

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 1 May 2025

The SPEAKER (Hon. L.W.K. Bignell) took the chair at 11:01.

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.

Parliamentary Procedure

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENSION

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (11:01): I move:

That standing and sessional orders be and remain so far suspended as to enable me to move a motion without notice forthwith and for government business to take precedence over Private Members Business, Committees and Subordinate Legislation, then for Private Members Business, Committees and Subordinate Legislation set down on the *Notice Paper* for today to take precedence for one hour.

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

Motion carried.

Condolence

POPE FRANCIS

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (11:02): I move:

That the House of Assembly expresses its sincere regret at the passing of the pontiff His Holiness Pope Francis and gives thanks for the life and works of a man whose humility, compassion and deep commitment to humanity marked him as one of the truly great spiritual leaders of our time.

I rise to honour the passing of Pope Francis—Bishop of Rome, Vicar of Christ, Servant of the Servants of God—who passed from this earthly realm on Monday 21 April at the age of 88. 'Todos, todos, todos'—'everyone, everyone, everyone'. This was the simple message of inclusion that Pope Francis gave the world during the 12 years of his papacy, which is an encapsulation of the philosophy by which he lived. He summed up his message to each of us: that all are deserving of kindness, that all are deserving of mercy, that all are deserving of love, that all are children of God.

The first pope from Latin America, the man born Jorge Mario Bergoglio, truly lived his creed. He gave his time and love to prisoners, to the poor, to the sick, to those historically excluded from the Catholic Church. He even spoke well of politicians—a man of great generosity—calling our vocation 'one of the highest forms of charity.' We would all do well to remind ourselves of his words from time to time and aspire to the standard it sets.

Appropriately for a man whose papal name was chosen to honour St Francis of Assisi and his tradition of service and humility, Pope Francis eschewed the trappings of his position. Notably, he chose to live simply in the guesthouse of the Domus Sanctae Marthae, the House of St Martha, rather than amidst the grandeur of the Apostolic Palace, breaking centuries of papal tradition. I recall that when that first occurred after he moved into the more humble surrounds of the guesthouse, there were those in rather high positions in the Catholic Church who backgrounded media at the time, saying, 'Let's see how long this lasts.' It lasted the entirety of his papacy.

Pope Francis was a loyal servant of the Catholic Church, but he did not ignore its failings. He demonstrated fierce determination to hold the church accountable just as much as himself. He was courageous in speaking out on the failures of the church, particularly the crisis of sexual abuse by members of the clergy. He used his position to rail against economic inequality and the burdens shouldered by the global poor. He celebrated the natural world and called for humanity to protect it

as its stewards, particularly against the moral issue of climate change. It made him a target for criticism from all sides—those who opposed change and those who expected change to be greater—but through his leadership he charted his own path of service, humility and faith.

The merest glance at the state of the world reminds us that it is all too easy to destroy, it is easy to divide and it is easy to lie and dissemble. That is the lazy, cynical path and leads only to darkness. Pope Francis challenges us to take the difficult path: the path of Christ's example of love, of inclusion, of welcome, of compassion and of truth. He challenges us to create a world that provides a place for everyone, regardless of their faith, their nationality, their sexual orientation or—critically—their economic circumstances. His was a message of hope at a time when hope seems in short supply. His passing also leaves us with a challenge to continue to work together in the spirit of love, humility and service. Requiescat in pace, Papa Francesco. I commend this motion to the house.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition) (11:08): I also rise to support the motion and pass on my sincere condolences to Catholics who are still mourning right around the world following the passing of Papa Francesco, as he was known. We join Catholics across South Australia, across our nation and throughout the world to mourn the passing of His Holiness Pope Francis, a leader whose life was defined by humility, compassion and a relentless commitment to service. He showed the world that true leadership is not measured in titles or in power, but in kindness, empathy and the willingness to walk alongside those who suffer. His life and papacy were a living testament to the strength found in simplicity, the courage found in mercy and the hope found in faith.

Born Jorge Mario Bergoglio in Buenos Aires in 1936, Pope Francis was shaped by the streets of Argentina and by a life lived close to the people. His election as the 266th pontiff marked many firsts: the first pope from the Americas, the first Jesuit pope and the first to take the name Francis after the humble saint who devoted his life to the poor and to peace. In every way, Pope Francis lived up to the spirit of that name.

Throughout his time as Bishop of Rome, he called on the world to remember the dignity of every person. He championed the forgotten and the oppressed. I draw back to the funeral commemoration that highlighted him doing things like stopping alongside the road in Italy, where families would try to present their children who were obviously suffering from some sort of impairment or illness or disability. He would stop the motorcade and get out of the car and make sure that he took the time for those things. During Holy Week, he would clean and wash the feet of the prisoner. No-one was too good or too low for the Pope.

He reminded the powerful of their duty to serve, not to dominate, and he urged all of us to care for the earth, our common home. His leadership was quiet but unshakable. It was gentle, but it was firm. It was compassionate yet courageous. As a Catholic, I found real inspiration in the way Pope Francis lived out his faith with humility, strength and compassion. He showed us that true leadership is not above power or status, but it is in walking alongside people, lifting others up, staying true to your values even when it is difficult.

His example was a powerful reminder that service to others is at the heart of everything we do, especially in public life. For me personally, his message was a reminder that leadership must always be about lifting others up, not about lifting ourselves above, that we are all passing through and we are only in these roles because of a greater being.

His was a papacy that reached far beyond the walls of the church. He spoke not only to Catholics but to people of every faith and of none. He spoke to those who had lost hope, who felt unseen, who yearned for a better future, and through his words and, more importantly, through his actions, he gave them a reason to hope again. In South Australia, where faith communities play a vital role in our social fabric, his teachings found fertile ground, especially his calls for compassion, for justice, and for care of the vulnerable as well. Pope Francis understood the struggles of everyday life. He never shied away from confronting injustice, but he did so with a heart full of love and a deep belief in the goodness of humanity.

In mourning Pope Francis, we also celebrate his life. We celebrate a life spent in service to others, a life devoted to lifting the burdens of the poor, to healing divisions, to inspiring a spirit of hope where there was once despair. We will never forget the images of world leaders coming

together. In recent times, some of these world leaders have had disagreements, but in St Peter's Basilica on the day of his funeral we saw the powerful images of how leaders were able to come together, not only to commemorate the Pope but also to resolve other differences.

Even in death, Pope Francis left us with one final message, not spoken from a pulpit but placed quietly inside his coffin. A document known as the Rogito recorded the key milestones of his journey, and at its heart was his episcopal motto, 'Miserando atque eligendo'—'By having mercy and by choosing'. The phrase, drawn from a homily from St Bede on the calling of Matthew, echoed something Pope Francis carried throughout his life: a belief that God chooses not the powerful but the humble, that it is mercy, not might, that moves the hand of God.

In a homily recently for the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart, Pope Francis reflected on Deuteronomy 7:6-11. He said, 'He fell in love with our littleness, and that is why he has chosen us. He chooses the little: not the great ones, but the little ones.' That sentiment sat at the core of his leadership. It aligned with the motto in the Rogito and underscored the idea that God calls those who are humble and acknowledges their potential.

Through his papacy, he consistently highlighted that God's grace is extended to the humble, reinforcing the message that humility is a path to divine closeness. Whether it was in the streets of Buenos Aires or the seat of St Peter, Pope Francis never stopped pointing us to that truth. Littleness is not something to overcome, but something to embrace, because it is in that place, in the quiet and the unseen, that God meets us.

I had the privilege of attending, with some of those opposite, a memorial mass held in honour of Pope Francis, a moment to stand in prayer and reflection with our community as we gave thanks for his life, his message and his enduring impact. We give thanks for the example that he set, not only for Catholics but for all people of goodwill who seek a better, fairer and kinder world. When I look at some of the reflections of that service, he brought people together right until the end.

There were not just Catholic leaders at that service. There were leaders from the Greek Orthodox community, the Ukrainian Orthodox community, right around the globe, and the different aspects of Christianity were there as well. It was not just a mass in Latin. It was not just a mass in Italian. It was a mass that was broadcast in several different languages. You could tell that he had methodically thought about what he could do to make sure that the word of the Gospel could be spread right throughout the world. May we honour his memory by living as he taught us: with humility, with courage, and with a faith that never wavered. Vale Pope Francis. May your spirit continue to guide us all.

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence) (11:14): Thank you very much to our Premier for bringing this important motion to the house. I am really proud to rise to speak in support of it following 10 days of reflection since His Holiness Pope Francis went home, humble to the end of his time on this earth, choosing to be interred in a simple wooden coffin with people around the world mourning, but similarly reflecting on the profound impact he has had on so many through the hope, comfort, love and wisdom he has offered and inspired.

The shared reflections of millions of people have focused on the life of His Holiness Pope Francis, on his steadfast values, and what they have and will continue to teach leaders, and indeed all people across the globe, what it means to truly dedicate your life to serving others and to living simply and humbly, driven by faith, fairness, justice, love, compassion and kindness—qualities that to me exemplify Christianity and living as Jesus would, and qualities that can serve as an enduring guide to us all.

Born in 1936, His Holiness Pope Francis, then Jorge Bergoglio, was raised in a family of Italian Catholic immigrants. His mum really wanted him to become a doctor, but he instead chose to pursue his calling to the priesthood. As a young man in the 1950s, he joined the Jesuits, attracted to the order's vow of poverty and its ethos of serving others, including all, and living simply. He became a priest in 1969, Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998 and the Pope in 2013.

As Pope, his dedication to social justice was deeply rooted in the Latin American context. I have learned that inequality, poverty and political upheaval experienced across the region and

intertwined with its history deeply influenced his perspective, his actions and his words. He significantly contributed to the advancement of that region, playing a mediating role between the United States and Cuba, supporting the peace process in Colombia, and highlighting environmental devastation occurring in the Amazon. He publicly apologised to Indigenous peoples of Latin America for the church's historical complicity with the negative impact of colonialism and acknowledged past inaction in relation to terrible sexual abuse.

His landmark encyclical *Laudato Si'* underscored the moral imperative to address climate change, inspiring accolades from global leaders. His critique of the conflict in Gaza underscored his consistent opposition to war and advocacy for peace. Pope Francis's beautiful leadership has been a deeply impactful catalyst for regional and global dialogue on social justice. Indeed, on becoming Pope, he chose the name Francis in association with St Francis of Assisi, a patron saint known for his commitment to tackling poverty, to living simply and with the environment, and to advancing peace.

Pope Francis took judicious but decisive steps toward inclusion, appointing women to decision-making positions within the church. In this, and in so much, Pope Francis was a clever, wise, compassionate reformer. He was disciplined, staying true always to the foundations of the church, but within this vast and enduring institution, he worked to reform, to bring people together, to bring people on a journey. As we contemplate such a troubled world, he spoke up, he influenced, he unfailingly spoke truth, he urged kindness in others' adversity, he espoused that every person deserved to be loved. He advanced change, change relentlessly grounded in all that truly embodies the way of Jesus.

As Archbishop Patrick O'Regan reiterated at Sunday's beautiful memorial mass at St Francis Xavier's Cathedral, his words 'todos, todos, todos', meaning 'everyone, everyone, everyone', called on all of us to include all, to welcome all, to love all, to focus on what unites rather than divides us, to honour all people as members—precious members—of our global human family.

Pope Francis saw the church as being beyond its four walls and with all people, for all people. Pope Francis was there for the most marginalised, the poorest, the sick, the condemned, the disenfranchised, the unheard, the unseen. He was, indeed, there for everyone, and encouraged us to be there for all people also. In doing so, he urged us to embrace forgiveness, saying that forgiveness can heal the poisons of resentments and bring peace to our hearts. He knew and encouraged us not to waste time fighting with others but to forgive always, seeing forgiveness as a way to a reconciled, kinder world.

On Easter Sunday, Pope Francis dedicated some of his last hours on earth to advocate for those most vulnerable and abused in our world and called for a peaceful future. As he did on this last day, as he did throughout his life and as he will continue to do, he inspires us with his words and his way of living: to love more, to forgive more, to embrace more and to live more intensely. May we all continue to live out this message through our actions each and every day, and may His Holiness Pope Francis rest in peace.

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (11:22): I also take the opportunity to support the motion, which recognises the passing of His Holiness Pope Francis and really pays tribute to the important role that he played for the people who live in my local Catholic community in Morphett, for the South Australian Catholic community, the wider Christian community and, of course, the 1.4 billion Catholics worldwide.

Pope Francis was a man of peace, he was a man of humility, and he was also a man of firsts in the Catholic Church. As has been said, he was the first pope from South America, he was the first Jesuit pope and also, on becoming pope, he took the name Pope Francis. He was elected at conclave in a short time—only 24 hours—which says a lot about the unity he brought amongst the cardinals to choose him.

The importance of choosing the name Francis really says a lot about his vision for the church. Of course, St Francis of Assisi is the patron saint of Italy and was a man who loved the simple lifestyle and wanted to bring people to recognise the glory of God through the simple things, not through wealth, not through power, but relying on God for everything. If you go to Assisi, as I have had the fortune to, it is a medieval town. It does not seem as though it has changed much in parts from the

13th century when St Francis of Assisi was present, and you can see the love and affection that the Italians have for that man.

One aspect of St Francis of Assisi that gave him such prominence is that he had a vision to reform the church at the time, so back in the 13th century. I think that holds true to the vision that Pope Francis had as well. He came to the papacy at a time when the church had significant troubles. It had issues dealing with past horrors of child abuse and financial transparency issues as well, and this certainly became a focus of the Pope in his life. He was an important man.

As a pope, he was not a pope just for the Catholic faith. He was a pope to bring peace to the world as well, and he wanted to reach out to people of other faiths, as he did. He had relationships with the Muslim world, certainly one where he mirrored the work of St Francis of Assisi, who travelled to Egypt at the time to meet with Egyptian sultans. Fast-forward to Pope Francis, and he had a relationship with the imam in Egypt. He also had relationships with people of the Jewish faith to try to bring people together to promote what has been known as a message of fraternity throughout the world, in what is a divided world, and to promote a message of peace in what is a troubled world at present. With conflict in Europe and with conflict in the Middle East, this message still rings true.

As has been said, he was a man of humility, but he also continually wanted to reach out and spread the gospel. This was reinforced by the fact that, while very ill in the very later stages of his papacy, he was able to still spread the word of the gospel on Easter Sunday. So, when he passed on Easter Monday, that shows that within only 24 hours of him passing he was still trying to do the work of God.

As happened with many Catholic parishes throughout the state, the Catholic parish of Glenelg held a memorial mass at Our Lady of Victories, conducted by Father John on the Tuesday after Easter Monday, to recognise the message that the Pope brought to the world and to recognise the work that he did but also the significance of the occasion. Anytime a pope passes, it marks a time of reflection for the church but also the possibility of renewal, so to mark that occasion was very important.

Ultimately, there was a time of reflection before the actual funeral service for Pope Francis. The funeral reinforced the humility and the simplicity that Pope Francis wanted to bring to his papacy. He was buried in a wooden coffin, and he was interred at St Mary Major in Rome as opposed to in St Peter's Basilica. Certainly, there is a contrast between those two basilicas. St Peter's is very grand, and St Mary Major is a tribute to Mary but it is also a much simpler church, which again reinforces the message of Pope Francis.

In summing up, as has been observed by many, it is a true reflection that Pope Francis gave greater value to gestures than to discourse. He really lived, and his actions spoke as loud as his words. Pope Francis wrote, in recognition of the work that St Francis of Assisi did—and I think it actually holds true to the work of Pope Francis as well—these words:

Francis did not wage a war of words...he simply spread the love of God...In this way, he became a father to all and inspired the vision of a fraternal society.

Rest in peace, Pope Francis. May your legacy of humility and peace be eternal and guide us.

The Hon. J.A.W. GARDNER (Morialta) (11:29): I would like to join other members in speaking on this important motion honouring Pope Francis, who passed from this world to the next a couple of weeks ago at the age of 88. Jorge Mario Bergoglio, as he was when growing up on the streets of Buenos Aires, was the leader of the world's 1.4 billion Catholics, and they are in mourning as are many others. He was a respected leader for the world's 2.4 billion Christians and many others of other faiths or none.

While chosen to perform his duty in this most holy role, the Bishop of Rome, the Pastor of Christ, he undertook a role where he also played a major role in the temporal world. As our leader, Vincent Tarzia, said, 'He reminded the powerful of their duty to serve, not to dominate,' and he set an example of humble servant leadership. People have spoken of this leadership in the world. It was a leadership grounded in faith and in gospel. As a Jesuit, their motto is 'Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam', which translates to 'For the greater glory of God'. Pope Francis described this, saying:

The Word inspires good intentions and sustains action; it gives us strength and serenity, and even when it challenges us, it gives us peace. On...confusing days, it guarantees to the heart a core of confidence and of love that protects it from the attacks of the evil one.

In the secular world, we sometimes shy away from talking about faith and the language of faith. In doing so, I fear we diminish our capacity to truly engage and empathise with the overwhelming experience of the human condition, or indeed from the contemporary lives of the many people of faith in our community for whom their faith is the bedrock of their experience in the world.

On this occasion, we particularly extend our condolences to the 275,000 Catholics in South Australia who comprise 15 per cent of our population. In my seat of Morialta, as many would imagine, it is somewhat higher than that. About 30 per cent of my community, more than 10,000 residents in Morialta, according to census data are of the Catholic faith. Many have been praying for Pope Francis throughout his papacy, and indeed especially so with signs of illness in recent times and since his passing.

I note the memorial service tonight at St Francis of Assisi in Newton, a particularly strong connection with the church that bears his name, and also the particular connection for the Jesuits in my electorate, of course, the St Ignatius school being based in Athelstone, and the Jesuit order in Athelstone is very strong. I highlight the reflections of just a couple of other world leaders, which I think puts it in strong context. The Dalai Lama praised Pope Francis, who he said had:

...dedicated himself to the service of others, consistently revealing by his own actions how to live a simple but meaningful life. The best tribute we can pay to him is to be a warm-hearted person, serving others wherever and in whatever way we can.

I think that is true in a sense, but it is worth again reflecting on Pope Francis's particular connection with the Christian faith. As King Charles said, the Pope will be:

...remembered for his compassion, his concern for the unity of the Church and for his tireless commitment to the common causes of all people of faith, and to those of goodwill who work for the benefit of others.

I express my condolences to all those who are grieving and pray that Pope Francis passes on to the next world in faith.

The SPEAKER: I ask members, and those in the galleries who are able, to stand in silence as a sign of respect at the passing of Pope Francis.

Motion carried by members standing in their places in silence.

Sitting suspended from 11:33 to 11:35.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: I would like to welcome to parliament guests of the member for Unley from an Unley community group. It is great to have you in parliament today. It is somewhat of a historic morning as we pay our respects to Pope Francis and I hope you enjoy the rest of your visit in here at parliament today.

Parliamentary Committees

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: LYELL MCEWIN HOSPITAL: 20 FAST-TRACKED BEDS PROJECT

Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (11:36): I move:

That the 127th report of the Public Works Committee, entitled Lyell McEwin Hospital: 20 Fast-Track Bed Project, be noted.

The Department for Health and Wellbeing, hereon referred to as 'the department', proposes to refurbish existing space at Lyell McEwin Hospital to help meet the increasing demand for health services in northern metropolitan and regional South Australia.

The Lyell McEwin is part of the Northern Adelaide Local Health Network and provides a comprehensive range of health services to a population of over 400,000 people living in the northern suburbs of Adelaide and the wider region. SA Health projects a base requirement for 335 additional

beds in the local health network by 2031. As part of the 2022-23 state budget, the state government committed \$47 million to the Lyell McEwin for the delivery of a 48-bed expansion that was completed in August last year.

In the 2024-25 state budget, an additional \$16.5 million was committed to deliver a fast-tracked internal refurbishment providing a further 20 inpatient beds in Ward 1C. The project will provide a new 800 square metre inpatient ward to fast-track the delivery of 20 new beds, including one isolation room, one bariatric room and one accessible room. The works include the provision of:

- 14 single-occupancy rooms with ensuites;
- one four-bed bay with a shared ensuite;
- two single-occupancy rooms with a shared ensuite;
- clinical support spaces, storerooms and utility spaces;
- two staff bases providing line of sight to consumer treatment spaces; and
- open-plan workstations.

It is planned that the existing wards and departments adjacent to Ward 1C will remain operational throughout the works.

The project is anticipated to cost \$13.5 million and construction is expected to commence this March, with the aim to be complete and commissioned in December this year. Professional services and construction contractors have been engaged by the Department for Infrastructure and Transport who will engage secondary contractors as required.

The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to Lyell McEwin Hospital: 20 Fast-Tracked Beds Project. Witnesses who appeared before the committee were Melissa Nozza, Director, Capital Projects, Department for Health and Wellbeing; Scott Suter, Associate Director, Cheesman Architects; John Jenner, Portfolio Manager, Health, Department for Infrastructure and Transport; and Peter Mullen, Executive Director, Northern Adelaide Local Health Network. I thank the witnesses for their time.

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

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: WALKERVILLE RECREATION CENTRE

Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (11:39): I move:

That the 128th report of the committee, entitled Walkerville Recreation Centre, be noted.

The proposed works from the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, in conjunction with the Town of Walkerville, will build a new community recreation centre on the site of the defunct YMCA facility at 39 Smith Street in Walkerville. The original facility was constructed in 1965 and, in 2022, after nearly 60 years in service the building's declining condition led to the termination of its lease. After investigating both refurbishment and new-build options, the Town of Walkerville council decided to proceed with complete demolition of the old building and the construction of a new facility.

The new recreation centre aims to return community sport and recreation that has left the area following the closure of the YMCA. Located close to the thriving retail and hospitality precinct on Walkerville Terrace, the centre will enhance the overall quality of life within the community, providing residents with opportunities for leisure, socialising and community engagement. The building is planned to accommodate various sports, group activities and community uses, and the design includes provisions to be inclusive for older people, people with disabilities and young families.

The facility will provide two fully compliant indoor netball courts, which may in turn be reconfigured to accommodate two basketball courts, two volleyball courts and eight smaller courts

for badminton or pickleball. A central draw curtain will be installed so that two different groups may use the space concurrently, and the works will also construct fixed seating for spectators, two unisex change rooms to accommodate opposing teams, and male, female and accessible toilets.

The building's placement on the site has been carefully considered to minimise noise, overshadowing and visual impacts on adjoining residents. The redevelopment will include the expansion of the car park from 36 dedicated parks to 80, including two accessible parking spaces near the entrance. Structural construction commenced in March with the aim to be complete and operational in December.

The project is expected to cost \$10 million, and the state government has administered a \$5 million grant, anticipating a further \$400,000 in interest. The Walkerville council states that it will fund the remaining \$4.6 million. Throughout construction, the project is expected to create 41 full-time equivalent jobs.

The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to the Walkerville Recreation Centre. Witnesses who appeared before the committee were Dr Andrew Johnson, Chief Executive Officer, Town of Walkerville; Adam Trottman, Director, Infrastructure and Planning, Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing; Ross Oates, Strategic Projects Coordinator, Town of Walkerville; and James Kelly, Group Manager, Assets and Infrastructure, Town of Walkerville. I thank the witnesses for their time.

Also, with my hat on as the local MP for the area, I do wish to acknowledge that this was one of my major election commitments for the area. It was an incredible facility that was there previously, serving our community for many decades, and when the former YMCA site at Walkerville was shut down it did have an enormous impact on the community in terms of accessing recreational and sporting services. So I worked with the community over a number of years to both commit an election commitment of \$5 million to the community and then worked closely with the Town of Walkerville to realise a brand-new centre.

Recently I was joined by the Mayor of Walkerville, Melissa Jones, and our sports minister, Emily Bourke MLC, in the other place, to turn the sod on the new centre, which I very much look forward to going to with my own children later in the year, when it is expected to open.

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

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: ANDREWS FARM SEWER SYSTEM UPGRADE

Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (11:44): I move:

That the 129th report of the committee, entitled Sewer System Upgrade, Curtis Road, Andrews Farm, be noted.

The proposed works from SA Water, hereon referred to as 'the agency', will make upgrades to a stretch of sewer along Curtis Road in Angle Vale. Currently there is an odour issue at the discharge point of the sewer caused by the reaction between effluent flows and atmospheric oxygen. This reaction leads to an emission of the noxious gas, hydrogen sulphide. These issues are common in wastewater networks and the agency is experienced in addressing them when required.

At elevated concentrations, hydrogen sulphide is hazardous and can pose health risks if people are exposed to it. These emissions are currently being managed through chemical dosing and carbon filtration, which counteracts the odour but not the underlying problem. The proposed upgrade will solve the root cause by reducing the turbulent flow of sewage and the aeration of the effluent that causes the creation of the noxious emissions.

The project will remove an approximately 800-metre section of sewer pumping main on Curtis Road between Andrews Road and President Avenue and replace it with 450-millimetre gravity main. This will decrease turbulence by relying on gravity to move effluent rather than active pumping, reducing the introduction of oxygen into the system and removing the major causes generating hydrogen sulphide.

The project will also provide the opportunity to introduce additional inflows, which will support future network growth, while the size of the gravity main will also contribute to the system's capacity to accommodate growing demands from the Angle Vale housing developments. Additionally, the works will construct a new manhole, create new service access points, install a new ventilation system and tie into the existing President Avenue manhole. All works will be conducted within the existing road corridor, with the proposed gravity main located in the southern travel lane of Curtis Road.

Construction will commence this month with the anticipation to be practically complete in the third quarter of this year. The project is expected to cost up to \$11.1 million, with an operational cost of approximately \$25,000 over the next 30 years. The upgrade will remove the need for the existing operational filtration costs and the project will have no impact on SA Water's overall borrowing or contributions to government.

The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to the sewer system upgrade, Curtis Road, Andrews Farm. Witnesses who appeared before the committee were Peter Seltsikas, Acting General Manager, Sustainable Infrastructure, SA Water, and Michael Grgic, Delivery Manager, Program Delivery, SA Water. I thank the witnesses for their time.

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

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: LOCK TO IRON KNOB WATER PIPELINE REVERSAL

Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (11:47): I move:

That the 130th report of the committee, entitled Lock to Iron Knob Water Pipeline Reversal, be noted.

The Eyre water system encompasses a vast sector of South Australia, bound by Spencer Gulf to the east, the Great Australian Bight to the south, stretching all the way to the Western Australia border. The system supplies drinking water for approximately 35,000 people through 20,000 customer meters.

Over time, it has suffered a significant reduction of available source water. The strained groundwater basin in Uley South currently supplies 75 per cent of the region's source water, with the balance largely supplemented by water from the River Murray via a pipeline that travels from Iron Knob to Lock on Eyre Peninsula.

With the increased water supply provided by the construction of the desalination plant at Billy Lights Point, the extra supply provided by the pipeline will no longer be required. This water can instead be utilised for SA Water's supply to Upper Spencer Gulf, increasing water security, as well as allowing for growth opportunities in the region.

The proposed works will allow for the reversal of water flow by making changes to the existing pipeline infrastructure between the townships of Lock and Iron Knob. The proposed works will:

- construct a new surge tank at Lock;
- upgrade the Iron Knob tank site and pump station;
- replace the existing flow meter at Caralue pump station;
- provide upgraded water quality dosing stations;
- install a new check valve at the Darke Range tank;
- upgrade the pump station at Kimba;
- install new inlet and outlet pipework at the Smeaton tank; and
- make upgrades to system controls, automation, supervisory control and data acquisition.

The works are anticipated to commence in the third quarter of this year, with the expectation of completion by mid-2026. The project will be undertaken on SA Water-owned land and improved easements, and the operating and capital costs are provided in SA Water's regulatory determination budget.

The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to the Lock to Iron Knob Water Pipeline Reversal project. Witnesses who appeared before the committee were Emma Goldsworthy, Senior Manager, Capital Delivery, SA Water, and David Henchcliffe, Eyre Peninsula Desalination Project Director, SA Water. I thank the witnesses for their time. Based upon the evidence considered and pursuant section 12C of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Public Works Committee reports to parliament that it recommends the proposed public work.

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (11:50): I rise to speak on this report of the Public Works Committee, not just as a member of the Public Works Committee but also as the local member with which this project is associated.

I can say that it was a fascinating example of a lack of preparation for presentation to a committee on a project which, really, is an interesting one. The way it has been explained certainly did not fill me with any extra certainty or give transparency about what is actually included within the expanses of this project.

In essence, what this project is assumedly doing is allowing for the capacity for water to flow from an as yet unconstructed desalination plant in the southern part of Eyre Peninsula back through the Eyre Peninsula water distribution network all the way to Iron Knob. The project is one of several million dollars, and it is a project that has a timeline, which has been spoken about already, of expected completion in mid 2026 (I think that is what the member quoted).

I have been on my feet in this place speaking about the Eyre Peninsula desalination project and the concerns of the local community around that project, but that one has an end date, at this point, of the end of 2026. So here they are reversing the pipeline to have the capacity to be able to deliver as yet undelivered water.

At the moment the uncertainty around the supply of water on Eyre Peninsula is one that is incredibly worrying for my community, and one where there is still there so much ambiguity and lack of transparency. It is pretty murky water indeed, because at the moment there is a review happening of the supply and demand of water that is being done by the Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board. Their findings have not been finalised yet, but they will be making their recommendations to SA Water around what level of supply they will be able to take out, extract, from the Uley South Basin and supply to Eyre Peninsula.

At the moment water is flowing from the Murray through Iron Knob all the way down and making its way to Lock from the Murray. When we talk about the capacity to reverse the line from Lock to Iron Knob, currently the water is flowing from the Murray, and the numbers quoted at the committee, off the top of my head, were around 1.7 gigalitres. My understanding is that previously just over 2 gigalitres of water was coming through and supplying the central and western part of Eyre Peninsula with Murray water, and the southern part of the EP is still being served by the Uley South Basin water, which is around some 5 gigalitres of water.

It is astounding to me that this project has been made a priority, when all the numbers I see around the need for the EP desal plant to be put in place show that that EP desal water, and any water they may be able to continue to get from the Uley South Basin, will still be only just on the edge of what the current supply needs are on Eyre Peninsula—yet they are talking here, in a project of several million dollars, of the capacity to be able to send water back the other way.

I have to cast my mind back now, but it must be only in the last 15 years that the pipeline from Iron Knob to Kimba was completed. At the time, it was an interesting decision but one which, now looking back, we on Eyre Peninsula would not have been able to live without because of the lack of any furthering of the project throughout those years to fast-track a desalination plant. Still this uncertainty hangs over Eyre Peninsula.

To have a project where they are talking about reversing the pipeline—during the committee, I asked a number of questions around some of the nuances of aspects put by the member around

which pumping stations service which communities and about different aspects of the line. In attendance in the committee was the Eyre Peninsula desal project officer, and I was hoping that we might have a little transparency around some of these pumping stations and some of these tanks.

Before the pipeline came through from Iron Knob to Kimba, Kimba was serviced by that southern supply. It was the Tod Reservoir before, and it was a southern basin after that, so there was already the capacity seemingly—and this is what I was asking questions about—to have water going from the southern part of the peninsula all the way up to Kimba, yet now there are works which are needed to reverse the pipeline in that section in particular. This is why I was hoping to get, on behalf of my community, some answers, and there are still so many unanswered aspects to this.

At the moment, it seems to be putting the horse before the cart to be spending millions of dollars to reverse the pipeline for a supply of water which will still, on face value, barely be enough to hit the existing needs of Eyre Peninsula, yet they are talking about the potential for that water to help service mining projects or the like, when it is only going to be a 5½ gig desalination plant, and the existing pull on the southern basins is around five gegalitres, and the existing pull from the Murray is around two gegalitres. The maths does not work, yet this has been something which has been made a priority by SA Water. I have been frustrated, as the local member and as a member of the committee, that the questions that I asked within that committee were not answered on the day, and I am still sitting here wondering why different aspects of this project were necessary.

It again highlights to me the frustration in my community, and it is reflected by my frustrations, with some of the decisions that SA Water have made, not just in the last few years but historically, especially around the water supply and distribution on Eyre Peninsula. If you are going to be spending millions of dollars on the Eyre Peninsula water network, why are you not spending it on the line from Poochera to Streaky Bay, for instance, or the distribution system at Streaky Bay? Why are you not extending the line from the Polda Pumping Station to Elliston, which currently is not on the reticulated system?

The priority for SA Water at the moment on Eyre Peninsula is to spend millions of dollars reversing the capacity of a line to service Iron Knob with water that does not exist yet, yet I have communities on the West Coast in particular that cannot expand. I have customers, who are hoping to get a water supply, who cannot connect because there is not the water supply there at the moment, yet SA Water are prioritising this.

I hope that SA Water actually take a good hard look at the report which was tabled by the select committee into the Eyre Peninsula water distribution and supply network. Challenges are being faced by communities at the moment. Get your priorities right, because at the moment Streaky Bay, Elliston and communities around Eyre Peninsula are frustrated, because SA Water have got it wrong. They continue to get it wrong, and they continue to have priorities which seemingly are not serving the actual needs of the people of Eyre Peninsula.

Motion carried.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: INQUIRY INTO THE POTENTIAL FOR A HUMAN RIGHTS ACT FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Ms WORTLEY (Torrens) (11:59): I move:

That the final report of the committee, entitled Inquiry into the Potential for a Human Rights Act for South Australia, be noted.

The terms of reference for this important inquiry were referred on the Social Development Committee's own motion on 30 October 2023. At the onset, the committee thanks all those who submitted evidence to the inquiry, and a full list of submitters and witnesses is contained in the report. That said, the committee wishes to particularly thank the following individuals and organisations for their significant contributions to the area of human rights. The committee is grateful for their comprehensive input to the inquiry. They are:

- Associate Professor Sarah Moulds and the Rights Resource Network, South Australia;
- Professor Matthew Stubbs;

- the Office of the Guardian for Children and Young People and the Commissioner for Children and Young People;
- the Justice and Society Unit, University of South Australia;
- the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law and Dr Julie Debeljak;
- the Human Rights Law Centre;
- Ms Natalie Wade and Australian Lawyers for Human Rights;
- the Human Rights and Coercion Reduction Committee, Office of the Chief Psychiatrist; and
- the Public Law and Policy Unit, University of Adelaide.

The committee also thanks the secretariat staff, Ms Robyn Schutte and Ms Mary-Ann Bloomfield, for their work on the inquiry. I would also like to acknowledge the committee members: the Presiding Member, the Hon. Ian Hunter MLC; the Hon. Mira El Dannawi MLC; the Hon. Robert Simms MLC; the member for Unley; and the member for Frome.

The committee advertised for submissions to the inquiry through metropolitan and regional print media, and was promoted through the South Australian parliament website and the South Australian parliament Facebook page. A media release was distributed in December 2023, in time for International Human Rights Day on 10 December that year. In addition, the committee directly invited submissions from a wide range of government and non-government organisations and special interest organisations and individuals.

The committee received 325 written submissions: 58 of these submissions were from individuals; five were jointly authored submissions from individuals; 72 submissions were received from non-government organisations, associations, and legal and advocacy groups; seven submissions were received from university departments; and nine submissions were received from government, local government and statutory officeholders. The remaining 174 submissions were received through an online proforma.

The committee held 12 hearings of oral evidence at Parliament House in Adelaide. Oral evidence was given by representatives of 19 organisations, and by five individuals. The majority of written submissions received, numbering 131, were in favour of a human rights act for South Australia; four submissions were against a human rights act for South Australia; and 188 submissions were noncommittal—that is, they were neither specifically opposed nor supportive of a human rights act for South Australia.

Members in this place will be aware that South Australia has a proud history of progressive social reform and has, at times, been a leader in Australia in realising rights for minority, marginalised and vulnerable groups. Indeed, there have been several attempts in the past to establish a human rights framework by former members in this place. However, these past attempts have not been realised, and the committee received evidence that over the past few decades South Australia's rights-based agenda has diminished. We are now considered an outlier where human rights are concerned.

Some of the submissions received by the committee showed that human rights in South Australia are only partially protected through various laws, and these have numerous gaps, making them limited in scope and enforceability. The Equal Opportunity Act 1984 requires updating, and the committee received evidence that with few or no legislative protections to remedy human rights breaches, there will continue to be inadequate justice for complainants.

The committee was informed that South Australia has not kept up with several of the other states and territories, namely Victoria, the Australian Capital Territory and Queensland, nor has South Australia kept pace with many OECD countries and advanced democracies in the progression of human rights and the modernisation of discrimination law.

Numerous submissions provided views on the strengths and benefits of a human rights act, including that such an act would improve the lives of South Australian women, children and young

people, people with disabilities and mental ill-health, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, LGBTQIA+ people, and people experiencing poverty or homelessness.

Australia is a signatory to seven core United Nations human rights treaties but the committee received submissions advising that in order to provide protection for fundamental human rights set out in these instruments, human rights legislation needs to be enacted at the domestic level. This means South Australian residents can only benefit from the UN treaties through fulfilment of Australia's obligations under international law. This can be achieved by enforcing human rights legislation in this state.

Many submissions agree as a starting point that a human rights act for South Australia should contain the rights already identified in the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the seven UN human rights treaties, to which Australia is a signatory. These include the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Some submissions recommended that South Australia draw on the experience of the three other states and territories which have already implemented a human rights act or charter, as well as from New Zealand, the United Kingdom and Canada. Numerous submissions recommended the rights contained in the following instruments need to also be considered for inclusion in a South Australian human rights act:

- the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture;
- the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities; and
- the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

The evidence received by the committee suggests the benefits of a human rights act for South Australia will provide for:

- greater citizen participation in government decision-making;
- improved law-making processes; and
- improved government decision-making and the administering of law.

It will:

- address inequalities and discrimination in people's access to fundamental services;
- improve the public's understanding of their rights and what to expect from public authorities;
- reduce inefficiencies and waste in government;
- improve existing legislation and legal rights; and
- provide a remedy or cause of action when a person's human rights are breached.

Many submissions wish to see implementation of an accessible, affordable, timely and effective complaints process provided through a dedicated human rights commissioner, with a complaints conciliation, advisory and education mandate.

The inquiry explored what type of model a human rights act for South Australia would be appropriate, with submissions largely agreeing that a dialogue model will preserve parliamentary sovereignty, while also requiring this parliament, along with public authorities and the judiciary, to give consideration to how legislation or policy will impact human rights. By applying a human rights lens to the early stages of policy and legislation development before implementation and during administering of subsequent law, breaches of rights can be avoided.

Submissions gave advice that a standalone parliamentary scrutiny committee, such as a joint human rights scrutiny standing committee, to examine all bills and subordinate legislation will be the best way to manage compliance in lawmaking. Compliance will also be supported through the

judiciary, with the Supreme Court able to issue statements of incompatibility where it is found that a law is inconsistent with human rights. The courts would not have the ability to change those laws but make submissions to the Attorney-General on their findings.

Submissions contend that, by requiring the public sector and other public authorities to act with human rights in mind, better decision-making will improve customer service and avoid costly remedy and cost blowouts within government departments. Education of the public as well as the administrative arm of government will empower South Australian citizens.

A human rights act for South Australia has the ability to provide many benefits to our society and our communities. The committee notes the commonwealth recently inquired into the potential for a federal human rights act, with the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Human Rights reporting in May 2024, with a recommendation that the commonwealth government establish an Australian human rights act. The committee has made three recommendations to the government of South Australia, including that there should be a human rights act for South Australia. I commend the committee's report to the house.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: CONSTRUCTION OF WATER AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE TO ENABLE METROPOLITAN GROWTH—TRANCHE 2

Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (12:09): I move:

That the 131st report of the committee, entitled Construction of Water and Wastewater Infrastructure to Enable Metropolitan Growth—Tranche 2, be noted.

In June 2024, the state government announced within its Housing Roadmap the outline of the delivery of water and wastewater infrastructure that is required to support the demands for new housing and economic development. Most of Adelaide's future greenfield growth is expected in the metropolitan supply area serviced by the metro north water supply system, with additional growth expected to impact the southern suburbs water supply system.

To support the predicted increase in demand, SA Water has identified the need for new water mains, additional water supply and pump station upgrades to maintain and improve downstream water pressure. The agency states that significant urban growth will also increase demand on the northern and southern suburbs wastewater systems. The proposed tranche 2 project aims to provide water and wastewater services that ensure current and future customers have access to the services that meet the agency's standards of quality.

The project proposes to undertake seven water and five wastewater subprojects across six districts located in the northern and southern areas of metropolitan Adelaide. In addition to increasing supply and capacity, the works will enable future system augmentation, ensuring that services are available for the expected rates of population and housing growth.

The project is expected to cost \$772.2 million, and construction is anticipated to commence in the third quarter of this year, with the expectation for all elements to be complete and commissioned by mid-2028. The project will be managed by project managers from the agency's capital planning and delivery group, and the agency will use established procurement arrangements with industry, with plans to also utilise open market procurements to establish new arrangements with local specialists.

The majority of the project lies within the Kaurna people native title claim determination area, with some sites located within the Ngadjuri Nation No. 2 determination area. Further assessment of native title associated with work locations will be undertaken as the designs for the areas are developed. A comprehensive risk assessment concerning Aboriginal and European heritage will be undertaken for each location ahead of proposed infrastructure works.

The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to the Construction of Water and Wastewater Infrastructure to Enable Metropolitan Growth—Tranche 2 project. Witnesses who appeared before the committee were Emma Goldsworthy, Senior Manager Capital Delivery, SA Water; and Alex Blood, Executive Director Strategic Projects, SA Water. I thank the witnesses

for their time. I would also like to thank the Deputy Speaker, the member for Light, who presented to the committee in support of this project in his electorate.

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

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: SOUTHWARK PROJECT

Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (12:13): I move:

That the 132nd report of the committee, entitled Southwark Project, be noted.

In September 2023, the South Australian government announced it had purchased the former West End Brewery site in Thebarton. The government envisions a \$1 billion development of the site into a mixed-use precinct within a sustainable environment. The Southwark Project will undertake civil works and landscaping as well as construct 17 new townhouses at the old brewery site as part of the cabinet-approved Southwark master plan, which aims to build a thriving community at the Thebarton location now known as Southwark.

The project is also part of broader goals to develop higher density housing within the urban corridor adjacent to Port Road. Renewal SA is the master developer for the project and will partner with the private development and construction sectors to deliver:

- up to 1,300 new dwellings, with a minimum 20 per cent being comprised of affordable housing;
- over 15 per cent public space, including an expanded Karrawirra Parri/River Torrens riverbank;
- a target of 30 per cent tree canopy coverage; and
- a new shared-use path connection to the Adelaide Parklands.

The site is located within the City of West Torrens at 107 Port Road, Thebarton and comprises 47 individual or partial titles across approximately 8½ hectares. The development of landholdings will include re-establishing the former Southwark Road grid through upgraded road and streetscape networks, delivering an estimated 11 super lot development sites, the construction of 17 townhouses by Renewal SA, and delivering four new public reserves, including the return and upgrade of more than six and a half thousand square metres of Karrawirra Parri into public ownership.

The project is expected to cost \$103.1 million in capital expenditure. Renewal SA will be responsible for ongoing costs prior to settlement as well as the transfer of ownership to the public realm and individual super lots. Sales revenue of \$147.6 million has been included in the forward estimates, and final settlements are expected by December 2029.

Renewal SA is the lead agency for the project, and project delivery activities will be governed using the agency's internal governance structures. The agency anticipates works to commence in the third quarter of this year, with first residents to move in by December next year and the entire project to be complete by 2032, subject to market response.

The agency has been in consultation with the Kaurna community, and an Aboriginal cultural heritage survey identified no known archaeological sites. An Aboriginal cultural heritage survey has identified Karrawirra Parri as an area of high anthropological and archaeological sensitivity, and a management plan has subsequently been prepared. The site accommodates several state heritage items, and Renewal SA is working to protect heritage items and adaptively re-use or protect them within the public realm. The project also includes plans to reimagine the well-loved riverbank Christmas lights display.

The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to the Southwark project. Witnesses who appeared before the committee were Shane Wingard, Executive Director, Property and Major Projects; Michael Wood, Executive Director, Commercial and Business Services; and Chantal Milton, Development Director, Major Projects. I thank the witnesses for their time.

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

Motion carried.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: CLARE HOSPITAL CENTRAL STERILE STORE
DEPARTMENT UPGRADE**

Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (12:17): I move:

That the 133rd report of the committee, entitled Clare Hospital Central Sterile Store Department Upgrade Project, be noted.

The Clare Hospital is part of the Yorke and Northern Local Health Network and provides a comprehensive range of medical and surgical services to patients from Clare and the surrounding communities. The hospital is a 24-bed complex that provides accident and emergency services, acute inpatient care, maternal and neonatal services, elective surgery, palliative care, low-complexity chemotherapy and renal dialysis.

Under commonwealth National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards, it is required that equipment reprocessing is consistent with relevant national standards. Without a compliant central sterile store department (CSSD), the Clare Hospital's ability to maintain clinical services such as surgery, obstetrics and endoscopies will be at risk. Additionally, infection control risks will remain, including the potential for hospital-acquired infections due to both contamination of medical devices and inappropriate segregation of clean and dirty workflows.

SA Health considered several options to determine the most suitable location for the Clare Hospital CSSD upgrade. The preferred option is for a staged approach which involves a temporary emergency theatre to be built within the existing hospital, enabling the hospital to maintain one operational theatre for emergency maternal services throughout the duration of the project works. A non-staged option was considered but rejected by the local health network as it would leave the hospital without a functioning operating theatre throughout the construction phases. A modular option was also considered, but costs were deemed prohibitive.

The preferred option will upgrade the CSSD and the operating theatre to provide a compliant, modern facility as well as include a refurbishment of associated areas, including support spaces. The works will deliver an upgraded operating theatre and associated spaces, new pass-through washer and pass-through drying cabinets, one new instrument steriliser, one new endoscope washer, two new endoscope drying cabinets, and upgraded services to meet current standards. The following upgrades will also ensure the hospital complies with relevant medical hygiene standards:

- internal reconfiguration and structural modification of the CSSD to create sterile unidirectional workflow;
- heating, ventilation and air conditioning upgrades to achieve the segregation of clean and dirty areas; and
- supply and installation of new washing, sterilising and storage equipment in compliance with current infection control standards.

Construction is anticipated to commence in May, with the expectation to be practically complete in July next year. The project is expected to cost \$7.3 million and will be funded from the regional Asset Sustainment Program.

The committee examined written and oral evidence in relation to the Clare Hospital Central Sterile Store Department Upgrade Project. Witnesses who appeared before the committee were Melissa Nozza, Capital Projects, Department for Health and Wellbeing; Peter Tynan, Director, Greenway Architects; Erin Pietsch, Senior Project Manager, Department for Infrastructure and Transport; and Coenraad Robberts, Executive Director Finance and Corporate Services, Yorke and Northern Local Health Network. I thank the witnesses for their time. I would also like to thank the Deputy Speaker, the member for Light, for his interest in this project and presenting to the committee.

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

Ms PRATT (Frome) (12:21): I want to thank the member for Adelaide, the Chair of the Public Works Committee, for her contribution in seeking that this committee report be noted. I rise to speak to the Clare Hospital Central Sterile Store Department Upgrade Project. I want to commence by thanking all the fabulous doctors and nurses who are associated with the Clare Hospital. We are very fortunate in Clare to have such a strong pool of GPs who not only provide life-saving services through their private clinic but, of course, provide on-call emergency support through the Clare Hospital. It is much loved, and this project is really important not just to Clare but to surrounding districts as a hub hospital for the Mid North.

It is not just doctors and nurses who work at the hospital, of course; there are admin staff and we also attract specialists, orthopaedic surgeons and different experts to make sure that people who are living throughout the Clare Valley and beyond have excellent care when they find themselves at the Clare Hospital.

I want to give a particular mention to our Director of Nursing, Jodie Kernick, who has done an extraordinary job to demonstrate leadership not just of the workforce but also as a spokesperson on the Northern Yorke Peninsula Health Advisory Committee (HAC). She is, therefore, a connection and a conduit between the community members and volunteers who are on the committee—that I am also a part of—and, of course, the clinical workforce, so I thank her again. I also thank the working group that established themselves in celebration of the Clare Hospital's 100th anniversary, which was well attended.

I want to extend further thanks to the outgoing former Chair of the HAC, Darryl Venning, who for many years nursed us through quite complicated operational details that were presented through the health advisory committee. He remains on the committee with us, but we now welcome—after about 12 months of service—Neville Michael, who represents us as the Chair. This HAC is a lively group. We have community members and Councillor Ann Alder on the committee, and we rotate between Snowtown Hospital, Burra Hospital and Clare.

I really do recommend to anyone who has a passing interest in health and wellbeing: you might have a background in business or finance, you might have a background in health or you might have a background in teaching, but to take on an opportunity, a volunteering role, to be on the HAC is to learn a lot about the local health system in your community.

I also want to thank Roger Kirchner, the CEO of Yorke and Northern LHN, who is also ably supported by the Chair, John Voumard. They work well together. Their knowledge of an extensive health network, extending from the Yorke Peninsula and Southern Flinders Upper North area and through to the Mid North is without peer. We are lucky to have them leading us through a difficult and challenging time when it comes to delivering health services in the regions, and I value my interaction with them when it is convenient.

A group that are not often recognised but are very prominent in their contributions in country areas are local donors. There are bequests, donations and even local fundraising events. Even if they were historic, people who live in community areas remember well—and to the dollar almost—the event that they were a part of, the purpose for raising funds. Many have strong memories of strawberry fetes or hospital auxiliary boards, and those moneys are still tied to gift funds and health advisory councils.

I know through the district of my electorate of Frome, extending beyond the HAC that I am a part of, that a lot of very important capital works and purchases of much-needed diagnostic tools, furniture, beds and toilet extensions in some of our aged-care facilities come from bequests, come from deceased estates. It is no small thing when we, as a health advisory committee, are in receipt of such generous donations. There are a number of extensions around the Mid North to our country hospitals that would not have gone ahead without these donations, because the government funds just cannot extend that far. I want to thank every family that has ever contributed to a country hospital in that way.

Belonging to the Lower North HAC, as I have for a number of years now, as a volunteer and then as the local member of parliament, has been a learning curve, and I want to give credit to my committee members who have spent a number of years deliberating this very project. The Clare Hospital Central Sterile Store Department Upgrade Project has been on our mind as a critical upgrade, a critical capital works program, that when completed will unlock further opportunities for our health system and for the Clare Hospital, but it has not come without a cost.

We have had a number of conversations, deliberations and meetings over a couple of years to understand the project, to work with the local health network and the CEO, Roger Kirchner, as I mentioned, the government and SA Health to understand this project and to make sure that it was going to be delivered—not on time now, but in full—and that every step would be taken at the local level to ensure that this project could go ahead.

The barriers to that have indeed been funding. We learned through this project that the obstacles have included not just shifting costs and therefore an adjusting budget—which I will speak to shortly—but also barriers around the tender process, the availability of a trade workforce and perhaps even a disinclination by that workforce to take on a job when there were other metropolitan projects that offered more appeal, according to this report.

The Public Works Committee has received submissions from witnesses who have explained how this project was first contemplated by the former Liberal government and the former health minister, I would argue, the Hon. Stephen Wade, back in 2021. This has a long history, and it is critical, and it is welcome, but the project when it was first imagined sat underneath the \$4 million threshold for the Public Works Committee, and so it is only by cost blowout or an increase in the cost of the project that it has made its way here before the committee, and I welcome that because I think we can better understand it.

From under \$4 million to a publicised amount of about \$4.6 million, to it then requiring a top-up of \$1.5 million to get it to \$6 million, and now we see that the final project for one room for a sterile store department is \$7.2 million is not anything that I am going to complain about as the local member because Clare desperately needs this upgrade, but questions can and will be asked about the increase in cost to capital projects around the state when it comes to regional health services.

The HAC has played an integral part in the costings because we were approached by SA Health informally. The channels flowed through to us: would the HAC release funds to top up this project when we had access to aged-care funds? Funding from the HAC has been released to the tune of \$1.5 million. We were asked to approve it. We did. I do not believe it is going to be required, but I think that goes to show how cash-strapped we are in health.

The other infrastructure that relates to this hospital, of course, is the helipad upgrades, which we welcome the government's attention on, but there seems to be some sort of stand-off, certainly for Murray Bridge and Clare where the infrastructure is in place but no helicopters are landing or taking off. I am concerned about the ongoing cost and repair work required at the Clare Aerodrome. I do welcome this report, and I note the report from the Public Works Committee.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE: MOUNT BARKER ROAD AND RIVER ROAD JUNCTION UPGRADE

Adjourned debate on motion of Ms Hood:

That the 118th report of the committee, entitled Mount Barker and River Road Junction Upgrade, be noted.

(Continued from 6 March 2025.)

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (12:32): I rise to continue where I left off when I sought leave on the previous occasion. I think this provides an opportunity to reflect on yet more time that has passed since the member for Adelaide brought the motion to the chamber, because each day it seems to me—just about every day—it is raised to me by residents on River Road just what an ongoing disastrous mistake the government has made by directing these heavy trucks along River Road.

Of course there is a serious debate to be had about a commitment to funding and delivering the necessary bypass to Hahndorf, and I am glad, together with the community, that we have dragged the federal Labor government back kicking and screaming to reinstate the works necessary for the Verdun interchange. That is important, that needs to proceed, but in the meantime state Labor, with that precipitous decision out of nowhere, getting on towards two years ago, to just send the heavy trucks down River Road, this quiet little road, as some sort of means to deal with the issue at Hahndorf is just proving to be a daily disaster.

I pay tribute to those hugely skilled, responsible, dedicated operators of the trucks that need to navigate that path and, in particular, I say thank you to Ben Simounds of Simounds Transport—I have ridden in his truck with him—and I say thank you to Pete Magarey of Magarey Transport, based locally, shifting logs from Kuitpo Forest and from further south. I have ridden in the truck with him, as has the member for Hammond, and as has the Leader of the Opposition, who joined with me, unlike the Minister for Transport, unlike the Premier, who were each invited on multiple occasions to come and see it for themselves, to come and see what is real.

So this Public Works examination of the works that might be necessary to improve on the Mount Barker and River Road junction corner—works that are absolutely necessary as I have seen, as the member for Hammond has seen and as everyone who has used that corner has seen—just proves what a tangled web is woven when state Labor comes along and just looks to precipitate some change on a local community. It is a tangled web, because it had not been thought through from the start and there is more to say. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Bills

SUPPLY BILL 2025

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from 30 April 2025.)

Mr FULBROOK (Playford) (12:36): Before I was cut off, I was telling the story of Chris Bellamy. Up until that point, I had mentioned that Chris had organised and attended a fundraiser to support his illness. Sadly, the event did take a toll on him with him suffering sensory overstimulation which landed him in hospital for three days, but I am pleased to say that he got out soon after, as my diary shows me meeting Chris for the first time in late February back in 2023. I would love to say his plight was easy from that point on, but I do know otherwise.

Throughout this ordeal, the simple pleasure of waking up has given him good reason to be grateful for each and every day. The good thing is that Chris is still with us, back in the workforce, surrounded by his beautiful family and brightening the world with his chirpy smile. In situations like this, it is difficult to say what happens next, knowing the battle continues. But over lunch, just a few weeks back, Chris showed me images reflecting that the tumour had shrunk quite notably. As we ate, I reminded him that *Hansard* was a great way to preserve the memory of everything he has gone through. In reflecting on this, we agreed that it was the hardworking health professionals, many of whom work in the public system, who gave their all to ensure he is still with us.

Maybe it is stories like Chris's, or the extra smile commuters gain from seeing some beautiful artwork as they board their morning train, or the adjustments made to a single bus route to provide certainty and mobility to pensioners, that underlines the incredible value of the South Australian Public Service. I know there are many reasons, but in using these examples it is my pleasure to support this bill knowing full well that the funding used to keep our Public Service operating is indeed money well spent. We should never lose sight of this, knowing thousands of South Australians head to work each day for the sole purpose of making our state an even better place to live.

The Supply Bill is more than just legislation to keep the state running. Between its many lines, there are stories of hope, creativity and plain and simple hard work. With a new bill comes new opportunities to enhance South Australia, and I am excited for what a new Supply Bill will deliver.

With this in mind, I express thanks to our exceptional public servants and I am pleased to commend this bill to the house.

Mr TEAGUE (Heysen—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (12:38): I rise to contribute to the debate on this necessary and important bill, providing as it does an opportunity to reflect on the priorities of the government when it comes to spending these scarce resources that are available to it in its stewardship of the public finances in government. This is necessarily now three years in to what is now proving to be a really tired and ill-performing government.

It is an opportunity to look at where the priorities are and where the actions have not come along to match the words in so many examples. We have seen that in the most serious way when, here we are in 2025, and this is a time for outcomes. We have gone beyond the time for election commitments and we have gone beyond the time for the announcements of the great things to come and we have come to a time for outcomes.

In only a few short months, let alone when it comes to the time to scrutinise the budget in just a few weeks' time, South Australians will make up for themselves a list of outcomes and then match them to the list of promises of Malinauskas Labor, and that will be a sobering exercise indeed for South Australians. They will see that back in about May 2021, before the election, the then Malinauskas-led opposition said, 'Elect us and we will deliver you this great new world of hydrogen power that's going to be wonderful for the people of the Upper Spencer Gulf,' those within the member for Giles' district.

They said, 'It will be wonderful for livelihoods and industry up there and, even if it doesn't do anything for household bills, it will chart a way forward and it will provide the necessary confidence that we are all needing in this state around energy infrastructure.' What have we seen as a result of these years that have now gone past? Well, 2025 was the year for outcome. That was the year for delivery. That was the year when this was all supposed to come to fruition.

But in what might be highlighted—others will have more to say; of course, the member for Schubert, the shadow minister health, will have more to say on the health side, and she says it along with all of us every day, and we will be pressing that point—as among the most disastrous of the compare and contrast of commitment, announcement and then disastrous black hole vacuum of nothing rather than outcome, we have seen the government walk away from the commitment.

While doing so, they have seen if they could shoehorn it into a completely unrelated topic, another disaster that has hit the poor old member for Giles and those wonderful people in Whyalla in particular with the trials and tribulations, yet again, of the steelworks. They have tried to somehow relate to the two.

Mr Hughes: Yes, it's about saving the steelworks—saving the steelworks, thousands of jobs.

Mr TEAGUE: With the hydrogen promise that has turned into a mirage, not only has it been stopped at the moment when it was supposed to come to fruition but it has sort of belled the cat on the absence of anything that went on in the period since the promise to the point when it was supposed to come along.

The member for Giles' interjection says that there are greater priorities that have intervened, and I am with the member for Giles on this point. There can be nothing more serious than what is befalling the people of Whyalla just now, and we are with them every single day. But for the government to hide the hydrogen farce behind that very serious issue really talks to a government that is not being fair dinkum with the people of South Australia.

In the period of 2021 to 2025, what we should have seen is this steady process towards building something, because we all knew something fairly serious needed to be built, and it was quite new so you needed experts to be employed to get that done. So, by 2025, if the government was going to walk away from something then we ought to have been able to look at something that was kind of more or less 100 per cent built.

But, no, what we have seen is this kind of tail between the legs, 'We are not doing it anymore,' and, 'Yes, there are a few parts that are kind of on the way,' and, 'We have been paying salaries for

a whole lot of time to a bunch of people who are supposed to be delivering this sort of grand construction, but now, not only do we have nothing to show for it but we are going to sell it off for parts, if and when the parts arrive from somewhere else, and guess what: we will make sure that we get more or less, maybe, if we are lucky, what we paid for it.'

South Australians are going to be rapidly sick of seeing this sort of compare-contrast: what did bright and shiny Malinauskas Labor look like before and during and around the time of the election on hydrogen, and what happened in 2025? Well, we will let the people of South Australia be the judge.

I have referred to the member for Schubert and her dedication every day to holding the government to account on its failed headline health promise—and there is no running away from that. They had corflutes, when they were still permitted on the public infrastructure, shouting loud, with a smiling face of the then Leader of the Opposition, the now Premier Peter Malinauskas, saying 'We will fix the ramping crisis. We will fix the ramping crisis. We will fix ramping' because that is what people of South Australia have characterised this aspect of health management in this state as being focused on.

Of course, the contributing factors include all aspects of the admission and occupation of beds in the health system. We know the pressure that is there, driven by mental health issues. We know the pressure that is there, driven by the need for improved aged care. We know the pressure that is there, based on the provision and availability of sufficient GP capacity. That is a multifaceted challenge.

We all know that health and its delivery is a major primary responsibility of the state government, and Malinauskas Labor opposition, now Malinauskas Labor government, chose to tell South Australians, on every piece of public infrastructure they could find, it would fix ramping, and the complete opposite has occurred, of course, as is well known. The complete opposite has occurred.

We have gone tens of thousands of hours of ramping, sometimes five storeys high of ambulances literally parked up one against the other, literally storey after storey. We have seen bright and shiny ambulance station openings. We have seen commitments to these additional resources. I have attended them and they are wonderful people and it is a wonderful provision of service that the paramedic specialists and ambulances are able to provide, but the government has gone nowhere to fixing ramping. It has gone nowhere to even approach achieving an outcome that matched that shiny commitment. There are just two statewide.

Of course, within my own portfolio responsibilities, I have done what I can diligently each year to hold the government to account in relation to its responsibility for those most vulnerable in our state, those most vulnerable children in our state who require the commitment of resources and capacity in managing their vulnerability, short or long term, via the child protection provision in this state.

At the very outset, at the first occasion for a financial analysis, when the government applied what it called 'operating efficiencies' to just about every department, but with the exception of the Department for Child Protection—it allowed more resources to the Department for Child Protection—I said to the minister at the time, 'Is the provision of more money in this space a declaration of success or a declaration of failure?' Let that be a rhetorical question, because what needed to be seen was that those additional resources that were allowed, in contrast to the claimed operating efficiencies—by the way, they evaporated; the government blew out its budgets on all those departments as well.

Did it achieve something more for those additional resources? No. Unfortunately, we have seen failure after failure by this government on the child protection side, notwithstanding the additional resources that have been provided. Not only have the additional resources been budgeted but the government has blown the budget repeatedly, even to the extent that last year there had to be a budget revision to take away resources because it had just been so far exceeded. There has been nothing to show for it.

The area of child protection in this state has been now in crisis for a sustained period of time and it is well and truly on the record that the Premier needs to step in and dramatically change the

way in which child protection is managed in the state. There are three highlighted examples of where we will be looking very closely indeed at what the budget provides for, and I know South Australians will be judging for themselves what announcement, on the one hand, looks like compared to the absence of outcome by contrast, on the other.

Locally the government has made clear its commitment, or lack thereof, to Heysen over this last year and more and we will continue to speak up for the interests of those in the Hills, my constituents in Heysen. To take as an example the tremendous effort of the community to retain the Stirling Hospital, that was a fight that took place over the better part of 2023 and I highlight there the stark contrast between the government's behaviour towards the Stirling Hospital, when good things were happening, compared to its hour of need in 2023.

In October 2022, Minister Picton was only too happy to come along to the Stirling Hospital and cut the ribbon on the opening of a new ward that was entirely funded by the generous donations and good management of the Stirling Hospital. The minister was only too happy to come along and cut the ribbon. But when it came to a moment of need when the hospital said, 'We are in real strife,' a few months later on, the minister was very quick to wash his hands of the hospital and to say, 'It's a private hospital and we won't have anything to do with it.'

The people of Stirling and surrounding districts, just like they were 100 years ago when it came to the challenge to establish the hospital, were moved to do all that was necessary to retain the hospital at Stirling, and it was a tremendous achievement that that outcome was achieved. The hospital's board made the commitment, contrary to what the initial indication had been to close and move elsewhere, to stay put and to stay in Stirling. That is a tremendous outcome and the work will continue, no thanks to the Malinauskas Labor government.

There are many other examples of need in the Hills that the government even gets as close as to promising to support the fulfilment of, but then you have to be very careful that they do not just back away from that. You have to hold them to the commitment. The Meadows intersection has long been in need of safety improvement by the provision at its centre of a roundabout and safety for pedestrians and those using the intersection on all sides. In January last year, the government went as far as advising the Mount Barker council, 'This will be done, and it's done out of the \$150 million fund that is provided for Hills infrastructure upgrades.' But it got to the end of last year, and the government had the CE write to the council and say, 'Actually'—to put it in the vernacular, 'it's gone on the backburner. It's not funded.'

It is a travesty because the promise that the government made to do it was not just a kind of blue sky—'We will now work on what it might all end up costing.' That was a promise made in the full knowledge of developed plans done in November 2023, and it was done with all of that in front of the government. So that indication to Mount Barker council at the end of last year was unacceptable.

The local community knew that, and thank goodness, over the course of recent weeks and months in fighting for the restoration of that work, we have seen the government turn around and promise that it will be done actually, and it will be done sometime after the election. So it looks like it will be up to a state Liberal government to deliver on that, because Malinauskas Labor has just pushed it down the road. The Meadows community will stand strong in solidarity. I will be right there with them, and we will make sure that the actions match the words.

The Macclesfield school crossing is work that is sadly in need of completion. We call for that work to be done. We will be looking closely at the budget to see that that work is completed. There are so many small country primary schools spread throughout Heysen. Many of them battle on with the over-the-odds commitment of a small number of staff members.

I pay particular tribute to Principal Donna Lean at Kangarilla Primary School, a longstanding, dedicated principal of that small school. In order to make sure that it works for families in Kangarilla, Donna Lean runs at her own initiative a breakfast club and a homework club, and she is there from seven in the morning through to five or six in the evening. I want to say thanks to the Minister for Education and his office for their engagement with the particular needs of that school. We will be looking closely at the budget to see that there is provision for those needs of that small primary school at Kangarilla and others like it in the near vicinity.

Of course, the South Eastern Freeway remains a key piece of infrastructure for our whole state and indeed for the nation. It is very, very important that we see a federal Coalition government elected on the weekend so that we can see the state and federal Liberal and Coalition commitments to see the Truro freight route completed. Only a federal Coalition and state Liberal government will ensure that happens. The work to get Verdun completed is critically important, as is the work to ensure a bypass for Hahndorf is properly done. There is much more to be done, but only the state Liberals and federal Coalition will be able to serve the needs of those in the Hills. We will be watching the budget closely.

Ms THOMPSON (Davenport) (12:58): I rise today also in support of the Supply Bill 2025 and to speak about why the passage of this bill is so essential, not just for the continuation of government services but for the continued delivery of critical projects that are already shaping a stronger future for South Australians.

Of course, this bill is important because it is the mechanism that keeps the wheels of government turning. It is what ensures that hospitals can keep treating patients, that schools can keep teaching students, that roads can keep being built and that support services for the vulnerable can continue without disruption while parliament does the necessary job of debating and passing a full budget. Without the passage of the Supply Bill, the essential services that South Australians rely on, services that sustain our communities, support our economy and build our future would be at risk. I seek leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

Sitting suspended from 13:00 to 14:00.

Petitions

BAROSSA HOSPITAL

Mrs HURN (Schubert): Presented a petition signed by 1,217 residents of the Barossa and surrounding areas requesting the house to urge the government to allocate funding in the 2025 South Australian state government budget for the construction of a regional Barossa hospital.

Parliamentary Procedure

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Speaker—

Parliament of South Australia—Equal Opportunity Commission Fourth Progress Report—
Review of Harassment in the South Australian Parliament Workplace—1 May 2025

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

Public Sector Act 2009—Overseas and Interstate Travel—
Minister for Infrastructure and Transport Report 8 February 2025

By the Minister for Housing Infrastructure (Hon. N.D. Champion)—

Government Response to Select Committee on Water Supply Needs of the
Eyre Peninsula—27 March 2025

By the Minister for Education, Training and Skills (Hon. B.I. Boyer)—

SACE Board of South Australia—Annual Report 2024

*Ministerial Statement***MACHINERY OF GOVERNMENT CHANGES**

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:01): I seek leave to make a ministerial statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: The functions of two offices, the Office of Hydrogen Power South Australia and the Office of Northern Water Delivery will be transferred to the Department for Energy and Mining under machinery of government changes proclaimed by Her Excellency the Governor.

Both offices will cease to function as attached offices of the Department for Energy and Mining, while the functions of the chief executive of both offices will be subsumed by the chief executive of the Department for Energy and Mining. To support the state government's strategic focus on securing the long-term future of the Whyalla Steelworks, a significant new role has been created that will lead a small team overseeing the transformation of the steelworks as it realises its transition to producing green steel.

Mr Sam Crafter, who has led the Office of Hydrogen Power SA, has been appointed to the new role of State Lead, Whyalla Steelworks Industrial Transformation, operating within the Department for Energy and Mining. Whyalla is the focus of the single biggest economic support and stimulus package in South Australian history and remains an intense focus for government through the administration of OneSteel Manufacturing and the subsequent transition to decarbonise iron and steel production.

The former Office of Hydrogen Power SA has been heavily involved in fostering industry development in this region, working with industry and government to help drive hydrogen opportunities in South Australia. This goes beyond the Hydrogen Jobs Plan, a project which the government recently deferred, pending discussions with the Whyalla Steelworks' next owner as to how best the state can assist them to realise the vital transition to green iron and steel. The creation of the Whyalla Steelworks Industrial Transformation team will build on those connections and corporate knowledge to give the steelworks the best chance to flourish in the long-term.

The budget allocation for the Hydrogen Jobs Plan has been redirected to the Whyalla Steelworks support package. We expect the vast majority of capital already expended will be recouped when we agree to terms with an alternative operator for the four 50-megawatt turbines ordered for the Hydrogen Jobs Plan, with a stipulation that they be operated in South Australia to provide additional generation capacity.

The Office of Hydrogen Power's other projects have included taking carriage of the Port Bonython Hydrogen Hub, as well as expanding supply chain capacity and facilitating industry research collaborations. Projects such as Zero Petroleum's feasibility study, in partnership with an aviation industry consortium led by Adelaide Airport and Qantas Airways, into the development of a low carbon sustainable aviation fuel production facility in Whyalla will continue. This project has the potential to create up to 150 full-time equivalent jobs during construction.

The functions of the Office of Northern Water Delivery, including overseeing the Northern Water project, will now be undertaken by the Department for Energy and Mining, led by Paul Martyn, as chief executive. The consolidation of the functions of the Office of Northern Water Delivery within DEM come after the significant planning work already undertaken by the former office in collaboration with DEM and the Department for Infrastructure and Transport.

A final investment decision is expected within the next year. This move highlights the significance of the opportunity presented and allows us to leverage the industry connections and knowledge within DEM to maximise this opportunity.

*Parliamentary Procedure***VISITORS**

The SPEAKER: I would like to welcome to parliament today students from Adelaide Botanic High School, who are guests of the member for Adelaide. Welcome to parliament and I hope you enjoy your time here today. We also have some students from Flinders University Law, so welcome.

The Hon. A. Koutsantonis: Adelaide High School.

The SPEAKER: Adelaide High School, welcome. It does say on my list here, Adelaide Botanic High. My apologies—they are both outstanding schools. I know the grandfather of the house, the Minister for Infrastructure, is a proud former scholar of Adelaide High School, and there may be other members in here as well.

*Question Time***SA HEALTH DOCTORS' WELLBEING REPORT**

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition) (14:06): My question is to the Premier. Is South Australia's public hospital system broken? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: Today, *The Advertiser* has reported that SA Health has released a doctors' wellbeing report, which describes the public hospital system as broken and that healthcare workers have markedly high rates of poor wellbeing and warns of deep-rooted cultural elements.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Karna—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:06): The clear answer is no, but we are working to improve it. The reason why we undertook to do this work and to do this report is to uncover the issues about how we can improve doctors' wellbeing and address them, chief amongst which is that we have been recruiting extra doctors to improve services, to address the fatigue of doctors, to make sure that there are more doctors to provide those services. Already in our first two years in office, we recruited an extra 329 doctors full-time equivalent above attrition. That is a very significant increase in terms of the number of doctors coming into our system.

That means that there are more services available, that means that there are more doctors to share the load, and we are continuing to do so. We look forward to releasing the updated figures within the next month or so in terms of our recruitment. We have also—in fact, at the beginning of this year—brought a record number of intern doctors into the state that we have recruited ever as a state before. We continue to recruit more doctors and we continue to work with our doctors in terms of improving their wellbeing. We are implementing the recommendations of this work that we undertook proactively to make sure that we can improve doctors' wellbeing, and we will continue to do so.

SA HEALTH DOCTORS' WELLBEING REPORT

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition) (14:08): My question is to the Premier. What impact has the ramping crisis had on our public hospital medical workforce? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: *The Advertiser* has reported that the SA Health official doctors' wellbeing report has revealed alarming evidence about the workload crisis faced by SA's public hospital medical workforce, which is leading to physical burnout, occupational distress and personal distress from a broken system.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:08): The men and women who are serving our state in our health system are under pressure, and they are under pressure because of a growing level of demand that I don't think is going to disappear anytime soon. There are a number of forces that sit behind that demand. The one that I think concerns us all the most is the rapid growth in the number of aged-care patients that are stuck in hospital beds, even though they do not need to be there but simply just can't get access to an aged-care bed. It is a structural

challenge that we are seeing around the country that simply must be confronted; otherwise we are going to have a hospital system full of people who don't need to be there. That is a function of the ageing of the population, but it is also a demonstration of the growth in demand.

The amount of pressure they are under is a reflection of that, but it is also true to say that what we are doing as a government is trying to make sure that the workload of our health professionals is manageable by making sure that we have the right number of health professionals in and of itself. That is exactly why, as the minister indicated, we are employing a lot more people to work in this system.

That comes at great expense, because obviously doctors are well remunerated—as they well should be, given their level of expertise and how much work goes into becoming a doctor. So it comes at a very considerable expense to the budget, and the Treasurer can demonstrate figures across a range of budgets that demonstrate that—including, no doubt, in the upcoming budget. However, it is not just doctors; it is doctors, it is nurses, it is allied health professionals, it is ambos—huge numbers are coming through the system over and above attrition.

One thing I think the men and women in our health workforce do know is this: that if they are under workload pressures now, imagine what it would be like if they didn't have those extra staff. Imagine if we had not employed, I think, something like 600 extra doctors over and above attrition. Imagine what ambulance response times would be like if, instead of investing in the Ambulance Service with more ambos, they were being cut. Imagine what pressure the system would be under, and the staff, the nurses, would be under, if we had not employed hundreds upon hundreds of extra nurses above attrition. Imagine how hard it would be to get an X-ray or any other basic scan if we hadn't increased the number of allied health professionals working within the system.

It would be an impossible situation; a difficult situation would be impossible if those extra staff had not been recruited. Of course, the reality is that those men and women in the health system were perilously close to that future because that was the policy of the former government. In fact, worse than that, it was the policy of the former government to actually cut staff in some circumstances. They were going to make more staff redundant.

What we know is that the policy contrast was very, very stark at the last election. The South Australian people—thankfully, in our view—elected a Labor government that is now recruiting at a pace that is unprecedented. Does that change the fact that there is more work to be done? Of course not, because there is a lot more work to be done, but at least we are starting from a higher base than what would otherwise be the case.

SA HEALTH DOCTORS' WELLBEING REPORT

Mrs HURN (Schubert) (14:12): My question is to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Has the minister read the draft SA Health doctors' wellbeing report and, if so, what action has he taken to address concerns raised? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mrs HURN: The draft SA Health report details a 'cultural expectation that doctors work regardless of illness or lack of sleep, with those acting against this often being marginalised as 'weak'.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurua—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:13): Yes, I commissioned the report; yes, I have read the report; yes, the reason you have read it is because we put it out to unions for comment on it; and yes, it has recommendations in there to address the issues that were identified that we are accepting and are working on implementing.

Going to the key point the Premier raised, as well, we are continuing to hire and train and put in place additional medical staff to make sure that we have got the resources. However, there is a whole range of things, if the shadow minister has read the report, in those recommendations around how we do leadership programs, around how we make sure that we can address the fatigue of staff, and how we can make sure we have the right wellbeing support for our doctors, that we are implementing.

That is why we did this work proactively, so that we could identify these issues, so that we could make sure that we are caring and supporting our staff, because that is what we, as a

government, are committed to doing. This work was not done previously, and these issues have been there for many, many years. Go and talk to any of our doctors and they will tell you that these are not new issues. But what is new is that these issues are being identified, they are being worked on and there are recommendations to address them. We are hiring additional staff, but we are putting in place a whole range of other things to support our doctors and the work that they do.

SA HEALTH DOCTORS' WELLBEING REPORT

Mrs HURN (Schubert) (14:14): My question is to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. What is the current vacancy rate for doctors in SA Health? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mrs HURN: The SA Health doctors' wellbeing report notes that supply of doctors will need to grow significantly to meet demand but highlights that there is a current shortage of doctors across SA Health.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurna—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:14): I will take on notice the exact figure as of today, but over our first two years in office we have hired an extra 329 doctors, full-time equivalent above attrition. So that means that there are a lot more doctors in our system than there were under the previous government, and that has significantly exceeded what we set as our target to do as of the last election. You will recall our election commitment was to hire above attrition an extra 100 doctors, so we have tripled that within the space of two years and we look forward to updating those figures in terms of how we have gone with our future recruitment shortly.

Of course we know that we want to see even more doctors into the future. A key part of that is making sure there are more medical places so we can train more doctors. They are capped by the federal government. We do welcome the fact that one of the key commitments that has been made by the federal Labor Party as part of their commitment in terms of addressing issues across health has been to increase the number of doctors being trained across the country. We hope that that will see an increased pathway to more doctors coming into not just SA public health services but also critically important GP services into the future as well.

BUSHFIRE PREPAREDNESS

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN (Kavel) (14:16): My question is to the Minister for Energy and Mining. Are there steps the state government can take to protect fruit growers in the Adelaide Hills against damage and economic loss caused to their orchards by contractors to SA Power Networks? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. D.R. CREGAN: I am advised that at one orchard a contractor for SAPN has entered into orchards and substantially damaged approximately 18 rows of fruit-bearing trees. The damaged trees well exceed 150 in number. I am informed that the fruit-bearing trees were cut down as low as the first orchard wire. At another orchard on Tiers Road, harvest-ready apple trees were also cut and damaged.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:17): The member for Kavel has been all over this. I have to say, I was very surprised at the level of damage. This is a very tricky issue for the government and the local MP and the farmer who, through no fault of their own, is subject to some regulations that are in place under the Electricity Act 1996. Members opposite would be very aware of that act; it is something that they were very keen on when they were last in office.

From what I understand, the member has written to the Chief Executive of SA Power Networks, advocating on behalf of his constituent. He has also written to me in no uncertain terms about his displeasure about what has occurred at this orchard. I have to say, when I was reading the correspondence I thought, 'It can't possibly be this bad.' Then I saw the photographs and, yes, it is.

Most of us would expect that if there needs to be bushfire mitigation on trees, we understand that that is necessary to save lives and property, but if there is an economic cost you would expect that there would be some form of compensation for that loss of revenue. Funnily enough, none of that is in the act. That wasn't put in the act for a particular reason. The reason it wasn't put in the act was to maximise the sale price of electricity assets, hence the guilty party opposite.

Mr Patterson: Was that because of the State Bank collapse?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I have to say, what has occurred here—sorry?

Mr Patterson: Was that because maybe the State Bank collapsed?

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Members on my right will come to order. The member for Morphett is warned.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: I look forward to the Liberal Party writing to this orchard owner saying, 'We had to sell ETSA because of the State Bank, and that's why you have lost your crop.' Is that the shadow energy minister's advice?

I am very concerned about this, as are, I have to say, SA Power Networks because SA Power Networks are in a very difficult position. What traditionally had happened is that SA Power Networks would do their regulated pruning directly under the lines and they would leave the rest of the pruning up to orchard owners. What had occurred—and this is not an accusation toward the current orchard that we are talking about here, but other orchard owners perhaps might not have done the clearance that was required, putting SA Power Networks automatically in breach of their own regulations. So this is a very awkward situation.

I have a lot of sympathy for what the member for Kavel has brought up. I undertake to go away and look at this urgently. To the credit of the orchard owner, there was no objection to pruning being done. There was no objection to SA Power Networks protecting areas from bushfire. What they were shocked at was the level of pruning. So I undertake to go away and look at what it is we can actually do when there is an economic loss, and try to undo the damage done by members opposite when they privatised ETSA and put orchard owners like this at such an unfair disadvantage because of what members opposite did to try to benefit foreign ownership of our electricity assets.

FEDERAL LABOR GOVERNMENT

Ms O'HANLON (Dunstan) (14:21): My question is to the Premier. How is the state government working with the Albanese federal government to deliver for South Australia?

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:21): I want to thank the member for Dunstan for her question. The member for Dunstan spends a fair bit of time thinking about significant policy questions, not just for her community but also for the country. Of course, on Saturday, every Australian—

An honourable member interjecting:

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: You want to talk about taxation? I can't help but respond to that interjection. I am really looking forward to handing out how-to-votes on the weekend. I will be handing out how-to-votes in the seat of Sturt; in fact, I might even be doing it later today. I am going to be in the seat of Sturt and I am very much looking forward to, as I hand out how-to-vote cards, making the point that only a vote for Labor is a vote for lower taxes. If you don't want higher taxes, you have to put—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Members on my left will come to order or you will leave question time.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —James Stevens last, because if James Stevens is elected to the federal parliament as part of a Dutton Coalition—

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

The SPEAKER: The member for Morialta can leave until the end of question time.

The honourable member for Morialta having withdrawn from the chamber:

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: —one of the first things an elected Dutton government is going to do is jack up people's income tax—a stated policy position. I am very much looking forward to being in the seat of Sturt and saying, 'Labor equals lower taxes, Liberal equals higher taxes.' Apart from that point of difference—which I will very much enjoy prosecuting on Saturday to the good people of Sturt, and maybe later in the morning Boothby—it is worth reflecting on what has been achieved over the course of the last three years in the couple of minutes that I have left.

The federal Albanese Labor government has been a great partner in delivering changes for the people of South Australia in a way that makes a material difference, and I want to rip through a few examples, because these aren't small things, these are big projects for our state. There is a \$2.4 billion package to save sovereign steelmaking in the city of Whyalla. There is \$7.9 billion being invested in actually getting the north-south corridor completed. This was a project that started under Anthony Albanese as a transport and infrastructure project and it is a project that is set to be completed as a result of the decisions that Prime Minister Albanese has made regarding that project.

A massive advancement has occurred in respect of the AUKUS submarine program, with \$450 million of construction activity underway. The training and skills academy has started construction. We have done the land swap in terms of Keswick, and also Munno Para, which is good for housing and good for defence jobs. We have the \$400 million investment in the Flinders Medical Centre, which is a big investment for a federal government in a public hospital, the on/off ramps at Majors Road and tax cuts to all South Australians. In fact, nine out of 10 workers in South Australia are better off as a result of the tax cuts that Labor has delivered.

We also have record low unemployment, energy bill relief—including bill relief for small businesses—the six urgent care clinics for Medicare, \$95 million of cheaper medicines in South Australia alone, \$1 billion extra for public schools in South Australia so they are finally fully funded, and then, of course, 18,200 fee-free places for TAFE—and that's just the beginning. We look forward to the opportunity to continue to work with the Albanese government should the Australian people decide that at the next election.

WHYALLA STEELWORKS

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition) (14:25): My question is to the Premier. How much will Sam Crafter be paid as the State Lead of Whyalla Steelworks Industrial Transformation?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:25): He's got a contract, he's paid his contract.

OFFICE OF HYDROGEN POWER

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (14:26): My question is to the Premier. What has been the total cost of the Office of Hydrogen Power South Australia, and what are its three biggest achievements?

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:26): One of the things that the Office of Hydrogen Power was tasked to do was to manage the Port Bonython Hydrogen Hub. Do you remember that? Remember the hydrogen hub at Port Bonython? Do you remember that?

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Yes?

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Remember? Before the mass re-education that occurred when he went into opposition? Right—never heard of hydrogen, don't know what that is. But previously they invested \$30 million into a hydrogen hub at Port Bonython when they privatised land at Port Bonython to try to get up a hydrogen hub. Sam Crafter has been working on that, doing an exceptionally good job. What we have also done, of course, is procure a state-of-the-art aeroderivative generator: four units of 50 megawatt generation that would be used to try to help

alleviate some of the competition restraints we have in this state as a result of the privatisation of ETSA, and importantly—

Mr Patterson interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Morphett will listen to the answer in silence. You asked a question: if you want to listen to the answer in your office, keep talking; if you would like to hear it here, be quiet.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: He is off the leash, sir. Most importantly, the path to green steel is even closer than it ever has been before.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: That reaction is all you need to know about the aspirations for Whyalla that members opposite have. That's all you need to know—the laughter is all you need to hear. I hope everyone in Whyalla hears their laughter. I hope everyone on Eyre Peninsula hears what they say. I wonder what Tom Venning would say about the laughter about the people of Whyalla from members opposite?

We have the best magnetite resources anywhere in the country. We have the last structural steel smelter anywhere in the country. We have the last structural steel rolling mill anywhere in the country, and we aim to decarbonise it. Why? Because it's important that we can actually mine our iron ore and turn it into steel. While members opposite laugh at that aspiration, we think it's real.

The idea that there are going to be brand-new blast furnaces built across South Australia and across Australia is just like the myth that there will be new coal-fired power stations built across the country. It's not happening. The path forward is going to be direct iron reduction and it's going to be electric arc furnaces. That work is being promoted and worked through by the Office of Hydrogen Power SA—and that is just to name a few.

The Office of Hydrogen Power SA has worked diligently to try to do everything it can to promote the decarbonisation of heavy industries in this state. Members opposite have no plan for heavy industries—none. In fact, with what we see right now, imagine if Steven Marshall and imagine if members opposite were in charge when Whyalla was on the brink. What would they have done? The Leader of the Opposition has a five-minute coffee with Sanjeev Gupta and he wants to hand over \$50 million. One cappuccino and he is handing over money.

We have aspirations for this state that are about beneficiating our own minerals and creating complex jobs. Members opposite have no plan for this state, they have no plan for heavy industry and they have no plan for decarbonisation. If the people of Whyalla could see the way they are behaving today, they would be horrified.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Newland and the member for Florey are on your final warnings.

STATE PROSPERITY PROJECT

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (14:30): My question is to the Premier. What impact will the government's shelving of its hydrogen power plant and closure of the Office of Hydrogen Power SA have on the State Prosperity Project?

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:30): I thank the shadow Minister for his for his question. The state government's State Prosperity Project speaks to a number of objectives that we have economically for our state. We see there being a number of key pillars for economic advancement of the state.

The first obviously sits around all the opportunity that exists in the naval shipbuilding enterprise, the defence sector and the space sector more broadly. That is moving at a pretty good clip at the moment, and the Minister for Defence and Space Industries continues to look for more opportunities to grow and accelerate that every week.

With respect to one of the other key pillars, which we put under the banner of the State Prosperity Project, are all the opportunities that we see in and around the geographical area of the Upper Spencer Gulf, which I know both the member for Giles and the member for Stuart share a passion for in particular. In that area around the Upper Spencer Gulf, we see a number of things coming together at the same time.

We see one of the world's highest quality magnetite resources located in the area, one of the world's highest quality copper resources located in the area (69 per cent of the nation's copper)—and this is a particularly economic copper resource. Then, of course, we have a huge volume of land that is available with coincident solar and wind resources that allows for an expansion of the renewable energy sector. Then, of course, we have smelters in the area. In fact, there are three smelters in the area if you go up to OD, and then of course you've got Port Pirie and Whyalla, along with port infrastructure.

Our objective is to bring those things together and acknowledge that, in a world where there is a movement to decarbonise, because it is necessary, that represents an economic opportunity. Both in terms of green iron production and copper production, we know that there is demand that South Australia can meet at an economic price, potentially at a speed faster than we see anywhere else in the world, and our objective is to bring that together. Hydrogen can form part of that equation. If you speak to anybody who knows anything about how you produce green steel, it is almost certain that at some point into the future hydrogen will play a role, and we have aspirations for that.

What we have chosen to do is consistent with the best available economic advice that we have. The first thing you have to do is be able to prioritise the capacity in order to get to green iron. You want to be able to prioritise the capacity to produce it, and what is central to that in the South Australian context is the Whyalla Steelworks. So we have been very deliberate about making sure that, in order to generate all the prosperity that can be achieved out of those economic opportunities, we have a laser light focused on the preservation of the resources that we have in Whyalla, and then of course the enhancement from there.

That is why the government has made the decisions that we have. We have been very transparent about that. Our objectives are clear and we continue to pursue them. Value adding around copper production but also expanding copper production is why we continue to pursue the Northern Water project. Then, in terms of green iron, we obviously have now the stabilisation of the steelworks underway. In fact, already a lot has been achieved in that regard over the course of the last couple of months. The steelworks is performing far better right now than was the case even only a couple of months ago, which is a great testament to the workforce and also to KordaMentha's stewardship.

As KordaMentha have engaged with 333 Capital partners and continue to work closely with the state and the federal governments, we have the hope and ambition of finding new owners for the steelworks—the right new owners for the steelworks—to realise the transformation that will lead to green iron production. These things combined constitute the State Prosperity Project. We continue to pursue them because we have a long-term vision for the economy of our state.

REGIONAL MEDICAL SCHOOL

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Stuart) (14:34): My question is to the Minister for Health and Wellbeing. Can the minister advise my constituents if there is any opportunity to provide the new four-year medical degree program that is currently in the Upper Spencer Gulf, similar to what is happening in Renmark and also Mount Gambier? With your leave, and that of the house, sir, I will explain a bit further.

Leave granted.

The Hon. G.G. BROCK: I am advised that since the new four-year program started in Renmark and also Mount Gambier, the program was overprescribed with participants and they had to turn medical students away, which would result in fewer graduates being able to train and serve in regional South Australia.

The Hon. C.J. PICTON (Kaurana—Minister for Health and Wellbeing) (14:35): Thank you to the member for Stuart for his important question. It's a very good question because it is about how we can then train more doctors in South Australia, particularly in terms of regional areas.

The member refers to what is a very exciting initiative. Flinders University won a competitive program to be able to establish a new regional medical school in South Australia for the first time. This means that students undertaking their degrees to become doctors will not be undertaking that at Bedford Park or in the city, and at the end of it we ask them to go to the regions afterwards, or even doing bits of their degree in the regions, but undertaking the entire degree in regional areas.

Flinders University have had a longstanding relationship with the Riverland and the Limestone Coast areas of the state and the University of Adelaide Medical School have had a longstanding relationship with the Upper Spencer Gulf and Eyre Peninsula. Flinders University, being successful for that, are rolling it out in the areas of the state where they have had those ongoing relationships.

It was a very competitive process. Of course, the other medical school in South Australia did try to get access to that program as well. We did punch above our weight in terms of getting more places I think by far than our per capita share of that regional medical program, but we are always in the market for more. And the fact that I referred to in my previous answer, those capped places from the federal government, we are hoping under a newly-elected Albanese federal Labor government will be set to increase. Hopefully that gives the opportunity for South Australian universities to increase the number of doctors that they train here in South Australia.

The member refers to the program being oversubscribed. That is the case for every single medical degree program in Australia. They are very competitive to get into, they are capped places and medical students are trying to get into these places everywhere around the country. Of course, we know we are going to need more doctors in the future for our needs in the public health system, in GP practices, in private practices. With an ageing population there will be more doctors needed in the future. We are increasingly having to do more and more international recruitment, because we have not seen a big increase in those numbers in the past decade. That is about to change. We are hopeful to see those numbers increase.

I am hopeful that both Adelaide University and Flinders University will be able to see their numbers increase into the future. I will certainly help advocate to the federal government that that should be the case, and I am hopeful that we will see an increase in terms of regional medical training into the future as well.

Of course, the member's own electorate will be very well placed into the future as well because of the investment that we are making in Port Pirie, which the member helped advocate for and which was funded in the last budget. That is to provide that new training facility that we will be building at Port Pirie adjacent to the hospital, predominantly to help with the training of nurses and allied health professionals, but there is the potential that that clinical simulation unit could also be there in the future for use by medical students as well.

We think that there is a great opportunity for more South Australians to become doctors, to increase the number of training places that we have in South Australia. We are very excited about the work that Flinders University have just started in doing so, and we are hopeful that there will be more into the future.

The other component, of course, that I would add, is the postgraduate training pipeline as well. In your local area there have never been postgraduate medical placements and intern placements before. That has now changed. We now have those interns there for the first time in the Yorke and Northern Local Health Network, and that is a sign of hopefully good things to come.

HOUSING SUPPLY

Ms SAVVAS (Newland) (14:39): My question is to the Minister for Housing and Urban Development. Can the minister inform the house of any federal housing policy commitments which will affect the supply of housing in South Australia?

The Hon. N.D. CHAMPION (Taylor—Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Minister for Housing Infrastructure, Minister for Planning) (14:39): I thank the member for Newland for her question. Of course, we face a national housing crisis and a national housing debate. We have seen that debate flow out over the last federal election campaign. Of course, the commonwealth government has a very important policy, the Housing Australia Future Fund, a fund that provides \$10 billion that is managed by the commonwealth government and provides \$500 million per year to flow into community housing projects, into essentially affordable rental projects all over the country and here in South Australia, too.

That is vital to the supply of affordable rentals. Many of those projects will not add up if they do not receive HAFF funding. The HAFF was delayed, for almost a year, by a strange coalition in the Senate of Liberal senators like Senator Antic and Green senators like Senator Hanson-Young. It was a strange coalition of people who sought to delay the very housing supply that might provide relief to those in the rental market and ultimately give them the capacity to save a deposit and get their own home. We know that the Housing Australia Future Fund is at risk if there is a change of government, because Peter Dutton has said that he will get rid of it, he will stop it.

He will stop those projects, that flow of money, the flow of \$500 million every year into affordable rental projects around the country, and that will have a very real effect on the rental vacancy rate in South Australia. It is worthwhile thinking about what that delay cost us, because delay in housing is death. It is the death of projects. It is the stalling of vital supply to the market. What we want to see is Labor's new policy, which is all about \$10 billion to partner with state developers and industry to build 100,000 homes for new homebuyers, \$2 billion in grants to states and \$8 billion in zero-interest loans.

It is a very, very good policy by the commonwealth government and one that will sync perfectly with our plans for Renewal SA, plans that are opposed by those opposite at Southwark, at places like Prospect, at places like Noarlunga. These are all places that would benefit by having new homebuyers being facilitated into the market. They are all projects that those opposite are stated to oppose. They oppose all of them. We were down at Prospect Corner the other day with the Premier and the Prime Minister, and what did we see there? We saw 208 dwellings, 108 townhouses and 38 per cent of those going to new homebuyers.

They are all being built. You can go down there and see them for yourself. Go down to Churchill Road and have a good look at them. There are also 100 affordable rental apartments. They will be at risk if we have a change of government at the commonwealth level. What is the federal opposition's policy? It is to stimulate demand. It is an inflationary policy to stimulate demand, to raid people's super accounts, to overheat the market, to cause inflation and to close down supply, because they are going to get rid of the HAFF.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Hammond!

The Hon. N.D. CHAMPION: You constrain supply while you inflate demand. We know how that went. We only have to look back to HomeBuilder to know how that went: homes not completed and a building industry that was in crisis.

NYRSTAR

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (14:43): My question is to the Premier. Is the Premier confident in the ongoing viability of Nyrstar and its Port Pirie lead smelter? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PATTERSON: It has been reported that Trafigura CE Richard Holtum has said that Nyrstar Australia should not be in fully private hands and that some sort of government ownership or significant government support is needed for smelting capacity because it is not competitive on an international basis.

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS (West Torrens—Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Minister for Energy and Mining) (14:44): That is not what the previous government

told us about Trafigura's purchase of Nyrstar. When Trafigura purchased Nyrstar, members opposite were cheering from the rooftops.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: Things have changed, have they? Things have changed; okay.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: 'We ask the questions.' Did he have a cappuccino with you as well? Did he buy you a cappuccino too, did he? It is true that Trafigura are largely commodity traders. I was surprised when we were in opposition to hear members opposite really talking up that Trafigura had bought Nyrstar and what a great outcome it was and now I am getting questions from members opposite, who were previously cheering this purchase of Nyrstar by Trafigura who now tell us—

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: The member for Flinders is on his final warning. Member for Morphett!

The Hon. A. KOUTSANTONIS: What is occurring is, I think what Trafigura are raising about smelters in Australia generally speaks to why the Premier and the government have the prosperity plan. Australian smelting is at risk, it's at risk across the entire country, not just in South Australia.

You have seen interventions through the Reconstruction Fund, you have seen interventions with Tomago, you will be seeing more and more of this being discussed in the United States and Canada, Japan, Korea, the Alliance of Democracies in the Asia Pacific, the Alliance of Democracies in Europe and North America because smelting is at risk because there is one very large player who is producing a lot of smeltered goods at very, very low cost and is spreading those low production cost goods across the market while they are simultaneously paying very, very large prices for the raw commodities that go into those smelters.

Australia needs to very, very quickly—and the Albanese government is leading this work—understand that smelting is critical to Australia's future prosperity, hence the prosperity plan. The Port Pirie smelter is one of the most complex multimetal smelters anywhere in the Southern Hemisphere and it is something that we have intervened in the past to save. I think it is incumbent on a government to do all we can to make sure it has a prosperous future.

The questions that we need answered by Trafigura, and anyone else who may be the owners of that smelter, are: what is the long-term viability of smelting, what are the products it will be making? There are a lot of critical minerals that can be manufactured with relatively low capital costs at Port Pirie, things like antimony, which is already made there, and other products that can be made, like bismuth and others from the smelting process out of Port Pirie that could have military applications throughout Australia and the Western world. In terms of what the long-term viability of Port Pirie is, it is a critical city for this state, it is a critical smelter for this country, it is a critical smelter for the Western world. I think it has an important role to play.

We did not jump on the Trafigura bandwagon like the member for Morphett did when he was a minister. I will dig up the press releases and the ministerial statements in a moment. I can see him nodding already. He knows what he said. He knows how excited he was about it. He was all over it, really excited—yes, nodding your head really quickly. We remember all that. We will be working very closely with Trafigura, very closely with Nyrstar, very closely with the Whyalla Steelworks, and very closely with Roxby Downs. We want to preserve smelting capacity in this state, hence the prosperity plan. That is why we think it is important. What I have yet to see from members opposite is: what is their plan for smelting in South Australia, what is their plan for Roxby, what is their plan for Whyalla, what is their plan for Nyrstar?

KORDAMENTHA

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (14:48): My question is to the Premier. Will the government be providing additional funding to the administrators of OneSteel before the state budget and, if so, how much and when? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr PATTERSON: The administrators KordaMentha have advised that they may run out of money this month.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:48): The shadow minister has made inquiries of this nature in this forum, amongst others presumably, and nothing has changed since the shadow minister last did that. It appears as though the shadow minister is looking for evidence that somehow the government's actions in respect of the Whyalla Steelworks aren't planned for, aren't accounted for or are ill thought through. Of course, what we have in government is a very considered and comprehensive strategy. We have been very transparent about the fact that we anticipate the administration process to go somewhere in the order of 18 months. We would love it to go sooner. It's hard to know exactly how long it will go for and, of course, we cannot even guarantee what the outcome is at the end.

What we are certain of is that the plan and the strategy that we have developed, in conjunction with our partners in the federal Albanese government, is the one that gives steelmaking in this country the best chance of success. Just to step through that again: what we have done is we have funded for the first tranche of administration, which we have always anticipated, and it increasingly looks like it will be true that the first six months will be more expensive than the second by virtue of the fact that there was so much unexecuted or unfulfilled basic maintenance and investment in the plant.

The person in this chamber who probably knows about this most is the member for Giles, who is there on the ground talking to steelworkers themselves, himself a former steelworker, just as the member for Stuart, the man who saved Pirie, knows how the smelter works. But what the member for Giles would be able to tell you is that the place was being run into the ground. Money wasn't being spent on basic care and maintenance, let alone on investment that is necessary to keep the place safe. What the administrator has been able to do, as a result of the investments that have been delivered through the administration process, fifty-fifty funding between us and the commonwealth, is to bring a lot of that back up in train.

We anticipate that the second six months will be less expensive than the first. We anticipate that the run rate, so to speak, of using the funds that were provided through the administration process will slow down as the process continues. Yes, there will be a second tranche of funding that we will allocate to this exercise to fund the administration. We have made that very, very clear. Of course, it is true that if we do not do that, the funding will run out because money does not grow on trees, as the shadow minister himself well knows.

So there was always going to be a second tranche of funding, and then there may well be a third, depending on the timeline we see around the administration process. That will be negotiated with the commonwealth as our fifty-fifty funding partner. We look forward to that engagement post the outcome on the weekend. I am pleased to say that the Albanese government has demonstrated bona fides when it comes to making sure that we have sovereign steelmaking this country. As best as I understand it, there is bipartisan support for the funding of the administration process, which I am grateful for.

But we are very, very keen to make sure that what happens in the long term isn't just a process of administration, but a process to get it out of administration. To that end, the Albanese government is on the same page as this government that the future for steelmaking in Whyalla is iron making, done in a form that is increasingly decarbonized. We are very grateful for the federal government's partnership in that regard.

MACKILLOP ELECTORATE OFFICE

The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley) (14:52): My question is to the Treasurer. Has the government approved a second electorate office and additional staff for the member for MacKillop, and, if so, when and on what basis? And if I can have leave, sir, I can explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI: FOI documents reveal that the member for MacKillop, only months after leaving the Liberal Party, wrote to the Treasurer seeking an additional office closer to Adelaide and extra staff.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Treasurer, Minister for Defence and Space Industries, Minister for Police) (14:53): Yes, as part of the exodus from the Liberal Party over the course of this parliamentary term, the member for MacKillop did leave the parliamentary Liberal Party and, like a number of regional MPs who have sought second electorate offices because of the geographic expanse of their electorates, one has been approved for the member for MacKillop. I will provide a full list of regional MPs who have more than one electorate office, and I will furnish it to the member for Unley and to the house so everybody is aware of how many people have had the benefit of having MPs who are able to cover large geographic areas and hence be represented in this place.

The SPEAKER: I declare I've got two: one on Kangaroo Island and one on the mainland.

DUCK HUNTING PERMITS

Mr McBRIDE (MacKillop) (14:54): My question is to the Deputy Premier and Minister for Environment. Can the minister inform the house what is the cost of duck hunting permits? With your leave, Mr Speaker, and leave of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr McBRIDE: My office has been contacted by many duck hunters who believe that the cost of a permit has gone from \$50 to \$100, a 100 per cent increase that they believe is a tactic aimed at making it too costly to participate.

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) (14:54): The member is right on one element and wrong in the conveying of the concerns on the other. It is true that the price of duck hunting permits has increased from, I think, around \$53 to \$100. It is not true that that has been motivated by a desire to see people not take up the opportunity to have a duck hunting permit.

Members will be aware that in the other place there was an inquiry undertaken as a select committee looking into the hunting of non-abundant native birds; that is, birds that are not in pest proportions but are nonetheless allowed to be hunted. That inquiry looked at a number of different issues associated with that activity. They made a number of recommendations, some of which have already been implemented and others which will be taken up through review of the code of practice and other elements that guide the way in which duck hunting is managed by the Department for Environment and Water.

In the process of responding to that inquiry it was determined that it was appropriate that duck hunters pay for the services they receive from the Department for Environment, that there had been a significant subsidy by the department that is otherwise dedicated to managing the environment on behalf of South Australians, that it was subsidising this activity and that it was appropriate that that money be taken out as a cost to the people undertaking the activity.

In the first instance there has been the cost simply for running the short period of the season itself, and it will increase because there are a number of costs associated with permitting duck hunting that go throughout the year. Therefore, it will continue to increase in order to see that money being paid by those who receive the service.

I will say that although the government has maintained a position of continuing to allow duck hunting and the acting minister signed off on the most recent season opening earlier this year, it is the single issue about which I received the most correspondence in opposition. This is something that is not widely popular in the community, nor is it widely popular amongst people who choose to write to me. Nonetheless, the government has been clear that it has maintained the policy position but that it is appropriate that people who receive a service ought pay for it.

ADELAIDE LIGHTNING, WNBL

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition) (14:57): My question is to the Premier. Can the Premier update the house as to the progress of the government's discussions with the WNBL in relation to the Adelaide Lightning? With you leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA: It has been reported that all Adelaide Lightning players have been released from their contracts in negotiations today amid growing uncertainty about the team's future in the WNBL.

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS (Croydon—Premier) (14:57): He is obsessed with sport, Mr Speaker; he is obsessed with sport. I think it is fair to say that the state government is concerned, to say the least, about recent news emerging around the prospects of Adelaide Lightning going into—

Members interjecting:

The Hon. P.B. MALINAUSKAS: Yes; you do. Mr Speaker, the state government is concerned about the prospects of Adelaide Lightning being lost to the WNBL, and there are a couple of things I want to say. The Adelaide Lightning deservedly has one of the proudest histories in the WNBL. It has a formidable record, and has produced absolute superstars who have represented not just our city and our state well, but also our country.

The news that has been emerging over the last few days regarding the WNBL has naturally necessitated government engagement, and the Minister for Recreation, Sport and Racing has been in touch with representatives of Adelaide Lightning, and indeed the WNBL, including at the highest levels of the league.

I am happy to advise the house that I understand that there is an important meeting occurring tomorrow at which the minister will be present to understand exactly the circumstances of the situation and what are the plans to remediate it. It is fair to say this: the WNBL itself does not want to see Adelaide Lightning lost to the competition. Basketball in Australia is on the rise. We see a high level of participation in basketball amongst both women and men, and it is absolutely critical in our view that we see a women's team from the state of South Australia.

When we think about inspirational leaders, Rachael Sporn comes to mind. Her contribution to female participation in sport in this state is well known and is credentialed, and that is all because of the opportunity that she had to play at the highest level in our country for Adelaide Lightning.

Minister Bourke is engaged in this. There is an important meeting tomorrow. The government very much anticipates that we will be furnished with far more information tomorrow about exactly how it is that these circumstances have arisen, and hopefully get a sense of what plans there might be for a remedy to the situation.

But it doesn't appear good. The news that has been breaking even during the course of question time regarding the release of players is particularly disconcerting. There is evidence that the club is in crisis, and that is why we are very concerned about it. I have asked Minister Bourke—in fact, she was already onto it in any event—to be fully engaged and we look forward to seeing the outcomes of the discussions and meeting tomorrow.

DROUGHT ASSISTANCE

Mr TELFER (Flinders) (15:01): My question is to the Treasurer. Will the government review its criteria for the drought assistance package to ensure that assistance is delivered where it is needed? With your leave, sir, and that of the house, I will explain.

Leave granted.

Mr TELFER: The opposition understands that only around 800 of the over 9,000 South Australian agribusiness households qualify for the SA government's ESL and vehicle registration rebates.

The Hon. S.C. MULLIGHAN (Lee—Treasurer, Minister for Defence and Space Industries, Minister for Police) (15:01): I thank the member for Flinders for his question. He is clearly motivated by the conditions that many in his electorate are experiencing with the record dry conditions and the impacts that is having on farmers and also local communities.

I don't know of those numbers that he has claimed and whether they are accurate or not. What I do know is that we have mirrored the longstanding federal criteria in the additional assistance that we are providing to primary producers. Not only will they have access to a range of different supports but, for those farmers who qualify for the direct financial assistance from the commonwealth government, we have also said that we will forego a range of state government fees and charges, including some of the ones that the member mentioned.

These are long-established criteria. They have been applied across the country, as far as I am aware, and they have been applied by federal governments of both political persuasions. But having said that, this is just the criterion for the exemption from these particular state government fees and charges. There is a whole other range of financial and other supports available to primary producers which are not subject to those particular criteria, as well as the financial support for other businesses—in particular small businesses—located in regional communities which may not be themselves primary producers but have suffered a downturn as a result of the difficulties that primary producers have been in.

I don't think anyone could reasonably accuse this government of not meeting the call for providing really substantial financial assistance to regional communities when required: firstly, with the flood event that we had down the River Murray, partnering with the commonwealth government in a \$190 million package which included some subsequent infrastructure upgrades, and now we have seen two separate drought support packages totalling over \$70 million.

We provided those funds, firstly, from November last year in advance of political calls for support because we realised the difficulties that were happening, and the Premier made it really clear that we were open to providing more support as and when it became necessary. We haven't waited until I release the budget on 5 June, but we have instead brought that forward to make sure we can provide these supports.

I am happy to try to see if the Department of State Development—the department that is responsible for actually issuing these financial supports, as well as the transport department and Treasury—can verify those numbers that have been quoted by the member. We have, across these two significant events affecting regional communities, taken decisions to provide more than a quarter of a billion dollars of financial support to affected communities. That is far above and beyond the level of support that has ever been provided to regional communities by a state government for these sorts of events in the past, and that is even before we talk about what the Premier was referring to earlier with support for Whyalla. I am happy to keep the house updated.

DOMESTIC, FAMILY AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE

S.E. ANDREWS (Gibson) (15:05): My question is to the Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence. Can the minister update the house on federal investment for South Australia to support frontline domestic, family and sexual violence services?

The Hon. K.A. HILDYARD (Reynell—Minister for Child Protection, Minister for Women and the Prevention of Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence) (15:06): Thank you very much to the member for her question and for her steadfast passion to help prevent and end domestic, family and sexual violence. This scourge that sees one woman in this country killed every four days, deeply impacts children and negatively impacts women's health and wellbeing across their lifetime is a scourge that touches far too many lives. It is, however, heartening to see leaders working together to say, 'Enough.'

I am really proud of the far-reaching, impactful work the Albanese Labor government has done in this space. In just three years, we have seen more focus and more resources, and from day one this work has been done hand in hand with communities, states and territories, and the people on the ground who show up every day to help women feel and be safe again.

Within just months of Labor forming government in this state, I proudly stood alongside exemplary federal ministers Amanda Rishworth and Katy Gallagher, as well as ministers from every state and territory, to help launch the National Plan to End Violence against Women and Children 2022-2032. It is a big and ambitious plan and also a deeply personal one because behind every target and every timeline is someone's colleague, neighbour, sister, mother or friend. Behind every target and timeline is someone: a woman who was precious and loved.

This national plan isn't just words, it is backed by over \$4 billion in federal funding: record funding that is making and will continue to make a difference. Here in South Australia, we have rolled up our sleeves and worked closely with our federal counterparts to make sure that money goes where it is most needed. That includes \$12.167 million to South Australia to recruit 45 new frontline community workers across 35 services.

These workers are now reaching people in both metro and regional areas. These are the people who stand at the crossroads of crisis and hope, offering shelter, counselling, financial support and compassion, and empowering women to walk new pathways. They are also there for those who can, sadly, too often be overlooked: First Nations women, CALD communities, the LGBTIQ+ community and women with disabilities.

A renewed five-year National Partnership Agreement will deliver another \$26 million from the commonwealth starting 1 July 2025, and we are matching that here in South Australia. That's another over \$52 million of critical services to change and sometimes even save lives. This partnership speaks volumes. It shows what happens when two Labor governments, federal and state, work together with shared purpose, with steadfast resolve. On top of this unprecedented investment into prevention, intervention, response, recovery and healing, the federal government is directly supporting South Australians through national programs like the now permanent leaving violence payment.

Just last week, we saw a \$90 million proposal from the federal opposition announced far too late and, frankly, falling utterly short. When you put that next to Labor's \$4 billion commitment, the difference in priorities is crystal clear. We know the stakes, we know the stories and we know the strength that it takes to walk away, to speak up and start again. The Albanese government sees this, our government sees this, which is why together we are not just listening, we are acting and we are investing.

Grievance Debate

STATE ECONOMY

The Hon. V.A. TARZIA (Hartley—Leader of the Opposition) (15:10): Today, I rise to share my deep concerns about the direction that our state is headed under this Labor government. This week, you only have to look at two highly regarded reports that have been released that are quite scathing of this government and the way it is handling the state economy. It shows that South Australia is headed backwards and affirms what has been a lacklustre record by this government on the South Australian economy.

Firstly, there was the CommSec State of the States report. Our Premier gets the cherry picker out from time to time and he sometimes waves it in front of many a crowd. However, this week it was a bit different because it showed that we have slipped to fourth in the nation overall, and South Australia has dropped to sixth in terms of real economic growth. In the past quarter, our growth has been very, very slow. Not only has the economy effectively stalled but the report shows that we are last in the nation when it comes to investment in new plant and equipment, and that has been happening for some time. So what does that mean?

Well, there is also another nationally regarded report and this one is by NAB. This was the NAB business confidence survey that was held for March, and it actually declared us as the state with the weakest business confidence in the country. So when your confidence in the economy is low, what happens? Amongst other things, businesses stop investing. I mean, can you blame small businesses facing these Labor governments, facing record high power prices, facing crippling issues like payroll tax and so forth—can you really blame them?

We know that businesses at the moment are paying around a whopping \$1,685 more on their power bills since Labor came into office, not to mention the harsh payroll tax threshold that shows no sign of relief under this high-taxing Labor government. This is a government that cherry-picks data when it wants to try to create a pretty picture. The reality is that if you walk down any major shopping precinct at the moment, talk to any small business out there—a cafe, a restaurant, a small business—they will tell you the true state of the economy at the moment. How can this Premier be so arrogant to the needs of South Australian businesses? For a government that seems so determined to spend the money of South Australians and spiral our state debt out of control, how can they leave small businesses out in the lurch like this?

Then there was another report that came out only yesterday—this week—the Benchmarking Adelaide report. It basically shows that South Australia is also becoming less and less productive, more congested, and the state economy is sliding when you look at how we compare with our peers. One of the report's major metrics, in fact, points to the housing affordability crisis, which is one of the reasons why we are falling behind. We know that we are among the worst in the nation unfortunately for home ownership affordability—worse than London, Paris, Berlin—and worst in the nation for rental affordability as well.

What has this government's response been to solving this affordability crisis? Well, this week what happened? We saw in this place how this government knocked back our sensible plans to open up more land for housing under the EFPA Bill. So whilst we waited to get the detail, waited to get the maps, what we said is that not only would we support those maps but we would open it up for other areas.

This government talks about trying to solve the housing crisis but it just does not back it up with actions. They ignored sensible amendments that would have actually opened up more land for housing. This government has failed time and time again to help South Australians realise the dream of home ownership. Not only that, what else did the government do?

This week, what they have actually done is they hit control C and control V. For those unaware, what they have done is they blatantly copied our policy to fast-track apprentices, and the minister was embarrassed on morning radio about this. Members opposite can announce all the housing developments they like, but without the people to build them those plans are not worth the paper they are written on.

Labor have run out of ideas. When they run out of their own ideas they come after ours. We will keep doing our job as a successful opposition, making sure that we not only hold this government to account but continue to present a positive alternative to the people of South Australia.

ANZAC DAY

The Hon. G.G. BROCK (Stuart) (15:15): Today, I am very privileged to speak about the ANZAC Day activities that I was able to attend and other events across the ANZAC weekend. These events were undertaken to celebrate 110 years since the landing at Gallipoli. First was the dawn service at Port Pirie, which has always been the case, where I am advised that the attendance was about 2,500 people, including many young children. They did an excellent job, and congratulations to the Port Pirie Regional Council and the Port Pirie RSL Club.

There was a morning event at Gladstone that celebrated not only 110 years since the landing at Gallipoli but also 10 years since the establishment of a memorial water fountain, which I was able to be part of as the member for Frome, along with the member for Grey, Rowan Ramsey, 10 years ago when we celebrated the opening. Congratulations to the federal member for Grey, Rowan Ramsey. This event was organised by Richard Stott, who is the local RSL person. Even though they do not have an RSL club there, Richard Stott has been very active in the community and surrounds for many years. There was a great response to his activities with a crowd of about 250 to 300 people.

The next event was at the Redhill RSL Club. They had a morning session where approximately 120 to 160 people were in attendance. Laying of wreaths and dedications were carried out throughout the morning. I must also say that we had the opportunity at Gladstone to lay wreaths from the Mayor of Northern Areas Council, Sue Scarman, and myself, as well as Richard Stott and members of the general public. There were a lot of young children there who also laid some wreaths.

With regard to the Redhill RSL, this event was handled extremely well. It was emceed by Keith Jackson and Rosemary Conroy, both of whom are long-term residents of Redhill. They have done an excellent job over many years. Even though Keith was a little bit resistant to actually speak, he did a fantastic job. The next event was the civic march and dedication at Port Pirie where the veterans proudly marched from the Terrace to the World War I Memorial Gates. Although the crowd was well and truly down from the dawn service, it was estimated to be around 300 to 350.

The next event was the memorial launched by the Nurom Whim Historical Group and Broughton Plains Heritage Society, which worked together towards getting a grant from the Department of Veterans Affairs to erect a magnificent marble memorial honouring those from the area who served in the various conflicts, from Gallipoli up until the current day. The memorial is located on the corner of Spencer Highway and Nurom Whim Road, and it is very evident to those travelling along this highway both north and south. It is a credit to both of those community groups for doing this together.

All these events were very well organised and well attended. However, these events do not just happen. They require very dedicated and continuous work, and each of these people deserve great admiration. I would also like to compliment the younger people who attended every one of these events, which was very gratifying given that it was school holidays on that day. During my time as the Minister for Veterans Affairs, I endeavoured to encourage the younger generation to attend not only ANZAC Day commemorations but also commemorative events to show our gratitude to those who made the supreme sacrifice, as well as to the families who were left behind.

Can I also mention and give thanks to the community associations for their refreshments. At Gladstone, the Gladstone Bowling Club were able to put on a beautiful breakfast there. There was the Port Pirie civic reception, and the Port Pirie RSL ladies, all volunteers, did a fantastic job there, and I must admit there were a couple of things that I should not have had, but still, we won't tell my partner, Lyn.

At Redhill, again the community themselves organised that and it was really, really terrific. And Nurom Whim, with the Broughton Plains Heritage Society, the ladies there did all the cakes and the teas and things like that and it was absolutely fantastic, so congratulations to everybody there. Again, I encourage everybody to encourage the younger generation to attend any commemorative events to celebrate our defence forces.

STATE PROSPERITY PROJECT

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (15:20): It is just over a year since the Malinauskas Labor government launched the State Prosperity Project, a name that would sit comfortably with any other Stalinist era propaganda slogans. The State Prosperity Project promised to 'unlock a new kind of power' and the plan was to implement a process which was very inefficient, very energy intensive, where it converted electricity to hydrogen and back to electricity. This was based on the Premier's flagship election promise, his \$600 million Hydrogen Jobs Plan—another propaganda-laced slogan.

The launch was accompanied by an advertising blitz. Millions of dollars were spent advertising this State Prosperity Project, with advertising in the form of tram wraps, full-page spreads, online advertising, and even beer coasters and bar runners for those at the pubs. As well, the Office of Hydrogen Power set up a shop in Whyalla at the shopping centre. The windows were wrapped in the State Prosperity Project's livery of green and gold, and they espoused—this one window especially espoused how hydrogen Power SA is going to 'power new opportunities for Whyalla'.

So a year on, let us just ask: how is the State Prosperity Project going? The State Prosperity Project is in disarray, with key projects in the Upper Spencer Gulf either shelved or under a cloud. Of course, we have the Hydrogen Jobs Plan. That has been shelved and revealed as a hydrogen hoax. All five of the Premier's main promises associated with that were broken well before the crisis at Whyalla unfolded and it was used as a scapegoat by this Premier.

We know the hydrogen project's costs were soaring past \$1 billion. It was not going to bring down prices for households. And now today we find out that the Office of Hydrogen Power SA has been closed down. This was the only energy and economic policy the Malinauskas Labor government took to the election.

At the same time the green steel transition has been shelved. The Premier has been forced to publicly concede green steel is more than a decade away and, in fact, any transition needs to first use gas. We have the Northern Water project and that is plagued with issues. We had the resignation of the chief executive and a massive staff turnover. There is the indecision around the location of the desalination plant, whether it is at Cape Hardy, or is it at Mullaquana? We have potential price escalations now above the \$5 billion price estimate, and then today we find out that the Office of Northern Water Delivery has been shut down.

We have the Whyalla Steelworks forced into administration and having to be bailed out with \$2.4 billion of taxpayer money. We have got the second out of three major smelters in South Australia, Nyrstar's Port Pirie lead smelter, also in serious difficulty, facing an uncertain future and potentially needing a massive capital injection in the order of at least hundreds of millions of dollars.

And at a statewide level, under the Malinauskas Labor government, power bills for South Australian households and businesses have skyrocketed by 45 per cent and are the highest on record. This is no plan for prosperity. The only plan for prosperity, the only hydrogen job really, is the Office of Hydrogen Power's CEO on a nice \$600,000 salary.

Of course, this State Prosperity Project was supposed to be a blueprint for our future. Instead, it really has become a symbol of broken promises and misplaced priorities, and for the past three years the government has been distracted by an energy and industrial policy heavily focused on green hydrogen, wasting over \$100 million of taxpayer money in that time, chasing the Premier's green hydrogen dreams, that has resulted in no jobs.

This has left the state without a clear and effective plan to address its pressing energy and industrial challenges. Rather than a state economy flourishing from hard work and enterprise with private industry and small business leading the charge, instead the number of business insolvencies has doubled under the Malinauskas Labor government. The state's economy is now more dependent on taxpayer money and government projects. This is just unsustainable and is definitely not a viable path to prosperity.

A year on, that window pane in Whyalla no longer boasts about Hydrogen Power SA 'powering new opportunities in Whyalla'. It has been quietly replaced, covered over, airbrushed from history. With millions of dollars of taxpayer funds spent advertising the so-called State Prosperity Project, it has turned out to be Labor's state propaganda project.

Parliamentary Procedure

VISITORS

The SPEAKER: Before I call the member for Black, I would like to acknowledge the presence in the gallery of Tammy Franks, the co-leader of the South Australian Greens in the Legislative Council. Welcome to the House of Assembly, to you and to your guests as well.

Grievance Debate

POPE FRANCIS

Mr DIGHTON (Black) (15:25): I rise to add to the condolence motion this morning about the passing of Pope Francis. As a Catholic and a former Catholic educator, I was deeply saddened by the news that His Holiness Pope Francis died recently. I pray that he rests in peace. Pope Francis chose to be named for St Francis, a saint known for his love and ministry for the poorest and most marginalised in our community. St Francis loved all of God's creation, including the environment and all its animals. He is known for his belief in the sanctity and dignity of all living things.

Pope Francis did not let his position define him. He remained authentically true to himself and to his beliefs. In working in the name of St Francis, Pope Francis has shown us the importance of loving everyone, particularly those who are most vulnerable: children, the elderly, those with disabilities, the sick, the poor, those in prison, those who are migrants and refugees.

He has insisted that all people are equal. He has promoted an inclusive church. He has spoken of the importance of protecting the environment and all animals. His courage and compassion have been exemplary. His work for peace throughout this troubled world is an inspiration. Pope

Francis remained committed to be a leader who was a light to the world, a stark contrast to some other world leaders who focus on division and hate.

Pope Francis is known for writing two papal encyclicals, *Laudato Si'* on care for our common home and *Fratelli Tutti* on fraternity and social friendship. In *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis emphasises how environmental degradation disproportionately impacts the poorest people in our world, imploring the connection between environmental concern and social justice, emphasising that ecological action must include attention to human dignity and the poor and that we need to have a conversation that includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing and its human roots concern and affect all of us.

Fratelli Tutti was released against the backdrop of the COVID pandemic and speaks about the need to respect the human dignity of all people, regardless of their background, and work together as a single human family to address the concerns facing our world, arguing that individualism and a neoliberal approach do not address the world's problems. Speaking about neoliberalism, Pope Francis provides the following observation:

The marketplace, by itself, cannot resolve every problem, however much we are asked to believe this dogma of neoliberal faith. Whatever the challenge, this impoverished and repetitive school of thought always offers the same recipes. Neoliberalism simply reproduces itself by resorting to the magic theories of 'spillover' or 'trickle'—without using the name—as the only solution to societal problems. There is little appreciation of the fact that the alleged 'spillover' does not resolve the inequality that gives rise to new forms of violence threatening the fabric of society.

This is a powerful reflection for all legislators and governments to consider in their approach to public policy.

As a former educator and, at times, a religious education teacher, Pope Francis's message in these encyclicals with an emphasis on the environment, on social justice and on human connection resonated with the young people I taught and allowed them to deepen their spirituality and faith. I am deeply grateful for the example of Pope Francis. I pray for Pope Francis. May he rest in peace.

BAROSSA HOSPITAL

Mrs HURN (Schubert) (15:30): Earlier today I tabled a petition created and championed by *The Leader* newspaper from the Barossa Valley in relation to a matter which I regularly speak on in this place: a new Barossa hospital.

Under the leadership of the current editor, Mel Siri, *The Leader* newspaper launched a petition last year on this issue and it garnered a total of 4,046 signatures both online and in hard copy. I would like to acknowledge the presence of the editor here today, Mel Siri, and we also have Clem and Sam joining us from the Barossa.

Businesses, volunteer groups and locals got behind this petition so that we could send a message to the government in the lead-up to the state budget that action is needed. I would like to thank the dedicated work from all those businesses, *The Leader* and the locals, the thousands of locals who put their name to this call. There were many contributors to this petition who were passionate in their support, sharing many similar comments such as:

The Barossa population is skyrocketing and the medical centres are struggling to keep up.

This is much needed in the Barossa. Certainly more needed than new football stadiums.

With an ageing population and growing towns, the current hospitals can't keep up. Many travel to the Lyell McEwin at Elizabeth and are left to wait several hours in emergencies.

It makes sense to combine the workforce and budget of both hospitals into one.

In many ways, we are fortunate in our community to have two hospitals. They continue to serve us and the clinicians are hardworking and wonderful, but the hospitals are old and they do have limited resources.

In an ominous sign, we have already been hit by a reduction in services in our community with the Angaston hospital having its emergency department closed on several occasions and the Tanunda hospital also experiencing a reduction in bed numbers over a period. You would appreciate that any reduction in service, particularly in regional communities like ours, is concerning, especially

at a time when our health system is under so much pressure, and it has caused great concern in our region.

Clearly, there are workforce challenges that need to be addressed by the government to ensure that a reduction in service does not continue. Having a strong pipeline of doctors and nurses is critical not only to ensure that all our current services we have in the Barossa hospital can continue but so that we can expand, and expand our services we must, given the expanding population that is occurring just on our doorstep. Having a first-class regional hospital to cater for the expected growth is necessary and is something the Liberals have long been committed to delivering.

There is a long history to the Barossa hospital. I could spend many hours really traversing its history, the fact that land was sold and then sold off by the Labor government or the fact that there have been a range of business cases that have progressed over the years, but I do not intend to dwell too much on the past because I do think it is important to look at where we are now and, importantly, to look to the future.

Right now, there is a process underway that has reached the final hurdle, which is a decision by this government to commit the funding needed to commence construction. The current process began under the former Liberal government who put money on the table to purchase a site, to finalise plans and to start early works. The government continued this, thanks to the collective advocacy of our community.

The full and final business case has been completed and we know that these plans have gone through the independent body Infrastructure SA and the full proposition now sits at the highest levels of government in cabinet and with the minister. It is a detailed document. It has a clinical services plan, functional design considerations, a proposed master plan, an indicative cost report, a workforce strategy and a financial impact statement. We also know that an EOI went out earlier this year seeking suitable land for purchase with the millions put in the budget by the Liberals. This recently concluded, however, and we are no closer to knowing whether a site has been chosen and where it is. But time is ticking and there is no time to waste.

There was one element of the EOI that sparked some concern in my community, which is that it did mention options in Roseworthy, which is obviously not in the Barossa. With the state budget coming up, my community, *The Leader* newspaper and I once again are urging the government to release the business plans, tell us the cost and stump up the additional money needed to build a new Barossa hospital.

Our region is expanding, and with thousands of homes being announced to be built right on our doorstep, we need more services in our region, not fewer. This, coupled with the fact that we already have the Lyell McEwin Hospital and Gawler bursting at the seams, makes this project more important now than ever before. As *The Leader* newspaper has so eloquently put it: the evidence is there, the planning has been done, now let's make it happen and let's do so together.

ANZAC DAY

Ms HOOD (Adelaide) (15:35): Last Friday, across our great state and nation, we came together to honour the service and the sacrifice of those who have served and continue to serve our beautiful country, young and old, side by side in the quiet of dawn, united by remembrance. Today I want to share part of the ANZAC Day address given by the Town of Walkerville Mayor, Melissa Jones, that formed part of the Walkerville RSL's Dawn Service, where I was also in attendance. Mayor Jones shared an absolutely remarkable story of a Medindie local, Lieutenant Arthur Reginald Evans, DSC, commonly known as Reg. This is an excerpt of her address:

Evans was an Australian Coastwatcher during World War Two—one of the unsung heroes who worked behind enemy lines, gathering intelligence and saving lives. Part of his role in the War was covertly manning an observation post atop Mount Veve volcano in the Solomon Islands. Here, he observed the airstrips and the 10,000 Japanese soldiers who were camped on the island.

In August 1943, Evans witnessed an extraordinary event: an American patrol torpedo boat, captained by none other than John F. Kennedy, collided with a Japanese destroyer.

After the collision, Kennedy led his surviving crew to safety towing an injured crewman through the waters by holding onto the strap of his life jacket with his teeth. Exhausted, Kennedy himself had to be helped ashore. Evans, observing from his post, played a critical role in the rescue—

of someone who would become the US president—

Over the following days, he coordinated efforts with local Solomon Islander scouts and the US military, helping to ensure the safe recovery of Kennedy and his crew. His actions, though hidden from public recognition for many years, were instrumental in saving the life of the man who would later become the President of the United States of America.

Evans' identity remained a secret until Kennedy became President and he was invited to the White House. His courageous and selfless actions were later acknowledged when he received the United Kingdom's Distinguished Service Cross which was awarded for his bravery and enterprise in reconnaissance operations.

In Evans' own words: 'a coastwatcher's work was not to fight or destroy. His job was to look and listen and gather information: to sit hiding like a spider, right in the web of the enemy, but unseen and unheard. His duty was to communicate intelligence to headquarters and leave the rest of them. We became the eyes and ears of the Pacific.'

Evans' quiet achievement and commitment exemplify the values we honour today: sacrifice, service and resilience. His story is a reminder that heroism is not always found on the front lines. Sometimes, it is found in the shadows, in the patience and determination of those who wait, watch and act when the moment comes.

Let us also remember that Evans' courage was shared by countless other Australians, whose names may not be widely known, but whose actions helped shape the course of history and protect the freedoms we hold dear today.

Mayor Jones went on to acknowledge the research of historians and the Virtual War Memorial Australia for preserving and sharing the stories that enrich our understanding of the past. I want to thank Mayor Jones for sharing the absolutely incredible story of a Medindie local who played a part in saving the man who would go on to become the President of the United States of America.

I also want to take my last minute to thank the Town of Walkerville and the Walkerville RSL for their beautiful dawn service, and also the Walkerville RSL staff for putting on cups of tea (with something a little bit stronger in it) and a few beers, as well as the wonderful Walkerville Rotary Club for their gunfire breakfast after the service.

Also, thanks to the Prospect RSL. It is times like these you wish you could actually clone yourself so you could be in two places at once, but thank you to the Prospect RSL for their beautiful service, and to my adopted Uncle Roger, a retired Flight Lieutenant who laid a wreath on my behalf. Also, to everybody who attended a dawn service, thank you so much. Lest we forget.

Parliamentary Committees

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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) (15:40): By leave, I move:

That Ms Thompson be appointed to the committee in place of Ms Wortley, resigned.

Motion carried.

Parliamentary Procedure

SITTINGS AND BUSINESS

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) (15:40): I move:

That the house at its rising adjourn until Tuesday 13 May 2025 at 11am.

Motion carried.

Bills

RADIATION PROTECTION AND CONTROL (COMMENCEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS) AMENDMENT BILL

Introduction and First Reading

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) (15:41): Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Radiation Protection and Control Act. Read a first time.

Second Reading

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) (15:41): I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

The Radiation Protection and Control Act 2021 controls activities involving radiation sources through authorisations to operate facilities and apparatus and to possess, handle or use radioactive sources. It provides for the beneficial use of radiation and sets standards to ensure that radiation sources are secured against misuse that may result in harm to people or the environment.

Section 82(1)(a) of the Radiation Protection and Control Act 2021 requires that proceedings for an expiable offence must commence within six months. Several offences in the act are open both to expiation and prosecution. There is a significant monetary difference between the expiations and penalties prescribed, which reflects the intent for more serious cases to be prosecuted rather than expiated.

However, the fact that these offences are also potentially expiable means that the six month time limit applies to them. The time taken to investigate and build a brief of evidence for such cases makes the six month time limit unworkable. The investigative process to develop a brief of evidence typically includes site inspections, interviews, review of documents, technical analysis (including by experts), and obtaining legal advice. The more complex the case, the longer each of these steps tend to take.

The alleged offence may also only come to the EPA's attention more than six months after it was committed. To overcome the risk of offences against the Radiation Protection and Control Act 2021 and the Radiation Protection and Control Regulations 2022 not being adequately prosecuted due to the time limit for the commencement of proceedings, it is proposed that the act be amended to allow for proceedings for expiable offences to commence any time within three years after the date of the alleged offence. This is consistent with similar provisions in the Environment Protection Act 1993. I seek leave to insert the explanation of clauses without my reading it.

Leave granted.

Explanation of Clauses

Part 1—Preliminary

1—Short title

This clause is formal.

2—Commencement

The measure will commence on the day on which it is assented to.

Part 2—Amendment of *Radiation Protection and Control Act 2021*

3—Amendment of section 82—Commencement of proceedings

Section 82(1) of the *Radiation Protection and Control Act 2021* currently requires that proceedings for an expiable offence against the Act be commenced within the time limits prescribed by the *Criminal Procedure Act 1921*. Under the section as proposed to be amended by this clause, proceedings for any offence, including an expiable offence, may be commenced any time within 3 years after the date of the alleged commission of the offence or, with the authorisation of the Attorney-General, at any later time within 10 years after the date of the alleged commission of the offence.

Schedule 1—Transitional provision

1—Transitional provision

The transitional provision provides that section 82 of the *Radiation Protection and Control Act 2021* as proposed to be amended will apply in relation to an offence against the Act irrespective of whether the offence was allegedly committed before or after the commencement of the amendment.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Batty.

SUPPLY BILL 2025

Second Reading

Adjourned debate on second reading (resumed on motion).

Ms THOMPSON (Davenport) (15:44): I rise to continue my remarks on the Supply Bill. I want to talk about some of the ways that supply funding impacts real people, real projects and real lives, particularly in my electorate of Davenport. A big priority for me is to keep critical infrastructure projects on track. One of the most critical projects currently underway in the south—in fact, for myself and the new member for Black, it is our number one priority—is the construction of the Majors Road interchange onto the Southern Expressway.

This \$120 million project—a joint investment between state government and federal government—is not just about building ramps and road connections; it is about making the south more accessible, reducing congestion and improving safety for tens of thousands of drivers every single day.

Majors Road currently carries around 13,200 vehicles daily: that is people travelling between Lonsdale Road, Main South Road and critical destinations like Flinders Medical Centre, local businesses, sporting facilities and homes. Yet, until now, there has been no direct access to the Southern Expressway from Majors Road, which has meant frustrating detours, wasted time and increased traffic pressure on Brighton Road and surrounding suburban streets. The new Majors Road interchange will change that. Once completed, it will provide seamless northbound and southbound access to and from the Southern Expressway, cutting travel times and creating safer, more efficient journeys.

This project has been carefully designed to respect the surrounding environment, particularly Glenthorne National Park and recreational hubs like the Sam Willoughby International BMX Facility and the Southern Soccer Facility. It is not just an infrastructure investment; it is an investment in our local economy and in the liveability of our southern suburbs.

Construction is well underway, with major earthworks and bridge works progressing rapidly. Hundreds of jobs have been supported through this project, injecting skills, training opportunities and economic activity into our region. The Friends of Glenthorne have also benefited from this project, negotiating with the department for funding towards a new nursery that will be located on the Riding for the Disabled site on Majors Road and will help the Friends to continue to be able to do the fantastic work that they do planting out our national park.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my community for their patience during construction, particularly those directly impacted, like Riding for the Disabled, whose location has temporarily become the site office for the duration of the works, and the O'Halloran Hill Early Learning Centre and the families who have navigated road closures and nearby construction for an extended period.

However, projects of this magnitude do not build themselves. They rely on a steady flow of funding and certainty. Passing the Supply Bill ensures that progress does not stall, workers on site can continue their work, machinery keeps operating, local contractors receive timely payments and our vision for a more connected south becomes a reality.

Another compelling example of why supply is essential is the ongoing upgrades at Flinders Medical Centre. Flinders Medical Centre is the beating heart of health care for the south, and its expansion and redevelopment is one of the most significant health infrastructure investments in South Australian history: almost \$5 million in state and federal funding combined.

Central to this expansion is a new seven-storey acute services building, which will deliver 98 new clinical spaces, including two 32-bed adult inpatient units; 16 new intensive care beds, substantially boosting our ICU capacity; four new operating theatres; an expanded day medical unit; a new CT scanner within the ICU for critically ill patients; and a new space for the Flinders eye surgery clinic, freeing up space elsewhere on the campus. At the same time, the Margaret Tobin

Centre for mental health is being expanded, with an increase from 38 to 48 beds—critical capacity that is so urgently needed to meet rising mental health demands.

Work on this transformative expansion is moving rapidly. The first new beds were opened earlier this year and construction on the acute services building continues. But again, progress needs certainty. Hospitals do not build themselves: they need a workforce, they need contractors, they need supplies and they need scheduled funding. The passage of the Supply Bill ensures that construction will continue, that new beds will come online without delay and that we honour our commitment to deliver a hospital capable of meeting the south's future health needs.

Beyond the big projects, the Supply Bill also keeps the lifeblood of our local communities flowing. It keeps our schools running. It means that vital investment in school-based therapy services like the hiring of additional speech pathologists, psychologists and occupational therapists can continue to roll out across our state.

The Supply Bill allows community sporting hubs like the Happy Valley Sports Park to continue with their upgrades—another local election commitment of mine—enhancing opportunities for footballers, cricketers, netballers and bowlers. It means the delivery of another one of my key local commitments: the upgrade and expansion of the Paul Murray Recreation Centre at O'Halloran Hill, the home of Hub Gymnastics, creating spaces where hundreds of young athletes can pursue their dreams. I look forward to officially opening that new centre next month alongside the Premier.

Still on local projects, while the Minkarra link trail—delivered with \$1 million of state funding—is already being enjoyed by our community, I continue to collaborate with local council and SA Water to ensure optimal access to these new trails. Just last week, we celebrated the completion of a new trail link connecting residents on Taminga Way, Flagstaff Hill, with Glenhuntly Reserve and the Minkarra link trails. This network also connects to another of my local projects, the delivery of the Minkarra Dog Park, providing safe, more welcoming spaces for small dogs and their owners.

The safety and efficiency of our roads is so important for my community and several projects are underway to enhance them. One project I am particularly eager to see completed is the upgrade of the intersections along Happy Valley Drive, specifically at Windebanks Road and Chandlers Hill Road. At the last election, I committed to conducting a traffic study at these intersections to determine the necessity for infrastructure upgrades and to propose solutions. That study revealed significant issues, including queueing delays—particularly during peak times—and difficulties with turning movements, especially right turns from Chandlers Hill Road onto Happy Valley Drive.

Many parents in my community would be familiar with the frustrations of these intersections; most mornings at around school drop-off time you will find queues and significant delays right up through Chandlers Hill Road. The proposed solution involves constructing a new roundabout at the intersection of Happy Valley Drive and Windebanks Road, and a larger two-lane roundabout at the current intersection connecting Chandlers Hill Road and Happy Valley Drive. These upgrades aim to mitigate traffic congestion, enhance safety for all road users, improve overall efficiency and reduce the amount of parents tearing their hair out in their cars on their way to work as they are late each day and their kids are late being dropped off to school.

The refined design for the Windebanks Road junction includes separate left and right-turn lanes on the Windebanks Road approach; a pedestrian refuge on Windebanks Road for the Happy Valley trail shared-use path; new kerbing and guttering; line marking, pavement construction and resurfacing; and new and upgraded lighting. Importantly, the design has been adjusted to avoid removing a significant river red gum tree on the western side of the junction, preserving our local environment. In my electorate of Davenport, protecting tree canopy is extremely important to our residents, so we will go over and above to amend designs to accommodate that.

For the Chandlers Hill Road intersection, the proposed two-lane roundabout will increase capacity and traffic flow. This change will alleviate queueing from the Chandlers Hill Road intersection on Happy Valley Drive, allowing the left turn from Windebanks Road to exit more freely. These proposed upgrades are crucial for improving safety and reducing wait times along Happy Valley Drive. It is important that work on this project continues to progress and that it receives appropriate funding in the next possible budget to ensure its delivery.

Another road upgrade that is proceeding thanks to the Supply Bill is the intersection of Main South Road and Chandlers Hill Road, a project that has been affectionately referred to by local residents as the 'undies' intersection because the DIT plans look exactly like a pair of Y-fronts. This upgrade will make crossing points safer for pedestrians and cyclists, which is particularly important for local kids needing to cross the six lanes of traffic to get to the bus stop in the mornings and afternoons after school, and there are many families in the O'Halloran Hill area who are relieved that this upgrade is going ahead.

South Australians sent a clear message at the last election. They want a government that gets on with the job, delivers results and honours its commitments. Delivering on these expectations requires discipline and careful management of the economy, it requires the passage of supply to ensure the public sector can continue operating, public servants can be paid, and programs can continue until the full budget is debated and passed.

We are delivering record investment in health, record investment in education, record investment in clean energy and climate resilience, record investment in local infrastructure, but we are doing so in a way that respects the economic pressures facing households, businesses and the broader economy. Passing this Supply Bill is a responsible step to provide the stability that our economy needs.

Passing the Supply Bill is not just about good governance, it is about keeping South Australia moving forward. It is about completing the Majors Road interchange, transforming the Flinders Medical Centre and fulfilling every promise made to local families—from enhancing schools, roads to strengthening health care. Today, I stand in unwavering support of the Supply Bill, and I commend the bill to the house.

The Hon. D.G. PISONI (Unley) (15:55): The Supply Bill is an opportunity, of course, for members to discuss a wide range of issues, and one of the biggest issues for parents of my age with adult children and many other South Australians is the cost of housing—the housing crisis—that we have seen here exacerbate in South Australia over the last three years in particular, and of course it is all about supply.

Labor have been running this state for close on 20 of the last 24 years and, of course, a stable property market, the housing market, is all about long-term planning—something you cannot do in four years, and you certainly cannot do it in four years when no work has been done in the previous 16 years. We have a situation in South Australia where the current Labor government is trying to make people believe that they are a new government that had nothing to do with the previous Labor government.

Of course, we all remember that the current Premier tapped Mike Rann on the shoulder. Someone who had nothing to do with the previous Labor government tapped Mike Rann on the shoulder and said, 'It's time to go, mate. Make way for Mr Weatherill.' We all remember when that happened in 2012. So it is a ridiculous claim that this government claims it had nothing to do with the previous 16 years of Labor when we saw, up until 2018, the selling off of 7,500 public houses to the tune of \$1.5 billion in revenue coming to the Treasury, which was then blown on budgets that were in deficit, including estates established by Sir Thomas Playford. In their view, there were no votes in public housing.

It was Labor's intention to reduce public housing stock to about 30,000. Then Labor Treasurer Jack Snelling outed Labor's plan on talkback radio with radio stalwart Leon Byner—a veteran of FIVEaa. He said:

The problem that we've got is we have a very high public housing stock compared to interstate and that's just an historical thing.

So the Labor government, with this Premier being one of the men deciding who was to lead this Labor Party, was saying it was a problem having more public housing proportionally to other states. Of course, we know they went on to sell thousands of public homes. Byner said:

Isn't that a good thing?

The Labor Treasurer said:

No, it isn't.

Because tenants in public housing don't get commonwealth rental assistance and tenants in private rental or, indeed, community housing do so. So it means that South Australia misses out substantially because we have large numbers of tenants in our public housing.

The previous Labor government saw them as a burden to the tax system. Thomas Playford saw public housing as an asset. The Labor government, which members of this government were very much a part of, saw public housing as a burden to the public. 'What we need to do,' the Labor Treasurer went on to say, 'is work with the community housing sector.' Byner said, 'But we've got about 45,000 in round terms, what would you have that down to?' The Treasurer said:

I think if we were at national average and I'm not saying that's where we'd go...it would bring us down to probably around 30,000.

In six months, Snelling was back on radio reiterating Labor's plans. Byner said:

Hang on, you told me you were going to reduce the amount of public housing from 45,000 to 30,000. You're still sticking to that?

'Yeah, indeed,' the Labor Treasurer said. It was also Labor that baked in the forward sales of public homes to prop up their budget, which was at 400 per annum when the Liberal Party took office in 2018.

That is an important point to remember because the baking in of those sales or that income that would be coming in to the government is what is presented to those who rate the credit ratings in this state. That is why it was important that the previous Labor government, the parents of this Labor government, said that these are baked in: 'You can trust our figures because these are baked in; you can't change them.'

The Liberal Party managed to reduce that to 150 and, by the end of 2022, zero houses were sold. Labor need to make amends for their past sins through a commitment to build an additional 400 houses this term. However, now that Labor are back in office, Labor mark 2, the destruction of public housing continues. Management of public housing has deteriorated once again since Labor came to power in 2022.

Housing Trust maintenance jobs are taking longer to be seen to, while antisocial behaviour has risen by 25 per cent. It is disappointing that, since antisocial behaviour dropped under the Marshall government, it has now increased so dramatically that security staff are needed to provide a safer environment for Housing SA staff. It is incredible, really, that staff at Housing SA cannot do their job without protection.

When in government, the Liberal policy reduced Labor's seven warnings down to three for bad behaviour and eviction. It saw Housing Trust tenants who were engaged in illegal activity taken to the tribunal for immediate eviction. It kept strikes active for 12 months rather than Labor's six months. This led to 146 evictions in the first 12 months of operation and it led to a reduction in antisocial behaviour as better tenants understood the rules. Of course, that is a benefit for all public housing tenants, and not just public housing tenants but their neighbours as well.

In my electorate of Unley, we have a lot of higher density public housing that shares the streets with private housing, everything from workers' cottages to small villas and attached homes that were built a century and a half ago. When the tenant mix is managed, that works well and it is a lovely community, but there have been some shocking examples of midnight raids, domestic violence and drug activity in these homes. There is one particular flat in a block in Parkside where I have been working with the owners of a private accommodation, who live in their own private accommodation across the road, for four years to try to get it rectified, and the department always has a reason as to why nothing is happening.

Of course, this government signed up to a maintenance contract that has left critical repairs undone for months on end. FOI data obtained by the Liberal Party shows that the percentage of priority one repairs, that is, those that are immediately dangerous, such as an exposed live electrical wire not being commenced within the required four hours has doubled. It doubled to eight hours, which of course means that it is more likely that the cost of that repair would also double or even triple because it needs to be done at penalty rates.

If something happens at 8, 9 or 10 o'clock in the morning, by the time somebody arrives they are outside of ordinary business hours and the hourly rate has doubled or tripled in order to fix that. So, despite the fact that there is a fixed contract for an amount of money to be spent, less work is being done because of the inefficient way in which it is being done.

It is the same with priority two repairs, which cause serious inconvenience, such as a blocked toilet, for example, which should be started within 24 hours. That has blown out by 50 per cent. Overdue vacancy maintenance work orders peaked in September 2022 and the number of vacant properties continued to rise and peaked in June 2024.

The Liberal Party continues to receive complaints from Housing Trust tenants about delays in maintenance work. The number of vacant properties has increased by 20 per cent since the commencement of these contracts. Data showed the most recent number of empty public housing properties was 1,927 as at November last year.

As the state's largest landlord, with public funding of close to \$1 billion, the maintenance contract needs to be independently examined by the Auditor-General. You just simply cannot continually be throwing more money at it without understanding the outcome or what you are getting for that. We know that there have been increased costs in building right across the board, but we also know that the management of that contract with the Housing Trust has made that situation even worse for that particular government enterprise.

In July 2022, the Liberal Party released a 10-point policy plan to assist people in the rental market and those at risk of homelessness. While it was a slow start for the Labor government, we are pleased that they have adopted approximately two-thirds of that policy, finally accepting the calls, not just from the Liberal Party but also from those experiencing homelessness, that public housing maintenance can be done after someone has moved into the home.

If a house is safe to live in, jobs such as painting and landscaping, etc., can wait rather than keep people waiting, living in their cars or sleeping on friends' couches. So that is an improvement helping people to move into those empty homes. Labor's commitments to Housing Trust tenants pale into insignificance in comparison to the Liberal Party's record spend of \$168 million in one year alone. If Labor could match our record in government on housing policy they would reduce the number of homeless people, which has gone up under their watch from 6,000 to 7,000 per annum.

I do not think that anyone in this place could deny that they are seeing more people not just sleeping on the streets but actually setting up homes on the streets. I can remember how horrified I was when I visited Vancouver nearly 10 years ago and saw streets of tents and people living on the streets in their housing crisis. We are seeing that now not just in Adelaide but actually in the suburbs. If you go to Glenelg on any weekend you will see people sleeping in front of closed shopfronts on Jetty Road, and that is a recent phenomenon under this government. It is not enough to promise to do things, it is not enough to put out a press release; what needs to happen is that work needs to be done.

This leads me to talk about a specific case that I dealt with just recently with a constituent in the City of West Torrens. It was not one of my constituents, it was a constituent of the member for West Torrens who was desperate to be heard. Mr Dennis Brown, a retired teacher, a public housing tenant and a long-term Labor Party member sent an email last month to his local member, the member for West Torrens, and to other Labor members of parliament. Those other Labor members of parliament who were sent that email were the member for Dunstan, the member for Adelaide and Minister Champion.

Apparently, I was the only one who contacted Mr Brown to hear what he had to say and what his concerns were. He has lived at that address for nearly four years. He describes ongoing extreme harassment and violence from the next-door neighbour, separated by only a wall. Mr Brown goes on to describe that the neighbour initially displayed a red light on her porch, signalling sex work, which of course led to all sorts of traffic at different times of the day. Over three years, the neighbour smashed doors, windows and walls in her Housing Trust home.

She set Mr Brown's porch furniture on fire, repeatedly assaulted Mr Brown—at one time throwing crockery at him, which cut his arm and required 17 stitches—and frequently stole

belongings, including his expensive computer, which was reportedly sold later by the neighbour. There were multiple incidents of the neighbour setting fires, including a major fire witnessed by others and requiring the MFS and police to attend, and filling Mr Brown's letterbox and door handles with dog and human faeces, sometimes mixed with food like mashed potatoes. Used syringes were thrown over the fence and onto Mr Brown's property. The shared water meter taps were left fully running in an attempt to cause Mr Brown to pay higher water charges.

Despite numerous complaints to Housing SA and reports to police, Mr Brown says his concerns were dismissed and categorised as not antisocial behaviour. After Mr Brown made a frustrated call containing colourful language, the Housing Trust threatened an eviction notice on Mr Brown, citing his inappropriate language as the reason he will be booted out of his Housing Trust home. In an email, Mr Brown reports no assistance from his local MP or the housing minister, and he has even been denied help despite escalating violence and unsafe living conditions.

As a result of ongoing trauma, Mr Brown says he is seeking psychiatric admission for respite. Of course, this is putting unnecessary stress on our already poorly managed hospital system. This could be fixed by that tenant being removed and instead having a tenant who appreciates the opportunity to live in a lovely suburb such as Mile End in a beautiful Federation home. As the only non-Labor member copied into Mr Brown's email, I did call in to see Mr Brown, and I inspected the house. It is a beautiful Federation villa. It has been divided into two flats, which is common practice. We see that often in the inner suburbs, not just in public housing but in private housing as well.

I learned more about his situation. The offending neighbour's flat was charred from the fire, and every door and window was boarded up. Here was a house that was empty and unliveable due to the actions of the tenant in that place. Dennis advised me of his menacing neighbour's behaviour. I understand he was told that the neighbour who caused all this damage has now been accommodated at taxpayers' expense in a hotel room while her arson and vandalism of public property is repaired at taxpayers' expense. He has received no information as to whether she will return once the work is done.

While I was in the street, I was made aware by other residents that, just a couple of doors down the road, a perfectly good home has been sitting unoccupied—during a housing crisis, mind you—for more than two years, since the previous tenant passed away. You just cannot make this stuff up. It is extraordinary that we have press release after press release and Dorothy Dixier questions about what this government is doing to solve the housing crisis. We hear stories about Labor's record when they were in office prior to the Labor mark 2 that has taken over from Labor mark 1.

For 20 of the last 24 years, Labor has been running the housing system in South Australia, and it is poorly run. We are in a housing crisis. South Australia used to be one of the cheapest places in Australia to live; it is now second only to Sydney when it comes to purchasing and renting a property. That is all because of the lack of planning over decades: two decades of Labor government focusing on the wrong priorities rather than on what state government should focus on and that is ensuring that there is housing for the public.

Mrs PEARCE (King) (16:14): An important component of my role as a member of state parliament is to advocate for the needs of my local community. I take great joy and pride in being able to work with my local community to get results. As a member of this government, I am pleased to share that we have done what we can to assist my community, both in terms of immediate needs and in ways that would help it go from strength to strength no matter who you are, where you live in my community or what stage of life you are in.

Firstly, let's focus on cost of living, which is certainly in the forefront of most people's minds at this point in time, which is why we as a government have been working hard on providing cost-of-living relief. We have achieved this through helping those on low and fixed incomes, renters, families with school children and those trying to buy their very first home, which is exactly what governments should be doing when times are tough.

I am particularly pleased with the work that we have done around sports vouchers. Last year, we announced that we would be doubling the sports vouchers, and also amending it in a way that would provide greater flexibility to families in our state. It gave them the choice of being able to spend

two \$100 vouchers across different activities in one season, all in one go, or across seasons to help stretch out throughout the year.

Another important component of what we did last year around sports vouchers was to also include music lessons, because at the end of the day, we want to support kids getting off their screens and active in their local communities and each and every one of these ways is a productive way for them to spend their time. I am really pleased to share with the house that as of this week, there have been 82,193 vouchers taken up by families all across our state, which equates to an \$8 million investment with over 880 providers providing that support.

The top activities include football, soccer, swimming, Aussie Rules, gymnastics and netball. I note to the house that Guides are just outside the top 10, but I am really pleased that they are a popular rising star when it comes to uptake of sports vouchers in local communities across our state.

Sport is important for a range of reasons. We know the mental health and the physical benefits that it brings, but sport is also a home away from home. It is a place to play, to come and socialise and form friendships and connections within the local community that you live in, which is why I am absolutely pleased with the work that we have done in my local community to help support further growth in this space.

The Tilley Recreation Park upgrade, which is underway as we speak, was a commitment to upgrade the space so that it remains a gem for generations to come. There will be a new dog park facility installed at this location, there will be upgrades to the local Little Athletics Club field and facilities, there will be new lighting and pathway upgrades, and, of course, there are new clubrooms for the Tea Tree Gully City Soccer Club, which opened earlier this year.

This has been a really great upgrade. The soccer club did not have clubrooms of their own before this point in time, sharing a building with others leased from the local council. They also now have a brand-new canteen. They have new changeroom facilities that allow them to reintroduce women's and girls' teams to the club, helping to support all people to get involved in this great sport and active in the community. There are wonderful clubrooms upstairs and I am very much looking forward to getting over to the Gully Cook House for one of their schnitties very soon.

The brand-new clubrooms came on show to the community for the very first time at their local CFS Shield, because this, of course, is a community club that does a lot of work supporting other services within our community. They work quite closely with the One Tree Hill Soccer Club in running the annual CFS Shield, raising all-important funds for our local CFS stations in One Tree Hill and Tea Tree Gully as well. I am really pleased to be able to share that they raised over \$8,000, and over the past six years they have been able to raise over \$40,000 to support these amazing CFS volunteers in our local communities. I would really like to thank Damo, Shane and the team for all the incredible work that they put behind this to make such amazing results for our local community.

Speaking about the One Tree Hill Soccer Club, they are also receiving and have works underway, and we anticipate it to be open very soon. McGilp Recreation Park, of course, is home to the One Tree Hill Cricket Club, One Tree Hill Soccer Club, One Tree Hill Tennis Club and the Scouts as well. The works include an extension to the oval, new change room facilities, resurfacing of the tennis courts and formalised parking for easy access, which I note also benefits One Tree Hill Primary School, as this is where the overflow car parking is for the local community. It also includes the addition of a bike track to the informal recreation space, along with improved spectator amenities such as seating.

This is really important because this upgrade again has allowed the introduction of women to have teams and play at this local sporting hub. I had the great pleasure of meeting the very first women's team for One Tree Hill Soccer Club, just a couple of months ago now. They very kindly invited me out to one of their training sessions and then coincidentally tried to talk me into joining the team despite not being a very good player at all. But it is certainly a testament to how warm, generous and welcoming they are because they were extremely patient and want anybody who can to get involved. I wish them absolutely every luck for the season ahead and look forward to supporting them as much as I can over that time. I know they are going to be able to do great things in that club.

We opened and completed the build for the Golden Grove Football Club, or Harpers Field, home to the Golden Grove Football Club and home to the Golden Grove Cricket Club, also fondly known as the Brumbies. Both clubs have received high accolades already for the amazing work that they are doing to create a club atmosphere and environment not only in our local community but for visiting communities as well. I would really like to thank them for all of the work that they put in to achieve that status.

There is also, as I mentioned, the wellbeing centre at Harpers Field, which has been able to open up so many opportunities to help improve the wellbeing of residents across our community, no matter what stage of life they are in. If you pop over to Harpers, you do not go just for sports; you also go to see markets, forums, information sessions, Pilates classes, tai chi and networking opportunities. There is the ability to hot-desk for local small businesses in the area and to bond with your little one and other families with mums and bubs classes. There are nutrition lessons and mindfulness and meditation available as well as training for adults, coffee catch-ups and gardening sessions.

That is just the tip of the iceberg. I love seeing how many ideas and initiatives are being implemented in that space to help enrich our local community. That is not all that is happening. There are a couple of other things that we can get really excited about. One of those is that the Elizabeth Grove Soccer Club recently received \$750,000 through the Power of Her grants to go towards new clubrooms, a synthetic soccer pitch and a multipurpose oval at Munno Para Regional Sportsground in Davoren Park.

We know that women and girls are disproportionately affected when we look at the statistics, which is why we are empowering development in this space through programs such as the Power of Her. It is really great to see all of the different initiatives coming up from grassroots clubs that want to support this as much as they possibly can in their community. Of course, the brand new Hawks nest is well underway for the Modbury Hawks. I am very much looking forward to seeing their new space completed as soon as possible, as well as the Tea Tree Gully Gymsports, which will help ensure that gymnastics remains a gem in the north-east for generations to come.

On to other matters, we have been working hard to ensure that we have better and safer local roads in our community. I am particularly proud that we recently completed the upgrade of the Grove Way, Aeolian and Atlantis intersection. This has been quite a notorious intersection for many years. There have been a lot of accidents and, unfortunately, in recent years a death as well. It was identified as a black spot, and a commitment that I made in the lead up to the election was to do something about this intersection.

What we have done is upgrade the intersection, and we warmly welcome the addition of the right-hand turning lights, which was a very important missing piece to this intersection in recent years. With that, we of course upgraded the Golden Way and Grove Way intersection as well, adding an additional right-hand turn for those heading westbound or to the city because, again, it will help to improve flow, congestion and safety in the local community.

Over to One Tree Hill, the Yorktown Road and Blacktop Road intersection also received black spot funding, which was really important because what we were seeing, particularly in the cooler months when the fog is heavy, was that there was really low visibility. We worked very closely with the local community to ensure there were lighting improvements, signage improvements and other improvements at that intersection to ensure that safety is improved in that space.

Onto Yorktown Road, we of course had the Yorktown and Adams Road roundabout, and I would also like to thank the member for Elizabeth very much in terms of his advocacy for improvements at this intersection. We also have the Wynn Vale and Bridge Road intersection underway as we speak for the installation of traffic lights and, again, I would like to thank the member for Wright for the work he has done in this space. I know that making this intersection better is going to help so many families in my local community, particularly those who head up to church and the school that is on Wynn Vale Road.

We have had resurfacing works as well occur on Bridge Road to help make things safer, and I am also very pleased with what has been happening in Salisbury Heights. We have had the interim works commence on Canterbury Drive and the Grove Way intersection as well as Green Valley Drive

and the Grove Way intersection, and major works are very shortly about to commence for the Target Hill Road and the Main North Road intersection.

These were three key intersections that I committed to my local community, and I was not just going to look into the matter but was going to ensure that works were done. They have started, and I am really looking forward to the positive impact they all have to improve safety and traffic flow, easing congestion in that local community as well.

Of course, we have also had traffic flow improvements around Salisbury East High School, making that safer in Salisbury East, and we have delivered 20 bus shelters across my local community and returned one to the Craigmores shops. Again, I would also like to thank the member for Elizabeth for the work he did in advocating for this matter as well.

We have also returned trains back into public hands. Now, anyone who knows King knows very well that there are no trains in my local electorate, but my community certainly feels very strongly about privatisation. We made a promise to do something about this, and we have absolutely delivered on that.

It is no surprise to hear that we have had one of the driest years for quite some time, and I am very well aware of the impact that can have on local residents in my community, particularly those who are not connected to mains water. That is why I worked very closely with the Deputy Premier to ensure we had a solution moving forward for those in my community who might find themselves in an emergency without any water. Not only were we able to ensure that more water carters were put into the system but we were also able to ensure that a new emergency water collection point was established at Elizabeth Park to provide relief to residents in the northern suburbs who might find themselves out of water.

Over to health, I am very pleased to share that this year we opened the Golden Grove Ambulance Station. It was one of my key commitments in terms of what we were doing in the health space to make health services better and more accessible in my local community. Golden Grove was certainly a location that was highlighted as needing more services, which is why we employed and put on the road 32 extra paramedics before the station was opened.

I very much thank the Parafield crew for hosting the Golden Grove crew over that time, but I am very happy that they now are in their home in Golden Grove. I would like to share that the community is also very excited about this, and it was such a pleasure to see so many from the local community come out on the opening day. I understand we had over 1,000 people come to see the facility, engage with our local paramedics and celebrate this milestone for our local community.

We of course appreciate that to ensure our health system is better and more accessible we have to have a multifaceted approach to it, which is why I am really happy with the results we are seeing in terms of the support we have provided to ensure that the Saints 24/7 chemist is a success. Since opening its doors in March, it has had over 123,000 visitors, over 48,000 scripts filled, and over 3,300 calls received. That is really important for a couple of different reasons.

Firstly, people were getting the attention and support they needed as they needed it and were not ignoring the symptoms until they exacerbated and became an emergency. Secondly, it certainly ensured that these people were not presenting to an emergency department because they did not have anywhere else to go. I am really proud to see how much the community has taken this on board and the results that we are seeing as a result of that.

On the matter of hospitals, we have opened 48 new beds, with more on the way. This means that once it is all complete the Lyell McEwin's bed capacity will increase by nearly 20 per cent: 442 to 522 beds. That is actually more than triple the commitment that we made in the lead-up to the election. We have done this because we recognised how significant the need was and we were not afraid to face that and tackle that head-on. Of course, we have recruited healthcare workers to ensure that these beds are operational, including medical workers, nurses, allied health and pharmacy staff as well as administration workers.

Over to the north-east, the Modbury Hospital is also progressing well. One only needs to drive past to see the giant crane and the structure that is coming up, which will certainly be home to the new Modbury cancer treatment clinic, the mental health unit and also our brand-new car park,

which is something that the community has been asking for for quite some time and I am very proud that we are delivering on.

Onto education, I am so incredibly proud that we will have a technical college in the north-eastern suburbs, with students expected to commence and visit next year. This is important because it is going to give students in our local community a head start to a career in industry specialisation such as advanced manufacturing and engineering, aeroskills, building and construction, and early childhood education. What is important about this is it will provide students with both a SACE accreditation and a VET qualification and an opportunity to step straight into a well-paid secure job that they will have for years to come.

We did not stop there, though. We are trialling out-of-hours care at one of my local preschools in Salisbury Heights. This is an amazing opportunity, because the reality is that the 9am to 3pm hours do not work for most working families, and not all families have the supports available to help them with that pickup and drop-off. I know I certainly had a lot of trouble with that, and I was working part-time at the time. It was incredibly hard to do the pickup and the drop-off within those hours and still meet all my other needs. I know for some families it is a really hard decision to make between giving your child the best start possible and being able to put food on the table.

Fee-free TAFE: I am really proud of this initiative and I am really excited that there have been over 500 enrolments in my local community alone. I am very excited that we have the free laptop program for Golden Grove High School and Salisbury East High School and the mental health specialists for those high schools as well. There is a brand-new multipurpose facility for Golden Grove Primary School and, of course, the agreement that we have recently signed with the federal government that will put all public schools in South Australia on a path to full and fair funding.

Why is this important, you ask? It is important because it will mean more individualised support for students, mandating evidence-based teaching practices and more mental health support in our schools. That is important because we want to ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive.

Working on keeping our community safe, I am really excited about the plethora of legislation that we have seen introduced as well as our active recruitment campaign for more police officers. We are seeing the results. Recent crime statistics show that the total number of offences in South Australia has dropped by 5 per cent in the rolling year to February, and it is the sixth consecutive decrease in the rate of crime, with year-on-year falls of 3 per cent in both January statistics and the December 2024 period.

There is more that I could say, but I would like to finish by noting that I absolutely adore my local community. It is a great place to live, work and play. I am proud to be raising my kids in this community and I am so honoured to be the voice for my local community in state parliament. I am pleased with what we have achieved to date and I certainly look forward to what is next. With that, I commend the bill to the house.

Mr BASHAM (Finniss) (16:34): I, too, rise to speak on the Supply Bill. The Supply Bill is very much about making sure the mechanisms of government keep working as the budget processes go through and making sure that we actually have the finances within government structures to keep functioning prior to the budget itself being approved.

The spending of taxpayers' money is an important process of government. We need to make sure that we get the spending in the right locations, that the right projects are supported and that we as members of parliament—and particularly the government—direct that spending to the right priorities so that the community receives the benefit it needs from investing their tax dollars in the right places.

It must also be mentioned that we need to make sure those dollars are spent and projects delivered in a timely manner. One particular project comes to mind that is so important for the people of Finniss, and that is the upgrade of the emergency department at the South Coast District Hospital in Victor Harbor. That project was put in the budget under the Marshall Liberal government. Initially, its delivery was meant to be by 2023, but we are still waiting for the building to be completed. I am told that September this year is the completion date for the new ED and I hope that will be the case.

There is a long way to go yet. Certainly, the roof is not all on yet and there are many external walls missing, let alone any internal fit-out that is required for the ED to have it completed by September.

The need for this is so important. I was, unfortunately, there a bit over 12 months ago supporting my daughter who happens to be anaphylactic to seafood and had an anaphylactic episode, and we ended up in the ED. They did a fantastic job looking after my daughter and did everything that was needed to make sure that they stabilised her and got her through that anaphylactic reaction, but the challenge was that post receiving the adrenaline and getting everything back in order, there was the need for us to sit there for many hours while they observed to make sure that she did not have any secondary reactions.

Luckily, she did not, but the experience of sitting in an ED that was well overloaded and having to experience other people's trauma was also a challenge. Being there with a teenager and listening to a poor gentleman who had been brought in and told that his body was in shutdown and he probably only had hours to live, and the family having to deal with that in such a public way, was a horrible thing to have to sit through. Thankfully, with the new ED there will be facilities where that sort of thing can happen in a much more private way. So I am very much looking forward to the delivery of the new ED, but as I said it is, sadly, running well behind the original delivery date of 2023. We are now going to be seeing it in late 2025.

Another important piece of infrastructure—again, committed to by the Marshall government—was the upgrade of the helipad at the South Coast District Hospital. A fantastic amount of work has gone on there. The new helipad has been completed this week, I would think. There was only one little bit of concreting to go that would allow the helipad to be completed, and I imagine that has been done in the last few days—so the work there has been completed.

Unfortunately, I have been told that the helipad will not be in operation until the ED is at lock-up stage because of a concern that debris may be blown around from the building site. So it is a challenge for the hospital staff to continue to manage with an offsite landing site. They are currently landing on the hockey oval, and that is a challenge, unless it happens to be a Saturday—then they land on one of the school ovals because people could be playing hockey on a Saturday. So it is a challenging time, as I said, for those staff to manage that.

Another piece of infrastructure that is currently again running significantly later than initially planned is the upgrade of the Hindmarsh Tiers Road-Victor Harbor Road intersection. Initially, that was meant to be concluded by 2022. Work did not start until this year, so it has certainly taken a long time for that work to proceed. Certainly, a lot of work has been done in the last six months and it will probably be a month or two before the work will be completed. Hopefully, the outcome will make that a much safer intersection. It is certainly changing the outlook of that, and it is going to be interesting to see how that lands.

These are really important bits of infrastructure for the safety of the community. Victor Harbor Road is a very busy road, and that intersection has certainly seen some significant accidents and sadly some deaths over time. I very much thank the local members of the community who lobbied me. I then lobbied then Minister Corey Wingard and he was able to get the commitment for that intersection to be upgraded.

Going forward, I have also been very much consulting with the community about different things that may not be things that need to happen immediately. There do not necessarily need to be immediate commitments from government, but they certainly need to be long-term planned to make sure that we have a community that operates well. One of the big challenges of the area from Hindmarsh Island through to Encounter Bay is the traffic movement.

There is one main road that takes the traffic movement right across from Hindmarsh Island-Goolwa right through to Victor Harbor-Encounter Bay. It gets to a second road near Port Elliot where there are two roads that split the traffic a bit, but between Port Elliot and Goolwa in particular there really is only the one traffic point. It is highly congested at times and really challenging to move, particularly during the summer, across that path. We very much need to look at a second road that runs behind Middleton and Port Elliot in particular, connecting Flagstaff Hill Road-Airport Road across to Waterport Road to get that traffic to go around.

Part of that upgrade may actually solve another problem that also faces the township of Middleton. We might remember from a couple of years ago that the township of Middleton was affected by a sudden downpour event that occurred in November, I think, and that led to rapid flooding of the main street and surrounding areas. There were several homes that were badly affected, as well as several shops. There were residents in the caravan park who had to be rescued. There were some fantastic locals: Nick Vincent swam in to where he knew some people were stuck in one of the cabins and rescued them on a mattress and got them to safety.

It is really quite important that we have a look at flood mitigation, and there may be the ability to use the construction of a road to put a levee above the town to effectively hold the water back to make sure that we do not get those flash floods occurring in the township of Middleton. When you actually see Middleton, it is hard to believe that you could have a metre of water through the main street and the damage it could do.

Another issue that has been around for many years is the duplication of the Victor Harbor Road. We have seen parts of the road duplicated. Again, under the Marshall Liberal government, we saw the duplication of the road from Old Noarlunga through to McLaren Vale. Certainly, it has made that section so much safer than it was. It has done a great job of getting that traffic flow moving beautifully through there, but there is then the challenge for the rest of the way.

I see that there are probably three stages that need to be considered with this upgrade going forward over the next period of time, whether it is 10 or 20 years before we see all the work done. I think something we certainly need to consider is making sure that this work is done. The traffic volumes on the Victor Harbor Road range from as high as 26,000 at one end and it gradually dwindles down to 5,000 or 6,000 at the other end. There are certainly large daily traffic movements on that road, and we need to make sure that we keep that road up to a standard.

The first stage would take it from the current work that has ended at McLaren Vale. You might like to see it duplicated through to the top of Willunga Hill. Certainly, that piece of road at the moment is in an appalling state. The soil that that road has been built on is Bay of Biscay soil and there are sections of it that are really challenging to travel on. It is certainly a very rough road to ride. A few months ago, I took the bus from Victor to Adelaide and that piece of road was horrible in a bus, so it certainly needs some work. It would be nice to see that duplicated.

Probably the next stage you would look at duplicating would be from the top of Willunga Hill through to just south of Mount Compass at the Goolwa Road—that is where the traffic volume splits in bits—then you would see the final stage of duplicating it all the way from Goolwa Road into Victor Harbor.

With proposed growth down in Goolwa and Encounter Bay, but in particular Goolwa, the Mount Compass to Goolwa Road needs some significant investment to make sure that it is a safe road to travel. Certainly, the first three or four kilometres of that road is an appalling piece of road. My farm used to be four kilometres from the Mount Compass end of that road, so I have travelled that piece of road many, many times.

I spoke to department staff who were working on that road at different times and they explained to me that the first four kilometres of that road in particular, when it was built, was not built with a proper foundation. It is actually built on the swamp, and as the swamp dries out and swells back up again each winter, the road moves around and wanders. Again, it is a piece of road that needs significant investment, but it also needs overtaking lanes to carry the future investment that will be required in that area.

There are also many other projects that we need to consider, and tourism is such an important part of the business community and the life of my electorate. There are a couple of pieces of infrastructure where I certainly think we need to make sure we get the investment right. The SteamRanger Cockle Train and all their trains that they operate are a fantastic piece of infrastructure that are enjoyed by many.

We saw during the school holidays them running two trains, travelling in each direction along the Cockle Train line. One was a steam train, one was a diesel Redhen and they had five or six carriages on each and, from what I understand, they were often quite full. We have got people going

backwards and forwards along that line and it is such a wonderful piece of infrastructure that needs to be preserved, as it is such an ageing piece of infrastructure as well, particularly the line itself.

SteamRanger are doing a great job as a mainly volunteer organisation at making sure that the line is maintained as well as possible. At the moment along that piece of line they are replacing every fourth sleeper with a concrete sleeper to actually stabilise that line, but really long term all of the sleepers need to be upgraded to give that train line the long life it needs.

Likewise, we need to make sure that there is suitable investment into the bridges that operate on that line. I am aware that there was some money last budget towards those bridges, but my understanding is that more is needed to make sure that the work can get done. It is a real challenge to restore old infrastructure and this is infrastructure that is state government infrastructure that was previously a part of the train network but has since been managed under the heritage in DEW, and so I think it is important that we make sure we get the investment right to make sure those things are able to operate.

The other thing that I am really quite concerned about in my electorate is the kindergarten capacity and the ability to deal with the three-year-old cohort coming into kindergartens. I thank the Minister for Education who is planning to come down and meet with me in Mount Compass on Friday, tomorrow, to have a look at the Mount Compass circumstance.

The Mount Compass kindy was something that was built when I was at primary school. It was not a great build at the time and it is certainly showing its age, particularly in a wet environment like Mount Compass. The story that went around at the time was that the intent was to build the kindergarten on education department land but they missed and they actually built it on the adjoining community land and some land that was owned by the council, half on each. So the building itself is actually built on the property boundary of both the council and the community, so it is not ideally located in relation to the tenure of where it should be. It is important that we have a look at that, but they certainly do not have the capacity there. They are nearly at full capacity now with just four year olds, so I am not sure that there is any way that we can deliver, in that current building, the needs of three year olds as well.

Likewise, there are challenges in Victor Harbor and Port Elliot. Both have wonderful kindies. My three girls have been through the Victor Harbor kindergarten and my youngest only went through last year. It is also the same kindy I went to 50-odd years ago. So, again, it is very much at its capacity and we need to make sure that we keep continuing to invest in what is required.

Port Elliot, likewise, is a wonderful kindergarten and the staff there are fabulous. We see a real interest in having kids at the Port Elliot kindy and also the Port Elliot Primary School. Again, both are significantly challenged by the number of students there. Taking the year 7s out of the Port Elliot Primary School did give them a little bit of breathing space, but they are certainly very much at capacity.

To me there are many challenges going forward. As I said, this does not necessarily mean that things need to be in the next budget per se for all of these items that I have mentioned, but these are things that we need to put on the list of items that need to be looked at going forward. Sadly, governments work in budget cycles and we are not very good at actually planning longer term than that. I think we need to get better at that and make sure that we continue to invest in the communities that want us to invest in the right priorities. With that, I will look forward to hearing the budget.

The Hon. N.F. COOK (Hurtle Vale—Minister for Human Services, Minister for Seniors and Ageing Well) (16:54): I am rising to speak on the Supply Bill and, of course, commend the bill to the house. Passing supply means that we can keep delivering for South Australia, and as we look abroad, it has never been more important than now. In one part of the world, a particular person and his government are enforcing so-called government efficiencies, aka cutting programs and services that support marginalised and vulnerable cohorts.

One program addressing food insecurity were told that their grant was being terminated because it no longer effectuates agency priorities regarding diversity, equity and inclusion programs and activities. It is shameful. These kinds of cuts will not be too far off if a particular party wins the

federal election, having already appointed a shadow minister for government efficiency and created a plan for an efficient and effective Public Service.

They have already teamed up with the Greens to stall an important investment over the last few years and then, in an act of hypocrisy, come out and criticised the slowness of the implementation and delivery of built form. The Housing Australia Future Fund stalling has prevented thousands of homes from being built, all while pointing blame at our marginalised communities for the housing crisis. But our Malinauskas Labor government knows that when we invest in our communities, our regions and our state, we are all the better for it.

Investing in communities is the bread and butter of my department, the Department of Human Services, incorporating the Office for Ageing Well, from the ongoing contribution to the NDIS so those with disability can access the supports they need, to the investment into systems for those ineligible for an existing service—like the Community Connections Program and the Community Passenger Network—to the reform of concessions to ensure more people in need can access financial support and that our system is more equitable. We have improved the grants program that is delivered through Grants SA by providing targeted rounds that are aimed at or address specific social issues and community need, like accessible communities, youth and food security.

Recently, with the building of our Youth Action Plan, we heard from nearly 1,000 young people, community members and groups about what the priorities would be in their view currently and for the next five years. We listened and we acted swiftly to deliver grant rounds, with the first priority being identified and acted on even before we completed and launched our Youth Action Plan only weeks ago. Knowing that the first priority for young people currently regards mental health and the delivery of services in place, we put out a grant round through Grants SA to deliver grassroots mental health programs, and they are now underway.

We also listened when young people told us that they had trouble navigating services and making decisions around services they might need to improve their capability and their connection in the community—government services in the main, but also housing and life skills that are so important for young people. So we now have released a grant round addressing just that and providing the opportunity for organisations to seek funding to deliver life skills programs. These are investments that our government makes in people, programs and systems so that our whole community can benefit.

If I reflect a little on concessions, I have talked a lot in this place, but it was a really excellent decision and announcement by our Premier, pre the last election as opposition leader, when he listened again to the community who said that the concession system did not always address need. It was not always available when you needed it, and there were gaps and challenges in accessing it. We delivered on our commitment, made by the Premier, the then opposition leader, to review our concession system. In this financial year, we are delivering \$210 million for household and transport concessions and this supports over 228,000 South Australians. We work hand in hand with the federal government to ensure that we are meeting needs that are not being met and we are doing that in a timely way.

We have doubled the value of the Cost of Living Concession for tenants and for Commonwealth Seniors Health Card holders to match that of home owners, which was a nuance that we had pointed out to us by many people. We have broadened the eligibility for public transport concessions and provided more subsidised glasses for people, so that their vision is supported. We have increased the capacity in the funerals program and we have also changed some of the parameters around the emergency electricity payment. All of these are great.

For the Cost of Living Concession, just over 77,000 South Australians have actually benefited from the change. As of 17 March 2025, we have also delivered \$174 million in energy bill relief in partnership with the federal government. That is \$161 million for households and \$13 million for businesses. When you add this up with our standard concessions, we are hitting nearly half a billion dollars in supports for South Australians who have identified that they are doing it tough.

But numbers only tell you so much. During the course of our government, we have talked to many people and we have had people really wanting to stand up and talk publicly about some of our programs. For north-east local and aged-care pensioner Alison, the calculator no longer has to come

out for a trip to the grocery store. She has that bit of extra money in her pocket. And Gail, who disagrees with the Premier about the ideal storage of Tim Tams, says that this payment will go a long way in helping her meet the cost of her energy bills and groceries.

None of this support would be possible without the incredible team in the Department of Human Services. This concessions team, which helped to deliver the review and now deliver this help to thousands and thousands of South Aussies, goes above and beyond to support our community. If you call them with a query, to update details or check eligibility on your concessions, you know that they will be there to answer you. If they take some time to answer, it is because there are many other people who are seeking that support, but they will answer you, get back to you, respond to you.

They will not just tell you about the one concession that you have rung up to ask about, they will check and make sure that you are receiving every single concession that you are eligible for. This is not a system where you need to ask questions to find out what you can get. This is a team that wants to help you. It is almost like they are in two places at once because they recently worked with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) to assist in delivering drought relief payments also.

Collaboration and engagement is not just a core value for the team and the broader public sector, it is a mark of good government. Our community centres are hubs for collaboration and engagement. This financial year, our government is providing over \$5.6 million, supporting 70 community centres across the state. I have talked about this before, but it is very important to say.

When we came into government and I was provided with my briefs, I saw terrible cuts happening to community centre funding, dreadful cuts while the community was emerging from COVID, while we heard from people about how absolutely crushing loneliness was. One of the only ways that people can connect with others is through their local community centres and their community groups. People in our community can rest assured that we acted on that immediately and now community centres are getting nearly double what they would have received had a Liberal government been elected in 2022.

I had the pleasure of attending the opening of the new community centre space in Taillem Bend earlier this year. The community has truly come together. It is a welcoming space. It has a tree monument that talks out the front that tells the story about the Aboriginal people of that area. It really has come to life. The community garden, the space and a massive schedule full of programs up there is providing so much additional capacity. This has been made possible because of the local member advocating and multiple departments being able to react and respond to find a solution. This will provide the ability for so many people in that area, extra people, to build connections. It will be a source of guidance and support for those in need.

The same atmosphere can be felt in a community centre closer to my neighbourhood, in my heart, close to my electorate, in my old electorate space, the Aberfoyle Community Centre, who have, with the advocacy of many people but none more than the member for Davenport, received \$1.5 million to support the new building and outdoor space. This place can truly grow as the heart and soul of the community.

Our grants program is also supporting community centres in need, with both the Aberfoyle and Seaford community centres being provided with \$30,000 to expand social programs for vulnerable men in the south, building on successful initiatives like the Aldinga Men's Shed and growing local support networks. If people have a men's shed, or are looking to grow a space with men's shed capability, there are current community grants for sheds now open on the DHS website. Community sheds are a great place. They are used in various ways. Some are attended by both men and women. Some have days that are allocated for men one day and women the next. They are great. They are fantastic, so hit up the DHS website to have a look for those grants.

There was \$23,719 provided to the Pathway Community Centre in the north-east to set up a wellbeing centre. I visited Pathway a few times with the local member, the member for Newland. It also serves other communities in the north-east. They provide volunteer training, financial counselling, family support and mental health workshops. They are really doing a great job. When government and communities come together, people thrive.

I know the Premier was really impacted by many conversations during his time in the community, as are all local members, but I know it had significant impact on him, hearing stories from families of children living with autism and some of the barriers to engagement and success. I know our state Autism Strategy that was launched last year by this Malinauskas government is really a driver for change in autism inclusion and awareness, ensuring that the autistic and autism communities can thrive. We are not just taking strides; we are taking giant leaps in this space, from providing \$37,729 and \$9,692 respectively for sensory spaces at both the Adelaide Oval and the Clare Showgrounds—both of which I visited, and they are fantastic—to the Autism Assessment and Diagnosis Advisory Group and the Autism Works Employment Summit, held only yesterday.

The summit was attended by hundreds and hundreds of potential employers who are absolutely hungry to understand and hear more about what education and awareness and knowledge can do to ensure inclusion and improvement in employment outcomes for people with disability, particularly people with autism, when you look at yesterday's forum. It is so important that we try to work much harder to be a fully inclusive and supportive employment state.

We joke that she was the galaxy's first assistant minister and now the galaxy's first Minister for Autism, but the Minister for Autism does a great job listening to people and helping to share that knowledge. I thank the Hon. Emily Bourke in the other place for all the work she is doing here. The DHS Disability Policy and Reform team have been instrumental in this, providing support and expertise to the Office for Autism and other agencies to ensure actions are meaningful and that the broader disability ecosystem is absolutely considered.

We know there is a lot of reform happening in the disability space, from the ticketing and inclusion work undertaken last year, the launch of the National Autism Strategy and the Australian Disability Strategy, alongside the development of the next State Disability Inclusion Plan, the state plan, currently open on YourSAy for people to consider and provide some feedback on. That follows the legislation we passed here last year.

Making our communities more accessible and inclusive is an absolute priority. Our government is partnering with the federal government in the Changing Places program and now the Accessible Australia initiative, which involves all three levels of government working together towards a vision. Through the Changing Places initiative, our state government has contributed nearly half a million dollars for five changing places across South Australia, money being matched by other levels of government and, under the Accessible Australia initiative, we all have the opportunity to invest in more facilities, including accessible beaches, inclusive beaches, national parks and play spaces.

Inclusion has to be informed. It needs to be informed by lived experience, by people with knowledge and by people who are prepared to assist each other to thrive and reach their maximum potential. To do that you need policies and procedures in place that reflect the needs and wants of people in our community.

As leaders, those of us here in this place listen to our local communities but, specifically, bringing together people who can provide all their knowledge and their lived experience to directly inform ministerial teams is absolutely vital. I know Minister Hildyard has her council advising her as well in the area of child protection, and I have three ministerial advisory councils. The first iteration of those finished their terms at the end of last year, and I thank every one of them for their incredible input.

I know that some of the lived experience and the deep feeling and intent that were shared with us made a difference. They helped us to work with other ministerial teams to ensure that we were able to deliver in a way that meant everything not just to the members of those councils but to the community.

One such aspect of legislative change that I know was deeply involved was the banning of conversion practice. The LGBTIQ+ ministerial council did a fantastic job to help inform us about the consequences and the impact of those experiences, and we were able to provide them with access to others to share that—and I really appreciate the people who listened.

We have three new councils. They have a mixture of old and new, young and old. They are very diverse, and there are certainly crossovers of lived experience amongst all our groups. There

are 43 new members, 43 members of the councils, the LGBTIQA+ council, the disability advisory council and the youth advisory council. There is a bunch of people from the regions, and we have multicultural communities represented, Aboriginal communities represented, and we have gender diverse people represented. There is a voice for almost everyone on that range of councils, and we look forward to working with them.

Last night I was able to invite all members to parliament to meet each other, to start networking and engaging, and to have some dinner together. Nearly all of them were able to come, and it was a fantastic night where we were able to recommit our resolve to listen and to build a better, more inclusive, fairer society. Congratulations to Varo, who is the chair of the LGBTIQA+ council; to Anu Francis, a champion athlete, who is the chair of the disability council; and Zane Leblond, the chair of the youth council. Congratulations to all of you, and I look forward to working with you over the next year or so.

Mr PATTERSON (Morphett) (17:14): I also take the opportunity in parliament today to speak about the Supply Bill 2025. The Supply Bill comes to parliament each year and is introduced to parliament before the Appropriation Bill, which introduces the state budget. It is an important part of that state budgetary process.

It is interesting that the Supply Bill comes in at the time of the federal election that is occurring, because no doubt the federal election will have a huge influence and impact on South Australia, and certainly on the areas of focus in terms of spending that is to occur in South Australia. Morphett sits within the federal electorate of Boothby. The Liberal candidate for Boothby, Nicolle Flint, has been working very hard and I will have more to say about that in my contribution.

As I said, the Supply Bill comes in. As has been said by the shadow treasurer, the opposition is supporting that bill as is convention but also because it is important to the smooth running of essential government services here in South Australia, including the police and other essential services to make sure that they can continue to operate and provide service to the community.

I commend and reinforce the high need for a strong police presence in and around Jetty Road, Glenelg, and in and around Novar Gardens with some of the issues that are being experienced at the precinct around the IGA and some of the public housing. Very closely adjacent is the MFS station at Camden Park, which is a vital emergency service that helps keep us safe in our community, and often times we see the fire engine from Camden Park performing important work throughout the community.

The Supply Bill will ensure that hospitals continue to run, that doctors and nurses are still able to provide life-saving treatment, that schools can continue to run and that teachers can perform their important role both at primary level and secondary level. At the primary level, Glenelg Primary School does terrific work, based on the corner of Brighton Road and Diagonal Road. There is also St Leonards Primary School, which does important work at Glenelg North. On the border of the electorate of Morphett we have Brighton Secondary School, which is a fantastic school that has so many students, and Plympton International College as well.

So of course, supporting the Supply Bill does help provide funding to continue because the Appropriation Bill sets down the state budget until June of each financial year. But the way the process works with the Appropriation Bill going through parliament, often times while it is introduced before the end of the financial year it then takes potentially months to get through the whole process. Obviously, we have the estimates process and then it goes off to the Legislative Council as well, meaning that by the time the Appropriation Bill has passed it could be well past that 30 June date.

When you look at the Supply Bill, it talks here of providing this sum of \$7,681 million. That is a significant amount of money, very approximately \$7.7 billion. That is a similar amount to what was provided by the Supply Bill last year, but it certainly should be noted it is a massive increase from the Supply Bill 2023—in fact, it is an amount \$1.2 billion more than what was provided for in the Supply Bill 2023.

Considering that this Supply Bill is really just to see the state's finances through until the Appropriation Bill is passed, it talks to the surge in spending that is going on here in terms of expenditure by all state government departments. It is a massive increase. As has been spoken

about by the shadow treasurer as well, a lot of these government departments are not only budgeted to spend a certain amount but a significant number of them are, in fact, overspending their budget, and this is symptomatic of that need to provide additional money. It sets a lead and a trend that there could well be, when we are presented with the budget, more overspending.

I think in the last budget there were only four departments that were actually on budget or below budget, with the vast majority overspending. Leading that charge was Health, with over \$625 million worth of overspending. While that is all going on and these departments are spending South Australian taxpayers' money, those same South Australian taxpayers, those same households, are experiencing a cost-of-living crisis under this Malinauskas Labor government.

South Australian households have experienced a collapse in their standard of living. Going through the price of essentials and what has occurred under Labor since the last election, eggs are up 36 per cent, bread is up 25 per cent, insurance is up 46 per cent, rents are up 17 per cent, and electricity is up 44 per cent and is at the highest on record.

This is really impacting consumers. In fact, what we are finding is that consumers have reduced their spending because they are also being hit by the fact that interest rates are up and mortgages have gone up. Last month's consumer spending was again shown to have fallen here in South Australia. So while government departments are overspending and ministers are in charge of trying to hold their departments to account and make sure they are running smoothly, households are having to tighten their belts.

The Reserve Bank is raising interest rates, and that is having an impact. The reason for that, of course, is to try to eliminate rampant inflation from the system. South Australia has suffered from high inflation rates; in fact, more than the national average in most cases. The RBA has been trying to bring that down, but government departments are working at cross-purposes. They are spending and continuing to put money into the economy and push it along while we have households, as we can see by consumer spending patterns, having to tighten their belts and move in a way that the RBA is wanting to eliminate inflation.

So households are doing the heavy lifting while government is not; in fact, the Reserve Bank said that inflation is being driven by federal and state government spending. The thing is that from a state government perspective, when you look at the revenues that are occurring, inflation is perversely good for state government revenue.

You will notice that of the items I mentioned that have increased—eggs up 36 per cent, insurance up 46 per cent—a lot of them have GST associated with them, so the surges in pricing come with increased GST, and that makes its way back through to state government coffers. Housing prices have gone up and stamp duty has increased in unison with that. All these things that are hurting households and hurting businesses are having a different impact on the state. They are not showing any cognition—any understanding of that—and maybe they should be trying to pull back their spending as well to try to bring inflation back under control.

I talked about businesses and how they are hurting as well. We have just had CommSec release their State of the States report. That has been used to promote what is going on in South Australia's economy by the Premier oftentimes. What this latest State of the States report, the April report, shows is that South Australia's economic performance has dropped. We are now fourth in the nation. Of major concern is the fact that South Australia has had zero economic growth in the last quarter to December. In fact, South Australia's growth is now sixth amongst the states, so that is certainly alarming as well.

We are also seeing from NAB and their business survey is that business confidence in South Australia has once again been marked with South Australia being the nation's weakest performer according to the NAB business survey. This is a troubling trend that has persisted since 2023. It is not surprising that those conditions and confidence is low because business insolvencies have doubled under the Malinauskas Labor government. These are really concerning issues.

With inflation, of course, it means it appears there is more money and that the gross state product has gone up, so from a macro level it looks like things are growing and the economy is running well. Really, what is happening is that the micro issues that are being faced by business are

really concerning. Their costs are going up—the cost of doing business is causing a huge concern—their profitability is an issue, and also labour availability. These are issues at the macro level. Statistically, it looks like things can have a positive light shone on them but, if you ask these businesses or households how they are going, they are struggling.

Another issue that is being faced by households and business is the cost of electricity. It is a huge cost to business and households are really facing huge troubles. I have said before in parliament that the latest report by the independent Essential Services Commission of South Australia (ESCOSA) has shown that the average market offer for electricity for households in South Australia jumped by 19 per cent up to June 2024, to be the highest on record.

This is the third report that has been released under the Malinauskas Labor government and each report had power bills going up such that the average household power bill under ESCOSA shows that under the Malinauskas Labor government it has gone up by \$798 over these three reports or nearly 44 per cent. This is a massive rise and South Australian businesses are also struggling as well, experiencing similar sorts of increases of 46 per cent over those three reports or an increase of \$1,695. That is a massive increase to their bills.

Meanwhile, all during this time, the Malinauskas Labor government has been totally distracted by their green hydrogen promises. Their Hydrogen Jobs Plan was a very expensive plan. Over the course of three years, instead of looking at how household power bills can be brought down, all the focus has been on the Hydrogen Jobs Plan, which the government has admitted is not going to reduce household power bills.

Along the journey, the main components—as I have explained in parliament before; the five main promises for this plan—have been broken and were broken well before the crisis at Whyalla unfolded. The other important point is that this plan was all about creating electricity. The government have tried to use the crisis at Whyalla as a scapegoat for this to try to diminish their responsibility and not take responsibility for what has been just a massive waste of time and resources by this government on what has now turned out to be a failed project.

As we found out today, the Office of Hydrogen Power South Australia has been closed, so all that effort was wasted. At least \$100 million was spent on the capital works through engineering design or through paying for the massive increase in staff in that office. It all counts for nothing, and I will continue to prosecute that.

If I go briefly to some local issues, one issue that has been really important for the local community of Glenelg since I have been elected to this place, and before of course, is the Morphett Road tram crossing. It has been a huge bottleneck for the community for many years and it has certainly caused all sorts of congestion in peak time, whether that is in the morning with commuters coming down Morphett Road to go city bound, travelling from the south, or in the afternoon travelling out of the city and then travelling down Anzac Highway and turning left onto Morphett Road. It is a huge issue.

I have certainly been advocating for a solution since I was elected in 2018, and I have been working with the community around trying to get a result. So much so that we ran a grassroots petition at the start of last year, after being knocked back with requests for some attention to this, principally driven by the fact that the tramline was going to be closed as a result of the Marion Road and Cross Road upgrade.

Many in the community made the good point that the Morphett Road tram crossing is actually more heavily congested than either of those two tram crossings at Marion Road or Cross Road on most occasions and certainly was worthy of being done at the same time. As I said before, the hardworking federal Liberal candidate for Boothby and I ran a petition and we got fantastic support. We got thousands of signatures. We doorknocked, we visited shopping centres, we talked to people at the actual tram stop itself and we got huge support.

We then put that to the government to say, 'There's fantastic community grassroots support here and it should be supported.' However, there was no funding put into the state budget last year and there was no funding put into the federal budget either. Then after that, after continued pressure, all of a sudden there was a petition put out by Louise Miller-Frost, who is the Labor federal member

for Boothby, pretty much replicating the wording of our petition. Then, lo and behold, two weeks later there was an announcement. The federal and state governments buckled to the grassroots community support, led by both myself and Nicolle Flint, so they should be congratulated on their hard work there.

I will quickly mention some other fantastic grassroots community hard work done by Nicolle Flint, the Liberal candidate for Boothby. She has been out there meeting with many of the local sporting clubs and working with them. She has certainly identified some real gaps with some of the community clubs, especially those that have growing female participation with a number of teams.

One of those is the Plympton Bulldogs, which previously we had as election commitment in 2018 to upgrade their playing surface, which has now gone from really what was a mud heap to a very usable surface. It was really just in time because it preceded the surge in women's footy. However, the clubrooms there are now many years old and really not fit for purpose. Nicolle has made a commitment that, if she is elected and if Peter Dutton is elected as the Prime Minister, there will be \$5 million of funding for that.

Nicolle has also made some fantastic announcements around some change facilities for the women at the Glenelg footy club at Seaview High, and also a significant \$500,000 commitment to the Glenelg Surf Life Saving Club to help them expand their clubrooms to allow the club to continue to serve the local community.

If the community of Boothby want a hardworking candidate who is going to stand up for them and deliver results for them in Canberra, then they need to vote for Nicolle Flint in Saturday's federal election.

Debate adjourned on motion of Mr Odenwalder.

**SUMMARY OFFENCES (HUMILIATING, DEGRADING OR INVASIVE DEPICTIONS)
AMENDMENT BILL**

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

**SUMMARY OFFENCES (PROHIBITION OF PUBLICATION OF CERTAIN MATERIAL)
AMENDMENT BILL**

Introduction and First Reading

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

At 17:37 the house adjourned until Tuesday 13 May 2025 at 11:00.