

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL****Wednesday, 1 July 2015**

The **PRESIDENT (Hon. R.P. Wortley)** took the chair at 14:17 and read prayers.

*Parliamentary Committees***LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**The Hon. G.A. KANDELAARS (14:18):** I bring up the 10<sup>th</sup> report of the Legislative Review Committee.

Report received.

*Parliamentary Procedure***PAPERS**

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills (Hon. G.E. Gago)—

Section 74B of the Summary Offences Act 1953—Road Block Establishment  
Authorisations for the period from 1 October 2014 to 31 March 2015

Section 83B of the Summary Offences Act 1953—Dangerous Area Declarations for the  
period from 1 October 2014 to 31 March 2015

*Ministerial Statement***RETURN TO WORKSA**

**The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills, Minister for Science and Information Economy, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Business Services and Consumers) (14:19):** I lay on the table a copy of a ministerial statement made today by the Acting Premier, John Rau, on the return-to-work scheme.

**AGED DRIVER SELF-ASSESSMENT**

**The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills, Minister for Science and Information Economy, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Business Services and Consumers) (14:19):** I lay on the table a copy of a ministerial statement made today in another place by the Hon. Tony Piccolo on self-assessment for older drivers.

*Question Time***NORTHERN ADELAIDE FOOD PARK**

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Leader of the Opposition) (14:21):** It is a shame we don't get any answers any more, Mr President. I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Automotive Transformation—and a whole bunch of other things—a question about the food park.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY:** Obviously, as part of the budget announcement, the government announced that it had provided, I think, \$2 million for the establishment of a food park, and I note it spent some \$700,000—\$0.7 million—in the last 12 months to commission a business case and supporting activities to establish that food park. We can now assume, I guess, that it is a \$2.7 million, approaching \$3 million, project.

Yesterday, in answer to a question from his colleague, the Hon. John Gazzola, the minister spoke about a number of things, but in particular about the food park in northern Adelaide. I will just quote from his answer:

This initiative will bring together a range of manufacturing, packaging, distribution and transport companies to come together in a single location. The food park will allow manufacturing businesses to access shared infrastructure. This will improve the productivity and competitiveness of our food manufacturing sector, leading to more jobs. The government will shortly assess land options, which will allow for more detailed planning for this project to be undertaken.

My question is: are any of the parcels of land that the government is considering owned by the Walker Corporation?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (14:22):** I thank the honourable member for his question and his great ability to read *Hansard*, which I assume is correct. I do not have the exact dates, but I am happy to bring them back for the honourable member.

I think that six or seven weeks ago a request for information went out that was published in most papers, and more widely, for any property holders, developers or so forth to come to government to let them know if they had a parcel of land in northern Adelaide—I think from memory it was of at least 40 hectares—that may be appropriate for a food park to be established.

Off the top of my head, I think the date for the return of that request for information has passed, and I don't know what the results of those are yet. As this project moves forward, I will undertake to bring back to the council more information about it.

#### NORTHERN ADELAIDE FOOD PARK

**The Hon. R.L. BROKENSHIRE (14:23):** Will this food park have the conditions of an enterprise centre with a combined admin opportunity, and will it be land tax free? Will it have payroll tax incentives?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (14:23):** Again, it's very early stages. We have just gone out to the market to look for where a location might be, and we will continue to work with industry about the best way that the food park might be established to create efficiencies for those who might want to situate their business there.

#### NORTHERN ADELAIDE FOOD PARK

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Leader of the Opposition) (14:24):** What does the minister envisage the \$2 million will be spent on that has been allocated in this year's budget?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (14:24):** I thank the honourable member for his supplementary. To further develop the food park proposal.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (14:24):** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before directing a question to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation regarding constitutional recognition.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK:** Recognise is the people's movement to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Australian constitution. Recognise strives to change the constitution to remove all racial discrimination, protect against the loss of Australia's unique Indigenous culture, and unite all Australians. Not only are our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders not recognised in the constitution, but section 25 allows the state to ban a race from voting and section 51(xxvi) allows the commonwealth government to make negative laws about a race of people.

Earlier this month, over 100 Indigenous representatives passed a motion at the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Native Title Conference calling for an official constitutional convention to be held in six months before a final model for recognising Indigenous people in the founding document be settled. My questions for the minister are:

1. Is the minister supporting the Recognise movement to recognise Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Australian constitution and to remove racial discrimination; and

2. Has the minister advocated on behalf of the South Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people for change?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (14:26):** I thank the honourable member for her very important question. Yes, I am supportive of the Recognise campaign. I have met, not just in my time as minister but before that, with the co-directors of Recognise, Tanya Hosch, who is a South Australian Indigenous woman, and also Tim Gartrell, to talk about the campaign and the recognition of Aboriginal people in our constitution. I think I am having another meeting with the co-directors of Recognise sometime in the next couple of weeks.

I have also been fortunate enough to talk to a whole range of people, including constitutional law experts, on their views. I was fortunate enough to speak to Marcia Langton a couple of weeks ago about her view on the models being put up by Noel Pearson in recognition. I think the federal joint select committee on this topic handed a report down in the last week that had three models that it recommended. At some stage, I think in July, the leaders of the Labor and Liberal Party federally are due to meet to discuss the way forward.

Certainly there is growing momentum for some form of constitutional convention or conventions to discuss the best way forward. Like any constitutional change, there is a very wide range of views about exactly what form words might take to change our constitution, not just for recognition of Aboriginal people but, as the honourable member pointed out, section 25 and 51 and other sections where many see a need for some change.

When the federal joint committee, headed by the Liberals' Ken Wyatt and Labor's Nova Peris met in Adelaide a number of months ago, I spent some time with that committee talking about what South Australia has done. Of course, it was not all that long ago in this chamber that we passed legislation changing our constitution to recognise the first peoples of South Australia. We have traditionally played a leading role and did recently in South Australia, and I think we will continue to do so. Yes, I am a supporter of the Recognise campaign and its aims and ambitions.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION

**The Hon. K.L. VINCENT (14:28):** Supplementary: are members of the general public still able to make representations to the minister about their views on constitutional recognition, and how can they do that?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (14:28):** Any member of the public can make representations to me as minister on anything they want to represent at any time. In terms of the federal process that the federal joint parliamentary committee engaged in, I think it is the final report that they have handed down that has the three different options. The process from there is something that the federal parliament will work out, but certainly if any member in this chamber or member of the public has views, I am very happy to hear them and to pass them along as well.

#### COUNTRY HEALTH

**The Hon. S.G. WADE (14:29):** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Acting Minister for Health a question relating to country health.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. S.G. WADE:** In February 2014, the Premier unveiled Labor's election policy plan called 'Let's keep building South Australia'. Page 55 of the policy document states the government will 'create more country health jobs in regional communities'. My question to the minister is: can the minister advise whether the government stands by its commitment to create more country health jobs in regional communities?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (14:29):** I will have to look at that specific commitment. Much like my colleague, the honourable leader of the government in this place, I am not going to rely upon something that is put forward by the Hon. Stephen Wade as representing the correct nature of this. I am happy to have a look and see if what he says lines up with something else that is represented and bring back a reply on that.

#### COUNTRY HEALTH

**The Hon. S.G. WADE (14:30):** Minister, if I give you a copy of that document would you be able to give us a reply tomorrow?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (14:30):** Yes, I am happy to.

#### PREMIER'S RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY FUND

**The Hon. J.M. GAZZOLA (14:30):** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Science and Information Economy a question about research.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. J.M. GAZZOLA:** Recruiting leading researchers is highly beneficial to South Australia as it enhances the state's reputation. It increases our capabilities in priority areas and complements the state government's economic priority of being the knowledge state. Can the minister inform the chamber about the recent appointment as part of the government's fellowship program?

**The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills, Minister for Science and Information Economy, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Business Services and Consumers) (14:31):** I thank the honourable member for his most important question. Recently I spent the afternoon undertaking a visit to UniSA's Mawson Lakes campus where I was very pleased to be able to meet one of the researchers who has recently commenced his appointment as part of the Premier's Research and Industry Fund Research Fellowship Program, Professor Mark Billingham.

Attracting world-leading researchers not only builds the state's research capabilities and knowledge base but it also leads to the growth of the research centres and provide significant economic benefits to the state. The Premier's Research and Industry Fund (PRIF) Research Fellowship Program aims to expand the state's research capability and target research activities that are of direct economic benefit to industry by attracting world-leading researchers to South Australia.

Attracting Professor Mark Billingham to South Australia is quite a coup for South Australia. Professor Billingham is a multi award-winning researcher who assisted in the development of the Google Glass, a head-mounted, wearable camera developed by Google. Professor Billingham has had an incredibly impressive career. He is a multi award-winning researcher whose research work has been published in almost 300 technical publications, and he has an extensive career history which includes time with Google, Nokia and MIT, as well. As part of Professor Billingham's appointment he will be investigating wearable devices that could benefit the mining and manufacturing sectors.

During my visit to UniSA I was fortunate enough to be able to try out some of these wearable devices. They were quite remarkable and contained some pretty impressive technology. When wearing one I was even able to be transported to a Tuscan village and, whilst this application is pretty entertaining, this research is actually aimed at producing tools to assist industry, predominantly mining and advanced manufacturing, with productivity gains. It was certainly a cheap holiday, I can say that.

This type of technology could be used commercially to allow people who are working in a decentralised way to interact as though they were face-to-face. For example, a worker in a remote mining site could use the technology to work in collaboration with an expert in Adelaide in order to undertake repairs on an expensive or complex piece of equipment. Allowing repairs to take place in

this manner would remove the need for an expert to travel directly to the field, saving not only time but money. These things can be streamed in real time and it also has remarkable applications for health as an online diagnostic tool. This research will also directly involve industry partners who will work in conjunction in order to develop and test this particular technology.

The state government has committed \$1 million in funding over four years to support Professor Billingham's investigations, which will focus on technologies such as wearable computers, virtual reality and augmented reality that will connect workers in remote areas of South Australia with experts from around Australia and, for that matter, around the world.

A total of nine fellowships have been awarded via the PRIF since 2012 in critical areas such as medical devices, unconventional gas and clean technology. Seeing highly celebrated researchers such as Professor Billingham come to South Australia to undertake this type of work is incredibly exciting for the state and I certainly look forward to seeing the outcomes of his research and providing updates to the chamber.

### WORKREADY

**The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (14:35):** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills a question regarding the government's WorkReady program.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD:** Under WorkReady, the government now wishes to allocate 90 per cent of the 51,000 new subsidised training places to TAFE, which I am advised will create major unemployment in the private training sector and most likely result in business closures. This is of significant concern when you consider that our current unemployment rate is the highest recorded in the last 14 years and, indeed, the highest in the nation.

Key stakeholders have commented on the effect of the government's not consulting with both the VET providers and registered training organisations prior to the announcement of the new allocation of subsidised training places. This should have occurred, given that these providers are significantly affected by this reform, in their view, and it does not seem unreasonable.

There have been reports that the policy not only creates a loss of work for private sector providers but also severely limits student choice of subjects and locations for study. Under WorkReady, training programs are estimated to cost approximately 2½ times that of private sector training. Moreover, it has also been suggested that the policy goes against the state's obligation under the National Agreement for Skills and Workforce Development. My questions to the minister are:

1. When was the WorkReady program first proposed, and was a decision to reallocate the majority of government funded training places to TAFE initiated by the minister or on advice of the department, or both?

2. Is the government concerned about the reported potential loss of \$65 million in federal funding, and what are they doing to ensure all obligations under the national agreement are met?

3. What consultation has the government undertaken on this issue of training, and when will the government consult the private training sector in accordance with their request?

4. How does the government respond to the reports that courses through TAFE SA will cost significantly more compared to existing private sector providers?

**The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills, Minister for Science and Information Economy, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Business Services and Consumers) (14:37):** I thank the member for his important questions. I have answered all of these questions before in this place several times but, nevertheless, I am happy to go over it all again. I have answered all those questions in detail previously. I have outlined in this place that, in fact, we are not cutting training. Currently, this year, we are subsidising 80,000 training

positions, and for 2015-16 we plan to subsidise 81,000 training positions. So, in fact, this government—

*The Hon. R.L. Brokenshire interjecting:*

**The PRESIDENT:** Will the Hon. Mr Brokenshire allow the minister to finish her answer?

**The Hon. G.E. GAGO:** The reason they keep asking the same questions over and over is that they don't listen to the answers, sir. We are not cutting training at all. There are 81,000 subsidised training positions, so that is slightly more than this year, and the funding is still more than the pre-Skills for All funding level.

As I have explained in this place many times before, this government provided significant additional once-off funds in relation to Skills for All over the past three years or so, and that was to enable us to achieve 100,000 additional training positions. Those additional funds were extremely successful. Not only was it a record once-off level of funding but we had record levels of participation and record completions and we achieved our 100,000 additional training places—in fact, we exceeded that—and we have since spent all of those funds. Our level of funding is contracting, given that we have spent all of that additional once-off funding.

The industry, when those once-off funds were made available, expanded. Those businesses expanded to take advantage of that once-off money. Businesses grew and new RTOs came into the marketplace, as I said, to take advantage of that once-off funding. Those moneys are spent and they are now contracting, and they need to contract back to a more sustainable level of activity.

I have also talked in this place about the issue of the very high levels of current enrollees, or the pipeline effect. Again, because of that additional level of record-level of activity in relation to meeting our targets, we have unprecedented levels of enrolments currently in the system. That means that just under 40 per cent of government subsidised training funds needs to go into the current enrollees, because we have committed to honour those enrolments and we have committed to honour them at the same rate of subsidisation as when they first signed or enrolled. That meant that particularly for 2015-16 we were faced with very high levels of funding; \$100 million of the funds for 2015-16 will need to go into just maintaining those people who are already currently enrolled. So that gave us, for 2015-16, limited funding for new enrolments.

In terms of when we discovered these figures, as reports came through these facts unfolded themselves and we realised that we were going to be very limited to the new enrolment subsidised funds. In relation to that, I have indicated that I put TAFE SA on notice. I indicated to them that it was unsustainable for them to continue to be subsidised at 2½ times the rate of the privates, so I put them on notice and said that by 2018-19—because we are phasing WorkReady in over four years—they have to be on dollar-for-dollar parity with the privates. So it will be a truly open market place with the potential for greater levels of contestability, and that will advantage the privates. But to get to that position, TAFE indicated that they needed assistance or some additional support, particularly during 2015-16, to enable them to make the reforms they need to be able to deliver that dollar-for-dollar parity for commercial training activity in TAFE.

When we were presented with that information, it was clear that unfortunately for 2015-16 a large proportion of the new enrolment funds needed to go to TAFE to support them to be able to transition through reforms to become more competitive. Thus we have the unfortunate position that we have for 2015-16. It is an interim position. Each year that goes past, there should be relief for the privates as the pipeline empties out and we are able to reinvest those funds into the new enrolment contestable fund bucket. Also, TAFE will commence its reforms straightaway and so benefits and efficiencies from that should feed into the system as well.

The privates have a very difficult year in 2015-16. I am meeting with as many of them as I possibly can and we are working with them to identify opportunities where they may be able to engage in training activity. Each training provider is a different business and, therefore, we are trying to work through their individual business positions.

There will be 5,000 new places for the privates. For the privates, we will be subsidising funds for 16,000 places for private RTOs, subsidising training places for 16,000 that are already in the pipeline. There are also the Jobs First Subsidised Training List funds that privates can access and

there is also the Jobs First employment fund of about \$7.5 million, and I have increased those funds for 2015-16 so that they may have access to that. Of course, the privates also have access to fee-for-service which is unlimited, so too are apprenticeships that have training contracts. They are unlimited, so they will be subsidised in an unlimited way. So, there are some opportunities there, and I know that means different things for the different private RTOs but, as I said, we are working with the individual RTOs to try to identify every opportunity for each of those businesses.

### NORTHERN CONNECTOR

**The Hon. J.S.L. DAWKINS (14:46):** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Automotive Transformation questions regarding the state government's 'Shared vision for northern Adelaide' directions paper.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. J.S.L. DAWKINS:** Yesterday the Leader of the Opposition in another place called on the government to commit to finally building the long-proposed Northern Connector road. The Northern Connector is a vital piece of infrastructure that is proposed to make transit time and movement of freight between Adelaide and the north easier and more efficient. In fact, when the Northern Expressway was completed, the bridge which takes Port Wakefield Road over the top of the current south-western entrance to the Northern Expressway was designed to enable the expressway to connect onto the proposed Northern Connector.

When looking at the government's own Northern Economic Plan directions paper, and in particular the key opportunities for northern Adelaide, whilst residential projects such as Buckland Park feature quite prominently, the Northern Connector—a piece of infrastructure that could create and sustain hundreds of jobs—is nowhere to be found. Given the minister's own foreword for the directions paper is entitled 'Northern Adelaide—working together for jobs, investment and a thriving community' and such a core piece of infrastructure is missing from this document, my questions are:

1. Why were projects such as the suburb of Buckland Park included as key opportunities in the directions paper, but the Northern Connector, a key piece of infrastructure for the existing northern suburbs, was not?

2. Will the minister commit to including the construction of the important Northern Connector as part of the government's Northern Economic Plan?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (14:48):** I thank the honourable member for his very important question and his ongoing and genuine interest in matters to do with northern Adelaide and the economic prosperity and vibrancy of the northern suburbs. I am glad the directions paper has created debate and interest—that is exactly what it was designed to do—so I thank the honourable member, who I am quite sure has read that paper very thoroughly, so I can expect more questions about it in the future. Certainly that was one of the aims of the paper to create interest from community and industry.

I think he is referring to the sample in the first few pages which has a map with potential projects that may occur, and the one that he mentions is a very important project. In a perfect world governments would be able to do many projects and upgrade infrastructure. The Northern Connector is a project that certainly has been talked about and would require the federal government to work with the state government to make that occur, but I absolutely agree with the honourable member that the Northern Connector would be an important piece of infrastructure that would aid in the development of the northern suburbs. I can assure him that that will be kept in mind as we develop this plan and as we continue discussions with the federal government. Some of the project mentions were just that: just a sample. Something not mentioned doesn't mean that it's not something that is desired or contemplated by governments.

### MICRO FINANCE FUND

**The Hon. G.A. KANDELAARS (14:49):** My question is to the Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation. How is the government's Micro Finance Fund supporting innovative start-ups in South Australia?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (14:50):** I thank the honourable member for his question. I have been able to find some information I have about that, fortunately. The government is building South Australia's industry capacity to innovate through a range of successful programs, and the recently announced Micro Finance Fund is one of those. The Micro Finance Fund is specifically targeted at realising the economic potential of the state's entrepreneurial community. It aims to seek to discover that next big thing, to give a big shot to a new company, to try to discover the next Bill Gates or Steve Jobs in South Australia.

The fund is competitive. It is a merit-based program which is aimed at assisting businesses and businesspeople to translate good ideas into new high value businesses. Successful applicants have the opportunity to receive \$2 for every \$1 they raise, up to the value of \$50,000, to support transforming their initiative into a successful business proposition. I am pleased to inform the chamber that in the inaugural round of grants, 46 applications were received for consideration and subsequently short-listed candidates were reviewed by the assessment panel.

Applicants were assessed against specific criteria, including the value proposition offered by the project; the target customers and existing engagement with customers; the capability of the applicant to execute the business model; methods of scaling their business to serve global markets; access to appropriate skills and experience to advance the business; ownership or ability to acquire ownership of the intellectual property; evidence that the resultant intellectual property would occur in South Australia; the feasibility of the project; the potential for the project to deliver growth opportunities; and the experience and standing of the project's business mentor.

I am very pleased to say that we have recently approved the inaugural 10 successful applicants through the program, who will each receive \$50,000. One of those is Money Buddy, who have developed proprietary technology for the secure, automated retrieval of bank statement data. They will use the grant to accelerate their product development so that they can launch their product both in New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

Jing Su has created a software development environment that enables small to medium sized enterprises to develop productivity, messaging and business intelligence services with minimal technical know-how, in a reduced time frame, at a much lower cost of ownership and with much less potential for bugs and errors associated with traditional programming. I understand this grant will be used to further develop the user interface, website, e-commerce engine, IP, licensing and legal documentation.

PT BIZ Pty Ltd operate an all-in-one client, time and finance management application that allows personal trainers to have full control of their client list, schedule and finances, with the ability to take credit and debit card payments. I understand the grant awarded to PT BIZ will be used to develop an Android version of their app to recruit, develop and expand their market exposure through attendance at relevant market expos.

Sodales Pacific have designed a solar still that uses a combination of Italian and Australian design to distil water using solar energy and has been successfully tested by the University of South Australia using computer simulation. I understand the grant to Sodales Pacific will be used to develop and build the prototype unit, which will demonstrate the cost, quality and reliability of the system.

Makers Empire operate 3-D printing learning programs which are designed for primary and middle schools, and I understand are currently being used in 30 schools. The grant awarded to Makers Empire will be used to expand their distribution and to work with distributors in Hong Kong with a view to entering the lucrative Chinese market.

ODD Games have developed a dynamic MUD system, universal multiplayer gaming system and bug capturing and reporting program. I understand their grant will be used to employ a unity programmer to develop the systems to target export markets.

Make Safe Pty Ltd have developed BaitSafe, an innovative rodent control device that provides a new platform and solution for inspecting, monitoring and treatment of pests and rodents. I understand their grant will be used to improve the target market awareness through web development and other materials.



eSMART 21 has developed ePark technology, an automated parking enforcement system that uses vehicle detection centres and smart monitoring cameras to increase vehicle turnover in highly congested parking environments. Personify has developed a health analytics program that enables clinicians to monitor patients in real time so they can effectively target intervention supports.

Finally, the tenth grant recipient is the team at Six Foot Kid, who are developing Flick Fighters, an atmospheric adventure 'match three' puzzle game that is slated for release on mobile devices, PCs and hand-held gaming devices late in 2015.

The assistance provided to entrepreneurs to develop their ideas and new markets for their products will help the state government achieve one of its key economic priorities: economic priority 6, growth through innovation, and will support the growth of new innovative businesses in South Australia, potentially creating job opportunities, but importantly economic activity for our state.

I congratulate the recipients and look forward to hearing of their success in the future. I know the Hon. Andrew McLachlan has asked me a number of very perceptive and tough questions on this, some of which, I am afraid to say, I have not been able to answer at the time as they were so probing. So I am pleased to be able to inform him. One of his questions was, 'How many applications have been made?' I think I said earlier that there were 46 applications made for which the tender had been awarded. I expect I will get more tough questions about this in future.

Another question from the Hon. Andrew McLachlan was, 'Who are the members of the panel that assesses the applications, and what are their qualifications?' I am pleased to inform the chamber, and the Hon. Andrew McLachlan in particular, that the panel for the South Australian Micro Finance Fund comprised the following regular members: Chair, Dr Andrew Dunbar, Director of the Office of Science Technology and Research; Mr Geoff Thomas, Principal at Axant Corporate Advisory (he has an MBA and degrees in science and engineering); Mr Gavin Artz, Principal Project Officer, Innovation, in the Industry and Innovation Directorate at the Department of State Development; and Mr Andrew Rasch, Senior Policy Officer, Entrepreneurship and Digital Technologies in the Office for Science, Technology and Research. The panel also had access to a pool of independent experts to call upon if they needed to in assessing these individual applications.

#### **MICRO FINANCE FUND**

**The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (14:57):** Supplementary, Mr President. The minister mentioned a threshold of \$50,000; can he clarify whether that is the maximum amount of the government's contribution or is that the maximum amount of the entrepreneurs' contribution, thereby meaning the government could contribute up to \$100,00?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (14:57):** I can clarify: that is the maximum contribution the government will make. So, the grants are a government contribution of up to \$50,000. That is the maximum contribution from the government.

#### **MICRO FINANCE FUND**

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (14:58):** Supplementary question: is the minister prepared to provide on an annual basis a review of the success or otherwise of the grants and make that available to the parliament?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (14:58):** I will undertake to go away and look to see whether that is something we do already and whether it is something that is desirable and viable to do to for every single grant program.

#### **MICRO FINANCE FUND**

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (14:58):** Supplementary question: does the minister believe that it is desirable to look at the effectiveness and efficiency of taxpayer funded grant programs and be publicly accountable for that?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (14:58):** Yes,

as a general proposition it is desirable that we constantly monitor if we are doing things in the best possible way to give the best possible value for money for the taxpayer. As a general proposition, yes.

#### **NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE ROYAL COMMISSION**

**The Hon. M.C. PARNELL (14:59):** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation a question on the nuclear royal commission.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. M.C. PARNELL:** A number of individuals and community groups have been critical of the nuclear royal commission's engagement with Aboriginal communities. Clearly these communities are likely to be amongst the most directly affected by any expansion of the nuclear industry, whether it be uranium mining, nuclear power or a nuclear waste dump.

These criticisms have included the lack of any materials produced in Aboriginal languages, and also the requirement for submissions to the royal commission to be sworn before a JP. Whilst the commissioner, Mr Kevin Scarce, has visited some Aboriginal communities and offered a relaxation of the strict requirements for evidence, there is still a great deal of concern that many in Aboriginal communities will be excluded from meaningful participation in the royal commission process. My question is: as Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation, what assistance have you or your department provided to Aboriginal communities to assist them in engaging with the royal commission process?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (15:00):** I thank the honourable member for his very important question and his interest in both matters nuclear and Aboriginal affairs. Certainly, we have had a number of requests to us from Aboriginal communities, particularly remote Aboriginal communities, about how that community may engage with the royal commission. I know the department has held discussions with members of the team from the royal commission about the best way to engage Aboriginal communities.

I know that whenever possible we have provided assistance for Aboriginal communities, particularly Maralinga Tjarutja, who—people know the history of the atomic testing in that area—were very, very severely affected by an element of the nuclear industry in the past. I think we have recognised that that is a very special case in South Australia. Certainly, help and assistance have been provided, I know for certain for Maralinga Tjarutja, but I know there have been requests for the best way to access the royal commission from other Aboriginal communities and I know the Department for Aboriginal Affairs has provided help and assistance wherever possible.

**The PRESIDENT:** The honourable and very dapper Mr McLachlan.

#### **AUTOMOTIVE WORKERS IN TRANSITION PROGRAM**

**The Hon. A.L. McLACHLAN (15:01):** Thank you, Mr President; thank you for noticing once again. My question is directed to the Minister for Automotive Transformation. Will the government be tracking the employment outcomes of each individual worker who participates in the Automotive Workers in Transition Program?

*The Hon. K.J. Maher interjecting:*

**The Hon. A.L. McLACHLAN:** I will say it again for the minister: will the government be tracking the employment outcomes of each individual worker who participates in the Automotive Workers in Transition Program?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (15:02):** I thank the honourable member for his, again, very important question. He continues his very strong audition for a frontbench spot. You can see the Hon. David Ridgway nervously shifting around. I would be nervous too, because many of the questions asked by the honourable member are very difficult and insightful; very well researched.

The Automotive Workers in Transition Program is a very important program that seeks to help automotive workers transition from the automotive industry, both workers who work directly for Holden but also the many more workers who work in tier 1 and tier 2 supply chain companies. There is access to things like skills recognition, career advice, training and other sorts of help and counselling.

In terms of the metrics used by the program and those service providers, I think Northern Futures is one of the service providers the government uses, but I will check that for the honourable member. In terms of the metrics that are used to follow the individual workers, I will be very happy to bring back an answer as soon as I possibly can for the honourable member in an attempt to try to head off any further challenging questions.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

**The Hon. T.T. NGO (15:03):** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills a question about international education.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. T.T. NGO:** We all know that international students bring energy and diversity which enrich our local community as well as generating economic growth and prosperity. It is a very important sector to our state. With the value of international education exports rising, can the minister tell the chamber of the current status of the value of the international education sector in South Australia and what the state government is doing to grow this very important sector?

**The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills, Minister for Science and Information Economy, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Business Services and Consumers) (15:04):** I thank the honourable member for his most important question. Last year, more than 30,000 international students chose to study in South Australia, and the benefits of these students extend way beyond the institutions that they study in.

South Australia's international education exports, as measured by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, have been increasing for the last three years and have for the first time risen above the \$1 billion mark. Also rising at a considerable rate is the number of international student commencements in South Australia, which have grown by 5.46 per cent in the first four months of 2015 compared with the same period in the previous year.

As at December 2014, more than 30,000 international students were enrolled to study in South Australia, which in turn supports around 8,000 local jobs. International students invest in property, shop in our local businesses, visit our tourist attractions and promote South Australia to family and friends back home. As well as that, very often their family comes out to visit and in turn they travel and enjoy sightseeing, and that also adds to our tourism dollar.

The international education sector is a competitive market, and this government is committed to investing in this growing sector to help drive economic prosperity. The growth of the international education sector links directly with the government's economic priority to grow South Australia's reputation as a knowledge state and attract a diverse student body. The 2015-16 state budget includes \$5.7 million of additional funds over four years for a new campaign that will market South Australia as the destination of choice for international students.

The Destination Adelaide campaign will boost South Australia's competitiveness in attracting international students from key Asian markets to our education institutions while linking with tourism and trade opportunities. The Destination Adelaide campaign will focus on, amongst other things, marketing South Australia to key Asian markets, including China, India, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam and Hong Kong; developing scholarship and incentive programs; better aligning StudyAdelaide campaigns with the South Australian Tourism Commission to maximise their impact; and expanding on the Qingdao Ambassador Campaign to Shandong, which was a hugely successful ambassador campaign. I am also advised that a StudyAdelaide student guide mobile app will be developed and can be downloaded by international students prior to or upon arrival in Adelaide.

The ambassador program, which was launched in October last year, as I said, was an incredible success. It received more than 170 million online views and attracted applications from

800 students. Expansion of the Qingdao Ambassador Campaign across Shandong and the greater Destination Adelaide campaign will mean greater exposure of South Australia's abundant opportunities to millions more potential students and will market South Australia as a destination of choice and quality for international students.

#### WORKREADY

**The Hon. R.L. BROKENSHERE (15:08):** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Leader of Government Business a question.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. R.L. BROKENSHERE:** Sir, as you would be well aware, there have been lots of questions in this house about concerns over getting people job ready with the hope of them getting a job. I still have not had a clear answer from the minister: are the private training providers correct or incorrect when they say there are only 20 agricultural jobs outside of apprenticeships available in South Australia from Mount Gambier? Is that true—yes or no?

**The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills, Minister for Science and Information Economy, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Business Services and Consumers) (15:08):** I thank the honourable member for his most important question. In terms of the specific numbers allocated on the subsidised training list, I don't have those numbers with me, but I am happy to take that on notice. There are 700 subsidised training qualifications on that training list, and I don't carry the details of all 700 around in my head.

However, as I have indicated in this place in relation to the privates, there is potential to access the subsidised training places through the Jobs First allocation. There are also Jobs First employment programs that can be accredited or non-accredited courses, so that can cover just about anything. I have indicated that there is \$7.5 million in that particular stream that privates are eligible to apply for, for any qualification that they might choose.

The materials will go out in July for that process, so it is hard to anticipate how many agricultural places may be applied for under that stream. Also, as I have indicated, for training apprenticeship contracts there is unlimited subsidisation, so if these qualifications can be linked to an apprenticeship on a training contract, the privates will have access to unlimited numbers and, of course, there is also fee for service. In terms of what has been released so far in relation to the area the honourable member has inquired about, I am happy to take that on notice and bring back a response.

#### WORKREADY

**The Hon. R.L. BROKENSHERE (15:11):** I have a supplementary question. Can the minister confirm to the chamber whether the Minister for Agriculture or the Minister for Regional Development has made representations to the minister expressing concerns about these drastic cuts to agricultural courses and the impact on rural and regional South Australia?

**The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills, Minister for Science and Information Economy, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Business Services and Consumers) (15:11):** Those ministers are members of cabinet who were all part of the policy decision around WorkReady and its application.

#### PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYMENT

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (15:11):** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the minister representing the Premier a question on the subject of wasted taxpayers' money.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** In January of this year Premier Weatherill's new Chief Executive Officer, Mr Kym Winter-Dewhirst, who was a former Labor Party staffer, sacked on the spot a senior executive within the Department of the Premier and Cabinet who only late in 2014 had won a senior executive position within Premier and Cabinet on a five-year contract which did not expire until 2019.

As a result of that, the contract's termination provisions were activated which required a payout of 16 months' salary. Given the executive's salary was somewhere between \$153,000 and

\$235,000, as a member of an SAES1 executive classification, the termination provisions resulted in taxpayers paying somewhere between \$204,000 and \$313,000 for the executive's position being terminated. Weeks later, the Weatherill government then re-employed the same executive in an executive position in SAFECOM. My questions to the minister representing the Premier are:

1. Can the Premier give some explanation as to the reasons why the Premier's chief executive would sack an executive without exploring the possibility of vacant executive positions somewhere else in the public sector so that the termination provisions were not activated within the contract?

2. Can the Premier provide on notice since March 2010—so in the last five years—how many executives have had termination provisions activated as a result of the termination and who have subsequently been re-employed in an executive position in the public sector by the Weatherill government?

**The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills, Minister for Science and Information Economy, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Business Services and Consumers) (15:14):** I thank the member for his questions and will refer them to the Premier in another place and bring back a response.

#### **OAK VALLEY ABORIGINAL COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLY**

**The Hon. J.M. GAZZOLA (15:14):** My question is to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation. What improvements are being made to the water supply to the remote community of Oak Valley in the far north west of the state?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (15:14):** I thank the honourable member for his very important question and his interest in these matters. SA Water manages the drinking water supplies to many regional and remote Aboriginal communities in South Australia with populations ranging between 50 and 500 people. I am very pleased to report that good progress is being made to upgrade the Oak Valley Aboriginal community water supply. The Oak Valley Aboriginal community has a population of approximately 100 people and is located around 120 kilometres northwest of Maralinga. It is one of the most remote communities in the whole of South Australia and, indeed, the whole of the country.

Until now, the main water supply to the town was transported by road tanker from remote bores to a large storage tank within the community. The water was then supplied to members of the community by way of pumps and overhead tanks. A secondary rainwater system was piped to members of the community for drinking water purposes. The infrastructure, however, was becoming worn and there is always a potential risk involved in transporting water long distances by tanker. SA Water therefore began looking at ways of making the community's water supply more reliable and efficient.

A feasibility study was conducted in 2013, as part of routine asset upgrades and maintenance, to investigate various alternatives. Of the options explored, SA Water and the Oak Valley community decided to install a pipeline linking the community of Oak Valley to bores located around 30 kilometres away. I am advised that almost \$1 million worth of funding for the upgrade was provided by the state government—

**The Hon. R.L. Brokenshire:** Taxpayers, not the government.

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** —and SA Water has been contracted to undertake technical components of this water supply. You may be right: the honourable member is quite correct. It is money that the state government spends on behalf of the taxpayers of South Australia for the benefit of South Australians.

**The Hon. R.L. Brokenshire:** The taxpayers give it to you.

**The PRESIDENT:** Order!

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** And the honourable member is right: the money does come from taxpayers, particularly the emergency services levy that he instituted. He is quite right: that money does come by way of taxpayers to be spent on services for the benefit of South Australians.

SA Water has undertaken the technical components of the project. These include modifying the storage facilities in the community, installing new tanks partway between the bores and the community and upgrading some of the bores. Members of the Oak Valley community have also been very closely involved in this project through assistance from the commonwealth government and also through the commonwealth government's Remote Jobs and Communities Program. Around 15 Oak Valley community members have been employed and trained through the project, and SA Water is providing technical support to the community and assistance to remove rocks in some of the trenches because the community did not have the capacity to do that sort of earthworks.

The collaboration meant the upgrade was able to commence fairly quickly, with approximately 10 kilometres of the total 40 kilometres of pipework installed and pressure tested. The first stage of the project is expected to be completed very soon. I congratulate everyone involved in this project from the state government, Oak Valley and the commonwealth government through the Remote Jobs and Communities Program.

### INDUSTRIAL HEMP

**The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (15:18):** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question on the topic of industrial hemp to the Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. T.A. FRANKS:** The minister would be well aware that there is a strong push across Australia to explore the opportunities that are available in industrial hemp. While no crop is the remedy to all of our social, economic or environmental woes, it is believed that, with sustained research and development, hemp does, indeed, offer a very positive solution that could spur on some great ecological and economic benefits.

With that in mind, I met recently with the Industrial Hemp Association of South Australia (recently created) and the president of that association, Teresa McDowell, and also Ruth Trigg, and they presented to me a story which shows that South Australia is lagging far behind the other states on this issue. Indeed, there is legislation for the cultivation of industrial hemp under licence already approved in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and Western Australia, yet here in South Australia no such legislation enabling the pursuit of an industrial hemp industry exists. My question to the minister is: will he undertake to meet with the newly formed Industrial Hemp Association of South Australia and explore the opportunities that may be able to forward South Australia's economic and employment outcomes?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation, Minister for Automotive Transformation, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation) (15:19):** I thank the honourable member for her question, her interest in manufacturing and her very keen interest in hemp. It is a very good question and a timely one. Only recently, at an event in Yankalilla, down near the Hon. Robert Brokenshire's part of the world, an attendee talked to me about the possible application of a hemp industry in South Australia. And it just so happened that on that day I was wearing a pair of jeans made from hemp. It is a good question.

**An honourable member:** Indian hemp?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** Yes, a nice brown pair of jeans made from hemp. With a blue shirt, I looked very smart that day.

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** And my burgundy boots. I think—

**The PRESIDENT:** Order! Get back to the answer, minister. We do not want to know your fashion statement.

**The Hon. D.W. Ridgway:** He's the fashion guru of the Legislative Council now.

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** With a tan coloured belt as well. It was very fetching, I am sure.

*The Hon. T.J. Stephens interjecting:*

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** No, I bought them from Young's menswear in Mount Gambier. They were about \$80.

**The Hon. T.J. Stephens:** Eighty bucks for a pair of strides?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** The Hon. Terry Stephens obviously hasn't bought his pants lately. They are expensive.

**The PRESIDENT:** The Hon. Mr Maher has the floor.

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** Thank you, Mr President.

*The Hon. J.S.L. Dawkins interjecting:*

**The PRESIDENT:** The Hon. Mr Dawkins, you should know better than to interject during Mr Maher's answer.

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** Thank you, Mr President. He has been here long enough to know that that sort of thing is completely out of order. But I am glad to see that it is not just this end of the chamber; we see the auditioning from the front bench spanning right across the back of the chamber. It is pleasing, after all these years, to see the Hon. John Dawkins blossoming, coming out of his shell like a beautiful flower first thing in the morning. He is blossoming into his role, and the honourable—

**The PRESIDENT:** Get back to your marijuana pants, Mr Maher, please.

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** In answer to the honourable member's question, I would be very—

**The Hon. T.A. FRANKS:** Point of order, Mr President. They are not marijuana plants. Industrial hemp is an entirely different product.

*Members interjecting:*

**The PRESIDENT:** Order! You have probably missed a question that could have been answered. The Hon. Mr Maher, finish your answer.

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** Thank you, Mr President.

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** I am very concerned about some of the interjections that have been occurring. In answer to the honourable member's question, yes; maybe through her, I would be most pleased to meet with the newly formed Industrial Hemp Association to discuss what impediments there are for an industry and what possibilities there could potentially be for an industry. I know that it is not just textiles. I understand the hemp industry is being used elsewhere. The Hon. Robert Brokenshire, who knows more about hemp than most of us, being from the country and involved in agriculture—

**The Hon. T.J. Stephens:** You're not suggesting that he grows some, are you?

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** Nothing of the sort. He has a farm; that is all I am suggesting.

*The Hon. T.J. Stephens interjecting:*

**The Hon. K.J. MAHER:** No, not at all. He is a primary producer. He understands how to grow things. But there are other applications besides the well-known application for textiles; in fact, building products. Industrial hemp has been useful. I will be most pleased to meet with members of the Industrial Hemp Association and, if the honourable member has any other suggestions as to how we could progress this, I would be most pleased to do so.

*Matters of Interest*

### HIGHGATE PARK DISABILITY SERVICES

**The Hon. K.L. VINCENT (15:23):** I would like to share the words of two young women from Whyalla, both of whom have a disability: muscular dystrophy. The daily trials and tribulations of the

Westerman twins trying to access basic services, as is their human right, is well known to both my office and the Minister for Disabilities.

Recently, the Westermans came to Adelaide for assessment appointments. They stayed at Highgate Park. Despite repeated assurances from Disability SA, what occurred during their stay there was unacceptable. My office wrote to the minister about this issue and the response was, in turn, totally unacceptable. The Westerman sisters feel that the minister is not facing up to the realities of what has occurred in this situation nor the inadequate service being provided at Highgate Park. So, in light of the poor response to date, I will raise their questions in this forum:

Why did no Highgate Park workers know what type of care we needed? Why did they assume we had a cognitive disability and ask us if we were anorexic? Why did none of the equipment suit our needs? The toilet chair seating was for males and our legs fell through the gap at the front of the seat. The seating was not padded...we are very bony due to having no muscle, so it hurt to sit on the toilet. We were told by Disabilities SA that Highgate had the same equipment we currently use. Not true. The mattress on the bed was hard and left us with pressure sores.

Being on the toilet covered with a sheet and wheeled through the corridors like this is not acceptable. We were informed that some clients can ram you in their chairs, plus at this time we were still using the male seat. We lean on our arms, so we balance, so one small knock, or even moving the seat too fast, will make us fall and end up on the floor. Would you, as someone who can walk and do what you want when you want, go to the toilet in the middle of a busy shopping centre with only a curtain as a privacy screen where someone can walk in at any time, and go naked from A to B?

A simple toilet shift often takes an hour for both of us—at Highgate Park this took three hours. How is that possible when we were told the staff at Highgate Park are highly trained? This wasn't just a one-off. Can you understand how stressful and hurtful it was to go through this every day? We had to wait for ninety minutes to get out of bed because by the time the support workers got ready they left again..Meanwhile, we didn't eat breakfast because we were still waiting to get up. It was 10:15 when we were in our chairs and eating breakfast. Usually we'd be up and ready by 8am.

At home we go to the toilet five to six times a day, at Highgate, it was reduced to twice because they did not have enough staff rostered on. Staff refused to toilet us—they would literally hide, leave half way through a shift, bicker like we weren't there, swap workers during a shift, leaving us to re-teach the new workers what to do. This was not just frustrating but unsafe. We got treated like we were a burden. Cyanne was left in her room, as her chair was broken, and no-one was informed during shift change. She never got to leave her room—only once during her stay.

Prior to the visit we had asked about bringing valuable belongings and if we should name clothes. They said we could take valuables because it was very unlikely that anything would be stolen. And that naming our clothes was optional. It was a different story once we were at Highgate. I was told to lock up all my valuables because they do go missing, and that putting names on our clothes wasn't good enough because they too would disappear as the washing is done all together. So we kept our dirty clothes in our room in a box for it to be washed separately as to everyone else.

These are not my words. These are quotes from correspondence sent to me by Zia and Cyanne Westerman who have given me permission to name them in the chamber today. I do so to raise awareness, not only that the services provided to them during their stay at Highgate were inadequate, but that the minister's response clearly shows that he does not understand the true ramifications of the issues.

I ask everyone here today to imagine what it would be like to be a young woman in this situation in which Zia and Cyanne Westerman found themselves during their stay at Highgate Park. I am hoping for a more adequate response from the minister that will take into account the true ramifications of what the Westermans were told versus what actually happened to them during their stay at Highgate Park.

### SUICIDE PREVENTION

**The Hon. J.S.L. DAWKINS (15:29):** On Monday 15 June I participated in the first regional network of suicide prevention networks event at Mount Gambier's City Hall. A feature of the day was presentations from the Mount Gambier, Naracoorte-Lucindale and Murray Bridge networks as well as the South East Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Treasuring Life group. This aspect of the day emphasised the ability of each network to develop an action plan that best suits its community and to utilise the contributions of people with a lived experience.

The event was hosted by the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist's Lynne James as part of the South Australian Suicide Prevention Strategy. Of course, I have mentioned Ms James's work in rolling out the Suicide Prevention Networks across South Australia in this place before. Specific



presentations by Medicare Local Country South's Philip Galley and Headspace's Adam Clay focused on tension reduction as an integral part of managing crisis and the preparation of suicide postvention action plans respectively. It was a very successful day. I think people had travelled significant distances within the South-East of South Australia, and from beyond, to be at that event. It was certainly one that, I think, particularly focused on keeping members of our communities safe from suicide.

I look forward to attending the second Regional Network of Networks, which will be held at the Clare Country Club, White Hart Road, Clare, on Thursday 9 July. This will be hosted by the Office of the Chief Psychiatrist and the Back2Basics suicide prevention network, which is based within the Wakefield Regional Council and the Clare & Gilbert Valleys Council areas.

Once again, Adam Clay from Headspace will speak and his speech will be about preparing a community postvention plan, which is important for all organisations, particularly workplaces. As well as Back2Basics, the other networks that have been invited to attend and share about their own local activities include the Gawler Suicide Prevention Network, the Mid Murray Suicide Prevention Network, the Peterborough Suicide Prevention Planning Committee, the Playford Suicide Prevention Network, the SILPAG group from Port Augusta (which stands for Suicide Intervention Life Preservation Action Group), the Whyalla Suicide Prevention Network and the Yorke Peninsula Suicide Prevention Network.

I look forward to joining in with those groups as they work together to achieve the best outcomes for their communities. Those who understand the diversity of those particular localities and their populations will understand that it is valuable for them to learn from each other about activities which will create awareness of suicide and will encourage people to work towards better strategies for prevention and also, as I have mentioned, postvention.

I am also very pleased to report that another community, a significant population community in South Australia has made an important step to establishing a suicide prevention network, and that is the City of Salisbury. It is the second largest population local government area in South Australia. As has been demonstrated by its neighbour group in the Playford council area, suicide and the effects of it are just as prevalent in metropolitan areas as they are in the country. So, I congratulate the City of Salisbury on taking that step.

## TECHPORT AUSTRALIA

**The Hon. T.T. NGO (15:34):** The Abbott government says the ASC from Techport Australia in South Australia cannot even be trusted to build a canoe. On Saturday 23 May 2015, in front of hundreds of people, with a large media contingent, ASC launched the completion of the first of the air warfare destroyer project, or AWD. The project is worth \$8 billion and will deliver three ships by mid-2019. The AWD is Australia's largest and most complex defence project to date, employing thousands of South Australians and contributing high-end manufacturing and system integration skills for our future.

We may not be able to build a canoe, according to the Abbott government, but certainly we can build the most advanced and complex ship ever built in Australia. I and many South Australians were outraged when the Abbott government, on the eve of the launch of the AWD, selectively quoted from a report that we did not even know existed. They leaked it to the press to allow them to attack what should be a proud moment for all Australians.

When building a first ship of any kind from a greenfields site, it is always going to be expensive. There are always going to be initial costs when building something from scratch. Training the workforce and ironing out issues through trial and error is perfectly normal. As you build the second, third and so on, productivity improves through greater capability, and then you get better cost effectiveness. It is a disgrace for the Abbott government to compare costs figures from this first ship to ships built overseas that are well into their building program. Chris Burns, CEO of the Defence Teaming Centre (the defence industry association), sent an email about the AWD launch, stating:

I had not anticipated that our own federal government would ambush the event by selectively quoting denigrating information on the project based on an unreleased 'forensic audit'. Like the 'White Winter Report', it appears the detail of the audit will not be released. It is impossible to argue the industry's case without access to the audit, particularly when it apparently uses 'interesting mathematics' and includes factors previously unused to evaluate

project costs, like the cost of extending the life of current destroyers, the inclusion of costs for ASC facilities, missile purchases and training. It was a great shame that the Prime Minister was unavailable to attend the launch.

The PM was in Adelaide that week and could not be bothered hanging around to attend the launch scheduled for the next day. Once again, the Abbott government is trying to undermine South Australians and Australians in general by portraying that we cannot be trusted to build anything. Mr Abbott is laying the ground work to announce that the submarine projects will be built overseas.

I am beginning to realise that there is nothing the PM has said to suggest that he has changed his mind to build the new submarines in Australia. The competitive evaluation process was set up as a way to shore up the PM's vote if there was a leadership spill. This is not a normal tender process that is based on merit. Nobody seems to understand the process of this tender, not even the defence experts advising the government or even Mr Abbott's own MPs.

This is just a delaying tactic to ease the pressure from the Australian people that was being put on the Abbott government. With the sabotage of the launch of the AWD by the Abbott government, I am no longer of the belief that the new submarine project will be built in South Australia or Australia. What a shame! It will be just another 'captain's pick'.

### SEX WORK LAWS

**The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (15:39):** I rise today to speak about the urgent and pressing need to decriminalise sex work in this state. On the very first day of this year a young woman, Ting Fang, lost her life when she was murdered in a Hindley Street hotel, just a few hundred metres from where we stand today. She was silenced in her death when she had her throat slit. She was silenced in her profession when she came to South Australia from New South Wales, because South Australia's sex work laws are the most archaic in the country.

I note that we have had many attempts at legislative reform, but I hope that this year we will finally see the decriminalisation of sex work in South Australia and once again take our place as one of the nation's most progressive legislatures, certainly in relation to this particular issue, and that the days of games where people post on Facebook and encourage others to throw bottles at sex workers standing on Hanson Road will be long gone and a part of our history.

I note that locally we have had many attempts at law reform that have passed neither this council nor the other place, but in New Zealand the prostitution reform bill passed in that parliament in 2003. In that parliament and in that legislature, we can see the benefits of a decriminalisation model. It was with that intent that I visited New Zealand in September 2012 and met with the New Zealand Prostitutes Collective and a range of other sex workers, street workers, health professionals and politicians to discuss the potential for South Australia to enact similar laws.

One of the workers that I met had entered postgraduate study and she was interested in the status of sex work around the world. She knew of South Australia, in fact, because of the Adelaide sex workers online blog Because I'm a whore, which is at [www.becauseimawhore.com](http://www.becauseimawhore.com). I make mention of that for any members of this place to hear a perspective from an Adelaide-based sex worker about the effects of the laws in our state upon her life and those of her colleagues.

I note also that New Zealand sex workers remarked to me that they knew that they had an Australian client, and particularly a South Australian client or a client from a state where the laws are not those of decriminalisation, because the clients would attempt to take condoms with them when they left, knowing that possession of condoms can be used as evidence of sex work and used to prosecute a sex worker.

I heard stories from those workers in New Zealand about their experience of the industry. Their experience of the industry was one where organised crime was not an active part of that industry, where workplace rights and respect for the lives of those workers was a key part of the industry, where a particular sex worker who was being blackmailed by a police officer in that country was not only able to report that blackmail to the authorities, but that police officer was then convicted and imprisoned for his crime, while she was protected and her human rights were respected.

It is that need for reform that I believe would honour the life of Ting Fang and the sad loss of her life and the silence that will be imposed upon her for ever more that this state needs to turn its attention to. We've had many attempts at law reform, as I say, some of which have occurred in my

time in this place, but I know other more experienced and long-serving members have seen far more debates on this issue than I have. I look forward to South Australia again leading the way.

I would say that the key thing we must do as members of this place is respect the slogan that I have often heard, particularly from Scarlet Alliance and other sex work organisations: 'Nothing about us without us.' We must listen to the voices of sex workers themselves and not have them silenced in this debate. We must not assume that we know better, but we must listen to those who are the experts in their own lives.

### FEDERAL BUDGET

**The Hon. T.J. STEPHENS (15:43):** I rise today to add further comments to those I made back in May on the positives of the federal budget handed down earlier this year. The commonwealth Coalition government has handed down a good and wise budget, a budget that does not make massive cuts to essential services, but in fact has sustainable savings measures, one that assists families and businesses by giving tax concessions without worsening the debt and deficit problem.

One of the most laudable measures of this budget is the \$5.5 billion small business package, so I want to talk in more detail about this today. Small business is the engine room of the economy and employs a vast majority of the Australian workforce. This is particularly true here in South Australia.

This budget is very friendly to small business. I would like to discuss some of the specifics here. One of the more obvious benefits to small business is accelerated depreciation, which allows businesses to now claim up to \$20,000 on individual assets rather than the usual \$1,000. This will act as a stimulus of sorts, allowing businesses to make purchases of small assets such as machinery, tools and even cars. In rural South Australia, where small business is the heart of the community, especially the farming sector, assets could include fencing, water and fodder storage. This is also smart from a public policy perspective, as it draws on businesses' own tax liability rather than a handout.

In addition to this is the corporate tax cut of 1½ per cent to a new rate of 28.5 per cent. This again will reduce the tax liability of business, allowing them to invest in assets but more importantly in employing South Australians. I do note, though, that corporate tax is only levied on profits, yet this affects 780,000 Australian businesses. Sadly, regressive taxes such as the state Labor government's payroll tax still exist, and will directly inhibit a business' ability to employ South Australians. Further to this 1½ per cent cut, there will also be a 5 per cent tax cut to unincorporated businesses with a turnover of less than \$2 million from 1 July 2015.

The commonwealth is looking to further reduce red tape, something which is close to my heart and something which often involves a lot of common-sense. Officious bureaucracy can be debilitating to a small business where precious time and resources can be taken through needless paperwork and compliance issues. There will be an exemption to fringe benefits tax for work-related portable electronic devices. Further measures include wage subsidies for small businesses who take a punt on jobseekers. This is a much smarter approach than a simple welfare cheque, as it assists the economy also.

The commonwealth will also provide \$18 million for 6,000 jobseekers to undertake four weeks of work experience, a measure which is particularly relevant to South Australia as a youth employment strategy. The commonwealth will provide \$330 million to improve the chances of Australia's youth of achieving employment. This has the added benefit of preventing generational entrenchment of unemployment. The commonwealth will also focus on returning the long-term unemployed to work.

Further assisting small business, particularly the retail sector, is the closing of the GST loophole on online purchases and transactions from foreign-based e-merchants. This will level the playing field for Australian operators, both online and in shopfronts. Another measure which assists working families and therefore small business and the wider community is the childcare subsidy. This allows new mums and dads the ability to get back into the work force but also provides existing mums and dads greater flexibility in their current arrangements. The subsidy will assist low-income families earning \$65,000 or less, which are our most vulnerable and hardest working, with up to 85 per cent

of their childcare costs up to an hourly cap. A family with both parents in work can have up to 36 hours of subsidised child care.

Just so that this does not seem like a partisan pat on the back, I will read out a quote from the CEO of Business SA, the peak membership body for small business in this state, who unequivocally backs this budget to assist small business. He says:

This budget has a clear and very welcomed focus on helping small business including new start up businesses. Tonight's budget will give small business the 'kick start' they need to grow, invest and create sustainable jobs.

I congratulate the commonwealth government on its excellent budget. I hope for its swift passage through the commonwealth parliament and I hope we seal tangible benefits here for all South Australians.

### FRESH 92.7

**The Hon. J.M. GAZZOLA (15:48):** Last week, I had the pleasure of meeting with Troy Sincock, the General Manager of Fresh 92.7, and was introduced to Fresh radio's five-year strategic plan, concentrating on continued sustainability and growth. The strategic plan will focus on three key areas, including volunteer participation, youth engagement, and local contemporary music development.

Fresh 92.7 is an Adelaide-based not-for-profit community organisation. It was formed in 1997 by three mates inspired to fill a gap in the market and cater for the niche youth and dance music scene of Adelaide. With volunteers, including some with broadcasting experience, in 1998 Fresh transmitted on our radios for the first time on a shared frequency. In 2002, Fresh was granted a permanent licence by the Australian Broadcasting Authority. With dedicated listeners and the hard work of those behind the scenes, Fresh has grown from strength to strength.

In 2010 Fresh moved into state-of-the-art studios and offices. It is now the most listened to community radio station in South Australia having the second-largest market share of any community radio station within Australia. Currently it has 154,000 weekly listeners, 200 plus volunteers and 1,052 subscribers. Within the last two years, the station has doubled its staff and is now employing 17 people.

Fresh has also launched a program with a full-circle approach to sport and the local music industry. *Open House* is a diverse, contemporary music development program. Fresh has emerged as a key player in the contemporary music industry. It has consulted the government, Adelaide City Council and the local music scene to develop their five-year strategic plan.

As well as broadcasting music, Fresh is dedicated to educating, empowering and entertaining Adelaide's young community. Volunteers are given the opportunity to gain unique professional development, including on-air production, engineering, promotions and administration. The Adelaide radio station has successfully seen a number of volunteers go on to gain employment in the radio and television industry and, through partnerships with the Adelaide City Council, Channel 9, MusicSA, as well as emerging local music organisations like Futuresounds, Fresh has facilitated more than 40 live performance opportunities, including Adelaide's New Year's Eve Event, and has given many local musicians their first radio airplay.

Sean Craig Murphy, owner of the Australian Radio School and Southern Cross Austereo employee referred to Fresh last week as one of the best breeding grounds in the country for new talent. I would like to acknowledge and congratulate Fresh on its achievements as a leading youth broadcaster and wish them the very best with their mission.

While Fresh radio is actively seeking to assist and promote live music, I was concerned to hear of the dispute between the Royal Croquet Club, the Australian Hotels Association and the Adelaide City Council. I read the *InDaily* article published on 24 June outlining the push for greater restrictions on the RCC event. Lord Mayor Martin Haese openly advocates for vibrancy of Adelaide city. The Lord Mayor's article in *The Advertiser* on 6 June stated:

We must move closer to business and build on Adelaide's reputation as a vibrant, liveable city. I find cities that think globally are more exciting, culturally diverse and prosperous and I challenge anyone to tell me the downside of that.

The proposed motion for amendments to the Royal Croquet Club trading arrangements may even cause the event to move from South Australia. The clubs co-director, Tom Skipper, said in *The Advertiser* on 26 June:

To have these rules that only apply to us is really unfair and it will jeopardise our ability to keep doing it.

I note that Parklife, Big Day Out, Summadayze, Future Music Festival and We Love Sounds are no longer staged in Adelaide. Triple J's One Night Stand has not returned to South Australia and, unfortunately, Soundwave is unlikely to return to Adelaide in 2016. The RCC accounted for more than 21 per cent of all tickets sold at the Adelaide Fringe in 2015 and was the largest music offering at the Fringe with approximately 210,000 attending the venue. I am advised that the event was estimated to account for 60 per cent of new Adelaide Fringe attendees. Ian Horne, the general manager of the AHA wrote in the current issue of the AHA magazine and stated:

Also very pleasing is the decision to remove the need for separate entertainment consent for licensees who wish to have entertainment before midnight. In a state which has vibrancy high on the agenda it is absolutely crucial that hotels, who contribute 76 per cent of receipts for APRA, are allowed to support and encourage live music. While we would dearly love to have the need for entertainment consent to be removed for all entertainment at any time, we welcome this as a first step and hope to see it expanded wherever possible.

It is a great step but it's not the only change needed for live music to be given its best shot in SA. Without the necessary support by local governments through their planning agencies, these changes could be simply replaced with the application of new planning or noise conditions on licensees. It would be pointless to remove one level of restraint just to replace it with another.

This seems at odds with the AHA's concerns regarding the RCC event. I believe that it is time for the government to lead and relieve the Adelaide City Council of some of its regulatory responsibilities and give certainty to the young entrepreneurs locally, nationally and internationally, that Adelaide truly is a great place to work, live and play.

The government should provide a single agency to deal with planning, development, licensing and noise monitoring. We could start with a trial in the CBD as we have with the small bar licences legislation. I think the trendy vernacular is to cut the red tape and set up a one-stop shop. We cannot continue with these perennial debates regarding pop ups versus bricks and mortar.

Time expired.

#### ADELAIDE AIRPORT

**The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (15:54):** I rise, in the brief five minutes I have, to raise an issue which is rarely raised in this place but one that I believe will become increasingly important in the years ahead and something that has been brought to my attention in recent times by a number of people, including representatives from Walkerville city council, the Adelaide City Council, West Torrens City Council and even a representative of the federal government, as well as members of the state parliament. It is an issue that has become increasingly important, I believe, for a number of people, and it surrounds the Adelaide Airport.

You do not hear it mentioned in this place very often because the simple fact is that airports are administered, largely, at a federal level and, certainly, regulated at a federal level so, in terms of the impact that a state parliament can have on its regulation or future direction, it is limited. But it is important that we consider the social impact of the airport, not just the economic impact, although I say at the outset of my brief speech (with only four minutes remaining, I note) that the airport is regarded generally as an asset by most people in South Australia (and I would certainly concur with that) and, indeed, a source of pride, given that it is, in my view, the best presented airport in Adelaide.

It is also the fifth largest airport in Australia in terms of total passenger movements. The airport is also quite unique because of the fact that it is situated only 6 kilometres from the CBD and is bounded by residential areas to the east, south and north and, to a very small extent, the west. However, the convenience of its location does come with disadvantages. We need to address these disadvantages sooner rather than later, in my view, as they are simply not going to go away and will only get significantly worse over time.

Air traffic not only causes significant noise disturbance for residents within the flight path but also for those in the surrounding suburbs, including (and especially) the inner north-eastern suburbs,

and more especially, I would say, the western suburbs, of course. This noise disturbance has become increasingly problematic for a number of residents who have raised it with me, as I said.

Statistics from the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics has revealed that Adelaide Airport had 7.7 million passengers pass through its terminals in 2014, with 121,000 aircraft movements last year. By 2030, the bureau projects that the number of passengers will increase by 3.5 per cent per year to 14.1 million and the number of aircraft movements will increase by 1.7 per cent per year to approximately 147,000. The projected growth presents several issues which must be addressed now before the situation worsens and significantly impacts on all concerned.

The increased activity will put a strain on the airport's current infrastructure. The current single entry point, for example, for vehicles will have to be reconsidered, as it is already at risk of becoming a bottleneck and incapable of coping under the increased number of departures and arrivals. The increased air traffic also calls into question (for some, at least) the 11pm to 6am curfew. I would state for the record that I do not support a change in the curfew, but there is some pressure to re-examine that. As a point of interest for members, as well, it may surprise members to know that there are 2,000 air traffic movements (planes, mostly) that land inside the curfew, that is, between 11pm and 6am, so I think the word 'curfew' is probably inappropriate.

Of course, lifting the curfew to service a growing number of inbound and outbound flights will cause further pain to already frustrated residents in the flight path and the surrounding suburbs. As a consequence, these residents will experience an increase in noise disturbance from planes throughout the day and night if such a measure were to be taken, and this is simply not a workable solution, in my view.

One possible and logical solution would be to build a second runway whereby all air traffic both takes off and comes in over the ocean for landing and taking off. Numerous countries operate this way, and it presents a practical solution to the space, air traffic control and budgetary constraints compared to, say, building a new airport elsewhere, which should be considered but, obviously, would come at much greater cost. We risk future investment, tourism and failing infrastructure if a suitable solution is not found, not to mention the substantial social cost. This simple solution would also provide welcome relief for those home owners who are subject to increasing disturbance from the flight path.

It would be a forward-thinking state government that would open the conversation about suitable redevelopment now and prepare a long-term investment plan to increase travel to Adelaide, possibly even creating a hub for international flights to first land in Adelaide prior to onward domestic travel to their destination.

In light of the bureau's forecast and with the current restrictions that the airport operates under, Adelaide Airport is simply unable to sustain the amount of air traffic that is projected for the next 15 years. I urge the government to consider this situation.

Just one last point, if I may, the argument that people knew when they bought in these areas that they would be subject to these issues is largely false, because what has happened is that the amount of traffic has increased substantially in very recent times. I will have more to say on this in the future.

#### *Parliamentary Committees*

### **CRIME AND PUBLIC INTEGRITY POLICY COMMITTEE: ANNUAL REVIEW**

**The Hon. G.A. KANDELAARS (16:00):** I move:

That the report of the committee, on its annual review into public integrity and the Independent Commissioner Against Corruption, be noted.

The Independent Commissioner against Corruption Act 2012 came into operation on 1 September 2013 and the office of the ICAC opened its doors the next day. The Crime and Public Integrity Policy Committee was also established on 1 September 2013 and the inaugural members of the committee were appointed in May 2014. A key function of the committee is to consider the operation of South Australia's integrity bodies, including:

- the ICAC, whose roles include the investigation of corruption and the oversight of the investigation of misconduct and maladministration in public administration;
- the Office of Public Integrity, which receives and assesses complaints and reports about potential matters of corruption, misconduct and maladministration in public administration;
- the Ombudsman of SA, whose office investigates complaints about the South Australian government and local government agencies;
- the Office of the Police Ombudsman, which provides independent oversight of the South Australia Police and its members; and
- the Anti-Corruption Branch of SAPOL, which ensures that allegations of corruption in public administration referred to police by the ICAC are appropriately investigated.

Between August 2014 and March 2015, the committee considered 10 annual reports and other reports tabled in parliament from the ICAC, the Ombudsman, the Police Ombudsman, the Commissioner of Police and the independent reviewer of the ICAC. The committee is charged with examining these reports whilst also inquiring into and considering the operation and effectiveness of the ICAC Act. In particular, the committee must:

- consider the performance and functions and the exercise of powers by the ICAC and the OPI;
- inquire into and consider the performance of functions and exercise of powers by the Ombudsman; and
- report to parliament on any matter arising of public policy.

In 2014 the committee received oral evidence from ICAC Commissioner Bruce Lander; the independent reviewer of the ICAC, the Hon. Mr Kevin Duggan; the Acting Ombudsman, Ms Megan Philpot; and the then Police Ombudsman, Ms Sarah Bolt.

In early 2015, the committee also heard evidence from the newly appointed Ombudsman, Mr Wayne Lines, and the new Deputy Ombudsman, Ms Emily Strickland. The committee also heard from SAPOL, namely the Commissioner of Police, Mr Gary Burns; Assistant Commissioner Crime Service, Paul Dickson; Chief Superintendent, Officer in Charge, Ethical and Professional Standards Branch, Peter Harvey; Superintendent Christine Baulderstone, Officer in Charge, Anti-Corruption Branch; and Superintendent Craig Patterson, Officer in Charge, Internal Investigations Section.

The committee found that at this preliminary stage it appears that the ICAC and the OPI have made a positive impact upon the anticorruption framework in South Australia. However, a number of years will need to go by before the full impact can be seen. Despite some of the complexities and recommendations for change, the committee commends all agencies for working together to try to make the new system work.

The committee made 12 recommendations relating to matters of public policy. Overall, the committee found there was a need for a mechanism to allow people to make complaints about how the commissioner exercises his powers. By that I mean the actual exercise of power and not a review of decisions made by the commissioner. The committee also believes that external reviews of freedom of information decisions regarding SAPOL documents should be undertaken by the Ombudsman, not the Police Ombudsman.

Action should be taken to address the uncertainties in the Local Government Act 1999, given that possible sanctions depend on whether reported breaches of code of conduct are made to the Ombudsman or OPI. The legislative framework regarding complaints about police misconduct and corruption should be simplified. A review should be undertaken to determine if it is practicable to legislate for the sharing of personal information to better protect children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Government documents should be more readily available under the Freedom of Information Act with more proactive disclosure of information, and further work needs to be done to achieve an

integrated model of public integrity in South Australia which is accessible, efficient, effective and simple. The committee notes that commissioner Lander's current evaluation of practices, policies and procedures of the Police Ombudsman and reviews of legislative schemes will likely address many of the policy issues identified.

On behalf of the committee, I thank all those who gave evidence to the committee. I also thank members of the committee from this chamber: the Hons Robert Brokenshire and Andrew McLachlan, and the Hon. Stephen Wade, who was a former member of the committee in the previous session of the current parliament. From the other place, I thank Mr Chris Picton (member for Kaurana), Mr Lee Odenwalder (member for Little Para) and Mr Vincent Tarzia (member for Hartley). Finally I thank the executive research officer of the committee, Ms Katherine McLachlan, who did an excellent job in supporting the committee and drafting our report.

As an aside, I should also point out, given we are the Crime and Public Integrity Policy Committee, that Ms Katherine McLachlan and the Hon. Andrew McLachlan are not related. I commend this report to the council.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. T.J. Stephens.

### **NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE: LEVY PROPOSALS 2015-16**

**The Hon. G.A. KANDELAARS (16:08):** I move:

That the report of the committee, on the Natural Resources Management Board Levy Proposals 2015-16 for Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges, Eyre Peninsula, Kangaroo Island, Northern and Yorke, and South-East, be noted.

One of the Natural Resources Committee's statutory obligations is to consider and make recommendations on any annual levy proposals by the Natural Resources Management Boards where the levy increase exceeds the annual CPI rise.

Of the six proposed increases in the Division 1 land based levies for 2015-16, only two were higher than the 3.1 per cent CPI reference rate. The four remaining division 1 levy proposals were equal or less than CPI. Of the five division 2 water levy proposals considered only one was higher than CPI. The remaining four division 2 water levies were either equal to or less than CPI.

The committee was very pleased to see the boards acting with restraint and generally keeping levy increases at or very close to CPI. Whilst committee members are always sympathetic to the desire of NRM boards to increase their funding bases, the committee believes that increases above CPI should be the exception rather than the rule.

The Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges NRM Board sought a 23.4 per cent division 2 levy increase. Initially, this sounded like a large increase, however, the committee accepted the board's explanation that the increase was due to the inclusion of levies from approximately 2,300 additional licensees in the Western Mount Lofty Ranges Prescribed Water Resources Area and the funds raised will be allocated toward properly managing this important resource.

Furthermore, the committee heard that existing levies for the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges area for other licensees under the region's water allocation plan have actually been reduced. Members also heard that the inclusion of the additional licensees have, as I said, seen an overall increase that would have been limited to CPI.

The Kangaroo Island board has sought a 12 per cent division 1 increase. The committee accepted the board's reasoning that the proposed increase, while exceeding CPI, represented only \$3.96 per assessment per annum due to it being a fixed rate and that the increase was needed in order to carry out the board's functions as required under the NRM Act and to meet community expectations.

The South Australian Murray Darling Basin NRM Board sought a 5.1 per cent division 1 levy increase. In this instance, the committee accepted the board's reasoning that the levy proposal was amended following consultation with affected community members. The board, in response to this feedback, chose to offset this increase by reducing its division 2 levy increase to 1.1 per cent below the year's CPI increase.



At its meeting on Friday 15 May 2015, the committee determined not to object to any of the proposed NRM levy increases for the 2015-2016 financial year. Members were pleased to hear from the various boards on the important role played by NRM officers in South Australia's regional communities. For example, members heard of the important role the natural resources management staff played in fighting the Sampson Flat fires back in January of this year.

Professor Chris Daniels, presiding member of the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board, estimated that 60 Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges regional staff were among the DEWNR employees involved in fighting the Sampson Flat fires, and that following the fires many DEWNR staff were also involved in working with individual landowners to help them regrow their farms and properties and doing such things as managing weeds, conserving soil, identifying bits of remnant vegetation that had survived and even identifying individual trees to either be removed or retained.

One point particularly concerning to the committee regarding the future of NRM in the state were the future funding projections for nearly all of the NRM boards. There is a rapidly approaching sharp fall in overall NRM funding expected.

The impact is particularly well illustrated by the Kangaroo Island NRM Board's submission. The KI submission—and there are graphs in our report that we tabled yesterday that show this—indicates a sharp drop in the overall NRM funding over the next few years, particularly under the federal government's national landcare program (formerly Caring for Our Country), which is being cut across the board.

Even with the modest increase in the KI division 1 levy, the KI NRM Board projects that its income will contract from \$3.4 million in 2014-15 to \$1.1 million in 2017-18. In that very short time two thirds of the Kangaroo Island NRM Board's funding will simply evaporate. This is very concerning, to say the least. I commend the members of the committee: the Presiding Officer, Hon. Steph Key; Mr John Gee MP; Mr Chris Picton MP; Mr Peter Treloar MP; the Hon. Robert Brokenshire; and the Hon. John Dawkins for their contribution to this report. All members have worked cooperatively on this report. Finally, I thank sincerely the committee staff for their assistance. I commend the report to this council.

**The Hon. J.S.L. DAWKINS (16:16):** I rise to support the motion and I largely concur with the comments of the Hon. Mr Kandelaars. Certainly some of his reflections upon the changes in federal funding were interesting. While that does impact on some boards, particularly the Kangaroo Island board, certainly we have seen over the time I have been in the parliament, with various federal governments of different flavours (even in the time the Hon. Mr Kandelaars has been here), that there will always be different programs from the federal government of the day in supporting local communities.

Whether those programs under the names that he listed quite rightly here are not continuing, there certainly will be other forms, and we will well see some of the initiatives by the federal minister, Greg Hunt, come to fruition. I am sure the NRM boards that are reactive in seeking other moneys will be out there seeking some of those funds.

I commend the honourable member for his excellent summary of the work that the committee does. In examining the entreaties that we get from the various boards around their NRM board levy increases—and there will always be great differences in the nature of the boards and the way they need to adjust their increases—certainly the message has got over since a number of years ago, when the Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges Board put in an increase of over 11 per cent. I have mentioned this in this place before, but when the committee knocked that back certainly it eventually got the attention of the minister's office and they become a bit excited about it, because they had never contemplated the fact that we would knock back a board. The correct adjustment was made, and I think other boards have taken notice of that.

I think it is shown in evidence given to the committee. The honourable member would probably see the difference between the two periods that he has sat on our committee, that now the boards go to great lengths to justify any variances from CPI. The Hon. Mr Kandelaars has outlined, I think quite well, some of the changes that have been proposed and agreed to by the committee.

One of the strengths of having the various NRM boards is that they can deal with local issues and with the particular situations that occur in the great diverse nature of the different boards: some of them are based totally in the outback; we have Kangaroo Island, which has a very small population base; and then we also have a board that covers about 80 per cent of the population of South Australia. The nature of those boards is quite diverse.

I am very pleased at the way the committee works through those, and I think part of the benefit in the way we do that is the fact that we as a committee make it a very regular part of our program to go and visit all the boards as often as we can; that is something that I think most of us look forward to doing. We actually get to see some of the work that is being done out on the ground.

I do say again that one of the things that has disturbed me more in recent times is the fact that the boards now are part of DEWNR. The CEO of each of the boards is actually the regional manager for DEWNR, so in effect those offices have two masters. They have the government and the department under the minister as one master and they have the local board, which of course in large context is appointed by the minister, but is an independent body, as another master. I have always struggled with the way that concept was developed. It certainly was not the model that was developed under John Hill when these boards came in, but it is certainly one that has evolved under more recent ministers, and it is one that I have some concern about.

However, having said that, I think overwhelmingly the calibre of the people who are on those boards and who come and give evidence to us is extraordinary. They certainly represent their various regions very well. With those few words, I am very happy to support this motion, which of course covers the levy proposals for Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges, Eyre Peninsula, Kangaroo Island, Northern and Yorke and South-East, and in saying so I would like to again thank my colleagues on the committee, the staff, and particularly the Hon. Steph Key for her leadership of the committee as presiding member. I support the motion.

Motion carried.

### *Bills*

#### **STATUTES AMENDMENT (DECRIMINALISATION OF SEX WORK) BILL**

##### *Introduction and First Reading*

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (16:24):** I seek leave to move Notice of Motion, Private Business No. 3 in an amended form.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK:** Obtained leave and introduced a bill for an act to amend the Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935, the Equal Opportunity Act 1984, the Spent Convictions Act 2009, the Summary Offences Act 1953 and the Return to Work Act 2014. Read a first time.

##### *Second Reading*

**The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (16:25):** I move:

That this bill be now read a second time.

I acknowledge that this work is largely the member for Ashford the Hon. Steph Key's most recent iteration of the bill which was supplied to the House of Assembly I think in May of 2014—at least I certainly saw a draft—and I indicate that this legislation is a conscience vote for the Liberal Party and I do this as a private member. Just to skate over the history of discussion of prostitution or sex work reform legislation, between 1980 and 1999 there were several attempts at reform with some very close votes in both chambers. There were a number of select committees which did a great deal of work and I think particularly of note is the 1996 report of the Social Development Committee.

In more recent history there has been a hiatus, until 2012 under the sponsorship of the member for Ashford. On 31 May 2012, she introduced the Statutes Amendment (Sex Work Reform) Bill 2012 into the House of Assembly, which was defeated on 15 November. An amended bill was brought in on 16 May 2013, that being the Statutes Amendment (Decriminalisation of Sex Work) Bill. Then there was the bill from May last year, which I understand did not progress because of the prorogation of parliament.

While there has been no further legislative activity since, there has been ongoing discussion regarding law reform in the media, with strong support for a decriminalised model among a range of women's organisations including Business and Professional Women, Soroptimist International, Zonta International, the YWCA and the National Council of Women. I also acknowledge that there are a number of members in this place and in the other place who support reform of our current legislation, and their work also needs to be acknowledged.

The practice of prostitution or sex work per se is not illegal in South Australia, or perhaps, if I take the lawyers' advice, strictly speaking not necessarily illegal. What is illegal and what is not is quite a mish-mash, hence the many attempts to reform the legislation. First of all, in the Summary Offences Act, clause 25 refers to 'soliciting', so that is loitering in a public place or perhaps accosting someone in a public place. It is also illegal to procure for prostitution—that is clause 25A—and then there is the offence of living on the earnings of prostitution, which is clause 26.

Part 6, which starts at clause 27 through to 32, refers to brothels and a range of offences, including the keeping and managing of brothels, permitting premises to be used and various others. Then we come to the Criminal Law Consolidation Act, which at clause 270 makes the keeping of a common bawdy house—which, I have to be honest, I had to look that one up to know what that meant, and I think it is aimed at landlords—an offence under the act.

There is a very significant section in there which relates to sexual servitude, which I understand was brought in by the former Liberal Attorney-General, Hon. Trevor Griffin of blessed memory. We can actually say that now; we always used to joke about that, but he is unfortunately no longer with us.

In the Criminal Law Consolidation Act, 65A is the definition section; 66 covers sexual servitude and related offences and makes it illegal to compel another person to provide commercial sexual services; 67 refers to deceptively recruiting someone for commercial sexual services—if you dupe someone into it; and 68 is the use of children in commercial sexual services. In introducing those particular clauses in October 1999, in his second reading speech the Hon. Mr Griffin said the following:

This Bill addresses the ways in which people can be forced to become part of the sex industry against their will. It addresses the commercial sexual exploitation of children, and the slave-like conditions often imposed on drug addicts or illegal migrants in the prostitution industry. These issues were considered by the Model Criminal Code Officers Committee of the Standing Committee of the Attorneys-General in its Report on Slavery Chapter 9: Offences against Humanity, November 1998.

The MCCOC Report recommended a definition of sexual servitude based on two concepts. The first is a victim's incapacity to cease providing commercial sexual services or to leave the place where such services are being provided. The second is that such incapacity is caused by threats of force or deportation or any other kind of threat, made to the victim or to another (for example, the victim's child).

He goes on to say that:

This Bill is based on the sexual servitude provisions of the Commonwealth Criminal Code Amendment (Slavery and Sexual Servitude) Act 1999, which was enacted following the release of the MCCOC Report. To do this the commonwealth used its external affairs powers...the commonwealth act specifically leaves room for complementary state legislation.

The reason that I have gone into that in some detail is just to state that there is certainly no intention to remove those from the Criminal Code. I think we all support those particular provisions. However, what is not on the statute books is a specific offence that says that the exchange of sexual services for money is an offence against the law.

I think it is important to outline those particular provisions, because there is certainly a range of inconsistencies. The former police commissioner, Mal Hyde, was fairly unequivocal about the fact that the laws in South Australia are out of date and unnecessarily tie up police resources. He made the following statements:

That the moral issue of prostitution is not one for police to debate. Any legislation must address possible harms associated with prostitution and any regulatory system that is put in place must be practically effective and workable for police.

Our former shadow attorney-general Stephen Wade received the following comments from SA Police in the context of the 2012 bill in relation to enforcement, and I quote:

The policing of brothel-based prostitution is problematic due to the restrictive nature of current legislation and precedent set by South Australian courts. The matter of *Police v Boileau* in 1999 provided police with practical difficulties in improving the two elements of offences related to brothels, the payment of money and that a sexual act took place for that payment.

This altered the then investigative approach to one which now proactively focuses on issues associated with brothel-based prostitution such as illicit drugs, illegal immigrants, organised crime and minors.

This approach also includes working with relevant local councils and other partners such as the Australian Federal Police and the Department of Immigration and Citizenship regarding suspected offences of sexual servitude and people trafficking.

There are also the statistics in relation to how many offences are recorded annually by the police. While I think overall the trend, it is fair to say, is that soliciting has gone down, the other offences are not highly recorded, which I think is a fair indication that this is not an area that is successfully brought to court.

The industry itself reports that police will target businesses that receive complaints or are suspected of employing illegal migrant workers. The industry also supports that raids are conducted on brothels on a periodic basis and that police officers employ certain methods to try to establish evidence that can then be used in court. The end result is that workers do not have a trusting relationship with police and therefore are personally at greater risk of harm and activities are pushed underground, which is more likely to lead to failure to report other potential illegal activities to police.

The reason I focus so much on those issues is that I think that is one of the areas that people often raise in concern. However, as the Hon. Tommy Franks mentioned in her matter of interest today, we really need to listen to the people who work within the industry. They certainly wish to keep other illegal activities away from the places in which they work and they would like to have a safe environment in which to work, and I think the attempts to reform these laws over the years have certainly arisen out of a concern for the safety of people who are within the industry. That is certainly my motivation for supporting this legislation and promoting this particular bill.

Ari Reid (whom I acknowledge is in the gallery today), Sharon Jennings and Tarquin Coles were interviewed in October last year by Mr Peter Goers (we love Peter Goers). At that stage, she had been a sex worker for 17 years and she said:

I have worked in really shocking brothels with shocking work conditions. I have had zero rights...with my friends and people I care about, my colleagues, I've heard the most horrendous stories. I've heard of people calling to have the glass fixed on their broken window before they called the police because someone smashed their window and they're too scared to call the police, people handing over money to someone because they thought they were a cop and been too scared to call the cops.

I think that very well illustrates the concerns that many people would have about criminal elements and corruption within the police. The point that I am trying to make, perhaps rather clumsily, is that, because the laws in South Australia are so inconsistent and do not lead to a clean platform of what the understanding of the laws are, a number of offences will go unreported, and that is an environment for other illegal activities to flourish rather than vice versa.

There is a range of models for how laws can be treated by various jurisdictions and a range of those operating throughout Australia and New Zealand. The first model is the criminalisation model which, I think it is fair to say, either focuses on the supply side (that is, the selling of the service, which is the workers) or on the demand side (which is the clients who may seek to purchase it). In South Australia, we certainly focus on the demand side. I expect that in other second reading speeches there will be a range of different incidents that people may report on which relate to the collecting of evidence, and so forth, which is then attempted to be used in court, either successfully or unsuccessfully, and some of that goes against common sense.

There is also the demand side, which I think has gained a bit more currency in recent times through the so-called Scandinavian model, which I can only characterise as radical feminism meeting the religious right.

I would urge honourable members, or other people who may suffer from reading *Hansard*, to obtain a document from our Parliamentary Research Library that was published in February 2012 entitled, *Different Approaches to Prostitution Regulation: A Comparative Analysis*, by Dr Leah Skrzypiec and Eva Dimopoulos. That document goes through these in some detail, but in relation to the feminist argument, it states the following:

There are two major sides to the general feminist position on prostitution: the radical and the liberal. For the radical feminist, prostitution always seems problematic. It is viewed as perpetuating gender inequalities and acts of prostitution are held to be acts of violence against women. As such, women participating in the industry are viewed as victims. Radical feminists therefore oppose prostitution and argue against its legalisation or decriminalisation as this helps to normalise and perpetuate the sex industry, which in turn harms women.

Further, it talks about other points of view and it states:

Christian teachings outline that sex is a sacred and intimate act reserved for a heterosexual married couple. As such, it vehemently opposes the commercialisation of sex and the encouragement of sex outside of marriage.

We have seen that those two different points of view have found some common ground in the Scandinavian model. With legalisation, which can also be a regulated model, we have the regulation of brothels, inspections and sets of KPIs—or not KPIs so much as perhaps inspection regimes for various things. There have been attempts in South Australia to implement various models, and I note that that is the approach which is taken in Victoria, Queensland, the ACT and the Northern Territory.

The third is the decriminalisation model, which is where laws against prostitution are repealed. Those references, within the criminal law acts, are removed from the statute books. That enables regulations covering other areas such as health and employment, which therefore focus on the health and safety of sex workers and their conditions. This approach currently operates in New South Wales and New Zealand. I understand that those changes took place in New Zealand in 2003, and there have not been any increases to the industry in New Zealand.

In South Australia, these statistics and comments are taken, and I hope accurately paraphrased, from industry representatives in South Australia. I understand that there is a small and stable workforce of up to 1,000 people operating, up to 100 brothels, and the activity mainly takes place around Adelaide. Most workers operate alone or in pairs from private premises and generally individuals work in the industry from between five to seven years.

A forum was held by the Business and Professional Women organisations Zonta and Soroptimist's—and I do not recognise the logo of the other organisation—on 23 February 2012. Ms Ari Reid referred to what she called myth busting. In those comments she said that most sex workers have better sexual health practices than the general population and their own health is better; the drug of choice is nicotine; workers come in all shapes and sizes, and so forth; they do not have a high rate of childhood sexual abuse, which I think ties into comments that I made earlier about workers often being portrayed as victims; and most people in the industry see it as a job.

That brings me to this issue that is often raised in relation to exploitation of people working in the industry. A number of people who are not familiar with the industry, I think, make certain assumptions about people who do work in the industry, and people are often unfairly characterised as having had a difficult upbringing or perhaps having some drug problem and so forth, and I think that is certainly not accurate for the people I have met who work in the industry.

In any case, we have some very strong sexual servitude laws. The penalties for some of these offences are contained in section 66 of the Criminal Law Consolidation Act. A person who compels another to provide or to continue to provide commercial sexual services is guilty of an offence. If that person is a child, the maximum penalty for the person who compels them is imprisonment for life, if the child is under 14; if the child is under 18 years, imprisonment for 19 years; or in any case—so, this is for compelling an adult—imprisonment for 15 years.

Indeed, the deceptive areas also have similarly very high penalties. So, that argument that is often used to say that people are coaxed into the industry under false pretences and then are held there against their will, I think, would be very much in the minority and not representative of what actually takes place in our state.

I will talk about the provisions that are within the bill. The Criminal Law Consolidation Act: we are inserting a new section 68AA that services may not be provided to a child. The reference to a 'bawdy house' is deleted. There is the abolition of certain offences section which is added to that and relates to prostitution. The amendment of the Equal Opportunity Act is important for people who perform other jobs who may be discriminated against, so one of the things that I think a number of people who have raised concerns about decriminalisation say is that we need to provide options for people who may wish to exit the industry.

By amending the Equal Opportunity Act, we can assist people who either have other jobs or who may wish to exit the industry. There is a range of existing provisions within that legislation that have to do with discrimination on a range of grounds including marital domestic partnership, pregnancy, care and responsibility, religious dress and so forth. There is a range of amendments which add the ground of being or having been a sex worker to those as well.

The Spent Convictions Act, again, is important for people who may have a particular conviction and will affect their future criminal record, so there are amendments to include somebody who has an offence in that section to be part of the Spent Convictions Act. The Summary Offences Act: the offences of soliciting and procurement and living on the earnings are deleted as are the sections that relate to brothels. Amendment of the Return to Work Act (as of 1 July 2015) to provide for people who work in that industry is to be covered by provisions which relate to people who are workers, which I might also add will mean that they will need to be subject to paying WorkCover levies.

So, those are the provisions that are within the bill. I think it is important that this bill be tabled prior to the winter break so that people can start considering what their views are, the 69 members of this parliament. Certainly, on our side we all have a free vote, so people will need to consider what aspects of that they are prepared to support. If there are particular areas that they would like some further information on the Hon. Steph Key will be organising some briefings and I will be a part of those, and there may be other things that people may wish to raise. With those remarks, I commend the bill to the council.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. T.J. Stephens.

#### *Motions*

### **WIND FARM DEVELOPMENTS**

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY (Leader of the Opposition) (16:51):** I move:

1. That a select committee of the Legislative Council be established to investigate wind farm developments in South Australia, with the following terms of reference—
  - (a) separation distances between wind turbines and residences or communities;
  - (b) the social, health and economic impacts of wind generators on individual landholders, communities and the state;
  - (c) the need for a peer-reviewed, independent academic study on the social, health and economic impacts of wind generators;
  - (d) the capacity of existing infrastructure to cope with increased wind power;
  - (e) the costs and benefits of wind power in South Australia;
  - (f) the environmental impacts of wind generators and wind power generally;
  - (g) the siting of wind generators in South Australia;
  - (h) the approval process of wind farms in South Australia;
  - (i) the preparation of the State Wind Farm DPA;
  - (j) an assessment of the impact of wind farm developments on property values; and
  - (k) any other matter the committee deems relevant.
2. That the committee consist of three members and that the quorum of members necessary to be present at all meetings of the committee be fixed at two members and that standing order 389 be so far suspended as to enable the chairperson of the committee to have a deliberative vote only.

3. That this council permits the select committee to authorise the disclosure or publication, as it sees fit, of any evidence or documents presented to the committee prior to such evidence being presented to the council.
4. That standing order 396 be suspended to enable strangers to be admitted when the select committee is examining witnesses unless the committee otherwise resolves, but they shall be excluded when the committee is deliberating.
5. That the evidence and submissions given to the previous Legislative Council Select Committee on Wind Farm Developments in South Australia be tabled and referred to the select committee.

Members would see that these are the same terms of reference that we had for the wind farm select committee prior to the last election. It was one of those quite interesting select committees. We took a lot of evidence. We did not quite complete taking all of the evidence.

As you would recall, Mr President, you were a member of that committee. It was quite a unique committee. There were five members: there was one (obviously you, sir) representing the Labor Party, there was myself representing the Liberal Party, the Hon. Robert Brokenshire representing the Family First Party, the Hon. Mark Parnell representing the Greens and the Hon. Ann Bressington as an Independent. So, we had, if you like, four political parties and an Independent on the committee. It was quite an unusual combination and probably the first time in this place, I think, that we have had a select committee where there were five individual members.

**The Hon. J.S.L. Dawkins:** You had a sleep-out.

**The Hon. D.W. RIDGWAY:** We did. You would think the Hon. John Dawkins, who often acts as the President, would know that interjections are out of order, but he does remind me that we had a sleep-out up in the Mid North, which you participated in, Mr President, and the Hon. Mark Parnell. The Hon. Robert Brokenshire obviously did not want to leave his snuggle rug and his home, so he did not come, nor did the Hon. Ann Bressington. Nonetheless, that was, I think, a useful exercise for us.

Those of us who were on the committee have had a number of people concerned that we took a lot of evidence but did not actually report, we did not get a chance to report. So, my move to establish this select committee is so that we can re-form the committee. You would see that in the terms of reference I say that the committee consist of three members, with a quorum being two members. Of course, the Hon. Mark Parnell, the Hon. Robert Brokenshire and myself are still members on the floor of the Legislative Council and I have taken some advice that perhaps it is not wise to have you, sir, on the committee now that you are in your role as President of the Legislative Council. It is really just so we can re-form the committee.

I know that our committee secretary, Leslie Guy, mentioned to me, when I discussed it with her, that we did not take evidence from the scientific fraternity. So I suspect that if the committee is formed we may take brief evidence from that particular group, and a cohort of interested people we did not actually hear from.

My intention is to reform or establish this select committee, if need be take a small amount of evidence from a group we did not hear from, and then report back to the Legislative Council. We met in Mount Gambier and in the Mid North and went to Yorke Peninsula; quite a lot of effort went into taking evidence, and those people would like to see a final report and it is only proper that we do so. I will not delay the proceedings of the house any longer, other than to commend the motion to the chamber and look forward to other comments.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. T.J. Stephens.

#### **CAMPANIA SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB**

**The Hon. J.S. LEE (16:56):** I move:

That this council—

1. Recognises that 2015 is the 40th anniversary of the Campania Sports and Social Club;
2. Acknowledges the wonderful work that this club has done over the years, in the promotion of Italian culture, food, language and support of Italian Australians and the broader community; and

3. Pays tribute to the achievements and social inclusion activities of this club, and others like it, which promote harmony and contribute to a better and more diverse South Australia.

I rise today to speak on this motion and to congratulate and pay tribute to the Campania Sports and Social Club for its 40 years of achievement this year. Special thanks go to the member for Hartley, Mr Vincent Tarzia, for moving a similar motion in the House of Assembly. The member for Hartley has a proud Italian heritage and is a great supporter of the Campania Club and the Italian community. The motion allowed many members to acknowledge the club. I found the speeches delivered by the member for Hartley and the member for Morialta, Mr John Gardner, both delightful and heart warming. They are such wonderful members and serve their communities with distinction.

As the shadow parliamentary secretary for multicultural affairs, and a big fan of the Campania Club, I had the great honour to attend the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on Sunday 21 June. It was great to see the wonderful Orietta Borgia, the Acting Consul of Italy to Adelaide, at the event, together with many parliamentary colleagues from both sides of politics attending the special event. The Liberal Party was certainly well represented. The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Steven Marshall, gave a fantastic speech in English and Italian. The Australian Italian community members appreciated his heartfelt and energetic 'Viva Campania' message.

We were joined by other Liberal members, including the member for Morialta (Mr John Gardner), the member for Unley (David Pisoni), the member for Hartley (Mr Vincent Tarzia) and a former member of the Legislative Council, the Hon. Julian Stefani. Julian Stefani is a great friend. We share many things in common, including the passion to serve South Australia and promote multiculturalism in the community.

Julian rang me that morning, explaining that he cannot drive to the Campania Club due to a sore, swollen foot. He also had a cold and was not feeling very well. Most people in his condition would have just stayed home, but not Julian. He recognised that the club was celebrating a significant milestone. He promised the organiser that he would be there.

My husband and I therefore had the pleasure of driving him to the Campania Club. Julian Stefani has had a long personal and professional connection with the Campania Club. He has helped the club with many appeals and fundraisers over the years. His presence and special contribution was acknowledged by one of the founders of the club, Cavaliere John Di Fede, on the day. This is an example that demonstrates the strong values that are upheld by the Campania Club. They will always find a way to recognise people who contribute to the club.

The club's history speaks volumes. Since 1975 the club has had 15 founders, 10 presidents, 2,000 people on committees, and thousands of volunteers who have given many hours of their time and skills to make the club a great community hub for all to enjoy. Approximately 2.5 million people have been through the door. I am sure honourable members will agree with me that people are the best asset of any successful organisation.

There are some remarkable individuals at the Campania Club, who provided the outstanding leadership and inspiration and whom I would like to acknowledge in parliament today. Founders of the club have put in enormous work and determination over many years to acquire the land, work with councils and organise countless fundraising activities in the community, and eventually, brick by brick, wall by wall, they helped to build a proud landmark, the Campania Club.

Let me place on the record of the Legislative Council the visionary founders of the Campania Club in 1975. They were: Cavaliere Giovanni Di Fede, Ezio Spina, Pompeo Ranaldo, Clemente Maione, Giovanni Di Matteo, Mario Mignone, Sabatino Ranaldo, Michele Luongo, Raffaele Barone, Feliciano Zirillo, Liberantonio Limongelli, Michele Carofano, Erminio Ranaldo, Antonio Rotolo and Nicola Minicozzi.

The Campania Club in South Australia is truly a success story of multiculturalism. So many have worked very hard for 40 years to give the migrant community from Campania a place of belonging, a place for families to share food, culture and fellowship. Thank you to the founders, past and present presidents, and committee members, together with their families, for providing the vision, sense of pride and resources to serve the South Australian community.



I would like to place my special thanks on the record for the wonderful work of the Campania Club 40 Year Committee 2015 for organising a spectacular event. The committee comprised Cavaliere Steve Maglieri, the president of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee (also a major sponsor); the current president of the Campania Club, Roberto Corsini; Cavaliere John Di Fede (who was one of the founders and first president and project manager), Luisa Greco, Michael Auciello, Anna Carreti, Franca Melisi, Marisa Baldino and Sonia Ricci.

They must have put in so many hours and months planning the anniversary event. They contributed great skills and expertise in every way. My heartfelt congratulations go to everyone who worked tirelessly to ensure that everything ran smoothly. In addition to moving speeches and tributes by dignitaries, the official anniversary program included amazing entertainment by Renae Albuino, Mira Sangregorio, Emilio Papa and John Casalbore, Daniela Fontanarosa, Zanzarini and David De Vito.

Migrants from the Campania region maintain their local and regional identity through special clubs like this. Many members may have visited the club in the past, perhaps to catch up with friends for a yummy pizza or a bowl of the wonderful pasta they serve. Weddings have been held there as well. I have been to a few multicultural events there, always most enjoyable. In addition to appreciating delicious Italian food, the club has many halls for people to meet at a professional or social level.

In 2011, the building committee of the Campania Club took on the task of the latest extension and renovations. The new Benevento Hall was built, with all new facilities, as well as the new Blackwell Bocce Drome, the Alessandro Minicozzi Cultural Room, the new Italian library and Caiazza Playhouse.

Children and families are a big part of the Campania Club. The Caiazza Playhouse is a great initiative to create a family friendly environment. I would like to make a special mention of my great friend, Danny Caiazza. He and his family have been passionate supporters of the Campania Club. His family members, through Caiazza Constructions and Rinaldi Extensions, are sponsors of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and always participate in the club's ongoing fundraisers and activities. They are such active contributors to the club, and we must acknowledge and thank them for their work.

Another worthy mention is the establishment of a radio program that takes on a two-hour segment every Thursday evening between 8 and 10pm on Radio Italiana 531. What do you think they talk about? Well, all things Campania, of course. The Campania Club is successful because it embraces the ethos that everyone is welcome. It promotes social inclusion and welcomes diversity. It opens its doors to the wider, broader Australian and multicultural community. The member for Hartley, in the other place, and the member for Morialta have already provided excellent information about the Campania migrant story to Australia, and South Australia particularly. Therefore, I encourage everyone to read their excellent contributions.

Since the establishment of the Campania Club, it is wonderful to see that so many similar clubs have since been set up in the north-east and eastern suburbs to serve the growing Italian community—for example, San Giorgio La Molara, Molinara Club, Altavilla Club, Marche Club, and Fogolar Furlan, just to name a few. As a migrant, I love to hear and talk about the many wonderful migrant stories in our community. As the shadow parliamentary secretary for multicultural affairs, it is a privilege to get to know so many social and cultural clubs that have been established in South Australia. These clubs promote their regions, their heritage and countries of origin so that the current generation and future South Australians can continue to be a part of our proud multicultural landscape, a place that we call home.

I consider myself to be very fortunate to be able to be living in a country and in a state like South Australia where one can appreciate so many cultures and can learn so much about the world because of our vibrant multicultural communities and our contributions. Happy 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and viva Campania! I commend this motion to the council.

Debate adjourned on motion of Hon. G.A. Kandelaars.

### MOTOR ACCIDENT COMMISSION

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. R.L. Brokenshire:

That the Statutory Authorities Review Committee, as an urgent priority, investigate and examine—

1. The proposal for privatisation of the Motor Accident Commission including, but not limited to, the alternative to privatisation as put forward to the state government by the MAC board;
2. The PricewaterhouseCoopers' economic predictions and the report by Finity Consulting on the MAC board proposal;
3. Treasury involvement in the decision to privatise the MAC;
4. Other states that have privatised and the impact that has had on CTP costs and injury compensation; and
5. Whether the authority and its operations provide the most effective, efficient and economical means for achieving the purposes set out within the act including, but not limited to, whether purposes of the fund noted in section 25 of the Motor Accident Commission Act regarding the Compulsory Third Party Fund are being appropriately administered in accordance with the act.

(Continued from 17 June 2015.)

**The Hon. T.T. NGO (17:06):** I welcome this motion put to the council by the very good member the Hon. Mr Brokenshire. As I have said previously in this chamber, I congratulate the honourable member for moving this issue to a standing committee, through to the Statutory Authorities Review Committee (SARC), instead of establishing another select committee. This is the correct way of advancing this issue. We have honourable members in this house setting up select committees just about one per sitting week at the moment.

SARC consists of very high-calibre members: the likes of the Hon. Rob Lucas, the former treasurer and a very good chair in the Budget and Finance Committee as well; the Hon. Stephen Wade, shadow health minister; the Hon. Mr Hood; plus two government members, the Hon. Mr Kandelaars and myself. So, we have a very high-calibre team. If we have any issues, I am pretty sure the committee would be able to find out and would not let it go through.

SARC will be able to investigate what the real story is behind the many claims that have been made about this issue. I am interested, as a member of the committee, to see what the committee will find. One important point that I need to make is that the government does not have the numbers on this committee, so it is being controlled by other parties.

*The Hon. S.G. Wade interjecting:*

**The ACTING PRESIDENT (Hon. J.S.L. Dawkins):** Order!

**The Hon. T.T. NGO:** A matter raised by the Hon. Mr Brokenshire—

*The Hon. S.G. Wade interjecting:*

**The ACTING PRESIDENT (Hon. J.S.L. Dawkins):** The Hon. Mr Wade is out of order. The Hon. Mr Ngo has the call.

**The Hon. T.T. NGO:** A matter raised by the Hon. Mr Brokenshire also featured in the *Advertiser* article dated 16 June 2015, which detailed an offer of \$1 billion that the MAC Board had made and \$100 million to \$150 million worth in dividends each year to Treasury to remain in government hands. I am keen to know more about this proposal and the business case that the MAC Board put forward to back their business proposal. In the Budget and Finance Committee we heard from the Under Treasurer, Mr Rowse, who said, 'traditionally MAC hasn't returned'—

**The ACTING PRESIDENT (Hon. J.S.L. Dawkins):** There is too much conversation in the chamber. The Hon. Mr Ngo has the call.

**The Hon. R.L. Brokenshire:** Sorry, sir.

**The Hon. T.T. NGO:** I will start again. He stated:

...traditionally MAC hasn't returned dividends. Apart from the \$100 million contribution for roadworks the previous year, there hasn't been a history of dividends returned from MAC.

My question is: if MAC only returned \$100 million dividends to the government for the first time a couple of years ago, will MAC have enough funds to operate if their commitment to the government is \$100 million to \$150 million in dividends a year onwards? When the GFC hit and MAC investment returns plummeted the then treasurer, Mr Foley, had to increase the CTP insurance to over 16 per cent to keep MAC afloat.

The increase, I believe, remained high—around the 10 per cent mark—for a number of years to come after that. If MAC offers that \$100 million to \$150 million in dividends to the government and it had a bad investment, how is it going to get those funds? Will it slug motorists with, say, a 20 per cent or 30 per cent increase if that was the case?

There have been concerns raised by the Hon. Mr Lucas about the transparency of Treasury's scoping work into the costs and benefits of having MAC in public hands. The Hon. Mr Brokenshire believes that this work may have been done without proper consultation with the MAC board.

As a general rule, I want to make it clear that there is absolutely nothing wrong with Treasury conducting this type of work first before consulting MAC. An article in *The Advertiser* dated 14 June 2015 by Daniel Wills stated that the Deputy Under Treasurer, Garry Goddard—I used to work with Mr Goddard and he is a highly intelligent public servant—wrote to MAC seeking information about MAC so that Treasury, through UBS, could put together a scoping study report for the Treasurer.

This is not Treasury hijacking the process or taking control of the MAC board. Treasury does not have operational or business data about MAC. For Treasury to have the accuracy to conduct the scoping study properly it would need information from MAC. For Mr Goddard to write to the MAC board seeking the information, it seems to me that Treasury was pretty much upfront and transparent about the matter with MAC. Mr Goddard would not be able to provide accurate advice to the Treasurer if MAC was not a willing participant.

The committee will at least be able to address some concerns expressed by other members on how and when that work was conducted. It will also be interesting to see what, if any, proposal was put by the MAC board to effectively counter the scoping work undertaken by the government through Treasury. The second claim that the Hon. Mr Brokenshire has made is that he believes that the pricing of compulsory third party (CTP) insurance will increase significantly if MAC is privatised.

*The Hon. R.L. Brokenshire interjecting:*

**The Hon. T.T. NGO:** I am interested to see what the committee finds about this.

**The Hon. R.L. Brokenshire:** So am I.

**The Hon. T.T. NGO:** When government assets are sold to a private operator naturally the public will want to know whether the sale will impact them or not. I think it is a legitimate and a very good question from the Hon. Mr Brokenshire.

*The Hon. R.L. Brokenshire interjecting:*

**The Hon. T.T. NGO:** As a member of parliament I do want to know the answer to that question as well because I am sure I will be asked that question.

*The Hon. R.L. Brokenshire interjecting:*

**The Hon. T.T. NGO:** It is good for the committee to find out.

**The ACTING PRESIDENT (Hon. J.S.L. Dawkins):** The Hon. Mr Brokenshire will get a chance to conclude the debate.

**The Hon. T.T. NGO:** Something that has not been readily mentioned—or perhaps ignored—in this debate is that the government currently ensures that every road user has CTP coverage by tying its payments with registration. With the transfer to private ownership, it would be wise for the committee to investigate how this will continue to be monitored, and we do not want people driving without that coverage.

While we are on the CTP, I would like to speak about the CTP reforms. There has been some confusion, or perhaps some deliberate deception by some quarters, with the suggestion that

CTP reforms previously made by then treasurer Jack Snelling, which lowered premiums for all motorists and, most importantly, ensured that those most seriously injured were adequately looked after, were unnecessary.

Mr Bailes from the Law Society has tried to assert that Mr Snelling's reforms were about making the scheme more sustainable for MAC to manage. Mr Bailes follows by asserting that, clearly, MAC already was quite sustainable given that the government is now privatising it at a significant profit. Mr Bailes clearly refuses to accept that Mr Snelling's reforms were about providing an appropriate level of compensation to those who needed it most.

On this point, more than 30 South Australians who were very seriously injured in motor vehicle accidents have been provided with vital services and care by the government's Lifetime Support Scheme which started only 11 months ago as part of Mr Snelling's reforms. More than half of the scheme's participants would not have been eligible for compulsory third-party compensation if they had been injured before Mr Snelling implemented his reforms.

It is also important to note that CTP premiums before Mr Snelling's reforms were continually the highest in the nation and they were never going down when compared to other states. So, indeed, Mr Snelling did make the scheme sustainable—

**The ACTING PRESIDENT (Hon. J.S.L. Dawkins):** I'm sure the honourable member means the Hon. Mr Snelling.

**The Hon. T.T. NGO:** —but for paying motorists, not for the MAC board or the government. Mr Snelling's reforms are completely separate from what we are debating here and it is disappointing that the Law Society used this as a cheap opportunity to advance its own interests.

I find it extraordinary that the government is implementing a policy that looks after the most vulnerable people and their families in our society due to some incident of bad luck that completely turned their lives upside down, yet we have this constant undermining of the scheme by some people. Try to tell these 30 or so people and their families what their lives would be like if some honourable members have their way by shutting the CTP scheme down.

I hope honourable members are strong enough to withstand whatever pressure is being put on them by the Law Society on this very important social policy. The Law Society and its members will be fine whatever happens to the CTP reforms but these seriously injured people and their families will not be if the CTP scheme is shut down. I thank the Hon. Mr Brokenshire for moving this motion and I look forward to working with the committee to investigate the issues I raised above and any other issues that may come up.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (17:18):** Given the speech presented on behalf of government members by the Hon. Mr Ngo, my contribution will be relatively brief, given that the government is going to support this motion. I make just two points.

The first is, without revealing the nature of deliberations within the committee, the issue of whether the committee should address the issue of the Motor Accident Commission as part of a motion of its own making was being canvassed, so I welcome the fact that the Hon. Mr Brokenshire has moved this motion in the Legislative Council to give a wider group of members the opportunity to express a view one way or another as to the advisability of the Statutory Authorities Review Committee having a look at the Motor Accident Commission in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness and, of course, in terms of the major policy reform the government announced just over a year ago.

The second and final point I make is that I welcome the comments that the Hon. Mr Ngo has made, where he has indicated clearly on behalf of government members that they welcome the opportunity to explore the alternative proposition that the board clearly put to the government; that is, the board did get independent advice, as we understand it. They put a separate proposition to the government. For that to be explored by the committee both Treasury and the Motor Accident Commission will need to provide copies of the various consultants' reports that were available to them so that the committee—as the Hon. Mr Ngo has indicated, and I support him in his comments—is able to thoroughly investigate and consider the proposition from the government and the proposition from the Motor Accident Commission board. It will be impossible for that to occur if

government members, such as the Hon. Mr Ngo and the Hon. Mr Kandelaars, and other members of the committee, are denied access to those critical documents.

Should this parliament pass this motion this afternoon, as I understand it will, clearly one of the first decisions will be when we convene to send a direct request to the Motor Accident Commission and to Treasury demanding copies of all of those documents so that the committee can then ask questions of the Motor Accident Commission board members—both past and present, because there has been a recent change in relation to the membership—and some of its senior executives, together with some of the senior executives of Treasury, to make an independent judgement as to the various propositions that have been put, firstly by the government and secondly by the Motor Accident Commission board and management, as we understand it, to the government.

I welcome that clear statement of policy by the Hon. Mr Ngo on behalf of government members and the government in relation to this issue. We will be supporting not only this motion but these sorts of motions in the committee to ensure that we get access to all of the information the committee requires.

With that, we acknowledge the fact that the Hon. Mr Brokenshire clearly has the numbers anyway with the support of government and other Independent members for this reference but, to make it almost unanimous, or possibly unanimous, I indicate on behalf of Liberal members that we will go along with the majority view that is being expressed and support the reference to the Statutory Authorities Review Committee.

**The Hon. K.L. VINCENT (17:23):** Very briefly, on behalf of Dignity for Disability I indicate our support for this motion—

**The Hon. S.G. Wade:** Unanimous.

**The Hon. K.L. VINCENT:** Yes, I think we have just ticked over unanimous—and I do so saying: I hate to say I told you so. Members may remember that when changes to the compulsory third-party insurance laws were changed and the ensuing changes to the MAC were mooted, Dignity for Disability was the only party to stand against those changes. The advice we received and the research we had done clearly illustrated that there were huge problems with these changes that would result in less comprehensive cover for injured motorists. Perhaps if other members had had the guts to follow that advice, we would not be having this debate at all. But having said that, we are happy to support this and any other measure to look at these changes and how we can better protect injured motorists. We support the motion.

**The Hon. R.L. BROKENSHERE (17:24):** I thank the Hon. Mr Tung Ngo, the Hon. Mr Rob Lucas on behalf of the Liberal Party, and the Hon. Kelly Vincent for her strong comments and the fact that she has been very concerned for a long time about certain aspects of what has already happened with CTP. It is important that the committee thoroughly investigates this. The government does not have a mandate to privatise this. The money is not going to pay off core debt; it is going to prop up an artificial surplus. I look forward to the work the committee will do in a very thorough and diligent way. I commend the motion to the house.

Motion carried.

## MEMORIES OF LEMNOS

**The Hon. J.S. LEE (17:25):** I move:

That this council—

1. Congratulates the Organisation of Hellene and Hellene-Cypriot Women of Australia (SA) for its efforts to commemorate the centenary of ANZAC with the Memories of Lemnos and the Australian Nurses and the ANZAC centenary ceremony on Sunday 19 April 2015, at Keswick Barracks;
2. Recognises the service given by Australian nurses on the Greek island of Lemnos during the Gallipoli landing;
3. Recognises Greece for supporting Australia's war effort through its support for Australian nurses stationed at military hospitals based on Lemnos island during the Gallipoli campaign; and
4. Considers a permanent memorial specifically commemorating the Australian women who served as nurses on Lemnos island be incorporated in the soon to be constructed Anzac Walk.

I rise to congratulate the Organisation of Hellene and Hellene-Cypriot Women of Australia (SA) for their commitment in acknowledging and commemorating the ANZAC centenary. This motion serves to highlight the contributions of the Australian nurses based at Lemnos island during World War I. I place on record my special thanks to Helen Haltis, the President of the Organisation of Hellene and Hellene-Cypriot Women of Australia and her working committee for their dynamic contributions and dedication to serve the community.

Helen and her committee are extremely hardworking. They have created an organisation like no other to continuously pay tribute to the ANZACs and the Australian nurses who battled through appalling conditions whilst nursing wounded soldiers during World War I. Although I was not able to attend the organisation's event on 19 April 2015 due to other commitments, the Liberal Party was well represented by the member for Bragg, Vickie Chapman, along with the member for Unley, David Pisoni, for the wreath-laying ceremony to pay respect to those who had served and those who had fallen.

Despite the large crowds paying respect to the ANZACs on 25 April every year, many feel that the Australian nurses' sacrifice and hardship on Lemnos island has not been duly honoured on a national platform. These Australians are the forgotten ANZAC heroes, the nurses who worked in the most appalling conditions at the grand sounding tented nightmare which was the Australian General Hospital on Lemnos island. I thank the member for Unley, David Pisoni, who had moved a similar motion in the House of Assembly and that will allow this council, as well as the members in the other place, to contribute towards this significant piece of Australian history.

It was surprising to learn that one of the least publicised of all Army services is the Royal Australian Army Nursing Corps which, since its inception as an army nursing service, has given more than 100 years of dedicated service in the care of Australian servicemen during times of war and peace. The history of Australian military nursing began in 1898 when a small army nursing service was formed in Sydney.

A total of 2,139 sisters served abroad between 1914 and 1918, while a further 423 served in Australia. These women worked in hospitals, on hospital ships and trains or in casualty clearing stations closer to the frontline. They served in locations from Britain to India, the Mediterranean to the Middle East. These nurses faced the dangers and demands of wartime nursing and took on additional responsibilities and practices. Therefore, by war's end these nurses had proved to be an essential necessity to the military medical services.

A total of 130 nurses served on Lemnos island, which became the location of the major allied medical hospitals supporting the Gallipoli campaign. These hospitals were staffed by British, Canadian, New Zealand and Australian Army medical staff. Two Australian field hospitals were established on the island: the 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian General Hospital at West Mudros and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Australian Stationary Hospital at East Mudros. These hospitals were staffed with Australian nurses of the Australian Army Nursing Service.

While male orderlies provided initial nursing to care for troops on Lemnos from March 1915, the main body of Australian nurses arrived at Mudros on 5 August 1915. However, tents and medical supplies were delayed by three weeks, leaving the nurses to work with little to no materials. This delay added extra pressure on the nurses, as the hospitals began operation on 9 August 1915 and, unfortunately, the conditions the nurses were working in were far from civilised.

Before breakfast on 9 August 1915 (the day of the operation), 200 wounded and sick had already been admitted to the new hospital. Four days later, the number of patients had risen to 800. Then, two months later, 57,000 sick and 37,000 wounded were evacuated from the beaches of Gallipoli to the allied hospitals on Lemnos. During this particular time, the nurses were working in appalling conditions, with short water supply and no sanitation. A glimpse of the conditions under which the nurses first worked come from the diaries of many sisters. I would like to highlight one of the quotes that resonated with me:

Things were in rather a state of chaos when the wounded began to arrive. Their dressings which had been applied on the hospital ships were saturated and covered with flies. Dysentery was a scourge on the island...many of the wounded fell prey to the disease...the cold weather brought frostbitten patients. It was pitiable to see gangrene feet.

Due to the horrendous conditions and the high volume of injured soldiers, the sickness on Lemnos island was rife. The nurses called it 'lemnitis' as typhoid and dysentery spread among the soldiers and nurses. Yet, despite the initial conditions of the Australian general hospitals on Lemnos island, these field hospitals were remarkably successful. Despite the fact that they dealt with the most serious injuries, the death rate was a mere 2.5 per cent. Records show that 148 Australians and 76 New Zealanders lie among the allied wounded in the two cemeteries on either side of the island's capital, Mudros.

By October 1915, out of 3,906 cases admitted to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Australian General Hospital, 30 per cent were Australian, 13 per cent New Zealand and 57 per cent British and Indian. The Australian-run hospitals on Lemnos island were well respected amongst the ANZAC memoirs, as the nurses tried to make the soldiers feel at home, even naming one of the main thoroughfares Macquarie Street.

The relationship Australians established with the Greek community during World War I was truly unique. On 12 May of every year, many Australians and other foreign nationalities gather at a windswept cemetery in the eastern Mediterranean to take part in what is arguably the world's most unusual and least known ANZAC ceremony.

Islanders from Lemnos will also contribute towards the dawn service to honour those who had fallen and those who served. This ceremony is held two weeks after ANZAC Day in order not to clash with the larger gatherings at nearby Gallipoli. Former Australian Ambassador to Greece, Mr Paul Tighe (2005-2008), attended the Lemnos ANZAC ceremony every year, and the very modesty of the ceremony on the island is known to be particularly moving and solemn. The legacy of Australians, regardless of sex, regardless of their role, remains on Lemnos. Mr Tighe, at the time of his service, stated:

Local people and their decedents still remember and respect the sacrifice and courage of Australians who travelled to such a faraway and remote place to help defend important shared principles.

This bond strengthened even further in the Second World War as escaped prisoners of the war from the 1947 Greece and Crete campaigns made their way across the Aegean to the freedom of neutral Turkey. Since the world war many Lemnians have migrated to Australia, yet in the words of the ambassador the links between Lemnos and Australia were born in a time of hardship. Two wars and over 90 years, yet we are not cemented in family ties.

The relationship between Australia and Greece was strengthened during this horrendous time, and therefore I pay tribute to the organisation of Hellene and Hellene-Cypriot Women of Australia for their continuous effort to acknowledge the ANZAC spirit, along with the sacrifice and bravery of Australian nurses. To have a permanent memorial site reflecting the sacrifice of Australian nurses during the world wars will be truly unique and well deserved. Formally recognising and incorporating the hardship of the brave Australian nurses into the proposed Anzac Walk from the North Terrace war memorial to the pathway honour would be extraordinary.

I also mention that, in conjunction with moving this motion today, there will be a morning tea tomorrow, Thursday 2 July, which will be co-hosted by the member for Unley, Mr Pisoni, and the member for Taylor, Ms Leesa Vlahos, to recognise the significance of this event. I recommend that, if possible, honourable members attend that morning tea. With those few words, I commend the motion to the council.

Debate adjourned on motion of the Hon. J.M. Gazzola.

### **COMMISSIONER OF POLICE**

Adjourned debate on motion of Hon. R. L. Brokenshire:

That this council calls on the state government to immediately—

1. Note the achievements of the outgoing Commissioner of Police, Gary Burns, during his 46-year policing career;
2. Thank the outgoing Commissioner of Police for his dedicated service to South Australia; and
3. Congratulate the incoming Commissioner of Police, Grant Stevens, on his appointment and welcome him to the position.

(Continued from 6 May 2015.)

**The Hon. T.T. NGO (17:38):** I move to amend the motion as follows:

Leave out all words after 'Commissioner of Police, Grant Stevens' and insert 'and incoming Deputy Commissioner of Police, Linda Williams, on their appointments and welcomes them to their positions'.

The reason for this amendment is to ensure that we also congratulate the incoming Deputy Commissioner of Police, Linda Williams, on her appointment. When the Hon. Mr Brokenshire moved this motion a few weeks ago Ms Williams was not appointed then, so it is important that we also recognise her appointment.

During Commissioner Burns's distinguished 45-year career at South Australia Police he has worked across a range of operational policy and executive areas. After graduating in 1972, Commissioner Burns served in uniform patrols, in country locations and in the STAR group, where he ultimately rose through the ranks to become the officer in charge. In 1991 Commissioner Burns was promoted to inspector, and in 2000 he was appointed to the senior executive group. He has served as assistant commissioner in operations support service, human resources service, southern operations service and northern operations service.

In 2001, Commissioner Burns completed a three-month exchange program with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, examining a range of topics on strategy, change programs and improved levels of service delivery. In 2003, Commissioner Burns was seconded to the security and emergency management office in the Department of the Premier and Cabinet for 12 months. Then he implemented a number of whole-of-government counterterrorism, security and emergency management reviews.

Commissioner Burns is currently a member of the National Counter Terrorism Committee and is a recipient of the Australian Police Medal. He was appointed to deputy commissioner in April 2007 and commissioner on 21 July 2012. As commissioner, he has continued to provide outstanding leadership and drive major organisational reform which has revitalised and provided new direction and achievement for SAPOL and the community of South Australia.

His vision, inspiration, commitment and leadership have seen SAPOL become an organisation committed to innovation and change, resulting in significant reductions in crime, vehicle collisions and fatalities, and major improvements in the delivery of policing services in South Australia. Amongst his many personal achievements are the 1978 awarding of a bravery medal, after commissioner Burns entered a burning house to save the life of a resident, and his receipt of the Australian Police Medal, National Medal and SAPOL Service Medal.

In 2015, his outstanding contribution to SAPOL and the community was recognised in the award of the SAPOL Leadership and Efficiency Medal. He is recognised for his contribution to policing at both local and national level, and he is widely respected by SAPOL staff, other policing jurisdictions, the community of South Australia and other government agencies. His outstanding leadership has seen SAPOL continue to develop into an organisation which is held in the highest regard as an accessible, visible and responsive police service for all South Australians.

Commissioner Burns will retire on the 20<sup>th</sup> of this month after a distinguished and highly respected career. I would like to also congratulate both the incoming Commissioner of Police, Grant Stevens, and the incoming Deputy Commissioner of Police, Ms Linda Williams, on their appointments and welcome them to their positions. I had the pleasure of sitting next to the incoming commissioner, Grant Stevens, and his wife at a Chinese function last year and I found them to be very pleasant.

The incoming commissioner, Grant Stevens, has worked for South Australia Police for over 30 years. He has been deputy commissioner since 2012. The incoming deputy commissioner, Ms Linda Williams, is currently the assistant commissioner. She has been in the South Australian police force for 35 years. Following this promotion, she will be the highest-ranking female officer ever in South Australia.

I am extremely confident that both Mr Stevens and Ms Williams will continue to deliver a first-class police service to the people of South Australia. I also hope that they are able to find the time to drive up to the APY lands and visit some of the police stations on the way to see the good work that the police are doing in the country.



I have spoken to a number of police officers. Lately, when I went up with my Aboriginal Lands Standing Committee to Coober Pedy, several police officers said they were really looking forward to the new leadership and they certainly wished that both Mr Stevens and Ms Williams were able to have the time to drive up there to see them. Lastly, on behalf of the government, I would like to congratulate and wish Commissioner Burns and his family all the best for the future.

**The Hon. T.J. STEPHENS (17:45):** I rise to support the motion on behalf of the Liberal Party of South Australia. I will not repeat basically what the Hon. Tung Ngo has just said about the exemplary service of the officers we are commending, but I certainly concur with everything he said. I come from a slightly different tack.

I will say that I am blessed to know many serving police officers and ex-police officers. To that point, I recently hosted a group of serving and ex-police officers in the barbecue area at Parliament House. Whilst the circumstances were to a degree a little sad in that we were commemorating and celebrating the life of senior commissioned officer Derryn Phillips, who was a good friend to all of us and an outstanding officer and person, we used the opportunity to get together and discussed obviously many issues.

When Commissioner Burns was appointed to his position, I asked my network of friends, both commissioned and non-commissioned officers and some senior constables, as to their views with regard to Commissioner Burns' appointment. Sir, you would be pleased to know that all of them were really quite enthusiastic about the appointment of Gary Burns to the position of Commissioner of Police. He was described by all as, in their words, 'a copper's copper', and they meant that with every amount of respect. To me, he turned out to be a policeman's commissioner and went about his duties without fear or favour in that particular role.

There was one incident that I fondly remember when he was questioned about the appointment of a senior person and the money was coming out of his budget. There was not an ounce of political motivation in Commissioner Burns. He basically said, 'I've got no idea what this guy is going to do and I've got no idea why the money is coming out of my budget.' It showed that, without fear or favour, he was there to do the best job for the people of South Australia running his department and he certainly was not going to be involved in any political games. Commissioner Burns leaves the job and leaves it with a lot of fond memories among his staff, and I reckon that is as good as it probably gets: the people who he was commanding, to me, apparently hold him in the highest regard. So, on behalf of the Liberal Party, I wish Commissioner Burns all the very best.

I use the same opportunity to talk about the new deputy commissioner and the new commissioner, Grant Stevens. Grant Stevens I also have had the pleasure of meeting at I think it was a retired police officers' function. I sat with Commissioner Stevens and his wife, and I concur with the Hon. Tung Ngo: they are wonderful people. But, most importantly, the many police officers who I know quite enthusiastically received the news that Grant Stevens was going to become our Commissioner of Police and, again, it instils me with quite a bit of confidence when the people who I know are on the ground doing the work—these people come from many different areas of the police force—are enthusiastically embracing Grant Stevens as the Commissioner of Police, and no less Linda Williams. Obviously, Linda has had an outstanding career in policing. The Liberal Party fully endorses these appointments and looks forward to working with the commissioner and the deputy commissioner for the betterment of all South Australians. I commend the motion to the house.

**The Hon. R.L. BROKENSHERE (17:49):** I thank all honourable members for their very good contributions to this motion. It is an important motion, because policing is paramount to the wellbeing of our society and we have been blessed for a very long period of time with excellent commissioners, deputy commissioners and assistant commissioners.

I was very happy to second the Hon. Mr Tung Ngo's motion. As he rightly pointed out before, when I moved the original motion, at that stage the then Assistant Commissioner Linda Williams had not been appointed as deputy commissioner. She has been an outstanding police officer and richly deserves the opportunity. As we continue to grow with more numbers of women in the police force in South Australia she will be integral to that and working with the new soon-to-be commissioner.

I know that the soon-to-be commissioner, Grant Stevens, and his wife Emma are very committed to our state, very committed to supporting the police and have a strong and committed

family. That will augur well for the future and I wish them every success as he takes on this important role. As current Commissioner Gary Burns and his wife Denise in a few weeks head to retirement on their farm, I wish them a very long and healthy retirement and I thank them again for their great contribution. I commend the motion to the house.

Amendment carried; motion as amended carried.

*Bills*

**CRIMINAL LAW (HIGH RISK OFFENDERS) BILL**

*Final Stages*

The House of Assembly agreed to amendments Nos 1 to 13 made by the Legislative Council without any amendment; and has made a consequential amendment as indicated in the annexed schedule in lieu thereof:

Clause 5, page 4, lines 17 to 19 [clause 5(d)]—Delete paragraph (d)

**APPROPRIATION BILL 2015**

*Estimates Committees*

The House of Assembly requested that the Minister Employment, Higher Education and Skills (Hon. G.E. Gago), the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation (Hon. I.K. Hunter), and the Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation (Hon. K.J. Maher), members of the Legislative Council, attend and give evidence before the estimates committees of the House of Assembly on the Appropriation Bill.

**The Hon. G.E. GAGO (Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills, Minister for Science and Information Economy, Minister for the Status of Women, Minister for Business Services and Consumers) (17:53):** I move:

That the Minister for Employment, Higher Education and Skills (Hon. G.E. Gago), the Minister for Sustainability, Environment and Conservation (Hon. I.K. Hunter) and the Minister for Manufacturing and Innovation (Hon. K.J. Maher) attend and give evidence before the estimates committees of the House of Assembly on the Appropriation Bill, if they think fit.

Motion carried.

At 17:54 the council adjourned until Thursday 2 July 2015 at 14:15.