

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

Third Session of the Fifty-First Parliament
(2008)

Parliament, which adjourned on 29 July 2008, was prorogued by proclamation dated 14 August 2008. By proclamation dated 14 August 2008, it was summoned to meet on Wednesday 10 September 2008, and the Third Session began on that date.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**Wednesday 10 September 2008****The PRESIDENT (Hon. R.K. Sneath)** took the chair at 12 noon.**OPENING OF PARLIAMENT**

The Clerk (Mrs J.M. Davis) read the proclamation by His Excellency the Governor (Rear Admiral Kevin Scarce) summoning parliament.

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

His Excellency the Governor, having been announced by the Black Rod, was received by the President at the bar of the council chamber and conducted by him to the chair. The Speaker and members of the House of Assembly having entered the chamber in obedience to his summons, His Excellency read his opening speech as follows:

Honourable Members of the Legislative Council and Members of the House of Assembly.

I have called you together for the dispatch of business.

I thank Lewis O'Brien, an elder of the Kurna people, for his gracious 'welcome to country'.

I also want to acknowledge the Australian Defence Force Federation Guard, the body specially-formed to participate at major national ceremonial occasions, for its presence here today.

It is with sadness that we acknowledge the passing of two former Members since the Opening of the Second Session of the 51st Parliament.

In December last year, the Honourable Glen Broomhill—a former Minister and Member of the House of Assembly from 1965 to 1979—passed away.

And in January of this year, we noted the passing of Ernest Crimes, who was the Member for Spence from 1970 to 1975.

Honourable Members.

My Government proposes to continue its program to foster economic growth, prosperity and opportunity for South Australia.

It is committed to prudent financial management, a strong budget position and the retention of South Australia's triple-A credit rating.

The goals and targets that are contained in the Government's policy blueprint, *South Australia's Strategic Plan*, underpin its legislative program.

The Government believes that the biggest challenge facing South Australia is the issue of water security.

The River Murray and the southern Murray-Darling Basin are experiencing the most severe drought in recorded history, and the outlook for water in-flows—according to the Murray-Darling Basin Commission—is of serious concern.

The Government is committed to a range of initiatives to manage this ongoing situation.

Having first raised concerns in 2002—with the then Prime Minister and State and Territory leaders—about the imminent danger facing the Murray-Darling system, my Government is continuing to play a significant role in ensuring that the River system is managed as a national asset.

The Council of Australian Governments reached a historic agreement earlier this year that will allow for sweeping reforms to the management of the Murray-Darling Basin system.

As a result, during this session the Government will introduce a legislative package that will enable reform of the governance arrangements for the management of the Basin, and will give effect to the Intergovernmental Agreement that was signed at the Council of Australian Governments meeting on 3 July this year.

Under that agreement, South Australia will refer its constitutional responsibility for water management in the River Murray to the Commonwealth.

Amendments to the *Murray Darling Basin Act 1993* will be required to enable the management of the River Murray in South Australia by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority.

As part of the Commonwealth Government's reforms, it will invest \$3.7 billion in its *Water for the Future* program to improve water efficiency through upgraded infrastructure and other projects.

The investment will return much-needed water in the medium to long-term to the ailing river system to improve environmental flows, including to the Lower Lakes and the Coorong.

The Commonwealth has allocated \$3.1 billion to purchase over-allocated water licences, particularly in the upstream States.

My Government has been successful in urging the Commonwealth Government to accelerate the purchase of these licences, including the targeted purchase of large-scale, water-intensive irrigation properties in Queensland and New South Wales.

The \$610 million that the Government secured from the Commonwealth's *Water for the Future* package will be used for a program of infrastructure projects known as 'Murray Futures'.

That program will include the complete re-engineering of water infrastructure affecting the townships, communities and irrigators that draw water from the Lower Lakes.

A new integrated network of pipelines will be established, eliminating reliance on the Lower Lakes for potable and irrigation water.

And \$200 million has been allocated for longer-term environmental improvements to the Lower Lakes to help secure their future.

The package also includes \$80 million that is available for the purchase of water entitlements from willing sellers.

I'm advised that these measures in our State could result in savings of more than 100 gigalitres of water in the Murray-Darling system.

The Commonwealth Government is also undertaking the first comprehensive, detailed and externally reviewed audit of public and private water storages held in the Basin.

My Government is committed to making the largest infrastructure investment in the State's history in order to secure South Australia's water supply.

That investment includes the establishment of a 50-gigalitre desalination plant that will deliver up to a quarter of Adelaide's water needs.

A pilot desalination plant that assesses filtration and pre-treatment technology has begun testing at Port Stanvac.

Investigations are continuing into opportunities to double the capacity of reservoirs in the Mount Lofty Ranges.

Projects are also underway to meet the Government's target of increasing the percentage of wastewater and storm water that is re-used in South Australia.

A 30-kilometre pipeline will be established to carry treated wastewater from Glenelg for use in Adelaide's CBD and parklands.

One of the major challenges confronting our nation and our planet is the issue of climate change, and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

My Government will continue to support renewable energy projects, such as the development of Australia's largest off-grid solar power station to be built in Coober Pedy, and the installation of Australia's largest rooftop solar panel array above the new Goyder Pavilion at the Royal Adelaide Showgrounds.

A significant majority of the national investment being made in the exploration and development of naturally-occurring geothermal, or 'hot rocks', energy projects is happening in South Australia.

The Government has reached sector agreements—through which it works with industry organisations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase energy efficiency—with the Wine Industry, the Local Government Association and the Property Council of Australia, and is pursuing additional agreements.

And it is implementing a four-year project to make commercial buildings in Adelaide's CBD more energy efficient.

A Residential Energy Efficiency Scheme to come into effect at the start of next year will require South Australian gas and electricity retailers to offer financial and other incentives to households to adopt energy saving measures.

As well as reducing its own emissions by purchasing enough 'Green Power' to meet 20 per cent of its energy needs, the Government will continue to play an active role in the development of a national Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme.

Through the Million Trees Program, a total of three million native plants will be planted throughout Adelaide to help improve the city's carbon-absorbing capacity and to conserve our local biodiversity.

And Adelaide will become home to a new 'super greenhouse' – the Plant Accelerator – that will enable research to be conducted into helping the agricultural and horticultural industries adapt to some of the challenges posed by climate change.

To further protect our environment, the Government will introduce legislation to ban the supply of lightweight plastic shopping bags, with the prohibition to come into effect in May 2009.

It will also proclaim the outer boundaries of 19 marine parks in order to better protect and conserve the State's marine environments.

My Government will continue its work to modernise and upgrade South Australia's health infrastructure.

In addition to the new Marjorie Jackson-Nelson Hospital, a program of redevelopment is ongoing at Flinders Medical Centre, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Women's and Children's Hospital and Noarlunga Hospital.

The second stage of the Lyell McEwin Hospital redevelopment has been completed, and the third stage is being planned to include the proposed expansion of specialist surgical services.

New GP Plus Centres will open at Elizabeth and Marion in 2010, in addition to the two existing centres at Aldinga and Woodville.

These centres are being established in order to ease the pressure on emergency departments.

The Government has also committed to capital works at country hospitals, including redevelopments for Berri, Whyalla and Ceduna.

More women in regional and country South Australia will have access to updated breast screening technology through the availability of two new mobile vans fitted with digital screening equipment.

The Government will continue to fight childhood obesity by introducing a healthy eating message to school children and families across the State under a new nutrition and lifestyle program.

Extra doctors, nurses, paramedics and allied health professionals will continue to be recruited into the public health system.

And the Government will continue to reform, rebuild and re-design mental health services and facilities that include community recovery centres, new hospital wards, supported accommodation and modern drug treatments.

A significant part of the Government's reform and investment includes a \$130 million redevelopment of the Glenside campus, and work is expected to start during 2009 on a new, secure forensic mental health centre at Mobilong.

The program to rebuild South Australia's public transport system will see the extension of the existing tramline from the city to West Lakes, Port Adelaide and Semaphore.

The first stage of the tram extension—to the Adelaide Entertainment Centre—is due for completion in 2010.

In addition, the major northern and southern rail lines will be electrified and 20 extra buses per year will be brought into service over the next four years.

The 10-year transport program will deliver new electric trains, converted and refurbished diesel to electric trains, new hybrid trams/trains, additional light rail vehicles and a new ticketing system.

Further to the Government's commitment to upgrading transport infrastructure, a record level of investment is being made in a roads program over the next four years.

That includes further upgrades of Adelaide's north-south transport corridor, safety improvements to the Dukes Highway, and new projects at Oaklands Park and on the Fleurieu Peninsula.

My Government believes that the private sector remains the engine room for economic growth in South Australia, and is continuing to work to make this State the most competitive place to do business in Australia and New Zealand.

It has made another reduction in the payroll tax rate, and raised the tax threshold level.

The Government has also undertaken an overhaul of the State's planning system, in order to modernise it and make it more efficient.

Those reforms include a 30-year plan to manage Adelaide's growth and development, and an investment in the building of efficient transport corridors to help create new commuter-friendly neighbourhoods within existing suburbs.

They also contain a 25-year rolling supply of broad acre land to meet the residential, commercial and industrial needs of a growing population and an expanding economy.

The Government has also outlined a simplified and faster assessment process for new housing and home renovations, as well as five regional plans to help guide the development of the State outside of Adelaide.

And it continues to work towards reforming WorkCover in order to deliver a workers compensation scheme that provides injured workers with fair and equitable financial and other support, that reduces the average levy rate for employers, and is fully funded as soon as practicable.

South Australia is experiencing solid economic growth, and the Government is committed to providing opportunities for all South Australians to share in the benefits.

The State's mining sector continues to perform strongly, and South Australia is gaining international recognition for its mineral prospectivity.

My Government's extended Plan for Accelerating Exploration—known as the PACE initiative—continues to play a significant role in attracting and securing national and international mineral exploration investment to South Australia.

Many of the \$45 billion worth of major projects that are either underway or in the pipeline are connected to the expansion of our mineral resources sector.

A number of others are linked to the defence sector, which includes the Air Warfare Destroyer project and the relocation of the 1200-strong Mechanised Battalion Group to Edinburgh in the northern suburbs from 2011.

However, I'm also advised that the State faces challenges in developing the skilled workforce required to carry out these long-term projects.

The Government estimates that South Australia will need an additional 133,000 workers between now and 2017-18.

Another 206,000 workers will be required to replace those who are expected to leave the workforce through retirement and other reasons.

In order to respond to these challenges, the Government has developed the *Skills Strategy for the 21st Century*.

That includes a stronger legislative base for skills and workforce development, and a strengthened Industry and Skills Board that will work with industry in order to identify and respond to emerging skills and workforce development needs.

The Government will introduce the Public Sector Bill, which will provide a new legislative framework in order to develop a stronger, more flexible public sector.

In addition to the State's home-grown universities, Adelaide is also now home to branches of international universities including Carnegie Mellon which offers US-accredited masters' degrees and specialises in areas such as information technology and computer science, and Britain's Cranfield University which offers defence-related courses.

From next year, University College London will also establish a presence in Adelaide, and offer a post-graduate Masters of Science in Energy and Resource Management.

My Government believes that investment in science and innovation is an important element in the State's continued economic development, for environmental sustainability and to increase employment.

The Royal Institution Australia—the first satellite operation of the Royal Institution of Great Britain to be established outside London—will be housed in the former Adelaide Stock Exchange Building, which is currently undergoing refurbishment.

When work is completed next year, RI Australia will create a focus for science awareness activities and is expected to become a national hub for scientists, students, educators, media, industry, government and families.

South Australia's new Chief Scientist, Dr Ian Chessell, chairs the Premier's Science and Research Council which—over the coming year—will focus on areas such as climate change, water security and mining capability.

My Government remains committed to creating better opportunities for young people through education and schooling, and to building a stronger workforce for the State's future.

The 2009 school year will see compulsory age education legislation come into effect.

That will ensure that all young people are in school or training until they are aged 17, or achieve their South Australian Certificate of Education or equivalent qualification.

Also from the start of school next year, students in Year 10 at Government, Catholic and Independent schools will be the first to begin a new South Australian Certificate of Education.

The new South Australian Certificate of Education will enable more young people to learn within schools and beyond—including at TAFE, university, the community and the workplace.

This is part of a 'school to work' strategy that includes the new compulsory education legislation, as well as 10 new Trade Schools for the Future.

The Government is continuing to work on the construction of six new schools in metropolitan Adelaide, which will be opened progressively from 2010 to 2011, as well as undertaking the upgrading of schools and pre-schools across the State.

A strategic policy framework called *YouthCONNECT*, which will be launched early next year, will help government agencies, the community and young people better tackle the issues affecting young South Australians.

Under its Social Inclusion initiative, my Government has focused on how a social benefit can be secured from the anticipated acceleration in economic growth in South Australia.

It has charged the Social Inclusion Board with examining ways in which a social dividend can accompany the State's economic dividend.

The Social Inclusion Unit will also continue to implement strategies designed to make reductions in the number of homeless people who 'sleep rough' on our streets, and will extend them to regional areas such as the Riverland as well as the city and metropolitan areas.

This Unit, along with Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation Division, will work with communities on the APY Lands to identify people who are sleeping rough or who are living in improvised dwellings.

The Government has recently secured the agreement of the APY communities to the provision of leases for the Commonwealth's offer for housing on the APY Lands, which means new accommodation can be built to help alleviate overcrowding.

And in the wake of the Mullighan inquiries into children in State care and on the APY Lands, the Government is moving to implement the recommendations that were made in the landmark reports.

It will also be working to ensure it does everything possible to prevent similar kinds of abuses from ever happening again.

My Government has made the State's largest-ever investment in protecting children, thereby providing the resources needed to carry out the Inquiry's recommendations.

That includes providing additional resources to the Guardian for Children and Young People to strengthen the office's role and independence, and expanding the screening processes in place for people involved in child-related work.

And new laws will be introduced to further protect children from harm.

For the first time, the Government has established a Ministry for the Northern Suburbs.

A Government office called 'Northern Connections' will soon be opened at Elizabeth to help the community to take advantage of economic growth and opportunities in the region.

The Government will continue to introduce legislation to improve public safety by targeting crime, particularly serious and organised crime, as well as recidivist offenders.

It will build on existing legislation to strengthen the authority of police and prosecutors in the fight against outlaw motorcycle gang-based crime.

Improvements to the *Criminal Assets Confiscation Act* will enable law enforcement agencies to target the unexplained wealth of drug traffickers and known criminals.

A Bill will be introduced to provide police with greater wherewithal to disrupt and dismantle organised gang crime through increased powers to assist undercover operations and protect the identity of witnesses.

The Government has also introduced significant changes to laws dealing with rape and witness evidence, which are expected to come into effect later this year.

Laws that deal with domestic violence will also be updated to help shield victims and at-risk individuals and families from abuse.

And the Government will introduce additional changes to juvenile justice laws and establish a youth parole board in order to tackle the difficult issues identified by Social Inclusion Commissioner Monsignor David Cappo's *To Break the Cycle* report.

It will also continue to recruit more police, with a further 165 cadets in training at the Fort Largs Academy who will graduate by the end of this year.

And arrangements for the construction of the State's new prison and secure facilities, including the new 760-cell men's prison and 150-cell women's prison at Mobilong, are proceeding.

These facilities are expected to become operational during the 2011-12 financial year.

Legislation will be introduced to revise penalties for the offences of arson and property damage.

The Government will also proceed with legislation to criminalise the act of indecent filming.

In addition, new Victims of Crime legislation will be introduced to further extend victims' rights.

South Australia became the first—and I'm advised that it remains the only—State to appoint an independent Commissioner for Victims' Rights.

My Government will also introduce legislation to require drivers who commit serious drink-driving offences to fit a mandatory alcohol ignition interlock to their vehicles when they regain their licences.

These devices—that measure drivers' breath alcohol levels and prevent them from driving if they register a positive blood alcohol reading—would be fitted to their vehicles for a period of time equivalent to their licence disqualification periods.

Honourable Members.

With this set of policies—and working within the framework of *South Australia's Strategic Plan*—the Government seeks to build further on the State's prosperity and momentum during the course of this Parliament.

Its aim is to improve the lives of South Australians today, and to position us to take advantage of the opportunities offered by tomorrow.

I now declare this session open, and trust that your deliberations will serve the advancement of the welfare of the people of this State.

The Governor retired from the chamber, and the Speaker and members of the House of Assembly withdrew.

The President again took the chair and read prayers.

[Sitting suspended from 12:49 to 14:30]

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

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

KING, MR J.

168 The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (4 May 2006) (First Session). When will the Attorney-General respond to the letter dated 30 May 2005 that he received from Mr. J. King of PO Box 293, Belair, 5052?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business): The Attorney-General has provided the following information:

Mr King is known to my office and he has previously written to me and other members many times. My office has been receiving correspondence from Mr King since 2002. He has also written to the Federal Attorney-General.

If Mr King's letters are capable of comprehension and a rational response, I reply to them.

If the Hon. R.I. Lucas, MLC, wishes to champion the causes of Jack King, that is a matter for him. Nothing in Mr Lucas's Indian summer would surprise me.

SEX OFFENDER TREATMENT PROGRAM

15 The Hon. S.G. WADE (31 July 2007). Can the Minister for Correctional Services advise, in relation to the Sex Offender Treatment Program, for each of the years from 2002-03 to 2006-07:

1. How many offenders were assessed for the sex offender treatment program?
2. How many offenders commenced the sex offender treatment program?
3. How many offenders completed the sex offender treatment program?

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): I am advised:

The sex offender program was piloted in prison and in the community in 2005, therefore only figures for the years 2004-05 through to 2006-07 are provided.

In 2004-05, 60 prisoners and offenders were assessed for the sex offender program. Ten prisoners commenced the prison-based program and 11 offenders commenced the community-based program. Nine prisoners completed the prison-based program and 10 offenders completed the community-based program.

In 2005-2006, 53 prisoners and offenders were assessed for the sex offender program. Ten prisoners commenced the prison-based program and nine offenders commenced in the community-based program. Ten prisoners completed the prison-based program and seven completed the community-based program.

In 2006-07, 58 prisoners and offenders were assessed for the sex offender program. Twenty-Four prisoners commenced the prison-based program and eight offenders commenced in the community-based program. Eight prisoners have completed the prison-based program, and 16 are currently ongoing participants. As at 24 August 2007, three have completed the community-based program and five are currently still participating and heading toward completion.

DRUG COURT

113 The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (26 September 2007). Can the Attorney-General advise:

1. (a) Does the Drug Court have brokerage funds for counselling services?
- (b) What level of funding is available?
- (c) Which providers have received funding and how much has each received?
2. (a) Does the Youth Court have brokerage funds for counselling services?
- (b) What level of funding is available?
- (c) Which providers have received funding and how much has each received?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business): The Attorney-General has provided the following information:

1. (a) Drug and Alcohol Services SA provides counselling for Drug Court participants and is funded for this service directly by the Department of Health. The Courts Administration Authority also receives some funding for the Drug Court from the Department of Health. A portion of these funds is used as brokerage funds for psychological services. These services are provided for participants who have complicated needs that cannot be met through counselling, such as mental health problems, personality disorders and drug addiction.
- (b) About \$11,000 was available in 2007-08 for these services.
- (c) UniSA Psychology Clinic is the main service provider and it received \$11,760 in 2006-07. Other clinical psychologists are used occasionally. \$558 in 2006-07 was remitted to Payneham Road Psychology, which is a private practice.
2. The Youth Court has no brokerage funds for counselling services.

MINISTERIAL TRAVEL

186 The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (12 February 2007). Can the minister state:

1. What was the total cost of any overseas trip undertaken by the then minister and staff since 2 December 2006 up to 1 December 2007?
2. What are the names of the officers who accompanied the then minister on each trip?
3. Was any officer given permission to take private leave as part of the overseas trip?
4. Was the cost of each trip met by the then minister's office budget, or by the then minister's department or agency?
5. (a) What cities and locations were visited on each trip; and
(b) What was the purpose of each visit?

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): The minister has provided the following information for the period 2 December 2006 and up to 1 December 2007:

1. Cost of Trip	2. Accompanying Officers	3. Private Leave Taken	4. Cost met by Minister's Office or Dept/Agency	5 (a) Cities and Locations Visited	5. (b) Purpose of Trip
\$9,123.61	George Karzis	Nil	Minister's office	Auckland, New Zealand Auckland Regional Women's Correctional Facility Meeting with Superintendent John Kelly and Mr Brian McSwigan Wellington, New Zealand Ministerial Council on the Administration of Justice Rimutaka Prison Meeting with New Zealand Fire Service Commissioner Meeting with Minister for Transport and Police, NZ	To attend the Ministerial Council on the Administration of Justice and to meet with road safety, correctional services and emergency services officials.

MELROSE PARK SCHOOL

205 The Hon. M. PARNELL (6 March 2008). Can the Minister for Education and Children's Services advise the total state government funding (both capital and recurring) for the Melrose Park School Inc. at St. Marys for each of the years:

1. 2002-03;
2. 2003-04;
3. 2004-05;
4. 2005-06; and
5. 2006-07?

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs): The Minister for Education and Children's Services has provided the following information:

The Melrose Park School Incorporated St Mary's has received the following state government recurrent grants for the period 2002-07:

2002-03	\$11,149
2003-04	\$40,460
2004-05	\$30,766
2005-06	\$39,479
2006-07	\$49,437

The school has not received any state funds for capital development under the Limited Interest Subsidy Scheme which was available between 1998-2005.

BUSES, DISABILITY ACCESSIBLE

263 The Hon. SANDRA KANCK (30 April 2008). Can the minister for Transport advise how many Adelaide metro buses are not disability accessible?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business): The Minister for Transport has provided the following information:

The Adelaide metro bus fleet consists of government and private (service operator) owned buses.

Of the total fleet of 812 government and privately owned buses, 65.1 per cent are fully accessible.

Current approved funding will result in at least 80 per cent of buses being accessible by 2013.

In line with the government's current approved funding program the Department for Transport and Infrastructure has advised that it is ahead of the schedule required under the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 that all public transport vehicles are to fully comply with the standards by 31 December 2022.

ALCOHOL SALES TO MINORS

276 The Hon. SANDRA KANCK (3 June 2008). Can the Minister for Consumer Affairs advise:

1. How many licensees have been charged with selling alcohol to minors for the years:

- (a) 2005-06; and
- (b) 2006-07?

2. Of these, how many have been prosecuted?

The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for State/Local Government Relations, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Consumer Affairs, Minister for Government Enterprises, Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Energy): The Minister for Police has provided the following information:

Sale or supply of liquor to minors on or off licensed premises is an offence against section 110 of the Liquor Licensing Act 1997 (the Act). The maximum penalty for a breach of this section by a licensee or responsible person is a \$20,000 fine. The maximum penalty for any other person is a \$5,000 fine.

In 2005-06, one person who was involved with licensed premises as an employee of a licensee was charged by police pursuant to section 110 of the act. The person was subsequently convicted of selling liquor to a minor and was fined \$262.

In 2006-07, five people connected with licensed premises as either employees, licensees or directors were charged by police in relation to breaches of section 110 of the act. Two charges

involving directors of a licensed company selling or supplying liquor to a minor were withdrawn prior to prosecution. One employee of a licensee was prosecuted and received a conviction and fine of \$366. A responsible person was prosecuted and received a conviction and fine of \$266 and one licensee company was prosecuted and received a conviction and fine of \$400.

RAILCARS

277 The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (4 June 2008). Can the Minister for Transport advise:

1. When will South Australia be placing an order for new railcars to replace the current railcars that are nearing end of life?
2. Will the minister ensure that any new diesel railcars can be converted to electric operation pending electrification of the rail system?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business): The Minister for Transport has provided the following information:

As part of the recent state budget the state government announced the biggest single investment ever by a state government in Adelaide's public transport system. As part of these initiatives the state government announced it's intention to purchase the following:

- 4 additional Flexity trams
- 15 dual-voltage trams
- 50 electric railcars

It is not intended to purchase any new diesel railcars.

DRUGS, HYDROPONIC CULTIVATION

286 The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (3 July 2008). What arrangements does SAPOL have with AGL or other energy providers to provide notification of excessive or unusual power consumption that may be indicative of hydroponic drug cultivation?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business): Historically, ETSA Utilities was the single entity in the supply of electricity and as a government agency/instrumentality relevant information was provided in accord with Section 4 (10) Cabinet Administrative Instruction No 1 of 1989 otherwise referred to as Information Privacy Principles Instruction.

This facilitated SAPOL in requesting electricity supply information from a central repository within a recognised state government information release framework. However, when the deregulation (privatisation) of the electricity industry occurred the instruction became less relevant.

The National Privacy Principles, Schedule 3, Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) permits the disclosure of personal information to a relevant organisation on the condition the organisation has reason to suspect that unlawful activity has or is being engaged in and the information is required as a necessary part of the investigation.

Whilst legislation permits the provision of personal information, there is no legal requirement for them to do so and there is no penalty for failure to do so.

Requests to suppliers of electricity are assessed on an individual basis and in requesting the information the investigating officer would be in possession of information to indicate the premises (occupied or otherwise) are being utilised for the cultivation of cannabis.

SAPOL maintains a working relationship with electricity suppliers and despite no legal requirement to do so, information is provided to SAPOL upon request for the purposes of investigating criminal activity.

SUPERANNUATION SCHEMES

289 The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (3 July 2008). Can the Treasurer advise what offices of profit under the crown contain a pension or superannuation scheme guaranteeing a lifelong pension, similar to PSS1 and PSS2 in the Parliamentary Superannuation Act 1974?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business): The Treasurer has provided the following information:

The groups of public sector employees entitled to a lifelong pension are:

- Judges under the Judges Pension Act 1971;
- A 'Governor of the State' under the Governors' Pension Act 1976;
- Any South Australian State Government employees entitled to a pension under the Superannuation Act 1988 and the Police Superannuation Act 1990.

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the President—

Members of Legislative Council Travel Expenditure, 2007-08
 Register of Members' Interests—June 2008—Registrar's Statement
 Ordered—That the Statement be published. (Paper No. 134)
 Register of New Member's Interests—August 2008—Registrar's Statement
 Ordered—That the Statement be published. (Paper No. 134A)

By the Minister for Mineral Resources Development (Hon. P. Holloway)—

Listening and Surveillance Devices Act 1972—Report 2008
 Ministers of the Crown and Officers and Members of Parliament—Report and
 Determination of the Remuneration Tribunal—Report No. 3 of 2008
 Police Complaints Authority—pursuant to Section 57 of the Criminal Law (Forensic
 Procedures Act 2007—Report
 Regulations under the following Acts—
 Associations Incorporation Act 1985—General
 Courts Administration Act 1993—General
 Crown Proceedings Act 1992—General
 Electricity Act 1996—Residential Energy Efficiency Scheme
 Evidence Act 1929—
 General
 Reproduction of Documents—Revocation
 Gas Act 1997—Residential Energy Efficiency Scheme
 Members of Parliament (Register of Interests) Act 1983—General
 Serious and Organised Crime (Control) Act 2008—General
 Subordinate Legislation Act 1978—Postponement of Expiry
 Summary Procedure Act 1921—Industrial Offences
 Taxation Administration Act 1996—General
 Young Offenders Act 1993—General
 Rules of Court—
 Magistrates Court—Magistrates Court Act 1991—
 Serious and Organised Crime
 Vulnerable Witnesses
 Authorisations Issued to Enter Premises Return pursuant to Section 83C(1) of the
 Summary Offences Act 1953 for the period 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008
 Authorisations Issued to Enter Premises Return pursuant to Section 83C(3) of the
 Summary Offences Act 1953 for the period 1 July 2007 to 30 June 2008
 Dangerous Area Declarations Return pursuant to Section 83B of the Summary Offences
 Act 1953 for the period 1 April 2008 to 30 June 2008
 Government Boards and Committees Information as at 30 June 2008
 Road Block Establishment Authorisations Return pursuant to Section 74B of the Summary
 Offences Act 1953 for the period 1 April 2008 to 30 June 2008
 Variation of TAB Duty Agreement dated 5 August 2008—Agreement between the
 Treasurer of South Australia and SA TAB Pty Ltd

By the Minister for Urban Development and Planning (Hon. P. Holloway)—

City of Port Lincoln—Building Height and Design (City Centre Zone) Development Plan—
 Report
 New Facilities for the Local Country Fire Service and State Emergency Services pursuant
 to Section 49(15) of the Development Act 1993—Report
 Regulations under the following Act—
 Development Act 1993—General

By the Minister for Correctional Services (Hon. C. Zollo)—

Regulations under the following Acts—
 Daylight Saving Act 1971—General
 Firearms Act 1977—General
 South Australian Housing Trust Act 1995—Goods Left on Premises
 Training and Skills Development Act 2008—General
 Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1986 (Claims and Registration)—
 Registration of Employers
 Rules of Court—
 Industrial Relations Court—Fairwork Act 1994—Referral of Matters

By the Minister for Gambling (Hon. C. Zollo)—

Regulations under the following Act—
 Lottery and Gaming Act 1937—Lottery Rules
 Variation of Approved Licensing Agreement dated 22 July 2008—Second Amending
 Agreement between the Minister for Gambling and SA TAB Pty Ltd

By the Minister for State/Local Government Relations (Hon. G.E. Gago)—

Corporation By-Laws—
 Marion—
 No. 1—Permits and Penalties
 No. 2—Moveable Signs
 No. 3—Local Government Land
 No. 4—Dogs
 No. 5—Streets and Roads
 No. 6—Cats
 Onkaparinga—
 No. 7—Dogs
 Playford—
 No. 6—Bird Scaring Devices
 Port Adelaide Enfield—
 No. 1—Permits, Offences, Penalties and Repeal
 No. 2—Moveable Signs
 No. 3—Local Government Land
 No. 4—Roads
 No. 5—Dogs
 No. 6—Lodging Houses
 Salisbury—
 No. 1—Permits and Penalties
 No. 2—Moveable Signs
 No. 3—Roads
 No. 4—Local Government Land
 No. 5—Dogs
 No. 6—Waste Management
 Tea Tree Gully—
 No. 1—Permits and Penalties
 No. 2—Roads
 No. 3—Local Government Land
 No. 5—Moveable Signs
 No. 6—Waste Management
 Unley—
 No. 1—Permits and Penalties
 No. 2—Roads

No. 3—Local Government Land
 No. 4—Dogs
 No. 5—Moveable Signs
 No. 6—Lodging Houses
 District Council By-Laws—
 Yorke Peninsula—
 By-laws A-J—General
 Regulations under the following Acts—
 Children's Services Act 1985—Appeals
 Environment Protection Act 1993—Beverage Containers
 Freedom of Information Act 1991—Exempt Agency
 Harbors and Navigation Act 1993—Definition of Port Adelaide
 Mental Health Act 1993—Transfer of Patients
 Public and Environmental Health Act 1987—Legionella
 Teachers Registration and Standards Act 2004—Fees
 Third Party Premiums Committee Determination—Motor Accident Commission Act 1992—
 Direction
 Variation of Port Operating Agreement (Port Adelaide) dated 4 June 2008—Agreement
 between the Minister for Transport and Flinders Ports Pty Ltd

By the Minister for Consumer Affairs (Hon. G.E. Gago)—

Regulations under the following Acts—
 Liquor Licensing Act 1997—
 Dry Areas—
 Ardrossan
 Victor Harbor
 Long Term Dry Areas
 Trade Measurement Act 1993—
 Measuring Instruments
 Miscellaneous
 Prepacked Articles
 Weighbridge
 Trade Measurement Administration Regulations 2008
 Trade Standards Act 1979—Commonwealth Consumer Product Safety Standards

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Hon. J.M. GAZZOLA (14:44): I bring up the 1st report of the committee 2008-09.
 Report received.

MURRAY-DARLING BASIN AGREEMENT

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (14:44): I table a copy of a ministerial statement relating to the referral of power made earlier today in another place by my colleague the Premier.

STORMWATER INITIATIVES

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (14:44): I table a copy of a ministerial statement relating to stormwater reuse made earlier today in another place by my colleague the Minister for Water Security.

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENSION

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (14:45): I seek leave to move a motion without notice concerning the suspension of standing order 14.

Leave granted.

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: I move:

That standing order 14 be suspended.

This procedure has been adopted in recent times to allow consideration of other business before the Address in Reply has been adopted.

Motion carried.

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: I give notice that, contingently on the second reading of any bill being moved, or any bill being reported, the Minister for Mineral Resources Development will move that the standing orders be so far suspended as to enable the bill to pass through its remaining stages without delay.

QUESTION TIME

BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Leader of the Opposition) (14:48): Mr President, it is a pleasure to ask the first question of the new session. I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Urban Development and Planning a question about the checking of structural engineering calculations.

Leave granted.

The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY: The Building Advisory Committee, a body appointed by the minister under the Development Act, has circulated a discussion paper entitled 'The Checking of Structural Engineering Calculations'. This discussion paper puts forward two options, one that the committee appears to favour as it puts forward only arguments in favour of that option without considering any arguments which may be in opposition to it; and a second option which it does not appear to favour and against which it puts forward arguments.

I have been contacted by a number of stakeholders, both private building surveyors and industry people, who are quite concerned about the nature of and language used in this particular discussion paper. In particular, I will quote from a letter that was sent to the minister from the Local Government Association specifically stating that the association has been likewise contacted by a number of individuals and industry associations, including the HIA. They raise a number of key issues, including the lack of a demonstrated need for amendment as proposed by this discussion paper, additional red tape that is inconsistent with an interstate approach, and the direct and indirect costs associated with third party certification. In this respect, by way of explanation, I point out that the discussion paper's option No. 1 favours building surveyors having their calculations checked by a third party. The LGA believes that there will be consequential delays to the approval process, which is in direct conflict with the proposals outlined in the state government's planning reforms package which the minister launched in June 2008.

It is also interesting to note that to require independent checking of every structural component by another engineer will place South Australia out of step with the rest of Australia, as well as going against the COAG principles of the National Building Code. In particular, I have a letter that was sent to the Institute of Building Surveyors from a senior academic here in South Australia who summarises the paper. He states:

The Building Advisory Committee discussion paper is one that has not been thought through clearly. Putting aside the poor grammar used in the paper; it has been written in a prejudicial manner and is lacking in cogent argument or substance. It conveniently ignores the existing safeguards that are already in place to cater for the issues raised and is clearly focused on a particular outcome. As such it does not provide a balanced discussion that is the normal requirement for such documents and the lack of evidence provided means that the paper has little credibility and should be dismissed.

It is also interesting to note that the current chair of the Building Advisory Committee, a Mr Demetrius Poupoulas, was at one stage involved in the action City of Onkaparinga v Hassell Pty Ltd, Cox Constructions Pty Ltd, Dare Sutton Clarke Pty Ltd, D.P. Poupoulas and Associates Pty Ltd and Demetrius Photios Poupoulas, which demonstrated that the proposed regime would not serve to improve the current system.

In fact, in that situation the calculations done by the building surveyor, Mr Poupoulas, were found to be, on my understanding, not in line, whereby approval was granted but in due course the construction work ceased as the builder observed that significant deflections were occurring in the roof structure. Extensive redesign took place, resulting in extensive modification to the roof structure and the council sued for the losses that were suffered. My questions are:

1. In light of the considerable industry and academic opposition and that it will cause delay to the current system, why is the minister still considering option one?

2. Is the minister aware that the current chair of the Building Advisory Committee has also himself been the subject of poor performance?

3. Is the minister aware that one of his staff is introducing himself as a building surveyor at meetings when clearly he is not a building surveyor but an assistant building surveyor?

4. Is the minister aware of any personal friendships between a member of his staff and members of the Building Advisory Committee?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (14:52): The Building Advisory Committee has indeed been considering the issue of the checking of structural information by private certifiers who may not have engineering qualifications. The reason they are doing that is—and I will refer to several complaints that I have received from councils—

The Hon. D.W. Ridgway interjecting:

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: I am quite happy to do that, if you like. I have one here, dated 3 June 2008, from the City of Port Adelaide Enfield, which states:

Dear Minister Holloway

Prescribed Qualifications in Building (Regulation 87 of the Development Regulations 1993)—Code of Practice (Regulation 97(3) of the Development Regulations 1993)

I write to express concerns regarding a practice that has come to my attention while performing my role as director, environmental services for the City of Port Adelaide Enfield. My concern is the certification or approval of structural engineering designs by private certifiers who do not have the qualifications or competencies to properly make such certification.

This practice reflects what appears to be a shortcoming within the legislation scheme that governs the authorisation and regulation of building work. The problem, as I understand it, is that while the Development Regulations 1993 require that private certifiers or building surveyors who assess applications for building rules consent have prescribed qualifications, they are not required to have qualifications or competencies in engineering matters, or to refer the assessment of engineering calculations to a qualified engineer for assessment.

In my experience, significant safety issues can and do arise from this practice. A recent example that has come to my attention in relation to a development...

And then there are examples given. I am happy to table that correspondence which was sent to me by the City of Port Adelaide Enfield. I have had several others, but I do not have them here.

So, as one would expect, when one gets a letter from a council saying that there is a risk to public safety by a practice, the reason we have a Building Advisory Committee is to give the minister advice on such matters. As the honourable member said, the Building Advisory Committee has given some options. However, as he also says, he has received correspondence, as I have, from the Local Government Association. I do not have that with me, but it requested that I delay making any decision until it had had a chance to comment on it further, and I intend to do that because there are serious issues here.

I have certainly received advice from the Building Advisory Committee but, before I adopt that advice, I want to make sure that I get other views from people concerned. However, in the first instance, I think that, when one gets correspondence from local government bodies concerned about safety in such matters, it is entirely appropriate that one should get advice from the appropriate body, and I have done so.

At this stage, I am awaiting further advice from the Local Government Association. Indeed, I have also had correspondence from another body, so quite clearly this matter does need further consideration. It is a serious issue if there is a suggestion, as indicated in the correspondence I read out, that there are genuine safety concerns, and it would be irresponsible not to look at those concerns. However, at the same time, we do not want to engender so much red tape which, as the honourable member correctly said, would go against the thrust of our recommendations. I am having further work done in relation to this issue generally, and I will not make a decision until I receive that additional information.

BUILDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Leader of the Opposition) (14:57): Will the minister also confirm whether members of his staff are introducing themselves as building surveyors and not as accredited building surveyors, as this is clearly an issue the minister says he has had complaints

about in relation to structural calculations from councils? Clearly, if people in the industry are falsely claiming their qualifications, I think the minister needs to look at that matter closely as well.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (14:57): That is a scurrilous allegation against a member of my staff. The honourable member has raised this issue before in relation to the member of staff concerned, who I think certainly has some qualifications in the area. If the honourable member has any evidence, he should bring it forward, but I do not believe that he will find any.

The PRESIDENT: I remind honourable members, when they ask a supplementary question, not to follow the Leader of the Opposition with all that opinion.

NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE FACILITY

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (14:58): I seek leave to make an explanation before asking the Minister for Mineral Resources Development a question about a low-level nuclear waste storage facility.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK: The issue of potentially contaminated waste has been highlighted, and the government has mentioned many times a low-level nuclear waste storage facility—in June 2004, February 2005, December 2005 and July 2007—yet we are still to find out where this facility will be located.

Given the potential for contaminated waste needing to be retained somewhere, with the expansion of the mining industry, can the minister advise, first, what scoping his department has done in relation to this issue and, secondly, what he would advise companies regarding the potential storage of waste that may come from their sites?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (14:59): I was distracted briefly, but I assume that the honourable member is talking about the story in this morning's paper regarding Marathon. Of course, what Marathon Resources had sought to dispose of at the dump at Hawker was just general rubbish; it was not rubbish that was in any way radioactive. Indeed, presumably, some of it would have been iced coffee cartons and other things which some of the workers would have disposed of but which were incorrectly buried in the pit at Mount Gee.

Significant information has been given to this parliament in relation to what the government has required in relation to the clean-up by Marathon Resources, and that process has been agreed. The incorrectly buried litter consisted of samples. As announced in this chamber earlier, the soil in the sample will be returned to the earth from where it was taken, but the government required that the calico and plastic bags, as well as the general rubbish that was inappropriately buried at that site by Marathon Resources, be removed and disposed of. Because that litter has been certified by the EPA as not having any radioactive contamination, it can be disposed of at any dump. As I understand it, the company approached the Flinders Ranges council and that request has been rejected, so I guess it will now be disposed of in another dump.

The important point is that I have been informed that that particular rubbish, which I think is the equivalent of about four wheelbarrows-full, is really no different from the rubbish that would be disposed of at any other dump, other than its origin and history; that is the only difference. So, I do not really see that there are any particular issues that arise except, of course, that this particular rubbish does not originate from within the council area.

Generally speaking, one would think that a council would, if the rubbish complied with the Environment Protection Act, as this apparently does, allow disposal at a waste disposal dump within its area. I think it would be an unfortunate precedent to set if a council started discriminating against which customers could dispose of rubbish within its area. However, I accept that there is a history to the source of this particular waste and that it did not originate from within the council concerned. So, I guess the council is entirely within its rights to refuse to receive it. But, in terms of any threat to the environment, on the advice I have been given, I can totally reject that proposition.

NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE FACILITY

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (15:03): I have a supplementary question. What contingencies does the government have in the case of a similar future event where there might be some nuclear waste contamination in rubbish?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (15:03): As I understand it, there are various repositories where radioactive waste has been placed, one of which is Radium Hill, which is under my control as the Minister for Mineral Resources Development. However, I repeat that in this particular case the issue does not arise. In relation to radioactive material and general radioactive storage, that is really a question for my colleague the minister in another place. I am sure the honourable member is aware that we have had a long debate in relation to that subject.

As I understand it, this state accepts its responsibilities to dispose of any radioactive waste, and that is a matter that is under investigation by the government at present. I think my former colleague answered a question on that matter not all that long ago within this parliament. However, that is a theoretical question; it is not a question that is related in any way to what was proposed to be buried at Hawker.

NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE FACILITY

The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Leader of the Opposition) (15:04): I have a supplementary question. Does the Premier support the construction of a uranium mine at Arkaroola?

The PRESIDENT: Order! The honourable member must wait until the President gives him the call.

The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY: I saw that your red light was on, and I assumed that you had called me.

The PRESIDENT: Well, the Hon. Mr Parnell was standing as well. I call the Hon. Mr Parnell.

The Hon. M. PARNELL (15:05): Thank you, Mr President. I have a supplementary question. How does the EPA know what is in this allegedly general waste if it has not yet been removed from its illegal disposal in Arkaroola?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (15:04): I understand the EPA is on site. Officers from the Department of Primary Industries and Resources SA, the Division of Mines and Energy and the EPA will be on site when this material is removed. I presume that they have looked at a sample of it. After all, it is just bags of soil that was taken out of it. One would not expect it to be radioactive, but I am informed that the officers will be checking all that material before it goes to a repository. If there is any radioactivity, it would be contained in the soil and it would probably be rather less than what we have in this building, given the thick granite from which it is built. One of these days I will bring in a Geiger counter and look at some samples. Members might find it interesting to see that some dinner plates contain thorium. Members would be rather interested to know that some materials one can buy have various levels of radioactivity contained within them.

These are simply core samples. It is highly unlikely that the waste, the rubbish, the used milk cartons and the plastic bags would be contaminated, but my understanding is that the EPA is on site and will closely examine every piece of litter that is removed. It is not a large amount. It is the equivalent of about four wheelbarrows of material, so it should be fairly easy to check it all.

NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE FACILITY

The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Leader of the Opposition) (15:06): Does the Premier support the establishment of a uranium mine at Arkaroola?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (15:06): Is the honourable member really seriously suggesting this is a supplementary question? In relation to Arkaroola the stance of this government is well known. The suspension at Arkaroola remains in place.

As I indicated in answer to a question from the Hon. Mark Parnell some time ago, the exploration licence at Arkaroola continues because Marathon Resources needs some authority in

order to undertake the activities about which we have been talking; that is, the removal of this waste. The exploration licence remains in place. However, all drilling activities and any other exploration activities, other than that, are suspended indefinitely. That is the view of the government, including the Premier.

PRISONS

The Hon. S.G. WADE (15:07): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Correctional Services a question about the South Australian correctional services system.

Leave granted.

The Hon. S.G. WADE: The government issued a statement yesterday that indicated the government has invited East Timor's justice minister to South Australia 'to observe world's best practice in correctional centres and prisoner management'. Under this government, South Australia's prisons have the worst overcrowding in the nation at some 22 per cent. South Australia has the worst remand rate of any Australian state at 35 per cent. The Rann government's rack 'em, pack 'em and stack 'em approach has seen South Australia's imprisonment rate rise to three times that of East Timor. Will the minister identify one key measurement indicator in corrections where South Australia under this government has the nation's, let alone the world's, best practice?

The PRESIDENT: The minister will ignore the opinion in the question.

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (15:08): Those of us who read the pathetic media release yesterday were truly offended. Her Excellency Dra. Lucia Lobato visited South Australia for two days this week. She was accompanied by a delegation, including the directors of her nation's three prisons. I was very pleased to join her last night for a meal. The Attorney-General invited Her Excellency to visit earlier this year, offering her and the East Timorese government the chance to observe world's best practice in correctional centres and prisoner management and rehabilitation.

During their time here Her Excellency and the delegation visited Mobilong Prison, Edwardstown Community Corrections Centre, the Adelaide Pre-Release Centre and the Adelaide Women's Prison. The honourable member has visited most of our institutions. Indeed, I think I have been gracious and generous in facilitating all those visits. I am beginning to think that he has probably learned nothing. The minister herself said to me that she feels that Australia and South Australia would be an important partner as her country develops its justice system.

As I have said, not everybody is supportive. We saw that ridiculous media release yesterday. I understand that the opposition spokesman, Mr Wade, then went on to compare imprisonment figures. The imprisonment rate in South Australia is at 120 per 100,000 as opposed to 41 per 100,000 in East Timor. Clearly, we are not comparing apples with apples, so it really was a ridiculous comparison by the opposition spokesman. He has not taken into account the differences in our population, such as crime rates and infrastructure between the two jurisdictions. Indeed, one of the prisons in East Timor has recently had to close down because of its deteriorating condition. I am sure that prisoners in Timor-Leste wish they had a prison complex like Mobilong.

The government hopes to be able to refurbish the complex it had to shut down in East Timor and re-open it soon. This is part of the reason why the delegation visited South Australia: to see first-hand the best gaol security and prison management in the region and to be able to consider what may be achieved in East Timor.

We recognise that we have some old prisons here in South Australia. The Northfield site was opened in 1856 but, as we all know and as has been placed on the record in this chamber on a number of occasions, we are building a new prison complex at Mobilong to be opened in 2011-2012.

I think Mr Wade's attack on the delegation's visit was really offensive. For the information of the chamber, Her Excellency Dra. Lucia Lobato was a founding member of the East Timor Social Democrat Party and was active in the people's struggle to achieve independence for their country. Her Excellency spent four years in the 1970s as a refugee in the jungles of Timor-Leste during a time of political repression and instability. Despite this, she really is an incredible woman. Her Excellency went on to finish school and study law. She worked for Xanana Gusmao in 1999 before

going to work for the United Nations Transitional Administration Division in East Timor. Since May 2002, Her Excellency has served as a member of the national parliament.

The East Timorese government is keen to build a strong relationship with South Australia. Her Excellency made comment on that last night. The South Australian corrections and justice system has ample expertise and experience to offer, and we are pleased to be able to do that. Clearly, East Timor as a new nation still has a lot of work to do in terms of establishing itself as the world's newest democracy.

The government of South Australia is more than willing to extend the hand of friendship to East Timor, and I hope that the opposition will do the same.

PRISONS

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (15:13): Can the minister confirm whether the government is seeking to unlist heritage buildings on the Yatala site?

The PRESIDENT: That has very little to do with the answer.

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (5:14): Indeed, Mr President, it has very little to do with the answer. We do have some heritage listed buildings on the Northfield site. There is, from memory, a wall as well. It is far too early to say what will happen to that site in the future but, certainly, the government is more than aware that there are heritage buildings on that site. Certainly, there is no substantiation to what the honourable member has said.

MINERAL EXPLORATION

The Hon. B.V. FINNIGAN (15:14): Will the Minister for Mineral Resources Development provide the chamber with an update on the level of spending on mineral exploration in this state in the June quarter of this year?

Members interjecting: **The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (15:15):** I thank the honourable member for his question, and I can also take the interjection from the Hon. Michelle Lensink who said, 'Didn't we hear this a couple of months ago?' The answer is no, you would not have heard it because these statistics came out only this morning.

I am delighted to inform members that the latest quarterly figures available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics show that mineral exploration in South Australia reached a record high of \$95.2 million in the June quarter of this year. That is the highest level ever of spending on exploration in South Australia in any quarter, as measured by the ABS, and it is a remarkable achievement.

Exploration in the June quarter of this year was a substantial increase of more than 20 per cent compared with the previous three-month period. The Australian Bureau of Statistics figures published this morning show that mineral exploration expenditure in South Australia rose 3.2 per cent in the 12 months to the end of June 2008, to \$355.2 million compared to the 12 months to the end of March 2008. South Australia remains in third place amongst the states, behind resource-rich Western Australia and Queensland. However, South Australia is level pegging with Queensland in terms of total mineral and petroleum exploration: \$563.2 million for Queensland and \$551.5 million for South Australia in the 12 months to the end of June.

These figures confirm that the global exploration sector has the highest levels of confidence in South Australia's mineral potential. The latest figures also confirm that total annual exploration expenditure to the end of June remains more than triple the \$100 million target set for 2007 in South Australia's Strategic Plan. South Australia's vibrant mineral sector continues this year to build on the very solid performance of 2007, despite a reduction in exploration by BHP Billiton at Olympic Dam. Of course, BHP has been spending massive amounts on drilling in terms of exploring the particular resource up at Olympic Dam, but those figures are gradually being removed from the statistics.

The continued interest in South Australia in relation to exploration reflects the confidence that mineral companies have to invest in this state. That confidence reflects the supportive policies provided by this government, highlighted by the hugely successful PACE initiative. However, I should inject a note of caution in that this state's ability to attract new exploration spending is expected to ease as mining companies switch focus from the search for new minerals to

investment in constructing new mines. That is why this year's state budget, of course, allocated \$14.1 million to PIRSA to ensure that South Australia is better able to translate the hundreds of millions of dollars of investment in exploration into new mines—mines that create jobs and earn export dollars for this state. With a second wave of mine projects in the pipeline, the government is committed to ensuring that South Australia realises the full potential of the ongoing mineral boom.

The latest quarterly ABS figures show that, of the \$95.2 million spent in the June quarter, \$31.6 million was invested in the search for new mineral deposits. The remaining \$63.5 million was spent on the expansion and development of South Australia's growing list of known mineral deposits, particularly copper and uranium. Some \$38.4 million of exploration expenditure was spent in South Australia during the June quarter on the search for copper—a 106 per cent increase from the \$18.6 million spent in the March quarter. A further \$27.1 million was spent during the June quarter on the search for uranium—up slightly from \$26.2 million spent in the March quarter.

The combined strength in mineral exploration expenditure in South Australia in 2008 further reinforces the overwhelming success of the Rann government's Plan for Accelerating Exploration (PACE) initiative. The internationally-recognised PACE initiative was introduced by the Rann Labor government in July 2004 and has contributed to a surge in mining exploration and the identification of many potential new developments within South Australia. I commend that initiative to all members and, again, welcome the news that South Australia is setting new records in mineral exploration investment. It is unarguable good news for the local economy, good news for job seekers and good news for all South Australians.

WATER BILLING

The Hon. J.A. DARLEY (15:19): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Mineral Resources Development, representing the Minister for Water Security, a question regarding water billing.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.A. DARLEY: I refer to the notice appearing in the *Government Gazette* of 6 December 2007, whereby the water rates for the financial year commencing 1 July 2008 were fixed at 71 cents per kilolitre for each kilolitre up to 120 kilolitres, and at \$1.38 per kilolitre for supply over 120 kilolitres. The Treasurer apologised to SA Water customers for the error made in sending out water bills for those properties where the meter was read prior to 30 June 2008 and which were charged at the new rate that was supposed to apply from 1 July 2008. The Minister for Water Security has this week announced that repayments of about \$10 million will be made within the next few weeks to those who were overcharged. My questions are:

1. Exactly how much revenue was collected illegally as a result of the incorrect accounts?
2. Can the minister advise a date by which all repayments will be paid?
3. How much interest would have been received by the government on account of the overpaid accounts as at the date all refunds are repaid?
4. Will this interest be repaid to those who have been charged incorrectly? If not, why not?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (15:21): I thank the honourable member for his question, and I will refer it to the Minister for Water Security. However, I did note that the honourable member referred to how much had been collected 'illegally'; it was my understanding that with this money it was not so much a question of illegality but rather a question about the misrepresentation, if you like, that concerned the government. I am not sure whether or not that was illegal. With that comment, I will refer the matter to the Minister for Water Security and bring back a reply.

MOBILONG CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

The Hon. R.D. LAWSON (15:23): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Correctional Services a question about the Mobilong Correctional Facility.

Leave granted.

The Hon. R.D. LAWSON: The government has made much over recent months of its proposal to establish a 760-bed correctional facility at Mobilong—indeed, latest statements from

the government and the minister are that the proposal has gone to tenderers, who have been asked to provide a design option for up to 940 beds. In the Governor's speech today, the proposed facility is described as a 760-cell prison (no doubt 760 cells sounds a lot tougher than 760 beds).

If the government's and the Governor's statements are both accurate, this new prison will have 760 beds and 760 cells, so each cell will have one inmate and there will be no double cells. It is well-known that in certain cases double cells are good correctional practice, especially in relation to Aboriginal offenders—such was the finding of the royal commission into Aboriginal deaths in custody. If the Governor's description of this prison is correct—namely, it is a 760-cell facility—the government would appear to have abandoned sound correctional practice as well as abandoning Deputy Premier Foley's rack 'em, stack 'em, and pack 'em proposal.

My question to the minister is: was the Governor correct today, in repeating the speech written by the government, that this will be a 760-cell facility?

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (15:24): The information I have before me is that the new facility will include a 760-cell men's prison with the option to expand, and a 150-cell women's prison with the option to expand. In earlier public statements, as well as in estimates, we also talked about taking up the option, if required, of a 20 per cent double-up.

The honourable member is correct in that sometimes it is important that we have cells capable of taking two prisoners; sometimes it is important to have a buddy system for those who feel vulnerable or who cannot be left on their own. So, clearly, that is one of the options that is available to the government at the new infrastructure that will be built at Mobilong.

MOBILONG CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

The Hon. R.D. LAWSON (15:25): How does the minister explain the fact that all government publicity concerning this facility has described it as 760 beds, yet today His Excellency the Governor described it as 760 cells? Is the government abandoning the proposal to have 760 beds alone?

The PRESIDENT: That last bit of the question would have done.

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (15:25): I will check what was said in the Governor's speech today.

MOBILONG CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

The Hon. S.G. WADE (15:25): Does the facility provide, therefore, for double cells with the capacity for more than one prisoner?

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (15:26): I have already answered that. I have said that we will have the option—

An honourable member interjecting:

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO: No, of course they are not going to be the same size if we take up the option to have a 20 per cent expansion, or a doubling up.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO: Those cells in respect of which we could require the option to double up will be larger.

CHURCHILL FELLOWSHIP

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (15:26): I would like to ask the Minister for Correctional Services a question regarding a Department for Correctional Services recipient of the Churchill Trust Travelling Fellowship. Can the minister provide some details of the recipient?

The Hon. D.W. Ridgway: Did he seek leave?

The PRESIDENT: He did not have to; he did not have an explanation to make. I inform the Hon. Mr Ridgway that the President will run the show.

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (15:27): I thank the honourable member for his important question. The Churchill Trust is an Australian trust established in 1965, the year in which Sir Winston Churchill died. Its principal objective is to perpetuate and honour the memory of Sir Winston Churchill by the award of travelling fellowships, known as Churchill Fellowships.

A Churchill Fellowship provides financial support for Australian citizens to travel overseas to undertake an analysis, study or investigation of a project or an issue that cannot be readily undertaken in Australia. This year 76 applications were received from South Australia, of which 17 were short-listed. South Australia has nine Churchill Fellows this year, out of 120 for the whole of Australia.

One of the successful applicants was Ms Katherine Short. Ms Short has been with the Department for Correctional Services for five years and presently works in the Central Violence Intervention Program. Ms Short's project is to study best practice in integrated domestic violence programs. As part of the project, Ms Short will examine:

- how men's and women's domestic violence intervention services can work together, using links to the criminal justice system, to enhance the safety of women and children affected by domestic violence; and
- identify how integrated programs can increase the accountability of men for their use of abuse and violence.

Ms Short's project will involve visiting and observing programs in the United States, Canada, the UK and New Zealand. Ms Short will visit the Hamilton Abuse Intervention Project and the Waitakere Anti-Violence Essential Services in New Zealand.

In Minnesota, USA, Ms Short will visit what is considered the centre of best practice in domestic violence intervention programs. At the centre, she will attend a training course and study all aspects of the Duluth programs for male perpetrators of domestic violence in the Domestic Abuse Intervention Project.

In Canada, Ms Short will study the Federal Correctional Services and the Centre for Children and Families in the Justice System. The centre has a reputation for its innovative approach to understanding children exposed to domestic violence, supporting their mothers and creating resources for service deliverers. While in Canada, Ms Short also wants to study programs for the Canadian indigenous community.

Finally, Ms Short will travel to the UK and will spend two weeks with the National Probation Service. She hopes to bring back ideas about different ways in which different agencies can work together and most effectively enhance the safety of women and the protection of children. With Ms Short's previous experience as an institutional social worker, she is also keen to see how domestic violence programs are offered within custodial settings.

Ms Short is also interested in indigenous issues and the complexities of working with a group of men from a range of cultural backgrounds, as well as enhancing assessments of risk to women and children. She hopes to observe all aspects of the interagency and correctional probation approaches in the different countries and cities she will visit.

I congratulate Ms Short on her award and wish her the very best for her travel. I expect that the experience will give her the opportunity to explore new ideas and approaches to enhance her valuable work for the Department for Correctional Services.

WIND FARMS

The Hon. R.L. BROKENSHERE (15:30): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Urban Development and Planning a question about the Sellicks Hill and Myponga wind farm development.

Leave granted.

The Hon. R.L. BROKENSHERE: The True Friends of the Southern Mount Lofty Ranges have contacted my office to express their concern about aspects of the wind farm proposed for Myponga and Sellicks Hill. Family First supports renewable energy projects and wind farms where there is a net benefit to the environment and the community.

The TrustPower project involves erecting 20 wind turbines on Mount Terrible, Mount Jeffcott and south of Sellicks Hill, towards Myponga. The project, considered a major development in 2002-03, was initially approved in November 2003; however, it has been subject to a number of changes since then. The project cost was originally claimed to be approximately \$60 million and supposed to have a generating capacity of 35 megawatts. Recent changes sought, however, to reduce the turbine numbers from 20 to 16 but increase the generating capacity to three megawatts per turbine, raising the output from the original 35 megawatts to 48 megawatts.

The True Friends complain that this project, as it presently stands, will have adverse environmental, heritage, landscape, road safety and tourism impacts. There is a suggestion that some turbines will be located as close as 700 metres to existing homes. They have advised me that the French require turbines to be located no closer than 1.5 kilometres to housing and the English, two kilometres.

Honourable members were updated on this project by a ministerial statement and a question from the opposition on 24 July this year. Since then, on 21 August, the District Council of Yankalilla passed a motion opposing the wind farm on the basis that the development application had, in effect, expired. The Conservation Council of South Australia has also been critical of the project in the past. My questions are:

1. What was the reason for each variation of the project?
2. Will the minister now require TrustPower, almost five years since its initial approval, to apply for a fresh approval?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (15:33): In relation to the latter part of the question, it is something I am considering at the moment. As the honourable member said in his question, TrustPower has altered its proposal and, of course, it will need approval. If minor changes are made to a major development proposal, they can be considered by a DAC or, if they are major changes, they require alteration by the Governor, because it is the Governor who ultimately must approve major projects, and they would generally go to cabinet.

I have seen some of the information which the honourable member provided and which has been in the local paper. My information does not accord with all those facts. I am certainly aware that the proposal is to reduce the turbine numbers from 20 to 16, although I understand that the location of those 16, as proposed now by the company, would not put any of those windmills any closer to housing than was previously the case when this was granted major project approval.

It certainly is unusual that, when approval is given, it takes such a long time for construction to be undertaken. Indeed, I wrote to the proponents nearly 12 months ago, I think it was, because I was concerned at the time that there had been so little progress in relation to that process, although I was aware from correspondence with the company that there were a few issues and that the company did have some reasons for the lack of progress. If I can remember the correspondence of 12 months or so ago, I did require the company to undertake some screening. I think that at the time the RAA had raised issues about whether these wind farms would distract drivers going through Sellicks Hill, and so on.

As I understand it, there was a condition within the approval that the company was required to provide some screening, but no work had been undertaken. I wrote to the company in those terms some 12 months ago. However, here we are 12 months later and there are these proposed changes. I will be considering the changes, and I will be taking a proposition to cabinet within the next few weeks.

The Hon. D.W. Ridgway interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! The Hon. Mr Brokenshire has a supplementary question.

WIND FARMS

The Hon. R.L. BROKENSHERE (15:37): Given the statement I made in my question and the minister's answer, will the minister now require TrustPower to start again with respect to all aspects of the approval process?

The PRESIDENT: I think the minister has answered that question.

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (15:37): That is clearly an

option but, obviously, I will wait for advice from the department concerning exactly what is proposed because, as I understand it, there have been at least some changes in what has been put to me relative to what has been reported in the newspapers.

The Hon. D.W. Ridgway interjecting:

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: Well, yes, but if there was less—if one was moving from 20 to 16 and was not making it any closer—I would not have thought that that, of itself, would be something that would increase environmental concerns. However, I also understand that—

The Hon. D.W. Ridgway interjecting:

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: I think the honourable member should stop throwing names around.

The Hon. D.W. Ridgway interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! The Hon. Mr Ridgway is out of order. Any names he throws around will not be recorded unless the minister responds to interjections.

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: It is not helpful—

The Hon. D.W. Ridgway: It's in the newspaper.

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: Well, just because something is in the newspaper does not make it correct. The Hon. Mr Brokenshire has asked a serious question about that matter. He has asked me whether I will be considering one of those options, that is, to make them apply again. That is clearly one of the options I will be considering.

BANKS, AMERICAN

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (15:38): I seek leave to make an explanation before asking the minister representing the Treasurer a question about the US subprime crisis.

Leave granted.

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS: Over the past two weeks there have been a series of stories in the *Melbourne Age* in relation to exposure to the US subprime crisis. On 16 August, the journalist Michael West wrote:

More than 100 local councils, charities, churches, hospitals and nursing homes across Australia are sitting on a \$2 billion black hole after buying subprime investments structured by Wall Street banks during the bull market, which are now potentially worthless.

He went on to explain that the particular financial instruments he was talking about are referred to as CDOs (collateralised debt obligations), and he explained that the CDOs were created by investment banks which bundled thousands of US subprime home mortgages and sometimes even car and credit card debts into a complicated derivative security. They were marketed as a safe investment akin to a bond. The mix of the underlying home mortgage assets (bricks and mortar) was designed to minimise risk to the investor. In most cases, the banks that structured them acquired AA and AAA credit ratings from Standard & Poor's or rival credit ratings agency Moody's Investor Services by paying a fee.

In that article, he went on to say that New South Wales and Western Australia are the states most affected, followed by Victoria, South Australia and, to a lesser extent, Queensland. Mr West indicated that the information he had was that South Australia had been exposed to losses from these particular investments.

On 6 September Mr West wrote another article under the heading 'Ignore denials: state exposed to subprime'. The article states:

While leading banks and insurance companies around the world have conceded billions of dollars in losses on their structured finance holdings arising from the credit crisis, the Victorian government has clung to the line that it has 'no direct subprime exposure'.

That none of its agencies owns a home mortgage in Milwaukee misses the point. The credit crisis moved beyond 'subprime' residential mortgages in the US last year. It has since engulfed myriad structured finance products that once boasted prime AAA and AA ratings, and for which there are at present no buyers.

As revealed by *The Age*, hundreds of local councils, charities, churches, government agencies and super funds across the nation—including Victoria—are exposed to losses as a result of buying these products from financiers such as Wall Street investment bank Lehman Brothers (then Grange Securities).

The Age has now identified a number of Victorian agencies—including Northern Health, Western Health, Gippsland Ports, East Gippsland TAFE, Benalla & Memorial Hospital and the Metropolitan Ambulance Service—which hold or have held synthetic CDOs (collateralised debt obligations).

The 'referenced' assets underlying these securities include securitised bonds issued by US subprime mortgage providers and monoline insurers such as Countrywide and Washington Mutual.

The Treasurer was asked a question late last year on the issue of exposure to the subprime mortgage market. He said:

At the time of the collapse of the US subprime market in mid 2007, Funds SA, through the two specialist managers, had no direct exposure to US subprime mortgage investments.

Indeed, that is exactly the same response that the Victorian government gave when it was first asked about its exposure; that is, no direct exposure to the US subprime mortgage investments. Mr Foley went on to say:

Since this time, and after the significant fall in prices, Funds SA's specialist managers have selectively purchased several securities containing diversified pools of assets, including mortgages. Securitised mortgages are an established component of the international fixed interest market, accounting for approximately 20 per cent of the value of all securities. These investments are rated AAA but do contain an indirect exposure to US subprime mortgages, heavily protected by appropriate credit insurance.

That description used by the Treasurer could be a description of collateralised debt obligations, as described by Mr West in his series of articles in the *Melbourne Age*. Finally, I do note that in response to the articles by Mr West some of the agencies named have denied any involvement in the subprime mortgage market, but a number of agencies listed by Mr West have acknowledged their exposure; and, indeed, there is a class action claim currently being organised against Lehman Brothers, as we speak. My questions are:

1. Does Funds SA have any exposure to CDOs or any similar structured financial instrument? If so, what is the level of the state's exposure through Funds SA to those particular financial instruments?

2. It is not just Funds SA that manages funds in South Australia. The Public Trustee, WorkCover and a number of agencies control and manage their own funds. So do any agencies other than Funds SA have exposure to collateralised debt obligations (CDOs) or similar financial instruments and, if so, what is the level of the state's exposure through those particular agencies?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (15:44): I will refer that question to the Treasurer and bring back a reply.

FAMILY BUSINESSES

The Hon. I.K. HUNTER (15:44): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Small Business a question about the future of family businesses in South Australia.

Leave granted.

The Hon. I.K. HUNTER: Dr Dennis Jaffe, a world renowned leader in the field of family business, visited South Australia last year as part of the Premier's Thinker in Residence program. As Professor of Organisational Systems at Saybrook Graduate School in San Francisco, Dr Jaffe brought his insight, knowledge and experience to South Australia as he examined some of the challenges facing family businesses in this state.

Will the minister provide details of the state government's response to Dr Jaffe's report and its 11 recommendations for providing a positive climate for family business in South Australia?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (15:45): As the honourable member points out, Dr Jaffe visited South Australia in August last year and prepared a significant report on the future of family business in this state based on extensive interviews and analysis conducted during his residency.

As Minister for Small Business, I was delighted last month to release this important report, as well as the state government's response to its recommendations. Dr Jaffe's residency work brought together industry, government and academia in a rare and powerful program. His suggestions, I am sure, will strengthen the support and development of family business in the state. The government supports all of Dr Jaffe's recommendations either in full or in principle, but has adapted some of his ideas to dovetail with existing support available for small businesses.

Dr Jaffe's report provides South Australia with an important reminder of the importance of family business as the cornerstone of the state's economy. His report also highlights the crucial role that government has in helping these businesses to grow and prosper.

As part of the government's response to the Jaffe report, a Family Business Development Manager is to be appointed to the Department of Trade and Economic Development. The family business development manager will work with DTED's nine business enterprise centres and 13 regional development boards to design tools to specifically support family business.

The Small Business Development Council is to be renamed the Business Development Council to reflect its new role in supporting both family and small businesses in South Australia. The council will also establish a family business subcommittee to provide advice on how to implement Dr Jaffe's report and improve the environment for family businesses in South Australia.

I was also delighted to appoint Philip Sims, chair of the South Australian Chapter of Family Business Australia (FBA), to become the new Chair of the Business Development Council. Mr Sims's experience as Chief Executive Officer of Robern Menz will ensure the council can assist the government to deliver a coordinated approach that effectively and efficiently aligns resources to the needs of small and family businesses in South Australia.

With about 85,000 businesses in this state, it is estimated that there are more than 50,000 family businesses in South Australia. The small businesses employ an estimated 55 per cent of the private sector workforce. These businesses face unique challenges, such as managing complex family relationships; working towards a generational succession that respects both family needs and business realities; and maximising the commitment and capability of the next generation.

It is also important that the involvement and advice of Business SA is available to the new council given that a significant proportion of its membership comprises enterprises of 20 or fewer people. To achieve this input, I will be appointing a representative from Business SA to the council shortly.

This government is committed to assisting businesses in South Australia to grow, and these new family business programs will help the government achieve this and ensure that the state is poised to meet its State Strategic Plan targets. The government also aims to better coordinate training and educational programs targeted at family businesses. The number of business advisers able to assist family businesses in South Australia will be increased by linking the existing networks of BECs and RDBs with the work of Family Business Australia.

The state government agrees with Dr Jaffe that it has a role to play in helping to improve the economic and social environment for family businesses in the state. That is why the government will also now seek to ensure that family businesses, the unique issues they face and the programs to help them are on the national agenda to be considered by all states and territories through the Small Business Ministerial Council.

APY LANDS SWIMMING POOLS

The Hon. SANDRA KANCK (15:49): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for State and Local Government Relations, representing the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, a question about the effect of swimming pools in the APY lands.

Leave granted.

The Hon. SANDRA KANCK: There are now three swimming pools on the APY lands, and part of the conditions of use put in place prior to their construction was that a 'No school, no pool' policy would be implemented as an encouragement for children to attend school. At the time, there was debate with suggestions that this, in fact, was a racist policy. Regardless of whether or not it was, the justification that the government gave was that this policy would increase school attendance and that there would be positive health outcomes for the children using the pool. My questions to the minister are:

1 For each of the three pools, what are the rates of school attendance compared to the pre-construction period?

2. What measured health outcomes have there been, if any?

The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for State/Local Government Relations, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Consumer Affairs, Minister for Government Enterprises, Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Energy) (15:50): I thank the

honourable member for her important question and will refer it to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation in another place and bring back a response.

SPORTING FACILITIES

The Hon. T.J. STEPHENS (15:50): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Leader of the Government, representing the Minister for Sport, a question about sporting facilities in South Australia.

Leave granted.

The Hon. T.J. STEPHENS: In recent times Sport SA, a host of sporting bodies in South Australia and, indeed, I myself have been calling for an urgent audit of sporting facilities in this state. Sport SA, the peak representative body for sport in this state, has been particularly vocal about the fact that we are being left behind in terms of the number and quality of facilities. Calls for an audit have increased in the aftermath of the last state budget and directly following the Leader of the Opposition's recent announcement that South Australia should make a bid for the 2018 Commonwealth Games. It goes without saying that we need improved facilities and that we need new facilities. My question is: will the minister work with stakeholders to ensure that an urgent audit is conducted into the state's sporting facilities?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (15:51): I will refer that question to the Minister for Recreation and Sport in another place and bring back a reply. However, I do point out to the honourable member that this government, in the last budget, was particularly generous in relation to some of our key sporting facilities, such as AAMI Stadium and Adelaide Oval, whereby \$100 million was provided for upgrading purposes. Also, of course, the other sport is racing, and this government has made significant contributions to enable the racing codes to upgrade their facilities. I will refer the question to the minister in another place.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING

The Hon. J.M. GAZZOLA (15:52): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for State/Local Government Relations a question.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.M. GAZZOLA: As we know, local councils play a very important role in service delivery to their communities and particularly in providing local roads. I know that the state and federal governments assist councils by providing them with funding for services and roads. Will the minister advise the council how the government is currently assisting local councils to cater for the needs of their communities?

The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for State/Local Government Relations, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Consumer Affairs, Minister for Government Enterprises, Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Energy) (15:52): I thank the honourable member for his important question. I was delighted, on 27 August, to announce jointly with the federal minister for local government, the Hon. Anthony Albanese, the 2008-09 roads and general purpose grants to local government. Funding of \$148 million was allocated across all 68 South Australian councils as well as five Aboriginal authorities and the Outback Areas Community Development Trust.

The allocations were recommended by the three very hard-working commissioners of the Local Government Grants Commission and I had no reservations in endorsing their recommendations on how the funds should be distributed. I take this opportunity to thank the chairperson and the commissioners from the Grants Commission.

This is the next year in a four-year road program. Three types of grants are being distributed: general purpose financial assistance grants; special project components of the Roads to Recovery grants; and supplementary local road grants to local government in South Australia for 2008-09. When I announced the grants I also complimented the federal government on its commitment to securing a more equitable share of local road funding for South Australia, because this state has been sold short in the past because of the traditional road funding formula

Specific road grants were allocated to the Unley council, which received \$740,000 for upgrades; and the Kangaroo Island council, the Adelaide City Council, Tea Tree Gully council, and also many others. These are important contributions because our roads are very important, and these grants will go a long way to maintaining and upgrading roads in South Australia.

ADOPTION

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (15:55): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Gambling, representing the Minister for Families and Communities, a question regarding adoptions in South Australia.

Leave granted.

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD: I was recently informed by the Budget and Finance Committee that adoptions of local children have dropped exponentially from a high of some 467 in the 1972-73 financial year to just five in 2006-07, and none at all in the preceding year 2005-06. Indeed, Families SA's own website concedes that numbers are very low and that it is almost impossible to adopt a South Australian child these days.

Adoption is widely recognised as a more secure and permanent environment for children than foster care, and higher adoption rates are also an alternative to a high abortion rate. In the past month New South Wales has moved to streamline its local adoption laws, including allowing women to apply for adoption while trying to have their own children through fertility programs such as IVF, making adoption more attractive to foster carers by allowing them to retain foster care allowances, and cutting red tape and simplifying the process of putting a child up for adoption in the first place. My questions to the minister are:

1. Why has the number of adoptions in South Australia dropped dramatically from several hundred each year in the 1970s to currently fewer than half a dozen each year?
2. Why are local adoptions not being promoted as a better alternative than forcing prospective parents to scour overseas—at great cost, delay and personal anguish—to find a child so that they can start or continue their family?
3. To give children a higher degree of permanency and stability, will the minister consider giving foster carers the option of adopting children—and, indeed, make it easy to do so—who have already been in their long-term care and allow them to retain their foster carers benefits for a period after doing so?

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (15:57): I thank the honourable member for his questions. I will refer them to the Minister for Families and Communities in the other place and bring back a response.

ADOPTION

The Hon. R.D. LAWSON (15:57): I have a supplementary question. Can the minister indicate how many children in South Australia have been offered for adoption in each of the past five years?

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (15:58): I will ensure that the minister in the other place provides a response in relation to how many children in South Australia have been offered for adoption in each of the past five years.

SCHOOL BUSES

The Hon. C.V. SCHAEFER (15:58): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the minister representing the Minister for Transport a question on school buses.

Leave granted.

The Hon. C.V. SCHAEFER: At the last election the government committed to installing seatbelts in all school buses. In March 2007 the Premier and the Minister for Education and Children's Services put out a press release announcing that the Masonic Foundation had donated \$50,000 to that cause, and an appeal to South Australians had generated another \$7,500. However, I am informed that this program has stalled, or progressed at an infinitesimally slow pace, to say the least. Can the minister provide a report regarding how many buses have seatbelts installed, as well as what percentage of buses are still without seatbelts?

The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for State/Local Government Relations, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Consumer Affairs, Minister for Government Enterprises, Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Energy) (15:59): I thank the

member for her important question. I will refer it to the Minister for Transport in another place and bring back a response.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! The Hon. Mrs Schaefer is still here, but she will not still be interjecting.

MARATHON RESOURCES

The Hon. M. PARNELL (15:59): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Mineral Resources Development a question about Marathon Resources.

Leave granted.

The Hon. M. PARNELL: Last week I had the privilege of visiting the Arkaroola wilderness sanctuary and seeing at first hand this extraordinarily wild and beautiful part of South Australia. I was also able to visit the sites of damage and destruction caused by Marathon Resources. On 26 February this year I asked the minister to confirm once and for all whether, when the clean-up by the company was complete, the government would cancel Marathon's exploration licence. The minister replied:

The investigation in relation to the Marathon company is still ongoing, and until that is completed I am not prepared to make any final statement. This government certainly has no intention of allowing Marathon Resources to resume activities in the foreseeable future, however, any final decision will obviously have to wait until all investigations are complete.

The investigations are now complete, and I have here a copy of the final report, which was jointly prepared by PIRSA and the EPA, and I obtained this report under freedom of information. The report outlines, in some considerable detail, all of the breaches of Marathon's exploration licence conditions as well as breaches of accompanying PIRSA authorisations.

Also, according to the final investigation report, on 19 December 2007, Marathon requested the use of two new drill rigs in the sanctuary at Mount Gee so it could fast track its drilling program. In late December (one or two weeks later), PIRSA received the allegations of the inappropriate disposal of waste in pits at Mount Gee from the Leigh Creek police.

The new drill rig request was granted by PIRSA on 10 January 2008, in spite of these outstanding allegations and in spite of the fact that its own team of three, and an EPA team of two inspectors, were due to travel to Arkaroola only five days later on 15 January 2008. My questions are:

1. Why, given the seriousness of the allegations, was the company granted an opportunity to actually accelerate its drilling program whilst those allegations were unresolved?
2. I refer to the unique fluorite occurrence which was damaged and removed by Marathon employees. I did inspect that site and the remaining fluorite is, in fact, incredibly beautiful. I also understand that it is very rare and very valuable. Where is the fluorite now that was taken, and what actions has PIRSA taken to find that fluorite and to return it to the Arkaroola sanctuary?
3. Will the minister once and for all confirm that, when the clean up by the company is complete, the government will finally cancel Marathon's exploration licence?

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (16:02): In relation to the fluorite occurrence, that is referred to in the investigation. If the honourable member has a copy of the report, as he said, I would suggest that he read the detail there. As I understand it, and it is some time since I have read the report, there was obviously some dispute over who had taken this particular fluorite.

Clearly, the expectation would be that it was someone within the company, but who exactly had done it and what had happened to it, of course, was somewhat indeterminate. It would be very difficult to track down exactly what had happened in relation to that, because there are also other people on the Arkaroola site who—

An honourable member interjecting:

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY: Well, it may have been disturbed, but who actually took it is, of course, another matter. However, I believe that that matter is adequately covered in the report that the honourable member says he has in his possession. In relation to the future of drilling at Mount

Gee, I have already answered that in an earlier question today, in that the exploration licence remains live until the exploration is finished. As to the future of it, that is something that will have to await until the clean up is finished. When I made my statement I think I mentioned a number of other conditions that Marathon Resources will have to meet before any further exploration will be permitted in that area. One of the obvious ones is its relationship with the landholders. The view I have expressed to any mineral explorer is that, if they do not have good relations with the landholders, the future of mining within those areas is likely to be bleak.

SMITHFIELD RAILWAY STATION

The Hon. J.S.L. DAWKINS (16:05): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Road Safety a question about the Smithfield Railway Station car park.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.S.L. DAWKINS: On 15 March 2007, I asked the minister a question about road safety in relation to cars exiting the Smithfield Railway Station car park. On that occasion, I indicated that I was aware that increasing numbers of people were accessing the Gawler Central rail line at the Smithfield station and that there was significant community concern about road safety issues resulting from the large number of cars exiting the car park onto Anderson Walk. These related particularly to the close proximity of the exit to the queues of cars waiting to cross the adjacent rail level crossing to the east and the resulting delays for car drivers wishing to head west.

These concerns were recently echoed at a community meeting I attended in the nearby Peachey Belt area. My question is: given that I have not received any response to this issue (I remind the chamber that the question was asked on 15 March 2007), when will the minister take action to address these concerns?

An honourable member: The Ides of March.

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (16:06): It was. I thank the honourable member for his question in relation to the Smithfield station car park and the traffic management issues there. I will endeavour to follow up his question and expedite the response. However, more importantly, if it is a matter where an audit can be undertaken, I will ensure that that occurs. Again, I will have to follow up the question at this time, as I am not sure what the delay is.

SMITHFIELD RAILWAY STATION

The Hon. J.S.L. DAWKINS (16:07): As a supplementary question, within the work the minister has promised to undertake, will she consider the creation of a slip lane for cars turning left, in an area where there is adequate room for that to be created, and consider the possibility that it be a left-turn-only area?

The Hon. CARMEL ZOLLO (Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Road Safety, Minister for Gambling, Minister Assisting the Minister for Multicultural Affairs) (16:07): I will undertake to put those suggestions to the department. I am not a traffic management expert or an engineer, so I will have to leave that to the experts; however, I will certainly feed it into the audit.

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL RADIATION ONCOLOGY REVIEW

The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for State/Local Government Relations, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Consumer Affairs, Minister for Government Enterprises, Minister Assisting the Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Energy) (16:08): I table a ministerial statement on the Royal Adelaide Hospital Radiation Oncology Review made in another place by the Hon. John Hill.

MATTERS OF INTEREST

ROAD SAFETY FORUM

The Hon. J.S.L. DAWKINS (16:08): I rise today to speak about the Barossa, Light and Gawler football and netball associations' inaugural road safety forum that took place on 30 July this year. I was extremely pleased to attend this inspirational forum, along with about 200 other people.

The BL&G football and netball associations have suffered significantly in the past few years through a number of road fatalities and near misses involving players from different clubs. The most recent local incidences we have learnt of were the tragic deaths of Josh Ahern, of the South Gawler Lions, and Matthew Konzag, who was a part of the Mallala Magpies in the neighbouring Adelaide Plains Football League.

The loss of any life on our roads is a tragedy, but the loss of our young members of the community is heartbreaking. Neither Josh nor Matthew was more than 17 years of age, and both had fantastic opportunities before them; neither had evidence of alcohol or drugs in their system, and neither was hooning at the time of their accident. These accidents have been blamed on a lack of experience and knowledge of how dangerous a motor vehicle can be.

I commend the BL&G football and netball associations for putting together this excellent forum, which was well attended by young people from all nine affiliated clubs. I congratulate South Australia Police for setting a target of fewer than 100 road deaths this year. Whilst this is still too many, it is a good first step and one we must embrace. Education is the key to a further reduction in this toll.

The forum included key addresses by Commissioner Mal Hyde AO and Sergeant Chris Gill of South Australia Police; Mr Pat Adams, who is a clinical team leader of a paramedic intern team; and also Mrs Trish Konzag, the mother of young Matthew Konzag. These people spoke of their varied but first-hand experience and gave the forum perspective and frank reality.

Along with the inspirational speeches from these people, the BL&G associations gave out prizes of enormous value to two teenagers who attended the forum: a 16 year old netballer from Nuriootpa received a defence driving course and a 17 year old footballer from Willaston received four driving lessons.

The following Saturday, the BL&G football and netball associations organised a road safety awareness round. The emotion, strength and spirit featured in these games sent a powerful message, which the players and spectators will always remember.

I particularly commend the Barossa, Light and Gawler football and netball communities for taking the initiative in this area and harnessing the community spirit to prevent further loss of life on our roads. I look forward to other sporting bodies around the state holding events such as the forum conducted by these associations.

I particularly congratulate Mr Robin Symes (otherwise known as 'Nobby'), the President of the BL&G Football Association; Ms Lee-Anne Cummings, the President of the Barossa and Light Netball Association; and all those who helped organised the forum. I particularly commend the Barossa and Light *Herald* for its overall sponsorship of the forum and the round of games, and I thank the Nuriootpa Rover Football Club for hosting the event. A large number of people across the clubs worked towards organising the event, and I pay tribute to them, in particular, Ms Terri Smith from the Willaston Netball Club, and Mr Jim Callender, a former officer of the Legislative Council of this parliament, who is the President of the South Gawler Football Club.

LIBERAL PARTY

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (16:13): I rise today to bring to the attention of fellow members yet another instance of Liberal Party arrogance, which we have come to know so well. I am talking about the 2010 election, when the representation in this chamber will consist of no rural members and only one female member. As you would probably appreciate, Mr President, this chamber should reflect—

The Hon. T.J. STEPHENS: On a point of order, Mr President, this is not information; it is just a load of crap.

The PRESIDENT: The Hon. Mr Stephens—

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY: Mr President, I will get to the facts right now. At its last preselection council meeting, the Liberal Party put its sole country representative at No. 7 on its ticket. As members would realise, that is a totally unwinnable position. In relation to its female representation, the Liberal Party put its female member at No. 5. Considering that the Liberal Party won only three seats in the Legislative Council at the last election, I would have to say that No. 5 is an unwinnable position. So, after the next election, the only party to have representation from the rural constituency in this chamber will be the Labor Party, with the Hon. Bernie Finnigan.

The Hon. D.W. Ridgway interjecting:

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY: Mr President, I seek your protection. I have only three minutes and 35 seconds remaining to expose the hypocrisy of the Liberal Party. As I said in my opening remarks, this is yet another instance where the Liberals have shown their arrogance. Do rural and regional constituents register the contempt in which they are held by their party? Of course they do. Does the opposition feel a bit sensitive about this issue? Of course it does—and so it should. The Liberals have abrogated responsibility for the bush. Surely, the voters of regional and rural areas are entitled to expect better than this from the outfit that offers itself as the alternative government.

We are not surprised—far from it. We are used to it. As I said recently in a speech, it is only a few short years since the Rann government took up the task of alleviating the damage done by the previous Liberal government—damage done over years of underinvestment, disinvestment and a profligate sale of our state's assets. There were years of decline in our regional areas and years of neglect in health, education, transport and many other vital areas.

It is not only in the state arena that the Liberals have demonstrated their disinterest in the voting public, except when it suits them. The commonwealth Auditor-General made it clear last year in a particularly scathing report that the old pork barrel was well and truly rolled out prior to the recent federal election. These scandalous regional rorts have been widely acknowledged. Meanwhile, our education sector suffered and our skills base was eroded almost beyond saving. Hospitals—where those in the front line of the health system spend their working lives serving the community—were used as pawns by Howard in a desperate ploy to retain office. The plight of our indigenous citizens was ignored until political expedience brought it to the Liberals' attention.

Despite having been so rudely interrupted, I will move on in my speech. As the Premier has noted, our regions truly do punch above their weight in terms of their contributions to our economy. As the engine room for our exports, regional areas produce more than one-third of our state's export product. This is a constituency that those opposite will now abandon with their typical contemptuous disregard—not to mention their trademark poverty of thinking.

The Hon. T.J. Stephens interjecting:

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY: Obviously, Mr Stephens does not know what it means. It means 'having or showing an insulting, scornful or contemptuous attitude'. That exactly describes members opposite. So you have fallen flat on your face, Mr Stephens. You often sit there with a dumb look on your face; well, you have fallen on your face.

The Hon. J.S.L. DAWKINS: I rise on a point of order, sir. The honourable member knows that he should not be pointing, whether or not he has a piece of paper in his hand. He has been here long enough to know that he should direct his remarks through the chair.

The PRESIDENT: The Hon. Mr Wortley will stick to his speech and not respond to the bereaved opposition.

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY: We will improve access to health care and skills training. We will promote our regional products to overseas markets. We will help to create attractive business environments to assist in the creation of regional industries, particularly mining. We know that South Australians who live in regional communities are critical to the sustainability of the state. Labor will not forget—as members opposite have—and will not treat them as undeserving of representation in this place.

FITZSIMONS, MR D.

The Hon. T.J. STEPHENS (16:18): On behalf of the state opposition I acknowledge the sad passing of Mr David Fitzsimons and extend my sympathy to his family and friends. He was one of South Australia's, and indeed one of Australia's, finest sportsmen and an athlete of great ability. His domination of Australia's distance running is unparalleled, winning eight Australian championships over the 5,000 and 10,000 metres distances in the late 1970s, including the 5,000 metres/10,000 metres double on three separate occasions.

Mr Fitzsimons represented his country at two Olympic Games—at Montreal in 1976 and Moscow in 1980. He also competed at the Commonwealth Games in 1974 and 1978. The 1977 World Cup in Dusseldorf, Germany, marked the pinnacle of David's athletic career, when he won the Bronze Medal in the 5,000 metres in a South Australian record time that still stands to this very day. This South Australian record also makes him the third fastest Australian over 5,000 metres for all time—a truly remarkable achievement. David's two other South Australian records—for the 3,000 metres and the 10,000 metres—still stand, having been set 20 years ago. David is also a member of the Athletic South Australian Hall of Fame.

Mr Fitzsimons' athletics career and lifelong involvement with the sport have left a great legacy for coming generations of sportspeople. Despite his long list of achievements, Mr Fitzsimons' legacy is that he gave back more to the sport than he ever took from it. A highly regarded man, he also carved out a very successful engineering career in the service of South Australia's transport needs.

My colleague the member for Frome, the Hon. Rob Kerin, speaks very highly of Mr Fitzsimons, having known him for many years. He tells me that David came from a wonderful family who instilled in him a great sense of community spirit. Mr Fitzsimons was educated at Christian Brothers College in the late 1960s. David and his family have been highly regarded for their involvement in the community. During this time of sadness, we extend our sympathies to his family and friends and thank them for his wonderful life.

Honourable members: Hear, hear!

TATIARA RAIL SERVICE

The Hon. B.V. FINNIGAN (16:20): On 29 June, I attended celebrations in Bordertown to mark 125 years of regular trains running between Bordertown and Kingston South-East. I place on record that the Leader of the Opposition in this place was also there.

The start of this service between Bordertown and Kingston on 2 July 1883 was the culmination of over 80 years of struggle by the farmers and businessmen of Tatiara for a railway to join Bordertown to the nearest port at Kingston. A journey that previously took about 12 to 14 days by bullock train was now completed in a day, and the cost of transporting wheat fell by half. The narrow gauge railway built primarily for the transportation of grain throughout the Mid North, the South-East and Eyre Peninsula was chosen for its rapid and less expensive construction.

In 1882, it was decided that the line between Adelaide and Melbourne would be broad gauge to allow faster, heavier and more comfortable trains, and that it would pass along the same route as the narrow gauge line between Bordertown and Wolseley. Regular daily trains began running from Adelaide to Bordertown in 1886, which obviously made a huge difference to that area. Wolseley itself became a major point in the rail journey when it was used for the changing over of the gauge.

I congratulate the community on marking this achievement. I also congratulate Councillor Richard Vickery, the chairman of the Tatiara District Council who spoke; the MC on the occasion, Ralph—whose last name escapes me—and the community at Wolseley who turned out for the opening of some boom gates (which I did) on a rail crossing which, hopefully, will add to the safety of people in the area when crossing the road where the rail line runs. I congratulate the people of Bordertown and the surrounding area for marking this achievement, and I hope that we will see it returned to its former glory in the future.

WATER SUPPLY

The Hon. R.L. BROKENSHIRE (16:23): I want to talk today about water, especially the lack of water in the Lower Lakes and the River Murray. Nothing is more crucial in South Australia at the moment than water supply, and I do not apologise for one moment for spending a lot of my time and energy on arguing about what needs to be done with water. We have heard and seen a fair bit of spin, but we are not doing the essential things that we need to do in this state to ensure that we have a critical water supply ongoing for the community.

At the moment, the truth of the matter is that we are running out of water for human consumption if we are not serious about it. That is how desperate the situation is. That is not alarmist; that is how desperate the situation is at the moment. If we are to have this plan where the government wants to build a bigger population, we have an even more critical need for guaranteed water and a permanent water supply.

Soon we will be talking about stormwater harvesting with some legislation that I am about to introduce. I will not go into that at the moment. I will put it this way: if you fill a bottle of water, you have to fill the bottom of the bottle with water before you get any water in the top.

The problem with the River Murray system at the moment is that before the water can get to the bottom it is all being siphoned off at the top, and the bottom is dying—and it is very serious. In all the time I have been down on the Fleurieu Peninsula, I (and the community) have never seen anything like the devastation of the Lower Lakes system at the moment. Economically, environmentally and socially it is a catastrophe.

I have been privileged to go to the Denver property, and I congratulate this state government for buying it and putting it into part of the Ramsar international agreement. That shows how important the particular ecology is down there. The government purchased it but now they are letting it die, which is very sad. However, there are solutions. Mr Ray Najar from the Murray-Darling Association has put up a commonsense proposal. Let us forget the spin, the excuses and statements such as, 'If you let water come from way up it is going to evaporate and it is going to seep away.' Of course it will. We have a small window of opportunity before algal bloom destroys the bottom end of the river, the lake system and the acid sulphates, and we will not have potable water for Adelaide. By simply dropping the weir pools 150 millimetres (or about six inches) from lock 9, you can get fairly good quality water right down there, with a shandy through the Tauwichee barrage, within 30 days. That is how quickly it could be done if we had a Premier and a Prime Minister with a will to deliver.

The community deserves this. They are asking for it, but all it gets is a quick press conference, with no consultation with the community and then off go the Premier and the Prime Minister leaving the community to deal with the dying Lower Lakes system. I want to congratulate the Alexandrina council on the leadership that it has taken. However, I understand why the community is starting to divide down there: millions of dollars of business revenue has been lost and people are desperate when they see their own environment literally dying more each day.

I am asking the Premier to raise the stakes on this and to declare, under the emergency management legislation, a state of emergency on the Lower Lakes. As I read that legislation (a fairly new act), it clearly has the capacity to incorporate the problem down there. If the Premier went across to Government House immediately, he could initiate a state of emergency on those lakes, raise the debate, get additional funding to come through and put absolute pressure on the commonwealth government to put through an emergency water flow.

I do not understand why the Premier was not at the rally of 5,000 people at Goolwa, when many of us were. I do not understand why the Premier and the Minister for Water Security were not out here on the steps of Parliament House. The community would embrace them if they championed this desperate situation. At the moment they are running away from it and they are losing community support. In this council today I call on the Premier to use the relevant sections of the emergency management legislation and declare a state of emergency on the Lower Lakes.

Time expired.

WiMAX BROADBAND SERVICE

The Hon. J.M. GAZZOLA (16:28): An interesting article in the local *City Messenger* highlighted opposing realities for two South Australian country centres regarding access and ease of communication. While farmers and townspeople in the Mid North were ruing the breakdown of telephone and communication services for a period of four weeks, people across Yorke Peninsula were celebrating the opening of the new region-wide WiMAX broadband service.

In a milestone event, Yorke Peninsula has become one of the nation's first communities to successfully achieve a region-wide broadband service using WiMAX wireless technology. WiMAX, for those Luddites like myself, stands for world interoperable microwave access, as provided in those large grey drum-like dishes suspended on tall towers that are commonly seen in rural areas. In addition to existing wire services servicing towns across the peninsula, the new service offers almost 100 per cent broadband internet coverage. This new technological deployment means that people living beyond the reach of telephone-delivered ADSL services now enjoy fast, reliable internet access at the same cost and system speed as city subscribers to the Net. This peninsula-wide broadbanding is the result of a decade's hard work by the District Council of Yorke Peninsula and the Yorke Regional Development Board, effectively bringing together a unique and successful collaboration of government at three levels as well as the private sector.

Under the authority and auspices of the 2004 federal government CCIF and HiBIS schemes and the state government of South Australia's broadband scheme, together with the substantial contributions of both the council and the private company, Agile/Internode, stage 1 was launched by the Premier in 2005, with the stage 2 roll out to customer connections in February 2008. Coupled with its ADSL services in 11 towns, Internode's WiMAX service now reaches across the entire peninsula, and some of the important improvements and benefits include untimed local calls to Adelaide and other locations across Australia; dependable high-speed access for businesses, health providers and residents to internet services; and the connection of isolated rural

homesteads and businesses to high quality and reliable internet services with internet speeds across the peninsula comparable to the metropolitan areas of Australia.

Yorke Peninsula is the first region-wide wireless network in Australia to use the new WiMAX wireless technology, and the words of the mayor of the District Council of Yorke Peninsula capture the excitement and importance of this successful collaboration. He said:

Not only has access to broadband had a huge social impact on the Yorke Peninsula community, it has transformed the way we do business and will continue to have an incredible impact on the economic future of this region.

Of the economic benefits the mayor refers to, a study commissioned by DFEEST (co-funded by the Australian Communications and Media Authority and undertaken by Systems Knowledge Concepts Pty Ltd) has estimated that the deployment of broadband on Yorke Peninsula will provide \$21.4 million over five years, with statewide benefits as a whole amounting to \$25.5 million over the same period.

I point out that the Minlaton celebration to mark the culmination of this project was officiated by minister Paul Caica, South Australian Minister for Science and Information Economy, and the federal Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Senator Stephen Conroy. Also participating were other project partners Mr Simon Hackett, managing director of Internode, Mr Ricki Bruhn, CEO of the District Council of Yorke Peninsula, and Mr Ray Agnew, the mayor of the District Council of Yorke Peninsula. Naturally, the member for Goyder, Stephen Griffiths, was also present.

The culmination ceremony was more than an official occasion for those mentioned; it was also a presentation to the public of services offered through the broadband network. The comprehensive offering in the information session program throughout the afternoon is far too broad to mention; suffice it to say that over 800 businesses and household premises on Yorke Peninsula now take advantage of these services, and there is more on the way. The state government, which to date has contributed \$3.5 million to regional broadband infrastructure programs, has further regional broadband projects in the Murray Mallee, Fleurieu Peninsula and the Adelaide Hills.

In closing, I congratulate all the parties involved in the successful completion of the Yorke Peninsula broadband service and note the commitment of the Labor government to the people living and working in rural and regional South Australia.

COPPER COAST DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Hon. SANDRA KANCK (16:34): South Australia is currently witnessing an unusual and significant phenomena—that is, a council at war with its community. Discontent with the District Council of the Copper Coast became publicly evident when more than 300 people packed the Moonta town hall three months ago to discuss the consequences of a desalination plant (it was a meeting addressed by our parliamentary colleague, the Hon. Mark Parnell).

However, other major concerns were also building about the Wallaroo town centre redevelopment and the planned community waste water management scheme. So, last month I visited the area and met with residents to discuss those concerns. On my first night there ratepayers from four townships came together to meet me, and they discovered that, although their issues were different, they had common concerns about the actions of their council.

The next day the news spread by word of mouth about an informal chat I had planned with somewhere between six to 10 people in the park at Wallaroo to discuss the town centre redevelopment—and it exploded into a rally of almost 70 people. At that gathering those angry residents agreed to set up what they are calling the Copper Coast Council Watch. This is the first time those residents have worked together across town boundaries against their council.

A week ago, a 3,000-signature petition calling on the council to keep Woolworths out of Wallaroo was handed to council. With a council-wide population of approximately 11,500 people, this is equivalent to a 400,000-person petition in Adelaide. Tomorrow I expect hundreds will pack the Wallaroo town hall to protest against a Leasecorp Woolworths-focused redevelopment of the main street, and also to protest against the process by which council made the selection, inviting Leasecorp, but not other tenderers, to increase its bid.

Anyone ever involved in community action knows how hard it is to mobilise people. So, the fact that so many people have become active on the Copper Coast and that they have formed an ongoing campaign shows that something fundamental is happening. The type of people involved is

revealing: they are pensioners, small business owners and retirees who settled (they hoped) for a quiet life. They are not political activists. Most of them have never done anything like this in their life, but they are learning fast. When I was up there I gave out multiple copies of the Local Government Act, which they are now using to make their council more accountable.

This is what it is all about. This council is in conflict with its community because it is not following the basic rules of consultation, transparency, objective decision-making and accountability laid down in the Local Government Act. I am told that the motion to sell council land as part of the Wallaroo town centre redevelopment was moved by a councillor who is a real estate agent who surely has much to gain if property values increase as a consequence of the redevelopment.

The wife of the former CEO of the council, John Shane, was a director of the company that was developing The Dunes at Port Hughes. Members will be aware that this was featured in a *Sunday Mail* story and that there is now an ongoing investigation by the anti-corruption branch of SAPOL. Both John Shane and the former manager of infrastructure for council, Roly Kavanagh, now work for the developers, and a current councillor has been a consultant to the developer.

The Dunes will require huge amounts of water to keep the golf course permanently green, so water is a problem, particularly as this is located just north of Goyder's Line. It is why a desalination plant was proposed. But a decision to drop that plan means that the problem of providing a large amount of water remains.

Enter stage right a community wastewater management system proposed by the council. Treated sewage just might solve the problem of water for the golf course. The scheme was proposed 18 months ago, but SA Water advised it was not financially viable, and this was using the less costly vacuum system recommended by KBR. Now the council has revived it and, without adequate explanation, has rejected the first report, engaging another consultant to prepare a report on the more costly gravity system, which by some strange coincidence is the same system being put in place for The Dunes development.

Ratepayers tell me the council is out of touch, that it is interested only in the big end of town. Some even used the word 'corruption'. I stress that corruption has not been established, but some in this council seem enchanted by the prospect of big money coming to town and they are not dotting every 'i' and crossing every 't' as they should. Pressures for development and the resulting conflict, as demonstrated by the Copper Coast situation, may well become a parable for South Australia as a whole.

Time expired.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON COLLECTION OF PROPERTY TAXES BY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING SEWERAGE CHARGES BY SA WATER

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (16:39): I move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up the report be extended to Wednesday 26 November 2008.

Motion carried.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ALLEGEDLY UNLAWFUL PRACTICES RAISED IN THE AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT 2003-04

The Hon. B.V. FINNIGAN (16:40): I reluctantly move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up the report be extended until Wednesday 26 November 2008.

Motion carried.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE ATKINSON/ASHBOURNE/CLARKE AFFAIR

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (16:40): I move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up the report be extended until Wednesday 26 November 2008.

There has been some debate about this committee, as opposed to some of the other select committees. Without obviously traversing matters that have been discussed within the committee (which would be contrary to standing orders), I indicate that, as has been previously discussed, a

report has been presented to the select committee by the chair. That mysteriously found its way into the *Adelaide Advertiser*, and there was a debate about that issue.

I indicate that other members of the committee have been working pretty hard in relation to possible amendments to the report. There is no further evidence to be taken by the committee, and that is publicly known, so it is now just a question of finalising either an agreed report or a majority/minority report and presenting it to the parliament.

If this motion were not successful today, all the evidence heard, the work of the committee and, indeed, its final judgment, could not be presented to the parliament. I understand that, potentially, some claims will be made in relation to endeavours to have the committee sit during the recent break. I concede that earlier than that there was an attempt to get the committee together, but other members of the committee (including me) had not finalised the proposed amendments to the chair's report and were unable to meet.

However, we understand that there was a flawed recent attempt to meet. Evidently, the chair of the committee insisted on having a meeting with himself and, possibly for a very brief time, one other member, even though three members of the committee indicated that they were not in town and two were sitting on another select committee—that is, the property tax select committee—at the time the chair had selected. To put it politely, that endeavour by the chair did not follow the normal practice, namely, before a meeting of the committee is established there is agreement of at least a majority of members that it will meet at that time. There may well have been other occasions when that might have been possible, but I do not know.

I understand that this needs to be brought to a conclusion. I have indicated to some members who have asked me when it might conclude that, certainly from our viewpoint, we will ensure that this report is presented no later than Wednesday 26 November, which is the subject of this motion, because that will be the end of the parliamentary sittings for 2008.

With that, I urge members to support this motion. As I said, all the evidence has been taken, and, without offering an opinion, I think it is very important evidence. In addition, the conclusions, whether agreed or differing, are important and ought to be tabled in this chamber and subsequently debated by members, irrespective of their perspective.

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (16:44): This select committee was first established on 7 July 2005. It started taking evidence on 15 July 2005, and the last witness appeared prior to the last election, that is, on 12 January 2006.

Since the last election, there has been some resistance. The government opposed the establishment of this committee for the simple reason that all the evidence that had been presented during the hearings had been very well publicised in the media—radio, newspapers and television—and the people of South Australia had read all about and it had been done to death.

At the end of the day, the people's reaction was to punish the Liberals by voting only three members to this chamber and getting rid of two of the Democrats and returning none at the last election. So, the people of South Australia considered that the evidence had been done to death; the evidence had been very well reported. The committee was re-established, with the promise that it would hear more evidence and that a report would be forthcoming. However, that did not happen. The Labor Party opposed the committee 12 months ago, but the Liberal Party gave the same assurances to the Independents that a report was pending.

I handed down a draft report on 23 July 2007, which is nearly 13 months ago. I made numerous attempts to try to call a meeting to discuss the report, but on no occasion could I get any of the non-government members of the committee to meet. On both the past two occasions when we tried to call a meeting (23 June and Friday 15 August 2008) we were unsuccessful.

A very wise man once said to me that there are two sorts of select committees: those that go out and look at issues that are for the benefit of South Australians (and we have a few of those), and then you have the witch-hunts, the political tools of the opposition. These are used by the opposition to go on a fishing expedition and a witch-hunt. The Atkinson committee was purely in the latter category. The Liberals have had its fun with it; it is well and truly past its use-by date. The media and the people of South Australia have no interest in it, and it has been done to death in the media.

I think it is about time this chamber treated these select committees with a little more respect. The whole credibility of select committees is put in jeopardy when they are used by some people only as a witch-hunt or a fishing expedition. So, I ask the Independent members on the

cross-benches to treat these select committees with respect. The only select committee we are looking to oppose today is this one and, hopefully, the Independents on the cross-benches will support our opposition.

The Hon. M. PARNELL (16:48): I have made my view known privately and in parliament to members of the government and the opposition that I think select committees that are not making progress should probably be removed from the agenda.

I supported the continuation of this committee, which was established before I joined the parliament, because of the assurance of unfinished business. It seemed to me to be a poor use of taxpayers' funds to prematurely end a committee that had not yet reported. I have supported the committee's continuation until today. I think the government is reasonable in its push to say that we need to wind up this committee, but I have had assurances from the Liberal Party that it will rapidly conclude an alternative report, which I understand it is preparing, and that the report will be prepared by the last scheduled private members' sitting day on 26 November.

On the basis of the assurances that I have been given that those members will have finished their work by then, I am happy to see this longstanding committee finally finish. However, I do put the opposition on notice that this is the last time I will support the continuation of this committee. If the matter is not resolved on 26 November, I will support the winding up of the committee. However, today I support the motion before the council.

The Hon. SANDRA KANCK (16:50): As a member of the committee until now I support its continuation. My view of the report, which was prepared by the chair and which was released publicly, is that it was intended as a joke. We do need to consider a more serious option, as the Hon. Mr Lucas suggested, by either substantially amending the chair's report or coming up with an alternative. I indicate that, if we are not successful in doing that by 26 November, I will resign from the committee anyway. I think we will get it done in the time frame stipulated in the motion.

The Hon. R.D. LAWSON (16:51): I correct a point made by the Hon. Russell Wortley when he described this select committee as a witch-hunt. The terms of reference of this committee are almost identical to the terms of a judicial inquiry proposed by the government to be conducted into this affair. I remind the council that the government promised—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. R.D. LAWSON: The government promised an inquiry but sought to make it a secret closed-door inquiry. The parliament did not accept the government's proposal. This was not a witch-hunt but, rather, an inquiry into matters which the government itself said warranted a judicial inquiry. It is important that this committee report.

The Hon. B.V. FINNIGAN (16:52): I rise to oppose the motion moved by the Hon. Mr Lucas.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. B.V. FINNIGAN: This select committee was established three years ago. It was re-established after the 2006 election. I was a newly appointed member at that point and I made a fairly detailed speech about why I thought the continuation of this committee had no merit. It remains my view that the committee has no merit. However, it was the will of the council at that time that the select committee continue. That was over two years ago.

We have had protestations from non-government members of the committee today suggesting that they want the opportunity to put forward amendments to the draft report or prepare their own report—whatever it is they are seeking to do. I remind members that it has been 14 months since the Hon. Mr Wortley (as chairman of this committee) tabled his draft report. I am not doubting the capacity of members opposite, but if 14 months is not enough time for them to draft amendments to a report then I think they ought to consider themselves unqualified to sit in this place.

This committee has continued to bring the Legislative Council into disrepute. Members opposite continually protest how important the council is, yet they want to turn the work of this chamber into a farce by continuing these committees which have been going for over three years

and which are designed entirely to suit a political purpose which has now passed. Let us be honest about that.

In fact, the Hon. Mr Lawson moved to extend the terms of reference of this select committee on the select committee itself—and did so. Essentially, he wants a select committee on the Hon. Michael Atkinson. Whenever something comes to the attention of members and they would like to investigate it, they say, 'Well, we can just extend the terms of reference of the select committee.'

That puts paid to the suggestion that this committee is investigating important matters which must be investigated and which are critical to the good governance of this state and the integrity of public office holders. Already they have extended the terms of reference—after setting up the initial committee—because it was an opportunity to slot in a couple of other things that gained their attention; so that is what they did.

This committee has exhaustively dealt with all the matters that have come before it. As I outlined in some detail in my contribution over two years ago—one of the first speeches I remember making in this place—the evidence has been discredited. It has been clearly shown in relation to the terms of reference set up for this committee to deal with that there is no basis to any of those accusations. It has been investigated numerous times and it has been the subject of a criminal trial.

There is simply no more that this council can do. It has been 14 months since the draft report and two years since we set up this committee again. It is three years and three months, I think, since the committee was first established. It is time to act with integrity in this place and restore the reputation of the Legislative Council by going on with important, realistic and sensible committees.

I consider myself a diligent committee member. I serve on quite a number of standing and select committees, to which I believe I give proper focus and attention. What I do not accept is other honourable members expecting us to waste our time extending the time for this select committee with a view—we hear—to producing a report by November, three months away. So, despite having had 14 months, two years and over three years, another three months is what will clinch it! It is a nonsense argument and a nonsense committee, and it is time to bring it to an end.

The Hon. J.A. DARLEY (16:57): As you know, Mr President, I have been here for nine months, and I understand that not much progress has been made on this committee in that time. I read all about it before coming into this place. Having heard honourable members' contributions today, I oppose the motion.

The council divided on the motion:

AYES (9)

Dawkins, J.S.L.
Lucas, R.I. (teller)
Schaefer, C.V.

Kanck, S.M.
Parnell, M.
Stephens, T.J.

Lawson, R.D.
Ridgway, D.W.
Wade, S.G.

NOES (10)

Brokenshire, R.L.
Gago, G.E.
Hood, D.G.E.
Zollo, C.

Darley, J.A.
Gazzola, J.M.
Hunter, I.K.

Finnigan, B.V.
Holloway, P.
Wortley, R.P. (teller)

PAIRS (2)

Lensink, J.M.A.

Bressington, A.

Majority of 1 for the noes.

Motion thus negated.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON FAMILIES SA

The Hon. C.V. SCHAEFER (17:02): I move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up the report be extended until Wednesday 26 November 2008.

Motion carried.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON SA WATER

The Hon. M. PARNELL (17:02): I move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up the report be extended until Wednesday 26 September 2008.

Motion carried.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON PROPOSED SALE AND REDEVELOPMENT OF THE GLENSIDE HOSPITAL SITE

The Hon. J.S.L. DAWKINS (17:03): I move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up the report be extended until Wednesday 26 November 2008.

Motion carried.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON IMPACT OF PEAK OIL ON SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The Hon. SANDRA KANCK (17:03): I move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up the report be extended until Wednesday 26 November 2008.

Motion carried.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON STAFFING, RESOURCING AND EFFICIENCY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE

The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Leader of the Opposition) (17:03): I move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up the report be extended until Wednesday 26 November 2008.

Motion carried.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (17:04): I move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up the report be extended until Wednesday 26 November 2008.

Motion carried.

STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (17:04): I move:

That a Standing Orders Committee be appointed consisting of the President, and the Hons J. M. Gazzola, P. Holloway, R.I. Lucas and D.W. Ridgway.

Motion carried.

PRINTING COMMITTEE

The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY (Minister for Mineral Resources Development, Minister for Urban Development and Planning, Minister for Small Business) (17:05): I move:

That a printing committee be appointed consisting of the Hons J.M. Gazzola, I.K. Hunter, C.V. Schaefer, T.J. Stephens and R.P. Wortley.

Motion carried.

ADDRESS IN REPLY

The President having laid on the table a copy of the Governor's speech, the Hon. P. Holloway moved:

That a committee consisting of the Hons B. Finnigan, P. Holloway, R.D. Lawson, C.V. Schaefer and R.P. Wortley be appointed to prepare a draft address in reply to the speech delivered this day by His Excellency the Governor and to report on the next day of sitting.

Motion carried.

At 17:06 the council adjourned until Thursday 11 September 2008 at 14:15.