

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
Wednesday, 2 April 2025

The SPEAKER (Hon. L.W.K. Bignell) took the chair at 10:30.

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

The SPEAKER read prayers.

Bills

STATUTES AMENDMENT (ASSAULTS ON POLICE OFFICERS) BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 5 March 2025.)

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (10:31): I move:

That this order of the day be postponed.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes24
 Noes.....15
 Majority9

AYES

Andrews, S.E.	Bettison, Z.L.	Boyer, B.I.
Brown, M.E.	Champion, N.D.	Clancy, N.P.
Close, S.E.	Cregan, D.R.	Dighton, A.E.
Fulbrook, J.P.	Hildyard, K.A.	Hood, L.P.
Hughes, E.J.	Hutchesson, C.L.	Koutsantonis, A.
Michaels, A.	Mullighan, S.C.	Odenwalder, L.K. (teller)
O'Hanlon, C.C.	Pearce, R.K.	Piccolo, A.
Savvas, O.M.	Stinson, J.M.	Szakacs, J.K.

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.	Batty, J.A. (teller)	Bell, T.S.
Brock, G.G.	Cowdrey, M.J.	Ellis, F.J.
Gardner, J.A.W.	McBride, P.N.	Patterson, S.J.R.
Pederick, A.S.	Pisoni, D.G.	Pratt, P.K.
Teague, J.B.	Telfer, S.J.	Whetstone, T.J.

PAIRS

Cook, N.F.	Tarzia, V.A.	Thompson, E.L.
Hurn, A.M.		

Motion thus carried; order of the day postponed.

*Parliamentary Procedure***VISITORS**

The SPEAKER: I would like to welcome to parliament this morning students from Glenunga International High School, who are guests of the member for Bragg. Welcome to parliament. Perhaps the group of students who come here at 2 o'clock might see a little bit more action. There is a bit of bell ringing that happens on the Wednesday morning as we have a few votes on things, but you will get to see that play out in your time here. I hope you enjoy your time in parliament today.

*Bills***PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES (ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE) AMENDMENT BILL***Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 10 April 2024.)

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (10:38): I move:

That this order of the day be postponed.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes	25
Noes.....	16
Majority	9

AYES

Andrews, S.E.	Bettison, Z.L.	Boyer, B.I.
Brown, M.E.	Champion, N.D.	Clancy, N.P.
Close, S.E.	Dighton, A.E.	Fulbrook, J.P.
Hildyard, K.A.	Hood, L.P.	Hughes, E.J.
Hutchesson, C.L.	Koutsantonis, A.	Michaels, A.
Mullighan, S.C.	Odenwalder, L.K. (teller)	O'Hanlon, C.C.
Pearce, R.K.	Piccolo, A.	Picton, C.J.
Savvas, O.M.	Stinson, J.M.	Szakacs, J.K.
Wortley, D.J.		

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.	Batty, J.A.	Bell, T.S.
Brock, G.G.	Cowdrey, M.J.	Cregan, D.R.
Ellis, F.J.	Gardner, J.A.W.	McBride, P.N.
Patterson, S.J.R.	Pederick, A.S.	Pisoni, D.G.
Pratt, P.K.	Teague, J.B. (teller)	Telfer, S.J.
Whetstone, T.J.		

PAIRS

Cook, N.F.	Tarzia, V.A.	Thompson, E.L.
Hurn, A.M.		

Motion thus carried; order of the day postponed.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY COMMISSIONER BILL*Second Reading*

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 28 August 2024.)

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (10:45): I move:

That this order of the day be postponed.

The house divided on the motion:

Ayes25

Noes.....16

Majority9

AYES

Andrews, S.E.

Brown, M.E.

Close, S.E.

Hildyard, K.A.

Hutchesson, C.L.

Mullighan, S.C.

Pearce, R.K.

Savvas, O.M.

Wortley, D.J.

Bettison, Z.L.

Champion, N.D.

Dighton, A.E.

Hood, L.P.

Koutsantonis, A.

Odenwalder, L.K. (teller)

Piccolo, A.

Stinson, J.M.

Boyer, B.I.

Clancy, N.P.

Fulbrook, J.P.

Hughes, E.J.

Michaels, A.

O'Hanlon, C.C.

Picton, C.J.

Szakacs, J.K.

NOES

Basham, D.K.B.

Brock, G.G.

Ellis, F.J.

Patterson, S.J.R.

Pratt, P.K.

Whetstone, T.J.

Batty, J.A.

Cowdrey, M.J.

Gardner, J.A.W. (teller)

Pederick, A.S.

Teague, J.B.

Bell, T.S.

Cregan, D.R.

McBride, P.N.

Pisoni, D.G.

Telfer, S.J.

PAIRS

Cook, N.F.

Hurn, A.M.

Tarzia, V.A.

Thompson, E.L.

Motion thus carried; order of the day postponed.

MINING (LAND ACCESS INQUIRY RECOMMENDATIONS) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 16 November 2022.)

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (10:50): I rise to close debate, I think, Mr Speaker. It is my understanding that the government is willing to have this vote on this bill after some three years of it being on the *Notice Paper*, and I am very much excited about it. It would be nice to have a little bit more enthusiasm for the result; nonetheless, it will be pleasing to see the votes cast on this bill after some years of languishing on the *Notice Paper*.

Members may recall that a select committee at the end of the last parliament formulated a series of recommendations that form the basis of this bill that has been before the parliament basically ever since. So there is a great deal of work that has gone into the construction of this bill, and I hope that work is rewarded with some positive votes when it comes time to cast them.

It was a topical issue at the time that select committee was formed, and it remains so today, not least because of the South-East rare earth minerals proposal that is currently being debated in

and around some of those South-East towns. It continues to be an issue which finds itself in the public consciousness.

I for one am of the firm belief, and have been for quite some time, that it is an issue that merits proper reform of the scheme that governs land access currently. It seems like the South Australian scheme is heavily weighted in favour of the miner. It leaves a farmer with very little opportunity for success when it comes to disputing contested land access, and I think that balance could be reformed slightly to provide a greater opportunity for our incumbent land users to secure the future of their production and to secure the future of their businesses to ensure that their profitable land use, which is making significant contribution to our economy, is rewarded and is allowed to continue going into the future.

This has been on the agenda for quite some time, arguably since well before the select committee was formed but inarguably since that select committee was formed and started its work and this private member's bill found its way onto the *Notice Paper*. It has been there ever since. It remains an issue at home. There are roads that are being moved around to enable the digging of a hole around Ardrossan, so it is very much in the public consciousness at home as those roads are being moved and cars are being slowed down on the highway to allow for that to be done safely.

In the unlikely event this does get voted down—and I have severe optimism that it will not, but in the unlikely event that it does—I would like to think that this will continue to be an issue that will be investigated. There are other states that do this far better than we do it here in South Australia, and I would like to think that if it were voted down the government and opposition might commit to ensuring that the proper consideration is given to imitating the schemes that operate in Queensland and NSW and implementing them in South Australia.

In Queensland in particular, the Regional Planning Interests Act I think is a tremendous body of work that needs the weight of bureaucracy behind it to conduct the analysis of different land uses and different parts of the state to apportion boundaries to the state's strategic cropping land, as they call it up there, to ensure that the hurdles over which a mining company must jump to achieve a mining tenement proposal are significantly higher in the greater or more profitable parts of the state.

So even if this fails today I will be seeking assurances from both parties that work is done to implement a scheme similar to what we find in Queensland here in South Australia, because this is not an issue that I think will go away in the short to medium term. We have the rare earth minerals proposal in MacKillop, which I think will continue to ensure that we have this on our agenda; we have roads being moved in my electorate to allow for a mine to be built, which I think will continue to make sure that it is on the agenda; and I will do my best to make this an election issue and ensure a better outcome for our constituents.

The house divided on the second reading:

Ayes5
 Noes.....36
 Majority31

AYES

Bell, T.S.
 Ellis, F.J. (teller)

Brock, G.G.
 McBride, P.N.

Cregan, D.R.

NOES

Andrews, S.E.
 Bettison, Z.L.
 Champion, N.D.
 Cowdrey, M.J.
 Gardner, J.A.W.
 Hughes, E.J.
 Michaels, A.

Basham, D.K.B.
 Boyer, B.I.
 Clancy, N.P.
 Dighton, A.E.
 Hildyard, K.A.
 Hutchesson, C.L.
 Mullighan, S.C.

Batty, J.A.
 Brown, M.E.
 Close, S.E.
 Fulbrook, J.P.
 Hood, L.P.
 Koutsantonis, A.
 Odenwalder, L.K. (teller)

O'Hanlon, C.C.
Pederick, A.S.
Pisoni, D.G.
Stinson, J.M.
Telfer, S.J.

Patterson, S.J.R.
Piccolo, A.
Pratt, P.K.
Szakacs, J.K.
Whetstone, T.J.

Pearce, R.K.
Picton, C.J.
Savvas, O.M.
Teague, J.B.
Wortley, D.J.

Second reading thus negatived.

Motions

ANZAC DAY

Ms O'HANLON (Dunstan) (11:04): I move:

That this house—

- (a) recognises that ANZAC Day, commemorated each year on 25 April, marks the anniversary of the first major military action by Australian and New Zealand forces in World War I;
- (b) pays its respects to the families of those ANZACs who tragically lost their lives during the Gallipoli campaign;
- (c) shows its gratitude to all Australian personnel who have served in defence of their country; and
- (d) remembers all Australians who have been injured or killed while serving.

I am honoured to speak today in support of this motion, which acknowledges the profound significance of ANZAC Day and the enduring legacy of those who have served our nation. Each year, on 25 April, Australians and New Zealanders pause to remember the anniversary of the Gallipoli landing in 1915. This event marked the first major military action undertaken by the ANZACs during World War I, a campaign that has since become synonymous with courage, resilience and sacrifice.

Although Gallipoli was not a military success, it forged an unbreakable spirit, a legacy that continues to shape our national identity. Gallipoli was a defining moment. It was a campaign that united a young nation in grief, in pride and in purpose. For many Australians at the time, it was their first experience of a global war. It was a trial by fire that saw the forging of an identity grounded in mateship, loyalty and unshakable resolve.

The ANZACs endured unimaginable hardship: rugged terrain, brutal conditions, constant shelling and staggering loss. Yet through it all, they displayed a level of camaraderie and humanity that would come to define the Australian spirit. As we reflect on the ANZACs who fought at Gallipoli, we must also remember the profound impact on those they left behind. Parents, siblings, partners and children bore the heavy weight of loss—grief that was deep and enduring. Families and communities united in sorrow created lasting memorials in churches, towns and cities to honour the fallen.

For the families of those who would return, the tyranny of distance added to their burden. News of their loved ones' fate often took months, sometimes years, to arrive. The uncertainty demanded extraordinary strength as they carried on with daily life, keeping families and communities together. In the midst of their worry, they did what they could to support the war effort: sending letters, care packages and messages of love. Their quiet acts of service, their patience and resilience sustained the morale of those overseas and helped shape our national character. Though often unheralded, their contributions were—and remain—essential to the ANZAC legacy.

Here in South Australia we are proud of our long and distinguished military tradition. More than 47,000 South Australians have served in our defence forces and for many of them and their families ANZAC Day carries deep personal meaning. Across the state, from city suburbs to regional towns, thousands of people will gather before sunrise on 25 April to honour the courage, dedication and loss that defines our nation's military history. On that day, we come together in solemn remembrance of not only the more than 103,000 Australians who have given their lives in service but also those who returned from conflict changed in body, mind or spirit. Their journey did not end with the war. It continued in the lives they rebuilt, the memories they carried and the silent burdens they bore.

This motion also calls upon us to show our gratitude to all Australian personnel who have served in defence of our country. From World War I to modern conflicts and peacekeeping missions, our service men and women have exemplified the highest values of duty, courage and sacrifice. Their commitment to protecting our freedoms and upholding international peace is a debt we can never fully repay but one we must always honour. I want to personally thank all those who have worn our uniform for their service. Whether full-time or as part of the reserves, your service keeps us safe, gives us a sense of pride and is essential to our country's future.

To that end, we also reflect on the contributions of the current generation of Australian service men and women who are deployed across the globe in our national interest. Around 120 Australian Defence Force personnel are currently deployed in Europe, training and mentoring Ukrainian soldiers as they defend their homeland against aggression. Other Australians are contributing to peacekeeping efforts, supporting partner nations and working in joint operations to enhance global security.

At sea, our naval vessels and crews play a vital role in maritime security, upholding freedom of navigation and supporting regional stability. In the air, our Royal Australian Air Force personnel are deployed on critical missions around the world, whether in surveillance, transport or strategic operations. Their dedication and professionalism reflect the highest traditions of the ANZACs and remind us that service is ongoing, not confined to our history books.

As a defence spouse myself, I want to take a moment to acknowledge the unique commitment and sacrifice of defence families and to reflect on the service of a close family friend, a comrade to my husband who is no longer with us. Warrant Officer Class Two Michael Craig was a special forces soldier who served our nation with distinction for nearly 25 years. Nearly eight years ago, he lost his life to an aggressive brain cancer, an illness that struck with the same intensity he had faced on the battlefield. Mick was part of the backbone of our Australian Defence Force. He is deeply missed by his wife, Carolyn, their two sons and his wider defence family.

Mick was a tough and compassionate leader. He returned time and again to highly dangerous combat zones in the Middle East, serving with courage, professionalism and an unwavering sense of duty. He never hesitated, never complained. He was driven by a quiet conviction, a belief in service, in doing what was right and in standing up for others. Formidable in combat and thoughtful in peace, Mick exemplified the values we honour on ANZAC Day. His legacy reminds us all to fight for the values we believe in, to stand firm in the face of challenge and to never take our freedoms for granted.

Whether facing personal adversity or standing alongside nations like Ukraine as they defend themselves against a brutal and illegal invasion, Australians have always stepped up. We do not turn away. We do not stand idly by. We show up with courage, with compassion and with an unshakable belief in a fair and just outcome. Doing nothing is never an option. For every deployed member, there is a family back home who has learnt to be resilient and self-reliant in their absence.

Deployments that last six to nine months are a common reality, and defence families carry that weight with strength and grace. Defence families are often the quiet force behind the uniform. They provide strength, stability and support, often while managing careers and parenting amid postings and deployments. They, too, deserve our deepest respect.

I want to acknowledge the evolving role of our defence forces in times of crisis beyond the battlefield. In recent weeks and months, we have seen the relief on the faces of people affected by flood. It was only in the last few years we felt the same sense of relief here in Australia as our troops stepped up to help in our own trials with bushfires.

Whether it is answering the call for help during flood, fire or pandemic or responding to international disasters, our personnel have stood ready to serve and protect both at home and abroad. Their versatility, compassion and professionalism in times of national emergency remind us that service comes in many forms, but it is always grounded in the same ANZAC values of courage, mateship and humanity.

We have all learnt much from the resilience, determination and compassion of those who served in World War I. The ANZACs showed us what it means to persevere in the face of adversity,

to look out for one another even in the harshest conditions and to uphold a sense of humanity amidst the devastation of war. Their values continue to inspire us today, reminding us of the strength found in unity and the importance of supporting those in need.

Moreover, the sacrifices of the ANZACs laid the foundations for our nation's success. Their bravery, resourcefulness and unwavering commitment to each other in times of crisis instilled values that have helped shape modern Australia. Their spirit of mateship, resilience and fairness became ingrained in our national character, influencing our approach to challenges both at home and abroad. The freedoms, democracy and opportunities we enjoy today were hard earned through their sacrifice, and it is our duty to uphold and honour that legacy.

As generations have passed, the responsibility of remembrance becomes ours. We must teach our children the meaning of ANZAC Day, not just as a moment of national pride but as a solemn commitment to peace, to gratitude and to one another. We must ensure that future Australians understand the cost of the freedoms they enjoy and carry forward the lessons learnt in war: that peace is precious, that courage is quiet and persistent and that sacrifice must never be forgotten.

This house remembers all Australians who have been injured or killed while serving. Whether on the battlefield or in humanitarian missions, their sacrifice has shaped the nation we live in today. The physical and psychological scars borne by our veterans are a solemn reminder of the cost of war, and it is our responsibility to ensure they receive the support, respect and care they deserve.

ANZAC Day is not just a date in history: it is a living commemoration of the values that define us as Australians. It is time to renew our collective pledge: to honour the past, to care for our veterans, and to strive for peace in the future. In supporting this motion, I hope we reaffirm our commitment to remembrance, gratitude, and the ongoing care of those who have served. Lest we forget.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (11:15): I rise to commend and second the motion from the member for Dunstan in regard to ANZAC Day and its vital commemoration in this state and our country. I note that the member for Dunstan moved:

That this house—

- (a) recognises that ANZAC Day, commemorated each year on 25 April, marks the anniversary of the first major military action by Australian and New Zealand forces in World War I;
- (b) pays its respects to the families of those ANZACs who tragically lost their lives during the Gallipoli campaign;
- (c) shows its gratitude to all Australian personnel who have served in defence of their country; and
- (d) remembers all Australians who have been injured or killed while serving.

Each year on 25 April we commemorate ANZAC Day. On this day Australians and New Zealanders mark the service and sacrifice of their armed forces and remember their fallen. ANZAC stands for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, and the soldiers in these forces soon became known to others as the ANZACs. The soldiers took great pride in that name, and ANZAC Day allows that pride to continue.

The 25th of April was an important day during the First World War as it was the first landing by ANZAC soldiers on the beaches of Gallipoli and the start of the Gallipoli campaign in 1915. As part of that effort, Australia sided with other commonwealth countries during World War I, and in 1915 an expedition set out to capture the Gallipoli Peninsula. Thousands of Australian and New Zealand soldiers were part of the expedition that landed in Gallipoli on 25 April.

The soldiers were met by fierce resistance from the Ottoman Turkish defenders, and what they thought was a cunning plan to get the upper hand on Turkish forces ended up becoming a stalemate that dragged on for eight months. Both sides suffered heavy casualties during that time, and at the end of 1915 the stalemate finally culminated when allied forces evacuated from the peninsula. More than 8,000 Australian soldiers lost their lives during the Gallipoli campaign, which had a profound impact on Australians back home.

ANZAC Day commemorations were first held in 1916 in numerous locations around the world. In the 1920s it was established as a national day of commemoration for the 60,000 plus Australians who lost their lives at war, and on 25 April 1927 every state observed some form of public

holiday for the first time as a commemoration. Following the Second World War, ANZAC Day also served to commemorate the 39,656 Australians who lost their lives fighting with the allied powers. Later on, the day was broadened to include those who lost their lives in all the military and peacekeeping operations Australia took part in.

The first ANZAC Day commemoration at the Australian War Memorial was in 1942, and there have been services held there ever since. ANZAC Day services are held at dawn because of the timing of the landings on the Gallipoli Peninsula.

Certainly, as a member of a family who have had service personnel being part of our allied forces in World War I, World War II, Korea, Malaya, Rwanda—which was peacekeeping and then was changed up to active service a few years down the track—and Iraq, I have had a close association with family members over that period of time.

Some of my most treasured mementos are some letters. Sadly, some got lost after being stored in a shed where vermin got into them, but I have some treasured letters from a great uncle and his mate who were serving in the Somme in World War I, and I have actually got the originals up in my office. It is amazing the messages that came back from the front.

Our service men and women put their hands up for the Boer War—which obviously was before World War I—and for World War I, of course, and all the conflicts and all the service and the service beyond that, and there is no greater gift for those of us at home than for people to put their hand up for their nation knowing that they may have to give their life.

I truly commend all those who have served. They have to put up with the political whims of the day. I have witnessed when political decisions change things rather rapidly. My brother was sent home from Townsville once for four days, which happens before a peacekeeping mission or active service, to go to Vanuatu. As I said, he had come home from Townsville to Coomandook and was sitting there with the family and having his days of just being with us before he left, and I knew that Tobruk was being loaded with supplies.

Next thing, it was all called off, and it was interesting watching the news and the minister at the time said, 'No, we are not going to Vanuatu,' and I thought, 'Well, that is a little bit odd because my brother has been flown a long way and he is sitting next to me.' But that is what happens and sometimes we see some terrible outcomes with some of the political decisions and some of the things that happen, especially when our troops are returned from service.

I reflect on our returning soldiers, especially from the Vietnam War, who had a pretty terrible reception when they came home, and a lot of them in the end had to come home in civilian clothes for their own protection, which is terrible when you think these people had been overseas to protect our country, and the lives of us at home and our future.

As I said, there is no greater gift than all those who have served, and people keep putting their hand up, and in these times of heightened uncertainty we certainly need all those across the fields of service, whether it is the Army, Air Force or Navy, to put their hand up. Whether they are full-time or reservists, they are all equal when it comes to action stations, and I truly treasure that service.

What I do not treasure is misleading reports by media, like the ABC, fabricating stories to hurt our veterans and serving members. I think it is absolutely appalling when media stories are fabricated and it strikes right at the heart of the people who are standing up to defend our country. One comment I will make in regard to that is it is pretty easy for people to be armchair warriors and to be critical, but are they ever on the frontline witnessing what is actually happening instead of being comfortable in their homes that are protected by our service men and women, and then literally fabricating stories around what our defence personnel have had to deal with overseas? It has a shocking impact on our personnel and our veterans.

I have met many veterans as the shadow minister for veterans affairs. A lot of rotations have had to be our special forces soldiers. These are the elite of the elite and you know that they are trained to the utmost degree. I have seen the readiness of training in soldiers before they go overseas: they are ready, whatever rank they are serving. But to see them now, after they have done

up to 10 rotations in quick succession with not much time at home and having suffered the impact of being in conflict and essentially being blown up at times, they are paying a massive price.

I take my hat off to all those who serve. We will never fully understand the full outcome of post-traumatic stress disorder. Sadly, we lose too many people who have served to suicide and we must keep working to make sure that we can try to quell that situation. To all our service men and women, I just say: thank you.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Stuart) (11:25): I, along with the member for Hammond, stand to support this motion by the member for Dunstan. ANZAC Day is a national day of remembrance in Australia and New Zealand that broadly commemorates all Australians and New Zealanders who served and died in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations and the contribution and suffering of those who have served.

Observed on 25 April every year, ANZAC Day was originally devised to honour the members of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (ANZAC) who served at the Gallipoli campaign, their first engagement in the First World War. ANZAC Day marks the anniversary of the first campaign that led to major casualties for the Australian and New Zealand troops during the First World War. ANZAC commemorations have suited political purposes from 1915, when the first ANZAC Day marches were held in London and Australia. These were very much around trying to get more people to sign up for the war in 1916 to 1918.

In 1915, Australian and New Zealand soldiers formed part of an allied expedition that set out to capture the Gallipoli Peninsula in the Ottoman Empire to open the way to the Black Sea for the allied navies. The objective was to capture Constantinople, the capital of the Ottoman Empire, which was a member of the central powers during the war there. The ANZAC forces landed at Gallipoli on 25 April, meeting fierce resistance from the Ottoman army. What had been planned as a solid, bold strike to knock the Ottomans out of the war quickly became a stalemate and the campaign dragged on for nearly eight months.

At the end of 1915, the allied forces were evacuated from both sides and had suffered heavy casualties and endured great hardships. The allied deaths totalled over 56,000, including 8,709 from Australia and 2,721 from New Zealand. News of the landing at Gallipoli made a profound impact on the Australians and New Zealanders at home, and 25 April quickly became the day on which they remembered the sacrifice of those who had died in the war. Though the Gallipoli campaign failed to achieve the military objectives of capturing Constantinople and knocking the Ottoman Empire out of the war, the actions of the Australian and New Zealand troops during the campaign bequeathed an intangible but powerful legacy.

The creation of what became known as the ANZAC legend became an important part of the national identity for both countries. This has shaped the way in which our citizens have viewed both their past and their understanding of the present. The heroism of the soldiers in the failed Gallipoli campaign made their sacrifices iconic in New Zealand memory and is often credited with securing the psychological independence of the nation. On 30 April 1915, when the first news of the landing reached New Zealand, a half-day holiday was declared and impromptu services were held.

The date of 25 April was officially named ANZAC Day in 1916. In that year, it was marked by a wide variety of ceremonies and services in Australia, New Zealand and also London. In New Zealand, it was gazetted as a half-day holiday. An unnamed London newspaper reportedly dubbed them the 'Knights of Gallipoli'. Marches were held all over Australia, and wounded soldiers from Gallipoli attended the Sydney march in convoys of cars, accompanied by nurses.

For the remaining years of the war, ANZAC Day was used on occasions for patriotic rallies and recruiting campaigns, and marches of serving members of the AIF were held in most cities. From 1916 onwards, in both Australia and New Zealand, ANZAC memorials were held on or about 25 April, mainly organised by returned servicemen and schoolchildren in cooperation with the local authorities. Early morning services were solemn, with a more upbeat tone set for honouring returned soldiers during afternoon activities.

As the member for Hammond has indicated, Australian troops did not return to great victory parades at the end of the war. This was partly because their arrival home depended on available

shipping, but also because of the influenza epidemic of 1919, which prevented people assembling in large numbers. The 1919 Sydney parade was cancelled as a result, but a public commemorative service was held where participants were required to wear masks and stand three feet apart.

With the coming of the Second World War, ANZAC Day became a day on which to commemorate the lives of Australians and New Zealanders that were lost in that war, as well as in substantial wars. The meaning of the day has further broadened to include those killed in all military operations in which the countries have been involved. ANZAC Day was first commemorated at the Australian War Memorial in 1942, but due to government orders preventing large public gatherings in case of a Japanese air attack, it was a small affair and was neither a march nor a memorial service. ANZAC Day has been annually commemorated at the Australian War Memorial ever since.

In Port Pirie, we have commemorated not only ANZAC Day but all other engagements by establishing memorials along the whole length of Memorial Drive. We can acknowledge and remember those who made the great sacrifice so that we can enjoy the freedom and lifestyle that we enjoy today.

My late brother served two terms in Vietnam. My late dad served in the Second World War in Papua New Guinea and along the trail. Four of my uncles served in the Second World War, and my younger brother served some time in the Defence Force, but he did not continue with it. My late brother, Peter, spent about 23 years in the Defence Force, serving not only two terms in Vietnam but also as an attaché to Darwin and also to Canberra. Whilst I have had the great privilege of my family being there, I also did probably about nine years in the Army Reserve. In that period of time I was able to learn a lot about myself but also about other people in particular.

I will mention this: during my brief time as the Minister for Veterans Affairs prior to my heart attacks, I thought I understood the everlasting trauma that survivors and their families may have had, but I certainly was not fully aware of some of the long-lasting emotions, which are invisible to the general public, that have been part of those families from many, many years ago. I had the opportunity to listen to the widows who have lost their sons, their fathers or their husbands in a war. No-one would listen to them, or lend them their ear to be able to talk about it. I had the emotional opportunity to individually have some of those mothers, widows, in my office and hear some of the trauma and the heartbreaking stories that they were telling. I did not have to say anything but I just sat there and listened. I also learnt a lot about some of the things that we in our communities and the public do not talk about.

As I mentioned earlier, I cannot express enough my gratitude to all those who made the ultimate sacrifice, not only the original sacrifice but all those from the past and the current serving ADF people and anybody who has any role in the Defence Force whatsoever. These people dedicate their services to protect our future generations to come.

One of the things we take for granted is that we have a great lifestyle here in Australia and in the Western world. We have lots of challenges. As I said earlier, I cannot express enough my gratitude to the people who volunteer or enlist in the armed forces—the Air Force, the Navy or the Army—or in the associated activities, but also to their families, their children, their relatives and their friends, I say thank you.

While we see lots of challenges in the world today, we are a very fortunate nation, we are a free nation, and we have these people who made the sacrifice, not only in Gallipoli but in all the wars, to thank for us being where we are today. We have had invasions on our own soil. We are an isolated community, but today everything is fine. But, again, I express my gratitude to those people who did that and to the grieving relatives and families of those who did not survive. Lest we forget.

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Local Government, Minister for Veterans' Affairs) (11:34): It is a great privilege to rise today to speak to this motion. In doing so I recognise and thank members who have made contributions so far in the chamber today: the member for Hammond, the member for Stuart—a former Minister for Veterans Affairs himself—and the mover, the member for Dunstan.

I thank each of them individually for their demonstrated commitment to veterans and their families through various roles that they have professionally and personally undertaken, but also I

thank each of them for, in this place, sharing their own personal family stories of service, from your loved ones to your friends, the most precious people in your lives. Thank you for sharing those stories in this place. Those stories are important and there is a critical commitment we must make—as a government, a parliament, a community—to ensure that those stories, no matter their form or shape or when they were told, continue to be told.

I do not seek to restate the very important and meaningful contributions members have made today. What I would like to say, though, is this: the best demonstration of our commitment to ANZAC Day, the best demonstration we make as a community to ANZAC Day—to the veterans who have served, those who have lost their lives in service and those who have lost their lives because of their service—is through our actions. My call-out to the community is clear: make this ANZAC Day one that you commit to be at. Make this ANZAC Day, if it must be, the first dawn service you have attended, whether it be parents, grandparents or children who are just old enough to provide that persuasive and telling argument to their caregivers and friends. Get along to your local dawn service.

There are dawn services well supported by the RSL and other community organisations and very well supported by members of this house. That is a very clear demonstration that you can make of your support for the lasting memories of our ANZACs. In my local community, on ANZAC Day eve the Seaton Park RSL holds a very important memorial at St Clair and then a dawn service at the RSL at Seaton Park. It is one of the casualties of being the Minister for Veterans Affairs that I am not able to attend my local dawn service, because I will be with many others in this place attending the dawn service here in the city, but a special shout-out to the Seaton Park RSL for the commitment and work they undertake each and every year.

My plea to the community is clear: get along, support the memories of ANZACs by getting to your local dawn service. It is moving, it is poignant, it is important, because we must keep those stories alive. We must demonstrate our commitment to the lasting memory of our ANZACs and to each and every person who has served, who does serve and will serve in the future, and we must do it through actions, through a commitment and, if it must be, make this ANZAC Day the first on which you demonstrate that commitment. Thank you, and thank you to members who have contributed today. Lest we forget.

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (11:39): I am honoured to rise in support of this motion moved by the member for Dunstan and seconded by the member for Hammond, and that I am sure will enjoy the support of the whole house. I am also honoured to follow on from the member for Stuart's contribution, referring as he did to the community that he represents. I am reminded and moved that it was my great grandfather, Arch, who built the First World War memorial at Pirie, which still stands proudly there, alongside now the memorial for the Second World War.

As we look at both built memorials and the response of community on ANZAC Day—also on Remembrance Day—I think we can be confident in the knowledge that we remember them, we commemorate and we do not forget. In many ways, I think as the events of 1915 become more and more distant from that immediate and raw loss that was felt in communities, particularly small communities, back home, the shock and devastation of such massive losses, we are both reverent in our commemoration and, as members who have contributed to this debate have highlighted, also still feel and empathise with those who have been lost since and those who continue to suffer as a result of conflict and of military action.

In reflecting in the course of this debate, I also want to pay particular tribute to the former president of the Stirling RSL, John Thomas, whom we have lost since last ANZAC Day. He will be missed, particularly by members of the Stirling RSL, when we commemorate ANZAC Day at Stirling. John was much loved by his family and by the broader community, and he is held in the highest regard by the Stirling RSL. His service to community extended far beyond the RSL. He was a very significant contributor to all that we value highly in our local community, and I say vale John Thomas.

It was relatively early on for me, when having the chance to speak in support of Premier Marshall's motion to the parliament in November 2018, that I recalled having represented the Premier at the then freshly unveiled memorial at the Stirling Coventry Library that had occurred just a few weeks prior. John Thomas was central to the work that was necessary to bring that memorial to

fruition, and that stands now at the centre of Stirling. We know now, as young primary school students all the way through to the elderly members of the community attend, that we will continue to honour their memories.

I also want to pay particular tribute to Dennis Oldenrove, who is the long-time president of the Macclesfield RSL and a true community leader in every sense. He has led an RSL that, unlike so many whose numbers across Adelaide and across the state we know have dwindled in recent years, is an RSL that is growing, not only in its physical form but in terms of its membership and its outreach in the community, and Dennis does an extraordinary job as a community leader.

I very much encourage anyone who is able to attend the traditional evening service at Macclesfield that Dennis leads, which occurs just prior to ANZAC Day. It is a truly extraordinary special event. It takes over the main street of Macclesfield as people gather outdoors for that twilight service prior to ANZAC Day.

There are so many places throughout the hills of Heysen that will be joining to commemorate ANZAC Day. As I said at the commencement of these remarks, that really demonstrates that the nature of the losses that were felt, particularly in the first war, were losses to the core of small communities that remain small communities today. As one reflects on multiple family members who were lost in a small town, it is no wonder that those built memorials were established so soon after the war.

The loss and damage that was felt was very much the loss of small towns and small communities, and it is still keenly felt throughout the Hills, none more so than at Clarendon. There are several members of the house who have been present at Clarendon's ANZAC Day memorial, which traditionally occurs at midmorning as the sun is well and truly up, and it usually is at its most bright and clear and crisp at that point. It is a warm and thankful commemoration that comes following so many dawn services throughout the Hills.

It is truly moving and, as each one is in its own way, demonstrative of our communities' deeply felt thankfulness for those who served and for those in particular who paid the ultimate sacrifice. Lest we forget.

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (11:47): I proudly rise to contribute to this important motion that reflects on, pays respect to and also passes on a tradition to younger Australians of what those service men and women did to give us our freedoms that we enjoy today. April 25 is a historic celebration. It is a day when I think every Australian should stand proud and reflect on what ANZAC Day means and what it has demonstrated to many generations that have come and gone over the course of time. It is also an important day that we remember and, as I said, respect.

If I look across my electorate of Chaffey, in more ways than one it was set up for returned service personnel. Blocks of land were set up to give those returned service personnel an opportunity in life. It was an opportunity for them to come home to an anchor point, because many came back under stressful circumstances, some with life experiences that had changed them forever. The blocks of land were there to help the returned servicemen mend and get on with life's journey. As we know, many thousands of people across the Riverland and Mallee left their fruit blocks and their families behind, and some never returned to see their loved ones. Those service men and women showed the strength, courage, determination, endurance, mateship and bravery that we all acknowledge today.

It is an important time on ANZAC Day, I think, for everyone to attend a service as a sign of respect, as a good Samaritan and as a good Australian to give a level of acknowledgement for those who served our country. The services are an important opportunity for many of us as representatives of our electorates, whether it be a metropolitan service in Adelaide or a regional service.

There are many different types and sizes of services that people attend, particularly in regional settings. I know that the member for Hammond, myself and the member for Stuart have a number of very small and personal services that we like to attend—whether it is on the day, an evening service the night before, a dawn service, a morning service, a mid-morning service or part of some of the events that will run throughout the day—as a gesture of goodwill to show how we will remember them.

There will be 15 services across my electorate. I always attempt to attend as many as I can, but the tyranny of distance is always against me, as it is for many regional MPs. I want to pay tribute to all of the towns that do it. There are those that do not do it every year because of challenges with volunteers and alternate services, but Barmera, Blanchetown, Bowhill, Cadell, Loxton, Mantung, Morgan, Moorook, Karoonda, Renmark, Sanderston, Sedan, Swan Reach, Waikerie and Walker Flat will hold services, as I understand it. I will not be speeding from one to the next, but I will be attending Barmera, Waikerie, Morgan and Renmark. They are important and it is important as the local MP and as a representative that I do attend.

I want to also pay tribute to some of the presidents of the RSLs: Paul Croft in Waikerie, Peter Higgs in Renmark, Chris Ware in Berri, Rob Manuel in Loxton, Bob Deidre in Swan Reach, John Forrester in Morgan, Jim Rolfe in Barmera and Kym Parry in Blanchetown, to name a few. I will be acknowledging returned servicemen at a significant RSL dinner at Loxton. Of course, Howard Hendrick OAM is a living legend and has been regarded as one of Australia's greats. He is over 100 years old. He flew 30 successful missions in Europe in a Lancaster bomber and he continues to be sprightly. He attends the coffee shop most days, still reads books without glasses and always has a joke to tell whenever I run into him.

There are many opportunities. As I said, there will always be breakfasts, there will always be a little bit of two-up and there will always be the coming together of communities. Karoonda is having quite a special day: they are having a storytelling projection on the Karoonda silos. For anyone who has passed through Karoonda, it is silo art with a difference. There are some painted murals on the silos, but they also have a projector that has moving artwork that I think is quite unique and is something that every person should experience when coming close to Karoonda. That digital showcase shares stories of World War I veterans from the Karoonda East Murray area. There were approximately 170 soldiers from that area who took part in campaigns; they were assigned to around 40 divisions or battalions.

It is a day that we show respect. It is a day that we attend those ceremonies. It is a day that we stand proud as an Australian for those who fought and gave us our freedoms of today.

The SPEAKER (11:54): Before I call the member for Colton, I would like to add my quick thoughts on this as well and commend the motion. I thank all those who are involved in putting on ANZAC Day celebrations in the electorate of Mawson, and I thank all those who have served our nation over the years.

I would like to place on the record that I think one of the most poignant dawn services I have been to was on the Western Front, on the centenary of ANZAC Day at Villers-Bretonneux. The words on the war memorial there are:

To the glory of God and in memory of the Australian Imperial Force in France and Flanders, 1916-1918, and of eleven thousand who fell in France and have no known grave.

I think when you retrace the steps of those people who went before us, who went to a foreign land and fought for the future of not only our country but other countries as well, it is very poignant indeed.

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (11:55): I rise today to speak in support of the motion brought to the house this morning by the member for Dunstan. As I reflect every year when a motion of a similar nature is brought to the house, the importance of ANZAC Day never diminishes, year on year. It is a special occasion this year when we celebrate the 110th anniversary of the landing at Gallipoli. As we get further and further from those events, the importance, as I mentioned, has never really diminished.

It is something that has been reflected on in this chamber before, but the 100th anniversary, in particular of the Gallipoli landing, was a point in time when in some ways we saw an increase in attention towards ANZAC Day, particularly at that time by our younger generation, who were potentially getting to know the circumstances of the Gallipoli landing and the sacrifice that was made on that day by so many ANZACs.

I think for that generation it really brought home both the proximity and age of many of those people who sacrificed their lives on the day and also the importance of the work that our armed services do more generally, whether it was in World War I or World War II or in the subsequent

conflict has come since then for those who have served in active duty or those who serve in our services more broadly. There are many of us in this house who have connections, through family, friends and others, to both those who have sacrificed their lives and those who have served in the forces in some way, shape or form over the years. So I want to commend the member for bringing the motion to the house.

As we approach ANZAC Day 2025, I want to extend the invitation of the Henley & Grange RSL to all members of our community to attend the 2025 dawn service and pay your respects. The service will again be held at the Soldiers' Memorial on Seaview Road at Henley Beach at 6.30am.

This year, to commemorate the 110th anniversary since Gallipoli, and with the support of the Henley and Grange Surf Life Saving clubs, a special nod will be made to the Gallipoli landing. Cadets will land via boat before joining the catafalque party and marching to the Soldiers' Memorial. In this place before, I have brought attention to the special significance of a service being held so close to the coast, where you can hear waves lapping as the crowd sits in silent reflection. The Gallipoli landing is often not far from front of mind during those times when we do reflect.

The service will again feature Ben Ford-Davies, who provided a fantastic performance on his acoustic guitar last year. Breakfast has been donated by a couple of local businesses, so I just want to acknowledge those: the Henley Square Foodland and Crestcut Meat. The breakfast will be cooked by RSL volunteers in the Rotary Club of Henley Beach and will be served by members of the Bendigo Community Bank West Beach.

We will also have artwork from local children displayed at the community centre—the newly opened community centre—behind the Soldiers' Memorial that is on the corner of Seaview Road. A rum and coffee station will be there, sponsored by local hotels, as always, and two-up will commence later in the day. But I encourage everybody to get along, to take part and to be there for what is the 110th commemoration of the Gallipoli landing.

I thank all those who will volunteer on the day, both from the RSL and from local businesses, and I thank again the great work of Malcolm Whitford, the President of the Henley and Grange RSL, and his other board members for their continued work to put on this dawn service for our community. Lest we forget.

Mr BATTY (Bragg) (12:00): I rise to speak in support of this motion commemorating ANZAC Day. It is an opportunity for this house to rightly acknowledge and rightly remember all of those who are serving our country or who have served our country and in particular to remember those who have made that ultimate sacrifice and given their lives in service of our country: not just the more than 60,000 Australians who died in the Great War but all of those who have died in various theatres of war since then.

We often talk about 60,000 people dying in the Great War or 39,000 dying in World War II, and it is easy to reduce this to just numbers, but I think we need to remember these are people with stories behind them. These are people who were leaving behind mothers and fathers in many instances, sons and daughters in many instances, and it is right that we remember them. It is right that we acknowledge the ultimate sacrifice that they made and also, I think, acknowledge their work in creating a national identity for Australia. It is not just a tale of loss and sacrifice that we remember today; in that hardship I think was also the crucible of our Australian national identity and so many values that we hold dear today, like courage, mateship and determination. Over 100 years later, these ring just as true today for Australians and South Australians. So it is right that we never forget.

In particular I want to acknowledge some local services that will be occurring in and around my electorate in the eastern suburbs to commemorate ANZAC Day and to invite members of our local community to come along to one of these dawn services to pay their respects. There are three in particular I wanted to mention. The first is a dawn service being held by the Friends of Rose Park Memorial. This is a service in conjunction with the City of Burnside, taking place at the Rose Park War Memorial, which is a particularly striking memorial, particularly at a dawn service. That commences at 6.15am, and I will have the honour of laying a wreath at that service.

As well as that, the Kensington Park RSL will be holding a dawn service at their clubrooms on The Parade in Kensington Park. That service will commence at 6.30am, and I would invite

members of our local community to attend that. The other service that will be taking place in our local community is in Linden Park, where the Burnside RARA will be conducting a dawn service at their premises at Beatty Street, commencing at 6am, to which I would also invite those residents who live in and around Beatty St and Linden Park to come along and pay their respects.

I also note that the RARA will be hosting a service the day before ANZAC Day at the Regis Aged Care, which I will be attending. It is a great opportunity for those residents at Regis Aged Care in Linden Park to be able to pay their respects for ANZAC Day. I commend this motion to the house. Lest we forget.

Mrs HURN (Schubert) (12:04): I, too, rise in full support of the motion put forward by the member for Dunstan. I think it is right that all sides of parliament, and indeed all members, take the opportunity to reflect on what we are commemorating on ANZAC Day and that, of course, has been touched on through the many contributions.

We recognise and commemorate ANZAC Day on 25 April. It marks the anniversary of the first military action by Australian and New Zealand forces in World War I, and through this motion we pay respects to the families of those ANZACs who tragically lost their lives during the Gallipoli campaign. It is important that we do show gratitude to all Australian personnel who have served in the defence of our country and that we remember all Australians who have been injured or killed whilst serving.

There are so many fantastic RSLs in my local community of Schubert, both in the Barossa Valley and in the northern part of the Adelaide Hills. Even those communities that do not have dedicated RSLs have community groups that are really focused on ensuring that the locals in the community can come out at dawn and pay their respects. I will be trying to head to as many of the services that we have across the community as I can. Last year, I believe I laid a wreath at the Nuriootpa RSL, and I am looking forward to paying my respects there in some way, shape or form again this year.

On ANZAC Day it is important that we not only recognise the Gallipoli campaign but also reflect on the thousands of men and women who have served to protect our nation and who are currently serving overseas. Particularly when we look at the current geopolitical climate, now more than ever I think it is important that we recognise all those people who are fighting to protect Australia's national interests. It is really incumbent that we support them in every way possible.

Every local community has their own special unique way of recognising our fallen soldiers. Whether it is the Angaston memorial, whether it is in Houghton, One Tree Hill, and everything in between, it is so important that we give people in our local communities the opportunity to pay their respects. So to all the volunteers who are putting in so much time at the moment to pull these commemorations together I say a really big thankyou. They are volunteers who put in so many countless hours: from the breakfasts to encouraging the local schools and sporting groups to coordinate laying a wreath.

It is always particularly moving to see the young schoolkids involved in commemorating ANZAC Day and coming out at dawn when I am sure they are usually tucked up in bed. It gives me hope—and I suppose it gives hope to everyone in this place—that we are seeing that next generation continuing to honour all those who have served our nation and are continuing to do so. Lest we forget. I am looking forward to commemorating with the many RSL clubs and, indeed, community groups right across my region on 25 April.

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (12:08): I rise to commend the member for Dunstan for her motion recognising the significance of ANZAC Day, an occasion that continues to unite Australians in remembrance of the courage, dedication and sacrifice of our service men and women. Last year's dawn service in Mount Gambier drew a crowd of over 6,000 people, a testament to the enduring respect and gratitude that our community holds for those who have served. It was particularly heartwarming to see so many young people in attendance, reflecting the important role that schools, educators and families play in preserving the ANZAC legacy.

Current RSL President Bob Sandow is a strong believer in the importance of including our next generation in ANZAC ceremonies, ensuring that schools play a vital role in keeping these

traditions alive. Our local RSL museum sees hundreds of students visit each year, who are then guided through exhibitions by dedicated volunteers to gain a deeper understanding of the history of our armed forces. One of those schools is Reidy Park Primary School. Last year, they participated in Kapyong Day, held annually on 24 April to commemorate the Battle of Kapyong, a significant engagement during the Korean War, by placing white crosses under the lone pine at Vansittart Park Soldiers Memorial in preparation for ANZAC Day. They also laid a wreath at the dawn service.

Another local school, McDonald Park School, dedicates the two weeks leading up to ANZAC Day to learning about its significance. Their main reading explores the history and experiences of the Australian serviceman. It is so important that these discussions and activities take place to give students a deeper understanding of the significance of the day and its importance to who we are as a country.

The 2024 ANZAC Day service also saw Tenison Woods College captain Bree Robinson deliver the ANZAC speech, a tradition that will continue this year with Tenison's new school captain carrying out the honour. Additionally, representatives from 14 of our local schools will be present to lay wreaths at the service, ensuring that younger generations remain actively engaged in honouring our veterans. The midmorning service will continue this tradition of participation with Army, Air Force, CFS and St John cadets marching alongside veterans. This year, Mount Gambier High School's captain will read the ANZAC speech and a further eight schools will lay wreaths at the memorial, reinforcing the commitment of our local youth to remembering those who have served.

Another local tradition that has continued to grow over the years is the ANZAC Day clash between North Gambier and South Gambier in the Limestone Coast Football Netball League. For more than a decade, the teams have met on ANZAC Day, with the best-on-ground footballer awarded the Tony Casadio ANZAC Day Medal. Tony was a Mount Gambier resident who joined the Australian Navy as a helicopter pilot and was deployed to Vietnam in 1967, where he was awarded the US Distinguished Flying Cross before he was tragically killed in the line of duty. The A-grade netball best-on-court player is awarded the Shirley Underwood OAM ANZAC Day Medal, honouring Shirley's service in the Women's Royal Australian Army Corps, which she joined as a 19 year old in 1950.

These traditions, whether through education, commemorative services or sporting events, ensure that the spirit of ANZAC remains strong in our community. They provide an opportunity for reflection, for storytelling, and for passing down the values of courage, mateship and sacrifice to future generations. It is through these acts of remembrance that we continue to honour those who served and ensure their legacy is never forgotten.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley) (12:12): I, too, stand to support this motion, particularly with reference to paragraph (d) of the motion which 'remembers all Australians who have been injured or killed while serving'. It takes me back to a practice that we still see evidence of today in antique shops and auctions, for example, where you will see a photograph of a fully uniformed soldier, hand coloured, taken by the family before that soldier was sent to the First World War.

It would have been an extremely expensive investment for that family to make but that was the value that families put on their family member's service. Often it was done by parents for their sons who were going off to war, and so many of them served at Gallipoli. When there is an estate sale, you will see them pop up at auction houses or in antique stores, usually from a deceased estate. I remember that people used to buy those for the frames because they were very beautiful concave-moulded oak frames with a timber mount. But now we are seeing people are buying those to have their own memory of the sacrifice that was given by those men who lost their lives and the families who lost their relatives.

On 25 April this year, it will be my 20th ANZAC Day laying a wreath, and in that time I have seen a growing interest in the dawn service in Unley at the memorial gardens. My office was involved in working with the RSL and local schools with some grant money that came from the federal government in the lead-up to the centenary commemoration of ANZAC, and since then we have seen a much greater participation from students from our local schools.

The project I worked on with the RSL was a plaque for each school that lost former students during World War I and World War II serving the country. All the local primary schools send representatives, Unley High School sends a representative and Walford school sends a

representative, of course, because do not forget women played a very important role in service to the country during those wars and were also victims of war, losing their lives and being injured or maimed for life from the conflict.

It is always very pleasing to see the students on ANZAC Day, and they are also there for Remembrance Day. When those days fall on a Sunday, you will still see them there. Obviously, ANZAC Day is a public holiday, but the students are getting up early and coming to show their respect and commemorate those who have fallen for our country. Of course, the soldiers were fighting for what we believe in in this chamber. Regardless of the differences that we have in the way that a government is run, everyone in this place believes in many of the same things: we want a system that is democratic, we want freedom of choice and freedom of speech.

These are the things that those who lost their lives were fighting for, the quality of life, the culture and style of life that we live that has evolved over many, many years of the diversification of authority down to the democracies that we enjoy today and that we defend. We do not always agree, but we believe that you have every right to have a different view to somebody else and to defend that view, not with weapons, not with war, not with violence but simply with debate, and that is what we do in this place, in here.

Often, how to achieve those goals that we believe we want for our constituents is what we debate, not the fact that we all want the best schools—no-one argues with that. We all want the best hospital system—no-one argues with that. We all want the best public transport system, and we all want affordable housing. The politics that happens in places like Australian parliaments is: how do you actually achieve that? That is where the debate is. How do you achieve it? That is what our soldiers fought for. They fought for what we enjoy today, the freedoms we enjoy today and the ability for us to participate in our own governance through a democratic system.

There was one ANZAC Day that I did not attend, and that was the first year of COVID, in April 2020. I did commemorate ANZAC Day, though. Certainly, our RSL organised for members who wanted to commemorate ANZAC Day to light a candle in their driveways in Unley. Consequently, I was there with my suit on and my candle, and I was so pleased to see neighbours who were doing the same thing, particularly those directly across the road who were there with their grandchild holding a candle and commemorating the ANZAC Day service that they would have otherwise attended—if it was not for COVID—in a public setting. I think that shows how respected ANZAC Day is, and the sacrifice that was made by all of our soldiers, our service people who have served our country both here and overseas, who have put their lives at risk.

Over the last 20 years, from when I was first elected, Father Brenton Daulby was the MC for that service, and he was a former veteran of the services. In recent years, Father Brett Williams has been the MC for that service, and he is the son of a World War II veteran, so there is still that very strong connection with those who were directly affected by those wars. After the service, the bells are rung at St Augustine's church across the road. It also should be noted that our former Governor, the Hon. Kevin Scarce, is there every ANZAC Day and every Remembrance Day, representing the Navy and laying a wreath with his wife, Liz Scarce.

We will now regularly see at the ANZAC Day service 300 to 400 people, predominately families who are there with children, couples, new generations coming and commemorating the ANZAC spirit and the ANZAC event, and what it means for Australia and our standard of living, the quality of life and the freedoms that we enjoy today that were under threat on so many occasions in the 20th century. With those remarks, lest we forget.

Ms O'HANLON (Dunstan) (12:22): I want to thank all the members for their heartfelt contributions. I know that all members of this place put great importance on the sanctity of ANZAC Day and hold our defence personnel in the highest regard. When I think back to when I first sort of had a consciousness of the importance of ANZAC Day, it was not actually in my childhood. I had a very close relationship with both my grandfathers who both served in the Second World War—and they both had very different experiences—but it was hearing those stories and having an understanding of how young they were and the responsibility that was on their shoulders, and what they witnessed during those experiences, that really gave me such a strong sense of how thankful

we need to be of those people who have put their lives on the line to ensure that we are able to live the lives that we can, in many respects, take for granted today in this country.

It was not until I met my husband that I started regularly going to dawn services, and now it is something I would not miss. It just seems such an important thing to always remember and always reflect on what happened then and what that has given us today. I also went to the Australian War Memorial at Villers-Bretonneux, and that was just an incredibly moving place to go. If anybody ever gets the opportunity to go there, I thoroughly recommend it because it does give you such a sense there, too, of the incredible loss and sacrifice. Again, I thank everybody for their contributions, and I commend this motion to the house.

Motion carried.

TRADE RELATIONS

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (12:24): I move:

That this house—

- (a) recognises the need to re-engage with strong, reliable trading partners and diversify into new markets;
- (b) condemns the Malinauskas Labor government for neglecting our core trading partners and risking South Australian trade on unstable trade relationships;
- (c) criticises the Labor government's failure to provide adequate support and education for SA's exporting sectors facing significant headwinds;
- (d) endorses the opportunity for a bipartisan trade approach to display both political and cultural stability to our trading partners;
- (e) emphasises the importance of inbound and outbound trade missions to build trust between South Australia and the rest of the world; and
- (f) implores the Labor government to facilitate direct flights to and from India to further promote our trading relations to grow the export economy.

The state of South Australia's trade could potentially be described as being at a crossroad. We have seen a number of opportunities, particularly in our commodity sector, that have faced significant challenges. I guess the most recent challenge has been the sanctions put on a number of our large commodity sectors into China.

As a former shadow trade minister, I was given quite a bit of pressure and experienced quite a bit of head knocking by the then Labor government for expressing the concern that we were throwing caution to the wind by putting all of our export opportunity into a trading basket that was specifically targeted at China. As a former trader, as a former primary producer, it rang alarm bells for me, and I expressed those concerns. I am not going to say, 'I told you so,' but those concerns rolled out very steadily. It demonstrated how vulnerable we are as a trading partner when it comes to putting the majority of our trade into one particular basket, which was China.

South Australian exporters have seen a significant downturn with that event. It is great to see that governments have come to the table and negotiated with China to have a lot of those sanctions reversed, but the damage has already been done. Have we taken the opportunity to learn from that sanction? I would say that we have somewhat. I have seen the current federal Labor government and this current Labor state government continue to run straight back into the arms of China, which has real concerns for me. Yes, they are our largest trading partner and, yes, they offer significant opportunity, but diversity is the key. Our trading partners must be a diverse group of countries and we must spread the risk, even if it comes at a small cost economically.

Some of those trading partners are emerging still. I will talk a little about India later, but I want to touch on the immediate challenges that South Australia is currently facing. Obviously, our cereal grain sector is one of the largest and most important commodities that we export and so is wine. A lot of those products are put into containers. Some of it is put into hulls of ships, particularly grain and mineral exports.

As of yesterday, exports have increased. The landside charges for shipping containers has just risen by 54 per cent. That is a 54 per cent increase in charges that the consumer will benefit

from in a trading country. We cannot pass on that 54 per cent increase in container costs. It is an absolute outrage that the shipping lines can do that under a government's nose without the government pushing back and saying that this must not happen.

The other headwinds that we have all seen—and we have had questions, we have had debate, we have had farmers come to our doors with concerns—are particularly with the drought, which has flowed on to crop reduction, and we have also dealt with oversupply and with restrictions. The list goes on. The primary producers in this state are resilient. I do not like to use the word resilient all the time, but we are price takers, and what we are seeing, with the headwinds we are currently facing, is that that risk must be lessened. We must put more of an effort into more trading partners so that we can spread that risk and not have a reliance on one or two significant markets.

New exporters are struggling to break into some of these new markets, but what I must say is that the export-ready programs that were implemented back in 2018—and I am very, very proud that the shadow policy trade documents I wrote were about acknowledging and supporting new entrants into export—were about acknowledging that the former Labor government had closed our trade offices—all of them bar one, in China, in Jinan. We reopened those trade offices, and they are the shining light on the horizon for our commodity sector, for our exporters,

We know that many of the larger exporters here in South Australia, in Australia, have their own arrangements—they have their own networks, they have their own employees doing all that legwork, all those negotiations—but we are there to cater for those smaller exporters, the SMEs, that one day might become large exporters. Today they are small fry, but the opportunities are there that they will become larger ones, just like the large ones of today. They were once small exporters too, but they have gone in and put their faith in their product, they have put their faith in negotiations and they have built their businesses, many of them over a long period of time.

It is very, very important that we acknowledge the work they have done. It is a decade-long initiative, particularly for building reputation, building trust. It is about going to other shores, other countries, and introducing ourselves, making sure that they know who we are. Then we have to build those trusting relationships. What I will say is that under the former Rann-Weatherill government those trade relations were damaged significantly: closing trade offices and turning your back on the opportunities for trading relations really did damage our reputation, and that is something that we as a state, we as a country, have to rebuild.

We are facing challenges as we speak. Tomorrow there will be some announcements by the United States on the sanctions and tariffs they will put on some of our highly prized commodities—red meat will be one, wine will be another one, and the service sector will be another challenge. However, we are also dealing with biosecurity measures, we are dealing with the impact of a very strict biosecurity regime that we hold dear to our heart, that we are very, very proud of, so that we do not export disease and do not import disease. That is something that keeps our reputation clean and green, with that market advantage.

We need to continue to work on making sure that we are a strong trading economy and that we deal with—and better deal with—the headwinds, as I have said. I have talked about China, and I will talk a little bit about India, because I think India, in particular, is a huge opportunity for South Australia. As a trading state we have, for far too long, put reliance on agricultural commodities into China but China has said, black and white, that they do not respect the opportunity South Australia gave them. But those relations are starting to grow and they are understanding, meeting and respecting South Australian businesses that are now travelling to India and making those offerings.

Yes, we are stronger in areas that we never thought possible: space, defence, cyber. Education is a great industry that we have Indian students coming to our shores for. It is a \$3 billion economy. It is a massive opportunity that I see only enabling the offerings of our universities, of our educational institutions, that will see much, much more opportunity coming, particularly with the amalgamation of our universities so that we can get better ranking and so that we can give a much stronger offering to those Indian students.

I must say that India is no different to any other exporting nation. They are, at the moment, dealing with climate change and they are dealing with the government reprioritising land. They are

now not using their most significantly productive land for farming; they are now changing it. They have an urban sprawl. They have a very, very fast-growing population and that is seeing a lot of that prime farming country being repurposed.

That is opening up opportunity for protein, and South Australia is very good at growing that protein product—lentils, beans, peas and the list goes on. The opportunity there is something that we must explore. We must spend more time enabling India to better understand what our offerings are, and that we are a safe and responsible citizen on the economic export platform.

I will just talk briefly about the imminent headwind that will be announced tomorrow. The US tariffs will affect South Australia significantly. We know that red meat is a \$4.2 billion industry going into the US. Where we are seeing that significant growth is that we had a 285 per cent increase in red meat exports into the US in the last 12 months. That is significant.

What has happened is that the US herd has shrunk. It is at its smallest point since the 1950s. Whether that is reprioritising land or whether that is the drought or whether there is just a downturn in what we are seeing in the US economy, what it means is that we have geared up again into an economy that has become very reliant on red meat, particularly coming out of South Australia.

It must be said that we have to actually understand what diversity we need. Will we pick up other markets? Yes, we can. Will we pick up markets worth \$4.2 billion? Time will tell. I am saying to every South Australian that they can run commentary on the US President, they can run commentary on what tariffs will potentially mean, but we do not know what it will mean economically until they are announced, and they have not been announced as yet.

Another opportunity that I think should be considered is the ASEAN region. South-East Asia has huge opportunity and there are a number of countries in that ASEAN region that are starting to have more reliance on South Australian products—green, clean, reliable exporting food products that I think will give significant opportunity for our South Australian primary producers, our exporters, and businesses that are putting everything on the line to help grow South Australia's economy.

Again, the inbound and outbound trade missions must go on. As I said, I used to very proudly bring my trading partners to my home, eating dinner at my table, showing them my farm, showing them the river, showing them the blue sky and showing them where the environment was that I was growing the food that I wanted to export to them. It is a huge opportunity. Sadly, both state and federal Labor governments have defunded a lot of opportunity: agtech, plant protein and the huge opportunity that is now being put on the back burner.

Direct flights are something that I think must be considered. Dedicated trade offices are also—I will continue my remarks at another time.

Time expired.

The Hon. A. PICCOLO (Light) (12:39): I move the following amendments:

Amend paragraph (b) to remove 'condemns' and replace with 'congratulates', remove 'neglecting' and replace with 're-engaging', remove 'risking' and replace with 're-establishing', remove 'unstable' and replace with 'stable';

Amend paragraph (c) to remove 'criticises' and replace with 'recognises', remove 'failure' and replace with 'programs'; and

Amend paragraph (f) to read as follows: 'Recognises the direct advocacy of Premier Peter Malinauskas and trade and investment minister Joe Szakacs to attract direct flights to and from India to further promote our trading relations and grow the export economy, during their recent missions to India.'

I might make a small contribution to the debate around this motion. As you can appreciate, I do not necessarily agree with the analysis provided by the member for Chaffey. In speaking to the motion, I will be brief and will relate the comments that I make to my region and the area in which I have some interest: in both the Barossa and the Clare Valley, where I have been the duty member. These are just some of the examples that I can speak on because I have actually been involved in some of these activities.

For example, in terms of supporting new companies, TradeStart has provided 90 specific trade services to 32 South Australian companies in the region through Barossa-based regional adviser, Mr Anthony Grundel. The TradeStart adviser also has networks with RDA Barossa, Light

and Adelaide Plains, and the Northern Adelaide Plains Food Cluster and works with the Barossa Council City of Grapevine Texas Sister City Working Group, AusIndustry, the Office for Small and Family Business, Barossa Australia, and the Clare Valley Wine and Grape Association.

I was fortunate on 2 December last year to be provided with a briefing of the trade support services and programs available to people who wish to export, particularly in the area of wine and associated industries. I also facilitated in-person meetings to Barossa wineries with the Department of State Development directors from the USA and India.

I supported Maggie Beer products as one of nine South Australian brands at the Specialty Fine Foods Fair in the United Kingdom in September 2024. Also, I assisted 11 wineries from the Barossa and Clare Valley regions which will be featured at the Wine Australia Roadshow in North America in May 2025. These wineries will receive in-market support from the Department of State Development USA team, who will also attend the event.

I have also worked with Barossa Australia and the Clare Valley wine region, supporting hosting of events during the South Australian Wine Ambassadors Club and China wine inbound immersion programs held in May and December 2024. In one of those inbound delegations I was fortunate enough to meet the inbound Chinese delegation, the distributors in China who were coming to South Australia to purchase wines for sale in China.

Viterra Australia has a significant up-country grain-handling facility at Roseworthy, in my region. The Department of State Development's trade office has supported numerous inbound delegations to visit the facility over the last 12 months, including groups from India and the Middle East.

As you can see, despite what has been said the government has been busy to make sure we diversify the number of trading partners we have but, having said that, also not forgetting that China is an important trading partner. If there is anybody you should criticise in this whole debate about wrecking our trade relationships, it would have to be the Morrison Liberal government, which absolutely went out of its way to offend as many trading partners as possible to the extent that it impacted on our wine industry and our primary production industry.

That the member for Chaffey neglected to mention any of this in his contribution to this debate indicates that paragraph (d) of his motion, 'endorses the opportunity for a bipartisan trade approach', actually has no meaning. It really has no meaning. You cannot say, on the one hand, 'Let's do this in a bipartisan way,' and criticise the state and federal governments, and then, on the other hand, neglect to say that the biggest risk to our trade over the last 10 years has been the Morrison Liberal government and their behaviour towards our trading partners.

That is not just my view. You go out there to the wine regions, and the wine growers and winemakers will tell you that. If you go to the Clare Valley, I can tell you who they blame for the poor trade relationships we have overseas. It is not this state government or our federal Labor government, it is the Morrison Liberal government. It is interesting to note that the state Liberal government has been very quiet about that sort of behaviour.

I mentioned the South Australian wine ambassadors as part of state development. The government of South Australia has established the South Australian Wine Ambassadors Club as part of the Wine Export Diversification Program to create an international network of advocates who share our passion for South Australian wine and who advocate on our behalf right across the world. There are at this point in time 35 wineries in the Clare Valley and the Barossa Valley regions which are part of this program and which actually lend support to this program and have their wines promoted across the world.

We have, for example, Adelina Wines from the Clare Valley, Arila Gardens from the Barossa, Cirillo Estate Wines from the Barossa, Claymore Wines from the Clare Valley, First Drop Wines from the Barossa, Kilikanoon from the Clare Valley, Massena Vineyards from the Barossa, Matriarch and Rogue from the Clare Valley, Michael Hall Wines from the Barossa, Paulett Wines from the Clare Valley, and there are a whole range of other wineries which are part of this program and which we support across the globe.

Contrary to what has been said, this government has been very busy promoting our wine and our primary production products right across the globe. I understand that we need to actually expand our markets, but also not neglect any of the markets we have already established, and make sure we do not cause the chaos that the Morrison government did in our situation. With those comments, I seek the support of my amendment.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta) (12:47): I rise to support the member for Chaffey's original motion dealing, as it did, in a mature and constructive way, with the needs of South Australian export businesses and our exporters generally, and indeed I oppose the amendments proposed by the member for Light. This is an extraordinary amendment, following a tradition of amendments brought to this house by the Labor Party that seek to self-satisfy the Labor caucus through aggrandisement of the Premier, for whom all of the Labor members of parliament who seek to bring these amendments seem very, very keen to please, very, very keen to one-up each other as they congratulate the Premier more and more than the last one on his grandeur, his greatness and the alleged achievements of his government, while ignoring the practical reality confronting South Australians, of whichever industry or sector they may represent in the way that the motions are brought to the house from week to week.

In this case, the member for Chaffey has brought to the house a motion dealing with the important matters to do with trade. The fact is that South Australian exporters are struggling. Whether we are talking about new traders or established traders, the costs that they are facing are increasing. This involves not only those increasing costs, which have been well dealt in relation to just this week, but also landslide charges for shipping containers, rising 54 per cent since 2022, and the headwinds, including drought, crop production, oversupply, trade restrictions and the cost of doing business in this state, in this nation, under Labor governments. The list goes on.

These issues are very important to me personally. I grew up in a small business household where our entire family's income was supported by my parents' business, a business which manufactured water treatment equipment for both the domestic and international market. Dad worked really hard to ensure that we contributed to South Australia's export industries. Mum's support for that business made it a life-consuming project for them both. Through the overseas missions that they participated in, in particular to India and South East Asia, they made a contribution.

Exporters are always going to be subject to the business conditions prevailing in the local market as well, and the costs of doing business in a state are dramatic. Those costs of doing business in South Australia are a real concern. Also important is the nature of how we support our export businesses in South Australia now.

I bring to the attention of the house the Export Ready program, which was introduced by the Marshall Liberal team as a strategy to help South Australian businesses overcome export challenges—a program this Labor government has not supported. It is evident now, in the absence of support for that program, that we do again need a comprehensive strategy to educate businesses and help them break into new markets, whether through workshops, training, personalised mentoring or establishing an export knowledge centre. We need better networking collaboration within the trade space.

These are serious and positive measures that the member for Chaffey, as our shadow minister for trade, has brought to this parliament. We have the amendment proposed by the Labor Party that all the reasonable criticism, all the commendable suggestions, from the member for Chaffey should be set to one side and replaced with a self-congratulatory series of nonsense brought in in its place. When you speak to these people they say, 'We would like to tell you how good we are,' and that is just not good enough for the people of South Australia. They deserve better. So we oppose those amendments.

I note particularly the proposed removal, by the member for Light's amendment, of the member for Chaffey's paragraph (f), imploring the Labor government 'to facilitate direct flights to and from India to further promote our trading relations to grow the export economy', to be replaced with the member for Light's suggestion, an alternative form of words, again commending the Malinauskas Labor government, their minister and the Premier for being so good, when the results actually are not on the board.

Bring forward all the motions you like to this chamber in your own names when you have achieved something—instead of amending the member for Chaffey's motion by replacing this call for a direct measure that will be appreciated not only by export businesses, although they certainly will appreciate it, but also by Indian residents in my electorate who would love more direct flights to their original home country to engage with friends and family—and then we will have something to listen to.

I take the opportunity to commend my former staff member Gurtej Sohal on his marriage this month. I am sorry that I cannot make it to India to help participate in that celebration. Maybe a direct flight would have helped if the Malinauskas Labor government had actually achieved that sort of thing. Instead, all we have in its place is the commendation to themselves for thinking about it or for talking about it. They have not done it—that is my point. To the Sohal family, to Gurtej and his new wife to be, congratulations. I encourage all members to oppose the amendment and support instead the member for Chaffey's original motion.

Mrs PEARCE (King) (12:53): It is no secret that a range of international factors have made the trading environment more complex for exporters over recent years. We acknowledge this and have been proactive in the actions that we have taken to support our exporters through these times, and I am pleased to share that the steps we have taken have hit their mark. We have managed to buck the trend and grow our exports to record levels and I know the impact that it is having on a local level, because there are open doors for constituents in my electorate, like those for Melanie of Litharian Wines.

Melanie is a passionate, proactive and incredible woman. She understands the opportunities that await the bold and driven and has come leaps and bounds in showcasing her products to the world. Through the support that has been provided by this government, Melanie has been able to showcase her wines to Asia and beyond. Most recently, Melanie was able to go to Tokyo as part of the Tasting SA exhibit at Foodex 2025, showcasing just how much South Australia has to provide.

I caught up with Melanie this Monday just gone at the community cabinet that was held in my local community. She shared with me that she has been able to enter into a trade deal that she has been seeking out and now has her eyes set on Japan. I am so happy that her hard work is paying off and that we have played a role in helping her to get a leg up.

In fact, we have helped many to get a leg up. The final full-year data for 2024 has revealed that South Australian merchandise exports topped \$17 billion for the second year running, marking a more than 50 per cent increase on pre-COVID levels. Our local South Australian businesses have proven to be resilient and innovative. They are taking opportunities to engage and diversify into alternative markets, to spread their risk and find new buyers for high-quality products.

They have a state government that is standing with them in a myriad of ways, including strategically placing trade offices throughout the world to support them to connect with the global market. I thank the Minister for Trade and Investment for the work he is undertaking to support our local exporters, and the more than 100,000 local workers that they employ, while navigating the current trade climate.

The strong results we are seeing have coincided with the steps taken to remove Chinese tariffs on Australian wine and federal government engagement to stabilise the trading relationship. I thank the federal Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment and the Minister for Foreign Affairs for the work they have undertaken in this space.

Of course, this year I am confident that we will see even further growth and development as a result of the lifting of trade restrictions with China on our world-renowned South Australian southern rock lobster industry. In January alone, \$33.5 million worth of lobster was exported to China, and I again thank the minister and the Albanese government for their efforts in this space. I am confident that our government's Seafood Export Growth Program helped play a fundamental role in this success.

We believe that there is tremendous opportunity for innovative, growing South Australian companies that want to take the plunge and explore international trade, and we are absolutely

determined to back them and help expand their footprint across the globe. Just look at our Global Expansion Program that has supported companies such as Foil Drive to get a leg up.

The Global Expansion Program is designed to empower businesses with the tools, resources and guidance needed to navigate the complexities of global trade, and across four years helped participating exporters achieve \$50 million in exports. I have very exciting news: applications for the current round of the program are currently open, and any interested bodies have until 5pm on Friday 11 April to get their applications in.

We understand that to grow South Australia's trade and investment opportunities it is important that we grow our engagement with countries all over the world. Simply look at the doors that have opened thanks to our links with Malaysia, one of our state's largest exporters and one of the fastest growing regions in the world, with increasing global economic influence. The sustained direct flights we have with Malaysia Airlines have unlocked over 75 tonnes of direct air freight capacity from Adelaide to Kuala Lumpur every week, fuelling our exports.

We are putting that understanding into action with the new relationships that we are currently developing. Both the Premier and the Minister for Trade and Investment have recently travelled to India to engage Indian airlines at the highest level. They have pushed our state's case as a destination for flights and connectivity, because we know global engagement like this yields benefits. Air freight is an important driver of economic activity for our state, and some of our most highly valued exports travel by air, from high-end medical equipment and instruments to sheep and beef meat to perfumes.

I am grateful to both the Premier and the minister for the work they are doing to ensure that we fully capitalise on every opportunity presented by the world's fastest growing major economy. Whether it is through programs such as the ones I mentioned earlier or other initiatives, such as the delegations and business missions which the minister has been highly engaged in, we have made it clear that we are here to back South Australians and their products.

We talk about the impact trade and investment have on a macro level, which is important, but just as importantly the decisions we make and the supports that we provide have a real impact at a local level as well. Just look at Melanie's case that I explained earlier and the difference that it has made for her. For these reasons, I support the motion in amended form.

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (12:59): I just want to make some comments on the member for Light's contribution. It really does alarm me that a longstanding member might get up and read out things that have been written for him. I refer to:

- (b) condemns the Malinauskas Labor government for neglecting our core trading partners and risking South Australian trade on unstable trade relationships;

We had the Premier of China here and we saw our Premier there, having photos taken with him. Nowhere did we see the trade minister. He was not invited. Why was that? Why was that? That demonstrates that we have a Premier who is very popular and we have a trade minister who was on the nose that day. It really does alarm me that it is more popularity over politics.

I will just touch on paragraph (d). What I must say is that travelling with the former minister to India was a great outcome.

Debate adjourned.

Sitting suspended from 13:00 to 14:00.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: I acknowledge the presence in the gallery today of a former member for Playford, John Quirke, also a former senator for South Australia. Welcome to parliament. I also welcome to parliament today students from Glenunga International High School, guests of the member for Bragg. It is great to have you in the house.

*Parliamentary Committees***LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Mr ODENWALDER (Elizabeth) (14:08): I bring up the 60th report of the committee, entitled Subordinate Legislation.

Report received.

Mr ODENWALDER: I bring up the 61st report of the committee, entitled Subordinate Legislation.

Report received and read.

*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 stand by his Minister for Child Protection? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: Today *The Advertiser* reported that the parliament is considering a censure motion calling for the resignation of the Minister for Child Protection, following her failure to listen to key stakeholder concerns on the government's new child protection bill.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:11): Of course I do. I think that goes without saying. Anyone who knows the Minister for Child Protection would be well familiar with the fact that she is driving positive change within the portfolio with extraordinary enthusiasm and genuine commitment, along with a sense of empathy. I am very grateful, as I know a very large number of people in the child protection sector are very grateful, for the work that the minister is undertaking.

The minister hasn't chosen the easy path of a do-nothing approach in child protection. Instead, she has actually been rather diligent in taking up the challenge, which includes putting legislation into the parliament. That is not an easy course of action for a child protection minister because it's always an area of legislative reform that will invite different opinions and contention. That is the way it works, but, knowing the minister the way that I do, and the way that many of us do, taking on a challenge is entirely within her nature. In fact, that is her MO. So I am very grateful for the work that the minister is leading.

We also look at the budget. Over consecutive budgets now, handed down by the Treasurer, there has been a big uplift in funding to child protection in a way that doesn't just reflect the cost of the agency but also delivers really important reforms, particularly in terms of the investments that we have made around bringing family group conferencing, which has probably been the best example of that and which we know makes a material difference. That is almost exclusively, I have to say, because of the minister's hard work and advocacy.

The upper house will do its thing and the opposition will do its thing, and that is their prerogative, but the minister will keep going on doing her thing. Her thing is seeking to reform child protection in this state in a positive way, in a thoughtful way, and only with the best interests of children at heart.

CHILD PROTECTION

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition) (14:13): My question is again to the Premier. Has the government put its best interests before the best interests of vulnerable South Australian children? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: According to key child protection stakeholders, South Australia remains behind other jurisdictions as a result of Labor's approach to child protection legislation.

Belinda Valentine has recently described the government's legislative reform as: 'instead of protecting vulnerable children, it protects the department and the government.'

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:14): Let's be clear about this. I mentioned the work that the Minister for Child Protection is undertaking in terms of reform to the sector. I mentioned the budget and I mentioned the family conferencing. But let's skip over, for a second, all the work the minister has undertaken over the course of the last three years and let's look at an outcome. When we came to government only three years ago, the number of children and young people in care was running at 9 per cent growth per annum. Now that is down, effectively to zero.

It is impossible for me to overstate just how hard it is to achieve that end. It requires resources, yes; it requires policy reform, absolutely; but do you know what it also requires? Strong leadership, and that is what this minister is delivering to the sector. So, of course, we don't accept any of the premises in the Leader of the Opposition's question. We are not interested in playing politics here; we are genuinely interested in getting outcomes—outcomes that have already been evidenced through the independently measured statistics.

CHILD PROTECTION

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition) (14:15): My question is to the Premier. Why are so many children in South Australia in residential care? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: The 2025 Report on Government Services data found that one in every 483 children in South Australia is in residential care, which is more than double the national average of one in 1,227.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence) (14:15): I thank the member for the question. I am always very happy to answer questions about the reforms that we are making to the child protection and family support system—reforms that are really hard because the complexity of issues that families are facing is really, really challenging. We know that an increasing number of families in South Australia are facing intergenerational trauma, domestic violence, mental ill health and substance misuse. That means that they are requiring assistance, they are needing help, and we are setting about providing a system that gives them that help in a way that is effective.

What I can tell the house, and I am really pleased to tell the house—or first of all reiterate the Premier's comments, and that is that finally we are seeing a reduction in growth in the number of children coming into care from a high under those opposite of 9 per cent growth to now, as at January 2025—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: —I will get to that—there is also good trajectory. We are now seeing zero per cent growth. Another high—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Florey will come to order! Members on my right and members on my left will listen to the minister in silence.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: In 2020, the growth of Aboriginal children coming into care sat at 13.1 per cent. That growth, at 30 June 2024, now also sits at zero. This is good news, and what sits alongside that is that we are, as the Premier spoke about, investing in family group conferencing, we are investing in reunification, we have invested in a peak body for Aboriginal children and young people, and all of those efforts that we are making in that regard are showing that we now have more family-based carers, we have more staff, we have more investment in the system.

So I am happy to talk about these results, because they speak to positive outcomes for children and young people. Of course, there is more to do. We are going to continue the tough, hard job of reforming the system to continue these results. We are reforming the system through

investment and policy. We also have legislation before the upper house that sets out further reform, and what I can tell you is that when that legislation was in this house the deputy leader supported that legislation. There were no amendments whatsoever. Clearly, something has happened between the deputy leader's position in this place and then his shadow assistant minister—

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

The SPEAKER: Minister, if you can sit down please; there is a point of order from the member for Morialta.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: Reflecting on a vote of the house within the same session is always out of order.

The SPEAKER: Okay. While there is a little bit of a break, I would ask for quiet on both sides. The member for Badcoe, the member for Elder and the Minister for Education, if you would please stop with the interjections. The minister.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: As I was saying, I am not sure what has happened between the deputy leader and the shadow assistant minister between the houses, but what I am sure about in this tough area of public policy, is we are beginning to make improvements for children and young people through policy and legislative reform. What I am very sure about is that we have not seen one policy—not one policy—from those opposite whatsoever. What I would like to know is which one of these reforms that are making change for children and young people do they not support?

CHILD PROTECTION

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition) (14:20): My question is to the Premier. Has the government let down South Australia's most vulnerable children and young people? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: The Productivity Commission's Report on Government Services revealed that over the past five years the number of children in care in South Australia has increased by 23.2 per cent, while the national rate rose by just 4.6 per cent.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:20): The Leader of the Opposition is well familiar with the statistics that were contributing to the extraordinary run rate of growth under former Minister Sanderson, I believe it was, who did so much. The former Minister for Child Protection, Ms Sanderson, was able to see an explosion in growth that this minister has been able to turn around in short order. There are other statistics that demonstrate the success.

The minister talks about failure of children. The truth is in some respects almost every child who finds themselves in the child protection system has been a subject of failure at some point or another. You do not end up in the child protection system, and particularly taken away from your parents, unless something has gone seriously wrong. We are lucky in this state that the overall majority of children grow up in safe and loving environments, but that's not something, tragically, that every child is able to be the beneficiary of, and wherever that does not occur, it represents failure somewhere along the system.

It's a heartbreaking proposition to think that kids have to be taken away from their parents, and that's when child protection steps up to the plate. In fact, when I think of child protection I think of it as being probably the most extraordinary example of the value and necessity of state government at the most acute and difficult end of public service delivery. I will acknowledge that people working in the child protection system I probably feel for more than anyone working in state government because they are making the hardest calls in the most difficult of circumstances. They are not our highest paid public servants, but they have probably got, in many respects, one of the hardest jobs in the state.

We quite rightly lionise and regularly reflect on how grateful we are for work amongst emergency services workers. People who wear uniforms are easy to depict and understand, but child protection workers do this work sight unseen in parts that are not always visible to television cameras and news crews, and they just keep getting on with the task. So I do not think they have failed. I think

it's failure elsewhere: in families or amongst some parents, or in society writ large that contributes to these tragic outcomes. But I do not think it's child protection workers and I do not think it's the system that's failed.

I make one more observation, which runs against the grain in terms of the way the politics of child protection normally operates. Both sides of politics have, I think, practised the art of bashing the child protection system, bashing, if not the workers in the child protection system, at least the leaders in the bureaucracy of the child protection system. Then we replace one with the next and one with the next. In actual fact, they've got a really difficult job too. I think what we've got to try to do—it is a highly emotive area of public policy for good reason, because we are talking about vulnerable children, but if we try every now and then to have the capacity collectively to be a little bit less emotive and a little bit more principled and pragmatic when we think about what works and what doesn't, we are far more likely to get those types of better outcomes. I think this is exactly what the minister is trying to do.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Kavel, I would like to acknowledge and welcome to parliament Mark Brindal, the former member for Unley and government minister in the Olsen-Kerin government. I hope you've got your mobile phone on silent, because I remember in 2002 it used to go off every question time. It was a cheeky media adviser, I think, ringing you.

Question Time

NEW MOUNT BARKER HOSPITAL

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel) (14:25): My question is to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Can the minister please update the house on construction works towards a new Mount Barker hospital?

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurana—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:25): I thank the member for Kavel for his very good question and his incredible passion and interest in delivering improved health services for people of the Hills and his electorate, in particular Mount Barker, which is an area we know has been growing at an extraordinary rate over previous decades and particularly in previous years.

It has had a hospital effectively the same size over that period of time with the same number of beds. When there were just a few thousand people many decades ago living in Mount Barker, they had 34 beds. Twenty years ago when there were about 20,000 people living in Mount Barker, there were 34 beds. Now when there are over 40,000 people living in Mount Barker, there are still only 34 beds. So that is obviously a situation that needs to change. This government was elected to make sure that one of our key commitments was to deliver a new Mount Barker hospital to make sure that we could expand their capacity and, in particular, to expand the number of beds, not just increasing them by a marginal amount but tripling the number of beds, from 34 beds up to 102 beds, at that hospital.

I am glad to inform the house that construction on that project, the early works, is underway now. It is a \$320.8 million project, and there is significant progress that has been made already. In the past few weeks, the project team in particular have been busy at work in relocating a number of the community health services, including allied health, child and development health and community nursing, into new refurbished accommodation elsewhere in the Mount Barker township. We thank all of those staff for the work that they have done in terms of doing that.

We also thank patients and families who will be going to appointments in other places. The reason why that is necessary, of course, is that we need to start demolition of those existing parts of the hospital. That demolition is expected to start within the next few weeks. That demolition will then enable the enabling works for the site—all of the infrastructure that needs to be brought in but then, of course, the construction of the main additional building of the hospital.

The other early works that are continuing at the moment are in relation to the car parking. The first part of the new car park is in the process of being finalised and expected to be open soon.

This is, of course, prior to the construction of the multideck car park, which is expected to commence around the middle of this year and to be complete around the middle of next year as well. Through the combination of those works, car parking onsite will increase up to a total capacity of 654 spaces, so a big increase on the current car parking available there.

The main works of the hospital are expected to start construction towards the end of this year, with the anticipated completion of that new clinical services building by the end of 2027. Of course, that new building will not just have an additional number of beds. It will provide for maternity services, paediatric care, palliative care and rehabilitation. Critically, mental health care is provided as well with 12 additional mental health beds. There are not currently any mental health beds in the Mount Barker hospital or anywhere through the Adelaide Hills at the moment, so this will be the first time the Adelaide Hills will be able to provide mental health inpatient care within its own catchment without people having to come to the city.

All of this will be complemented by contemporary operating theatres, chemotherapy and renal dialysis services onsite as well. This is an expansion of the hospital which sets us up for the long term to meet that growth for the Mount Barker district. I want to thank again the member for Kavel for his incredible advocacy in making this project a reality.

WHYALLA WORKFORCE

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (14:29): My question is to the Deputy Premier. Can the Deputy Premier update the house on action the government is taking to support the Whyalla workforce?

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Minister for Workforce and Population Strategy) (14:29): I am delighted to answer this question, in particular for the member for Giles, who is, of course, in many important ways the member for Whyalla and has always raised consistently his concerns and his interests about the prosperity of that town and that region.

Last week I was in Whyalla, where I saw the member, of course, and spent some time with businesses that have, leading up to the point of administration, been in serious trouble—companies that were owed significant amounts of money by GFG. Some owners put their life savings into their business in order to keep it ticking over, in order to keep employing people, but were going to come to the end of the road, not only because they were owed so much money but also because they weren't being employed in the way that they should have been on the maintenance work and other services that the steelworks required.

What a transformation to be there last week, to be able to have the privilege to see with my own eyes what is now happening under a sensible and well-funded administration. First of all, to be greeted by the news that the administrators are intending to employ around a further 100 people—63 immediately and another 30 in the works—people who are needed to make that steelworks function, who should have always been there, who are now able to be employed and added back into that workforce. But, of course, in doing that work they are also using the contractors and the suppliers who had been waiting and waiting to hear any good news about the steelworks.

What we have been able to do, through the approach taken by the Premier, the Treasurer and, of course, the Minister for Energy and Mining, is to provide funding for those contractors to pay out what they were owed. Most often when a business goes into administration, the creditors will get a few cents in the dollar, but not this time, not for South Australian creditors. For those businesses they are getting their funds paid, up to \$5 million, which is effectively all of the money that's owed.

There I was at Avid, standing not only with the manager of Avid but also with the manager of Fabcoat. Both companies have had their debts paid. Both men explained that they would be laying workers off right now had that not happened. What a transformation; what energy for them.

I was also up there because we have established the Upper Spencer Gulf Jobs and Skills Hub and that's for the workers who haven't re-entered the workforce, who have fallen out either directly from the steelworks or through the mines or through the various contractors and creditors who have struggled following the decline in the funding of the steelworks over recent times. That hub is there to pick up people and help them see a bright future.

The day I was there we announced \$2 million for the kinds of organisations that are skilled at working with people in those circumstances, to bid for that work, to be able to sit down with people and understand what skills they already have, what licences and certificates they might require, how to approach job hunting and how to be supported to find that work.

It was an exhausting day, inevitably, but it was a day that made me proud that we live in South Australia with a government that actually cares, that recognises the importance of the steelworks, but, even more than that, the people who work with and for it.

CHILD PROTECTION

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:33): My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Did the minister issue a directive recently to the Department for Child Protection and, if so, why? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr TEAGUE: On 26 March 2025 *The Advertiser* reported that the minister wrote to the Chief Executive of the Department for Child Protection, making Donald Trump-like demands.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Members on my right, we will hear the minister in silence.

Ms Savvas interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Newland, I just said that we will listen to the minister in silence. You are on your final warning.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence) (14:34): I thank the member for the interesting question. The answer is that asking the department to carry out particular reforms is really what a minister does. It is about getting on with the job.

As has been spoken about already in this chamber this afternoon, we are utterly determined to get on with the job because I deeply, deeply feel worried about the fact that, for many years in South Australia, one in three children have been reported to the child protection and family support system at some point in their lives. Over many years, we have seen an increasing complexity of issues that those children's families are experiencing. Over many years, again, we see the impact that those issues have on children. Whether that is their experience of domestic and family violence or whether it is their experience of intergenerational trauma playing out in their home, it is incredibly saddening.

I am utterly determined to stay the course and to make change. That is exactly what I should do. That is exactly what I am doing. The issuing of direction to my department is absolutely part of getting on with asking them to make the changes that we wish to see. As the Premier said, I am here to make reform. It is very interesting what those opposite and that comment allude to, and that is that clearly, it seems, the opposition do not support a number of things that we are getting on with.

Mr Telfer interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Flinders will come to order.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: I presume that they do not support the changes that we are making through legislation, through direction to the department and through the establishment of my ministerial youth advisory council. It sounds like they do not support that we are privileging the voices of children and young people so that they are meaningfully and appropriately consulted in relation to decisions about their care.

We are getting on with the job of implementing in policy and process, and hopefully in legislation, the embedding of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle to the standard of active efforts, as stakeholders have called for. We are expanding family group conferencing so that, over time, all Aboriginal families are offered the opportunity to participate in a family group conference. We are ensuring that carers are being offered the opportunity to be part of case reviews. We are introducing specific quality of care guidelines.

These are significant reforms. We hope they progress through the comprehensive legislation that we have. In the meantime, we are getting on with implementing them in practice, policy and procedure—of course we are. The recent RoGS data, the figures that they did not mention, is that we are seeing extraordinary results, leading results in the nation, around stability in terms of placements and in a range of other areas.

CHILD PROTECTION

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:38): My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Has—and, if so, why has—the minister dismissed recommendations from children's commissioners, the Guardian for Children and Young People and a coalition of sector leaders to adopt the best interests of the child as the primary principle in child protection? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr TEAGUE: *The Advertiser* reports that two children's commissioners, the guardian and a coalition of sector leaders support the best interest principle. The minister has said she 'will not back away at all' from the government's position.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence) (14:39): Again, the first point I would make in answering this question is that those opposite in this house when this bill was before this house did not propose any amendments. They supported the legislation. It was voted for. It went to the upper house. Again, I am not sure what has happened between the deputy leader and the shadow assistant minister for child protection. Maybe while he was chasing his leadership ambitions, there was something else going on. I am not quite sure what has happened there between those two.

Secondly—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Members on my left and members on my right will come to order and listen to the minister in silence.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD: Interesting. But secondly, what I would say is that I know that those opposite have chosen not to delve into the complexity of the reform that is required. To give a little bit of a history lesson, some years ago best interests was the only principle in legislation. There were various coronial inquests and recommendations made, and in the legislation that we have now safety is the paramount principle.

In the legislation that we have proposed that those opposite supported through this house, we now for the first time—yes, our position has been to retain safety of children as the paramount principle—have also inserted best interests as a guiding principle in a very extensive way. What the legislation says is that in relation to all decisions best interests will be applied. However, when there is a conflict, when a worker has to make the most complex, sometimes life or death decision about whether or not to remove a child, they need as was called for in coronial inquests absolute clarity—absolute clarity—in that moment about what the prevailing, what the paramount consideration is. Therefore in this legislation we have maintained that and we have inserted the best interests principle. So I don't really understand what their position is in relation to the interaction between these two principles.

But the position that I can speak about is that of workers in the sector, workers in the sector who speak to me about the fact that of course, of course, they constantly strive for the best interests of the children and families they work with—of course they do. I was speaking not so long ago with a worker, an incredible worker, as they all are, in the sector who had been there for 40 years and she said, 'Of course we do that work, of course we are striving for the best interests of children to be realised; however, when you get to that moment and you have to consider that heartbreaking difficult decision of whether or not to remove a child, you need clarity that safety is the paramount principle.'

That is why we have those two propositions in our legislation. It is complex. I am sorry that you cannot understand the complexity of what children and families go through.

CHILD PROTECTION

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:43): Again, my question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Has the minister and does the minister if so maintain a commitment to abandon the legislative reform if the parliament does adopt the recommendation to support the best interests principle, and if so why?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The member just asked a hypothetical question, asking what would you do if something occurred. It's out of order.

The SPEAKER: It is a hypothetical question but I will give you the opportunity to maybe rephrase the question, deputy leader.

Mr TEAGUE: Has the minister indicated a commitment to abandon the legislative reform if parliament adopts the recommendations to support best interests? That's a past fact. Has that occurred?

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Point of order, sir. If you ask a question that says, 'What will happen if,' it's a hypothetical question.

The SPEAKER: If everyone is quiet, I can actually hear the question.

Mr TEAGUE: On the point of order, the question contains a hypothetical, it's true. But the question is premised on whether or not the minister has indicated that that is the course of action the minister is committed to, and that is a question of fact, and it's a yes and no answer.

The SPEAKER: If you change the question to not have the 'if' and just say, 'Would you change your commitment to it?' could you do it that way?

Mr TEAGUE: That would become hypothetical. The question is whether the minister has given such an indication.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence) (14:45): I think I answered the previous question at length about the interaction between those two principles. What I would also provide the house information about is the extensive other reform that is in this legislation that, again, I have not had any indication of the position of those opposite.

On those significant reforms, reforms that will help to improve children and young people's lives, I have not heard one position from you whatsoever on any of those things. But I will let you know again what they are, and maybe at some point you will determine whether or not you care about those things or have a policy in relation to them, because right now there has been nothing. Shamefully, nothing.

Some of those reforms include adopting a public health approach to child protection and family support in conjunction with every department that has a role to play in the lives of children, young people and their families, in conjunction with every other department in that space, to develop a statewide strategy for child protection and family support. The reason that we are doing that is because anybody who has any knowledge about this complex area of child protection and family support—people right across the sector—knows that we need to work right across government in this space.

For the very first time in this legislation, the Minister for Child Protection, after consulting with other departments, after the development of their part of the particular strategy, will lay before the parliament a state strategy for child protection and family support, so that we have, as we should, a joined up effort, so that Education plays their role and so that every other department—Health—plays their role in the development of this state strategy.

We have extensive provisions in there that privilege the voices of children and young people engaged with the system, and rightly so. Those provisions include provisions that, for many, many years now, children and young people in care have told me are really important to them, and that is that they will now have a voice through this legislation in terms of decisions that are made about their

care. Also, one of the things that they talk about constantly is a desire to have connection, where it is safe to do so, with their siblings. For the first time ever, this legislation speaks about that desire of children and young people, where it is safe to do so, to have connection with their siblings.

We have an entire section of this act, part 4 of the legislation that we have put forward, that absolutely privileges the voices of Aboriginal children, young people, their families and communities, and rightly so. It goes into detail about progressive delegation of authority, which goes to our commitment as a government to strengthening the capacity of the Aboriginal community-controlled organisation sector. It speaks about the requirement for all Aboriginal families to be offered or have a family group conference convened for them. It goes into detail about respected persons in particular proceedings. These reforms are far reaching and they will absolutely make a difference.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT, BEHAVIOURAL STANDARDS PANEL

Mr ELLIS (Narungga) (14:49): My question is to the Minister for Local Government. Why is the office of presiding member of the Behavioural Standards Panel suddenly vacant?

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Local Government, Minister for Veterans' Affairs) (14:49): I thank the member for his question. Particularly in response to this, I wouldn't characterise the vacancy in this context as sudden. I was written to by the presiding member last year. Respecting the unique personal family circumstances of the outgoing presiding member, I would be uncomfortable going into more detail, but I can assure the member for Narungga that the resignation is neither sudden nor without good reason.

SUNRISE ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORD

Mr HUGHES (Giles) (14:49): My question is to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Can the minister provide an update on this government's recent investments in digital health services for the regions?

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurana—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:50): I thank the member for Giles for his question. As I mentioned to the house yesterday, I spent some time last week with the member for Giles and the member for Stuart in regional South Australia, particularly visiting Whyalla, Hawker, the new Leigh Creek Health Service and also Kimba hospital, which is the 71st public hospital in the state that I have had the pleasure of visiting.

While I was in Kimba, we had a hook-up with the team at Coober Pedy Hospital because, at the same time, the team at the Coober Pedy Hospital were completing the sign-on and the switch-on for the last public hospital in South Australia to be connected to our electronic medical record system and we were able to congratulate them on that incredible effort. That means that as well as our metropolitan hospitals, we have now connected 77 hospitals and different health services across country South Australia to our electronic health record system.

This means that South Australia is now the first state in the country to have an electronic medical record system in every metro and regional hospital right across the state. This is going to be particularly important for patients right across the state. Their medical records will be able to be accessed by their clinicians a lot easier, they can get access to the records when they have gone between different hospitals—between metro and country—and it adds an additional level of security and particularly medication safety, etc., around those medical records.

There has been a team of some 80 people who have been involved in this effort of the rollout through the past two years. It has been a remarkable effort. Through the course of this rollout, some 1,198 patient beds have now been connected to the electronic medical record system. The team has trained 5,627 staff across our regional health networks through 1,800 different classes that they have run. We have rolled out 825 new workstations on wheels and 247 laptops to make sure that those regional hospitals are able to be connected.

This means that clinicians will have immediate access to the full medical history for patients, no matter where they have been treated in our system before. Patients won't need to provide their full medical history, they can be transferred faster from regional hospitals to metro hospitals if they need it, and specialists in metro hospitals can have real-time access to patient care in terms of their information.

This has been a big effort. When we came to government, there wasn't any budgeting or plan to connect our regional hospitals. We provisioned \$31 million to make sure that happened. I am able particularly to tell the Treasurer that we delivered that on budget and within two years; there are not many IT projects that have been delivered on budget, but this has been a huge effort. I would particularly like to thank Wayne Champion, the CEO of the Riverland Mallee Coorong Local Health Network, who has led this project and had oversight of it for all our regional health networks across the state. It has been delivered in under two years, so a relatively rapid period of time.

Right across the state now this is connected and it is going to lead to improvements for patients. It is a big change from the system that we had before, a system called Chiron, which was a very clunky system. It was a system that, in fact, the previous government had to go to court to argue that we should still be able to keep it running against the supplier who wanted to stop it running. That is how old that system was—imagine a Commodore 64-type system—so this is a big leap forward. It is going to improve patient care and South Australia is ahead of the rest of the nation in having this interconnected health system now.

CHILD PROTECTION

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:54): My question is to the Minister for Child Protection. Are children in the care of the Department for Child Protection being sold for drugs? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr TEAGUE: On 24 March 2025, *The Advertiser* reported, and I quote:

A meth-head caught...by police has been lashed by a judge for trying to get sex from a 15-year-old girl under state care in exchange for Xanax.

The offender has previously pleaded guilty to 10 different child exploitation offences, including dissemination, possession and procuring a child for sexual activity.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence) (14:54): Thank you to the member for his question. What I would say first of all is that disgusting paedophiles who prey on any children and young people are abhorrent and deserve to be incredibly severely punished. I am really pleased that our government has a very, very strong set of legislative reform, policy reform, to deal with child sex offenders.

I am certainly not going to comment, rightly so, on any particular case, but I am glad that our government has a very strong stance on any child sex offences. I am also proud of the range of programs that the Department for Child Protection has instituted with and for young people in terms of their safety. Of course, every matter is reported to SAPOL, and the partnership between the Department for Child Protection and SAPOL is a very strong one. They work very closely and effectively.

As I said, our government has a very strong program of legislative reform in terms of child sex offences. Also, I have faith in SAPOL in terms of the actions that they take in relation to these terrible predators. Again, I am not going to comment on the circumstances of any particular case, but I know that SAPOL certainly deal very effectively with these awful types of offenders.

CHILD PROTECTION

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (14:57): My question is again to the Minister for Child Protection. Is there a shortfall in staff in the Department for Child Protection? If so, when will these positions be filled? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr TEAGUE: In a recent appearance before the Budget and Finance Committee, the Department for Child Protection revealed that there is a shortage of 149 full-time equivalent staff statewide. The 2024-25 budget showed a nearly \$70 million budget blowout followed by a \$130 million budget blowout in the 2024-25 mid-year review. The Treasurer and the Premier, as well

as the minister, explained that this was caused by the recruitment of more staff. However, as the committee has heard, there is a present shortfall of nearly 150 staff in the department.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence) (14:57): I am very pleased to receive this question from the deputy leader. I am certainly very aware of what my chief executive spoke about with the Budget and Finance Committee. I say thank you to her for her leadership and to all workers in the Department for Child Protection and across the child protection and family support system who work tirelessly every single day toward the safety and the wellbeing of children and young people—strengthening families and walking alongside them when they are facing some really difficult issues.

What I can tell the house, and I am sure the deputy leader will be very pleased to hear this, is that through our investment of over \$580 million since coming into government we have significantly increased the levels of staffing. At March 2022, the department had a budgeted FTE of 2,341. In February 2025 we had a budgeted FTE of 2,580. So, as you can hear, we are significantly improving the budgeted staffing numbers. In terms of actual net increase in terms of FTEs, we are just around that 200 mark. I am very pleased, also, that we are very close to having a record number of youth workers recruited.

We know that there is more work to do because, as the Premier said earlier, this is really, really difficult, heartbreaking work; it is the hardest work. It is heartbreaking, it is emotionally tough for those workers in the system, but finally we are growing the numbers of staff working at the Department for Child Protection. Can I take this opportunity to say thank you so much to every single one of them. Their work is extraordinary, their dedication is extraordinary.

I spoke before about a staff member I had spoken to who had been in the department for 40 years, and just a few days ago I actually signed a letter to a particular staff member, Ms Veide, who has been there for more than 40 years—I think it was around 43 years; I will double-check that—and who has worked all over the state in child protection and family support. The reason that she and other workers in the system do the work they do is because of the deep commitment that they have to improving the lives of children and young people. They are the ones who are there and see what particular children and young people and their families go through. They are the ones who help children and young people to know that at the most difficult moments they are not alone, that they have someone who will walk alongside them.

I pay tribute to those workers, to their selfless dedication and their incredible ongoing commitment. As I said, I have spoken about two workers today who have been there for four decades and they absolutely know what is needed in terms of the reforms that we are undertaking in the system, and I am really glad to have heard from them in this journey of reform that we are undertaking also.

VILLAWOOD HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta) (15:01): My question is to the Deputy Premier. Is the Deputy Premier aware of dust and dirt covering homes and businesses around the Villawood housing development in Marino, Kingston Park and Seacliff and, if so, what steps has she taken to address it? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER: The Liberal candidate for Boothby, Nicolle Flint, has contacted the minister but has not received a response. In the meantime, the opposition has also heard reports of residents struggling to breathe with serious impacts to the amenity of their properties.

The Hon. S.E. CLOSE (Port Adelaide—Deputy Premier, Minister for Climate, Environment and Water, Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, Minister for Workforce and Population Strategy) (15:02): It's nice to have a question issued on behalf of a candidate for the federal election which is almost entirely inaccurate. The question has presumably been launched in my direction because of the EPA, and because Nicolle Flint had written a letter to me—which I have replied to, so the question was slightly out of date—but the point of the question is that it's about a development in the City of Marion, which was approved by the City of Marion and for which the

City of Marion is responsible for dust management through legislation passed by this house some years ago.

The member for Black has similarly let me know that this is an issue, but of course understands and appreciates that this is not something that the EPA has any licensing for, any regulatory responsibility for, and that this is something, properly, that needs to be addressed in a respectful and thoughtful way with the City of Marion. I am certain that the member for Black, who understands how government operates, has been doing that.

NARACOORTE POLICE STATION

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (15:03): My question is to the Treasurer and Minister for Police. Can the minister advise the house if a location has been chosen for the proposed \$80 million police station in Naracoorte? With your leave, Mr Speaker, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr McBRIDE: In September last year, the then police minister told the house that land options were being explored with Renewal SA, but six months on we still have heard nothing.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Treasurer, Minister for Defence and Space Industries, Minister for Police) (15:04): I thank the member for his question, once again assiduously representing the interests of his local community. We take our responsibility to support regional police stations really seriously and that's why, in the 2023-24 state budget, we did allocate \$18 million towards a new Naracoorte police station, because we were aware in the past that others had made commitments towards regional police stations, like Kalangadoo for example, that never eventuated. We didn't want to do the same thing. We wanted to do the right thing by this regional community, so we allocated \$18 million, as the member said in his question.

I am pleased to advise the house that a site has been selected. It is at 31 Smith Street, no doubt an address familiar to probably one of us. That land is vacant at the moment, and it's centrally located in the Naracoorte township, so an ideal location for a police station to be built, making sure that the community will find it easy to access.

While there is some time that is required for the facilities to be designed, contracts to be let and, of course, the construction work to be undertaken, making sure that we have allocated the funding and found the right plot of land central to the Naracoorte township is really important. This \$18 million, of course, is yet just another investment that the state government is making in making sure that police have the facilities, the equipment and the staff that they need to continue their important work protecting the community.

That is why in recent weeks we have had the police commissioner also make the announcement that, with the benefit of the additional staff that have been funded by the South Australian government, by the Malinauskas Labor government, more sworn officers have been allocated to regional policing duties across South Australia. I am sure that when there are more sworn officers on the beat, across the regions, when there are new facilities that are being built, South Australian regional communities can take comfort that the police are not only working hard to protect them but getting the resources they need in order to conduct that effort.

EXPORT ECONOMY

Mr BROWN (Florey) (15:07): My question is to the Minister for Trade and Investment. Can the minister update the house on any measures taken by the Malinauskas government to assist our exporters to diversify?

The Hon. J.K. SZAKACS (Cheltenham—Minister for Trade and Investment, Minister for Local Government, Minister for Veterans' Affairs) (15:07): I thank the member for his question, the Assistant Minister for Artificial Intelligence and the Digital Economy. It is a very important question because trade matters to South Australia. We are a trading state and the products that we trade here in South Australia, the brands that are attached to that trading, have become icons of our state, whether it be from Penfolds to R.M. Williams to Haighs to bluefin tuna and the wonderful premium grains that are grown across the four corners of our state. That's what drives our economy, and also

the recognition of South Australia's efforts in becoming a national leader in renewable energy in our national beautiful economy.

The reason that trade matters is that 100,000 South Australians are employed thanks to trade. We know that the jobs that are attached to trade pay better, they are more secure and the businesses that make merchandise or the farms that grow products or primary products that are exported are more resilient. Of course, we saw that through COVID. The supply chains are still reforming and realigning post the COVID pandemic. Australia has been tarified by China. Now, its close ally in the US has imposed tariffs on steel and aluminium. By tomorrow, President Trump is anticipated to make further announcements on trade, which will again, likely, disrupt the established order.

We are in good hands in the commonwealth, in that the Albanese Labor government has a demonstrated track record of working to reduce tariffs on our country. Our state has never seen a more productive relationship with the commonwealth government as we do now.

Our diversification efforts continue, particularly in the climate that is impacting North America. Today I can inform the house that a significant market response has been launched in Canada, thanks to a partnership with one of the world's largest retailers and wholesalers of alcoholic beverages. Fourteen South Australian wine brands—I know some in your wonderful electorate of Mawson—will be showcased this month in a series of pop-up shop activations in the Liquor Control Board of Ontario.

The LCBO is a government-run enterprise responsible for the wholesale and retail sale of wine, beer, cider and spirits in the province. I am sure a provincial minister who would be very keen to oversee the LCBO is that minister. With more than 680 retail stores and importing over 32,000 products from over 79 countries, the LCBO is one of the largest retailers and wholesalers of alcoholic beverages anywhere in the world.

The partnership, supported by the Department of State Development, will feature 15 in-store tastings over four weeks to drive sales, tastings and awareness for South Australia's premium wine in a time when tariffs are re-emerging. Participating SA brands include Chalk Hill, Dandelion, Mitolo, Two Hands, Taylors, Angove, Yalumba, Bec Hardy Wines, Monterra, Penfolds, Thorn-Clarke, Zonte's Footstep, Kilikanoon and Small Gully. As Canada's most populous province, Ontario is a key market for South Australian wine products. As Canada and the US go tariff for tariff, South Australia will continue to ensure that we are on the front foot and putting South Australian jobs first.

The SPEAKER: The member just asked if I had been to the Liquor Control Board of Ontario. Of course I have. I met with George Soleas there two years ago. We paved the way for all this extra wine. A big shout-out to George and all my friends in Toronto. I hope to get back there soon.

Grievance Debate

WILMINGTON FIRE

Mr WHETSTONE (Chaffey) (15:11): I would like today to congratulate and commemorate the incredible work done by the CFS, DEW and the local farm fire units throughout the Wilmington fire, where 5,414 hectares were burned. They were ably assisted by 554 aircraft drops totalling 1,400,000 litres of water. All of the 1,190 personnel worked together to bring the blaze under control. It was an outstanding effort from all those involved, not only the professional firefighters but the farmers, the pastoralists and the local community, who rallied together to save the majority of what could have been very much worse.

I want to pay a special mention to Michael Wigg, a firefighter with the CFS who suffered major burns in that fire. He is well on the road to recovery after having surgery back in February. There were concerns raised after the fire, and the post-mortem analysis of that fire was alarming. Sadly, unforgettably, the event has brought the issues of our emergency response to light. The opposition has received correspondence from a number of people involved in the fire, including the Outback Communities Authority, members of farm fire units and adjoining property owners.

The following are just some of the issues raised that we have learned of. Shift changes were occurring at the staging area rather than on the fireground, leaving sections of the fire unattended

without replacement crews, sometimes for up to 1½ hours. On 5 February, an aircraft dumped multiple loads of foam on a containment line that was being managed by the CFS and the farm fire units at Battery Ridge Track. They had no notice that this would occur and the fire subsequently spread further north of the track.

Mr Modystach owns a property that borders Battery Ridge. On 8 February a back-burn was lit approximately 100 metres from his property without notifying or consulting him. This back-burn was left unattended, which significantly extended the fire front and it burned into Mr Modystach's property and damaged his fences. It is unknown whether he will be compensated.

Prior to the Salvation Army assisting, there was a lack of food and water provided to the farm fire units that were helping in the response and some were even refused drinking water—outrageous. There are also reports that on multiple occasions farm fire units were refused extra water for firefighting, and there are conflicting and unclear guidelines for certain buffers and track maintenance and many tracks are not being maintained to an appropriate level and buffer zones are not in place.

This lack of maintenance resulted in fire jumping Battery Ridge Track on 5 February, and some of the documentation has not been updated in a decade and urgently requires a review. Yesterday in question time in the other place, the minister said that she had launched an independent after-action review, which the opposition has called for, and it is now going to be undertaken. We look forward to seeing the result of that review and ensuring South Australia can be better prepared for the future.

Sir, as you know, as a regional MP—and many regional MPs would understand—fire is one of the natural disasters that puts life at risk at every opportunity. We want to commend those that put their life on the line to fight those fires, to contain those fires so that they did not spread creating more property damage and potential loss of life.

What we did see was that there were injuries to those firefighters and it just shows you that we need regular, updated knowledge of firefighting units and how they interact with the farming firefighting units. It is absolutely outrageous that they would be deprived of drinking water. It is unconscionable that in a firefighting experience they would be denied water to fight the fires. I think that the independent review needs to be undertaken quickly. It needs to have a response so that we can better document and better fight fires to keep humans safe and be able to reduce the incidence of those firefighters having their life put at risk.

COUNTRY ARTS SA

Mr BELL (Mount Gambier) (15:16): After years of disruption our region is finally rebuilding its vibrant arts and music scene. The arts and music industries were among the hardest hit during COVID-19, but we are now witnessing their revival with momentum steadily returning, something that is clearly evident in my electorate. Over the weekend The Old Mount Gambier Gaol hosted the SummerSalt Festival, an event that brought life and energy back to our community, showcasing outstanding Australian musical talent, such as Missy Higgins and the Whitlams, drawing a crowd of over 4,000 from intra and interstate. A big congratulations to Jamie and Mel Stephenson from the Old Gaol on bringing this fantastic event to Mount Gambier.

Last month we also saw the Beer and BBQ Festival return for its second year and next weekend sees the fourth Fantasy Medieval Fair at the Mount Gambier Showgrounds, an event that gets bigger and better every year and brings visitors from all over Australia. In even better news the much loved Fringe Festival will be making its return next year. These events are marking a turning point for our region, proving that there is a strong appetite for arts and culture.

But while these festivals are wonderful, we must ask ourselves: what more can we do to support and propel the arts in Mount Gambier? How can we ensure that the momentum we are building is sustained into the future? The answer lies in investment, vision and long-term planning. That is why I am advocating, alongside Country Arts SA, for the redevelopment of the Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre.

The Sir Robert Helpmann Theatre has served as Mount Gambier's premier arts venue since it first opened in 1982. However, after more than four decades it is in dire need of modernisation. The current facilities are no longer fit for purpose, lacking the essential space for artists, musicians

and performers to create, rehearse and showcase their work. The theatre's infrastructure has not kept pace with the growing needs of our local arts community, nor does it reflect Mount Gambier's potential as a regional arts hub. The proposed master plan seeks to address these challenges. It includes a brand-new 400 seat black box performance space, community art-making spaces and a much needed music recording studio.

These additions will open the doors for young local artists, young musicians and touring performers to develop their craft right here in our city. Furthermore, the plan features a redesigned foyer, improved backstage facilities and a new Ferrers Street entrance, ensuring the venue is accessible, modern and inviting. With these improvements, we can foster the next generation of talent, providing them with the professional facilities that they need to hone their skills without having to leave our region. This will also enhance Mount Gambier's appeal as a destination for touring productions, national and international artists and major cultural events.

For this ambitious plan to become a reality, we need funding. We need all levels of government—local, state and federal—to come together and recognise the value of this project. We have seen the economic and social benefits that strong arts investment can bring. Theatres, music venues and art precincts drive tourism, create jobs and contribute to community wellbeing. Let us take this opportunity to make Mount Gambier a true arts and cultural capital in regional Australia. I urge the government and all stakeholders to back this investment not just for the artists and musicians of today but for generations to come.

Tourism that comes off the back of some of these events also needs to be recognised. Like I said, with Missy Higgins in town, she took to social media promoting Mount Gambier. One of her activities when she is travelling around Australia is to find waterholes or places to jump in. She showcased our Little Blue by taking an early morning dip and jumping off the cliffs, and that was posted all around social media. Again, as a local, it is great to see people promoting our region and the tourist benefits that come from that.

TRAINING AND SKILLS

Mr COWDREY (Colton) (15:21): I want to rise today to have a discussion in regard to training and skills. In particular, at the beginning of last weekend I attended the ATEC graduation and award ceremony for 2025, a ceremony that recognises those who have done their apprenticeship, traineeship or training with the ATEC organisation in South Australia. The awards recognise the best apprentice or trainee in their first, second, third or fourth year of the particular profession that they are undertaking.

The awards culminate in the overall apprentice of the year, named after Pat O'Reilly, the Pat O'Reilly Memorial Apprentice of the Year Award. It was split this year between two award winners, Mack Fielke and Bradley Duggin, who took home the award jointly. Both are trade professionals in their respective trades and have gone on to start their careers in the industry already. I want to thank Greg Bassani, the CE of that organisation, and Ian Curry, the chair, for inviting me along to be part of that award ceremony and to hear from the Skills Commissioner, Cam Baker, his view of where skills are at in South Australia at the current moment.

When we talk about the current moment, there are some concerning figures in regard to traineeship and apprenticeship numbers that are starting to emerge under this government. In particular, if you look at the figures in the most recent NCVET data that has come out in regard to apprentices and trainees, there are significant declines in commencements of those undertaking training and also in completions.

Commencements, concerningly, are down by 16.7 per cent. We have also had a dip of more than 8 per cent in those undertaking an apprenticeship or traineeship. This is in regard to the September quarter for 2024. The more troubling aspect is that, in terms of in-training numbers, that is the fifth quarter in a row that has recorded a decline and the fourth quarter in a row that has shown double-digit declines of those undertaking apprenticeships and traineeships in South Australia. Completions are worryingly down by more than 21 per cent.

So it is very clear at the current moment that the government is taking their eyes off the ball when it comes to traineeships and apprenticeships in South Australia. You only need to look back at

historic numbers to see the work that was done under the former government in this space. In the April to June quarter of 2018, just under 16,000 were undertaking apprenticeships and traineeships in South Australia. By the time we left office, in April to June 2022, the first quarter afterwards, that number peaked in South Australia at over 31,500 apprentices and trainees in training in South Australia.

Where are we now? At a substantial drop back down to just under 24,000 apprentices and trainees in training in South Australia. That is concerning to me. It is also concerning, I am sure, to many others in South Australia to see these sorts of numbers recorded. What is more troubling as well in the context of the housing crisis that we are in at the moment is the decline in those undertaking apprenticeships and traineeships in the construction industry, down from a peak in 2021-22 of over 2,500 across both of those years, down to 2,000 to the September quarter of this year.

There are other factors at play, of course, that would potentially provide correlation, but I do not think that there is a lack of coincidence that those significant numbers that were in the construction sector undertaking apprenticeships and traineeships also correlate with the years where we had the highest number of dwellings commenced in South Australia. More than 12,000 dwellings commenced in 2021; over 10,000 again in 2022. Last year, under this government, just under 8,400 dwellings commenced; on track this year at the three-quarter time equivalent, 6,642 dwellings commenced. There is a correlation there.

The Liberal opposition has a clear seven-point plan in terms of boosting apprenticeships and traineeships in South Australia and there is more detail to come in that regard.

WAITE ELECTORATE SPORTS CLUBS

Ms HUTCHESSON (Waite) (15:26): I want to take some time today to celebrate the fantastic sporting achievements of some of the awesome clubs in my community. To start with, cricket, because it is my favourite: on the weekend we had the cross-town rivalry in full display between Coromandel Cricket Club and the Coromandel Valley Ramblers. Their division 1 men's team took to the Hawthorndene Oval and there was a lot of stress in the air to see who would come away the victor from that game.

Congratulations to the Coromandel cricket team who took it out, winning by 53 runs. It was a 75 overs match each day, and it was definitely a hard-fought victory. Congratulations to all of the Coromandel cricket team. They also took home the division 4 C-grade grand final which was incredible to see, and in fact one of our ministers' staff is in that team. So, well done, Chris.

Whilst the Coromandel Valley Ramblers lost that game, they won something completely different which was the South Australian Cricket Association's Community Club of the Year, so that is the South Australian Community Club of the Year. They do an incredible job at creating opportunity for young people to play sport and they were well recognised in the awards just a couple of weeks ago, and I was very pleased to be able to see them there and share in their celebrations. I would like to congratulate Jarryd Simister and the rest of the club on all the work they do in creating opportunity for kids but also for bringing our community together as well.

I would also like to quickly have a big congratulations to the South Australian cricket team who brought us home the shield on the weekend. What an incredible achievement, what an incredible game. I was pleased to be able to go just for a short time. Congratulations to the whole SACA team to turn Karen Rolton Oval around with the support of our government. It was a huge weekend and congratulations to the team.

Onto tennis, the Blackwood Tennis Club took home the division 2 men's, the combined division 1 women's with Colonel Light Gardens West and also the division 4 women's with the awesome achievement in their grand final as well. The Coromandel Valley Tennis Club also took out the division 2 mixed, the division 7 men's and the GWS men's grand final. You can hear it. We have incredible sportspeople in our community who just continue to show how great they are.

Over to the Sturt Baseball Club, their division 1 men's team took out the grand final against Henley and Grange, and their division 1 women's team came second in their grand final. It was a huge effort by all the players, and a big congratulations to the Sturt Baseball Club. I am sure there

are a lot more winners and some still to come, and our community thinks it is an incredible thing to be able to get out and play sport.

We have so many people who take to courts, take to the ovals or take to the field, and I congratulate all of them. Whether you are a winner or a loser, you are out there having fun and enjoying yourself, so in my eyes you are a winner. I actually played a little bit of sport last week with the walking cricket in the Blackwood Recreation Centre, put on by our Coromandel Ramblers through a grant they got from the City of Mitcham. Everybody has to be at least 50, or just slightly less than 50 in my case.

Mr Telfer: How did you get in then?

Ms HUTCHESSON: I am 49; I will be 50 in a couple of weeks. Everybody has to walk, whether you are batting, bowling or fielding. You have to walk, and you have to remind yourself that you have to walk. You only use a tennis ball, so you certainly get to take out your frustration and have a bit of fun, and I will be back there again next week.

On the weekend I attended the AGM of the Friends of Old Government House. It was a lovely afternoon and it was beautifully laid out underneath the beautiful historic pine tree that is in the Belair National Park. It was lovely to be there to watch several of the members receive some accolades.

The first was the husband and wife team that look after the group in the president and the secretary roles, and that is Tina and Wayne Gallasch. They were acknowledged and celebrated, and they received life membership of the Friends of Old Government House. They do so much to keep that group going. They are constantly out promoting the group and promoting the work that they do. Tina even took my mum for a quick tour of Old Government House while we were there. She has not been there since I was a kid, so it was a bit of a shock for her to bring back those memories.

We also celebrated 20 years' service for Rhonda Cleghorn and 15 years' service for Janice Farrugia. Further, the friends acknowledged their volunteers through their own Volunteer of the Year Award, and that was taken out by Rob and Janice Farrugia. A huge thank you to all the volunteers who look after Old Government House. It is an incredibly special place, and without you I am not sure what we would do.

The SPEAKER: I was actually at the cricket at Karen Rolton Oval and saw the member for Waite. It was a beautiful, glorious sunny day and there were cold, crispy beers being served, and she left to go to an AGM in her electorate, just to show her dedication. I did not. I stayed there and watched the victory until the very end.

MORIALTA SECONDARY COLLEGE

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta) (15:32): It is a privilege to be able to today reflect on the great growth and achievement at Morialta Secondary College in my electorate. A couple of weeks ago, since the parliament last sat, I was pleased to visit Morialta Secondary College with Scott Kennedy, the Liberal candidate for Morialta, on their open day. At that open day we were able to engage with staff and with students thriving.

We are now up to year 7, 8 and 9 students at Morialta Secondary College, open for just over two years. We saw students thriving in Italian classes, students thriving with the VR and tech facilities, and playing volleyball and sport. There has been significant progress in food technology and indeed in music. I highlight and congratulate Tim Moore and the performing arts team at Morialta Secondary College. More than 60 per cent of the students at Morialta Secondary College are now studying a musical instrument as part of their studies, and they are doing their inaugural high school musical at Norwood Town Hall next term. They are performing *High School Musical*.

Morialta Secondary College's leadership team, led by principal, Roley Coulter; deputy principal, Tahlia Harman; assistant principals Emily Carter and Sean Venning; and business leader, probably the true boss in many ways, Ibi Kanellos, are doing an outstanding job. This is a school that was opened, as I said, just over two years ago and is already at capacity in each of the year levels, attracting 200 students a year, as we knew it would, because of course there is that demand in the area.

I highlight this because every time this issue comes up in question time Labor's Treasurer suggests, quite critically of the former government and me in particular as the member for Morialta, that this school was built quite conveniently in the electorate of the former education minister, as if it was not fully endorsed by the department, led by the now chief executive of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, and as if it was not fully endorsed by the Infrastructure South Australia organisation, having gone through every hoop in the most appropriate possible way.

I highlight the history. In 2017, when the former Labor government announced that there was going to be \$30 million of funding to combine the two campuses of Norwood Morialta High School at the Magill site, they did not mention at that time one word that that was going to be half-funded by the sale of the Rostrevor site, the Norwood Morialta middle school campus. In fact, prior to the 2018 election, my constituents had no knowledge that Labor's secret plan was to, in fact, have a high-density housing development at that Rostrevor campus.

It was only when I found that out as education minister in my early briefings that we were able to, first, put on hold that sale—and I want to thank Premier Steven Marshall of the time and, indeed, his Chief of Staff, James Stevens, for helping me convince Rob Lucas, the Treasurer of South Australia and not a man known for his lack of frugality, that we did indeed need to put that \$15 million debt to Treasury on hold. That was very important because it enabled us to have time to explore what the local area needed, and what we found was that demand for high school places was significant and more than justified a new high school.

We also did a cost-benefit analysis identifying whether we should repurpose the existing middle school campus or knock down and build afresh, and what that found was that there was not going to be much difference. So badly rundown had 16 years of Labor government allowed the Rostrevor campus to be, that there was no point in trying to save those buildings. It was almost going to be as expensive to try to save some buildings and build some new buildings, and over 20 years the cost to taxpayers would be much more.

So that is why we have a fully new school there. It is entirely appropriate and entirely in the taxpayers of South Australia's best interests. My local residents in the Morialta area—particularly those living in the zone, whether in Rostrevor or Woodforde or Magill, or those further afield who are now able to go there because of the increased availability of places—are very appreciative.

I want to highlight the great work being done also by some of the other senior leaders: Aija Mee for maths and science, and Tanja Gehren in English and HASS and her great work in the Hear My Voice project, along with that of the original DP, Sarah Chambers. I would like to conclude my time by thanking those parents and volunteers who are serving on the governing council, on which I am privileged to join them: Chair Karlie Hutchens, Tim Donhardt, Mary Stovell, Joanne Kirby, Norelle Branford, Andrew Exley, Chloe Simpson, Renette Grubb and Maja Kruger. The work they are doing, the work that the staff are doing, is producing excellent results. This is a group of students with the first graduating class coming out in about 3½ years and I cannot wait to see what they achieve in the years to come.

BADCOE ELECTORATE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Ms STINSON (Badcoe) (15:37): When it comes to infrastructure, there are exciting times, there are very busy times and there are also, I have to admit, slightly inconvenient times for my electorate—but these inconveniences will absolutely deliver better times ahead, and better transport infrastructure in particular. I rise to give a bit of an update to my community about what is happening with not one, not two, not three, but four amazing transport infrastructure projects that are getting very close now to kicking off.

Heading from the city outwards, the first of them is the Forestville archways and the Goodwood train station upgrade. Those opposite, in fact, wanted to have an entirely different project at Forestville which would have seen the destruction of 50 trees and an enormous concrete structure put in the beautiful Forestville Reserve. That would have absolutely decimated that reserve and really destroyed something that is somewhat of a community hub; I am fortunate enough to live in Forestville and even had my son's first birthday in that beautiful reserve only a few weeks ago. That is not happening under us.

When Labor got in, we made some decisions. We consulted thoroughly with the community, which had not happened previously, and we decided that there were much more modest changes that could be made that would achieve the safety objectives that were required. Has it pleased everyone 100 per cent? No, but it is about leadership and it is about compromise, and what we are delivering at Forestville Reserve is light years ahead of what would have been built there otherwise.

In coming months, what we will see is designs released for the archways. At the moment there are some very narrow archways that cause problems for cyclists, pedestrians, those with prams and indeed other users of the park in trying to safely navigate and get from one side of the line to the other. Those will be hugely widened.

We are also going to be improving the surface of the pedestrian underpass under Goodwood station: brightening it, putting in some decent drainage and some lighting, sprucing up the paintwork and really making it a more inviting environment. We want people to use public transport, and we want people to feel safe and comfortable and to enjoy the public amenities that we are so fortunate to have. So that is one project that will be happening with the tramline shutdown, which will happen in coming months.

The other major projects that are kicking off are the River Torrens to Darlington South Road tram overpass project and the Marion Road, Cross Road and Anzac Highway intersections, which will see a tram overpass built and also improvements to major intersections there. I will be right in the heart of the action there, with my electorate office right in the middle of the project. It will definitely cause some inconvenience for people coming and going around there, but in the end it will result in great improvements—improvements that my community have called for for a long time. Last but not least is the Morphett Road overpass. Yet again, this is another project that I fought hard for and that our community have asked for for quite some time. It is only since Labor has got in at a state and federal level that we have managed to secure the funding to make that happen.

Rather than having a series of different shutdowns, what this government has done is listen to people and just use common sense to make sure that all these projects are coordinated to happen simultaneously. So we are going to have one tramline shutdown rather than constant interruption to people, particularly locals living in the area and those traversing our area. What that means is that there will be shutdowns on the entire tram network on weekends, starting in May and wrapping-up in the first few days of August.

Following that, we will see the Glenelg tramline shutdown from south of the South Terrace stop through to Glenelg, from August until late January. That is a significant period of time, and we are making sure that there are replacement buses. Those bus timetables, I can tell you, are imminently going to be released. So my community will be able to see those and make alternative plans for this period.

I do want to sincerely thank my community. We are the ones making the sacrifice so that these projects happen. We will be the beneficiaries but so will people right across Adelaide. This will create a much more streamlined transport system and a much safer transport system as well.

Just a last little plug, Mr Acting Speaker: I reckon that, just like me, you love a bacon and egg roll. If you do, make sure you come along to the 'meet the neighbours' session, which is on Thursday 10 April at 7.30 in the morning, on the corner of Anzac Highway and South Road. It is an opportunity for people to get more information about the tramline shutdown and to talk to me, and also—more importantly, probably—the DIT staff.

The ACTING SPEAKER (Mr Brown): I should indicate to the house that, if people are after a very good egg and bacon roll, The Fabulous Baker Boys Bakery at Pooraka makes a very good one.

Private Members' Statements

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Mrs HURN (Schubert) (15:43): I rise to tell the house what an exciting time it is going to be in the Barossa Valley over the next couple of weeks. Of course we have the AFL Gather Round, which is coming on the Saturday and the Sunday, and local businesses are really looking forward to

making the most of this opportunity. There are some really fantastic events that I am looking forward to attending.

After that we have the Barossa Vintage Festival, which is a really fantastic showcase of our region. It is a nod to the great, rich heritage that we have and the traditions that we hold very dear. I am looking forward to participating in a whole host of those events over the coming weeks. I am sure that many in the house would appreciate that the Barossa is used to being up in lights as one of the most famous wine regions in the nation, if not in the world. No doubt there will be some attention given to whether the Barossa will play host to the future rounds of the Gather Round. I am looking forward to that conversation and some good news.

I am also hopeful that the government can finally confirm that the \$5 million that is in the budget to purchase land for the Barossa hospital will finally be done, so that the Barossa community will know that land is secure and, as we are heading towards the state budget in only a few months' time, that some cold, hard cash will be put on the table to build this hospital for the future of our region. With the thousands of people moving into Concordia, it is more important than ever that we finally get that hospital.

Mr DIGHTON (Black) (15:44): I rise to make a statement in relation to the launch of a new book: *My Name is Ryan*. I was honoured to be invited to attend the launch of *My Name is Ryan* a few weeks ago at Bedford Group on 21 March, which was also World Down Syndrome Day, and I have enjoyed reading the book since. *My Name is Ryan* is written by Gerry Clarke, father of Ryan, and tells of the transformation of a boy born with Down syndrome to a man with Down syndrome. The book provides the reader with an insight into the life of Ryan—his hobbies, his work at Bedford Group, his friends and, most poignantly, his family life.

I have known the Clarke family in many different capacities. I taught Ryan's younger sister, Lauren Clarke—one of my best-ever legal studies students; I coached basketball with Ryan's younger brother, Patrick Clarke; I worked with Ryan's older brother, Dale Clarke; and now Ryan's parents Gerry and Joyce Clarke are my constituents in Hallett Cove. It was lovely to meet Ryan at the book launch recently.

The Clarkes are a wonderful family, and this book is a demonstration of their love for Ryan. I loved reading the reflections from each member of the family, and what is repeated throughout is how much of a blessing Ryan is to his family and to his community through the joy, the simplicity and the happiness in which he lives his life.

The book is a celebration of the unique contribution that people with Down syndrome make to their families and to our wider society. *My Name is Ryan* is available for purchase through the Bedford Group, with all proceeds from the sale of the book being donated to Bedford to support more people like Ryan with learning and job opportunities.

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (15:46): I rise today to congratulate three schools in my electorate on being recognised in the recently released Better Education rankings. These schools—Wudinna, Kimba and Karcultaby—are among the best-performing high schools in the state, outperforming many leading private schools, as well as some of the state's largest public schools. That these remote and regional schools are outshining their bigger, better-resourced counterparts is truly astounding, and it reflects the passion and dedication of their staff and leadership.

Placed in the top 50, all three schools achieved rankings based on analysis of academic outcomes. Each school scored at least 90 points out of 100 based on the performance of years 7-10 students in English and maths. Located more than 620 kilometres away from Adelaide, Karcultaby Area School, in the north-west of Eyre Peninsula, is the farthest-flung campus to feature on the list. The school, of just about 80 students, is one of only 15 public schools on the list, and scored 92 out of 100; Kimba Area School, with around 200 students, achieved a superb ranking of 96; and Wudinna Area School, also with around 200 students, achieved an impressive score of 92.

These exceptional results demonstrate, once again, how small communities in the vast electorate of Flinders are punching well above their weight in contributions to the state, and impact on productivity and prosperity. I would like to congratulate Kimba Area School Principal Tash Rayson, Wudinna Principal Ned Loades and Karcultaby Principal Neil Seaman, and all their dedicated staff

and school community, on their commitment to their students and their futures—and, of course, the students on their hard work as well.

Mr FULBROOK (Playford) (15:48): My deepest and sincerest Eid Mubarak goes to the 40,300 Muslims living in our state. With Ramadan reaching its conclusion, it is wonderful to see the celebration of Eid enjoyed across South Australia. Ramadan marks the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and is observed worldwide as a month of fasting, communal prayer, reflection, charitable acts and community. Homing in on the element of community, I want to highlight how local groups were exemplary in bringing people together to celebrate all that they cherish.

Over the space of the month, I had the privilege of attending Iftars, hosted by Pinnacle College and the ICMG mosque in Parafield Gardens. It also brought joy to attend Chaand Raat festivals, hosted by the Bangladesh Club and the Fatima Zahra Mosque, followed by a wonderful Eid festival dinner, held by my friend Abdul Mannan. Thank you for these kind invitations, symbolising compassion, gratitude and generosity. While parliament got in the way for me to attend, Parafield Gardens High School and Primary School also deserve much praise for their community Iftar.

In highlighting Ramadan, I cannot ignore 15 March as the International Day to Combat Islamophobia. To me, we must blow the whistle on any form of religious intolerance and I want to give assurance to the 3,742 Muslims in Playford that you are welcome, respected and valued in the community that I represent. I thank you all sincerely and may the blessings you received during Ramadan be with you throughout the coming year.

Bills

PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE (ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD PRODUCTION AREAS) AMENDMENT BILL

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 1 April 2025.)

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Stuart) (15:50): As I left my contribution to this bill yesterday, I would like to continue the discussion today. As mentioned yesterday, there have been some public comments made by some members of the government that this bill will only impact 1 per cent of arable land when in actual fact the only suitable food production land that has been utilised in previous years are the areas just north of Adelaide, which include Two Wells, Virginia, Roseworthy and other close proximities. These areas had been suitable due to the availability of rainfall plus the opportunity to be able to access water from the nearby water treatment plants.

As I mentioned previously, we certainly urgently need affordable residential zoned locations not only for our current generation but very importantly for our future generations, including my own children, my grandchildren and my great-grandson.

I also notice that many local government locations like to have houses built on what we call infills, that is an area where there are already homes and there are vacant blocks. This is very fine and this helps reduce the cost of the infrastructure to the local council and also to the developer as just about every service is already in place and is therefore not a cost factor in that regard.

What I have seen recently, and especially in Adelaide, is that older homes on large allotments are being demolished and flats are being established or in some cases three or four different homes, homettes, are being established where previously there was one home. That one home had the space. As the Premier has indicated, children and families need to have some recreational space and they need to have that open area.

On Henley Beach Road especially and other locations, and I am seeing it in some regional areas, they are knocking down very good homes on fairly large blocks and putting two or three houses on there and basically they have no room for the young families to enjoy the outdoor areas. I hate to see that. This new process eliminates the opportunity for those in these units to enjoy a backyard and for the children to be able to play and enjoy activities in their homes.

Providing more affordable land opportunities is great but especially in regional locations the issue is the availability of the required tradespeople. Whilst that is great, it is really a challenge out there because in areas like Port Pirie and Port Augusta there are a lot of people who want to have the relevant tradespeople there but they are as busy as anything so we need to have more tradespeople out into the regional areas. Another influencing factor is for SA Water to be able to provide the necessary infrastructure and the potential for water to be supplied to these opportunities in regional locations.

During discussions with my council and other councils, they say they can put in some infrastructure but for some industrial opportunities in Port Pirie they do not really have enough water to be able to get there. My concern also is that we need to grow our population. We are a thriving state at the moment but we do need the water and we are reliant on the River Murray plus the desalination plant in Adelaide.

In my own community there are demands for affordable land to allow for future growth opportunities, especially where the council is looking at the growth of the city. Our city has great opportunities. As with the Copper Coast and other locations, they have great opportunities in regional areas to grow, but we do need those houses out there, not only for the ever-increasing number of people coming from interstate.

I have a neighbour up the road from me. A house was available there. He lived in Sydney, and he bought the house for just under \$1.2 million—there are my rates going up, I think. I asked him a couple of weeks ago, 'What made you buy this particular house?' He said he looked at it on the internet. A lot of buyers are doing that on the internet. They are coming from the Eastern States and looking for a little more quietness and a bit more security and things like that. The lifestyle is far better, with all due respect, in regional areas in particular. I am speaking specifically now on regional areas.

Also, the fact is that our council is looking for growth of the city southwards towards the airport. However, these areas to the south are lower lying than the rest of the city. Where I live on Senate Road by the golf course, the land goes downwards slightly. That is going to require the developers to provide the extra infrastructure to allow not only for the provision of getting rid of the stormwater but also for the provision of pumping facilities to enable the new homes to be connected to the sewer system and to be able to pump that into the current sewer system coming up onto Kingston Road and then going out. That is going to cost a developer around \$2 million to \$3 million. Again, that is a deterrent for developers to come out there. If developers are only putting 15 or 20 blocks in there, that is \$3 million basically for 20 blocks.

The council has been discussing this issue with the relevant department for over two years now. Whilst these discussions have been ongoing and fruitful so far, the results so far are causing delays. These days, any delays with any development is an extra cost for the developers, and also it gets far more expensive for the people waiting to buy the land to establish a home on it.

I have worked with the council very intensely and suggested that we elevate these issues to the minister, but they are adamant that they have everything moving in the right direction. However, I will continue to work with the council. What I am looking for is some sort of assistance for the developer that he may be able to get, because there are zoned areas out there for about 600 homes. That is the way the council is going for the zoned locations.

Another developer has been working with the local council. These are issues that I would hope can be addressed going forward with this bill. This developer has been working with our council for over three years now. It has reached the point that the now increased costs have frustrated this developer so much that he is very reluctant to do any developments with our council in Port Pirie. This is frustrating, because at the end of the day we want affordable homes. The planned homes are in areas that have sewerage and electricity connections and roads going past and everything like that. It is nearly three years and he has not got approval at this particular time.

As the member for Narungga said yesterday, I am looking forward to the passage of this bill. I will also be looking very intently at any amendments coming through. I already have a couple of amendments which were given to me yesterday. I am certainly not against more affordable land. What I am concerned about is the long-term viability of our food production locations, so we do not

have the situation that we are going to have to import from interstate or overseas our produce that we take for granted every day. We can just go down to the supermarket and can get that.

I am on the road a heck of a lot coming into Adelaide, the same as the member for Narungga. I am very sure others do the same thing, when they come along to Virginia and all of those locations. They see the market gardens there. That is in prime land. I know it is closer to Adelaide and the services, but with the transport system the way it is at the moment and the duplication of the highway right to Lochiel—and I think it is all back to 110 km/h now—it is only a short period of time. In actual fact, I can get from Lochiel to Adelaide quicker than I can get from my unit in Henley Beach to the city.

There is absolutely no reason why we cannot start to bring our planning and our future residential zoning opportunities further out towards Port Wakefield, even further north. I know the Copper Coast has plenty of land. The Upper Spencer Gulf has plenty of land. It is only a matter of trying to look at the long term.

I certainly do not want to see some of our prime market gardens—not grain growing land and things like that—and our food production lands be done away with so we have to import that from interstate or overseas. We have this philosophy 'Make Australia Grow' and 'Made in Australia', so therefore we should continue to have that philosophy. I am looking forward to the speedy passage of this bill and it will be interesting to see where it finishes up.

The Hon. Z.L. BETTISON (Ramsay—Minister for Tourism, Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (15:59): I rise today to add my support for this bill which makes sure that we are appropriately planning for our state's future so that we have an appropriate supply of housing and infrastructure to meet both the current and predicted housing demand in our state.

As an MP from the northern suburbs I have seen the growth of our community and the additional needs of the population of the last decade. As the mother of a teenage son, like many of you, I find myself wondering what my son's housing future looks like with so many young people now finding that the dream of home ownership seems further away from them than it did for me or our parents' generation. That is why this bill is so significant. The Greater Adelaide Regional Plan identifies land into the future and considers the next generation and the one after that. It considers infrastructure needs and green space. It considers community hubs and neighbourhood vibrancy.

We must be realistic. As my colleagues have already identified, there are limited options for where the greenfield growth can occur, and much of the land identified for medium to long-term growth is within the environment and food production areas. You have heard from the minister, as well as from many others in this place, the history of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016, the issues and mechanics of that bill and the bill that is before us today.

Rather than me covering off on all that again, which has been spoken about by many people, I want to speak about other key announcements made in my electorate and the broader community, which give weight to why these areas have been identified in this amendment bill and why they are the right areas for growth. Key announcements in the north prove that this is a government with long-term plans. This government understands the need for the north and has taken a carefully considered approach when drafting this bill and identifying the areas for future growth.

Housing is not just about the buildings themselves or about access to water infrastructure, although that is incredibly important. We have talked at length in this house about the lack of planning of previous governments and the fact that we now need to stand up—and have done so—to make sure that when we are releasing these lands that we have adequate infrastructure.

We need well-planned communities and we need to consider the people who are going to live in those communities and their needs over their lifetime. It is about child care and schools, green and community spaces, health care, the transport mix and many more things. That is why I want to touch on some of these other announcements that have been made around the north in the last three budgets that we have had, which talk about the planning and the consideration of the communities and future residents of the north.

The new northern suburbs school, announced at Eyre, with capacity for 1,300 students from years 7 to 12 is part of this plan. Through the development of the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan,

the government has worked closely with all government departments and utility providers to ensure suitable land within newly identified growth areas will be preserved for key infrastructure, not just education but health and transport too.

This is the planning that is going ahead and this is why, when we look ahead at that 30 years, we are securing these sites early in that planning process. That provides greater certainty to growing communities and is generally cheaper compared to when it is done after when people move into the area. What we have also seen before is that people move into an area and some of the infrastructure is sufficient for that first contingent, but when stages 2, 3, 4 and 5 go ahead, it simply is not going to be enough.

When it comes to transport and traffic needs for a growing population, we are very pleased to see the commitment from the federal government of \$125 million for the Curtis Road level crossing removal. This is a significant change. It will make the community safer and keep traffic moving by eliminating the need for road traffic to interact with the Gawler passenger line. Further, a new roundabout will be created at the intersection of Curtis Road and Heaslip Road at Angle Vale, with these associated road upgrades to also improve safety and ease congestion.

This intersection in Adelaide's northern suburbs we fix thanks to a partnership between the Australian and South Australian governments. The Angle Vale upgrade will support the rapidly expanding nearby residential developments, improving access and road safety. Of course, this is also a government that believes in public transport, not selling off future rail corridors and adding pressure to our roadworks like those opposite tried to do. Two rail corridors from the city, one south towards Aldinga and Sellicks Beach and one north towards Roseworthy and Concordia, will be preserved by the South Australian government to cater for future housing development.

This is all part of the state government's 30-year vision for transport that supports the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan. The planning in the transport strategy guides the development of a transport network that will include safe, affordable and efficient options for the needs of future population growth and the transport corridors that it will require. But we did not do this alone, because this is a government that values the voices of our communities. More than 6,000 people participated in the community engagement for the strategy. This included virtual reality hubs across the state as well as an online survey and written submissions made to the plan.

The engagement in this process allowed South Australians to identify what is most important to them when it comes to transport as well as encouraging them to consider changing transport needs. I understand from this process that 10 per cent of the respondents are planning to use their cars less in the future, meaning that demand for options like rail will grow.

Let us talk a little bit more about the infrastructure that is so necessary for these developments but that often we do not think about or we do not see. Between March and December this year, we are seeing key infrastructure for water being delivered, with 4.4 kilometres of new water mains being installed between Blakeview and Munno Para West. We know that very little happened in the four years of the opposition in government. In fact, I think the north was incredibly ignored during that time.

The communities of the north have been let down because you cannot kick the can down the road with water infrastructure and then wonder why there is not enough housing development to go ahead. You can have all the greatest plans in the world, but you cannot move in if you do not have that water infrastructure there. This government makes things happen, and we are planning for the future. We want to make sure that action is taken now to ensure land for housing can be ready for development and, more importantly, be ready faster. There is an old quote saying that the best time to plant a tree was yesterday and the next best time is today, and that is what we are doing. Because the previous government did not get on with it yesterday, we are getting on with it today.

Of course, it is no big secret that this government is focused on growing our health system. The work that we have already completed in the north at the Lyell McEwin Hospital is already having a positive impact in our community. As well as the expansion of the emergency department, ward beds and dialysis clinic, the government has also acquired the vacant 1.79-hectare parcel of land at 471 Oldham Rd, Elizabeth South that was previously owned by the City of Playford. Acquiring the

land keeps it out of the hands of commercial developers and leaves the door open for future expansion of this very important northern hospital.

Let us reflect back that only 10 or 15 years ago this was seen as a community hospital, but as we have seen growth and particularly urban infill in the northern suburbs and now we see the future going out even further, the focus has been on the Lyell McEwin becoming a tertiary hospital. We are very proud of that hospital in the north. It is really doing some great cutting-edge work, but it has to make sure that it is growing for the size of the population.

Of course, the Lyell Mac also supports a lot of our country South Australians who often come there for their hospital treatment. It adds also to the potential of the Playford health precinct, including a new Calvary private hospital and the \$40 million Healthier Health in Education Hub developed by aged-care organisation ACH Group. I had the opportunity to be there with the federal member for Spence, Matt Burnell, and our health minister, Chris Picton, to have the opening of Healthier some time ago. It will play a really important role.

We do know that we have a challenge in our hospitals where people who are ready to leave hospital cannot find beds in the aged-care system and we know that we need to be able to support them. So Healthier being connected with or close by the Lyell McEwin gives an opportunity not just for people to sometimes have respite but also for recovery, for them to be able to take that time if they have broken their hip, their hip has been replaced or healed up, but to build back that strength to potentially go back to their own home, to build back that resilience that they need. So Healthier has been a great addition.

As well as this, we have seen planning work begin on the opening of a new long-term mental health accommodation site, the opening of two new Medicare Urgent Care Clinics in Elizabeth and Para Hills. I have to say as a resident I have had to use both of those facilities for older family members who needed support. We were able to walk in and see someone after a very, very short wait. There was reassurance for us that we got immediate medical attention and what we needed was right there and we did not need to go to the hospital because they were okay. Those Medicare Urgent Care Clinics have been incredibly warmly welcomed in our community and we thank the federal government for their support with that as well.

We have supported the opening of the Medicare Urgent Care Clinic in Elizabeth, with another clinic planned for the north-east, supporting the opening of the Northern Adelaide Medicare Mental Health Centre, supporting the Safe Haven cafe in Salisbury for people in need of mental health support. Sonder is running this one at the moment in John Street, Salisbury. It is a drop-in centre that is open from 3 o'clock every afternoon into the night. You do not need to make an appointment. You can come in and connect with people, talk to counsellors and have that opportunity to engage, particularly for people who are struggling with their mental health to have those people to talk to who know about the care that they need. I have had the opportunity to go in there and talk to the staff about who they are seeing, and it is really diverse, from younger people to older people, people from many walks of life.

Of course, we have also seen the building of two new ambulance stations at Golden Grove and Two Wells, and the upgrading of ambulance station at Elizabeth. The member for Elizabeth and I went along just recently and had a photo with the staff and got have a bit of a walk-through. It is quite an upgraded station, nice and modern that is there. We have been rebuilding the ambulance stations in Campbelltown and Gawler.

A very popular decision of this government was to support the opening of a 24/7 pharmacy at Salisbury Plain. The member for King and I have probably been inundated when we posted about this and told people about this to say thank you. How many times have people said, 'Why is it at 10 o'clock at night when I run out of Nurofen, or someone falls over?' or they have a burn and they are not sure what to do and now they have this 24/7 very safe, very secure, well-lit pharmacy that they can go to. We have had great feedback.

We are opening a new hospital avoidance hub in Elizabeth, supporting the Elizabeth and Para Hills West Priority Care Centres and opening 26 more beds at the Gawler Health Service. Because this is a government committed to the needs of a growing population, as well as the needs

of communities of the north, we are doing things. We are making stuff happen. We are not just putting it in the too-hard basket which is what we saw before.

We know that for healthy populations we need to ensure there is not just access to health and housing but there is access to good jobs and green space. That is why I am very pleased to see, when it comes to jobs, that Renewal SA has announced Edinburgh Parks' 500 hectares, South Australia's largest master-planned industrial estate. This mix of industrial sectors across multiple industries will provide well paid and reliable work to residents close to their communities, providing long-term economic security for the north and economic growth for the state.

I have talked about education, health, transport, infrastructure and jobs, but the thing that I am incredibly proud of is to be part of a government that is going to be associated with the decision of significant investment in public open space. This is something that the minister has been promoting, and I have to say that I think we will look back in generations to come and say that the decision to begin the Northern Park Lands is incredibly significant for our state.

When it is completed, the Northern Park Lands will cover more space than our treasured Adelaide Parklands. It will have 1,000 hectares of land, but it is not just green space. It will feature natural open space, new sport and rec facilities, a new railway station, as well as three interconnected linear parks with shared use paths that will provide a continuous loop around Gawler. As someone who has the Little Para trails at her back doorstep, it makes a difference. Your accessibility to beautiful parklands and outdoor areas makes a difference.

This is somewhere you can take the dog for a walk or ride your bikes. We talk about liveability, and it is one of the things that we are known for in South Australia, but sometimes it is those simple things that we do together that are the best. That is why Linear Park and our Parklands are so popular, but of course people in the north deserve just as good investment in this area. I think the Northern Park Lands in particular, which is a significant part of the bill here today, is something that should be appreciated.

When we think about a growing population, we think of a plan for a thriving population and a healthy population because we want people to have the good life. We want these new communities to be connected communities, connected to the environment and sporting clubs, connected to great jobs and connected to each other. This is a fantastic plan not just for the north but for South Australia. We know that people are choosing South Australia. We know it is one of the best places to live.

South Australia is also one of the most welcoming places. Of course, in my role as Minister for Multicultural Affairs and Minister for Tourism, this is what I talk about all the time. People come here, they want to do well and they want to raise their family here, but we talk about how welcoming we are as well. Just recently, booking.com named South Australia in the top 10 most welcoming places in the world. It is an amazing achievement to get that. They came to see me to talk about it, and they said it just kept popping up in all their research how welcoming we are. However, we cannot take that for granted. We must continue to build a liveable place where we are happy to be and to continue to make it a welcoming place.

Of course, to achieve what we want to achieve, we must invest in our skills and training to have the trades available to construct the new houses, and we must coordinate and invest in infrastructure. We will also be delivering more public housing, which will be located across the state. We are also protecting rights for renters. This is really important: not just committing to build houses and communities but of course getting the mix right.

This is an important bill for our future. We have often talked about us not just thinking about the election cycle but looking at what this state needs for the future. We are ambitious. We are talking about the industries we need to invest in and the skills that we need to have as well. More importantly, we do not just talk about it, as a government we make it happen. That is why this bill is so important today, and I encourage you all to support the bill.

Mr BASHAM (Finniss) (16:18): I note for the record that I am the lead speaker on behalf of the opposition on this bill, and I am pleased to get up and speak about the need for the changes in this space. Certainly, it is really important that we make sure we have future housing supply going forward, and planning is a really big part of making sure that we end up with a very good outcome in

South Australia to make sure that South Australia prospers going forward. The whole process is very important to make sure that we understand the different needs of different parts of the community and that we have an overview of that.

Interestingly, in my previous roles I had the privilege of sitting on an advisory group that was looking at the new planning structure under the Weatherill government with former Minister Rau. Our group was reporting to him and I was there as a representative of Primary Producers SA. It was an interesting group of people: I felt like the lone regional voice around the table and I felt like I was sitting there with a dozen planners and one lawyer, and the lawyer was my friend in that environment, so it was really quite an interesting dynamic to go through. Trying to have the conversations from a regional perspective was quite interesting to feed that into that environment, so it has given me a good understanding of the things that are before us in this bill.

I reflect on some of the remarks from yesterday from some of the other speakers on this, particularly the member for Playford. It is important that we get this right, and I was pleased that he made the comment that it would be great if we could have a bipartisan approach to sorting out the future planning of South Australia. We are always going to have difficulties in decision-making and we are often going to have slight differences of opinion in relation to what should be developed, but I think it is really important that we try to work together.

One of the really challenging places in this piece of legislation is the existence of what was put in, I think, in 2015-16 with the environment and food production area, which was an overlay that was put over large parts of the Greater Adelaide area outside the metropolitan area that meant that development for residential purposes could not occur on the land that was under the EFPA zoning. The problem with that, at the time, was that it was put in place reasonably quickly and the boundaries, in our opinion, were not necessarily suited to protecting food production and the environment. It was much more slapdash than that.

In particular, in my patch it is quite evident that there are some areas of land that, in my lifetime, I can just remember them being dairy farms. The butter crisis occurred as the UK entered the EU, causing the dairy industry to go into a bit of a crisis, and death duties were in place and a few other things which led to an exit from dairying on very small holdings around the Victor Harbor through to Goolwa area. A lot of that land is the land that today we are envisaging in an amendment to add to land that will be removed from the EFPA. I note an interest I have in a piece of land there that my family has owned for a very long period of time and that my parents live on, and I note that I have spoken to the Clerk in relation to that piece of land which is one of the parcels that is mentioned in the amendment.

The other thing that is slightly disappointing in this process is that I know a couple of us on this side of the house, at the request of conversations between the shadow minister and the minister, submitted some proposals last July about possible land that we thought could come out of the EFPA because we did not think it was currently under food production or of any environmental significance that it needed to have that protection over it. We submitted those back in July last year, and it is only right now that we are starting to have a conversation, with our amendments, about the changing of those maps to include those parcels of land.

Very much in that way, if we can find parcels of land—and we have certainly identified some in Hammond and some in the seat of Finnis, but there may be other parcels that we have not investigated in seats like Mawson and Kavel. Parts of some of those other electorates maybe also need to be considered for being taken out of the protection of the EFPA.

The problem with the EFPA is that, if it sits there, the answer is no before you even start considering the piece of land. If it is taken out it does not mean that it will be developed: there are many other stages through the planning process that are required to be met before that parcel, or any parcel, can be considered for development. So just removing the EFPA does not open it up to development; it just indicates to the wider community and to the minister that that parcel of land could be considered for development in the future. To me, if we can make those changes to these boundaries we certainly will end up with a better future plan in being able to consider land that would be sensible to consider.

We would be very interested to understand, in the process of the selection of the current land, how the assessment was made around the food production capability of the land. To me, there are some interesting things that may be looked at, and I imagine the simple things of soil type and rainfall might be the obvious things to look at in relation to the suitability of agricultural land, but I do not think they should be the only things that are considered in that overlay.

Certainly in my patch there are some areas: for example, for those who understand the terrain, particularly between Victor Harbor and Port Elliot, there is a road called Waterport Road that runs parallel to the beach, between the outskirts of the two towns. Just to the north of that there are parcels of land that run from the road back to the bottom of the foothills. Those parcels are effectively cut off, just by the sheer hill face, from being connected to agricultural land up the hill. It is really quite obvious that the terrain actually limits their ability to be viable farmland going forward.

The other interesting thing is that the parcel that we are looking at, including from the seat of Finnis, is about 730 hectares, roughly. That is just my guesstimate through having a bit of a count of the size of the parcels, rather than going into full detail. Looking at that guesstimate and then looking at how many allotments there actually are, what we are proposing is that there are 182 allotments, which works out to be about four hectares per parcel, which is certainly not of a farming size, although some of them are significantly more in size than that.

This area of land was originally subdivided back in the UK, in the early days of South Australia. It was literally cut up into 40-acre allotments. Some of these allotments have changed and some are still 40-acre allotments, but that is the maximum size of any of the allotments that are actually in this zone. So they are smallish parcels and very difficult to farm going forward.

As I have pointed out before, I have an interest there and have tried to continue farming a section of that with my parents. It is an extremely challenging environment in which to do so. I did a count a few years ago of how many neighbours we had, and it was about 70. It is very hard to farm when you have about 70 neighbours to keep happy, particularly when notifying them that you are doing something that requires notifying your neighbours. It can be quite challenging. It is a challenging environment to operate in in the circumstances that we have. But the important bit is that we do actually make sure that we keep housing supply going and keep the ability to access land. I think the amendments that we are suggesting here, to actually open up more land for consideration, certainly will help make sure that we end up with the right choice.

Intriguingly, looking again in my patch, the land we are talking about is well serviced by SA Water mains in particular. Electricity is not a significant issue either. Some of it certainly has sewerage connections, others do not—so there is some work to be done there. The road network to and from Adelaide certainly needs improvement, but that needs improvement no matter where we see development occur in the Victor Harbor-to-Goolwa zone. So it is not a significant change in what needs to be addressed long term in actually getting better connection.

These challenges exist elsewhere as well in trying to get it alright. Certainly, it is a challenge. We do not want to see good farming land being built on. If we can stop that, it is well and good, but I certainly understand that at times that will need to be looked at. That is when we should actually be concentrating and looking at what is on the table, what are the options and what can we do.

I very much support the comments from the member for Narungga about what he said about making sure that arable land remains accessible. As I pointed out, I think it is important that we include in that assessment its viability within the landscape of where it sits. Certainly, the member for Stuart yesterday was talking about the homelessness that occurs around the state, both in metropolitan areas and also in regional areas. It is something I certainly very much personally reflect on.

Back in the early 2000s, I did an Australian Rural Leadership Program and as part of that I spent some time in Sydney. During that time I spent a couple of nights out working with the homeless in Sydney, and a couple of stories really stick in my mind after talking with some of the people who were homeless at the time in Sydney. Of real interest was one gentleman I spoke to who was an accountant. He was a working accountant and he had actually chosen to save money for a deposit to buy a home and so he was living in his car. He had installed a rail in the back seat and he had his shirts and his suits hanging up in the back seat. He slept on the passenger side. He would travel

from shelter to shelter to have showers and he would go to all the food points to get food on different nights. That was his decision so he could save money for a house.

I also remember another gentleman when I was working on a coffee station and he wanted a dash of orange juice and 21 sugars in his coffee. I asked him, 'Does the sugar dissolve at that level?' He said, 'No. You get to this nice solid bit at the bottom.' I could not think of anything more sickly than a cupful of 21 sugars, but that stuck in my mind. It is certainly interesting.

It was a third story that really stuck in my mind, and it applies to Victor Harbor to a degree. This gentleman claimed to have been homeless in London, New York and other places around the world. He was now homeless in Sydney, and Sydney was by far the best place in the world to be homeless, as it had a lovely climate and wonderful services, and he was quite happy and content. But that is not where we should have our society: being content with that. We want them to actually have their own homes and their own ability to live in affordable housing and build what they need. I think it is important that we find a way to make sure that we achieve this going forward.

I think it is important that the amendments that the opposition is putting up around what is available to be considered is important, so I really encourage the government to consider our amendments in this space. I know it is a significantly larger proportion of land that will not be protected by the EFPA but, as I stated before, that does not mean it will be developed necessarily; it just means it can be considered. It means that developers could choose to investigate having that land developed, whereas at the moment, with an EFPA protection, it is a hardened rule that it is automatically a no.

I think that we need to make sure we keep working in this space to achieve a great outcome for our state, but I also think that we need to have a good understanding of what else we need to put in place as we develop these regions. We do need to have the infrastructure to get to and from these regions, particularly into the City of Adelaide, but we also need to have the ability to live and work in those communities themselves. We do not want every car leaving the town every day to come and work in the city. We want to have employment in these zones.

That also brings me to look at the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan and some of the things in the seat of Finnis that have been raised with me. One in particular is a challenge for me to even consider that this would be something that we would want in our community. Victor Harbor has just won, for the third year in a row, the tourist destination in South Australia, but to put an employment zone on the road into town seems like a strange thing to do: 'Welcome to our Tourist Town' but here is our industrial zone as we enter.

I do not want to see that. The owners of the land certainly do not want to see that. The challenge is they are not being removed in the EFPA changes because the EFPA changes only apply to residential developments, not to employment zones. So an employment zone can be put on farming land. To me, it is certainly a challenge through the GARP process that that land is being considered and certainly I have voiced my opinions both at the draft level and again recently to the minister in relation to that parcel in particular.

From here, I hope that we can continue now that we have good dialogue talking with the minister. I very much thank the minister and his staff for the briefings that he has personally given me as a local member as well as the opposition generally to actually have a conversation here. I think that with the good working understanding that we have in our own regional patches we can feed that through to the minister so that we can actually have a good outcome in relation to making sure that we do not put future removals from good viable farming land on the table, that we actually do have a really good look at what is actually out there and available.

Yes, maybe it does need a bit more development cost to choose that over some good farming land, but over the next 30 to 50 years that may change as well. We may see the infrastructure being planned and put in place to actually work towards these areas rather than good farming land. With those words, we will see where this bill lands. I think it is really important we continue to work with the government to achieve a great outcome.

Ms CLANCY (Elder) (16:39): I rise today in support of the Planning, Development and Infrastructure (Environment and Food Production Areas) Amendment Bill 2025. As we all know,

Australia is in the grip of a housing crisis, and South Australia is not immune. Greater Adelaide's population is expected to grow by 670,000 people by 2050. As it stands, we are not able to reach the levels of new builds required using the current planning framework. Urban infill has successfully increased density within our established residential areas, though not without some challenges, but we need to do more to make sure our growing population is able to find housing suited to their lives and family situations.

As a government, we have reassessed new housing targets and removed the 85 per cent urban infill policy. While infill has served its purpose, increasing housing close to infrastructure and services, as a government we have also listened to our communities and acted. Infill is not always popular and can sometimes create unintended consequences, such as parking congestion and tree loss.

My electorate of Elder is home to multiple character suburbs, and I hear regularly from residents who are devastated by the loss of tree canopy due to the levelling of blocks for subdivision. Cumberland Park and Westbourne Park are established neighbourhoods with much intact pre-1940s housing stock. The setbacks or front yards in these suburbs are uniform, as is the side setback from each neighbour. All are single storey with the occasional two-storey art deco beauty located on a corner block. Garages and driveways are minor elements of the streetscape and almost always set back behind the building line. Roof forms are gabled, most have porches, and all have eaves.

These are the components that form what is colloquially referred to as 'leafy suburbs'. These attributes are not super-complicated: space in the front yard for trees, houses set back from the shared property line and footpath, porches and eaves to block our harsh summer sun, street trees planted on adequate verge space. In contrast, urban infill is often defined by a break in the setback pattern, meaning no space for a tree, a concrete double-car driveway and garage, which eats away the remaining green space, a long concrete wall sometimes along the shared property line with neighbours, and no porches or eaves to speak of.

This results in a loss of canopy on private land that leaves no space for replacement plantings, sometimes a loss of a street tree due to subdivision and substantially more stormwater run-off due to an increase in concrete and hardscaping. These losses compound, resulting in the need for air conditioning to run day and night in summer in the new builds, because they have no trees, no porches, no eaves and therefore no shade.

These issues may seem inconsequential when faced with the current housing crisis—any housing is good housing, right? But in parts of my electorate, people understand how fortunate they are to live in their leafy suburbs and are devastated when the character and liveability of their suburb is chipped away by developers. I was contacted literally on Tuesday by a resident in her late 70s who has endured 13 months of building next door to her home in Westbourne Park. The loss of a beloved tree whose roots were damaged by the demolition has been particularly hard. She wrote a letter to the developer and copied me in. She said:

Our 40+ year elm tree in the front yard which we and indeed many neighbours loved, fell over and died within weeks of the bulldozers' demolition, levelling the land to flat.

We received letters from nearby children and condolences from friends and neighbours who loved and missed this beautiful neighbourhood tree. It was cared for by an arborist and was as healthy and fine as a tree could be.

It housed dozens of birds, reduced heat inside and out of the house, providing beauty for everyone and peace and shade for us.

You lived elsewhere, but we lived here...and construction continued daily for 5 days, often 6, very occasionally 7 days a week, for more than a year with high pitched, physical and psychoacoustic construction noise. A cacophony of unnatural sounds...grinding, screaming, drilling into concrete, hammering, knocking, etc., made by Dump trucks, Excavators, Breakers, Loaders, Concrete pumps, Concrete vibrators, Angle grinders, Jackhammers, Electric drills...even a crane usually sited in larger construction in the city...The noise was shattering...We didn't complain, kept thinking it would be over soon...

There is nothing that can be done now but I hope the council reconsiders the balance between development, neighbours and neighbourhood...

As a government, we understand that it is essential to find the right balance between urban infill and greenfield development. We have listened to the community and we do not want to put additional

infill pressure on already dense areas of our inner city. We have recalibrated our housing targets with this bill to ensure that everyone is able to choose the type of housing they would like to live in, be that within urban infill development with a mix of housing options or in a new suburb with space for a backyard.

We have removed the former objective of 85 per cent of future housing developments being urban infill projects and now look to both the north and the south for new housing opportunities. The Greater Adelaide Regional Plan (GARP), has identified where 315,000 new homes will be built over the next 30 years across Adelaide and preserves important land for future infrastructure requirements.

The growth areas to come out of the EFPA were determined following an extensive land assessment as part of the GARP process that considered many factors, including good quality agricultural land, land subject to natural hazards, environmentally sensitive land, land of cultural heritage value to Aboriginal people and locating lands near existing services and infrastructure.

The areas being removed from the environment and food protection areas still need to be rezoned before they are used primarily for residential development and this will occur in a staged manner over the next 30 years to ensure orderly development. Rezoning will occur based on demand and specifically take account of infrastructure provision and costs. The revision of the EFPA still ensures that the key agricultural lands surrounding Greater Adelaide are protected.

One of the misconceptions is that we are cutting away and removing highly productive agricultural lands or our food bowl. But this is not true. The changes to the EFPAs, that were based on a comprehensive analysis, represent a loss of less than 1 per cent of key agricultural lands in the GARP area. This, together with the current Character Preservation Districts and Hills Face Zone, ensure we retain a strong urban growth boundary.

We have learnt the lessons of Mount Barker and taken stock of the problems that have resulted from short-sighted urban planning and lack of green spaces in Greater Western Sydney. Areas identified for new homes are either already connected to infrastructure, have infrastructure commitments in place, or are located in areas where future investment in infrastructure is planned.

In 2020, Penrith was the hottest place on earth at 48.9°. In 2019, Parramatta sweltered through 47 days with temperatures over 35. These conditions are the result of planning mistakes, mistakes currently being replicated in Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth. In those developments in the Eastern States, and the West, features that exist in nature to naturally cool our environment, namely trees, have been removed and replaced with man-made surfaces and structures that magnify heat.

In some portions of western Sydney, buildings, roads and sealed surfaces, such as rubberised playgrounds and driveways, cover over 80 per cent of the surface area. These hard surfaces are like sponges, absorbing heat during the day and releasing this stored energy during the night. Adding to this the output of hot air from air-conditioning units running constantly to cool interiors means that entire suburbs are prevented from cooling down to safe, liveable temperatures overnight.

Temperatures can, however, be reduced at city scale with strategies that reduce the urban heat island effect, strategies such as using cool materials, increasing green cover and minimising hard surfaces. The Labor government has already implemented one of these strategies, announcing in early 2024 that the remaining dwellings in the Playford Alive housing development in Munno Para will be built with light-coloured roofs.

According to a 2018 heat-mapping report, light-roofed houses in the northern suburbs of Adelaide were 4.3° cooler than average during the day than those with dark roofs. Research shows light-coloured roofs reflect more sunlight and absorb less heat, resulting in cooler indoor temperatures and reduced energy consumption for cooling purposes. This is especially important in greenfield projects like Playford Alive, where the tree canopy is still developing.

Choosing the most energy-efficient roofing material can substantially reduce a building's heat island effect. Roofs are directly exposed to the sun and cover the entire building footprint. Traditional materials such as galvanised steel roofing, once used exclusively when character areas were built, reflect sunlight and rapidly radiate absorbed heat, therefore improving indoor temperatures overnight.

Thermally massive materials like roof tiles and concrete, both commonly used today, absorb energy and release it slowly overnight, trapping heat and making it hotter for everyone.

New subdivisions in the north like Playford Alive are sold at a very competitive price point and attract first-home buyers and families struggling to get onto the property ladder. We need to think about these people when it comes to cost-of-living pressures, and cooler homes mean smaller energy bills for the people who need it most. Thermally massive building walls are also huge contributors to the urban heat island effect, most significantly through heat absorption of afternoon sun but also through creating a need for interior air conditioning and cooling, making expelled hot air a secondary consequence that is contributing to the heat island effect. Walls that emit heat and hot air released from air conditioners make spending time in outdoor areas really uncomfortable.

A fundamental building strategy used to rectify this problem can once again be addressed by looking to the past and our beautiful leafy character areas. Wherever possible, we need to shade building walls. Porches and eaves are important. They are not cosmetic additions that can be scrapped for lower building costs. In our changing climate, and particularly in South Australia, we must recognise the benefits, both environmentally and economically, of adequate shading within new residential developments.

Residential outdoor spaces include courtyards, driveway crossovers and footpaths. These spaces need to function as usable places in hot and dry weather, and they need to function as cool spaces at a human scale because our climate is getting more and more extreme. Where paved surfaces are necessary, we need to maximise shade by increasing tree planting and prioritising canopy in places with high solar exposure, such as footpaths and roads.

Fortunately, state Labor announced a new policy package in 2024 to address tree loss and promote strategies to improve Adelaide's canopy. This is the result of a promise by state Labor before the last election to deliver best-practice tree laws for the benefit of all South Australians, and it will contribute to better outcomes for all new greenfield developments by ensuring minimum urban tree planning requirements for all new builds. Additionally, minimum tree planting and maintenance will be required for public areas in greenfield developments.

Our new regulations protect a greater number of trees, delivering on the government's commitment to implement Australia's best-practice tree protections. The new regulations protect trees with a smaller trunk circumference. The trunk size for regulated trees has been reduced from two metres to one metre, while for significant trees it has changed from three metres to two. Exemptions for trees based on distance from homes and pools have also been reduced. Now, only trees within three metres from a home or pool will be able to be removed without approval, whereas the old regulations allowed the removal of trees within 10 metres.

The new regulations place pruning limits on regulated and significant trees, allowing only 30 per cent of the trees' canopy to be removed every five years. Fees for destroying or removing protected trees have also increased, better reflecting the cost of replacement. Offset fees for a regulated tree increased from \$326 to \$1,000 and from \$489 to \$1,500 for a significant tree. The money collected from the removal of trees goes into either local councils' urban tree funds or into the state government's Planning and Development Fund. The money is used either to plant, establish and maintain trees or to purchase land to preserve or accommodate the planting of new trees.

These actions recognise the important role Adelaide's mature trees play in promoting community wellbeing, supporting biodiversity and reducing the urban heat effect. I would like to point out that these new laws strengthen planning rules to support design innovation and flexibility in order to hopefully retain more large trees. These urban tree canopy protections also extend to greenfield developments in master-planned neighbourhood zones and townships because we all want to avoid the mistakes made in Greater Western Sydney, where we see row after row of large houses on small blocks with no trees or green space to speak of.

This Labor government is making efforts to learn from the failures of the Eastern States and has the will to improve canopy outcomes for both infill and greenfield developments. Just a few weeks ago, the Malinauskas Labor government announced it will make the most significant investment in public open space in Greater Adelaide ever, creating the new Northern Parklands. At maturity, the

parklands will cover almost 1,000 hectares of land, which is 39 per cent larger than the Adelaide Parklands.

Developed as part of the new Greater Adelaide Regional Plan, the Northern Parklands will feature natural open space, new sport and recreation facilities, a new railway station, as well as three interconnected linear parks with shared use paths that will promote provide a continuous loop around Gawler.

At the heart of the Northern Parklands is the proposed 70 hectare Village Green sport and recreation area, which will be the equivalent of 31 Adelaide Ovals in size. The playing fields will include ovals, courts and clubroom facilities and will be home to numerous local sporting clubs located along the electrified Gawler railway line. It will feature public transport connections as well as car parking.

The Malinauskas Labor government has committed \$53 million towards the first stage of the Northern Parklands. Funds generated through future land developments as well as council contributions will help establish and maintain the Parklands. Legislation will be introduced to establish a new statutory authority, named the Northern Parklands Trust, which will establish the new Northern Parklands. Legislative change will enable the new authority to operate with a level of independence, with the Northern Parklands Trust to be responsible for the ongoing maintenance and management of the Northern Parklands once established, including oversight of any development or leases granted.

Our older, leafier character suburbs can teach us something when it comes to creating the suburbs of the future. It is not complicated: people need green spaces, canopy and sustainable buildings in order to thrive in our changing climate. We are doing everything we can to open up land and plan for positive outcomes in these new developments that will one day become places that communities love to live in. Our government is committed to addressing the housing crisis, and this bill is a big part of that. I commend the bill to the house.

Mr PEDERICK (Hammond) (16:57): I rise to speak to the Planning, Development and Infrastructure (Environment and Food Production Areas) Amendment Bill 2025. This bill comes about because of the need for amendments to the planning bill and to make sure that we have the appropriate amount of housing for growth into the future. We are certainly supportive of this bill with some amendments.

In light of my area, we have had a lot of history with housing proposals down towards Murray Bridge and Monarto, so to give a little bit of history about how the environment and food production areas came about, I was one of the few who were here in 2016—there were a few of us, I guess—when the planning legislation went through the house under Minister John Rau at the time. Our shadow minister was the former member for Goyder, Steven Griffiths, and he did a great job from our side of the house in working through the complexities of a very complex piece of legislation; it went on for months and months and months because it had to be held up at times so that other legislation could be debated.

There were a lot of changes from the original bill as it came through. There were about 300 government amendments and about 300 of our amendments, and there were probably some amendments from the crossbenches, mainly in the other place. So there was a lot of debate and a lot of changes. One of those changes was about 50 clauses in to the committee stage, which was interesting, with the introduction of the environment and food production area. So that is where they came in. It is a bit interesting that they were not part of the original bill. Essentially—and I did ask the minister this three times until I got the answer at the time—what the environment food production areas do is basically have the same power as the Barossa protected area and the McLaren Vale protected area.

We are at a point in time now where obviously we have a housing crisis, and this bill has come into place to cater for those needs. As I said, my electorate has had a deep history going back to the late sixties, early seventies with the Monarto proposal. I have always said it was quite visionary of former Premier Don Dunstan to go down this path, but I think it may have worked if he had gone another 15 kilometres down the road and expanded Murray Bridge instead of trying to set up a satellite city.

There were some problems: public servants did not want to move out and a whole range of things. I am not having a crack at public servants, I am just recalling history as I see it from what happened at the time. It created a whole lot of interesting scenarios where a lot of farms obviously were sold up and people travelled further down the road to my area of Coomandook and Coonalpyn and bought properties down there.

What happened out of all that was the land ended up getting realised. A lot of it went in 100-acre or 40-hectare blocks as you would call them now, lifestyle blocks, and a lot of these blocks are on remote water supply. One thing we did get out of it was the Monarto Safari Park, which is absolutely world class, and going on to bigger and better things with the accommodation about to be opened up in the near future and the elephants arriving over time, in addition to the couple we have there now. We have that bit of history going back 50-odd years.

We have then been fortunate in a way with the vision of the Murray Bridge Racing Club, the horse racing club, to have a new facility out at Gifford Hill, out towards the lakes from Murray Bridge about three kilometres up Brinkley Road. That proposal came from Brenton Lewis, who was the mayor later on in Murray Bridge, and the team at the racing club to move out there to essentially a greenfield site and build the racing club facilities and also have room for housing.

I think there were originally 3,500 blocks on that site and they dealt with the local landholder, who I assume got a bit of uplift with this proposal, and he bought some property then at Langhorne Creek. Of course, this was not straightforward obviously with rezoning and that kind of thing. The proposal eventually got up, and over many years now we have the fantastic racing club at Murray Bridge, which is rated as a metropolitan track now. It does run some Morphettville meets there, and I am glad to be involved there and glad to be a sponsor, and we are hoping for bigger and better things over time.

Burke Urban was the developer in the initial stages of that plan. The old racing club site inside Murray Bridge's town boundaries has been opened up for housing development, as well as a couple of extra holes at the golf club. That process has been ongoing for many years. We have got the racing club there, we have got trainers' stalls that have gone in place, a big trainers' shed and stabling facilities there for race day events. The racing club is essentially an island looking for something to go around it, and this is the opportunity.

To be frank, Gifford Hill was kept outside of the environment and food production area because I think it was already rezoned and ready to go, so that was where we had a bit of a leg-up in regard to this sort of proposal. Recently, as time has gone on, we saw the announcement last August where we could have 17,100 homes built over the next 40 years. It may take a shorter time, but obviously that is a broader timeframe. I only recently met with the Grange developers last week and they are very keen to get on with the job, finalising their discussions with council on what they need to do. They are certainly very proactive on how to get in there and they want to get on with it and start building the first 1,500 homes as soon as possible.

Some of this obviously comes with getting land excised out of the environment and food production area. There are 1,243 hectares in the Murray Bridge area that are within the EFPA and 1,489 hectares outside the environment and food production area, which gives a total of 2,732 hectares or, in the old language, 6,830 acres. It is part of the Greater Adelaide Plan and certainly there is lots of opportunity for growth on the country between Murray Bridge and Callington, but it has to be done appropriately and we need to make sure that we have the issues of other land users front of mind. It is something I have dealt with over years with the interests of agricultural production and value-add production.

We have the chicken industry which does everything from go to whoa in the area, from raising the chickens until you get up through to Kanmantoo and the processing of the chicken manure at Neutrog into organic fertilisers. We have Thomas Foods who have now moved out on Mannum Road with their facility processing over 600 beasts of cattle a day at the moment, and there are about 400 people employed out there. There would be hundreds involved in the chicken industry overall because it is go to whoa: it is the feed mill, it is the growing, it is the catching, it is putting them on the trucks. There is a truck on the freeway every 20 minutes going up to the north of Adelaide near Burton, I think it is, to process them.

We have Big River Pork; I think they employ about 350 people. We have Costa Mushrooms who recently doubled their vertical growing facilities at Monarto, which is at the top Monarto end of this proposal. They employ 500 people who come from a fair range of areas, including locally and from Adelaide up through to Salisbury, to work on that facility. It is a great facility and they do great work, and they are looking into the future for more expansion.

Yes, we do need the housing growth and we are a very good place for it in the surrounding area. It is not like Mount Barker, which is essentially a dormitory suburb. There are not a lot of big operations there for jobs in Mount Barker. There are a lot of commuters: they go every which way from Mount Barker, whether it is to Adelaide, Murray Bridge or elsewhere for work in the main. Sure, there are service jobs and shops there and that kind of thing, but a lot of people travel out.

We do have the employment lands around Murray Bridge which are part of this process as well. When this process is all finalised, I think it takes the employment lands out to 1,389 hectares, so we have plenty of growth opportunities. It is not just those big food processing companies that are there. There is light engineering, medium engineering, a whole range of truck work operations that are done in Murray Bridge and a whole lot of different jobs that are done.

Certainly, in the food processing area, it is not just swinging knives anymore in a processing facility. There are a lot of technical jobs, such as in Thomas Foods where once the meat lands in a box, it does not need a human hand on it; it gets travelled through to the 10-storey chillers to be stored, whether it is in a few boxes at a time or pallet loads. It is quite tech-focused.

We do have to make sure we get things right, and we are certainly keen to see, as we open up the lands over time, that we get the right land being used for building on, because obviously we still have to produce food in this great state. I have said it in here before: the best land in South Australia is probably directly under this building, right along the River Torrens here; it is some of the best farmland in the state. But we cannot change that—and we will not be changing it.

There is something that I have looked at that has happened in Queensland over time. It is the Queensland Agricultural Land Audit, which:

...identifies land important to current and future production and the constraints to development, highlighting the diversity and importance of Queensland's agricultural industries.

In terms of what it covers, the audit includes:

- maps showing current and potential agricultural land use
- strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to agricultural development for each region across Queensland
- information on land uses, infrastructure, biophysical conditions and constraints to agricultural development.

It is a key reference tool to help guide investment in the agricultural sector and inform decision-making to ensure the best future use of the state's agricultural land.

The use of this audit will assist land and resource managers, investors and government officers to:

- inform strategic policy, planning and investment decisions. This may include the protection of locally important agricultural areas, investment in infrastructure which supports agriculture (e.g. roads, water supply) or natural disaster planning
- assist in modelling the impact of certain developments on agricultural land. This may include biophysical information such as soil type, identification of suitable alternative development areas or co-location of compatible land uses
- drive local and regional economic development opportunities such as increasing market access, demonstrating best management practice or providing certainty to different land use sectors within a region
- conduct due diligence assessments.

As part of the Queensland process, they set up a land class framework, where the land and soil information has been classified using the agricultural land class (ALC) scheme:

Adapted from the Agricultural land evaluation guidelines for Queensland, the standard definitions of each class are:

- Class A: Crop land that is suitable for a wide range of current and potential crops with nil to moderate limitations to production.
- Class B: Limited crop land that is suitable for a narrow range of current and potential crops due to severe limitations, but is highly suitable for pastures. Land may be suitable for cropping with engineering or agronomic improvements.
- Class C: Pasture land that is suitable only for improved or native pastures due to limitations which preclude continuous cultivation for crop production. Some areas may tolerate a short period of ground disturbance for pasture establishment.
- Class D: Non-agricultural land and land not suitable for agricultural uses due to extreme limitations. This may be undisturbed land with significant conservation or catchment values, land that may be unsuitable because of very steep slopes, shallow soils, rock outcrop, poor drainage, salinity, acidic drainage, or is an urbanised area.

Current agricultural land use was mapped across the state, using data from the Queensland Land Use Mapping Program. They also looked at native forestry areas and grazing areas in regard to this matter.

Certainly in my area, as I have said, there has been a long history of proposals for urban development. Essentially, to Murray Bridge it is only three-quarters of an hour from the Glen Osmond lights. I think there certainly need to be improvements in public transport and metro ticketing with the growth of the area and the easy reach that people do need for going to the city.

Murray Bridge, apart from being somewhere that you can work, rest and play (and you can do all those things there), is ideal for the retirement sector and for a lot of farmers from not just South Australia—the South-East, the Mallee, Bordertown or towards Mount Gambier—but also the western districts of Victoria. I know we have people from those areas come to Murray Bridge because, like me, they are not entirely enthralled with being in the city, and they can be in Murray Bridge and surrounding areas and be within an hour of vital services.

What will happen in the future, and what I like about the Gifford Hill proposal—as I said, some of the land will have to come out of the environment and food production areas—is that this area is being master planned to have schools in place and health facilities, and we will need to look at a new hospital and all the other facilities that are needed, like a high street somewhere near the racing club. It is going to be something that, once it is full noise, will be triple the size that Murray Bridge is now. Murray Bridge has about 22,000 people now, and it will be at least triple the size when it is all done.

We will certainly need other upgrades like exits and access to the freeway; that is always something that needs to happen. Obviously, in the near future we do need that Greater Adelaide Freight Bypass in line with the duplication of the Swanport Bridge as well. So it certainly is an opportunity, and I hope it has a far better outcome than Monarto did. Everything is pointing that way, but nothing is there until it is there.

Obviously, in some parts there is rezoning to be done and that sort of thing. There is obviously this legislation around taking some land out of the environment and food production area. Certainly, for my end of the state, I think it is the right place with coordinating the use of agricultural land and also the ability to grow Murray Bridge and surrounding area as a great area that could eventually be something like Ballarat is to Melbourne. That is a long way off, and I will have to be very old if I am going to see it, but it is an opportunity and we just have to get it right.

One thing I stress is we need to make sure that we can coexist and have the right buffers in place for those agricultural industries, whether they are primary production or those processing industries like Costa mushrooms, to make sure that we can all coexist and move into the future, because if we are going to have these jobs and this employment land we need to make it work with the development. I commend the bill.

The SPEAKER: The member for Hammond mentioned his involvement with the Murray Bridge Racing Club. We have had a few big cup days down there, and I can attest to you being a sponsor because my horse had its first metro win, which was an Adelaide race being raced

down there in January a couple of years ago—Water Into Wine. The second-best thing about that picture of the horse going across the finish line is the big picture of you saying that you are the local MP and a great sponsor of the racing club. So well done, and go the nags.

Ms PRATT (Frome) (17:17): I rise to speak to the Planning, Development and Infrastructure (Environment and Food Production Areas) Amendment Bill. Our farmers who feed us need us, and the bill before us is an opportunity for me, as the member for Frome representing over 170 localities in farming communities, to tell their story as we work our way through the opportunities that this bill presents us.

So what is the bill about? It does seem to be a strong feeling through my community that, as the bill has been presented in what would be described as a hasty way for some, it is a government that does not really want to have an honest conversation about its failure to deliver or plan for the essential infrastructure required to build houses on land that has already been cleared and released, sitting dormant for some years now without development.

If you go for a drive, you are going to see pretty quickly new estates that require trucks on a daily basis carting sewage out because the work has not been done. We are committed, as the opposition, to supporting more housing in country communities but with better planning.

Members interjecting:

Ms PRATT: Without interruption, I will state that again because it is an important point to make to my communities, and they are the ones that I am talking to. We are committed to seeing more houses, new homes, built in a timely fashion, developed and implemented in our country towns—in our country towns—and there are a lot of opportunities that I hope to expand on to make that point. But it is a fair argument to make that the groundwork has not been done. We committed to seeing housing projects developed in country towns, but with better planning.

It will not be lost on many people who are paying attention to current affairs that while we still are experiencing a drought, farmers are very much under pressure. They are facing the pressure of urban expansion, they are facing the pressure of a drought with no relief in sight—and we hope relief comes—they are facing the worst harvest they have experienced in many, many decades—

Mr Pederick: Ever.

Ms PRATT: Ever for some families. My family certainly had a shocker in 1967. Not only did we destock, but we lost all of our breeding lines. The reality hits home hard for our farming families. So they are experiencing a drought, harvest was a shocker, and we do not know when that relief is coming. We know that the urban expansion is putting pressure on their right to farm and their livelihoods. We are seeing rising council rates. Insurance premiums are rising and farmers are reporting the very difficult decision to underinsure or privately self-insure, but those costs are rising and that all impacts their bottom line.

To add to those imposts, the unique circumstances they find themselves in when older farmers particularly establish self-managed superannuation plans, self-managed funds, where, again in my family, farming land was the superannuation that my parents and my grandparents relied on, where tax implications complicate those arrangements. Farming is a modern industry, but it is a complex one. It is important that I rise on behalf of my community at least to tell their story, to have recorded forevermore and to share with those members who are in the house with me the difficulties that they are facing currently.

With all of that going on, and in fact a drought round table underway this afternoon with the Premier in some building in the city, why now would this Labor government target farmers yet again? The proposed changes have been described as urban encroachment without proper planning and the opposition is trying to ensure that the statutory review of the EFPA is robust and better considered than this desperate attempt by the government to distract the public from the truth that they are failing to deliver on any of their previous election commitments, including infrastructure before construction.

So I want to use this platform available to me to speak to those and for those who are living and working in my region to have their views represented to a government that is all sausage and no sizzle, especially when it comes to actively listening to primary producers and what they are asking

for. They are asking to be seen, they are asking to be valued, they are asking to be met on their properties in their communities so that those complex solutions can be found.

With the time available to me, I intend to expand on formal submissions that have been made by peak bodies, industry leaders and farmers. The Primary Producers SA (PPSA) representing a number of members including the GPSA, Livestock SA, SA Dairy Farmers' Association, SA Forest Products Association, Horticulture Coalition and the Wine Grape Council of SA have made a very substantial and considered contribution in relation to the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan and the proposed boundary changes within the EFPA. I do not mean to misrepresent them, but I want to capture what I took away from their submission. It tells an important story of this very important industry, important to government, a lucrative industry, in fact.

PPSA is proud to champion the significant achievements of South Australian agriculture, a \$17 billion sector that supports over 70,000 jobs and provides more than half of the state's export earnings. They believe that food, wine and fibre value chains in South Australia form the social economic fabric of the state, supporting our tourism sector.

A significant proportion of the Greater Adelaide area encompasses important rural production areas which are inherently fertile and close to markets and services for key horticultural, dairy, livestock, seed, fodder and cropping industries that generate significant earnings for the state. At the 2020-21 ABS Agricultural Census, the Greater Adelaide region generated almost 20 per cent of the state's total gross value of agricultural production. Of importance, the PPSA write in their submission to the Planning Commission:

The discussion paper fails to recognise the scarcity of arable land and water resources in South Australia. There is an inherent bias in framing agricultural land as 'greenfield sites' for housing development. Farming land is often the easiest to source and cheapest to develop but this comes at an enormous cost to the wider agricultural industry and Australia's capacity to produce food.

Membership feedback to the PPSA has been consistent on the following points: interface conflicts and the role of buffer zones, complaints about farming practices within rural zones, preserving arable land, and planning system complexity. I thank them for the work they put into that submission.

Livestock SA, chaired by Gillian Fennell, has also made its observations on the process that is before us, suggesting that government is prioritising urban expansion at the expense of prime agricultural land. We see a theme building. Livestock SA would welcome a future-focused discussion about how we can provide greater opportunities and supporting policies, including housing affordability, to encourage population growth in regional towns rather than further sprawl into prime agricultural land. At the time of the drought—currently—the Chair has challenged the Premier, politely invited him, strongly encouraged him, to reset his priorities and accept her offer to visit farmers but without the press pack in tow.

The government's own policy previously recognised the importance of protecting food producing regions, stating that these areas must be preserved to support food security, economic growth and South Australia's global reputation as a premium producer of food and fibre. Well-planned regional development can provide economic benefits, ease housing pressure in the city and strengthen rural communities.

A contribution from Livestock SA: they urge the government to halt proposed changes until the 2027 EFPA review can be completed with full consultation, ensuring agriculture has a permanent voice in planning decisions that impacts its future. South Australia needs a balanced plan that protects both housing needs and vital farmland to safeguard food security, economic sustainability and climate resilience.

The SA Wine Industry Association, to capture very briefly a contribution by them, are aware of the high demand for housing that is already impacting on the grape and wine production sector in terms of housing its workforce. However, it is important that planning should actively discourage any such growth that results in further encroachment on productive, high-value farming land, especially vineyards.

On behalf of all farmers, I thought I would share quite a sentimental and poignant email that was sent to me by a lovely farmer, a lady called Elizabeth from Owen, who has captured the

consternation that many farming families feel about the state government's decision to deliberately target prime farming land for housing. It reads:

We appreciate what we have. We feel for those farmers who could lose their land to housing development. We know the population is increasing, we know people need somewhere to live. We know we need to feed people. We know we need rain to do this. Good soil, rain and grower diligence help produce this. Once the good land is gone, we cannot produce in the same way. There must be an alternative.

I do not want the house to be fooled into thinking that farmers are merely reacting to this particular amendment bill. This has been a long-held concern that Labor governments dictate to them how they should run their business. Printed in last year's *Grain Producer Magazine*, a question was put to Ben of Roseworthy: 'What's the biggest challenge farming where you are?' and his answer was: 'Urban sprawl.'

Jumping to the State Planning Commission, which presented to the parliamentary Environment, Resources and Development Committee, there are some contributions that I want to share, made by either Craig Holden, the chair of the commission, or Brett Steiner, the Acting Director of Growth, Management, Planning and Land Use Services. Brett kicked off by saying, to explain the EFPA:

We do know that not all land is equal within the EFPA. It does a couple of things though: (1) connect primary production, (2) land that's got environmental value, and (3) essentially tries to make the urban form of Adelaide more efficient by utilising land within that existing urban boundary before looking further afield at other areas.

When the Hon. Michelle Lensink of the other place asked if the State Planning Commission had done a really good assessment of land productivity to prioritise the development of less productive land before pursuing better farming land, this was the answer given:

...we are very familiar with the land north from Roseworthy—that the minister says is the golden mile. That's where the cereal farmers [have] very productive land. We want to hear from the community and from the farmers to say [to them]...'This land north of Roseworthy is highly valued productive land and we should think long and hard before that becomes any future housing.' Equally...the trunk road up through Dublin and the like is lower value productive land, and so we need to think about where we actually plan for growth.

In relation to the actual job ahead of the government to build houses on the land, they have already released this and this is what the commission had to say:

...Everyone is being tested at the moment because build costs are making some feasibilities not stack up, whether it's infill housing, whether it's apartments...

The industry says that we are slowly coming to terms with the trades coming back but, of course, the trades now have a lot of choices. Infrastructure is huge across the country, run by governments, and major infrastructure works. We are about to build the Torrens to Torrens—wherever you turn...

There's a shortage of planners in South Australia, there's a shortage of conveyancers and there's a shortage of surveyors. Right across the built environment, a lot of young ones are not choosing these as careers.

That was a submission, made in person, from the State Planning Commission to a parliamentary committee.

Feedback from the Adelaide Plains Council in reflection and review of the GARP that has been released speaks very positively about opportunities they see in their patch around developing that Port Wakefield corridor, the dual carriageway that runs from Riverlea to Port Wakefield.

I will note in summary some feedback from the Adelaide Plains Council in—I guess it is my interpretation that there is some disappointment that submissions made to the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan and process were not picked up. Where there is an opportunity, it says:

Council's submission requesting GARP include the opening up of development potential in Lewiston/parts of Two Wells through Gawler River flood infrastructure investment (raising the height of the Bruce Eastick Dam wall), as an area of investigation to be undertaken has not been identified in the GARP specifically.

As I reflect on these opportunities to add value to this bill, to seek some amendments, or to provide in good faith feedback from what the communities are saying, there would be those who were unaware of the consultation process being undertaken and have been caught surprised by some of these propositions in the amendment bill.

I am proud of the work that I have been doing supporting the township of Two Wells and my own advocacy on serious issues of safety around the primary school and the lack of services and infrastructure within the town. There is more to come, of course. The primary school will finally get a fence to keep the students safe and I am thrilled that that means the government will be spending \$10 million investing in families who live within the Two Wells township. That is a significant amount of money.

The social infrastructure and advancement that has been thoroughly planned and delivered in the estates of Liberty and Eden means a brand-new campus for Xavier College, a brand-new dog park and a brand-new playground. All of that aligns with the council's vision for a new shopping precinct that the community are excited about. That is set to cater for thousands of people who do and will call Two Wells home.

There is a national train line running through the town of Two Wells, so we have a freight corridor already established. The fact that the government is spending millions of dollars in Two Wells would suggest that there is an opportunity to look a little bit closer, to lean into the opportunity to continue to develop that corridor before we go after prime farming land.

So why not consider the Two Wells corridor, the Port Wakefield corridor, the less productive land extending north of Riverlea all the way through to Port Wakefield, where I understand the Adelaide Plains Council and the Wakefield council are supportive of that level of investment? Why not adjust the ratio of housing delineated within this legislation and fully commit to developing that corridor along Port Wakefield Highway that captures those towns that I have mentioned? I just do not think the arguments stack up at this point.

To my country farmers, I say: as we lead up in the next two years to the review of the EFPA, from opposition, we will be doing this properly. We will map this with you. No-one knows this territory better than the farmers that live on this land. They know the fall of the land, they know the back roads, they know the opportunities. Instead of an arbitrary line that has been drawn on a map with a Sharpie, we will stand in your paddock, we will walk the river flats, we will inspect local infrastructure and consult people in the nearest towns and map it with you.

More than anything, I want to see homes built within country towns. I want to see families choose to live further away from the city and commit themselves to rural living. We have developed amended maps in good faith that, through the committee process, might unlock those opportunities. I want to see enrolments in state schools in country towns grow. I want teachers to be enticed to have the experience that I did working in country schools.

I want those teachers joining clubs, I want them playing sport, I want them volunteering, and this is possible now. It is possible in Riverton, in Mallala, in Balaklava, in Watervale, in Clare. In Hamley Bridge, there are 900 allotments allocated for this town to thrive and flourish. It should be possible in Freeling, but it is not. So why are we seeing this razzle-dazzle routine from the government? Because they have not done the groundwork. The infrastructure is not there. There is no water. They are avoiding the truth of the fact that infrastructure is the impediment to these advancements.

Led by the Premier, two weeks ago the government dropped seven media releases in the hope that they could fool everyone into believing this mirage that they have put up. I have had many developers talk to me about their concern that government cannot deliver houses on this scale because they have not done the groundwork. I have driven along Kemp Road to find the pet cemetery where Abdul the pug is buried. I have been exploring this territory with my community, and I would say to the government, as we progress this bill: do not bite the hand that feeds you.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Odenwalder.

Parliamentary Committees

JOINT PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Legislative Council informed the House of Assembly that, pursuant to section 5 of the Parliament (Joint Services) Act 1985, it had appointed the Hon. D.G.E. Hood to the committee in

place of the Hon. L.A. Henderson (resigned) and the Hon. N.J. Centofanti as the alternate member to the Hon. D.G.E. Hood.

At 17:39 the house adjourned until Thursday 3 April 2025 at 11:00.