

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 12 September 2024

Parliamentary Procedure

SPEAKER, ABSENCE

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

The Deputy Speaker took the chair at 11:01.

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.

Motions

HEALTH CARE FOR REGIONAL AND RURAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA PETITION

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (11:03): I move:

That the eligible petition presented in the house on 15 November 2023 from 10,688 residents of Narungga and greater South Australia requesting the house to urge the government to take steps to ensure the equitable distribution of health expenditure, materials and staffing resources to ensure appropriate access to quality health care for regional and rural South Australians; and to reclassify Port Pirie and Wallaroo hospitals to improve resource allocations within the electorate of Narungga be referred to the Economic and Finance Committee.

I thank the government for their acquiescence in bringing this to the top of the *Notice Paper* this morning. As mentioned in the motion, the petition was tabled in November of last year, so it has been sitting on the table for quite some time. I have to say that the members of my electorate who signed this petition, almost 11,000 of them, did so because they believed that they would have the opportunity to make a direct impact in a mandated inquiry and they would be able to contribute and help form the direction in which health care in Narungga proceeds, and hopefully this referral will give them the chance.

We know that the Legislative Review Committee has been snowed under with inquiries and it has not found the time to be able to complete those. As such, a law change was made to enable for those petitions to be referred to different committees. At this stage we are still waiting for the Standing Orders Committee to come up with a mechanism to enable those referrals to happen, but in lieu of that, I am thankful that the government has allowed this motion to proceed and it will pass on to the Economic and Finance Committee.

I will make one final point and that is that all standing committees I know are busy, they have all got a large number of referrals and tasks before them. There would not have been an option on the *Notice Paper* of the standing committees that would have enabled this petition to rise right to the top immediately. I would urge the Economic and Finance Committee to please find the time as quickly as they possibly can to inquire into this. It is clear from the *Hansard* when the petition bill was presented to the last parliament that the intent was that these eligible petitions be inquired into as soon as practicable. It was not intended that they be presented, the inquiry mandated and then sit languishing in the bottom of the pile for the rest of the term of parliament.

I have nominated the Economic and Finance Committee because I know that they are chaired by a regional member, a tremendously capable member, and I know that he will do his best to ensure that this regional health petition sees the light of day as soon as is possible. I am sure that the entirety of the committee will do a wonderful job inquiring into it and I am completely confident that we will get a wonderful set of recommendations that will guide the future health care in Narungga.

Once again, thank you to the government for seeing fit to allow this motion to reach the top of the pile; I am tremendously appreciative. I am hopeful that the inquiry will start as soon as practicable and I look forward to informing my constituents of the avenue with which they might make a submission to this inquiry in due course.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am sure flattery will get you everywhere, member for Narungga.

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (11:06): I just want to make a very brief comment in support of the motion to refer this petition to the Economic and Finance Committee. Regardless of the merits of the petition itself, I think it is timely. It has been sitting on the table, as the member for Narungga said, for quite a while now.

We have changed the standing orders to allow the Legislative Review Committee some reprieve from the onerous work of petitions work. As the member for Narungga has indicated, the Standing Orders Committee still has not polished the mechanism by which that referral takes place to the relevant committee and it is complex. This is not an apology, it is sort of an explanation that this is an unexpectedly complex matter in which a private member refers a petition to a relevant committee. I just want to reassure the member for Narungga that that is still being worked on and hopefully this situation will not arise again in the future where a petition is sitting on the table for so long.

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (11:07): I rise to indicate the support of the opposition for this motion and the recommendation to refer it to the Economic and Finance Committee. I commend the member for Narungga, a hardworking local member on the other side of the gulf, for his effort in collecting over 10,000 signatures. To have this as a tipping point for an inquiry is a really important thing.

As a member of the Legislative Review Committee I have been privy to a number of petitions that have been presented to that committee and, as the member for Narungga has spoken about, there has been great engagement from communities right around South Australia with this process. As a member also of the Economic and Finance Committee, I am looking forward, as a regional member of parliament, to delving into this aspect. I also assure the member that I, too, will be pushing for this inquiry to be heard as soon as possible, because regional health in South Australia is such an important matter to make sure we have sustainable, long-term communities which are able to be viable into the future and can contribute, as they currently do, and to an ever-increasing amount to our state and federal economy. In doing so, I speak in favour of this bill.

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (11:08): As the Presiding Member of the Economic and Finance Committee, I welcome this inquiry, and doubly so as a regional member. I think it is important to provide a focus on the delivery of health services in regional communities. There will not be a single regional community that does not have a range of issues when it comes to the delivery of health services.

These issues are often complex and systemic in nature. I am not just involving state government but also federal government policy. I think it is good to have an avenue where the member for Narungga can prosecute his case. He has been patient. Even though it might not fall exactly into the remit of the Economic and Finance Committee, I think it is important at times we demonstrate a degree of flexibility, especially when it comes to an issue as important as this one.

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (11:10): The member for Flinders having given an indication of the opposition's support on the merits, I rise to join in expressing that support. In circumstances where this is an early referral from the house, I note the contents of the motion include the referral to the Economic and Finance Committee. That is a pathway to efficacy here. The house is making clear its desire for the Economic and Finance Committee to examine this and, as the member for Narungga has said, the expectation, given the capacity of that committee, will be that there will be very useful outcomes of what is a very meritorious subject matter.

Motion carried.

Parliamentary Committees

ECONOMIC AND FINANCE COMMITTEE: EMERGENCY SERVICES LEVY 2024-25

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

That the fourth report of the committee, entitled Emergency Services Levy 2024-25, be noted.

Under the Emergency Services Funding Act 1998, the Economic and Finance Committee has an annual statutory duty to inquire into, consider and report on the Treasurer's Determination 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 27 May.

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, including the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service, the South Australian Country Fire Service, Surf Life Saving SA, SA Ambulance, Volunteer Marine Rescue organisations and SA Police.

On 31 May, 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 Metropolitan Fire Service, the Country Fire Service and the State Emergency Service. The witnesses outlined the funding targets, rate setting and expenditure for the proposed levy for the 2024-25 year. Commensurate with its 21-day obligation under the act, the committee considered the determinations and tabled its report on 6 June. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the frontline responders, staff and volunteers who support, strengthen and serve our communities in times of crisis.

I would like to highlight the key elements of this year's levy and report as noted by the committee. The total expenditure on emergency services for 2023-24 is projected to reach \$38.6 million, which is in line with the budgeted expenditure. The total expenditure on emergency services for 2024-25 is projected to be \$395.3 million. This will be funded primarily by ESL payments from fixed property of \$335 million and mobile property of \$52.8 million, in addition to minor revenues of \$3 million and \$4.5 million in rundown from the Community Emergency Services Fund, including \$1.5 million carried over from the previous years. Cash balances in the Community Emergency Services Fund are forecast to be \$17.8 million at 30 June 2024. For 2024-25, the government will pay \$141.8 million into the Community Emergency Services Fund.

Emergency services levy bills fluctuate depending on a property's value according to the Valuer-General and its purpose and location. In 2024-25 the committee can provide the following examples:

- the median residential property price in metropolitan Adelaide has been estimated at \$745,000 and, based on this, emergency services levy bills should increase to \$157.85—this is approximately \$6.55 higher than last financial year;
- the median residential property price in regional area 1 has been estimated at \$395,000 and, based on this, emergency services levy bills should increase to \$95.75—this is approximately \$3.45 higher than the last financial year; and
- for a \$1 million commercial property in metropolitan Adelaide, emergency services levy bills should increase to \$1,140—this is approximately \$13.70 higher than the last financial year.

Revenue raised by these funding targets will be expended on emergency services, including some of the following new initiatives:

- \$3.8 million for per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) remediation and testing, which will allow the Metropolitan Fire Service and Country Fire Service to address identified sites of contamination while further requirements are determined;
- \$0.9 million for additional funding for the scheduled increase in the superannuation guarantee for emergency services sector workers;

- \$0.4 million for the funding of the Country Fire Service to undertake a facilities audit of their 425 fire stations across the state and another 30 CFS sites, including group command centres, the state training academy and regional headquarters;
- \$0.2 million for additional support for Volunteer Marine Rescue associations, funding an estimated 16 primary rescue vehicles; and
- \$0.2 million to commence construction of a new State Emergency Service facility for the Prospect unit, replacing a leased site that is being sold by the owner.

The committee has fulfilled its obligations under the Emergency Services Funding Act 1998. I would like to thank the members of the Economic and Finance 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 commitment and assistance and their contributions to this process.

Therefore, pursuant to section 6 of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Economic and Finance Committee recommends parliament note this report.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE BARRACKS RELOCATION PROJECT—POLICE OPERATIONS CENTRE

Mr BROWN (Florey) (11:18): I move:

That the 87th report of the committee, entitled South Australia Police Barracks Relocation Project—Police Operations Centre, be noted.

This project will construct a new police operations centre at the existing South Australia Police (SAPOL) headquarters located at 100 Angas Street, Adelaide. The project is part of a larger operation to relocate the specialised functions at the Thebarton Police Barracks, with submissions addressing the various police units decamping from the barracks being referred to the Public Works Committee over the last 12 months.

On 27 September 2022, the government announced that the new Women's and Children's Hospital will be built on Port Road, Adelaide on a site that presently encompasses the Thebarton barracks, requiring the relocation of a range of SAPOL functions. These functions are specialist in nature and not replicated or accommodated at any other existing SAPOL locations.

It is critical that the new facilities are strategically relocated at the earliest opportunity to ensure continuing service provision for the South Australian public. The function in question, the Police Operations Centre, is an important part of SAPOL's ability to manage emergencies and major events, as well as planned and unplanned large-scale operations. This Police Operations Centre is a secondary centre, established to respond to emergency incidents and operations when the primary centre's capability has reached capacity, for example, during bushfires, flooding or instances seen during the COVID-19 operation. The project will:

- relocate the operations centre to a new site that provides contemporary facilities with up-to-date technology;
- deliver specialised operational fit-out works, which ensure critical emergency management response services that can support core service obligations in a timely and sustainable fashion;
- expedite relocation from the existing police barracks so that the government's hospital project proceeds as planned; and
- support the SAPOL Our Strategy 2030: Safer Communities plan, providing prompt and effective service delivery, maintaining a visible police presence and ensuring resources are deployed to emergencies and events when required.

Several sites were investigated and measured against a list of criteria required to ensure that critical operational capability is maintained during extreme emergency situations and significant events.

These key criteria include security considerations, access to specialised data infrastructure and an Importance Level 3 construction rating that provides a strengthened building, which is immune to statewide blackouts and can withstand earthquakes and environmental emergencies.

The Police Operations Centre also requires a site that can accommodate the needs and adaptability of specific operational fit-outs and that is appropriately and strategically located for its functions. In partnership with Renewal SA and the Department for Infrastructure and Transport, the Angas Street site was identified as the most appropriate location. SAPOL's internal Security Advice Section has cleared the site as an acceptable premise for policing operations.

Construction at police headquarters is expected to begin this month, coinciding with when the current site at the Thebarton barracks decamps, and it is likely that SAPOL will be without a secondary Police Operations Centre for several months. There are plans to manage this associated risk with existing incident rooms around the state able to act as interim operational centres, if required. The accelerated delivery also carries the risk of cost overruns, and a multiagency governance framework is in place to mitigate any potential problems. Project governance structures have also been established to ensure appropriate oversight and risk management during the planning and delivery phases. Early estimations predict the works will be completed by May 2025.

The project will be managed in line with the Construction Procurement Policy, and project control and steering groups have been established with representatives from SAPOL, the Department for Infrastructure and Transport, the Department of Treasury and Finance, impacted units and the professional services team. Progress will be regularly monitored and necessary strategies adopted to address program variances, with regular reviews of design, documentation and construction to ensure timely progress within the budget. The delivery of the project will follow project procurement and management policies, as advocated by the state government and construction industry authorities.

SAPOL has incorporated sustainable development principles into the project, and the climate change unit of the Department for Environment and Water has assessed the submission against the prescribed guide note for planning, design and delivery. The facility design will ensure environmental qualities that achieve a good value-for-money solution, create a positive workplace, reduce energy and water inefficiency, reduce the consumption of renewable and non-renewable resources and minimise recurrent costs associated with the project. To achieve these goals, the development will consider:

- passive design principles to reduce energy and water use, including correct orientations and shading of windows and access points, as well as natural lighting and natural ventilation;
- daylight maximisation, glare control and facade optimisation;
- a choice of low-emission resources and materials;
- efficient planning that meets government and occupational health, welfare and safety space requirements;
- finishes that provide optimum health, maintenance and cost life-cycle results;
- mechanical climate control, natural convection cooling, dedicated exhaust systems and the use of the existing building's chilled-beam system;
- selection of construction materials that consider recycling capability, low volatile organic compounds and low-emission qualities;
- using local manufactured materials, where possible; and
- acoustic insulation.

An assessment indicates that there is an existing government lease on the site and no heritage or native title concerns. The Central Archive has no record of Aboriginal sites at 100 Angas Street, and the SAPOL relocation project team will engage Aboriginal groups as part of design progression.

SAPOL has engaged and consulted with key stakeholders and the community throughout the concept and planning works for the entire police barracks relocation project. There will be ongoing consultation with stakeholders throughout the design and construction process. Design milestones will be endorsed through governance structures, and SAPOL will manage internal communication regarding site planning and logistics.

The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to the South Australia Police Barracks Relocation Project—Police Operations Centre. Witnesses who appeared before the committee were Assistant Commissioner Noel Bamford from South Australia Police; Scott Bayliss, Chief Services Officer, Department of Treasury and Finance; and Michael Scerri, Senior Project Manager, Department for Infrastructure and Transport. I thank the witnesses for their time.

Based upon the evidence considered and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Public Works Committee reports to parliament that it recommends the proposed public work.

Mr BATTY (Bragg) (11:25): I rise to make a brief contribution and to thank the Public Works Committee for their report on the South Australia Police Barracks Relocation Project—Police Operations Centre. This is the latest in a string of reports from the Public Works Committee that stem from the need to relocate several SAPOL functions from the former Thebarton barracks site.

Nearly two years ago to the day, the Malinauskas Labor government made the decision to put the bulldozer through the Thebarton barracks, in what represented another broken promise from this Labor government who promised us before the last election that they had no intention to demolish any state heritage listed building. Several months later, after being elected on the back of that promise, they put the bulldozer through the Thebarton barracks and now find themselves in a situation where they are scrambling to relocate a whole number of specialist SAPOL functions from the site at the Thebarton barracks.

We have heard time and time again, often through reports from the Public Works Committee, about the specialised nature of these functions and, at times, how difficult it is to move those functions—none of which, seemingly, was considered before this government decided to put the bulldozer through the state heritage listed Thebarton barracks.

Perhaps the best example we have seen, of course, is the relocation of the police horses, which was another function at that site. We had this bizarre period, which stretched for nearly six months, where the government was employing some sort of strange 'announce, defend, capitulate' strategy on where the horses would be moved to.

In the space, I think, of only a few months we heard a plan A announced, which was their Parklands pillage in Park 21 West, representing yet another broken promise to protect the Adelaide Parklands. They announced that, they defended it for a while and then it all got too hard so they capitulated and had their brand-new plan, plan B. This plan was to relocate the horses down to Adelaide Airport. Remember that one? That was very brief, that one. That was announced, it was defended and then they capitulated because it was land riddled with PFAS that was not even owned by the government or available to the government.

Then what did we have? I remind you: we had a plan A, we had a plan B and then I think a couple of months later we had a plan C.

Mr Teague: And a new minister as well.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Heysen is not in his seat.

Mr BATTY: This was, of course, the relocation to Gepps Cross, which we are now seeing being delivered at an eye-watering cost. That cost keeps going up, as well—I think that is nearly \$150 million now to relocate that function to Gepps Cross, at an enormous cost, and also at a cost to those SAPOL employees who do not actually want to travel out to Gepps Cross. We know it is going to have an impact on police numbers, which is a really significant concern.

We have seen this bizarre 'announce, defend, capitulate' strategy—a bizarre passing of the buck to just about every minister to decide where to move those functions. I think initially it was with the police minister; then it was with the planning minister; then it was with the environment minister—

the Parklands; and then it was with the health minister (of course, it was originally with him). It kept going back and forth and back and forth. I think the Treasurer was then put in charge of this special project, this special project to take charge, and he fixed it with his \$150 million solution at Gepps Cross. It was a debacle. It was a lesson in incompetence in trying to simply move some horses.

This report of course relates to relocating another of the SAPOL functions that take place at the Thebarton barracks—the state heritage listed Thebarton barracks that the Labor government is putting a bulldozer through. This one relates to the Police Operations Centre, and we see it being relocated to the existing SAPOL site at Angas Street. The Police Operations Centre is an important part of SAPOL's ability to manage emergencies and major events, as well as planned and unplanned large-scale operations.

The site at the Thebarton barracks was a secondary operations centre designed to respond to emergency incidents when the other operations centre, the primary operations centre, reached capacity; for example, during bushfires, flooding and also during the recent pandemic. I see that this project's schedule is still under review. We have estimations that the works will be completed by early 2025.

I hope they are. I hope it goes slightly more smoothly than the attempt to relocate the other functions. I hope that plan A is indeed going to be plan A this time and that we do see the Police Operations Centre relocated to Angas Street sooner rather than later, because it does serve a very critical function for South Australia Police. All those functions that South Australia Police were delivering from the Thebarton barracks site seem to have been totally ignored by this government a couple of years ago in their rush to eagerly announce that they want to put a bulldozer through a state heritage listed building.

I hope that, in this case at least, the relocation is slightly less of a debacle than what we have seen over the last two years from this Labor government in regard to other functions at the Thebarton barracks.

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (11:32): I rise just to add to those remarks. The member for Bragg has ably summed up the series of not one but two and three—and counting—debacles associated with the government's administration of this area.

South Australia Police and our police horses deserve hugely better. They deserve competence from this government, and that is not what they have got. They have this train wreck of a series of awful decisions, and the government have then managed to blow out the cost of it to such a horrendous degree that it would be a matter of being a laughing-stock if it was not so serious.

I want to draw particular attention at this time—bearing in mind that there is this sort of optimistic estimate that all this moving might be done by early 2025—to the fact that, in early 2023, we saw the gut-wrenching decision of Keith Conlon, the Heritage Council's chairperson whom the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, the Premier, lauded in his farewell. He is a much-loved hero of South Australia who has dedicated so much to highlighting the value of heritage in this state. He described the Malinauskas Labor government's decision to move and to raze those state heritage listed Thebarton barracks as shattering and inconceivable.

Yet they just pressed on with it and then made these shocking errors, one after the other, leaving us all thinking, 'What are they doing? What are they on about?'

They ignored the possibility, when it was being rammed through this place from a health point of view, to repurpose heritage buildings, take the counsel of Keith Conlon to repurpose heritage buildings, to consider the value and history of the site. No, forget that; let's just demolish the whole thing. You will hear all these virtues about how good the government is at spending billions of dollars of scarce public resource on those health consequences. Let's just wait and see on that.

We have focused on the barracks. We have had this whole sorry story starting with, as I say, Keith Conlon having to make that gut-wrenching decision following the government's shattering and inconceivable move to move and raze those barracks. What has ensued since is a stain on the government, and I just say on behalf of this house to police that I am sorry for what you have been subjected to by this government. I hope that there is the possibility to get on and do the valuable work that you do.

There has been not a lot said about the bit that sits adjacent to the court, which has gone up a bit like a Stratco-shed scenario at the back of the court, over the last several months. We sort of heard that that is all right with the court, that this site that has been long there waiting for improvement in court resources, but now it is alright, we have a Stratco shed out the back. Alright; if everybody is able to cope with the change and the new direction, for goodness sake get it right, do not spend endlessly more money, and see if you can learn few more lessons about what Keith Conlon in particular has had to say right from the start of this sorry saga.

Mr BROWN (Florey) (11:36): I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have contributed to the debate, particularly the member for Bragg, in a very characteristic speech. He is nothing if not consistent. To hear again his and the opposition's opposition to this entire project is of course something we have heard before. I will take up one point, though. As a proud northern suburbs MP, I again am dismayed at the attitude that the opposition seem to have for the northern suburbs. This idea that Gepps Cross is somehow the worst place on earth to put anything I find quite galling. There is a reason why the northern suburbs only has MPs from this side of the chamber. It is because the people of the north know what you think about them and their communities.

Mr Teague: Point of order.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Odenwalder): I think the member has sat down, but I will hear the point of order.

Mr TEAGUE: Relevance. We have heard—

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Odenwalder): Member for Heysen, the member has sat down, he has finished his remarks. There will be no point in me ruling on your point of order.

Members interjecting:

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Odenwalder): You could raise a matter of privilege, that is true. I will put the question that the motion be agreed to.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: BRIDGE ROAD AND WYNN VALE DRIVE JUNCTION UPGRADE

Mr BROWN (Florey) (11:38): I move:

That the 89th report of the committee, relating to the Bridge Road and Wynn Vale Drive Junction Upgrade, be noted.

I do not know if you know where that is, but that is in the northern suburbs. The submission from the Department for Infrastructure and Transport, referred to as the department, will improve road safety through the addition of traffic lights, widening of the road and the addition of a dedicated right-turn lane. The project will also have the added benefit of improving traffic access for local and commercial traffic on Wynn Vale Drive. This \$12 million upgrade is the main component of a larger \$14.5 million state government commitment to upgrade Wynn Vale Drive.

Bridge Road is an urban arterial road in Adelaide's north-eastern suburbs—indeed, it goes through my electorate—and is under the management of the Commissioner of Highways. Wynn Vale Drive joins Bridge Road at a T-junction roughly 16 kilometres from Adelaide's central business district and is under the management of the City of Salisbury. Annual average daily traffic counts report approximately 51,000 total vehicles entering the junction from Bridge Road, with 24,600 approaching from the north and 26,400 from the south. A further 5,000 vehicles enter the junction from Wynn Vale Drive.

Between 2018 and 2022, there were 15 reported accidents at the junction, with 14 resulting in property damage and one with a minor injury. This upgrade will also address the danger to pedestrians, as presently the nearest pedestrian crossings on Bridge Road are found 650 metres to the north and 500 metres to the south of the junction. These distances are discouraging for pedestrians and increase the temptation to jaywalk near the junction. The upgrade introduces a range of safety improvements, including:

- the widening of the south-east side of Bridge Road to accommodate a new dedicated right-turn lane, which will help prevent rear-end collisions from northbound cars waiting to turn onto Wynn Vale Drive and lower the chances of motorists recklessly changing lanes to avoid them;
- the introduction of traffic signals to reduce the risk of accidents when entering and exiting Wynn Vale Drive, particularly lowering the chances of right-turn or right-angle collisions, which account for a vast majority of reported accidents;
- the introduction of signalled pedestrian crossings to Bridge Road and Wynn Vale Drive to reduce the risk of pedestrians illegally crossing near the junction;
- adding a dedicated right-turn lane to Bridge Road 50 metres north of the junction, turning onto Melville Road, which will protect vehicles from rear-end collisions and also streamline traffic approaching the junction;
- creating indented bus bays on Bridge Road and Wynn Vale Drive to similarly improve the flow of traffic, allowing buses to peel off the road and not obstruct traffic while loading and off-loading;
- a new and upgraded footpath and new paving connecting existing pathways to provide access to the new signalled pedestrian crossings, which will meet Disability Discrimination Act standards;
- new road surfacing to improve grip for all motorists and updated line marking to help direct traffic;
- a new kerb and guttering to improve drainage and stormwater management, ensuring better road conditions during inclement weather;
- the installation of new LED lighting to increase night-time safety for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians; and
- the installation of CCTV for increased general security.

The upgrades are designed to cater for predicted traffic volumes until 2036, and the works are expected to create 45 full-time equivalent jobs over the life of the construction period. The works will require service relocations, and the department is working with SA Water and SA Power Networks to minimise potential community impacts as well as any possible delays to the project delivery. Some vegetation removal will be required, including amenity vegetation and regulated or significant trees. The department will seek appropriate approvals as required, with the exact extent of the removals to be determined during the detailed design phase.

Project design and planning commenced in late 2023, with construction expected to begin in the last quarter of this year and the junction expected to be open to traffic in mid-2025. The delivery of the project is being undertaken through separate design and construction contracts, with private contractors appointed by competitive tender. Construction works will be managed in accordance with department policies, and the department will be responsible for project management in accordance with its project management framework and contract management procedures. The project may also engage external specialists if circumstances require it.

Ongoing risk assessment will be maintained to ensure that appropriate mitigation measures are incorporated into both design and delivery. After identifying key risks, the department has formulated the following mitigation strategies:

- the development of a community and stakeholder plan to address concerns and an ongoing process to inform the community and stakeholders of project developments;
- early engagement of service authorities, including SA Water and SA Power Networks, to minimise construction delays by implementing service relocations in advance of construction;

- communicating with stakeholders and the local community in advance of any unavoidable service outages to minimise impacts where possible;
- working with the local council to minimise the impact on motorists;
- acquiring necessary approvals for the removal of amenity vegetation and regulated or significant trees; and
- seeking any other relevant approvals in advance to ensure they are obtained in a timely manner.

The department has undertaken an environmental and heritage impact assessment covering key aspects for road projects, including vegetation, fauna, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage, water quality, noise and vibration, and air quality. Additionally, a sustainable development report has been prepared, providing a summary of the key sustainable aspects, including matters that the project could consider during design. These considerations include the choice of materials and resources to reduce the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions, optimisation of recycled materials and water usage, and the inclusion of green infrastructure.

A heritage assessment has determined there are no commonwealth, state or local heritage listed places or items in the vicinity of the project. The project lies within the Kurna people native title claim area, but it has been determined that native title has been extinguished on the parcels of land affected by the project. The Register of Aboriginal Sites and Objects indicates there are no registered or reported Aboriginal sites, objects or ancestral remains within the project area.

A community and stakeholder engagement plan has been prepared, providing an overview of planned communication activities with the relevant stakeholders, including the cities of Salisbury and Tea Tree Gully; the member for Wright, whose electorate this project is within; government departments; Planning and Land Use Services; Aboriginal stakeholders; and surrounding residents. Consultation has followed a two-stage strategy beginning in late 2022, with the first stage engaging the community to understand concerns and potential problems. In June 2023, stage 2 focused on the community response to the project's design, receiving positive feedback from the majority of respondents.

The committee has examined written and oral evidence in relation to the Bridge Road and Wynn Vale Drive junction upgrade. Witnesses who appeared before the committee were: Craig Eckermann, the Delivery Manager, Infrastructure Delivery, Department for Infrastructure and Transport; and Andrew Excell, the Executive Director, Transport Strategy and Planning, Department for Infrastructure and Transport. I thank the witnesses for their time. I also note the ongoing commitment to this project by the member for Wright, who I know has been a passionate advocate for this upgrade.

Based upon the evidence considered and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Public Works Committee reports to parliament that it recommends the proposed public work.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: DEEPER MAINTENANCE AND MODIFICATION FACILITY

Mr BROWN (Florey) (11:46): I move:

That the 88th report of the committee, entitled Deeper Maintenance and Modification Facility, be noted.

The submission from Renewal SA is to build a deeper maintenance and modification facility at Penfield, adjacent to the Edinburgh RAAF base on land acquired by the agency. This major defence industry facility will be used to service military aircraft operated by the commonwealth Department of Defence and, by enabling the maintenance and upgrade work to be completed in this country, enhances our nation's sovereign capabilities.

The proposed works include: earthworks, construction of facilities, stormwater and drainage, service connections, roadworks, facility services and general landscaping. The purpose-built facility is designed to accommodate the long-term maintenance and modification requirements for the Defence Force's fleet of RAAF P-8A Poseidon maritime surveillance aircraft and the RAAF E-7A

Wedgetail airborne early warning and control aircraft, enabling this maintenance and upgrade work to be completed here in Australia, fuelling local economic activity and skilled jobs growth.

Renewal SA expects that the facility will be operationally ready for accreditation and testing between April and September of 2026. Once operational, the facility will create 185 new highly skilled jobs and, at the peak of construction, an additional 450 full-time equivalent jobs.

Since South Australia was nominated as the preferred location for the facility, Renewal SA and Defence SA have collaborated with the commonwealth government to progress the project, with Renewal SA managing the project through the planning and design phase and cabinet approving the schematics in March of 2023. The agency will proceed as principal for the construction contract, coordinating its progression until handover in 2026.

Environmental sustainability has been considered in the facility's design and will also be factored in the construction process. A cultural heritage assessment has discovered six isolated finds of stone artefacts in the main project area and, in accordance with the Aboriginal Heritage Act, Renewal SA has applied for approval to manage them appropriately. Further examinations have identified no local or state heritage sites of significance. The agency has consulted with stakeholders and the community throughout design and procurement and will continue to communicate with relevant stakeholders throughout construction and delivery of the project.

The committee has examined written and oral evidence in relation to the deeper maintenance and modification facility. Witnesses who appeared before the committee were: Chris Menz, the Chief Executive of Renewal SA; Michael Wood, the Executive Director, Commercial and Business Services, Renewal SA; and Tim Tape, the Development Director, Industrial and Defence, Renewal SA. I thank the witnesses for their time.

Based upon the evidence considered and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Public Works Committee reports to parliament that it recommends the proposed public work.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: GREATER SEATON RENEWAL PROJECT

Mr BROWN (Florey) (11:50): I move:

That the 90th report of the Public Works Committee, entitled Greater Seaton Renewal Project, be noted.

The Greater Seaton Renewal Project is part of a broader state government strategy intended to address housing pressures by delivering public housing and affordable homes. Last year, the government released a plan for A Better Housing Future, providing a range of initiatives and projects with the goal of delivering quality public housing, more affordable homes, more support for people to buy homes, more affordable rental opportunities and greater protection for people who rent.

Working from these goals, the Greater Seaton Renewal Project also contributes to targets outlined in the National Housing Accord, as well as the key priorities in Renewal SA's Strategic Plan 2023-26, including providing affordable housing, creating communities and ensuring a sustainable future.

Renewal SA, also known as 'the agency', has identified a large concentration of dated SA Housing Trust assets in the Seaton area suitable for redevelopment, with many being small dwellings on large blocks. The site is approximately 11 kilometres from the Adelaide CBD and stretches across 48 acres bound by Frederick Road, Glenburnie Street, West Lakes Boulevard and Tapleys Hill Road. Acquiring these properties, as well as some private housing in the area, Renewal SA will replace the underutilised dwellings with a range of higher density public and private housing that will vastly increase the available number of homes in the area.

The project will require the input of 388 existing Housing Trust dwellings, as well as the acquisition of up to 50 privately owned properties. The public housing stock is currently highly concentrated, accounting for 77 per cent of housing in the identified area, comprised mainly of low-density dwellings. By redeveloping this area, this project will create 1,315 new dwellings, inclusive of 865 single and townhouse dwellings, as well as 450 apartments. These figures include

replacing the existing public houses on a one-to-one basis, while producing a large volume of much-needed new housing. The project has set a minimum affordable housing target of 15 per cent, equating to 197 dedicated affordable dwellings. The project will also disperse the concentration of public housing to a target of 30 per cent.

A commitment to new quality public spaces and streetscapes will also create a distinct and vibrant neighbourhood amenity by providing a minimum target of 12½ per cent public and open space, in addition to the existing Pedlar Reserve; creating new infrastructure, roads and enhanced street amenities; providing a target tree canopy of 25 per cent; and building housing that responds to future climate needs.

Renewal SA estimates a total project cost of \$187.2 million, consisting of civil and infrastructure works, landscaping, public realm, the acquisition of private dwellings and associated professional consultancies. It is estimated that the SA Housing Authority will spend \$205 million for the construction of its 388 dwellings within the project and will seek an additional \$7.3 million to undertake tenant relocations. The agency anticipates sales of the developed lots and built forms to provide \$217 million in revenue and an estimated contribution of \$244 million to gross state product over the project construction period. The project is also anticipated to create 138 full-time equivalent jobs, peaking at 186 in 2033-34. Cabinet approved the whole-of-life funding for the project in May of this year.

Renewal SA has begun to engage with key consultants for the project and community and Kaurna engagement on the master plan commenced last month. Tenant relocation and demolitions are expected to begin by the second quarter of 2025, with landscape and dwelling construction due to commence in July 2025. It is anticipated for the first residents to move in during 2027, with the entire project targeted for completion in 2036. The project has identified potential risks, such as:

- delays in the tenant relocation program, which would impact on delivery timeframes and budgets;
- complications with strategic property acquisitions, for which Renewal SA is investigating compulsory acquisition under the Urban Renewal Act, should it be required;
- delays caused by works dependent on service authorities, for which Renewal SA has engaged SA Water and SA Power Networks in advance to mitigate any problems that might arise;
- development approvals for apartment height, which Renewal SA is currently pursuing a code amendment for; and
- construction timeframes and costs, for which Renewal SA has implemented management frameworks.

To build a future-ready neighbourhood, Renewal SA has adopted principles and objectives of the Green Star Communities National Framework. This includes enhancing the natural environment through the open space and tree canopy targets, as well as from reducing the ecological footprint through a waste management plan for construction waste, and by fostering sustainable cultures and behaviours by developing a community users' guide.

A cultural and heritage assessment is underway and a search of the Central Archive, including the Register of Aboriginal Sites and Objects, has identified no entries for Aboriginal sites found within the project area. Project delivery will adhere to a cultural heritage management plan, which is being prepared with protocols agreed to in Kaurna consultation. There is no anticipated impact on state or local heritage. The master plan proposes further cultural and heritage engagement.

A feasibility study has identified the project's service requirements and the need for a number of service upgrades. SA Water has provided advice regarding upgrading and possibly relocating the existing sewer pump station and pumping mains, and Renewal SA has sought advice concerning the existing water mains, sewer augmentation and the internal distribution centre. Consultation with SA Power Networks has given advice regarding substation supplies to the area and the associated threshold.

The feasibility study assumes that the proposed development will not exceed the threshold and allows for standard augmentation charges and upgrades to adjacent substations may accommodate the renewal project. Renewal SA proposes that a project civil contractor will undertake all service authority works to reduce costs, improve construction programs and reduce the impact of SA Water works programs.

Following cabinet approval, the project has undertaken early community engagement with residents and businesses through letterbox drops. The agency has also developed a community and stakeholder engagement plan, and face-to-face engagement sessions are anticipated to commence imminently. An ongoing communication plan with key stakeholders has been drafted and will be regularly reviewed during the project delivery.

The City of Charles Sturt has been consulted during the development of the master plan, discussing a range of key objectives, including potential contribution for out-of-scope items, such as key interfaces and the Tapleys Hill Road retail precinct.

The committee has examined written and oral evidence in relation to the Greater Seaton Renewal Project. Witnesses who appeared before the committee were Mr Shane Wingard, Acting Executive Director, Property and Major Projects, Renewal SA; Peter Gatsios, Acting Executive Director, Residential Project Delivery and Assets, Renewal SA; and Michael Wood, Executive Director, Commercial and Business Services, Renewal SA. I thank the witnesses for their time. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the member for Lee who provided a written statement to the committee in support of this project in his electorate.

Based upon the evidence considered and pursuant to section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Public Works Committee reports to parliament that it recommends the proposed public work.

Motion carried.

Parliamentary Procedure

SITTINGS AND BUSINESS

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (11:58): I move:

That the time allotted for completion of the following bills:

Sentencing (Serious Child Sex Offenders) Amendment,

Portable Long Service Leave,

Automated External Defibrillators (Public Access) (Miscellaneous) Amendment, and

Statutes Amendment (Parliament—Executive Officer and Clerks)

be until 6pm today.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes22
 Noes13
 Majority9

AYES

Andrews, S.E.

Champion, N.D.

Cook, N.F.

Hood, L.P. (teller)

Koutsantonis, A.

O'Hanlon, C.C.

Picton, C.J.

Wortley, D.J.

Bettison, Z.L.

Clancy, N.P.

Fulbrook, J.P.

Hughes, E.J.

Michaels, A.

Pearce, R.K.

Savvas, O.M.

Brown, M.E.

Close, S.E.

Hildyard, K.A.

Hutchesson, C.L.

Mullighan, S.C.

Piccolo, A.

Thompson, E.L.

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.
Cowdrey, M.J.
Patterson, S.J.R.
Pratt, P.K.
Whetstone, T.J.

Batty, J.A.
Cregan, D.R.
Pederick, A.S.
Teague, J.B. (teller)

Brock, G.G.
Ellis, F.J.
Pisoni, D.G.
Telfer, S.J.

PAIRS

Stinson, J.M.
Gardner, J.A.W.
Malinauskas, P.B.

Hurn, A.M.
Szakacs, J.K.
Tarzia, V.A.

Boyer, B.I.
Speirs, D.J.

Motion thus carried.

*Bills***SENTENCING (SERIOUS CHILD SEX OFFENDERS) AMENDMENT BILL***Third Reading*

Adjourned debate on third reading.

(Continued from 10 September 2024.)

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (12:05): I gave a lengthy explanation about the detail of this bill in my second reading speech, so I do not intend to do so again. What I do intend to articulate again is that this bill is really important, and it is part of a comprehensive suite of measures that our government committed to and is delivering on to ensure that we deal with vile sex offenders and that we do so in a way that penalises them in the way that they should be and also that meets, rightly, community expectation.

I spoke at length about other measures that we have already taken in speaking about this bill, and I do alert the house again to a really important measure that is in our draft Children and Young People (Safety and Support) Bill that will soon be in this parliament. That measure is a measure that ensures that those awful predators who deliberately target children, who are in contact with the child protection and family support system, are absolutely more heavily penalised for that targeting of those children, and I look forward to fulsomely discussing that particular bill when it is before the parliament.

It is absolutely the right thing for us in this place to always act with the voices, the interests, in our hearts and minds, of those children and young people who most need our support, who most need to be heard, and that absolutely includes us dealing with these horrific child sex offenders in the harshest possible way. This bill is about doing that and I commend it again to the house. I really want to say thank you to the Attorney-General and his team and department for their work toward this, I thank those who have been involved in providing their views in the development of this bill and I look forward to its passage and, rightly, its operating in a way that makes sure we are dealing with those awful offenders in that harshest possible way.

Again, I commend the bill to the house, I thank everybody who has been involved in it and I look forward to its important passage through this place and then its coming into effect.

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (12:08): Here we are in the third reading debate on this bill on the afternoon of the Thursday of a sitting week: the debate on the bill started first thing on Tuesday morning this week under the first of what has now been a dozen guillotines applied to debate in this house this week. There was a 90-minute guillotine applied to debate so that this bill apparently could be passed through this place as a matter of priority by the government so that it could put this important legislation into place.

It has long been known that the opposition supports the bill. It has also long been known that the bill has sat on the *Notice Paper* in this place now for months and months and months. It was debated in another place back in April, and we know that the Premier spoke up about a response to an intolerable event that occurred back in January this year.

But to add insult to procedural injury, what the government has done this week is placed a guillotine on debate. It then allowed the passage of the progress of the bill in this house for a debate that actually took about 15 minutes. The government then said, 'End of story, no further, we won't be allowing passage of the so-called important legislation—what we'll do is we'll adjourn it.' So there we are: tick, tick, tick: adjourned all the way through Tuesday, no mention of the bill on Wednesday, and here we are on the last afternoon of the sitting week and it now seems as though it suits the government to wheel this out like some sort of plaything in the house. What we are left with is a situation in which people who are following the debate—

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

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of order.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The member is reflecting on a vote of the house and he is not debating the bill in front of him, sir.

Mr TEAGUE: On the point of order, far from reflecting on a vote of the house, I have mentioned the fact that we are under the 12th guillotine for the week, that is true.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: I have a point of order.

Mr TEAGUE: I am addressing the point of order, Treasurer.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can you resume your seat, please, member for Heysen. There is a point of order.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN: Mr Deputy Speaker, perhaps the house could afford you the opportunity to rule on the point of order before we are subjected to another tirade from the member for Heysen.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I would suggest the member for Heysen gets back to the subject matter before us. That is my ruling. I also would ask that the Minister for Child Protection be more measured in her comments, thank you. Member for Heysen, you can have the floor uninterrupted as long as you keep to the debate.

Mr TEAGUE: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. The plain fact of the matter is that one only needs to look across to a couple of pillars standing in this place to see that the date on those pillars tells us that it is Thursday 12 September, we are here in the third reading debate on this bill, and that is where we are right now.

What is also apparent on the public record is that the debate on this bill in this house commenced, first cab off the rank at 11am, on 10 September—two days ago. The opposition stood up in this place—I did it—and said what is well known and what has long been well known is that the opposition supports this serious and important legislation.

It is a matter of record that the government has allowed it to sit on the *Notice Paper* for the bulk of this year. It is also a matter of record that the government has allowed the debate in this matter to be drawn out over the course of this week. None of that reflects on a vote of the house—far from it, because we have not had a vote on the third reading. Here we are, so what I am doing is summing up the debate so far.

In terms of the seriousness of this legislation, it is well known. The contents of the bill are well known. They are the subject of debate in the other place—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Heysen!

Mr TEAGUE: There is a good reason why I praise the Attorney for the work that has been done on this bill—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Heysen!

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Frome, I do not need your commentary either. Member for Heysen, this is a third reading. A number of Speakers have ruled on this. What you can talk about are things that are raised in the committee stage. I have allowed some latitude this week, but I think you need to get back to your third reading matters—in other words, raise issues that came out of the second reading stage. Alright?

Mr TEAGUE: Exactly.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: So far I have not seen you go even close to that. I suggest you either do that or you resume your seat. If you digress again you will be ignoring my order and I will ask you to leave the chamber.

Mr TEAGUE: Thank you very much, Deputy Speaker. In the course of the second reading debate, we heard the government rehearse the government's speech that was given in another place back in March this year. We know the contents of that speech; in fact, they have been well known for many months. So that is what has constituted the second reading debate in this place.

There have been a number of matters of importance to be put on the record about the serious consideration that was put into the work that was done to bring this bill together at that time. I again take this opportunity to thank the Attorney-General and his staff and advisers for the work that has been done on this serious matter and to indicate that here we are, concluding a debate on this Thursday afternoon, in circumstances where there is absolutely nothing that was standing in the way of the government doing exactly this on Tuesday morning—it put a guillotine in place for the very purpose—and then, secondly, doing so months ago.

Mr ODENWALDER: Point of order, sir: once again, the member for Heysen is reflecting on a vote of the house by referring to a procedural matter, which occurred earlier on, as a guillotine.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am not sure about that, but what I am sure about is that he does appear to be ignoring my ruling and, in a sense, is traversing areas that are not really the substance of the issues that were raised in the second reading or the committee stage. I would ask the member to raise any concerns or issues that were raised specifically in the committee stage. If not, you will be in contravention of 137; that is, actually contravening my direction. I would hate to ask you to leave the chamber for ignoring my ruling. You have the floor again.

Mr TEAGUE: Thank you, Deputy Speaker. What has been made plain on this side of the house in the course of the long-awaited second reading debate is that the opposition supports the bill. The opposition expressed that support once again in the course of the second reading. I welcome the government finally getting round to bringing on the debate. I am glad that the third reading is here. Within the constraints of the guillotine, I hope that the passage of the bill can now occur in the interests of all who may be better served by the penalties that the bill will now contain.

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (12:17): I also briefly take the opportunity to speak on this as we are going through what are important safeguards, I think, for all of our children. It is very well established, I think throughout this parliament, that the safety of children is paramount here, so the actions that go towards that should be taken seriously, and bipartisan support in this place should be looked for. The opposition's lead speaker, the member for Heysen, has said that there is support and has also recognised the need and desire to work collaboratively, in a bipartisan way, to get this bill through the house.

In speaking on the topic of these serious child sex offenders, there is the upset it causes in the community when these discussions around parole come up and the uncertainty that that produces in the community. Quite often the community, who rightly want to protect children, see these attempts at parole for these serious child sex offenders, and it really does not diminish the real fear in the community about serious child sex offenders and whether they actually have been able to control their urges, so that when released into society they would not present a risk to society. The provisions that have been put in place to address that should be able to satisfy, to some extent, those fears.

Reading through the bill and what we discussed during the second reading debate, some of the measures in place allow for and provide for indefinite detention for serious sex offenders. It puts more of the onus on those sex offenders, that they well and truly have got rid of their desires and can prove that, so that society and young children can be safe to go about their lives, touching on some of the points raised in the second reading debate that define changes to the serious sex offender, what those prescribed sex offenders are.

It also brings in and takes into account offences that have occurred in other jurisdictions. Another troubling aspect to this is that people travel and offences take place in other jurisdictions. To be able to take that into account certainly is important. I hope it will also encourage police departments throughout Australia to work more closely together on this important matter of safety, not just here in South Australia but, as I think everyone would have to agree, throughout Australia. With those brief remarks, and not wanting to take away from other members of parliament the opportunity to talk about this important bill, I conclude my remarks.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would like to acknowledge in the gallery members and staff from the Australian Services Union and staff from the South Australian Working Women's Centre. Welcome to the chamber.

Bills

SENTENCING (SERIOUS CHILD SEX OFFENDERS) AMENDMENT BILL

Third Reading

Debate resumed.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I just remind members that we are doing a third reading of the bill; it is not a second reading. I have been pretty lenient so far, but I will make it very clear that it is the third reading of the bill, so your comments are supposed to relate to things which have come up through the committee stages, not as if you are starting the bill afresh. Who would like to speak next? Nobody? Good.

Bill read a third time and passed.

PORTABLE LONG SERVICE LEAVE BILL

Second Reading

The Hon. N.F. COOK (Hurtle Vale—Minister for Human Services, Minister for Seniors and Ageing Well) (12:23): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

I rise today to introduce the Portable Long Service Leave Bill 2024. The Long Service Leave Act 1987 gives workers the right to 13 weeks of paid leave after 10 years of continuous service or a pro rata amount after seven years. In recent decades, our economy has changed and many workers move between different employers and do not spend enough time with a single employer to access long service leave. This has been an element of the construction industry, where workers move from project to project and employer to employer, in recognition of that. We have had a portable long service leave system in place in South Australia for more than 40 years.

The Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987 allows entitlements to be carried between different employers in the industry. The Malinauskas Labor government is committed to helping more workers have access to decent, dignified and secure jobs that allow them to make choices, plan ahead and participate in the community. At the 2018 and 2022 elections, we made commitments around expanding portable long service leave to include community services.

Community services workers deliver critical services across disability support, family and domestic violence, foster care, homelessness and social housing, amongst others. This is often physically and emotionally demanding work that does not come with six-figure salaries. It is performed by a workforce that in 2022 was 84 per cent women. The sector is growing rapidly, with

65 per cent growth over a decade to 2022. It experiences significant staff turnover that is made even harder in a tight labour market. Too many workers in the community services sector have never had the chance to take long service leave.

The Minister for Industrial Relations in the other place noted that this includes workers like Rebecca. She is an ASU member and First Nations woman who has been a youth worker for over 20 years, supporting Aboriginal young people. Despite decades of service doing similar work, Rebecca has worked for at least four different employers over her career but never for the seven or 10 years that would trigger long service leave. Community services workers like Rebecca should be recognised and have access to portable leave entitlements like the construction industry has enjoyed for decades.

This will give community services workers an incentive to stay in the sector, boost their skills, extend their careers and provide a better reward for their work serving the community, and it will support employers in attracting and maintaining the workforce to meet future community demands. In making this reform, we join other states and territories who have approved portable long service leave schemes for community sector workers, including Queensland, New South Wales, the ACT, Victoria and the Northern Territory.

Apart from committing to progress this matter at the last two elections, the government has undertaken extensive consultation over the last 18 months. This has included round tables, the release of draft legislation for comment, participation in two sector forums hosted by the South Australian Council of Social Service and a sector update outlining significant changes to draft legislation based on stakeholder feedback. We have worked closely with both industry stakeholders and the Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board to ensure we take advantage of the expertise of existing portable leave schemes and learn the lessons from the rollout of community services schemes in Queensland and Victoria.

I particularly want to recognise the longstanding and passionate campaign of the Australian Services Union on behalf of its community services members and particularly the leadership of the ASU state secretary, Abbie Spencer. This reform would not have been possible without the work of the ASU and its members. I thank the many other stakeholders who contributed to the development of this legislation, including the SA Council of Social Service, the SA Business Chamber and the Ai Group. Echoing the comments of the Minister for Industrial Relations in the other place, I note the exceptional work of the strategic policy and legislative services team at SafeWork SA and particularly senior policy officer Cindy Arthur in helping to deliver this legislation.

This bill performs two main functions: establishing governance arrangements for the new community sector scheme and establishing the legislative machinery for the operation of the scheme itself. The bill establishes the Community Services Sector Long Service Leave Board as a representative industry board responsible for the administration of the portable long service leave scheme for the community services sector. The composition of the board is modelled on the successful construction industry scheme and will include equal representation for business and worker representatives. This will ensure there is a strong incentive for the scheme to operate in an efficient and accessible way for both workers and employers.

The board will be responsible for the administration of the scheme, including educating workers and employers, enforcing compliance, setting the levy rates, maintaining the register of entitlements and making payment of long service leave—that is the important bit. The board will be supported by the chief executive officer, who will be the same person as the CEO of the Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board. This will allow the new scheme to build on the experience and expertise of the construction industry scheme we have had for decades and deliver economies of scale.

Unlike traditional long service arrangements where long service leave is accrued through service to a single employer, the new portable scheme will count a worker's service across the community services sector. Employers in the community services sector will be required to register with the scheme and file a quarterly return confirming which employees performed their work with them in the reporting period.

The board will use these returns to maintain a register of workers' accrued industry service. If a worker works for multiple community service employers during a reporting period, they can only be credited once for the period. There will be no double dipping. This is consistent with the calculation of effective service under the Queensland and Victorian schemes. The long service leave entitlements under the bill closely reflect the Long Service Leave Act. Once a worker has accrued 120 months or 10 years of effective service, they will be entitled to 13 weeks of long service leave, with an additional 1.3 weeks of leave for each subsequent year of service in the community services sector.

The bill provides that a worker may take a break from the sector for a period of between two and three years, depending on their length of service, without forfeiting their accrued leave entitlements. This is particularly important in ensuring the overwhelming majority of women who make up the community services workforce are not disadvantaged by taking parental leave.

Schedule 2 of the bill defines the community service sector consistent with the scope of the Queensland and Victorian schemes to mirror the federal Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award, otherwise known as the SCHADS Award. An employer will only be required to register a worker with the scheme if the worker is covered by either the SCHADS Award or another prescribed award, or an enterprise agreement based on those awards. This ensures that the coverage of the scheme aligns with the awards already applied by employers for payroll purposes. This will provide maximum clarity for both employers and workers.

The bill provides for regulations to be made modifying the applicable awards. This ensures that the scheme is adaptable to any changes in award coverage made by the Fair Work Commission from time to time. The bill will establish a fund to finance the scheme, to be managed by the board. Instead of employers directly provisioning for the long service leave entitlements of their workers, employers will pay a levy, which replaces the existing requirements for employers to budget for long service leave for their staff.

The levy is based on the remuneration of scheme-covered employees and paid into this fund, which will then be invested and used by the board to make payment of workers' leave entitlements when sufficient service is accrued. The levy rate will be determined by the board based on expert actuarial advice about the funding needed to meet long-term liabilities under the scheme. Consistent with the construction industry scheme, the maximum levy rate will be capped at 3 per cent. However, in reality it is expected the levy will be much lower and, based on experience of interstate schemes, the levy is likely to be somewhere between 1.5 and 2 per cent, with the potential to reduce over time.

Many workers in the sector are employed by public benevolent institutions that have access to beneficial salary sacrifice arrangements. This bill includes provisions to ensure these workers and their employers are not negatively impacted by the scheme by providing a mechanism for employers to apply to the community sector board for an advance payment of a worker's entitlement so that any necessary salary sacrifice disbursements can be made prior to the worker being paid.

Some workers in the sector also have their entitlement to long service leave regulated by an enterprise agreement providing more generous long service leave entitlements than are provided under the Long Service Leave Act 1987. To ensure that these arrangements are not disadvantaged under the new scheme, the bill provides that, where an enterprise agreement provides a person with a more generous long service leave entitlement, that entitlement will prevail over the entitlement provided under the portable long service leave scheme.

Finally, while the bill specifically provides for the establishment of a scheme for the community services sector, it is designed to support the establishment of other industry schemes in the future. The bill includes detailed transitional provisions to deal with the transfer of entitlements from the Long Service Leave Act to the new portable scheme. These arrangements have been the subject of detailed stakeholder consultation to ensure maximum clarity and minimum disruption.

For workers, when the portable scheme comes into effect, existing long service leave entitlements accrued under the Long Service Leave Act will be preserved, and if a worker reaches the required period of service they will still be able to access their leave. If a worker moves to the new community services employer after the commencement of the scheme, only the portion of their service after the commencement of the scheme will be preserved.

For employers, when the portable scheme comes into effect, they will need to maintain provisions for long service leave entitlements accrued prior to the portable leave scheme but will no longer have to do so for the period after the commencement of the scheme when they will instead be paying a levy to the board. A provisional implementation timeline has been the subject of discussion with stakeholders. Once this legislation passes the parliament, the board will be appointed as soon as practicable. The board will then set up the administrative apparatus for the scheme, including employing staff, procuring IT, commencing an education campaign for the sector, determining appropriate forms and policies and obtaining actuarial advice to inform the levy contribution rate.

There will be significant lead-in time before the scheme becomes operational. The intention is that the community services scheme will be proclaimed to commence in operation from 1 July 2025, with the first reporting period ending on 30 September 2025 and the first levy contribution to be made by employers in October 2025. However, this is a provisional timeline and the government will be heavily guided by the board in terms of its readiness to roll out the scheme in that timeframe. We will continue to consult carefully and closely with the board and the CEO about these matters.

I will make some comments in regard to the passage of the bill in the Legislative Council, noting that the bill passed the other place with multiparty support and no division at the third reading. In fact, I understand the only division that occurred was in relation to a single amendment about the commencement date and not about whether we should have the proposed scheme. This outcome reflects well on the proposal and the broad support across the parliament for our community service workers.

Noting there may be some discussion in this chamber about the commencement date and how providers will manage the new scheme, the Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector provided advice on these issues; in particular, the minister highlighted that our proposed commencement date of 1 July 2025 is subject to advice from the board about its readiness to proceed at that time. The board will include both employer and worker representatives. Further equivalent community sector schemes already exist in Queensland, Victoria and the ACT, with new schemes expected in the Northern Territory and New South Wales by July 2025 and many organisations operate across state borders.

With regard to funding arrangements for community sector organisations, it is important to bear in mind this bill provides for the establishment of the community service sector portable long service leave scheme and its board. Specific funding arrangements for community services organisations will be an issue that is dealt with through the budgetary processes separate to this bill.

Businesses in South Australia already have legal obligations to pay long service leave entitlements and this is already something they need to account for. Under this bill the board has the capacity to extend the time for a business or a class of businesses to register with the scheme. That is a decision that is best made with the specialist industry knowledge of the board. That will, for example, allow a business to apply to align its entry with the scheme to its funding cycle.

With regard to disability support providers—and noting we are not expecting the first payments into the scheme for at least a year—I have written to the federal minister calling on the NDIS to improve its funding model for the sector. I am noting, however, that long service leave is already accounted for in the NDIS funding model.

With regard to state-funded organisations, the Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector said, and I quote:

To the extent that the state government funds community service organisations—if there are representations made—that is something we will no doubt take into account.

Noting the board will work with organisations in the implementation of this scheme and take into account the impact on various employers, the Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector also said, and again I quote:

In South Australia, there have been representations made that this may well help keep people working in the area of the community services sector by creating the incentive to stay in this area even though you might switch between employers.

As such, I encourage all stakeholders to work together in the implementation of the scheme to maximise any benefits and cost savings linked to recruitment and training, alongside discussions about contributions to the fund.

In conclusion, the scheme established by this bill will bring South Australia into line with the majority of Australian jurisdictions which have now recognised the need for workers in the community services sector to have access to portable long service leave entitlements.

This will reward those dedicated workers who provide essential support to the most vulnerable communities in our state and provide considerable benefits to the sector by assisting with the attraction and retention of skilled workers in a challenging labour market.

I take this opportunity to again thank the Australian Services Union and all other stakeholders who have contributed to this important reform. I commend the bill to the house and seek leave to have the explanation of clauses inserted in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

2—Commencement

These clauses are formal.

3—Interpretation

This clause defines terms to be used in the measure.

The first area of work that the measure will apply in relation to is the *community services sector*. This will be the area of work within the community that involves the provision of community services. *Community services* are services that qualify under Schedule 2, or that are prescribed by the regulations.

Other sectors will be able to be included under the measure by amendment, and the generic term for any sector under the measure (including the community services sector) will be *designated sector*.

The term *designated worker* will be the term used for a person to whose employment the measure applies (and the term will include a former designated worker).

An *industry board* is a board established under Schedule 1 in relation to a designated sector. The measure only provides for the establishment of 1 industry board at this time, being the Community Services Sector Long Service Leave Board in relation to the community services sector.

4—Determination of ordinary weekly pay in certain circumstances

This clause allows an industry board to determine that a designated worker's ordinary weekly pay will be an amount that is different to the amount that would otherwise apply under the measure. The board will be able to do this if it considers that the amount that would otherwise apply is excessive or insufficient. The board will give the designated worker (or their personal representative), and the relevant employer, an opportunity to make submissions to the board before the board makes a determination under this provision.

This clause is modelled on section 4A of the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

5—Application of Act

This clause provides that the measure will apply to a person's employment if the person is engaged under a contract of service in the community services sector to perform community services or to support the provision of community services, or if the person is engaged in a designated sector to perform services prescribed as being part of that sector or to support the provision of services prescribed as being part of that sector.

However, Parts 3, 4 and 6 of the measure will not apply if a person's employer is a body corporate and the person is a director of the body corporate.

The measure will not apply to employment where the employer is a public sector agency, a local government council, or a prescribed employer or an employer of a prescribed class, although relevant employment by a public sector agency may be brought under the measure if the Minister acts under clause 6.

6—Extension of Act to government employees

This clause allows the Minister to, by notice in the Gazette, apply the measure to employment in a specified public sector agency that constitutes work in a particular designated sector.

7—Delayed participation in scheme

This clause allows an industry board to delay the requirement that an employer, or an employer of a specified class, be registered under the measure, until a date specified by the board, the occurrence of an event specified by the board, or the employer falls within a category of employer specified by the board. If an employer makes an application under this clause, an industry board may, pending making a decision on the application, exempt the employer from the requirement to be registered.

8—Act applies according to particular sector

This clause clarifies that, insofar as a designated worker may work in more than 1 designated sector, the measure will apply to the employment of the worker in 1 designated sector in a separate and distinct manner to the employment of the worker in another designated sector.

Part 2—Industry boards

Division 1—Corporate provisions and governance

9—Key features of industry boards

This clause provides that an industry board is a body corporate with the usual features of a board established by statute. An industry board will be subject to direction by the Minister (and any such direction is to be published in the annual report of the board).

10—Constitution of industry boards

This clause provides for the membership of an industry board.

11—Terms and conditions of membership

This clause establishes that a member of an industry board will be appointed on conditions determined by the Minister and for a term not exceeding 5 years, and will be eligible for reappointment at the expiration of a term of office.

12—Remuneration

A member of an industry board will be entitled to remuneration, allowances and expenses determined or approved by the Governor. These amounts will be payable out of the industry fund established by the industry board in relation to its designated sector.

13—Proceedings at meetings

This clause sets out the proceedings and procedures to be followed and adopted at meetings of an industry board. An industry board will be able to conduct meetings by telephone or other electronic means and will be able to make a decision by circular resolution.

14—Conflict of interest

This clause provides that a member of an industry board will not be taken to have an direct or indirect interest in a matter by reason only of the fact that the member has an interest that is shared in common with other people engaged in the designated sector in relation to which the board is constituted.

15—Validity of acts and decisions

This clause provides that an act or decision of an industry board is not invalidated by reason of a vacancy in its membership or a defect in the appointment of a member.

Division 2—Functions

16—Functions

This clause sets out the functions of an industry board.

Division 3—Staff and facilities

17—Chief executive officer

The chief executive officer of the Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board (the *CEO*) will be the chief executive officer of any industry board. The CEO will be responsible to an industry board for managing the board's business efficiently and effectively, and supervising the staff engaged in the work of the board.

18—Staff

The staffing arrangements for an industry board will be determined by the board. It will be possible for an industry board to make use of the staff of the Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board or of a public sector agency.

19—Facilities

An industry board will, by arrangement with the relevant entity, be able to use the services or facilities of the Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board or a public sector agency.

Division 4—Related matters

20—Delegation

This clause sets out a scheme for delegations by an industry board.

21—Accounts and audit

An industry board will be required to cause proper accounts to be kept of its financial affairs and will prepare annual financial statements. The accounts will be audited by the Auditor-General.

22—Annual report

An industry board will be required to prepare an annual report which will be provided to the Minister and tabled in both Houses of Parliament.

23—Common seal

An industry board will have a common seal, which will only be affixed to a document pursuant to a resolution of the board.

Part 3—Registration

Division 1—Registration of employers

24—Industry board to register employers

An industry board is to establish a register of employers in its designated sector.

25—Application for registration as registered employer

An employer who employs 1 or more designated workers will be required to apply to the industry board for the designated sector to be registered. This clause sets out the manner in which an application must be made.

26—Information to be entered in register

An industry board will record on the register the day on which an employer becomes registered in relation to the relevant designated sector.

27—Employer to give notice of change to information

A registered employer will be required to notify the industry board for the relevant designated sector if there is a change in any information that is relevant to its registration.

28—Industry board may require information or documents from employer

If an industry board believes that a person is or was an employer in its designated sector but is not registered, the industry board will be able to require the person to give it specified information or documents to enable the board to decide whether the person is or was an employer in its designated sector. If the industry board decides that the person is an employer in its designated sector, it can register the person on its register of employers.

29—Cancellation of registration

A registered employer will be able to apply for the cancellation of its registration if it stops employing workers in the board's designated sector.

Division 2—Registration of workers

30—Industry board to register workers

An industry board is to establish a register of designated workers in its designated sector. The industry board will register a designated worker on the register on account of information provided by an employer to the board under the measure, or on application made to the board by the worker.

31—Information to be entered in register

An industry board will record on the register the day on which a person becomes a designated worker in relation to the relevant designated sector.

32—Worker may give notice of change to information

A registered designated worker may notify an industry board about any change to the information on the board's register that relates to the designated worker.

Division 3—Related provisions

33—Related provisions

An industry board will be able to amend a register at any time in order to ensure that the register is kept up to date. A register will be kept in such form as the board thinks fit, including in electronic form. A register of employers will be available for inspection. A designated worker will be able to inspect an entry on a register that relates to the designated worker.

Part 4—Long service leave entitlements

34—Effective service entitlement

A designated worker's entitlement to long service leave, or payment on account of or in lieu of long service leave, will be determined according to the worker's aggregate effective service entitlement.

A person will be credited with 3 months of effective service as a designated worker if they have worked as a designated worker in the relevant designated sector for 1 or more days in a return period, or if they have 1 or more days of allowable absence from work in the relevant designated sector in a return period.

The total of months credited under this clause to a person is the person's aggregate effective service entitlement.

An effective service entitlement will be cancelled in specified cases.

If a person takes long service leave, or receives a payment on account of or in lieu of long service leave, the person's effective service entitlement is reduced accordingly.

35—Crediting effective service under this Act and the *Long Service Leave Act 1987*

This clause sets out a scheme to preserve continuity of service if a person changes the capacity in which they work with a particular employer from employment covered by the measure to employment covered by the *Long Service Leave Act 1987* or vice versa.

36—Crediting effective service between different designated sectors

This clause sets out a scheme to preserve continuity of service if a person moves from employment in one designated sector to employment in another designated sector with the same employer.

37—Long service leave entitlement

This clause sets out the long service leave entitlements under the measure. A designated worker who has an effective service entitlement of 120 months or more will be entitled to 13 weeks of long service leave in respect of the first 120 months, and 1.3 weeks of long service leave in respect of each subsequent 12 months of effective service entitlement.

The clause also includes provision about when long service leave may be taken.

The industry board for the relevant designated sector will be responsible to pay any amount in respect of an entitlement to long service leave. The payment will be calculated by multiplying the relevant period of leave by the person's ordinary weekly pay.

38—Leave allowed before entitlement accrues

An employer and a designated worker may agree on the worker taking long service leave in anticipation of the entitlement to leave accruing if an enterprise agreement expressly provides for such an agreement. The industry board for the relevant designated sector will be responsible to pay the amount required for leave that is taken as a result of an agreement under this clause.

39—Cessation of employment

This clause provides for the payment of an amount for *pro rata* leave if a designated worker who has attained an effective service entitlement of at least 84 months has died, has ceased to work as a designated worker in the relevant designated sector because of a physical or mental disability that will prevent the person from working as a designated worker in the sector for a continuous period of 12 months or more, or has ceased to work in the sector and will not be working in the sector for 12 months or more.

40—Entitlement if payment already made

A designated worker is not entitled to take leave or to be paid for an entitlement under the measure if a payment has already been made in respect of a period of service that corresponds to an effective service entitlement under the measure.

Part 5—Funds

Division 1—Industry funds

41—Industry board to establish industry fund

This clause provides that an industry board must establish an *industry fund* for its designated sector. The clause further sets out the purposes for which money in the industry fund may be applied.

42—Exemption from taxes and charges

An industry fund, and all transactions relating to an industry fund, will be exempt from all taxes and other charges imposed under a law of the State.

This clause corresponds to section 20C of the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

43—Investment of industry fund

This clause allows an industry board to invest money that is not immediately required for the purposes of its industry fund. In doing so, the industry board will be required to take into account any policies or guidelines determined by the Treasurer after consultation with the Minister.

This clause corresponds to section 21 of the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

44—Loans for training purposes

This clause allows an industry board to, with the approval of the Minister and the Treasurer, lend money from its industry fund to an industrial association or organisation for the purpose of establishing or operating a group training scheme for its designated sector.

This clause corresponds to section 22 of the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

45—Borrowing by industry board

This clause allows an industry board to borrow money from the Treasurer or, with the approval of the Treasurer, from any other person.

This clause corresponds to section 23 of the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

46—Investigation of industry fund

This clause requires an industry board to ensure that an investigation into the state and efficiency of its industry fund is carried out by an actuary on a yearly basis. The actuary will report on the outcome of the investigation and whether any reduction or increase is necessary in the rates of contribution to the industry fund. The industry board must then provide a copy of the report to the Minister, and include with the report an indication as to whether the board intends to vary, or leave unaltered, the rates of contribution to the industry fund under the measure. The Minister will be required to cause a copy of the report of the industry board to be tabled in Parliament.

This clause corresponds to section 24 of the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

Division 2—Common funds

47—Treasurer may authorise investment common funds

The Treasurer will be able to, after consultation with the Minister, authorise the establishment of 1 or more investment common funds for the collective investment of 2 or more industry funds (in whole or in part). A common fund will operate subject to any policies or guidelines determined by the Treasurer after consultation with the Minister.

Part 6—Levies

48—Imposition of levy

This clause requires each employer in a designated sector to pay a levy to the relevant industry board. The levy will be a percentage of the total remuneration paid to each of the employer's designated workers in the designated sector during the period to which the levy relates. The percentage will be fixed by the industry board and will be less than or equal to 3%.

No levy will be payable by an employer under this clause in respect of a designated worker who is employed by the employer for less than 3 days in a month or, subject to an exception prescribed by the regulations, in respect of an apprentice.

The regulations will be able to prescribe payments made to or for the benefit of a designated worker that will, or will not, be taken as constituting remuneration for the purposes of this provision.

This clause corresponds to section 26 of the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

49—Returns by employers

This clause requires each employer in a designated sector to furnish a return to the relevant industry board within 21 days after the end of each quarter. The return will need to be accompanied by the levy in respect of the period to which the return relates (a *return period*).

50—Recovery on default

An industry board will be able to make an assessment of the levy payable for a return period if an employer fails to furnish a return, or furnishes a return that the board has reasonable grounds to believe to be defective in any respect.

51—Penalty for late payment

This clause establishes that, if an employer fails to furnish a return or to pay a levy as required under the measure, penalty interest will be payable on any amount in arrears and the relevant industry board will be able to impose a fine on the employer (not exceeding an amount prescribed by the regulations).

This clause corresponds to section 29 of the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

52—Recovery of levies

A levy, and any penalty interest or fine imposed by an industry board, is recoverable by the board as a debt in a court of competent jurisdiction.

This clause corresponds to section 31 of the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

53—Refund of overpayments

If a levy is overpaid, the industry board that received the payment will be required to refund the amount of the overpayment within the period prescribed by the regulations.

Part 7—Review

54—Review by SAET

This clause empowers a person who is dissatisfied with a decision of an industry board under the measure to apply to SAET for review of the decision.

This clause corresponds to section 34 of the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

55—Effect of pending review by SAET

This clause provides that an obligation to pay a levy or a right of recovery in respect of a levy is not suspended by the commencement of proceedings for a review by SAET. If an assessment of levy is altered on a review, a due adjustment will be made and any increase in levy will be payable to the relevant industry board and any decrease in levy will be refunded by the relevant industry board.

This clause corresponds to section 37 of the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

Part 8—Civil penalties

56—Civil penalties

This clause establishes a civil penalty regime.

Part 9—Miscellaneous

57—Self-employed contractors and working directors

This clause establishes a scheme that will allow a self-employed contractor in a designated sector, or a person who is employed under a contract of service in a designated sector by a body corporate of which the person is a director, to apply to be registered by the relevant industry board so as to receive benefits under the measure.

58—Salary sacrifice arrangements

This clause enables a registered employer to apply to the relevant industry board to be paid an amount that would otherwise be payable by the board in relation to leave so that the amount can be applied for the benefit of a designated worker under a salary sacrifice arrangement.

59—Reciprocal arrangements with other States and Territories

This clause provides for arrangements to be made with authorities in other States or a Territory in connection with corresponding schemes in those other jurisdictions.

60—Exemptions for certain interstate employers

This clause provides that certain interstate employers may apply to the relevant industry board for an exemption from the requirement to be registered and pay a levy under the measure on the basis that the relevant work is to be covered by an appropriate long service leave scheme under a corresponding law.

This clause corresponds to section 38A of the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

61—General exemptions

This clause will allow the Minister to grant exemptions from the operation of the measure.

62—Power to require information

This clause sets out various powers of an industry board in relation to obtaining or gathering information in connection with the operation of the measure.

63—Authorised officers

This clause empowers the Minister to appoint authorised officers for the purposes of the measure.

64—Powers of inspection

This clause provides specific inspection powers that may be exercised by an authorised officers for the purposes of the measure.

65—Records

This clause requires an employer under the measure to keep (or to cause to be kept) sufficient records to enable the employer's liability in respect of the payment of levies or other contributions under the measure to be accurately assessed. These records will be required to be kept for at least 7 years after the completion of the period to which the records relate.

66—Recovery of amounts and crediting entitlements

The period for the recovery of an amount payable under the measure (including an amount of unpaid levy) will be 7 years. The period for retrospectively crediting an effective service entitlement will be 7 years (calculated from the date on which the work to which the entitlement relates was carried out).

67—False or misleading information

This clause makes it an offence for a person to make a statement that is false or misleading in a material particular in any information provided under the measure.

68—Confidentiality and provision of information

This clause provides for the confidentiality of information provided in connection with the administration of the measure.

69—Service of documents

This clause sets out the options for service of documents.

70—No contracting out

The provisions of the measure will have effect despite any provision to the contrary in a contract. A provision in an agreement under which the measure is, or is purported to be, excluded, modified or restricted, or to have the effect of excluding, modifying or restricting the operation of the measure, will be void.

71—Adverse action against designated worker

This clause prohibits an employer from dismissing or threatening to dismiss a designated worker from, or to prejudice or threaten to prejudice a designated worker in, employment because the worker is entitled to long service leave or a payment in respect of long service leave.

72—Offences

This clause sets out the persons who are entitled to commence criminal proceedings under the measure and sets out the timeframe within which a prosecution for an offence must be commenced. The clause further provides that, if a person is found in any criminal proceedings to have contravened the measure, the court may, in addition to any penalty that it may impose, order the defendant to take specified action to make good the contravention in a manner, and within a period, specified by the court, or to provide information or records to an industry board.

73—Evidentiary provision

This clause deals with various evidentiary matters to assist in the conduct of proceedings under the measure.

74—Regulations

The Governor will be able to make such regulations as are contemplated by the measure or as are necessary or expedient for the purposes of the measure.

75—Review of Act

This clause provides for a review of the operation of the measure to be undertaken after the measure has been in operation for a period of 3 years.

Schedule 1—Establishment of industry boards

1—Community Services Sector Long Service Leave Board

This clause establishes the Community Services Sector Long Service Leave Board.

Schedule 2—Community services

1—Preliminary

This clause provides that services qualify as *community services* under this Schedule if they are specified in clause 2 of the Schedule, and involve the performance of work covered under clause 3 of the Schedule.

2—Services

This clause lists services that are specified as being community services (subject to the operation of clause 3).

3—Coverage

Work will be covered under this clause if the work has a rate of pay prescribed by a *qualifying award*. This will apply even if the person is being paid under an enterprise agreement or an individual contract at a different rate of pay.

Schedule 3—Related amendments and transitional provisions

Part 1—Amendment of *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*

1—Amendment of section 4—Interpretation

This clause inserts definitions of *CEO* and *public sector agency* into the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

2—Insertion of heading

This is a consequential amendment.

3—Substitution of section 13

A series of revised provisions are to be inserted into the *Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act 1987* as follows:

Division 2—Staff and facilities

13—Chief executive officer

This clause makes express provision for the appointment of a chief executive officer of the Construction Industry Long Service Leave Board.

13A—Staff

This clause makes express provision in relation to the staff of the board.

13B—Facilities

This is a consequential amendment.

Part 2—Transitional provisions

4—Interpretation

This clause defines terms used in the Part.

5—Extension of term for registration as employer

This clause provides that an employer in the community services sector must apply for registration under the measure within 28 days after the designated day (being a day declared by the Governor by proclamation).

6—Current workers

This clause provides for the preservation of continuity of service for a person employed by an employer in the community services sector immediately before the designated day, and for a period of service up to the designated day to be credited as effective service for the purposes of the measure. However, if a person changes employer after the designated day and before the person reaches an entitlement to long service leave, or a payment on account of long service leave, under the measure, then the person's service up to the designated day will no longer be taken into account (and this reflects the way that the *Long Service Leave Act 1987* operates if a person breaks their continuity of service before they have reached an entitlement to long service leave or a payment in lieu of long service leave).

7—Employers

This clause provides for transitional arrangements in relation to the liability of an employer in the community services sector with respect to the accrual of leave under the *Long Service Leave Act 1987*.

The clause provides that, if an employee has an entitlement to long service leave, or to a payment in respect of long service leave, that has accrued under the *Long Service Leave Act 1987* immediately before the designated day (and a person who has completed at least 7 years of service under that Act will be taken to have an accrued entitlement), their employer will be required to pay to the Board an amount equal to the amount that would have been payable by the employer if the employee had been paid immediately before the designated day. The payment will be

made when the employee (a *designated worker* under the proposed *Portable Long Service Leave Act 2024*) takes the relevant leave or receives a relevant payment. The amount to be paid to the designated worker will be determined under the regulations (to take into account the amount payable by the employer as it relates to the *Long Service Leave Act 1987* and to allow for an appropriate method to calculate the designated worker's ordinary weekly pay (which may need to be different to the method that would otherwise apply under the measure)).

The clause further provides that, if an employee has service that has been credited under clause 6 but is yet to have an accrued entitlement under the *Long Service Leave Act 1987*, their employer's liability will be determined when the employee, as a designated worker, becomes entitled to long service leave, or a payment in respect of long service leave, which has a component that is attributable to service that has been credited under clause 6. The amount to be paid by the employer will be determined under the regulations, and the amount to be paid to the designated worker will also be determined under the regulations (to take into account the amount payable by the employer as it relates to the *Long Service Leave Act 1987* and to allow for an appropriate method to calculate the designated worker's ordinary weekly pay (which may need to be different to the method that would otherwise apply under the measure)).

This clause will apply subject to an agreement between an employer and an employee to extinguish a liability under the *Long Service Leave Act 1987* (as long as the agreement is entered into during the period of 3 months after the designated day).

This clause provides power for regulations to be made in connection with the operation of the clause so as to provide for alternative arrangements that relate to the interaction between the measure and the *Long Service Leave Act 1987* (and any such arrangements will be able operate in place of any provision made by this clause so as to provide greater flexibility in a potentially complex set of circumstances).

8—Regulations

This clause provides power for regulations of a saving or transitional nature to be made for the purposes of the measure.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Heysen, do you wish to speak? You are the lead speaker?

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (12:41): Yes, I am the lead speaker for the opposition. I note the additional remarks of the minister addressing, in particular, the matter that was raised in the debate in the Legislative Council and I will get to that more particularly in a moment because in some ways to resort to a designated date amendment in terms of commencement might be regarded as a fairly short point, but in this case, there is a lot that sits behind it.

While the bill has a public trajectory that goes back to at least about December last year, when the minister was first raising an early form of it, and, of course, against the background of other jurisdictions legislating over time and the lessons that have been learned, the circumstances of the bill coming on for debate in this place, is surprising, and if there are some A and B grades to be given, the government once again in this week, unfortunately, gets an E for process when it comes to dealing with the bill in its form in the house.

What we have seen is that there were significant amendments made to the first draft, which are the subject of a 15-page update from the government. The government afforded the opposition a briefing on this current form of the bill for the first time last Wednesday and that in circumstances where it was obvious to all concerned that first of all there is a very able staff—and I do commend the minister and his specialised staff, and they know who they are—who were providing a briefing on what has been an area of policy that has been very thoroughly thought through. Indeed, it has many decades of history and not just in other states. I will make some reference to 1977 and more particularly to the 1987 debate, at which the then Liberal opposition provided support for the establishment of the construction industry scheme, and the remarks of Stephen Baker in that debate. There is a lot that is well known over decades.

There is also significant capacity and thoughtfulness that has been applied by the minister and the minister's office. I do note with appreciation the briefing that was so ably given, albeit just last Wednesday and in circumstances where it was clear at that time that there was a lot for the opposition to do in terms of engaging with stakeholders about the change in the draft legislation from the December version circulated at the end of last year through to an explanatory document that was the result of many changes in response to early draft stakeholder response.

Then, I say unfortunately, to be told that, 'Actually, the government is in accelerator and guillotine mode this week, so what we're going to do is we'll introduce it in the Legislative Council'—as has been the wont of the government, and it is relevant because the minister is there—and we'll

get through all stages of that pronto in a day, and then we'll be bringing it into the house with a view to having that progressed and passed this week whether you like it or not,' and whether or not stakeholders of sincere concern in all of this still have concerns to raise and are—

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Heysen will be heard uninterrupted, thank you.

Mr TEAGUE: What has emerged, even in the course of those short days—and I will reflect particularly, perhaps, for example, on the disability and ageing sectors respectively—has been concern to get this right.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister—

The Hon. N.F. Cook: I'm just helping, sir.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, minister, you can help at the conclusion of the debate.

Mr TEAGUE: There will be an opportunity in committee for the minister to help, I hope, but the minister is endeavouring to help in the course of the second reading debate as well. In circumstances of the minister's endeavour to help, yes, ageing is not included, and the relevant point, of course, is that there is a pretty respectable view that you either include both disability and ageing or neither of the two.

Let's unpack the merits of that proposition from the sector. What we have heard just in the last days is that there is concern about the implementation of the scheme and the necessary changes that are going to be needed to be made by all of the relevant employers in the interests of employees who are going to have the benefit of this. Those are sincere concerns that are raised and that is what has informed the amendment that would provide comfort in reality in response to the government's rhetoric about when the scheme will commence.

I have no reason to have any particular doubts. There is no reason why the government would want to accelerate prior to the 1 July 2025 date. That is already a bit early in relation to the feedback that we have had. It would not do any harm at all for the government, in response to the concerns that have been raised, to provide for a straightforward 'not before' date in the legislation so that those who have concerns in the sector wrapped up can know that they can refer to the—

Members interjecting:

Mr TEAGUE: I am not sure if the ministers have more to say by way of interjection.

The Hon. N.F. Cook interjecting:

Mr TEAGUE: Is that alright? So to provide that comfort in the legislation it seems to me not unreasonable. That has been put in another place, and I am a bit bewildered, frankly, as to why the ministers appear to be regarding that as some sort of out-of-order remark. If it is prompting some reflection about my capacity to understand how the scheme works, or those who have provided feedback, then all I can say is that those are sincere reflections of members of the relevant community and they are concerns that I am expressing on behalf of them and speaking for the opposition in relation to a debate that is being had in this place in circumstances of notice that I have just described.

I have heard one response to stakeholder feedback in the last week, and again I do not put this criticism to any particularly high degree but this is just to illustrate what is needing to occur in terms of the implementation of the scheme. The minister has been described as having said to stakeholders, 'Hey, this is happening so get onboard. Hold back on your hesitation. This is happening, get onboard—and by the way, we need to pass this pronto so that we can meet some of these timing expectations down the track.'

The concern comes back, and it says, 'Look, we might have an intellectually positive view about what a scheme can achieve. You can prove up the financial model, you can make the case for the retention of workers in the sector, it can provide for those whole range of benefits, and even the financial side, even the actuarial side, to go from a provisioning process to a levy-based process.'

That all can be sold and the case can be made that you have a high degree of eventual endorsement by the sector—and I will come to SACOSS in particular in a moment.

There is no doubt at all that there is sincere concern at this time about what it is going to take to be ready for the implementation of the scheme. So even to adopt the minister's words that 'this is coming, get onboard'—alright, let's all get onboard. The minister's case for saying 'get onboard, we need to now' is that there is work to be done ahead of the implementation of the scheme, and the minister has just said so.

So far be it from me to counsel the government about how it goes about engaging. This is just one point of view. It would seem to me to do no harm whatsoever to the government to provide comfort in the legislation. The timeframe that has been talked about will be there to provide comfort and not just there to provide a source of process anxiety, as it were. That is a fairly thorough way of foreshadowing what will be part of the committee stage.

The second overarching observation about the process—and, again, this is a nod to those who have done the work on the minister's side, and particularly his advisers—is that this is a scheme that provides for the establishment of a board, for the scheme to apply to community services sector workers. It does so by the combination of two reference schedules, schedule 1 listing the relevant services and schedule 2 setting out the relevant awards.

There are two relevant awards and there is capacity to regulate in circumstances where, for example, the name of one of them changes and you need to substitute and so on. You provide the rails of the scheme by reference to services on the one hand subject to awards on the other. We also know that there is a picking up of the existing structure to the point that there is provision for a common board and drawing on the history of the construction industry scheme established some decades ago.

The proposition has been put, then, to ask, 'Is this a piece of legislation that is for the purpose of establishing a scheme for a sector?' The clear answer is no, no it is not. It is a framework bill providing for a framework structure that zeros in, for reasons that I think are well understood, on the community services sector because it is the source of what has been described as a sector that has been the subject of advocacy for a specific scheme.

But the bill is very clearly and deliberately set up, and I think the government will spruik the potential benefits of doing so, to provide for an overarching framework under which other sectors—they might be far removed from the purview of the minister, but sectors as far and wide as construction to community services and others—can in the future be established in terms of the same mechanism: that is, the establishment of a board by reference to relevant services and relevant awards.

If there is a principal question that arises in that sense—because there is, understandably, a lot of focus on the community services sector right now; it is the first cab off the rank and it is the sector that is the subject of the bill for the time being—it will be about what the government wants to articulate as the threshold for a proposition to establish any individual sector in terms of an additional board.

I put that on particular notice in the course of the second reading debate; I do not know that the minister has that particularly in mind. It would contemplate, certainly, all areas well outside the minister's portfolio—the minister in this place representing the Minister for Industrial Relations. But I do foreshadow that the more that the government is in a position to articulate what comfort can be given to those variety of sectors that might say, 'Hey, we've heard about this legislation, we've heard about the new portable long service leave process, we remember the establishment in '87 of the construction industry scheme.' I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Sitting suspended from 12:59 to 14:00.

ANIMAL WELFARE BILL*Message from Governor*

His Excellency the Governor's Deputy, by message, recommended to the house the appropriation of such amounts of money as might be required for the purposes mentioned in the bill.

*Parliamentary Procedure***ANSWERS TABLED**

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

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

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

Criminal Investigation (Covert Operations) Act 2009—Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission—Annual Report 2023-2024
SafeWork SA—Entry Permit Holder Policy (External)—1 September 2024

By the Minister for Human Services (Hon. N.F. Cook)—

Inclusive SA—State Disability Inclusion Plan 2019-2023—Annual Report 2023
Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability—South Australian Response Government Response

*Ministerial Statement***PASSING OF MAJOR-GENERAL (RETD) VIKRAM MADAN OAM VSM**

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—Minister for Tourism, Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (14:02): I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON: I rise today to make a ministerial statement and take a moment to honour the many remarkable contributions of the late Major-General (Retired) Vikram Madan OAM VSM. I begin by extending my sincere condolences to Major-General Madan's wife, Veena—who is here today—to his children, Vilas, Sahil, Aanchal and Aakriti; to his sons-in-law, Michael and Viskas; as well as to his grandchildren, Vikrant, Veer, Kush and Kabir. I also offer my condolences to the extended Madan family.

Vikram was a leading light in our multicultural state. His advocacy and leadership in supporting and advancing multiculturalism was appreciated and recognised by the state government, being appointed as a member of the former South Australian Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs Commission from 2010 to 2018. During this time he worked closely with almost all the multicultural communities in our state. He generously volunteered his time, resources and energies to encourage, nurture and promote multiculturalism in South Australia. As Minister for Multicultural Affairs, I acknowledge and give thanks to Vikram for his eight years of dedicated service to the commission.

Over the years, Vikram held a number of other board and committee positions, with a strong focus on serving, raising awareness, empowering and advocating for our diverse multicultural communities. He was an executive committee member of the Indian Australian Association of South Australia for more than a decade. From 2009 to 2011, he served as the association's president. A particular focus of his compassionate leadership was to help and support new Indian migrants, international students and taxidriviers, who were victims of horrible acts of violence and abuse at that time.

Vikram was also a long standing member of the state government's Passenger Transport Standards Committee, where he continued to work until his passing. He held roles within the broader multicultural community, including Multicultural Aged Care, and just last year the federal government

appointed Vikram to the Aged Care Council of Elders, where he was a powerful voice for older members of Australia's culturally and linguistically diverse communities. As a tireless champion of multiculturalism, Vikram was appointed an ambassador to the OzAsia Festival, Multicultural Aged Care Inc., and the Australia Day Council of South Australia. In these roles, he consistently shared his belief that multiculturalism is our state's greatest asset.

Vikram's career boasts many professional achievements and well-deserved accolades. But his profound generosity of spirit was also evident in his personal advocacy, including the fundraiser he organised following the 2015 earthquake in Nepal, which raised \$43,000 for relief efforts. He was also instrumental in securing Indian defence veterans the right to march in the ANZAC Day parade in South Australia. Vikram was a strong leader in our state's multicultural sector and was well liked by all who knew him. He will be greatly missed.

His public contribution for his community and multiculturalism has been a remarkable testament to the person he was. But beyond this undeniable passion, drive and leadership for the community was his love for his family. His loss is deeply felt by his loved ones and the countless people that he impacted. I again extend my heartfelt condolences to his wife, Veena, and his family and friends here in Australia and overseas.

Major General (Retired) Vikram Madan OAM VSM chose South Australia as his new home 17 years ago. In that time, the contributions he made in his work and his life have helped make South Australia a more inclusive place for us all. He represented the true meaning of multiculturalism and highlighted the cultural and economic benefit to all South Australians by supporting communities. He was the very best of multiculturalism.

On behalf of the family, I wish to read this wonderfully written statement that gives everyone an insight into the person he was at home with the family:

Vikram's love was the foundation of our family, and even in his absence, it continues to guide us. He had an extraordinary way of making each of us feel valued, respected, and deeply loved. His generosity knew no bounds—he was always ready to offer his time, advice and support, no matter the situation. His sense of humour was the heartbeat of our home, a gift that brought joy and comfort even during difficult times.

Vikram was the rock of our family, shouldering responsibilities with grace and never hesitating to step up when needed.

One of the most special bonds Vikram shared was with his grandchildren. They were captivated by stories of his Army career, especially the war stories and the medals he earned. But beyond that, they treasured the simple joys of watching footy together or enjoying the meals he lovingly prepared.

Vikram was, and always will be, our family's guiding light. His legacy of love, wisdom and strength will continue to inspire us all.

May he rest in peace.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would like to formally acknowledge the presence of Major General Madan's family in the gallery today and also extend my condolences to them.

Parliamentary Committees

JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE LEGALISATION OF MEDICINAL CANNABIS

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (14:09): I bring up the interim report of the committee.

Report received.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Before I go to questions without notice, I would like to acknowledge in the chamber the following two schools. There are year 10 legal studies students from Seaford Secondary College in the gallery. They are hosted by the member for Kurna, the Hon. Chris Picton. I would like to acknowledge them. I would also like to acknowledge in the gallery

year 11 legal studies students from Unley High School, who are guests of the Hon. David Pisoni, the member for Unley. Welcome to the gallery today. I am sure our members will behave for you and set an appropriate standard. That is wishful thinking, isn't it?

Question Time

MINISTER FOR CHILD PROTECTION

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition) (14:10): My question is to the Premier. Does the Premier have confidence in the Minister for Child Protection and, if so, why? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: Almost 50 people have been charged with sexual offences against children in state care since March 2022, two resulting in pregnancies. One in five calls to the Child Abuse Report Line go unanswered. Executive staffing in the department is in disarray, and today, the minister has refused to answer questions in relation to the tragic death of a three-year-old Whyalla girl.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:11): The answer to the question is absolutely. As to the why, it is because the Minister for Child Protection is doing all the work that you didn't. In fact, the very reason why the Leader of the Opposition is even able to recite those statistics—

The Hon. V.A. Tarzia interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Leader, do you wish to stay in the chamber at the moment? Allow the Premier to respond.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: The reason why the Leader of the Opposition is even able to recite those statistics is that this government is measuring them, which is something that no government prior has done in a sophisticated and organised way. This minister values not just measuring performance but also having a degree of transparency. When the member for Frome was the Chief of Staff to the former Minister for Child Protection, this was the sort of data that no-one could get near. This was the sort of data that was not even measured, and this is just an example of the initiatives that are substantial—

The Hon. V.A. Tarzia interjecting:

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: He didn't either, but this government is, under this minister. So when you ask whether or not we have confidence in a minister who is doing things that no-one else before has done, you better believe we do. More than that, what I see from this minister in regard to the child protection portfolio, apart from demonstrating initiative, is also sincere compassion to actually drive change where others were not willing to do so.

I can think of a range of examples that this government has led under the stewardship of the minister, but also, we know that money talks. When it comes to the Department for Child Protection, it has enjoyed an unprecedented level of funding during the course of the life of this government. We continue to invest in these areas because we know it matters, but more than that, there is a long-term question at play when it comes to child protection.

I think it is well known, and even those opposite would acknowledge the fact, that in many respects the child protection system is the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff. What we have to have the courage to do is lift our eyes, look over the horizon and invest in the initiatives that might make a difference in the long term, which is exactly why this government—with the support of the Minister for Child Protection, I might add—is investing so heavily in the early years, a serious policy underpinned by none other than a royal commission to drive change for all children across our state in terms of the early years, but that is particularly true for people growing up in more disadvantaged and vulnerable circumstances.

We know if we can get to these kids early we can actually put them on a trajectory to have a better life that may in turn result in their own children not ending up in the child protection system. These things matter. So the government has a broad policy, a long-term agenda, to give children,

particularly disadvantaged children from disadvantaged circumstances, the best possible hope of not needing to engage the child protection system itself. But where it does, it does so with a government that is committed to transparency, which is the very reason why the Leader of the Opposition can even ask the question that he is today.

CHILD PROTECTION

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (14:14): My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Was—and if so why—a significant incident declared by the Department for Child Protection in relation to the death of a three-year-old girl in Whyalla?

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:14): Thank you very much, Mr Deputy Speaker.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, just take a seat. Members on my left, the minister has barely got to her feet and you are interjecting.

Ms Pratt: It started on the right, Mr Deputy Speaker.

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

The Hon. V.A. Tarzia interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: And the leader is warned for the second time.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: And the minister is also warned. Minister, you have the floor.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: Can I first of all say the death of any child is absolutely devastating and, as I have said in this place before, my thoughts and my love remain with the family and extended family and friendship groups of this child. As has been spoken about, this child was not in the care of the Department for Child Protection at the time of their death.

As has also previously been said publicly, this matter has been referred to the Coroner, and I am advised that the Department for Child Protection is yet to be formally notified of the cause of death in this case. The department of course, as I absolutely expect and require them to do, will continue to fulsomely brief me on this matter. Again, my thoughts are with the family.

To get to the part of the question about significant incidents, I can absolutely say, as I have said at length in this place before, I require the department—on coming to government I made my expectations very, very clear that I want to be notified about a range of significant incidents, and there are a range of matters that I am notified about, and rightly so. Because when we are notified of these matters that is the right thing as the minister but it also gives us the opportunity to deeply think about and inquire into what supports are around particular children and their families.

So, as well as being rightly notified about significant incidents—and again on a range of matters I receive those notifications—I also make it my business to find out what supports, what agencies, what sorts of meetings, etc., are happening around particular children and their families who may be the subject of particular reports to me. That is absolutely the right thing to do. As we have also spoken about in this place, sadly, one in three children in South Australia are notified to the child protection and family support system.

Sadly, as much as all of us would like to, we cannot stop everything that happens in every single home of those one in three children here in South Australia. But what we can do is work very, very hard, as the Premier has spoken about, to make sure at the earliest possible opportunity we are effectively intervening with children and their families to help them have the best possible opportunity to lead successful and safe lives and be enabled to thrive.

Also, as I have articulated many times in here and many times with the sector, with families and with carers at all sorts of events and public forums, I have been very open about the challenges that we face, the complex challenges families face, the complex challenges the system therefore

faces and the range of measures that we are engaging to drive change. This change will take time but we are absolutely up for driving it.

CHILD PROTECTION

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (14:19): I have a supplementary question, again to the Minister for Child Protection: how many abuse reports or notifications were made to the Department for Child Protection in relation to the three-year-old girl who died in Whyalla?

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:19): I would have expected that the shadow minister for child protection, the shadow attorney-general, would have a broad understanding of the particular legislative and other requirements to make sure that we actually keep confidentiality about the circumstances and details of a particular family.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Unley!

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: That is the right thing to do, in terms of the expectation around adherence to processes, but also it's the right thing to do for the confidentiality of a particular family, of course it is. It is about treating them with dignity and respect, and I will continue, as I said in my previous answer, to drive change across the child protection and family support system. I will continue to drive that long-term transformational change in ways that begin to improve the lives of children, young people and their families, so many of whom—an overwhelming number of whom—are facing some really complex, heartbreaking issues. I will continue to focus on doing that.

I will also continue to make sure that confidentiality is adhered to in a way that ensures the privacy that is required for children and their families. That is the right thing to do. It is a thing that I thought the shadow attorney-general would understand, but I am happy to explain that. That is the right thing to do, and questions that are about, 'What is the number?' just indicate what I have sadly come to learn about those opposite. I have tried to engage them in this process of transformation. The sector has tried to engage them in this really important process of transformation, but instead we hear questions that are not about: what are the sorts of challenges families are facing, how can we uphold their right to privacy and confidentiality and how can we work to advance change that helps improve their lives?

Again, the offer is extended to work together on that transformation. There have been many invitations to attend particular forums and discussions, but unfortunately they haven't always been accepted. But, again, I will continue to keep working towards that change, to keep having that focus on improving the lives of children, young people and their families and I will also keep working to make sure that families are treated with dignity and respect. I was able to make half of this point in our last sitting, but I can't remember how I wasn't able to finish. There was something over there that caused this part of the answer to get cut off.

A few weeks ago, as I often do, I was with a group of young people and they are extraordinary young people; strong, resilient, clever, engaged with the child protection and family support system, extraordinary young people. In a conversation with them about what was important to them, one of the things—one of the many things they talked about—was absolutely a desire for them to have their confidentiality respected, and for them, with that confidentiality, to be treated with dignity and respect.

PARALYMPICS AUSTRALIA

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:23): My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing, and I thank her for her genuine interest in this issue: will the government make a contribution to Paralympics Australia for the 2024 games appeal fund? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr COWDREY: The South Australian government provided the appeal committee with funds to support the Premier's Games Appeal Dinner but has not yet provided a direct contribution to our Paralympians through the games appeal fund.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:24): I am happy to take this matter as it has been drawn to my attention. Yes, the state government is very keen to provide support where we can to various not-for-profit causes and that includes the Olympic fund and the Paralympic fund. I understand that on Monday afternoon there is at least one meeting, if not a second meeting, that has been arranged in my diary to be able to meet with representatives of Paralympics Australia and talk about how that funding arrangement will operate into the future. The state government is keen to make a contribution to reflect the effort and the celebration, so I'm happy to make sure that that is as productive as possible.

PARALYMPICS AUSTRALIA

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:25): Supplementary: is the Premier happy to have bipartisan representation at that meeting?

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:25): The meeting request was to me, but I'm more than happy to make sure that we furnish any information of that publicly.

PORT BROUGHTON SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN KOALA CROSSING

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (14:25): My question is to the minister for road safety. Can the minister advise whether it's possible to alter the times that the koala crossing lights are in action near Port Broughton school and the kindergarten? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr ELLIS: The Port Broughton Kindergarten shuts just before the school so as not to coincide their pickup times with the school on a co-located site and as such parents are finding they're arriving prior to the lights having commenced operation.

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State) (14:26): It is good to receive a question, although in this case from the crossbench. The important matters that the member for—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN: Settle down, member for Heysen.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN: You can just warm your hands around the bonfire of those four votes—or was it three votes, maybe? Was it three votes?

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, I would ask that you stick to the question, please.

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker, for your protection and encouragement.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN: What's going on? Are you enjoying the 'Texas chainsaw massacre' over there, are you?

Members interjecting:

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN: What happened to you? I think we need Peds back. I think we really need Peds back. I never thought I would say it, but 'Come back Peds, please come back.'

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, can you just resume your seat for a second, please? Okay, we've had our fun. We will now listen to the minister.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members on my left, you will listen to the response quietly. Member for Chaffey, do you have something to say?

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members on my right! Minister, you have the floor. The next member to interrupt may leave.

Mr Whetstone interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Chaffey, under 137A, you can leave for 10 minutes.

The honourable member for Chaffey having withdrawn from the chamber:

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, I don't need your commentary, thank you. You are on your third warning, leader.

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN: Just so long as I am not on my third warning. It's all down to you Jack. You're the only shadow remaining.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN: I haven't had interactions to me; it's all been to you.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, do you recall the question?

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN: Indeed, I do.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I'm happy to remind you.

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN: Thank you, Deputy Speaker.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Right, let's get back to it.

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN: I am very, very grateful to the member for Narungga for drawing my attention to the koala crossing near Port Broughton Kindergarten. I know it's an important matter to him, to his community. It's a matter in which he has been persistent in his representations to me. He has emphasised that this is a matter he would wish to have an answer in relation to.

I have been advised by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport that in order to further highlight the koala crossing on Spencer Highway, Port Broughton, the department will upgrade the existing 25 km/h sign when lights are flashing. It is anticipated that this will be completed in the last quarter of this year. I know that the member for Narungga will continue to raise this matter with me until completion of the works, and I know that he will scrutinise those works once complete and if there are any matters he will raise them with me.

With respect to the timing, the department will also investigate increasing the operation times of the koala crossing—which also goes to the member's inquiry—which will include consulting with the school, which I know has been a matter important to the member. The investigation is anticipated to be completed by the end of October this year.

PORT BROUGHTON SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN KOALA CROSSING

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (14:30): Supplementary: will the minister commit to consulting with the kindergarten as well as the school?

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State) (14:30): Thank you, member for Narungga—thorough and focused as always on the answer, and keen to ensure that the consultation takes in both stakeholders as may be necessary. I will take the question on notice and consult with the department, but I will certainly emphasise the importance of that matter.

MALINAUSKAS LABOR GOVERNMENT

Ms SAVVAS (Newland) (14:30): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier inform the house what the Malinauskas government has actioned in the last seven days?

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:31): I thank the member for Newland for her question. The member for Newland has a very real interest in making sure that the people of her electorate are led by a competent government that is getting on with the job. It is worth just recapping, in what has been an exceptionally busy week in the context of state politics, the things that actually make a difference to people's lives.

The week started with the state government leading the nation with a ban on social media for children. This will literally save children's lives and make a difference for the better. We have announced five major construction companies that are going to get on with the task of delivering the massive investment in water infrastructure and that work now begins in earnest, along with the \$200 million Deep Maintenance and Modification Facility at the RAAF Base Edinburgh.

This week, the Treasurer led the single biggest contingent of South Australian companies to the important Land Forces expo over the last couple of days. A \$31.8 million partnership with the commonwealth to deliver three overtaking lanes on Main South Road down to Cape Jervis is on track. S&P Global praised South Australia's solid financial management while they were identifying the fact that we are a wealthy economy in an international context and have strong liquidity, and while they announced that we had maintained our AA+ credit rating. The ABS released statistics that showed that South Australia has the equal strongest growth of any state in the country when it comes to state final demand figures, equal with Western Australia.

Tougher penalties were announced for people who abuse and neglect animals, which is an important sign of humanity. The Attorney-General took quick and decisive action to close a loophole associated with the tragic death of Synamin Bell.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members on my left will tone it down.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: Then in the parliament—

Mr Patterson interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Morphett, you are warned.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —we introduced legislation to give the Small Business Commissioner greater powers, legislation to create tougher penalties for the abuse of animals, legislation to ban conversion practices in South Australia which hurt young South Australians, and a bill to create the Greyhound Industry Reform Inspector.

This house passed legislation to increase consumer protection for people in retirement villages, passed legislation that is major reform to the driver training sector in the state and passed bail laws for terror suspects, along with laws to provide stronger protections for people who suffer identity theft. In the Leg Co we passed laws extending portable long service leave. In both houses of parliament we passed laws to create the toughest penalties in the nation for people who recruit kids to commit crime, we passed laws to deliver indefinite detention for serious child sex offenders and we passed legislation to save the Cranker, amongst other things. That's all in the space of seven days. And what was the response from the opposition? Well, we had the Hon. Ben Hood on radio saying this week, 'It's all too much.' All this work, all this action has caught the opposition aghast. They've got other things to focus on. They are focussing on other things according to the Hon. Ben Hood.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: You guys aren't able to keep up with the pace. You're focussed and preoccupied with other things. Well, on this side of the house we have had an exceptionally busy week running a competent, united government, delivering for the people of South Australia and they know the difference, they know the contrast, and long may it continue.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Before I call the member for Heysen—

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister! Before I call the member for Heysen, the member for Frome is warned for a second time, the member for Morphett is now on two strikes, the member for Heysen is on two strikes, the member for Bragg is on two strikes and the member for Flinders is on two strikes. There's a race on between members here to go out. Member for Heysen, you have the floor.

CORONER'S INQUIRY

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (14:35): My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Why will the minister not provide further information on a matter before the Coroner? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Sorry, can you just repeat the question please?

Mr TEAGUE: Why will the minister not provide further information on a matter before the Coroner? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I can anticipate—

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Standing order 98, sir: the member is offering an argument and debate within his question.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: That's correct. Your very first two words need to be rephrased, member.

Mr TEAGUE: Is, and if so why, the minister not providing further information on a matter before the Coroner? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr TEAGUE: On ABC radio this morning criminal law expert, Craig Caldicott, suggested there's no reason why the government should not be providing further information concerning the death of a three-year-old Whyalla girl, and doing so would not prejudice the Coroner's investigation.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:36): I fulsomely answered that question just about 10 or 15 minutes ago, and I suggest that the shadow attorney-general, who I would have thought would have understood the answer that I gave around both the sensitivity for the family and the requirements around particular matters, and also the answer that I gave around the Coroner would be understood, so I don't intend to go through that at length again. I do refer him to the detail of my answer just a short time ago.

CORONER'S INQUIRY

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (14:37): Supplementary: is the minister aware of any suppression or other confidentiality order in relation to any proceedings?

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:37): Again, I will refer the shadow attorney-general to my previous fulsome answer that I provided, both with sensitivity to the family and also in relation to particular requirements about privacy and also the circumstances in relation to this matter. In relation to the further question, I can absolutely assure the shadow attorney-general that I am made aware—I require that I am made aware, I ask that I am made aware—about a range of matters pertaining to children, young people and their families.

PARALYMPICS AUSTRALIA

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:38): My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. Is the minister aware of any other state or territory government providing direct funding to Paralympics Australia through the games appeal fund and, if so, what was that funding?

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:39): I thank the member for his question. I want to acknowledge we have had some conversations about this particular matter. I want to acknowledge his advocacy in this space and also his extraordinary career as a renowned Paralympian. It is fair to say, as I spoke about on ABC radio, he absolutely represented our country with such honour and dignity and I think everybody was incredibly proud of those efforts. Congratulations again.

I am glad you have asked this question so I can clear some things up, but also it just gives me a quick opportunity to extend really sincere congratulations to those South Australian athletes, and indeed all athletes, who participated in the Paralympic Games. I know that we are all very proud of them. So many of them were part of the SASI program, either scholars or graduates of the SASI program. I extend my congratulations to them and, like many South Australians, I am really looking forward to welcoming them home on Sunday.

As the Premier outlined, there has obviously been a request for funding that, I think, was made from Paralympics Australia on the day that the Paralympics commenced, or the day before. We spoke around that time. Like any request for funding, as the Premier has spoken about, that of course will be given due consideration—of course it will be.

I will give a little bit of background about funding to Paralympics in the past and to the Olympics as well. What I would say, as I said on radio, is through our SASI programs we contribute around \$4.6 million annually to the development of athletes in all sorts of ways. Also, for each cycle of the Olympics and Paralympics we have, in the past, contributed particular funds. In those past cycles we committed \$1.7 million and then recently to the appeals committee the \$100,000 that I know the member is aware of.

What I can also say, though, is that in 2021 there was a request made of the then Liberal government to continue the funds that had been made at each of those four-yearly cycles. There had been a request in 2013, then in 2017 and then in 2021. Unfortunately, the response to that particular request was to defer it and not to make that contribution. However—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: No, that is not the case. What is really important to understand is that Olympic cycles, four-yearly cycles, are funded. It is for the whole cycle. I am happy to provide you more information about how the funding system works. I say again: we also contributed, after that contribution, to each cycle—as the former Labor government was asked for, then the former Liberal government was asked for but did not respond to or deferred. We also then provided \$100,000 for this games and we have had a request that we will consider. I really look forward to continuing our conversations about that.

PARALYMPIC GAMES

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:43): Supplementary: was South Australia the only state not to contribute to the games appeal fund this cycle?

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:43): Again, I have given a very fulsome answer about the way this funding works. What I would also say is that the funding, I think, to which the member referred on radio—I am not sure if that is exactly what you refer to now—is there are also funding requests that are made through the Olympic Appeals Committee. The Olympic Appeals Committee acts as a fundraising arm to generate more funds through their fundraising efforts for athletes. We certainly made that contribution of \$100,000 to that fund.

Mr Cowdrey: Were they asking for more?

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: They have now asked, as I said, just now, on the first day of the Paralympics—

Mr Cowdrey interjecting:

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: —the first day of the Paralympics—

Mr Cowdrey interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Colton!

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: As you know, and as we spoke about, they asked for the money. I think the morning after we met we got a letter. The morning after we met, just a couple of weeks ago, we got a letter, and, as the Premier has rightly spoken about, we will consider it. I really look forward, as we said in our meetings, to talking further with you about Paralympics and continuing our discussions about those requests and how we move forward.

Again, I go back to where I started: I absolutely know that your commitment to the movement is robust and genuine. I look forward to working with you in welcoming the athletes on Sunday, and also into the future as we contemplate these issues.

CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (14:45): My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. How many, if any, significant incidents have occurred at the Department for Child Protection since the minister came to office?

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:45): Again, I think I have actually had this question in this place before. In fact, just in the last sitting week there was a similar question. What I can say is that I have set up a very robust process so that I am notified about—

The Hon. D.G. Pisoni interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, resume your seat. The member for Unley will leave the chamber under 137A for 15 minutes.

The honourable member for Unley having withdrawn from the chamber:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is a very serious matter, and it's appropriate for the opposition to ask questions but it's inappropriate to interject on this matter, given the dignity that it deserves. Let me make myself very clear.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I have explained, on multiple occasions in this house, about the significant incident reporting procedure. It is a procedure that I put in place on coming to government, because I was really concerned about how those particular notifications had previously happened. As well as asking that the department advises me about particular matters—it is my expectation of them that they do that—I also seek further information to satisfy myself that my expectation, my other expectation of the department, is also being met, and that is that, when there are particular incidents, particular supports are around children and their families. That remains my expectation. I will continue to have that expectation of the department.

SPORTS VOUCHERS PROGRAM

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (14:47): My question is to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing—and I am sorry, she has been a busy minister this afternoon. Will the minister expand the Sports Vouchers program to include young people in years 10, 11 and 12? Mr Deputy Speaker, with your leave and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr McBRIDE: The Sports Vouchers program, while welcome, provides \$100 discounts to assist with a range of activities for children in reception to year 9. The state government's Recreation, Sport and Racing Strategic Plan 2021-2025 found that only 14 per cent of young people were

meeting the National Physical Activity Guidelines. Expanding the program to include older children will help keep them active and assist parents with the cost-of-living crisis.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:48): Thank you so much to the member for MacKillop for his question and also for his really long-term, enduring and deep commitment to sporting clubs in his community and to how we can grow the participation of children and young people in sport and recreation and have them experience all the benefits that that brings.

I know that the member for MacKillop continues to be very active in the sporting world himself; I think he is umpiring some finals this weekend, which is wonderful. I know you have been a long-term advocate for all the benefits of children and young people being involved in sport and recreation—the physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing benefits. I share that passion for doing what we can for children and young people, including those children and young people who are most disadvantaged in our community. I am very committed to helping to ensure they have those same opportunities to experience those benefits.

One of the programs that has been so successful in helping to break down barriers to participation and the experiencing of those many benefits is our Sports Vouchers program. As I know the house knows, this program was introduced in 2015 and, since that time, more than 650,000 vouchers have been claimed at a value of about \$54 million, which is just brilliant. What I can tell you is that, since 2015, there has been a various evolution of the program. At various times it has been expanded to include year 8s and year 9s. It also went from \$50 to \$100. It was expanded to include dance and Learn to Swim.

Most recently, in the last budget, I was so proud—and it has been so incredibly well received—that we have now doubled the Sports Vouchers program so that a child can receive two vouchers or \$200 worth of vouchers every year and, also, it has been expanded to include music. As we know, many young people experience those benefits of being involved and being active through playing an instrument, being part of a choir or a band or being involved in whichever way they choose. I am really proud that, from 1 January, that doubling and that expansion will occur.

What I can also tell the member for MacKillop is that we have been very conscious about the need to continue to look at the sports voucher and how we can expand it. The Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing has recently partnered with the University of South Australia to develop an evaluation framework for the sports vouchers, given they have been in, and been successful, for that period of time. That framework will analyse any barriers to and the cost of participation so that it can help us inform any future expansion and make sure that we target any future expansion to where those vouchers are needed the most. I look forward to continuing our conversation. I welcome any ideas about what we can consider in terms of any future expansions, and I will certainly keep the member for MacKillop updated.

DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

S.E. ANDREWS (Gibson) (14:52): My question is to the Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence. How is the government working collaboratively to assist women financially impacted by family and domestic violence?

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:52): Thank you so much to the member for this question. I have been a friend and worked alongside the member for Gibson for a very long time, and I am absolutely clear about how steadfast her commitment is to the prevention of domestic, family and sexual violence and how committed she is to supporting those who experience it.

Amongst a comprehensive array of actions that our government is taking to support and empower those experiencing violence is our commitment to work collaboratively with the community sector and with the finance and real estate sectors to explore ways to drive initiatives that support survivors as they recover and heal. We know that a combination of factors affect a woman's economic security over her lifetime and that survivors of violence are likely to experience economic insecurity

as a result of the violence and will need greater support as they work to rebuild their life following the experience of violence.

As part of our commitment, as previously shared with this house, our government hosted round tables focused on easing the financial burden that sadly often arises as a consequence of domestic, family and sexual violence perpetrated against women in South Australia. More than 70 participants from the financial services, real estate and domestic violence sectors attended the round tables to explore options to help ensure women impacted by violence don't bear the brunt of unpaid mortgages, loans and rent.

Innovative solutions to better support women experiencing violence were discussed by leaders during the two financial burden round tables hosted by our government. I am really pleased to inform the house that these important discussions have led to increased action from the financial services and real estate sectors to help address this critical issue. This includes the introduction of specialised training for staff to work with customers experiencing abuse and making it simpler for survivors to open new and private bank accounts.

Other important examples of work now progressing include the Australian Banking Association and its member banks now implementing preventative measures that block abusive transactions in their banking applications and internet banking. ABA member banks are also now taking action against perpetrators of this abuse, including sending warning letters, limiting their access to internet banking and closing their accounts if required. The association has also worked with the government and regulators to minimise harm to survivors in financial difficulty by suppressing certain credit reporting information to reduce the risk of retaliation.

NAB has updated its frontline staff training on assisting customers experiencing violence and uses technology to detect text-based abuse sent via NAB's mobile app or internet banking, with blocked transactions reviewed for further action. Credit Union SA has partnered with the Zahra Foundation to explore the creation of financial products specifically for women impacted by violence, and Rise High Financial Solutions has partnered with Mimi Moon Meno to empower women to greater financial independence during menopause and beyond.

I am delighted to share with the house these examples of excellent progress that has already been made and that the round tables have further helped to establish a collective understanding of the issues faced by those experiencing domestic, family and sexual violence.

PARALYMPIC GAMES

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (14:56): My question is again to the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing. Does the minister think that the government should make a direct contribution to the games appeal fund?

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:57): Thank you again to the member for the question. What I would say in relation to that question first of all is that we have already made a contribution—most recently, as he knows, but also when we have been requested. As a former Labor government, we made a very firm decision to contribute in total \$1.8 million over those three cycles, those requests: 2013, 2017.

We talked about 2021, where that cycle request for assistance was not provided, but then we provided that \$100,000 earlier this year. So, we have contributed. As I have been clear about in my previous answer and as the Premier was very clear about, obviously we will consider the request that has now been made and certainly share information post that consideration.

CHILD PROTECTION

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (14:58): My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Has the minister taken any action to address the causes of significant incidents at the Department for Child Protection since the death of a three-year-old child in Whyalla and, if so, what action?

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (14:58): Two things. The first thing is that I think I have spoken at length about

confidentiality being required around a particular family. That is the right thing for the family and for the other reasons that I have set out. In terms of answering the question in a broader way—about what we do through our \$450 million investment into the child protection and family support system to improve the lives of children, young people and their families, to help keep them safer, to help them be able to thrive in a caring, loving and nurturing environment—there are many things I can talk about.

I will start by talking about some of the measures we have put in place to better provide a voice on issues of concern to children and young people who are in care. As those opposite would know, in 2019 from memory—it may have been 2020—there had been a trial of the Child and Young Person's Visitor scheme. I will have to check the date, but it was in the term of the Marshall Liberal government that the guardian at that time publicly said that she would not continue to be the Child and Young Person's Visitor because there was no funding.

Since coming to government, we have provided \$1.87 million for the visitor function in our first budget, but in the most recent budget we also provided a further \$4.6 million of funding to the functions of the guardian. So that is one measure that is incredibly important.

Another more recent measure is that we have funded the establishment—really important establishment—of a peak body for Aboriginal children and young people so that their voices can be heard about matters that they grapple with and that arise across the system. We have funded Wakwakurna Kanyini \$3.2 million to be established. More recently, a wonderful outstanding woman, Ashum Owen, has been appointed as the CEO. That peak body was developed through the leadership of SNAICC, ACCHOs and other Aboriginal community leaders to come up with a model of a peak body that they say will work for them. That is another really important measure.

Also, we have invested another \$13.4 million into family group conferencing and we are growing that amount. We are focusing a number of our resources there because that program has a 92 per cent—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Minister, resume your seat, please. There is a point of order.

Mr TEAGUE: Under standing order 98(a), the minister is required to answer the substance of the question and not debate the matter. The question is a straightforward one about response to significant incidents since the death of the three-year-old child at Whyalla.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please! My understanding—

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order please! That means on my right as well. My understanding of the minister's answer was she was providing context in terms of what they are doing to address those issues. That is my understanding. Minister, you have 30 seconds.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: As I was saying, the family group conferencing has a success rate of between and 90 and 92 per cent, which is extraordinary. The great thing about putting resources into family group conferencing is that we are putting resource into families and families are being empowered to make decisions about their children and young people. We are harnessing the power across extended family. We are listening to their voices. We are enabling them to decide how they can help to keep their children safe, loved and cared for.

RIVER MURRAY SALINITY LEVELS

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (15:03): My question is to the Minister for Housing. Is the minister aware of the report of the Independent Audit Group for Salinity released on 2 August 2024? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr COWDREY: The report of the Independent Audit Group for Salinity found that the South Australian salt interception scheme, as managed by SA Water at Loxton and Pike River, did not meet

their operational targets 92 per cent of the time during the 2022-23 period because of failure to repair flood damage.

The Hon. N.D. CHAMPION (Taylor—Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Minister for Housing Infrastructure, Minister for Planning) (15:04): I might take it on notice and report back to the house at a time in the future.

MOONTA AND BURRA MINES WORLD HERITAGE LISTING

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (15:04): I have a question for the Minister for Environment and Water. Can the minister please provide an update for the house on the tentative World Heritage listing for the Moonta and Burra mine sites and what the next steps might be?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Premier, Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, Minister for Workforce and Population Strategy) (15:04): I am delighted to talk about this great next step that has occurred for the Moonta and Burra mines.

People will probably be aware—but let me elucidate for you—that the importance of the Moonta and Burra mines is not only the establishment of Cornish heritage across the other side of the world in the 1840s but also the blending of two cultures' technologies, one being the Cornish hard rock mining, and the other being Welsh smelting. The bringing together of those two made the Moonta and Burra mines unparalleled in their strength and their reach during that period. In fact, for quite some time, between those two mines, they produced some 10 per cent of the copper in the world and were the leading mine in the world.

Of course, we have great ambitions for copper in South Australia to continue to be an extraordinary source of prosperity for us all, particularly in the context of the demand for copper in the renewable energy technology revolution, both for electronic vehicles and also for wind farms.

Having recognised that we have this extraordinary piece of history, two councils, the Copper Coast Council and also the council of Goyder, got together with the National Trust of South Australia, formed a consortium back in 2018 and started working on the first stage to getting a full World Heritage listing. They employed a consultant, a UK specialist named Barry Gamble who put together a fabulous proposition of why this was worthy. As some of you may have noticed, last week the Albanese government announced that it had indeed made the tentative listing for UNESCO's World Heritage—a very important next stage and the second one in recent times following on from when Nilpena Ediacara in the Flinders Ranges received the tentative listing a couple of years ago.

The process from here can take some time. The UNESCO process has become more complex recently. They have added to what it is expected to be produced and that will add significant time to the considerations. However, the fact that we have got to the tentative listing for both of those suggests very strongly that it is a matter of producing the evidence, having it considered and, indeed, getting it awarded. I have every confidence that both of those tentative listings will translate into being listed.

Part of what needs to happen at this stage is for the Narungga and Ngarrindjeri people to be—and the terminology is to give meaningful and informed consent, so while it is not their culture that is being recognised and protected, they are, as First Peoples of that area, asked to participate in giving that meaningful and informed consent. That process is occurring right now in a sensitive and culturally appropriate manner. Once that is undertaken, the effort will then be able to move to the next stage.

Meanwhile we are, of course, also working very hard on the Flinders Ranges site. If you haven't had a chance to go up to Nilpena Ediacara and have a look at the way the fossils are displayed, please do. Both of these, once they are World Heritage listed, will become even more the place that tourists from across the world will want to come to. It will provide additional prosperity and, I hope, a source of pride for our state.

SA HOCKEY PROGRAM

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (15:08): My question is to the Minister for Recreation Sport and Racing. Has the minister received a proposal from Hockey Australia for their 2025-28 hockey program in South Australia and, if so, has a response been provided to Hockey Australia?

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (15:08): Thank you very much again to the shadow minister for the question and for his interest in this area. Thank you to everybody at Hockey SA and also to Hockey Australia for the incredible work that they do to include people all over our state in the sport of hockey.

Again, as I said in answer to a question earlier from the member for MacKillop, all sport—and certainly including hockey—absolutely brings people together and has so many physical, emotional, mental health and wellbeing benefits for those who participate in that particular sport.

I also do note that South Australia can be very proud of the many champions of hockey that we have produced. One of them is a very good friend of mine I went to Plympton High School with, Alison Peek, a legend of South Australian and Australian hockey. Whenever I see her I generally see other teammates of hers because we do have such a proud history in South Australia of delivering incredible results in the hockey space. Alison has rightly recently been inducted into the South Australian Sport Hall of Fame, which is excellent.

In terms of that particular request, I will make sure that I check on the date and responses, etc., and come back to the member with specifics around that.

Grievance Debate

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition) (15:10): There are lots of questions being asked, not so many good answers, though, that is for sure, from this government. We have seen another week when the government has failed to answer the most basic questions around several topics that are close to the hearts of South Australians: ramping, cost of living and, of course, child protection as well.

I rise to speak about some of these events that we have seen in the parliament this week. On Tuesday, there was an unprecedented attack on democracy. We saw the Labor Party use its majority. We saw the majority oppress the minority in this house. What a savage attack on democracy. Some are saying even more guillotines used than in parts of the French Revolution. It was absolutely outrageous.

What we saw is this government stifle debate on not one, not two but I believe it was around 11 pieces of legislation. They have now used this tactic again, I believe, to guillotine another four bills—so around 15 bills. What a shocking display of arrogance.

Usually the arrogance comes a bit later in a term, but, no, two years and we are already seeing such hubris from this government. It will be this hubris, this arrogance, that will bring this Labor government down like past Labor governments. What a shocking display of arrogance.

We saw the Leader of Government Business, the member for West Torrens, in this house guillotine around 15 bills preventing members from debating the merits of the bill. Tell me, why is an electorate on that side of the chamber worth more than an electorate on this side of the chamber? It is absolutely outrageous and they are gagging communities. It is absolutely outrageous and we will continue to call it out because it is not good enough that members are being prevented from debating the merits of a bill or making representations on behalf of their respective electorates, their respective residents.

What is really interesting is what the member for West Torrens actually said in this parliament in 2008. What did he say about using the guillotine? Let's have a look. He said this:

... and this may haunt me one day—[it] is an abuse of the parliamentary system and a measure that should be used sparingly, unless it is in the public interest.

I wish he were in here to hear it, but of course he has escaped back to his office because he does not like hearing the truth. He cannot handle the truth.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: What, so sensitive? Why? Is it something I said?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members on my left! There is a point of order.

Mr ODENWALDER: Point of order: the member is referring to a member's presence or otherwise in the chamber.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Florey, I don't need your advice.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Leader, will you resume your seat, please. The next member on my left to interrupt will leave the chamber, whether you have a grievance or not.

Mr Cowdrey: Doesn't matter if you are on the right.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: No, I have spoken to them already. I don't need your advice, member for Colton.

Mr Pederick interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Hammond!

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: I compliment the member for Florey. His ability outweighs his ambition.

Mr Brown: I'm not intimidated by you. You don't have videos of me, mate.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: Okay, I will move on, sir.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Leader, could I suggest you stick to your script.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: Thank you. In other extraordinary events this week, I asked the Premier to apologise for the lie that the Labor Party told South Australians in March 2022 when they said that they would fix the ramping crisis. They told them to vote a certain way like their lives depended on it.

Well, as we have recently heard, the head of the Premier's Delivery Unit told us in a Budget and Finance Committee only recently that the government is now not planning to fix ramping but only make progress. That follows two of the worst months of ramping in our history—110,000 hours or so lost to the ramp—and this government is just getting started. It is only going to get worse under this government.

This week we also asked the government what it is doing to help small businesses that are struggling to keep up with skyrocketing power bills. If you do not believe me, why don't you listen to some of the biggest brands in South Australia, brands like Nippy's, Vili's and all the other brands like Seeley that are coming out and saying that it has never been harder than it is at the moment. Well, it is only going to get worse. There are reports that those beloved brands that I have spoken about are facing overnight power increases: sometimes 18 per cent, sometimes 60 per cent.

Whether or not these outrageous spikes will continue, you can rest assured that what you are going to see under this Labor government is, unfortunately, an increase in the cost of food and essentials for South Australian households. It is only going to keep getting worse. We know that the cost of living is the biggest challenge facing South Australians and that is why we will continue to advocate for them here in this place and out in the community. The government can stifle debate as much as possible, but you can bet your bottom dollar that we will not stop until the people of South Australia help us to remove this arrogant Labor government.

Then, of course, today we asked the government serious questions about the state of our child protection system and we could not even get the most basic of decent answers from the minister, a minister who has failed and continues to be protected by this arrogant cabinet and this arrogant Premier. We will continue to focus relentlessly to make sure that we hold this arrogant government to account.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The member for Adelaide has the floor.

Mr Patterson: You just have a good time there. Don't worry about your constituents' power bills in Ascot Park.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Morphett! I gather you are leaving; do it quietly.

Ms HOOD: Mr Deputy Speaker, I have guests today who would like to listen to my griever. I wouldn't mind my clock starting again.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes, we will start the clock again.

Mr TELFER: Point of order, sir.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of order.

Mr TELFER: Sir, the member for Elder referred to me using a highly offensive, derogatory term. I ask her to please apologise and withdraw that comment.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I didn't hear the comment because of all the ruckus on my left. Having said that, it is a subjective test, so I would ask the member for Elder to withdraw and apologise, please.

Ms CLANCY: I withdraw and apologise.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: People on my left, can you keep it down? The member for Adelaide has the floor, uninterrupted.

LUCY'S BOOK CLUB

Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (15:18): Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. I rise today for the inaugural edition of Lucy's Book Club. It is an opportunity to talk in the parliament about creative locals in our community who are published poets, authors and experts in their field. I would like to acknowledge these talented individuals in the gallery today and thank them for coming in to parliament.

My first book that I want to share today is *Pimata* by Doris Falidis Nickolas. Doris is a Greek Australian-born author and poet who grew up in a loving and traditional Greek family background in Adelaide, South Australia. Doris published her first book, *Life Has Two Doors*, in 2016, followed by the Greek edition in 2019.

Tragically, Doris lost her beloved eldest son, Angelo, in June 2022. He was aged only 32. Through this time of grief, Doris put pen to paper and began writing poetry. Her latest book, *Pimata*, is a compilation of beautiful poems and a heartwarming reminder that you are not alone in this time of grief. I want to share some words from *Pimata* with the house. This poem is called *Because of You*:

I placed my hand into yours

One step, two—twirl me around.

The dance floor ours, our steps in sync

I felt like Diana

waltzing with her Prince.

The most cherished moment in time

as 'You to Me Are Everything' played in harmony

The words captivating as we circled about.

The stars
sparkling
on that breath-taking October night.
When you became an adoring husband
to the most incredible girl
gorgeous
stars so bright.

My beautiful, beautiful, darling boy
you are my all.
Never ever
have I felt greater happiness
the luckiest mother
because of you.

I thank Doris for her bravery and for sharing her talent with others, which I am sure would help them in their time of suffering or loss. Your angel, Angelo, would be so very proud.

My next guest is Adjunct Professor David A. Ness, and he has the book *The Impact of Overbuilding on People and the Planet*. David is an expert on adaptive reuse, which involves repurposing an existing structure for new use, such as turning vacant office buildings into apartments. David played a key role in the UN report on CO₂ emissions relating to buildings, construction and urban growth. This underpinned 'The Buildings Breakthrough' official launch at COP28 in Dubai—a group of countries led by France and Morocco, with a view to making near-zero emissions and climate-resilient buildings the new normal by 2030.

David promotes discussion of sufficiency policies that constrain the amount of new construction to meet genuine needs, while promoting adaptive reuse. To quote David, his book:

...questions the ethics, equity and sustainability of continued growth of the building stock in industrialised context amid diminishing demand, whilst the developing world is deprived of basic resources and infrastructure... More socioeconomic value may be derived from built resources by their stewardship, adaptation, reuse and equitable sharing, while ameliorating the adverse impacts of overconsumption.

Our upbringing and experiences as children often influence our values, so I found David's book incredibly interesting when he describes his post-WWII upbringing. He writes how his middle-class parents struggled to make ends meet, the resourcefulness of his mother sewing and repairing clothes, the many meals of tripe on the dinner table and how his father took on second jobs, such as bookkeeping, to support his family.

He mentions in his book a favourite adage by environmentalist, Dr Barbara Hardy, who said, 'Use it up, wear it out, make it do or do without'. David's frugal upbringing has clearly influenced his area of expertise, his writings and how he lives his life. Whilst there are many differing opinions in this space around development and urban design, I very much appreciate his expertise and perspective in this area. Thank you, David for being here.

Last but not least, I wanted to highlight another talented creative in our community, Maeve Archibald. Maeve grew up on a sheep farm near Bathurst in New South Wales—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Adelaide, can I just interrupt for a second. We will hold the clock. I just remind all members that the display of objects is unparliamentary. Particularly now in the days when we video everything, it just highlights that. Thank you.

Ms HOOD: Thank you, Mr Deputy Speaker. Maeve grew up on a sheep farm in Bathurst in New South Wales, with the bush having a profound effect on Maeve's life. She learned to read early and developed a love of books, trained as a teacher, and became a storyteller, writer and later moved to writing poetry. She is a published poet, with her first anthology, *Hints of Silver*, published in 2010. I want to share two of Maeve's haikus with the house today. Luckily, they are shorter.

Summer Haiku
Sunlight and blue sky
A pattern of knotted lace
The work of branches.

The next comes from Hills Poets, *Ripples*, published by Ginninderra Press, Port Adelaide:

The scarecrow
Kimono-clad
Strikes a pose

On the hillside
A small temple
The overseer

The escarpment
A washing line
Hung on the sky

Thank you again to my guests for coming in today for the inaugural Lucy's Book Club, and I look forward to bringing more editions to the parliament soon.

MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Ms PRATT (Frome) (15:23): Of course, we have had a very busy week. The government has been busy backflipping as it guillotines an unprecedented number of pieces of legislation, and we have been busy holding the government to account, but we did not lose our sense of humour, Mr Deputy Speaker. It seems that the electorate of Kaurna has had its boundaries changed earlier than expected and now extends north to include the suburb of Unley—it is a mystery to me. You would think if a southern electorate like Kaurna was planning an invasion, it might make a play for the member for Mawson's suburbs, like McLaren Vale or Tatchilla or even Maslins Beach even—who knows? But no, according to that highly reliable social media platform called Facebook, the residents of Unley are set to be honoured with the member for Kaurna's company in celebration of his 10th year anniversary in parliament.

In recognition of his significant achievements as the minister responsible for fixing ramping, it seems the member will be hosting his own quiz night. Sadly, I cannot attend; I am sure I would be welcome. But I am told the actual member for Unley has booked a table registered under the name 'Labor closed the Repat', and they have printed their own T-shirts saying, 'We saved the Repat'.

Most of us have grown up playing board games and going to quiz nights, and I am no orphan in this area. I have certainly watched my fair share of game shows. The Labor Party, I am sure, have most likely found their inspiration from the following programs: *Who Wants to be a Millionaire?*, *Deputy, Would I Lie to You?*, *The Traitors*, *Picton Family Feud* and, my favourite, *Have You Been Paying Attention?*

The member for Kaurna is so busy updating the Premier on ambulance response times that I have taken the liberty of writing up the SA Health miscellaneous amendment quiz round. I think it is going to save him quite a lot of time. Off we go: 10 questions, at a pace.

Question 1. Not to be confused with a remote tourist destination of the Bungle Bungles, which Labor government health bungle resulted in the miscalculation of due dates for 1,700 maternity patients?

Question 2. According to the minister, how many squeaky wheel retirees in Golden Grove and Norwood does it actually take to change the Retirement Villages Act?

Question 3. How many health audits, reviews, reports, investigations and inquiries has the Malinauskas government promised to deliver since March 2022?

An honourable member: That's too hard.

Ms PRATT: Too hard? Alright. Speaking of audits, let's move to question 4.

Question 4. Which flagship hospital shortage triggered the great fluffy pillow audit of 2023?

Question 5. Halfway there, multiple-choice: a hospital patient who went two days without any pillows reported that the air conditioning unit within her smallish room resembled something out of *Star Wars*. Multiple-choice, which film was she referring to? *The Patients Strike Back?* *Return of the Pillow?* *Revenge of the Janitor?*

Question 6. Which episode of *M*A*S*H* featuring Hawkeye, Radar and 'Hot Lips' Houlihan was the wartime inspiration for hospital patients spending the night in storerooms?

Question 7. True or false: the song *Yellow* by Coldplay was the unofficial theme song for health workers during the unprecedented 10-week internal emergency. True or false? True, I think.

Question 8. At a cost of \$2.44 billion, name the most expensive hospital ever built in the world.

Question 9. For bonus points, name the South Australian hospital that will overtake that title by 2030.

Question 10. Final question, and extra points for difficulty here: when will the Malinauskas government fix ramping?

With achievements like this, the Minister for Health and Wellbeing certainly has a lot to celebrate. Just imagine what his legacy will be like in 10 years. If it was not so tragic it would be funny.

FRIENDS OF PARKS GROUPS

Ms HUTCHESSON (Waite) (15:28): Hmm, well, that's interesting. Last weekend I joined the Friends of Shepherds Hill Recreation Park on their 25th anniversary celebration. Parks and their dedicated volunteers hold a significant place in our community and this group is a testament to this and the power of community stewardship.

The park's gullies are well known for containing spectacular exposed glacial rock formations, some believed to be 800 million years old. These formations bore witness to the initial glacial activity within the Southern Hemisphere and even pre-date the planet's first fish.

The Friends of Shepherd's Hill Recreation Park have been instrumental in restoring this landscape, honouring its natural beauty and cultural significance. Their work goes beyond maintaining a picturesque landscape. It is about rebuilding native biodiversity and land that has existed for an unfathomable number of years before European arrival and has since experienced mass clearance and the construction of a railway through its hills. Later, these rapid colonial changes were paused, though, and in 1972 the area was managed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

In 1999, the friends group formed and has worked ever since to restore the area's natural ecological beauty, especially through their primary goal of re-establishing grey box trees and red gums. They have done this work hand-in-hand with our national parks rangers, who also do so much to look after our parks and to educate our community about how valuable they are.

In recognition of their dedication, it is crucial to recognise the volunteers who fill these friends groups and do such an amazing job. Some of them have been there since the group's foundation. Their hard work and commitment have breathed new life into the land, transforming it once again into a sanctuary for native biodiversity and a cherished community asset.

I was very pleased to be able to present some of the members with awards for the time that they have been in the group. Ron Miller, Margo Carmichael and Charles Connelly, Coral Gomer, David Gomer, Bruce Lang and Geoff Wilmott all gave 25 years, and they continue to give. For 10 years, Graeme Brettig, Helen Tassell, Chris Regan, Robin Cram, Lindy Taeuber and Milton and

Jan Turner have also given so much. I thank Bel Darley for organising the event and for all the work that she does with the group. It was a fantastic day: it was beautiful, the sun was shining and I really had a wonderful time.

Moving on to the broader Friends of Parks community, the Friends of Parks SA organisation has recently expanded its name to include the word 'nature', to now be known as SA Friends of Parks and Nature. This evolution reflects the group's mission to protect and restore South Australia's diverse natural environments across all land types, not just its parks.

I had the pleasure of attending the 2024 Friends of Parks Inc Forum a few weeks ago, hosted by the Friends of Belair National Park and the Friends of Old Government House. This event celebrated the invaluable work of volunteers and explored opportunities to enhance our natural environment in the future. It was a privilege to see the Friends of Belair National Park host such a wonderful event, and I am very proud to say that they won gold in the RAA Innovation Award for the development of their five-year strategic plan.

These stories of Shepherds Hill Recreation Park and the broader efforts of the Friends of Parks and Nature groups are evidence of what society can achieve when people come together as a community, driven by a shared love of nature and a commitment to safeguarding our planet. To all the volunteers across all our Friends of Parks and Nature groups, your dedication to the natural environment and the community is invaluable, and I thank you.

I might just take a quick minute to also talk about another community group—or a group of community members, I should say—who had a very special celebration at the end of August. It was the 50th anniversary of the community program at the Blackwood Uniting Church. This program has been going for such a long time—as you can tell, for 50 years—that even my mum, my aunty and my sister have all done classes there. It was wonderful to hear the Reverend David Houston talk about how the group was formed and to hear all the wonderful stories of the people who attended and who had been to the classes over those 50 years. There was a beautiful cake that was cut, and you could have a look around the room at all the different types of craft that had been created by lots of different community members.

These classes are not just about learning these skills. They are about sitting down, meeting people, sharing a cup of tea and enjoying each other's company. That is what community groups do: they bring us together. I am so proud to have so many incredible community groups across my electorate. I know that I will continue to work hard to support them, and I thank them for everything that they provide.

CITADEL SECURE

The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley) (15:33): The Independent Commission Against Corruption released its report into lobbying in South Australia, and it could not be more timely. The integrity of the member for Dunstan has come into question again, following disturbing reports in *The Advertiser*, just months after the Labor Party denied that her family business, Citadel Secure, is a lobbyist.

Citadel has recently registered on the South Australian Lobbyist Register. What has changed in such a short time to cause Citadel Secure to register itself as a lobbyist? We do not know, as Citadel has not registered its client on the Lobbyist Register, despite it being required under the Lobbyists Act. Unregistered lobbying is a serious offence in South Australia, attracting significant fines and prison time.

Hundreds of FOI documents show that Citadel Secure has been meeting with copious numbers of state and federal ministers, their officers and their departments long before it registered as a lobbyist. The member for Dunstan, while working for the Hon. Reggie Martin MLC and being paid by the taxpayer, attended events in her capacity as a senior associate of Citadel Secure while she was a Labor candidate. According to FOI documents, when it comes to Citadel, the Minister for Trade's office advises, 'Just ring Reggie.' Labor were willing partners supporting the now member for Dunstan inappropriately using her Labor staff position to enrich her family business by providing direct access to government.

The Minister for Consumer and Business Affairs, the member for Enfield, helped the member for Dunstan organise a stakeholder event in Parliament House which the member for Dunstan

attended in her capacity as senior associate of Citadel. The minister signed off on this ministerial brief. The member for Dunstan, according to her LinkedIn and ministerial documents, was working for Citadel and the Labor Party simultaneously. Will she stop using her position to promote her family business? How deep do Citadel's tentacles reach within the Labor government?

When Senator Farrell was asked in the Australian Senate on 20 March this year if he or anyone from his office had meetings with Citadel or any of its clients, he angrily denied any approach regarding meetings with Citadel. Yet, a word search FOI requested from Senator Don Farrell's office resulted in 67,445 documents identified matching Citadel. That might explain why Senator Farrell, on the plane home from Canberra that day, angrily confronted Senator Kerryne Liddle about her line of questioning regarding his involvement with Citadel. Did Senator Farrell know he misled the parliament?

Hundreds of documents raise serious questions about the nature of Citadel's access and influence over Labor ministers, including questions raised by public servants around the integrity of procurement practices of Labor government contracts awarded to Citadel. How many Labor Party fundraisers has the member for Dunstan's husband attended with his clients? What donations has the Labor Party received from Citadel, its clients and related entities?

The Premier talks about integrity in politics. Indeed, he said in the government's recent electoral reforms consultation paper that people are concerned about the perception of companies and wealthy individuals influencing decision-making in politics and that trust in democracy is at historic lows. The Premier's own department was unable to justify why Citadel FOI documents were withheld well beyond required timeframes set, released late, just days after the Dunstan by-election. The ICAC report states:

Where those seeking to influence the outcome of government decision making exploit personal connections...there is a risk that decisions will be made in the service of private, rather than public, interests.

An email between then Reggie Martin staffer Cressida O'Hanlon and her husband has revealed a web of secret activity and promotion of her private business. Now, we see Citadel registered on the Lobbyist Register just months after the member for Dunstan and the Premier said there was nothing to see here when questioned during the Dunstan by-election.

Questions remain. Who is the mystery client? Why will Citadel not comply with the law and register their client? Citadel claims to have done work for the New Zealand Defence Force, but even as of this morning Citadel has not registered that relationship on the Foreign Influence Transparency Scheme Public Register, where penalties for non-disclosure include jail time. The people of Dunstan deserve a representative in this parliament who is here for the right reasons: to pursue the interests of their community, not the interests of their family business.

DATACOM

Ms SAVVAS (Newland) (15:37): It was an absolute pleasure this week to tour Datacom, which has its home at the old TAFE site in Modbury in my electorate just a few streets from where I live. It was a really wonderful experience. Although I have known of the work that Datacom do, not just in my community but around Australia and New Zealand in the past, I never had the opportunity to tour the site and get to know some of the staff and have a really true understanding of what it is they actually do there.

Datacom, of course, have a number of federal government contracts and they also have a number of state government contracts, including Transport for New South Wales. In many ways, it acts as a call centre for big government departments like Services Australia and immigration, but it also acts as a processing centre for things like Australian passports.

When I toured the site the other day, I was incredibly pleased to find out that my own new passport, which I received in the middle of this year, would have at some stage been processed by someone in the heart of my electorate, which was really interesting to think about, noting how many passports are processed around the country at any given time. I was also very pleased to report on the passport level, when we went to tour, that it came in about 12 days, which I was very pleased about as well. It is really exciting to see that sort of important work occurring in the heart of my

electorate in Modbury and also to see what Datacom has done for jobs in our state and jobs in the north-eastern suburbs.

Datacom have been here for about just over 15 years, I believe, and they currently have over a thousand people employed in South Australia. I think the number is around 1,100, and a thousand of those are employed at the customer hub in Modbury, right behind Tea Tree Plaza, right near the park-and-ride, next to a couple of childcare centres. It has been really wonderful for jobs in our community, many of which are entry-level jobs which, of course, were much needed after the federal Liberal government oversaw the loss of the Holden site and we had a real need for jobs in the northern suburbs.

They are also using the old TAFE site to their advantage because they are providing on-the-job qualifications. This year, they are being recognised as a finalist in the large employer of the year section at the SA Training Awards because at Datacom you have the opportunity to participate in traineeships, certificates, diploma qualifications and other vocational courses in the old TAFE classrooms, which have been converted into Datacom classrooms. I was really pleased to go and do that with the location head there as well as some of the other staff, including an old friend of mine, Kim, who has worked at Datacom for many years.

I often tell her story as well. She was someone who went with Datacom interstate, followed her job to Sydney, then when she settled down, she had the opportunity to come home and work in Modbury. I think that is a really good story for South Australia because often you do not hear that story of people going to the Eastern States and having an opportunity with their employment to return home. So I do very proudly tell the story of my friend Kim, who has come back to Modbury, come back to work in a really high-level job that she has worked very hard for in Datacom over many years. I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the work of Datacom in South Australia.

Members interjecting:

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members on my left, you are either in your seats—right.

Ms SAVVAS: I would like to acknowledge the work of Datacom in South Australia, some of which can be quite difficult work, having conversations with individuals waiting for Centrelink payments or individuals seeking visa support. It can be really emotional work, really difficult work, taking those phone calls. I know many of us would know it in our role as members of parliament, any of us who have worked in ministerial offices or electorate offices, that those calls can be really difficult at times. I really want to acknowledge the work of all the people, the 1,000 staff, working at Modbury to provide really important government services for people around the country.

I, for one, feel really pleased that we have such an incredible large employer in our community, one that provides opportunities for young people and also for people looking for career changes later in life. I am very impressed with what they do there. I am in the process of setting up a number of other special guests to come and visit and just see the importance of their work, so I thought I would take the moment today to acknowledge Datacom, their staff and, of course, the services that they provide to not just governments but other organisations around our country.

Parliamentary Committees

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (15:42): By leave, I move:

That the Hon. D.G. Pisoni be appointed to the committee in place of Mr Cowdrey (resigned).

Motion carried.

*Parliamentary Procedure***SITTINGS AND BUSINESS**

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (15:43): I move:

That the house at its rising adjourn until Tuesday 24 September 2024 at 11am.

Motion carried.

*Bills***PORTABLE LONG SERVICE LEAVE BILL***Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading (resumed on motion).

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Heysen, I think you had the call when we last discussed this.

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen) (15:44): That is right. I sought leave, the house was gracious enough to grant it, and here I am. Thank you for your service today, Mr Deputy Speaker. On that note, I was addressing the deliberate structure of the bill so that no-one might be left to say, as I tested the proposition, might it be characterised as a Trojan Horse for the rollout of portable long service leave in other sectors?

Two things should be said about that, neither of which are controversial. One is the bill is deliberately structured to facilitate such further establishments of boards in other sectors. Secondly, the government has given an assurance that there is no plan to use the passage of the bill and the establishment of the structure as the kick-off point for an as yet undisclosed agenda to roll this out to sectors where there has not been a case made or any desire for the implementation of the scheme.

I think I have flagged adequately that there is a real question therefore about assurance in terms of that remaining the case. There is very significant concern that has been expressed in a range of sectors not affected by the passage of the bill, and assurances that they are not going to somehow by stealth get caught up in some broadranging agenda is now very much a question for the government to provide satisfaction on.

Meanwhile, the core point of concern for those within the community services sector the subject of this scheme when it comes into effect is this question of—leaving aside a certain amount of reticence about the scheme itself—the capacity for the sector to respond, hence those calls across the board for the government to provide assurance that it will not come into effect before a considerable amount of lead time has been provided. That can easily be legislated, and that will be a matter for the committee.

I hope I have otherwise adequately identified the process by which the bill has been brought on not just in this place but in the other place just a couple of days ago. While it might be said that the sector was aware of the first iteration of the draft bill back to December last year and that a certain amount of feedback was provided in those following months, the bill in its present form—which comes off the back of 14 pages worth of changes, responses to feedback and so on—has been brought into the parliament really at next to no notice and then it has been jammed through the parliament from start to finish at less than no notice, effectively the subject of a guillotine.

All of that is a recipe for a loss of faith. It is all very well to speak to the choir. It is all very well to say, 'What a great thing we have done for those closest adherents,' but even for those closest adherents who might applaud the outcome there is a collective embarrassment that is at risk where those who have genuine matters to add are not able to do so because of the time that has been allowed, and those who might need persuading about the merits of these things are left saying, 'Our concerns are justified because we have been given hardly a look in in terms of the way in which this legislation has ended up being foisted on the parliament.' So, that by way of foreshadowing what is to come in the committee.

I referred to the debate in 1987 on the establishment of the long service leave building industry bill and what the Liberal opposition at the time described as 'cautious support' for that particular bill. I think it is fair to say that the opposition's attitude to the bill might be characterised in a similar way. 'Cautious' is probably the understatement of the week, in circumstances where we have had not one or two but a dozen different guillotines and now this bill.

Again, it is important to put a few things on the record. Properly, the people of South Australia might expect to be the subject of some thoroughgoing scrutiny. It is a bill that runs to 48 pages, with its operative structure in a variety of schedules that sit off the back of 75 operative clauses. That is all going to have to be dealt with in a committee stage that cannot run for any more than two hours at the absolute most, and it is likely to be down to about an hour and half.

So, that is where we are at and, with that contribution by way of second reading, I look forward to achieving as much as possible that can be achieved in the course of the committee stage.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence, Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing) (15:51): I am really, really pleased to speak in wholehearted support of this bill and, in doing so, to speak in support of the thousands of community sector workers who work day in and day out, often year after year, supporting and empowering individuals, families and communities, often at some of their hardest moments.

The workers for whom this bill is being progressed work in domestic violence crisis accommodation, in youth services, in community legal centres, in Aboriginal community-controlled organisations, in women's advocacy organisations, mental health support and in a range of other settings. They are the people who are there when people feel most alone; when people need compassion, love, care and professional support.

These workers are around 85 per cent women. They are often employed on contracts, which may be linked to funding cycles and, despite their incredible campaign through their union, the Australian Services Union, to successfully deliver equal remuneration and much-needed wage increases as a result, their pay remains modest.

I was so very proud to represent these workers for many years. What shone through in every single conversation that I had with these workers over those many years was their unshakable commitment to people, to ensuring people were never alone. In the course of representing those workers I asked so many of them why they did the work they did and every single one of them, unfailingly, said that they did so because they wanted to contribute, because they wanted to make a difference in people's lives, to work with and for people, including at those difficult moments.

A number of these conversations were had with remarkable people who were in this place earlier today. Amongst them that were here this morning I saw Sandra Dunn. Sandra is an extraordinary woman who, for more than 30 years, worked in an earlier iteration of the Women's Safety Services of South Australia. Sandra did that work because she was deeply determined to support and empower women when they had an experience of domestic family or sexual violence. She was always there for those women, walking alongside them, empowering them, making them know that there was a new pathway to walk.

The other thing about Sandra is that she was also always there for her colleagues. As well as doing that incredible work with and for women experiencing violence, she did so much to urge governments and community to know that the work of those in the domestic violence and broader community sector should absolutely be valued and respected in every possible way.

What Sandra and all those workers do with and for people is inspiring and why they do it is remarkable, as has been the campaign that has been run for more than a couple of decades to secure changes to their employment conditions to ensure that these thousands of workers have access to secure jobs which will enable them to continue to do their extraordinary work with continuing compassion with the breaks they need to sustain themselves and their families.

Central to this campaign for improvements in how they are recognised and are able to access security and that ability to stay in the sector is portability of entitlements and, in particular, long service leave entitlements.

That is what this bill rightly delivers. This bill delivers on the Malinauskas government's election commitment to expand our portable long service leave scheme to include those tens of thousands of incredible workers in the community services sector. In doing so, it delivers on what will make a difference to these workers, what will enable them to stay in the sector long term with the entitlements that they absolutely deserve.

This bill means that community services workers will rightly be able to access long service leave based on their total period of service in the sector, not just with one single employer. This recognises that employment in the community sector is so often subject to funding arrangements with workers frequently moving between many different employers during their careers. This bill recognises that community sector workers for too long have never had the chance to access long service leave because they have never been able to stay because of those funding arrangements with the same employer for the required 10 years or more.

It recognises that community sector workers provide absolutely essential support to people in South Australia and that their work can be physically, emotionally and mentally challenging. This sector is overwhelmingly made up of incredible women. This bill ensures that they are able to take that meaningful break during their careers, helping them to recharge and keep doing the incredibly valuable work that they do.

I will not go into the detail of the bill. My colleague and friend the Minister for Human Services has absolutely done that with distinction. What I will do finally is just say thank you to a few people. First of all, I say thank you to the Australian Services Union secretary, Abbie Spencer, and all of the organisers in the union for continuing this long-term campaign and finally getting to this point with such diligence and commitment.

I also want to say an incredible thank you and recognise those ASU workplace representatives. I have spoken about the incredible work that workers in this sector do. It is remarkable. It changes people's lives. What ASU delegates or workplace representatives choose to do alongside that incredible commitment is to also, as well as that leadership in our community, absolutely empower the voice of their co-workers, their colleagues and makes sure they are being heard.

Their leadership in the sector, as well as in the community, is remarkable. It is appreciated and I know it is through the many conversations that they have had in their workplaces that has helped us get to this really important point that we are at today. I say thank you to every delegate who stepped up both in what they do day in, day out and also absolutely as campaigners. This bill is for you and all those people whose collective voice you have strengthened. Thank you so much to all these workers for what you do and for the incredible work through your union and through that collective activity over such a long period of time that has got us to this point.

Thank you very much to the Minister for Human Services for her words and to the Attorney-General and his office for the work they have done to develop this bill and to get us to this point. I know that the Minister for Human Services will progress the rest of the bill in a very capable fashion and I very much look forward to its passing.

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (16:00): I rise to speak on the Portable Long Service Leave Bill. From the outset, I make the point that it has been quite a difficult week for Independent members of this place to assess the merits of bills as they have been put forward. There have been multiple occasions this week when we have had bills or amendments lobbed on our desks, at best days before but more often hours before they are due to be debated in the parliament, and that has made it an exceedingly difficult thing to consider the merits of the bills and any possible side effects that they might contain.

My normal practice as an Independent member would have been, with more notice, to have a look at the bill, try to gauge my view on it and then take it to the electorate and to people within my electorate who I anticipate might well be impacted one way or the other by this bill to try to survey their thoughts on it and try to get a gauge on what the electorate thinks would be an appropriate way for me to vote when it comes to any particular bill. That has been an impossible task this week, I have to say, on more than one occasion by virtue of the fact that we have not had a great deal of time for a number of different bills and proposals to consider them, let alone take them to the electorate and ask for feedback from different people. So it has been a difficult week for that.

In that vein, I will theoretically be reserving my position—not that it necessarily really matters in this chamber—on the bill on the grounds that I have not had the opportunity to take it to the electorate to consider what they would think of it and what they would expect me to do with it. So I do not necessarily want to put my position on the record one way or the other, but I would like to note a couple of fears that I have after our briefing this morning and a couple of adverse outcomes that I hope are avoided, and I want to make sure that if they are not, they are on the record and the parliament can be considered warned.

The first concern I have is that it seems, by and large, that businesses and organisations that will be affected by this bill are government funded in some way. They might be an NDIS institution or they might be block funded by government to provide a specific service to the community. By and large, I think it is fair to say that most would be an altruistic, government funded or charitable organisation providing a specific service to the community. I suspect that by virtue of that fact and by virtue of the funding that they get, quite a few of these businesses have not had to necessarily plan for any exorbitant long service leave bills or entitlements that have come, just by virtue of the fact that they have been short-term funding models that have had to be renewed year on year.

That will be a significant change for those businesses, having to now submit quarterly reports along those lines, and I will be interested to see where that money comes from, particularly for those entities that are block funded to provide a specific service to the community. Will the levy that has to be paid to this new board come out of that block funding by necessity because that is the only source of funding they have? These are not businesses that draw any alternate income from any other streams. If it does, that is money that could have been used on the ground to provide services and that is now going to pay a board for a theoretical entitlement that may or may not come to fruition.

I hope that is not the case. I hope that we are not stealing from one worthy cause to pay another. I hope we are not taking away from the money that is intended to make its way through to the community to provide these essential services. I hope we are not taking that money to pay for long service leave entitlements. If that is the case, then I hope the government ensures that those funding arrangements are increased to cover that extra cost—because it is not just that cost that might be withdrawn, it is also the cost of the admin that these entities now have to enter into.

Will they have to employ someone else now to do the quarterly returns, keep track of the entitlements and make the submissions, or will it be someone who is qualified to provide on-the-ground community service who is reassigned to complete the admin task and the returns? That would be an adverse outcome too, I suspect, if we had a community service worker who had their time taken up filing quarterly reports for this new board. I think there are some questions about how the costs will be met for this. I hope the government has considered it and I hope that we will not see a reduction in community services to meet the costs of new admin and levy fees that will be in place to fund this service.

I also want to make the point that the creation of a new board to facilitate these changes is, I think, another unnecessary addition to the bureaucracy. Community service providers will submit their quarterly returns to this new board modelled on the construction industry board, and I have to admit—maybe embarrassingly for me—I was not actually aware that the construction industry have portable long service leave until our briefing this very morning, so that was news to me, but it will be modelled on that board. The board will then track long service leave entitlements accrued on behalf of the employee and then, should that employee make the threshold that will trigger it being paid out, they will be responsible for paying out that benefit to that employee.

I suspect with the passage of time, and the continual payment of levies, that this board will end up being charged with the responsibility of quite a bit of money. It will accrue reasonably quickly, I suspect, and there will be a significant amount in the coffers at some point in the not too distant future. At that point, I think it is reasonably foreseeable that this board will come back to government, will come back to this chamber and this parliament and whoever populates it at the time, and they will request more responsibility, more capability. They will say, 'We've got these full coffers, we can do more, we've got more capability. Will you empower us to do more?' Then we will have the continual snowballing and the possibility that we will just continually build on the bureaucracy.

Ostensibly, once that money builds up, we were told this morning, it should result in the reduced levy payments for these businesses and entities, and hopefully that is the case. Hopefully, once it gets to a critical point their assets can match their liabilities, and it might well be there is a zero levy for the entities to pay. I can see a situation where that might occur as well, and we are not just charging for the sake of charging. But I am a bit worried that again it is increased bureaucracy: it is another board, another subcommittee, another working group that this government has formed that will cost us money as taxpayers and perhaps fill a role that might not be necessary or could be filled by someone else.

Finally, the last point I want to make and perhaps the scariest—although 'scariest' might not quite be the right word—is the possibility that this proposal could be rolled out further and further into other industries. The justification that was given to us this morning was that it is so exceedingly difficult to keep staff in the care industry that this would be an incentive for them to stay longer. Even if they changed employer, they would be incentivised to stay within the care industry and provide those wonderful community services.

I think that is a problem across many different industries at the moment. The hospitality industry, for example, has a transient population. Will they be subjected potentially or possibly to a similar sort of scheme? There are other industries where people are struggling to hold on to employees, and this incentive might be rolled out there as well.

If it came to be that this was an extra impost on the private sector, on for-profit businesses, it would be an undesirable thing, and I hope that that is not the case. I hope that this is not the start of something that will be rolled out across our entire economy. So I wanted to raise those couple of points; I do not necessarily do so to outline any opposition to the bill. I have only had a briefing this morning, so it has only been a matter of hours that I have had to consider it.

I certainly am appreciative of all the community service workers that we have in our electorate and the wonderful work they do providing those services to our community. I can only imagine that it is a difficult thing to keep employees in that sector. Once you have them and train them, to lose them before you have had the opportunity to fully realise their benefit would be a devastating thing. If it does result in improved retention of workers and a more highly skilled workforce in that sector it will be a good thing, I suppose. If the board are able to keep those levy fees at the lowest possible rate to cover their liabilities that would be advisable as well. I just wanted to get those few concerns on the record. It will clearly pass this house, and we look forward to seeing if it has the intended benefits.

Sitting extended beyond 18:00 on motion of Hon. A. Koutsantonis.

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (16:09): I rise to add a few comments from my perspective on the Portable Long Service Leave Bill 2024. In doing so, I reflect the concerns and comments that have already been put forward by my colleague the member for Narungga on the process that has been followed in the house during this week, and the ability for individual members to be able to fully ascertain and understand the impact of legislation that the government is ramming through, guillotining debate on and, from my perspective, ignoring the ability for communities to be able to have been input on their bill. What do those ramifications actually mean—and to achieve what?

We look at this bill and we know that it was quickly introduced within the Legislative Council only earlier this week, passing there and today coming to us. This is a bill of 75 clauses, a bill of several schedules, and a bill that has had a guillotined timeframe for us to not just consider but debate and to ask questions of the minister on some of these details.

When it comes to portable long service leave, I as a business owner or operator would have concerns about some of the aspects of this as a general concept, because what it means in a point of time for an organisation or a business that is an employer and their long-term financial sustainability should not be underestimated.

We have many questions that I hope we get time to consider in committee, because the ramifications—like I said, not just for now for a point in time but for provider businesses and organisations throughout the years—need to be fully understood. We can have a situation around some of the timeframes of these organisations with long service leave in general obviously being

within the name 'long service' and the periods of time that need to be accrued before someone is eligible as an employee to access long service leave.

It may well be seen across several businesses that the concept behind this piece of legislation—and it is an admirable one—is to try to keep the ability to hold employees within a sector for a longer period of time. As in the name itself, 'long service leave' traditionally is about service to an organisation or business for a long period of time, not across a sector. This is why I am cautious when we are considering expanding a concept such as this as a whole.

Consider the potential situation where we have a business that is making contributions to a levy for several years—one, two, five, six, seven years—and the impact and impost on that organisation over a long period of time. That provider may finish up and close, and I am sure another one will come and fill the void that is left by the closing or removal from the sector of that provider organisation.

As has already been mentioned, there is the potential for a reduced levy over time. If it is something that as a fund builds up and accrues, then the need for those funds to be at a certain level will mean that there could be a potential for a reduced levy. What does that mean for those businesses, those organisations that have made contributions in the first two, five, seven years at a potentially higher level compared with an organisation coming into a sector with an established fund that potentially could be contributing a lesser amount to that fund?

These are the dynamics that I certainly have a lot of questions and uncertainties about when considering a bill, as I said, as complicated and complex as one with 75 different clauses. It is not just about a point in time; it is about the sector as a whole and the organisations that employ these individuals throughout this process. Where is the end point for that fund? Where is that tipping point? What is the fulcrum of funds that are going to be needed within that industry fund to be able to fund the long service leave? When is it going to reach a tipping point where potentially there could be a reduced levy, as the member for Narungga has already spoken about?

There is also uncertainty, which I have started to hear. Once again, it is challenging to fully get an understanding from within the sector of the impacts of a bill like this when there is only such a short period of time for us to be considering it. The detail that is in this bill takes a long time for us as individuals, but obviously also for the sector, to get our heads around. We know that there was our original consultation that went out, I believe at the start of the year, and changes that could be made to that original bill, which was then presented.

What is the impact on perhaps some of those big organisations that we may well know, the NGOs, which provide not just disability care but also aged care, for instance? Are they going to be in a scenario where they are running two different, parallel payroll systems: one with a contribution to a portable long service leave fund, such as has been put through in this bill, and one with a traditional payroll arrangement such as they currently have?

What is the burden of administration for these organisations if that is the scenario that we are considering? What is the impact, the flow-on effect, as has really been pointed out by the member for Narungga, the potential flow-on for services that are being delivered? Is this an extra added administrative cost which, in a confined pool of funds, is going to mean that there will be lesser outcomes on the ground? These are the sorts of questions that I hope we can start to unpack a little bit within the committee stage, although we will be limited in the time that we will have to do it.

As I said, as a concept and as a whole, portable long service leave is one that I am very cautious about. Any sort of mind to having this expanded out across industries that are not 100 per cent government funded, or that have other structures in place that small businesses are involved in, could have significant ramifications. This is why I want to put on the record my perspective that I would vehemently oppose any scenario where this sort of scheme for small business that is going to be detrimental to them is considered. The cost pressures currently being faced by business, and especially small business, in this state are already challenging—they are already getting to a point where businesses are being challenged in terms of their long-term sustainability.

I respect the fact that, at the moment, within this Portable Long Service Leave Bill, there is confinement to a point, and there is obviously reference to another industry, which, potentially, with additional legislation, could be included in a structure such as this. This is why I think it is important that we vigorously dissect what the impact is going to be—not just in the short term but, as I said, in the short, medium and long term—on the sustainability of organisations who are providing a service that will be included within this scheme, and then what potential further industry scheme development is being considered by the government.

When we have a situation where we are being given what is a matter of hours to consider a bill, a bill which is substantive and significant and is one where the minister and colleagues have spoken of its advantages—I respect that. Like I said, this is a situation that we are trying to understand fully. It is always my observation that when ministers are putting bills forward they see the advantages absolutely.

The advantage for us as a community and as a state is in having perspectives from all different sides of parliament to dissect bills, to highlight challenges and potential deficiencies, and to highlight where there could be changes in which adjustments could be made to bills that would provide better outcomes for South Australians. That is what this process should be all about. To confine that, which we have seen over a dozen times this week, is distressing.

As someone who values not just democracy but also proper, informed decision-making, I have been somewhat distraught this week at the way that the government has been pushing through. Those on the other side can chuckle all they like, because they may have had the opportunity to understand this legislation. Well, the rest of us have not: the crossbench have not, the opposition have not, and we are all here representing our communities and making sure that we are standing up for those communities and voicing not just concerns but opportunities for those communities. To have the scenario presented to us in this way I believe is watering down that representation. I do not want to take any more time because I want to make sure we have good time to be vigorous in the committee stage and to try to dissect some of these 75 clauses and several schedules which will make a significant change within the industry.

The Hon. N.F. COOK (Hurtle Vale—Minister for Human Services, Minister for Seniors and Ageing Well) (16:19): Thanks to all the members for their thoughtful contributions to the debate in whatever form they have come to me in this chamber. I particularly mention the Minister for Child Protection, the member for Reynell, who has for many, many years campaigned with the community sector on a range of issues. This one is very welcome. I am sure we will deal with additional matters in committee, but I note the opposition raised concerns during the second reading about wanting to have this legislation passed 'pronto'. It is important to pass the legislation soon so we can establish the board that will work with the industry and workers to procure critical systems, establish processes and consider any individual requests for different implementation times.

The minister in the other place responded to the proposed amendment about a delayed start. I do not need to repeat all of the arguments about an amendment that was defeated. I do wish to add that having a not-before date that is almost two years away, as proposed by the opposition, would remove the ability for businesses and workers to benefit if they are ready before that time. In saying that, I notice the legislation provides flexibility for start dates to respond to particular circumstances. To the extent there is any doubt, we will not be commencing any earlier than 1 July 2025.

The opposition has also raised concerns about this being 'a Trojan horse' for further expansion and the risk of expansion by stealth. The shadow minister appears to answer his own questions when he notes the government has clarified there are no plans for expansion at this time. However, I note we are engaging in the first expansion to portable long service leave in more than 40 years and we gave notice of our intention to do this more than six years ago.

I want to reassure the member for Narungga, who always contributes thoughtfully in this place, that all organisations who employ people in the sector should already have long service leave contingencies. If they do not, that is a problem. There will be the benefit of long service leave to thousands and thousands of regional and rural workers for the first time ever. This is really, really important, when we talk about longevity in a system that is very stressful and puts a large burden on people who work and operate within it. Many of the other things the member for Narungga has asked

can be simply explained around the procedures of the board and the implementation and delivery and the role of the board, with commentary already around that ability to have an exemption to your start date within the scheme, if that suits, in regard to funding cycles.

Hopefully, if there are any more questions we can provide some clarity. The member for Flinders talked about the levy that is being paid, and if you have paid too much or—I cannot remember the exact words he used. The member for Flinders should be reassured that you are paying the levy into the scheme for your own workers who are registered in the scheme only. Your money does not pay other workers. Your money is for your workers. I am happy to answer other questions about that.

I also want to say that over lunch I managed to have a good chat with Rebecca, who we spoke about in the speech earlier, and the contribution around this particular youth worker who has worked for decades in the sector, currently working with Aboriginal young people, who will benefit and have a decent break paid by long service leave provisions for the first time ever.

Bill read a second time.

Committee Stage

In committee.

Clause 1.

Mr TEAGUE: I will perhaps take the opportunity at clause 1 to foreshadow two overarching questions that I addressed in the course of my second reading contribution. The first is: can the government give a guarantee that it will not move for the establishment of any other board in the term of this parliament, and can the minister give an assurance about the kind of threshold that would satisfy the government in terms of accepting a move to do so from any particular sector?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: We have no policy that talks to expansion at all. We have the commitment as is stated within the legislation around the establishment of the board, and we would not consider any expansion before we have had the scheme up and running for a reasonable length of time and been able to seek feedback from the community. Also, there is a three-year review built into the legislation as well, which will assist with that type of feedback.

Mr TEAGUE: Perhaps just to seek some further assurance in relation to the threshold matter the subject of my first question, the minister might be glad to address this in terms of what has been navigated in terms of the community services sector by way of illustrating the kind of threshold that would satisfy the government and perhaps, by doing so, to give an indication that there is absolutely no remote possibility that this might be rolled out into hospitality or other sectors—shearers have been mentioned at some stage—bearing in mind at the outset that the government has made clear, and it is a sensible point to be understood, that this is framework legislation and therefore it has the capacity to slot in additional boards.

Indeed, the government has made a virtue of the capacity for there to be economies in terms of the secretariat response that has been inherited from construction and so on. As I say, I invite the minister to reflect on the kind of constituent parts that have satisfied the government that it is embarking upon this legislation with the community services sector being the subject sector, and if that provides the means by which to provide assurance that it will not go elsewhere, then that might be a useful way of addressing it.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Again, just to reinforce, we do not have a policy on expansion. We obviously have a commitment to consult and listen, but this is not a scientific bunch of parameters that we are setting or establishing around this particular bill. We have prescribed the cohorts that will be considered within it, and they are absolutely predominantly short-term, contracted, cyclic, low-paid workers.

When we look at what has happened in other states in terms of changes and expansion that may have happened, it again has been those short-term contracted low-paid workers like those in cleaning and security. We have not seen anything like what I think the member is alluding to. With the background of a massive 10-year campaign to actually secure this for this cohort of low-paid short-term contracted workers, this is the result.

Mr TEAGUE: I indicated that there would be two overarching questions, taking the opportunity at clause 1. Those two questions and answers are perhaps the best that we might get for the time being on the guarantee and threshold, if we want to call it that. The second overarching question is in relation to the cost. Obviously, we are moving from a provisioning environment, which is across the board, absent such a scheme. Leaving aside the portability, we are moving to a levy-based environment. That seems to be one of the necessary ingredients of providing portability. There needs to be a means of contributing not just in terms of provisioning, in the main that is.

There are various provisions that will provide for following up and clawback and so on, but in the main we are addressing a new environment that provides for portability by applying a levy-based scheme rather than a provisioning scheme. It might be said by those who have the relevant expertise in accounting that you can apply accounting standards to the provisioning and you can therefore put a realistic monetary value on the provisioning that goes on for long service leave at present.

Those who would promote a portability scheme might, regardless of the portability aspect of it, promote a levy scheme for the reasons that those who are proponents of it might say, 'Actually, that leads to a lower cost burden because of the efficiencies, the management, the investment return, etc.' I am not doing the minister's job or the government's job for it in doing my best to identify broadly the difference between the two. However, while we are seeking guarantees and assurances, can the government give the committee an assurance that the contributions that will now be made in real cash by employers the subject of the scheme will place no greater burden on those employers than what is presently the case?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I did make some comments in my speech in regard to this, and the honourable member in the other chamber has also done that. To give you a simple answer on this, it will be different from one organisation to another as to how they feel in terms of whether that is of benefit or whatever to them. But, at the end of the day it may well be that this actually is less burdensome and less trouble from an administrative point of view.

We will be getting feedback as the scheme rolls out in terms of how that is going. I think you can go down one path to criticise or say that there may be problems, but you can go down the other one to say that there will be organisations that are very grateful for this because it is easier.

Mr TELFER: There are a couple of points that the minister has made in answers to the last questions that I just seek clarification on. Minister, when you were talking about the review or expansion, there is not an intention of the government to expand. You said 'for a reasonable period of time'. A reasonable period of time for me might be different to you. Can you give me some sort of measure point? What would be envisioned to be a reasonable period of time before the government would be considering expansion? Through this process we seek to provide some clarity to our community and industry.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I think when we would take into account and consider that notion of change or expansion, we would want to see this scheme up and running for a number of years and there is a three-year review built into the act, so that is what I would understand to be happening, with consultation happening in between.

Mr TELFER: As a point of clarification, my colleague's third question was quite verbose and uncovered a number of different aspects and there was one critical aspect which he covered at the end that you may not have answered fully: is it the expectation or is there a guarantee that the minister can provide that organisations that have a current financial obligation to long service leave, that that obligation will not be increased with the structures under this arrangement? So the amount that they are having to pay in per employee, or as a whole, is not going to be greater than their current financial obligation for long service leave?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: To keep it brief, this scheme is designed to mirror what is currently in place, in terms of the contributions that are required by employers, but SACOSS also provided us with advice that, in fact, this may be a lower cost than what employers are currently provisioning for.

Mr ELLIS: I would like to take this opportunity to follow on in reply to the closing remarks that the minister gave. It is fair enough that businesses would currently be making an allowance for

long service leave entitlements and theoretically have an amount there, but that is different from actually proactively making a payment every quarter. If you are a business and you make an allowance for long service leave and someone departs, you can shift the money that you nominally have set aside for their long service leave entitlements over to a different liability that may arise. If you have paid out that money already to the board there is no getting it back. That is money that has gone. The business has paid out the theoretical entitlement that they have lost forever.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I thank the member for the question, but it is a bit swings and roundabouts. Honestly, there are other things that you need to take into account as well in terms of having that liability on your balance sheet for a long term, but also the cost of recruitment and training of staff. If you do have a scheme in place that has an ability to attract and retain loyal workers within the sector, then that there should be an incentive as well and taken into account when you are considering the large picture financial burden.

Mr McBRIDE: With the 29 service groups that we were presented with this morning when we had our briefing, would the minister recognise that these service groups run under a budget that comes from the state or federal government and there are constraints on budgets and funds to provide the services that they are meant to?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I thank the member for the question. I have made reference to this in my contribution earlier as well. Of course, the government will have to take this into account in future funding cycles. We are aware already that there are obligations within the NDIS to have these provisions for long service leave set aside. I have also written to federal Minister Shorten and asked him to consider this as well as they plan for the future in their payment schemes. We know that we will need to take this into account in future planning.

Mr McBRIDE: If these 29 service groups we were presented with are under a budgetary constraint, does the minister recognise that long service leave is an impost on those services by the fact that if an employee reaches 7 years and then leaves, they are entitled to, and if they work until 10 years they then receive, but under the old provision if an employee only works 4.9 years—not months but 4.9 years—those funds would have stayed within that service group and then it does not have to be paid to a board that you have now created. Is the minister aware of this?

Then I am going to ask the minister, so she is forewarned: what will be the losses made because of this and the funds that are going towards a board that has no bearing on the rollout of the services that these service groups are meant to provide?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Thanks for the question. The current scheme ensures that you set aside money, as you have said, and that money will remain with those businesses or organisations, charities, not-for-profits, PBIs, whatever they are. That currently is already provisioned. That money will stay with them, so you will hold on to that money in order to be able to make the contribution for that pro rata amount of service that is accrued before the rollout of the scheme.

Then, in the future, it is the levy scheme, post that rollout. In the future you then will not have to have that liability on the books. That is the levy that then gets paid from the rollout time into the future. The money that has already been provisioned under long service leave arrangements that has been in place under awards—for, I don't know, since Jesus played fullback for Jerusalem and all the thing—has been in there and that money will remain.

Mr McBRIDE: Minister, you have said yes to my answer in a roundabout way. I know you are being well advised there from someone who works for the Attorney-General to help back you up on this, but I think with the changes that have been imposed here, the minister should know, and with the 29 service providers that have been outlined here, as I have learned this morning, there should be some understanding of the moneys they are now going to lose by paying a levy to a board that covers this long service leave, and if the government had decided not to pursue this, would have stayed with the service group and then those funds would have been rolled out for services that they are meant to provide.

Now, if someone works for 4.9 years—so the first five—actually if you go to nearly seven it is actually 6.9 years—anyway, four does not matter. If they go to 6.9 years, that long service leave entitlement is lost by the employee if they choose to leave the sector, leave these service groups

altogether—and I am going to give an example—and want to work in the hotel industry, that long service leave is returned, it sits within the service group or industry that employee worked for, that is lost now because of this infrastructure and board that has been created.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Again, as said before, the current money will sit provisioned. They have obligations under the act to do that already for employees. In the future there is the cut-off date. The levies will be paid, as we have said, over time because the board will then make those financial decisions to invest the moneys paid into those. Over time, we would foresee the levy amount coming down significantly and the estimate would be then that, in fact, it is lower as a burden than the current scheme is on employers.

Mr TELFER: Minister, I seek some clarification. Once again, it comes from a place of not being able as an opposition to go out on any sort of level to consult with organisations that are going to be impacted or involved in this process and thus not fully understanding those potential impacts. I envision there could be a scenario where some of the more significant NGO service providers involved in the sector are actually involved cross-sector. There is a scenario that I can foresee where you have one of these big NGOs involved in delivering services to the disability sector and you have that same NGO, as an organisation as a whole, involved in delivery of services in the aged-care sector, for instance.

Is there a scenario here where there is the potential for simultaneous parallel payroll systems to be in place with one side involved in this portable long service leave scheme and the obvious administrative burden, whether that is lesser or greater, and the other part of the organisation—an established, significant NGO or the like that is involved in the aged-care sector, for instance—having to run their conventional payroll system with the existing leave arrangements that are currently in place and the costs that go with that?

I can foresee there is an opportunity and a risk for those businesses that the administrative burden is potentially going to be greater, because the advantages and the savings that could be made by this scheme coming into place will still have to be in place for the other aspects of that organisation. Is this something you as minister or your department have received any consultation feedback on from these organisations as part of the process and, if so, has there been some sort of understanding about what those financial, operational or administrative impacts could be?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: There are a couple of things in that question—you have wrapped up a few bits—but the short answer to multiple payroll systems is: possibly. The expanded answer on that is that many of these larger organisations that you are talking about already operate across the country and they already operate on multiple payroll systems because the majority of states already have portable long service leave, so they are already working in an ecosystem where there are two different types of long service leave and portable long service leave payments happening: levy versus those others.

In terms of aged care, we consulted on the scope of how to deliver this scheme and we absolutely were advised that we should keep it within this tighter parameter at this point, make sure it is functioning, get the board in place, get the governance in place and get the procedures, the processes and the systems in place, and then within that timeframe we have an opportunity to review up to that three-year point as well when we can actually then consider any different changes in how the community services delivery sector is functioning.

Clause passed.

Clause 2.

Mr TEAGUE: So the rubber does not actually hit the road commencement-wise in the most relevant sense until we get to schedule 3 is the proposition. With that, I address this commencement clause. The subject of the amendment is at schedule 3, because that is all about the designated day, which is about the commencement of the scheme itself as opposed to the commencement of the bill. So we have that.

The occasion here at clause 2 to address that question comes off the back of—and if I have misrepresented the minister, then I am sure the minister will correct me—the sentiment from the government of 'look folks, get onboard now; it's happening', which seems to be what the government

has been telling the sector, and the second part of that is it is important to pass the bill right now—and this house got that message loud and clear—because there is all this work to do before you can set up the scheme.

I am not in the business of consulting to government about how to communicate with the broader South Australian public but I would suggest that that is a message that might have just been given a bit more time to get out there so that there could be some sort of reassurance in response. For example, this is in the response of NDS SA. In particular, I think the contribution of Janine Lenigas has been recognised in the other place, expressing the concern of NDS albeit it at the draft stage. But as I understand it maintains now—

The Hon. N.F. COOK: It is her job to represent the—

Mr TEAGUE: Yes, sure. So far as the NDS is concerned, the introduction of portable long service leave will result in significant impacts into already stretched and stressed organisations in South Australia. I started to quote for Hansard's benefit, and I may as well pick up that quote:

With particular respect, the workforce and disability services highly casualised and transient, 39 per cent of the workforce working casually, NDS has spoken to our members about the casualised workforce which appears to be increasing mainly stating that the support workers are choosing to remain casual and often work across several organisations.

And here is where I think NDS remains:

The administrative burden on organisations needing to report on dual systems across this highly transient workforce will be very significant.

While we are on the topic, it might be a most convenient point to put on the record—

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I am ready to answer.

Mr TEAGUE: Sorry?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I am ready to answer.

Mr TEAGUE: Yes—the contribution of the—

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I am keen to get on with it.

Mr TEAGUE: Sorry?

The CHAIR: The member for Heysen has the floor.

Mr TEAGUE: The letter of the Business Chamber, dated 17 May 2024, said that:

A portable long service leave scheme for community services shouldn't be introduced at this time as it would be highly damaging to the sector, its business workers and the very people it is set up to look after.

I am happy, with leave, to put the balance of the letter on the *Hansard* for the benefit of the committee. I am not endeavouring to take time; time is very short.

The concern, I suppose, just by reference to those two particular contributions, is about the administrative burden dealing with the change and so on. That informs, in turn, the urging on this side of the house that on the one hand you are jamming through the passage of the bill over a matter of a couple of days, and surely a counterpoint to that can be to say, 'We're serious about the reassurance; we're actually happy to adopt an amendment that will give the sector the necessary reassurance that this is not coming in before a date that can be actually identified in the legislation.' At least there would be that expression of commitment in the legislation with respect to this first scheme.

It seems to me it would be in the government's interest to do so. Will the minister provide any assurance in respect of the commencement of the bill relevantly and, with the approval of the committee, addressing the broader point about the work to be done post commencement?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: We have been very clear about the intended timeframes. We have spelled them out repeatedly. We will not be commencing before 1 July next year. On this side of the chamber, we have made very clear to the public our intention in regard to portable long service leave at the 2018 election and the 2022 election.

We have been consulting with the sector; SACOSS have been supporting that consultation as well. There are provisions at clause 7, if I understand correctly, where there can be exemptions made in terms of individual organisations and their commencement into the scheme, if it can be justified that there would be hardship based on payment cycles. People are welcome to make those applications, but we are running on the same timeframe as New South Wales and the Northern Territory.

Mr McBRIDE: Could you inform the house, in regard to these 29 service groups, how many employees we are talking about who will be affected by this process and perhaps supported—I really mean that, supported positively—with the intentions of what the government is trying to do here by obviously awarding a greater wage and salary by the use of the long service leave being captured over any sort of transitions from one service group to another?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Sorry, can you just repeat the second part of the question?

Mr McBRIDE: The number of employees in these 29 service groups who will be affected by these changes. Obviously, as I said, I am positively putting this—they will probably be better off and that is why it is important. Can you inform the house of the numbers please?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: The number of employees? There is no absolute definitive number but the estimate is somewhere up to 60,000 employees within the groups we are talking about at this stage.

Mr McBRIDE: In regard to those possible 60,000 employees—I am not holding you to exact numbers and that is fine, this is just to get clarity—what sort of turnover and recruitment do we see amongst those 60,000? How would we know that this change you are advocating here today is a positive change and that recruitment and longevity of staff in these service sectors is better off, with a better outcome, because of what we are doing here today?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I would like to give you an exact number and I cannot. Can I make a commitment to endeavour to actually get some information to the member from a number of sector reports that are available? Anecdotally, and directly to us, we are informed on multiple occasions in all of the meetings we have and the sector forums that turnover is significant.

Turnover means a huge burden in terms of education, training and support. It is really difficult for clients to have to keep telling their story over and over again, so the cost is not always about dollars. There is a human cost to turnover. We are absolutely looking forward to this being one of the opportunities to prevent that from happening. But I do make that commitment to have a talk to you with some information.

Mr McBRIDE: That is a good answer and I appreciate it. The third question on clause 2 is about the commencement date, and that is why I have just asked the two earlier questions. I am picking up, minister, on the points where you talked about early in this new board development it is going to be almost starting up from scratch. The levies will come in as employers pay. You have alluded to the fact that there could be a cost, but later on, as the fund builds, as the funds come towards this new long service board, that will obviously help to capture and hold these employees in these service groups—I get that; I understand why you are doing this.

There are two things, minister: one is that you have alluded to the fact that there will be a cost to start off with because they are starting from ground zero perhaps—unless you have been given a bankroll for a sum of money to start with. Secondly, in that scenario, when do we find ourselves in a position where the board is self-sufficient in being able to meet the demands of long service leave, to pay what we would like to see going out to these employees?

Thirdly, minister, as this fund grows and is making money, do you ever foresee that the funds that are captured are well above what is required? Then what happens to those funds? Do they actually go back into more wages and into capturing more staff, or do they go into a bigger board and, dare I say it, more expensive paid board directors?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I have a point of clarification: when you say 'a cost', you are saying a cost for the board to administer. Is that what you are saying?

Mr McBRIDE: No, I picked up on your words, minister. You talked about very early days, when the fund is actually in its early infancy and you do not have the funds there that will be as advantageous as they will be in five years or 10 years down the track. Are you going to have an investment pool? Are you going to have a greater pool of funds that will help fund this process? But on day one you are not going to have that pool, and year one you might not have a very big pool. So that is what I asked about the cost compared to where we are in around five years or 10 years' time.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Sorry, member for MacKillop, I know you are genuine in your questions. Yes, over time obviously more and more money is getting paid into the fund, so it increases, and the return on investment—bonza—will increase also. That is the expectation. Then the board will be tasked with making those decisions about how much payment and levies need to be done. Our best advice is that these levies drop over time with the increased return on investment in the investment fund.

But it is not true to say that the board positions will just go up, or what have you, because they are capped. We have three business representatives, three worker representatives—however that is selected through the minister's discretion—and also a process and a chair, and that is a capped board. We would have to amend legislation in order to be able to change the board, and it may be done in a bipartisan way if that was required, desired, needed or proven in order to make this as successful as possible for the most amount of people.

Clause passed.

Clause 3.

Mr TEAGUE: I just give an indication to the committee that we are at clause 3 of a 75-clause bill with three schedules. I have been at pains to make it clear that I was afforded, a little over a week ago, a particularly valuable and reasoned briefing in order that I might assist my colleagues in interpreting this bill, a bill that has been sent to multiple members and runs over some considerable length. It is establishing a whole new scheme of industry interaction with long service leave in the state. It ought to be something that the government is happy to have aired in the appropriate way.

Indeed, I was given to a clear understanding, that the minister has heard from me in real time, almost exactly a week ago actually, that it took me by surprise that there was some indication—I think I heard it first from the minister—that, contrary to what I was told at the briefing the day before, this had come on at some point in the medium-term. Contrary to that, no, it was the government's intent, it looked like, to bring the matter on for debate, to go through all stages on the Tuesday of sitting and then it would be in this place for a debate here.

What we have seen then is a whole series of guillotines that have led us to effectively another guillotine on debate on this bill. Not two clauses into the committee, albeit by a disorderly interjection from the Manager of Government Business, I have been accused of filibustering on this bill. That is the attitude of the government with respect to this bill and the way that it treats the members of this place and the people of South Australia. It is important to put that on the record in the course of this committee. Of course, that is no personal reflection on the minister, but it is a very clear indication of the government's approach to what in every respect actually ought to be legislation that we can navigate fully and completely.

I have referred positively to the document described as an update document from the government. It runs to 14-odd pages of changes in response to stakeholder feedback over the course of the early part of the year. That ordinarily would have had an opportunity for airing, and yet here we are. There is no time, it would appear, for anything remotely resembling a thoroughgoing committee process. I do not know if the government wants to claim some sort of credit for shutting down the committee process de facto, but there is an amendment on file and the amendment reflects what has been put in the second reading. The amendment does not arise until schedule 3 for reasons that have been aired. So what are we all to do, really?

Far from a meaningful committee process, we have a bill being jammed through under a guillotine and in circumstances where I have been singled out as a member of this place who is really somehow a second-class citizen. When I get up on my feet I am doubly told that somehow there is no possibility. I am happy to leave it to others, if that is the best way that I can represent my

community and my party, but there is an important purpose to be served in analysing what the government is bringing to this place. I make that observation.

I am here to facilitate the process. I just indicate that the amendment that we have on file is not until schedule 3. If we are going to have that put, then we are going to have to do it by basically not having any analysis in committee at all of the balance of the bill. I think that is where we are. I do not speak for other members of the place, but do not be surprised if the result of all this is that there is no stakeholder confidence, there is no real capacity for members to say that they have had an opportunity to participate, and whatever defects arise as the result of the passage of the bill will just sit very firmly at the feet of the government.

Mr McBRIDE: Minister, in regard to this interpretation, it talks about CEOs and board industry groups. Could you give us any clarity around the fact that this board is going to be responsible for a pool of funds gathered by a large workforce of, as you have alluded to, 60,000 employees? One of the things that I have seen in government is that when boards are created and CEOs are put in place to look after and manage boards and particularly funds, wages and responsibility usually go up with the size of the funds that they are looking after.

One of the things I am really interested in is that when you have 60,000 workers and there is a large turnover—and dare I say it, but these 60,000 workers you are trying to address are not the highest paid service workers in the workforce. They are not the highest paid. If there is a board that captures these funds, there are no limits on the funds that they can collect and they keep on collecting these funds, by pure nature, as I have described, we have a lot of workers who work for one year, two years, three years but certainly do not go all the way to seven years, and they forgo that entitlement of funds.

Minister, do we have any limits around the amount of money that they could collect, and what happens when those limits are exceeded? Again, my concern is that with the exceedingly high amounts of funds collected, does the government come in and pull some away and put it back into the coffer, or do we roll it out to roll out more services, which I know that the service sector would really like to see? I am just wondering if you can give us any clarification around the board and its collection of these funds. Do we have a total imposed, and what happens when we reach a maximum?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I think the short answer to that is that there is an annual actuarial review that is tabled in the house of parliament. If there are any circumstances where there is for any reason any indication that there is any false or improper inflation of that fund for whatever reason, you can imagine there would be a swift response on that, but there are safeguards in that in terms of its annual reporting to the parliament.

Mr McBRIDE: Thank you, minister, for that confidence and the fact that you have considered and you have an answer as such. In clause 3, it talks about the construction industry board. Do you know if there is any feedback that comes back for the construction industry board, its operations, its funds? Does it report to parliament now? Has it collected funds that are in excess of what it requires and, if so, what sort of sight does parliament have over those funds from the construction industry board today?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: That is an excellent question. I can assure you that the construction industry board has the same annual actuarial report to the parliament. There are Auditor-General reports also. So it is subject to that review and that reporting process. This is designed to mirror that. In fact, as the member may have picked up, the CEO of that same industry board will be the CEO for this, so there is that collective continuity and governance similarity that is going to happen.

Mr McBRIDE: In regard to these funds and the collection of these funds, with the positive creation of a fund and the growth of this fund to help support and look after these 60,000 employees that have been talked about, I am asking about interpretation. How much better off will these staff be with this type of process and fund in place compared to where we are today? Secondly, why do we not just pay these staff more money if they are so valuable rather than worrying about long service provisions?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I will take this just to the place of the wellbeing of employees. These workers, who are amongst some of our lower paid workers, are subject to this contractual churn that happens because of a change of the framework of delivery of different services. You can be assured that these workers are not working for the money. The money helps, but it is not all about the money. These are dedicated workers who want to change and save lives. They are all working in an industry where they are absolutely committed and dedicated to improving the life, the lot and the outcome of the community that they are serving.

If it was a simple matter of wages, that would be under a different argument, but this provision allows for people to actually have an extended break after a commitment to a service sector for a long period of time. These people have not had that before. It is a very good question and it speaks to the heart of us here in the parliament understanding what community workers are doing. I in my heart believe that the industry organisations and businesses absolutely believe that too. Over time, I believe this fund will actually do what it needs to do to reinforce that by providing better outcomes for workers.

Clause passed.

Clause 4.

Mr McBRIDE: Clause 4 is about determination of weekly pay in certain circumstances. I really like the answer that the minister just gave in that the employees do not do this for money. I know where she is coming from, because most of these 60,000 represented do it out of human kindness. There are two things that I would bring to her attention. One is that a lot of long service leave never gets taken up because most people cannot afford to take it, stop pay, go on holidays and enjoy themselves for the full three months that they are entitled to after 10 years. This sector, not being on the highest end of pay brackets, would be no different.

My question to the minister regarding her comment that they do not work for money—and, minister, you are right in the real sense because there is a lot of compassion, kindness and love that goes with the job that these service workers do—is why would you be interfering in this and doing what you are if money is not involved?

I can tell you the service sectors that they are employed by right here are better off under the old system and not going back to the employees like you have just suggested, and the money would stay with the child safety and support services, or the home and community care services. When the employees leave early and do not take up their long service leave, that money stays with that service group and it can be rolled out as service money, out to the community as it is intended. If your argument here is that they do not work for the money, then I do not understand why you are even rolling this out.

The CHAIR: I am unclear, member for MacKillop, how your question relates to this clause.

Mr McBRIDE: It says 'Clause 4—Determination of an ordinary weekly pay in certain circumstances'.

The CHAIR: I understand that, but when you read the substance of the clause I am trying to link, not to the title of the clause but the substance of the clause, and I cannot see the connection.

Mr McBRIDE: In remuneration terms, it is mentioned there at subclause (1)(d) 'remuneration' and 'payable', and so the money is here. This is about hopefully making these employees better off with this process we are moving here today. That is my question. Two points are being made. I hope that is the case and my question is to the minister: is it the case that they will be better off and, secondly, why are we interfering with this process if they do not work for money?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: To just clarify the interpretation of what I said, for the member, I think he means the same thing as what I am saying, but we are saying it in two different ways. The biggest incentive for these workers is not money. The biggest incentive for these workers is the outcome for the clients. What long service leave does is it provides the workers with the opportunity to take these extended breaks from the sector and the service that they are providing. This is important not just to provide the time away, but this is important to provide opportunity as well. People use their long

service leave to help with parenting responsibilities and take time out to have families. It adds to that time that they can have away from the workplace to do all of those other things.

This happens across a number of industries. I am fortunate enough to have been working in health and nursing where long service leave did move across different organisations within the public sector and you could take those breaks and use them for a range of matters. It is not about taking holidays overseas or what have you. This is about taking breaks to recover, have respite, and then return to the workforce in a refreshed way and able to contribute in the best possible way you can.

Progress reported; committee to sit again.

Parliamentary Procedure

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENSION

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (17:23): I move without notice:

That standing orders be so far suspended as to enable the rescission of the order for the completion of the Sentencing (Serious Child Sex Offenders) Amendment Bill, the Portable Long Service Leave Bill, the Automated External Defibrillators (Public Access) (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill, and the Statutes Amendment (Parliament—Executive Officer and Clerks) Bill by 6pm.

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

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

Motion carried.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I move:

Pursuant to order that the order for the completion of the Sentencing (Serious Child Sex Offenders) Amendment Bill, the Portable Long Service Leave Bill, the Automated External Defibrillators (Public Access) (Miscellaneous) Amendment Bill, and the Statutes Amendment (Parliament—Executive Officer and Clerks) Bill by 6pm be rescinded.

Motion carried.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I move:

That the time allotted for the completion of the Portable Long Service Leave Bill be 6pm.

Motion carried.

Bills

PORTABLE LONG SERVICE LEAVE BILL

Committee Stage

In committee (resumed on motion).

Clause 4.

Mr McBRIDE: My question to the minister is: under this new Portable Long Service Leave Bill, will the employees in the service sector be better off not only in pay but in long service leave that is due to them? And in that, will the employees be allowed to be paid out their long service leave rather than take long service leave?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: In terms of whether they are better off from a pay point of view, I cannot dictate or anticipate what will be happening from an enterprise bargaining agreement within all the awards and the contract negotiations for all of those sectors. I hope so. We all do because that is what workers do and good unions help them to negotiate that.

In terms of long service leave, they will all be better off because there are many of them who have never had that provision available to them before because of the contract length and time and the fluidity between organisations. So, yes.

In terms of their capacity to be paid a lump sum payout on long service leave in lieu of taking a period of long service leave, that is also able to be done under this arrangement and that is a matter

for the employer, the organisation and the employee. That has always pretty much been the case, but yes, under this, absolutely. Under the Long Service Leave Act, section 5(1)(a) that provision is available to these people.

Mr McBRIDE: Minister, I just need a yes or no, and I base it on this premise that I think is particularly pertinent. Most people probably do not even know that the less you pay someone on a salary or an annual wage, the less ability they have to take holidays. The lower the wage, the less they are able to do it. We already know we are talking about a sector here that is not the highest paid. Minister, you highlighted—and I fully agree with you—that they are valuable and they will do it for more than just money.

If there is a sector here that really cannot afford to take three months without pay, then I would say that this is actually a flaw in what we are doing here because most of them will not be able to afford three months away and would probably like the money instead. I have not heard a yes or no as to whether they can take the money or the holidays.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: They will get paid while they are on long service leave. People get paid while they are on long service leave. Your pay depends on the hours worked in the months and years leading up to when you take your long service leave. If you are a full-time worker and have been a full-time worker for the period leading up to three years, I think it is generally, then you are going to get full-time pay for your leave. If you are a part-time worker and you work an average of 2.4 days per week over a period of three years, and that might be a combination of different hours per week, you will get paid that time pro rata per week for your long service leave.

As I said, there are provisions in the bill for you to take a lump sum payment in lieu of getting paid that weekly pay for certain weeks and there are also provisions to negotiate with your employer in terms of maybe being able to take that over an extended period of time at a lower weekly rate as well. Essentially, you accrue the 13 weeks of paid leave for 10 years of service, with 1.3 weeks added to that per year, so you accrue the 1.3 weeks of additional leave. This is paid according to your average hours worked over the preceding three years. When you talk about holidays, a definition of a holiday—taking a break from work is what I would say the intent is here.

Clause passed.

Clause 5.

Mr McBRIDE: Minister, in regard to the application of the act, I really love the way that your intentions are talking about employees who need a break and take a break, but I can tell you that they actually do not want one. Two things are going to happen, minister. This is one of the things that, again, the government does not get. When you have a service sector where you are already losing employees in these 29 service sectors, and you do not have enough employees to do what you want, you are moving a system here to actually capture those employees and have them stay on board, but when they get to 10 years they bugger off for three months: 'we can't employ you, but we'll give you three months or 13 weeks to do nothing.'

Again, I will tell you that these people probably do not even want the 13 weeks, they probably just want to work and want the money instead. I can tell you that this is something you should seriously consider. I am not a fool in this game. We employ people for 10, 20, 30 and 40 years and a lot of them take the pay as their long service leave rather than take three months off, like this place does, to go overseas to the United States or Europe. I can tell you that the 60,000 people we are talking about here will not be doing that, minister.

I do not understand, for starters, why you would not be considering that sort of entitlement of rolling out money that they might not want to cash in to have a break. They can have one week, two weeks, three weeks or four. They might not want the whole 13 weeks after 10 years, and that is a provision that you have not even—minister, my question to you, again, is: is there a proviso to pay out those 13 weeks or part thereof?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Yes. They do not have to take the full amount at once either, so they could split that up or hold onto some of it for another year and then add on to other leave, and what have you. But I would have to say, having worked in or been connected to the community service sector for decades, I want to meet those people whom you say do not want to have leave, because

I was with dozens of them at lunchtime and they all are absolutely desperate to be able to have this provision to take a paid proper break.

If you work in this sort of sector for decades, it takes its toll. I enjoy listening to you as the member representing your community. I would be very keen to hear where you got that information from that they do not want to take a break. If it is a paper or some research or something like that, I am very interested. I have always worked as an evidence-based person in all my jobs, and I respect the question you have asked, but I respectfully disagree that people do not want to take these breaks. This has been heavily campaigned for for 10 years, and I do not hear anyone who is subject to a portable long service leave or long service leave provision complaining that it is available to them.

Mr ELLIS: As an evidence-based minister, do you know how long on average people stay within this industry? Are we finding that people are getting to nine years and running out of puff and the incentive of one more year's work to get that full entitlement might push them over the line, or are we finding that people get tired after four years?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: To the extent that it is available, I will again commit to provide the member with some access to some reports and some information regarding that type of service dedication and commitment, but I would have to again just rely on all the many thousands of conversations I have had in community sector work over many, many years to know that people work in this sector for decades and decades, and they are very much wanted and valued.

However, because of the way funding has previously been, according to block funding and what-have-you arrangements, there has been a lot of movement of people across different organisations. But over and over again I hear the story, 'I have looked after, supported or assisted the same person across not one, not two, not three but four different organisations over a period of decades.' So to the extent that I can provide the member some information, I will catch up with you later and give you or send through some information if I can find some for you.

Mr ELLIS: On my understanding, the justification for this bill was to entice people to stay longer in the industry and prevent them from leaving earlier. Well, the evidence in your previous answer was that people are staying for decades and decades. So is this even a necessary incentive that is required?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: What we are hearing from the sector, to give us some degree of comfort and incentive to have a scheme such as this, is that we know that people do move across from one organisation to the next and into different service components within the sectors. So this we hope will give a degree of surety, and maintain and stop some of that churn from happening across one, two, three or four different organisations. As we said just before, many have been paid on a block funding arrangement before. They still have these three plus three plus three contracts. While there are people who stay for a long time, there are many others who do not. They go into similar skill-based industries that are competing for the same type of workforce.

Mr McBRIDE: I come back to your answer where you talked about staff. I do not want to be misrepresented in the sense that yes, I know employees love a break and they love to be paid for their break. What I would say is that if you ask them if they would like to either accrue the long service leave and be paid out that long service leave or take the break, the majority of these people would say, 'I'd rather be paid my long service leave.' That is on the basis of a few things.

Firstly, they already get four weeks' holidays a year, I would imagine, under normal terms of contract if they are anything like an employee anywhere else in the award system. Secondly, the money is more important to them than the three months away after 10 years of service.

That is the question I ask then: can these staff be paid out their long service leave, can it accrue, and if they do not take it within a certain period can they then also be paid out—because they did not have time to take it, for example, or they love their jobs so much, which possibly could be the case, they do not want to take it, but when they leave is that long service leave sitting there to be used as a nest egg to help them with a house or retirement or their children's education or something like this?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I think the simple answer is that that can be used for all of those purposes, yes.

Clause passed.

Clause 6.

The ACTING CHAIR (Mr Brown): Member for Heysen?

Mr TEAGUE: Thanks, Acting Chair. I have given an indication, nearly half an hour ago, that there is an amendment on file and it is necessary for that amendment to be moved. It is not until schedule 3. What is effectively happening is the capacity for me to facilitate the conclusion of this debate will mean cutting straight through to schedule 3. I just give that indication to the committee. That is not as to say—other members of the committee may well have questions on the balance, but I am endeavouring to make good on an indication I have given.

Clause passed.

Clauses 7 and 8 passed.

Clause 9.

Mr McBRIDE: In regard to the board and the representation by board members, can the minister just give some indication of what that board looks like and how they will be selected? It does say 'the minister', which I would imagine is the Attorney-General if it belongs to the other place. Sorry, that is not you, potentially, you are filling in for him—and you are doing a fantastic job, too, minister. Could you tell us about these industry boards, who the minister is going to choose, what expertise you are expecting in this area and how that process will work?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Thanks for the question. It is really important that this board has a good level of experience and skill in there. There will be three who are selected with significant industry, business, provider experience, and three who have significant worker and worker representation experience, and then the Chair must have the skills of governance and leadership requisite to provide the stewardship of this really important scheme. They will be selected by the minister in the other place through a process which is well canvassed.

Mr McBRIDE: I am just looking through the notes here, and it says key features of the industry boards—this is at point 9—and I am trying to look up remuneration. There is no mention of remuneration for these board directors. Is that confidential or can the minister tell the house what remuneration these board directors or members will receive?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: There is a standard circular that the fees will be assessed against and then gazetted.

Clause passed.

Clauses 10 to 40 passed.

Clauses 41 to 45.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I move:

That clauses 41 to 45, which are printed in erased type, be inserted in the bill.

Mr TEAGUE: For the benefit of the committee and the record, the minister might just indicate what has occurred between the houses and the constitutional requirement for doing so, and that this is not an amendment to the bill, but rather that this is inserting—necessary in this place—those money clauses. The minister might be able to put it better and more comprehensively than me about that.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: In the drafting, they were in the bill, and they cannot be inserted or debated in the Legislative Council so, for the purposes of adhering to that constitutional requirement, they are reintroduced here, but they are not new, they have always been visible and present.

Clauses inserted.

Clauses 46 to 47 passed.

Clauses 48 to 53.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I move:

That clauses 48 to 53, which are printed in erased type, be inserted in the bill.

Mr TEAGUE: For the same reason?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: For the same reason.

Clauses inserted.

Clauses 54 to 56 passed.

Clause 57.

Mr McBRIDE: Minister, with clause 57, it just struck me a little bit where it says, 'Self-employed contractors and working directors'—and it picks up this under Miscellaneous. Can you just please explain to me why that needs to be put in there, and why there is extra data around self-employed contractors in this sector and how it affects them, and why they have been separated from the other employees?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: The simple answer is that it mirrors the Construction Industry Long Service Leave Act, so it does exactly the same as what it does in there, effectively providing the provision for those people to electively participate in the scheme.

Mr McBRIDE: Minister, just to pick up on that: then there is no difference between the treatment of the contractors and that of the employees? That is all I am really seeking.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: I just needed to confirm the calculation. The difference is that the classification of 'participant in the workforce' can electively engage in the scheme rather than have compulsory participation on the register. Also, the calculation is slightly different because these people might not receive a weekly wage as well, so the remuneration for them is slightly different. So there is a bit of a nuance there.

Clause passed.

Clause 58.

Mr McBRIDE: In regard to salary sacrifice arrangements, I usually see that terminology around superannuation. Can you please explain to me why we are talking about salary sacrifice arrangements when we are talking about long service leave?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: This speaks to a classification of employee who may be working for an organisation that is, for example, a public benevolent institution, and who then has access to salary sacrificing arrangements as part of that classification of charity. Stakeholders identified that many workers in the sector who are in that type of workforce have access to this, so the question was raised about how the legislation allowed for such arrangements to be dealt with.

What happened was we included this provision to ensure that the workers and their employers are not negatively impacted by the scheme. An employer will be able to apply to the relevant industry board for an advance payment of the worker's entitlement so that any necessary salary sacrifice disbursements can be made prior to the worker being paid. The employer will then be required to demonstrate to the board that the worker has been paid that entitlement. That communication must happen.

The provision was drafted with reference to section 77 of the Queensland act that provides for the payment of a worker's long service leave entitlement to the person's employer before the worker is paid the long service leave. So it is a wash-through effect.

Clause passed.

Clauses 59 to 64 passed.

Clause 65.

Mr McBRIDE: Minister, the bill provides that a record required under subsection (1) must be kept for at least 7 years, but long service leave goes way beyond that: it can be 10 years, and you can work in an industry for 20 years. I am wondering why we would only have records being kept for

at least seven years when we are talking about a 10-year long service leave-type system. Can the minister please explain?

The Hon. N.F. COOK: Thanks for the question. It is consistent with nearly all record-keeping standards around employment records—for seven years. It is just consistent across the board.

Mr McBRIDE: I am no expert in this game, and I am battling to learn this all within 24 hours. I know that there is a seven-year period; we work with seven years, though we keep them longer than that, and sometimes we have not kept our records long enough for insurance purposes.

In relation to long service leave, can I just pose this to the minister without it being a question: that she—the minister—the Attorney-General and the government make sure that the seven years makes sense, because when you are dealing with employment records and when they first started and what they are at and when it all began, to me it does not make sense that you can have a seven-year clause here for records when you are going to be dealing with a 10-year long service leave provision. That is not a question; it is a statement. I am giving you a heads-up that there might be something that needs to be reviewed there. I have no further questions.

Clause passed.

Remaining clauses (66 to 75) and schedules 1 and 2 passed.

Schedule 3.

Mr TEAGUE: I move:

Amendment No 1 [Teague-1]—

Page 45, line 14 [Schedule 3, clause 4]—After 'a day' insert '(not being a day earlier than 1 July 2026)'

The amendment would have the effect, as I have described it at perhaps clauses 1 and 2 of the committee and before that in the course of the second reading debate, of allowing the bill to start and the necessary work that the minister and the government have described to be done ahead of the implementation of the scheme but at least providing reassurance that the scheme will not commence prior to what would be a modified designated date definition that would actually specify the date. The amendment provides for that commencement to be not before 1 July 2026.

I have not heard in response the government saying, 'That's too far down the track, but we would be happy to specify 1 July 2025,' which is the date that has been repeated over and over in the course of the debate. So that is the amendment that I move. If the minister wishes to take an opportunity to address the question of reasons the government is unwilling to place that or any other date, including the date it has nominated, in that definition, then I would welcome in the interests of time the opportunity for the minister to do that.

The Hon. N.F. COOK: It has been well canvassed and is very clear. We oppose the amendment.

Amendment negatived; schedule passed.

Long title passed.

Bill reported with amendment.

Third Reading

The Hon. N.F. COOK (Hurtle Vale—Minister for Human Services, Minister for Seniors and Ageing Well) (17:58): I move:

That the bill be now read a third time.

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

A quorum having been formed:

Bill read a third time and passed.

APPROPRIATION BILL 2024

Final Stages

The Legislative Council agreed to the bill without any amendment.

LATE PAYMENT OF GOVERNMENT DEBTS (INTEREST) (REVIEW) AMENDMENT BILL

Final Stages

The Legislative Council agreed to the bill without any amendment.

SUMMARY OFFENCES (ADVERTISING INVOLVEMENT IN OFFENCE) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

At 18:02 the house adjourned until Tuesday 24 September 2024 at 11:00.

*Answers to Questions***AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT**

In reply to **the Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition)** (2 November 2023).

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining): I have been advised:

This information was not discussed in the Auditor-General's Report.

*Estimates Replies***DRIVER'S LICENCE RENEWALS**

In reply to **the Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition)** (21 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining): The Department for Infrastructure and Transport advises that as at 30 June 2024, the number of car licences (including heavy vehicle licences) currently active in South Australia is 1,189,299.

For 2023-24 there were 410,034 driver licences renewed. Of these renewals, the number renewed online was 268,813, with the remaining being renewed in person at a Service SA centre or Australia Post.

For comparison, in 2022-23 there were 432,964 driver licences renewed. Of these renewals, the number renewed online was 250,119, with the remaining being renewed at a Service SA centre or Australia Post.

MYSAGOV APP USER NUMBERS

In reply to **the Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition)** (21 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining): I am advised by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport that the Department of the Premier and Cabinet has advised:

- From 1 July 2023 to 28 June 2024, approximately 480,000 users installed the mySAGOV app. This total includes customers who have updated or uninstalled and reinstalled the app.
- Since the latest release in June 2024, approximately 12,000 customers use the mySAGOV app daily.

FARE EVASION

In reply to **the Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition)** (21 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining): I am advised that the Department for Infrastructure and Transport's Prosecutions Unit has attempted and successfully prosecuted approximately 61 fare evasion matters in the 2023-24 financial year.

THE OFFICE OF HYDROGEN POWER SOUTH AUSTRALIA

In reply to **Mr PATTERSON (Morphett)** (21 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining): I am advised that expenditure that relates to tenders commissioned by the Office of Hydrogen Power SA during 2023-24 will be included in the office's annual report, along with its audited financial statements.

FIRST NATIONS VOICE TO PARLIAMENT

In reply to **Mr TEAGUE (Heysen)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

The initial First Nations Voice election (Voice election) was originally included in the 2023-24 projection (2023-24 Agency Statements, Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, page 17) under sub-program 1.1, which relates to Parliamentary Electoral Services.

It has since been correctly reflected in sub-program 1.2—Non-Parliamentary Electoral Services (2024-25 Agency Statements, Budget Paper 4, Volume 2, page 19), as the Voice election is classified as a non-parliamentary election prescribed by acts of parliament.

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Electoral Commission of South Australia:

Since 1 July 2023, there were no executive appointments were made.

The total annual employment cost for executive appointments is \$nil (excluding on-costs).

EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Electoral Commission of South Australia:

Since 1 July 2023, there were no executive positions abolished.

The total annual employment cost for abolished executive positions is \$nil (excluding on-costs).

EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Electoral Commission of South Australia:

The total value of executive position termination payments was \$nil.

CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Electoral Commission of South Australia:

As required by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet Circular PC013—Annual Reporting Requirements for 2023-24 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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Electoral Commission of South Australia:

The estimated total cost for engagement of consultants and contractors in 2024-25 is \$24,000 (GST exclusive).

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 2024-24.

Consultancies	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
None		

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 2024-25.

Contractors	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
Hays Specialist Recruitment	Labour Hire – Procurement Adviser (July-August 2024)	\$24,000 (exc. GST)

GOODS AND SERVICES

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Electoral Commission of South Australia:

The budgeted expenditure on goods and services for the financial year 2024-25 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is as follows:

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total goods and services	3,531	16,144	9,899	3,687

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Electoral Commission of South Australia:

No FTEs have been budgeted to provide communication and promotion activities for 2024-25 and the forward estimates. There are no employment costs as no FTEs have been budgeted to provide communication and promotion activities.

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Electoral Commission of South Australia:

There is no budgeted cost of government-paid advertising, including campaigns, across all mediums in 2024-25.

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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

There is no grant program/fund under my responsibility for the 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27 financial years—controlled or administered.

REMOTE WORK

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Electoral Commission of South Australia:

There is no budgeted expenditure for remote work infrastructure for the financial year 2024-25, and for previous years 2022-23 and 2023-24.

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

The total net cost of services allocated to the Intensive Compliance Unit (ICU) is 3.2 per cent, being approximately \$13 million.

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

The budgeted full-time equivalent (FTE) for the ICU is 75.62.

As at 31 May 2024, the actual FTE for the ICU was 73.06.

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

In the 2023-24 financial year, the Department for Correctional Services (DCS) is aware that SafeWork SA conducted two psychosocial health audits in relation to the ICU.

These psychosocial health audits were administered by DCS safety systems, workforce management in conjunction with the regional director, community corrections southern region.

Whilst DCS assisted with these audits through provision of information and/or documentation, further inquiries in relation to these matters should be referred to SafeWork SA.

CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

As at 1 July 2024, there were 20 active workers compensation disputes before the South Australian Employment Tribunal relevant to the Department for Correctional Services.

SAPOL RECRUITMENT

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

SAPOL aims for a workforce that comprises of at least 2 per cent First Nations employees.

In 2022 SAPOL's First Nations employees represented 1.27 per cent of the workforce. There was a 5 per cent increase of First Nations employees between 2022 and 2023 (77 to 81 employees) which resulted in an overall workforce representation of 1.32 per cent.

As of 30 June 2024, SAPOL's First Nations employee head count stands at 88. There was an increase of 6 per cent employees from the previous year resulting in a workforce representation of 1.4 per cent. SAPOL's 88 First Nations employees comprise of:

- 50 police
- 25 community police (community constables)
- 1 APY police Aboriginal liaison officer
- 12 unsworn positions (inclusive of police security officers)

SAPOL is expecting to finalise employment of six APY community members as police Aboriginal liaison officers in the near future. These new employees will align to the vacant APY community constable positions and will increase the First Nations employee total to 94 (1.5 per cent of workforce).

SAPOL continues to experience an upward trend in First Nations employment over the past two years. To achieve a 2 per cent representation of First Nations employees in the current workforce, SAPOL aims to surpass a total of 122 First Nations employees. This can be achieved by a commitment to proposed initiatives and strategies moving forward.

SAPOL RECRUITMENT

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

A thorough examination of the community constable foundational course has commenced in preparation of advertising, recruitment and on boarding of community constables to fill the vacant positions within metropolitan operations service (MOS) and state operations service (SOS). Concurrently, work is progressing to finalise First Nations recruitment material and internet content for the SAPOL recruitment website, with a strong focus on all careers within SAPOL utilising our people to promote administration services officer, police security officer, police officer and community police (community constable) careers.

There are 46 established community constable positions in South Australia Police. Of these 46 positions there are 16 positions within MOS and 30 positions within regional South Australia (SOS).

The 30 SOS positions are inclusive of nine positions in Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) lands, of which three are filled and six are vacant. Six employees are awaiting final approval for onboarding to APY as police Aboriginal liaison officers (PALO's).

SAPOL RECRUITMENT

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

SAPOL has nine permanent sworn police officer positions for the APY Lands. Seven positions are filled, with the remaining, two positions of which are vacancies that are currently under selection.

SAPOL RECRUITMENT

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

Of the nine permanent residential positions there are two vacancies currently under selection.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

As at 30 June 2024, SAPOL has 52 active employees on paid maternity leave. 43 are police, two are police security officers and seven are non-police.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

As of 30 June 2024, a total of 117 police officers were certified as medically unfit for work by their treating medical practitioner, pursuant to the Return to Work Act 2014.

Of these, 70 relate to psychological injury/illness and 47 for a physical injury/illness.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

The table below represents the number of police and community constable separations for 2022-23 and 2023-24.

2023-24 separation numbers are updated as at 30 June 2024.

Rank	2022/23	2023/24
Assistant Commissioner	0	1
Chief Superintendent	2	2
Superintendent	3	4
Chief Inspector	1	3
Inspector	5	4
Senior Sergeant 1st Class	20	11
Senior Sergeant	4	3
Sergeant	45	31
Brevet Sergeant	38	45
Senior Constable 1st Class	35	42
Senior Constable	63	47
Constable	26	33
Probationary Constable	7	13
Community Constable	4	3
Total	253	242

SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

53.3 FTE are expected to be required to deliver the program.

SAPOL RECRUITMENT

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

There are a number of direct and indirect costs attributable to the overall cost of recruiting an experienced police officer from the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland or New Zealand as part of SAPOL's international recruitment campaign.

Direct costs which are incurred during the assessment of an applicant's suitability to receive an offer of appointment from South Australia Police (SAPOL), regardless of their jurisdiction of origin, are estimated at \$3,927 per recruit, and includes language, literacy and numeracy and psychometric assessments, medical and functional capacity assessments, and psychological assessments.

As part of the terms of the international campaign, SAPOL is offering:

- Reimbursement of up to \$10,000 of relocation costs for interstate and New Zealand applicants who are serving or recently served police officers.
- Reimbursement of all visa charges and the peripheral costs associated with securing a permanent visa for the main applicant and their eligible family members recruited from United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland. On the assumption of a family of two adults and two child dependents, the total cost is estimated to be \$11,875 per recruit. In addition, a visa nomination fee of \$5,070 is payable to the Department of Home Affairs and must be paid by the nominating employer. This is a total cost of \$16,945 per recruit.

Based on a pro-rated 15 week version of the existing cadet training program, SAPOL's transition program is estimated to cost around \$58,771 per recruit. This reflects 2024-25 academy costs only, and does not include any calculation of field tutor allowance post-graduation.

SAPOL RECRUITMENT

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

The table below represents the number of cadet recruits and cadet separations for 2022-23 and 2023-24.

Cadet Separations	2022/23	2023/24
Number of Recruits	242	235
Number of Cadet Separations	10	12
% Separated	4.13%	5.11%

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Department for Correctional Services:

Since 1 July 2023, the following executive appointment was made to an existing role.

Role Title	Classification
Executive Director, People & Business Services	SAES1

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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Department for Correctional Services:

Since 1 July 2023, there was one executive position abolished.

Role Title	Classification
General Manager Business Services	SAES1

The total annual employment cost for the abolished position is \$220,995 (excluding on-costs). Note that this did not result in a termination.

EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Department for Correctional Services:

The total value of the termination payments was nil (the executive position abolished did not result in a termination).

CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Department for Correctional Services:

As required by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet Circular PC013—Annual Reporting Requirements for 2022-24 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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Department for Correctional Services:

The estimated total cost for engagement of consultants and contractors in 2024-25 is \$1.55 million.

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 2024-24.

Consultancies	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
Nil		

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 2024-25.

Contractors	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
Talent International Pty Ltd	Specialist Information Technology staff for Information Technology project development	500,000
Akkodis Australia Talent Pty Ltd	Specialist Information Technology staff for Information Technology project management	275,000
Randstad Pty Ltd	Specialist Information Technology staff for Information Technology project development	450,000
Hays Specialist Recruitment (Australia) Pty Ltd	Specialist Information Technology staff for Information Technology project management and for Information Technology Help Desk roles	80,000
VIQ Solutions Pty Ltd	Provision of transcription services for the Parole Board of South Australia	155,000
Paxus Australia Pty Ltd	Specialist Information Technology staff for Information Technology Help Desk roles	40,000
Your Nursing Agency Pty Ltd	Provision of health, personal and nursing care services to prisoners	50,000

GOODS AND SERVICES

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Department for Correctional Services:

The budgeted expenditure on goods and services for the financial year 2024-25 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is as follows:

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total goods and services	148,412	149,966	150,484	159,273

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Department for Correctional Services:

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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

The following table provides the requested information on grant program/funds under my responsibility for the 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27 financial years—controlled:

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2024-25 Estimate \$000	2025-26 Estimate \$000	2026-27 Estimate \$000
Portfolio Name (DCS)				
Cadell Bus Service	Provision of Cadell Bus service / Partners of Prisoners	55	57	58
Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA)	COSA is a community based initiative operation on restorative justice principles. COSA assists individuals who have served a prison sentence for a sexual offence in their effort to re-enter society.	100	—	—

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 (DCS)			
Cadell Bus Service	Community Transitions	Provision of Cadell Bus service / Partners of Prisoners	55
Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA)	Community Transitions	COSA is a community based initiative operation on restorative justice principles. COSA assists individuals who have served a prison sentence for a sexual offence in their effort to re-enter society.	100

The following table provides the requested information on grant program/funds under my responsibility for the 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27 financial years—administered:

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

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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Department for Correctional Services:

The budgeted expenditure for remote work infrastructure for the financial year 2024-25, and for previous years 2022-23 and 2023-24 is as follows:

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Expenditure on remote work infrastructure	287	346	353

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australia Police:

Since 1 July 2023, the following executive appointments were made.

Role Title	Classification
Director, Media and Communications	SAES1
Deputy Director, Infrastructure and Assets	SAES1

The total annual employment cost for these appointments is \$400,000 (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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australia Police:

Since 1 July 2023, there were zero executive positions abolished.

EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australia Police:

The total value of the termination payments was \$0.

CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australia Police:

As required by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet Circular PC013—Annual Reporting Requirements for 2022-24 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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australia Police:

The estimated total cost for engagement of consultants in 2024-25 is \$130k and \$1,641k for contractors (net \$1,771k). This reflects approved budgets, with allocation to specific consultant work or contractor engagement yet to be finalised.

GOODS AND SERVICES

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australia Police:

The budgeted expenditure on goods and services for the financial year 2024-25 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is as follows:

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total goods and services*	196,436	182,059	180,442	183,490
* excludes grants & subsidies				

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australia Police:

The total budgeted FTE to provide communication and promotion activities for 2024-25 and the forward estimates is as follows:

Unit/Branch		2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Budget	2026-27 Budget	2027-28 Budget
Director media and communications	FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
	\$m	0.227	0.230	0.234	0.237
Marketing (Part operational)	FTE	8.0	8.0	8.0	8.0
	\$m	0.824	0.836	0.849	0.861
Communications operational		21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0
		2.592	2.634	2.674	2.714
TOTAL	FTE	30	30	30	30
	\$m	3.642	3.700	3.756	3.812

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australia Police:

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>

The budgeted projection for road safety and recruitment campaigns in 2024-25 is indicated in the table below, based on the current planning of road safety campaigns, noting that directions may change to undertake a particular project:

Planned cost of media placements through Master Media Agency Panel	\$4,698,000
Planned cost of production through creative agencies	\$1,325,000
Total Road Safety Campaigns	\$6,023,000
Total planned campaigns for recruitment	\$997,566
Planned Functional advertising for recruitment	\$80,000
Digital and Communications (website) for Recruitment	\$20,000
Total Recruitment	\$1,097,566

GRANT PROGRAMS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

SAPOL has no grant program/funds for the 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27 financial years.

REMOTE WORK

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australia Police:

The budgeted expenditure for remote work infrastructure for the financial year 2024-25, and for previous years 2022-23 and 2023-24 is as follows:

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Expenditure on remote work infrastructure	\$1,347	\$1,022	\$1,424

The following assumption has been made in order to collate these figures:

- Remote Work Infrastructure defined as ICT costs relating to a SAPOL employee working external to their normal working environment

NOTE: costings are approximate.

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the State Emergency Service:

Since 1 July 2023, the following executive appointments were made.

Role Title	Classification
Director Corporate and Operations Support	EXEC0A

The total annual employment cost for these appointments is \$199,506 (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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the State Emergency Service:

Since 1 July 2023, there were no executive positions abolished.

Role Title	Classification
N/A	

The total annual employment cost for these abolished positions is nil (\$0.00).

EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the State Emergency Service:

There were no executive position terminations since 1 July 2023 and nil (\$0.00) costs were incurred.

CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the State Emergency Service:

As required by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet Circular PC013—Annual Reporting Requirements for 2022-24 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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the State Emergency Service:

The estimated total cost for engagement of consultants and contractors in 2024-25 is \$171,952 based on historical annual average cost incurred.

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 2024-25.

Consultancies	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
Nil		

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 2024-25.

Contractors	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
Nil		

GOODS AND SERVICES

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the State Emergency Service:

The budgeted expenditure on goods and services for the financial year 2024-25 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is as follows:

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total goods and services	10,897	10,915	11,042	11,149

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the State Emergency Service:

Table 1 shows the total budgeted FTE to provide communication and promotion activities for 2024-25 and the forward estimates:

Table 1: FTE employed in communication and promotion activities

Unit/Branch		2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Budget	2026-27 Budget	2027-28 Budget
Corporate Admin	FTE	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5
	\$m	0.295	0.299	0.304	0.309
TOTAL	FTE				
	\$m	0.295	0.299	0.304	0.309

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the State Emergency Service:

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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

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

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2024-25 Estimate \$000	2025-26 Estimate \$000	2026-27 Estimate \$000
SA State Emergency Service Volunteer Association (Expenditure)	Operating grant	99	101	104

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 \$
SA State Emergency Services	SA SES Volunteer Association	To advance the interests of the volunteer members of the SA State Emergency Services in accordance with the functions of the State Emergency Service.	99

REMOTE WORK

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the State Emergency Service:

The budgeted expenditure for remote work infrastructure for the financial year 2024-25, and for previous years 2022-23 and 2023-24 is as follows:

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Expenditure on remote work infrastructure	0	0	0

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission:

Since 1 July 2023, the following executive appointments were made.

Role Title	Classification
Director Finance, Chief Financial Officer	EXEC0A

The total annual employment cost for these appointments is \$199,506 (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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission:

Since 1 July 2023, there were zero executive positions abolished.

Role Title	Classification
N/A	

The total annual employment cost for these abolished positions is \$0.00 (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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission:

The total value of the termination payments was \$0.00 which excludes the value of accrued leave entitlements.

CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission:

As required by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet Circular PC013—Annual Reporting Requirements for 2022-24 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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission:

The estimated total cost for engagement of consultants and contractors in 2024-25 is \$65,000.

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 2024-24.

Consultancies	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
N/A		

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 2024-25.

Contractors	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
Bailey Abbott	To complete the architecture enhancement of the Emerald System	\$65,000

GOODS AND SERVICES

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission:

The budgeted expenditure on goods and services for the financial year 2024-25 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is as follows:

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total goods and services	8,483	7,686	7,613	7,750

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission:

Table 1 shows the total budgeted FTE to provide communication and promotion activities for 2024-25 and the forward estimates:

Table 1: FTE employed in communication and promotion activities

Unit/Branch		2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Budget	2026-27 Budget	2027-28 Budget
Alert SA	FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
	\$m	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.1

TOTAL	FTE	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
	\$m	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.1	\$0.1

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission:

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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

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

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2024-25 Estimate \$000	2025-26 Estimate \$000	2026-27 Estimate \$000
SAFECOM				
Disaster Risk Reduction Program (DRRP)	The Disaster Risk Reduction Program objective is to proactively reduce the risk and limit the impact of disasters associated with natural hazards			
Budgeted payments into the program or fund		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budgeted expenditure from the program or fund		\$1,215	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Flood Mitigation Infrastructure Program	The National Flood Mitigation Infrastructure Program supports projects to improve the existing and/or construction of new Flood Mitigation Infrastructure			
Budgeted payments into the program or fund		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budgeted expenditure from the program or fund		\$1,210	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coastal and Estuarine Risk Mitigation Program	To support long term resilience and sustainability by delivering priority projects that reduce the exposure to coastal and estuarine hazards on communities and economies.			
Budgeted payments into the program or fund		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budgeted expenditure from the program or fund		\$2,614	\$1,100	\$254
Disaster Ready Fund	Australian Government disaster resilience and risk reduction initiative which funds projects to support Australians manage the physical, social and economic impacts of disasters caused by climate change and other natural hazards.			
Budgeted payments into the program or fund		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2024-25 Estimate \$000	2025-26 Estimate \$000	2026-27 Estimate \$000
Budgeted expenditure from the program or fund		\$10,000	\$7,681	<input type="checkbox"/>
Surf Life Saving Club Grants	Grant of \$5,000 to 22 Surf Life Saving Clubs in South Australia to enable the upgrade of key rescue and emergency response equipment.			
Budgeted payments into the program or fund		\$110	\$110	\$110
Budgeted expenditure from the program or fund		\$110	\$110	\$110
Regional Capability Community Fund (Farm Firefighting Units grants)	Grant program to support the purchase of equipment to create farm firefighting units.			
Budgeted payments into the program or fund		\$500	\$500	\$500
Budgeted expenditure from the program or fund		\$500	\$500	\$500

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 \$
SAFECOM			
Portfolio Name (e.g. Premier and Cabinet, Arts etc)			
Disaster Risk Reduction Program (DRRP)	State and local governments, not-for-profit, non-government organisations, research institutions and business and community groups.	The Disaster Risk Reduction Program objective is to proactively reduce the risk, and limit the impact of disasters associated with natural hazards	Projects approved as per details on SAFECOM website
National Flood Mitigation Infrastructure Program	Local governments	The National Flood Mitigation Infrastructure Program supports projects to improve the existing and/or construction of new Flood Mitigation Infrastructure	Approved projects detailed on the National Emergency Management Agency website
Coastal and Estuarine Risk Mitigation Program	Local governments	To support long term resilience and sustainability by delivering priority projects that mitigate the impact of disasters on communities and economies.	Approved projects detailed on the National Emergency Management Agency website
Disaster Ready Fund	State and local governments, not-for-profit, non-government organisations, research institutions and business and community groups.	Australian Government disaster resilience and risk reduction initiative which funds projects to support Australians manage the physical, social and economic impacts of disasters caused by climate change and other natural hazards.	Approved projects detailed on the National Emergency Management Agency website
Surf Life Saving Club Grants	Surf Life Saving Clubs	Grant of \$5,000 to 22 Surf Life Saving Clubs in South Australia to enable the upgrade of key rescue and emergency response equipment.	\$110

Grant program/fund name	Beneficiary/Recipient	Purpose	Value \$
Regional Capability Community Fund (Farm Firefighting Units grants)	Approved farmers, farming businesses, land owners and Rural Community Groups	Grant program to support the purchase of equipment to create farm firefighting units.	\$500

The following table provides the requested information on grant program/funds under my responsibility for the 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27 financial years—administered:

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2024-24 Estimate \$000	2024-25 Estimate \$000	2025-26 Estimate \$000
SAFECOM				
Community Emergency Services Fund	Established to manage the Emergency Services Levy and disbursement of funds to support the Emergency Services Sector.			
Budgeted payments into the program or fund		\$390,780	\$405,693	\$402,421
Budgeted expenditure from the program or fund		\$395,291	\$405,893	\$402,421

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 \$
SAFECOM			
Community Emergency Services Fund	As per State Budget Papers and report to the Economic and Finance Committee	Provision of Emergency Services	As per budgeted payments

REMOTE WORK

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission:

The budgeted expenditure for remote work infrastructure for the financial year 2024-25, and for previous years 2022-23 and 2023-24 is as follows:

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Expenditure on remote work infrastructure	0	0	0

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Metropolitan Fire Service:

Since 1 July 2023, the following executive appointments were made.

Role Title	Classification
Deputy Chief Officer	EXECB
Chief Officer	EXECD
Executive Director	EXECA

The total annual employment cost for these appointments is \$820,208 (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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Metropolitan Fire Service:

Since 1 July 2023, there were zero executive positions abolished.

Role Title	Classification
N/A	

The total annual employment cost for these abolished positions is \$0.00 (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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Metropolitan Fire Service:

The total value of the termination payments was \$0.00 which excludes the value of accrued leave entitlements.

CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Metropolitan Fire Service:

As required by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet Circular PC013—Annual Reporting Requirements for 2022-24 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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Metropolitan Fire Service:

The estimated total cost for engagement of consultants and contractors in 2024-25 is \$2,688,170.

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 2024-24.

Consultancies	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
GHD Pty Ltd	PFAS Environmental Services	\$1,900,000
Martyn Campbell Consulting	Health Monitoring	\$30,000
DFB Public Safety Consulting	Regional Review	\$25,000

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 2024-25.

Contractors	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
Babcock Pty Ltd	Fleet Services	\$733,170

GOODS AND SERVICES

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Metropolitan Fire Service:

The budgeted expenditure on goods and services for the financial year 2024-25 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is as follows:

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Total goods and services	16,521	15,066	14,705	14,937

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Metropolitan Fire Service:

Table 1 shows the total budgeted FTE to provide communication and promotion activities for 2024-25 and the forward estimates:

Table 1: FTE employed in communication and promotion activities

Unit/Branch		2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Budget	2026-27 Budget	2027-28 Budget
MFS	FTE	2	2	2	2
	\$m	242,540	248,603	254,818	261,189
TOTAL	FTE	2	2	2	2
	\$m	242,540	248,603	254,818	261,189

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Metropolitan Fire Service:

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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Metropolitan Fire Service:

There were nil grant programs or funds that the minister is responsible for.

REMOTE WORK

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Metropolitan Fire Service:

The budgeted expenditure for remote work infrastructure for the financial year 2024-25, and for previous years 2022-23 and 2023-24 is as follows:

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Expenditure on remote work infrastructure	0	0	0

EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENTS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Country Fire Service:

Since 1 July 2023, there were no executive appointments made.

Role Title	Classification
N/A	

The total annual employment cost for these appointments is \$0 (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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Country Fire Service:

Since 1 July 2023, there were zero executive positions abolished.

Role Title	Classification
N/A	

The total annual employment cost for these abolished positions is \$0 (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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Country Fire Service:

The total value of the termination payments was \$0.00 which excludes the value of accrued leave entitlements.

CONSULTANTS AND CONTRACTORS

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Country Fire Service:

As required by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet Circular PC013—Annual Reporting Requirements for 2022-24 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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Country Fire Service:

The estimated total cost for engagement of consultants and contractors in 2024-25 is \$1,850 million.

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 2024-24.

Consultancies	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
GHD Pty LTD	Site assessments	\$1,200,000

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 2024-25.

Contractors	Purpose	Total Estimated Cost
Bureau of Meteorology	Embedded meteorologist	\$300,000
Various private contractors and personnel	Air operations support for the fire season	\$350,000

GOODS AND SERVICES

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Country Fire Service:

The budgeted expenditure on goods and services for the financial year 2024-25 and each of the years of the forward estimates period is as follows:

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000

	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28
Total goods and services	\$65,239	\$62,696	\$64,257	\$66,173

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Country Fire Service:

Table 1 shows the total budgeted FTE to provide communication and promotion activities for 2024-25 and the forward estimates:

Table 1: FTE employed in communication and promotion activities

Unit/Branch		2024-25 Budget	2025-26 Budget	2026-27 Budget	2027-28 Budget
CFS	FTE	0	0	0	0
	\$m	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	FTE	0	0	0	0
	\$m	0	0	0	0

In the previous financial year, CFS included figures for FTE and forward estimates. These figures were based on our misinterpretation that communication and promotion activities included public messaging and public information.

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Country Fire Service:

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 TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

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

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2024-25 Estimate \$000	2025-26 Estimate \$000	2026-27 Estimate \$000
SA Country Fire Service				
CFS Volunteer Association Base Grant*	Annual Grant for the CFS Volunteer Association	398	408	419
SA Volunteer Fire Fighting Museum Grant*	Grant to support and maintain the Volunteer Fire Fighting Museum	11		

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 \$
SA Country Fire Service			
CFS Volunteer Association Base Grant*	Statewide	As above	1,225
SA Volunteer Fire Fighting Museum Grant*	Statewide	As above	11

The following table provides the requested information on grant program/funds under my responsibility for the 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27 financial years—administered:

Grant program/fund name	Purpose of grant program/fund	2024-24 Estimate \$000	2024-25 Estimate \$000	2025-26 Estimate \$000
SA Country Fire Service				
As above	As above			

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 \$
SA Country Fire Service			
As above			

REMOTE WORK

In reply to **Mr TELFER (Flinders)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised that for the Country Fire Service:

The budgeted expenditure for remote work infrastructure for the financial year 2024-25, and for previous years 2022-23 and 2023-24 is as follows:

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Expenditure on remote work infrastructure	0	0	0

LEVEL CROSSING SAFETY STRATEGY

In reply to **the Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

The Department for Infrastructure and Transport has finalised the South Australian level crossing safety strategy, which is now in the approval stages, anticipated for release in the last quarter of 2024.

ROAD SAFETY

In reply to **the Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

The net cost of services in 2023-24 for road safety is estimated to be \$1million more than budgeted primarily due to:

- The decrease in income in the 2023-24 estimated result compared to the 2023-24 budget is primarily due to a decrease in donated road safety assets in 2023-24. This is reflected in the 'Resources received free of charge' line in the program summary.

The net cost of services in 2024-25 for road safety is \$12.8million more than estimated for 2023-24 primarily due to:

- additional expenditure associated with road safety initiatives including enhanced enforcement—speed and red light cameras
- mobile workforce transformation program
- digital police station
- increased multipurpose load bearing vests expenditure in 2024-25.

Partially offset by:

- A decrease in income in the 2024-25 budget compared to the 2023-24 estimated result due to the recognition of donated road safety assets in 2023-24.

STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE FLEET RENEWAL

In reply to **Mr ELLIS (Narungga)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

The vessel referred to in the budget papers relates to the provision of a new rescue vessel for the South Australian State Emergency Service (SASES) Ceduna unit under the SASES capital plan, which will result in enhanced marine response capabilities on the Far West Coast.

Regarding vessels operated by volunteer marine rescue (VMR) associations, of which there are currently six in South Australia, these are provided in accordance with the VMR vessel replacement program following a schedule endorsed by the VMR Council of SA.

The VMR Council of South Australia is a body comprising representation from the SASES (chair), the six VMR Associations and South Australia Police, and is a consultative forum to facilitate a collegiate approach to the administration of VMR services in South Australia.

This year the VMR vessel replacement program will facilitate the replacement of the rescue vessel and tow vehicle operated by the Copper Coast Flotilla of the South Australian Sea Rescue Squadron, to be located at their facility at Wallaroo. This vessel will provide the primary marine rescue capability to waters of mid-eastern Spencer Gulf and complement other government-funded rescue vessels operated by volunteers on Yorke Peninsula at Edithburgh, Port Broughton, Port Victoria and Port Vincent.

With respect to the Point Turton area, this is the ratified primary response area provided by one of the six VMR Associations, the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol (RVCP) who have their headquarters located in Port Victoria, where a government-funded rescue vessel and tow vehicle are housed. Both assets are contained within the VMR vessel replacement schedule.

It is recognised that the population of and visitation to the Point Turton area has been steadily increasing over time and that boating and aquatic activity has had a corresponding rise, which necessitates consideration of appropriate rescue services.

Due to its age and configuration, the RVCP Point Turton vessel has had restrictions placed upon it that limits its area of operation and may require more capable rescue vessels to travel from Port Victoria or Edithburgh. Neither the SASES nor the RVCP have the financial resources to fund the procurement of a new rescue vessel within current funding arrangements.

At the last meeting of the VMR council held in April 2024, the capability at Point Turton was raised and it was resolved that the SASES marine rescue manager will work with the RVCP to identify opportunities to support the Point Turton capability. That consultation is ongoing, and I have asked the SASES chief officer to keep me informed of developments.

STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE FLEET RENEWAL

In reply to **Mr PEDERICK (Hammond)** (25 June 2024). (Estimates Committee A)

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel—Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services, Special Minister of State): I have been advised:

Construction of the replacement vessel located at Wallaroo will commence during the 2024-25 financial year with an estimated construction time of nine to 12 months, subject to any unforeseen delays. Following completion, sea trials and acceptance, the new vessel will be 'commissioned' into service and the former vessel decommissioned.

It is currently anticipated that construction of the vessel to be located at Lonsdale will commence in the 2025-26 financial year and be completed within a 12-month construction envelope, at which time it will be 'commissioned' into service and the former vessel decommissioned, which is likely to be in the 2026-27 financial year.