I have been advised that for South Australian Motor Sport Board:

As an open and transparent government, marketing communications activity reports and annual media expenditure details are proactively disclosed. The reports list all marketing campaigns over the cost of \$50,000 and budgeted expenditure for approved campaigns and are disclosed on the DPC website: <https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/about-the-department/accountability/government-marketing-advertising-expenditure>.

GRANT PROGRAMS

In reply to **Mr BATTY (Bragg)** (29 June 2023). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier): I have been advised that for South Australian Motor Sport Board:

The following table provides the requested information on grant program/funds under my responsibility for the 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 financial years—Controlled:

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2023-24 Estimate \$000	2024-25 Estimate \$000	2025-26 Estimate \$000
Portfolio Name (e.g. Premier and Cabinet, Arts etc)				
NIL				

The following table provides details, including the value and beneficiary, or any commitments already made to be funded from the program or funds mentioned in the previous answer.

Grant program/fund name	Beneficiary/Recipient	Purpose	Value \$
Discretionary grant payments	Massive Events Corporation Pty Ltd	Support the execution and delivery of the Adelaide Motorsport Festival (2023-24 to 2025-26)	4 351 000
Discretionary grant payments	Massive Events Corporation Pty Ltd	Support the execution and delivery of the Adelaide Rally (2024 to 2026)	1 575 000
Portfolio Name (e.g. Premier and Cabinet, Arts etc)			
NIL			

The following table provides the requested information on grant program/funds under my responsibility for the 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 financial years—Administered:

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2023-24 Estimate \$000	2024-25 Estimate \$000	2025-26 Estimate \$000
Portfolio Name (e.g. Premier and Cabinet, Arts etc)				
NIL				

The following table provides details, including the value and beneficiary, or any commitments already made to be funded from the program or funds mentioned in the previous answer.

Grant program/ fund name	Beneficiary/ Recipient	Purpose	Value \$
Portfolio Name (e.g. Premier and Cabinet, Arts etc)			

REMOTE WORK

In reply to **Mr BATTY (Bragg)** (29 June 2023). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier): I have been advised that for South Australian Motor Sport Board:

The budgeted expenditure for remote work infrastructure for the financial year 2023-24, and for previous years 2021-22 and 2022-23 is as follows:

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
	NIL	NIL	NIL
Percentage of department budget	NIL	NIL	NIL