

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tuesday, 3 May 2022

Opening of Parliament

The Fifty-Fourth Parliament of South Australia having been prorogued until 3 May 2022, and the House of Assembly having been dissolved on 19 February 2022, general elections were held on 19 March 2022. By proclamation dated 14 April 2022, the new parliament was summoned to meet on 3 May 2022, and the First Session of the Fifty-Fifth Parliament of South Australia began on that date.

The council met at 11:00, pursuant to proclamation. The Clerk (Mr C.D. Schwarz) read the proclamation summoning parliament.

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION

The commissioners appointed by the Governor to do all things necessary to prepare for the opening of the session, the Hon. C.J. Kourakis (Chief Justice of the Supreme Court) and the Hon. M.C. Livesey (President of the Court of Appeal), were announced by Black Rod (Mr G. Dickson) and conducted to the chairs on the dais.

A message was sent to the House of Assembly requesting members of that house to attend to hear the commission read. The members of the House of Assembly having arrived, the Clerk read the commission.

The senior commissioner (Hon. Justice Kourakis) announced that Her Excellency the Governor would, in person in this place, declare the reasons for her calling the parliament together as soon as the new members of the Legislative Council and the members of the House of Assembly had been sworn and the two houses had respectively notified her that they had elected their President and Speaker.

The members of the House of Assembly and His Honour Justice Kourakis withdrew.

MEMBERS, SWEARING IN

His Honour Justice Livesey produced a commission from Her Excellency the Governor authorising him to be a commissioner to administer to newly elected members the oath of allegiance or receive an affirmation in lieu thereof, also a writ and returns for the election of 11 members.

The oath of allegiance or affirmation was then administered to and subscribed by the new members, who signed the members' roll.

PRESIDENT, ELECTION

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (11:22): I remind the council that the time has arrived for the election of its President.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (11:22): I move:

That the Hon. T.J. Stephens take the chair of the council as President.

The CLERK: Is the motion seconded?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: I second the motion.

The CLERK: Does the honourable member accept the nomination?

The Hon. T.J. STEPHENS (11:22): I submit myself to the will of the council.

The CLERK: Are there any other nominations?

The Hon. C. BONAROS (11:22): I nominate the Hon. Mr Hunter.

The CLERK: Does the honourable member accept the nomination?

The Hon. I.K. HUNTER (11:22): I do not submit.

The CLERK: Are there any other nominations?

The Hon. C. BONAROS: I nominate the Hon. Mr Ngo.

The CLERK: Does the honourable member accept the nomination?

The Hon. T.T. NGO (11:23): I do not submit.

The CLERK: Are there any other nominations?

The Hon. C. BONAROS: I nominate the Hon. Mr Wortley.

The CLERK: Does the honourable member accept the nomination?

The Hon. R.P. WORTLEY (11:23): I do not submit.

The CLERK: Are there any other nominations?

The Hon. C. BONAROS: I nominate the Hon. Mr Hanson.

The CLERK: Does the honourable member accept the nomination?

The Hon. J.E. HANSON (11:23): I do not submit.

The CLERK: Are there any other nominations?

The Hon. C. BONAROS: I nominate the Hon. Ms Pnevmatikos.

The CLERK: Does the honourable member accept the nomination?

The Hon. I. PNEVMATIKOS (11:23): I do not submit.

The CLERK: Are there any other nominations?

The Hon. C. BONAROS: I nominate the Hon. Mr Martin.

The CLERK: Does the honourable member accept the nomination?

The Hon. R.B. MARTIN (11:23): I do not submit.

The CLERK: Are there any other nominations?

An honourable member: No.

The CLERK: There being no other nominations, I declare the Hon. T.J. Stephens duly elected as President of the council.

The Hon. T.J. Stephens was escorted to the President's chair by the Hon. K.J. Maher and the Hon. N.J. Centofanti.

The PRESIDENT (11:24): I would like to thank all honourable members for their support. We have a chamber of five parties. We will have robust discussion. I will try to ensure that there is respect paid to all and, again, I thank you for your support.

At 11:25, accompanied by a deputation of members, the President proceeded to Government House.

On the council reassembling at 11:54:

The PRESIDENT: I have to report that, accompanied by honourable members, I proceeded to Government House and there presented myself as President to Her Excellency the Governor and claimed for the council the right of free access to and communication with Her Excellency that the most favourable construction might be placed on all its proceedings. Her Excellency was pleased to reply to the honourable President and honourable members of the Legislative Council:

I congratulate the honourable members of the Legislative Council on their choice of a President. I readily assure you, Mr President, of my confirmation of all the constitutional rights and privileges of the Legislative Council, the proceedings of which will always receive my most favourable consideration.

Signed, Her Excellency the Hon. Frances Adamson AC Governor of South Australia, and dated Tuesday 3 May 2022.

Sitting suspended from 11:55 to 14:30.

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

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

Kaurna Purkama-alya Kaurna Miyurna-alya Yaitya Miyurna-alya Kumartarna yartanangku

Ngathu naa tampinhi Kaurna miyurna yaitya yarta-mathanya

Pukinanangku, yalaka, tarrkarritya

Dearest Kaurna elders, Kaurna people and Aboriginal people from other lands and regions.

I acknowledge and pay my respects to you all.

I also acknowledge that the Kaurna people are the traditional owners of this land, from the past, today and into the future.

Mr Speaker and the Honourable Members of the House of Assembly, Mr President and the Honourable Members of the Legislative Council.

It is a great pleasure to be here with you on this day to open the 55th South Australian Parliament.

As a result of the election held on the 19th of March 2022, we welcome 14 new members to the Parliament. I congratulate and welcome each of you, and trust that you will learn from your colleagues in these chambers as you carry out your new and important duties. Congratulations also to those members who were returned by your constituencies to serve them once again.

For 165 years this Parliament has existed to carry out the will of the people of South Australia. You have heeded the call to serve and have given up much to do so – as have your families and loved ones. I hope that you will all look back on the challenges, joys, sacrifices and triumphs of your time here with great pride and satisfaction, knowing that you have been part of this State's proud democratic tradition.

You each have your own loyalties, your own priorities, and your own areas of personal interest. But the necessarily adversarial nature of Parliament should not overshadow the far greater qualities that unite you all, most significantly your desire to make a meaningful difference in the lives of South Australians as evidenced by your embrace of Parliamentary service.

May you carry out these solemn responsibilities with wisdom, with respect, with courage, and above all with integrity.

You have been called together to consider proposals from my Government for the first session of the 55th Parliament of South Australia.

Our State expects its Government and Parliament to act with courage and vision. South Australia has always been a pioneering State, unafraid of making bold decisions – and the times call for us to draw upon that same far-sighted spirit.

It is the same spirit we saw during the pandemic, manifesting in the dedication and sacrifice shown by our frontline workers and volunteers, who kept the State running and our people safe in times which were, to turn to that much overused term, unprecedented.

Our State owes a debt of gratitude to our hospital and all healthcare workers, our emergency services, our police, transport workers and those in the retail and hospitality industries. We all thank them for their unfailing service under some of the most challenging circumstances this State has ever faced: the South Australia that emerges from the shadow of the pandemic is stronger and more resilient for their efforts.

Since the establishment of the first State Parliament, South Australia has benefited from the vision of Premiers with courage to do what is right and necessary.

From the earliest days, South Australia eschewed the use of convict labour and enshrined religious freedom. We were the first place where women successfully campaigned for the right to vote and stand for Parliament, cast into law under Premier Charles Kingston in 1894.

Premier Thomas Playford enacted the Prohibition of Discrimination Act in 1966, and ours was the first State, under Premier Don Dunstan in 1975, to decriminalise homosexuality.

It was also Premier Playford who used the power of Government to provide for South Australians by funding the electrification of the entire State through the creation of the Electricity Trust of South Australia. And Playford's vision in powering South Australia has continued in more recent times, through wind and solar projects and more recently the construction of the Big Battery at Hornsdale.

In short, South Australia has always been a State with an eye on the big picture. It is that intrinsic quality to our State's character that will guide us again now. For we are at another pivotal moment in history, in that we are faced with the most urgent national recovery project this nation has ever experienced outside of wartime.

The twin crises of the pandemic and climate change have forced change upon us all, but they have also made clear the vital role of State Governments in navigating that change. The question is whether or not we accept and embrace these new realities and opportunities. The people of South Australia determined that it is time for action.

That action must be strategic. We need to think in terms of the next generation and the sort of State it will live in. Thankfully, it is not beyond this Parliament to simultaneously handle the day to day while preparing for the future.

This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for investment in the most important resource that South Australia possesses: our people.

The assumptions of unbroken global supply chains and untrammelled freedom of movement have been challenged by the realities of the pandemic. But even as we recover, this knowledge represents an opportunity for us to become more self-sufficient and resilient to future shocks.

The people of this State deserve a safe, secure and prosperous future, and that means that we must ensure that the fundamentals are strong in health, in education, in protecting the environment, in producing meaningful, productive jobs in this State, and in growing the wider economy.

These are vital areas of policy that impact directly upon people's lives, and by getting these settings right we can fulfil our promise of providing stability and opportunity to all South Australians, and simultaneously better prepare for whatever surprises the future might hold in store.

This is not a time to be timid. This is an opportunity, instead, for renewal.

With that in mind, my Government will have a bold and visionary legislative agenda for the 55th Parliament. It will include legislation to reform the Emergency Management Act, enshrine nurse-patient ratios in law, establish Hydrogen Power SA, new laws to better protect children from predators and significant reforms to tackle domestic and family violence.

COVID-19 has affected every family in this State, some in the most tragic of ways. And while our doctors, nurses, paramedics, support staff and pathology services continue to save and protect South Australian lives, the pandemic has also revealed the urgent need to address the stresses and shortcomings in our health system.

In the immediate term, this means an increase in our hospital and ambulance staffing and resources. That includes the urgent expansion of our ambulance service and the employment of another 350 paramedics and ambulance officers, 151 of whom will be based in regional South Australia. Metropolitan Adelaide's services will be increased with eight new 24/7 ambulance crews across the suburbs and city, and increased staffing of our triple-0 emergency dispatch service.

One hundred more doctors and 300 more nurses will make a significant difference to health outcomes for South Australians, as will the opening of 300 new beds across our State's hospitals.

We need to be prepared for the next development of the global pandemic, whatever it might be. And that means ensuring that our State has a health system that is strong, robust, resilient and above all available to every person who needs to access it.

That means improving our provision of mental health care. That means improving our provision of drug rehabilitation services.

It also means that we need to look at the big picture and ask if current health arrangements are still fit for purpose.

My Government believes that fixing our State's health care means being prepared to make genuine structural change. We must be courageous enough to pursue Federation-level reform to bolster our State's health system, ensuring an unbroken thread of care, from primary health through to our hospital emergency wards and acute care facilities.

My Government faces a similar call to action in transforming the State's skill base while the window is still open for us to enjoy a first-mover advantage with the opportunities offered by the burgeoning global market for green hydrogen.

Hydrogen created from renewable, zero-emission sources is already revolutionising the international energy economy and South Australia is set to become a major player in this transformative global market, as well as using this powerful energy source to power our sovereign on-shore manufacturing capacity.

This is an extraordinary opportunity for South Australia to create a virtuous circle of jobs, industry, exports, regional development and emissions-free energy. Nations do not have to choose between jobs and the environment: good environmental policy is good economic policy.

Strengthening our industrial capacity is also a boon to our national security and defence, another area in which South Australia has a longstanding advantage.

Our unique expertise in the complex submarine construction industry, and its proximity to the cutting edge defence industries that call South Australia home, are enormous assets not only in maintaining our State's proud maritime legacy but also in making a vital contribution to our national security through enhancing our sovereign defence capability in increasingly uncertain times.

But these skilled, highly technical professions – in defence, in cyber, in the growing space economy – need a skilled and technically proficient workforce to operate the most sophisticated machines and systems in human history.

That means we need educational policies which materially connect our young people with these high-paying jobs of the future. This is a truly generational project.

Next year's three-year-olds will get their trade or finish their degree in the 2040s, on the eve of a net-zero carbon emissions world. We need to ensure that our education system – from preschool to tertiary study or a vocational trade qualification – has prepared them for that future and the opportunities it will present.

Central to this is my Government's plan to ensure that all South Australian children have access to preschool education from the age of three. This investment in the earliest, most important stage of education will help ensure that our children and their families get the support needed to hit key milestones during those vital developmental years.

When it comes to the opportunities available to the coming generations, education means participation. And that extends from preschool all the way to tertiary study.

My Government will establish five new technical colleges to train South Australians in the trades of the future, three in metropolitan Adelaide and two in regional centres.

Through consultation with the Federal Government, my Government will pursue a thoughtful process of university amalgamation to consolidate the strengths of our tertiary sector, ensure that we can properly capitalise it to the degree that it deserves, and re-establish our State as home to world-class institutions of learning by returning to the global list of top 100 universities.

Education and training are pathways to a prosperous future: a future that will be low-carbon, and a future that will be one in which everyone has the opportunity to succeed.

Of course, society is more than simply an economy, and any recovery cannot lose sight of what makes South Australia such a wonderful and vibrant place to live. That means preserving and supporting our cultural institutions, our internationally celebrated arts community, and the sports, recreation and tourism sectors that are so fundamental to our State's health and happiness.

The State's cultural life has already started to recover from the ravages of the pandemic, with the welcome successes of the Adelaide Festival, WOMA Adelaide, and the Adelaide Fringe. However, our performing arts sector has suffered in recent years, and my Government will implement a comprehensive suite of policies to revitalise the creative industries that are the soul of our great State, particularly in our vital live music sector.

A new Adelaide Aquatic Centre will replace the beloved but ageing facility in our parklands, and South Australia's long and distinguished history as the heart of Australia's motorsports will continue with the re-establishment of the Adelaide 500.

My Government will introduce amendments to our political donation legislation, as a step towards building the public's trust in our elections and in the transparent operation of government.

And this will be the Parliament that finally fulfils the promise of a meaningful treaty with the first South Australians, with the establishment of an Aboriginal Voice to Parliament, the restarting of the Treaty process in South Australia, and establishment of a Truth Telling process, guided by the process presented in the Uluru Statement from the Heart and driven by our State's first Aboriginal Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.

And throughout all of this progress and capacity-building, my Government will ensure at every step that each public dollar it spends contributes directly to the overall wellbeing of South Australians.

The pandemic has changed all of our lives, but it has also presented opportunities for our State to not simply recover, but to prosper as never before.

The task before us is to embrace those opportunities for the benefit of all South Australians and demonstrate that the hard lessons of those difficult times have been learned.

This Parliament will oversee this once in a lifetime opportunity to reposition South Australia in the national and international context and to strengthen both our local economy and our social infrastructure to better weather the challenges and reap the rewards the future offers our State.

These are the proposals that my Government will bring to this Parliament for consideration and invites all those in these chambers to share.

Honourable Members, you have chosen an exciting and transformative time to be part of this State's proud history. My wish to you is that you work together in respect and good faith to improve the lives of all South Australians through your efforts within these walls.

Mr President, Mr Speaker, Honourable Members, it is with great pleasure that I declare the 55th South Australian Parliament open.

I leave you to the important tasks entrusted to you by the people of South Australia.

My best wishes to you all.

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

Sitting suspended from 15:12 to 15:43.

The President again took the chair and read prayers.

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

Members

MEMBERS, NEW AND FORMER

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (15:44): I seek leave to move a motion without notice expressing the thanks of the council to former members and to welcome new members.

Leave granted.

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: I move:

That this council expresses thanks to former members, the Hon. J.A. Darley, the Hon. J.S.L. Dawkins and the Hon. R.I. Lucas, and welcomes new members, the Hon. L.A. Curran, the Hon. S.L. Game and the Hon. R.B. Martin.

On behalf of the government, and indeed on behalf of this chamber, I would like to congratulate all the new members here who were elected at the recent state election and express our very sincere thanks for the contributions of those who have now left this chamber. I guess it is 'out with the old and in with new' so to speak, Mr President.

Before turning specifically to the retiring members and the new members, firstly I would like to congratulate you on your elevation to the chair. You have shown your ability to preside fairly over this chamber, keep some of the more unruly members under control—as I am sure you will continue to do—and protect poor government ministers who are only humbly trying to answer questions and inform the chamber about things.

As the old but again new Leader of the Government in this chamber, we will have our differences in here, and quite reasonably we will come to different issues with different perspectives and different views. I know nearly everyone that I have had the good fortune of knowing in both this place and another place wants the best for South Australia. Sometimes we have different ideas and different policies about how we might get there, but at the end of the day we are all here because we want to see South Australia prosper.

We want to leave a better place for the next generations, and I look forward to working with colleagues on this side and right across the chamber as we pursue doing that in our own ways. It has only been a few months since we last met in this chamber in February. I note that the other place decided not to meet at all this year. It cannot be said that we are not the hardest working of the two chambers of parliament, given recent history. I think if ever we hear that, we have a good defence to that now. They did not meet in February.

I would particularly like to note that when we last met in February, it was an opportunity for some of the retiring members to give their final speeches, their valedictory speeches, in this place. I would like to thank particularly the Hon. Russell Wortley for one of his valedictory speeches, which

he delivered in February, noting the Hon. Russell Wortley was greeted back at Government House, where he had a retirement dinner not so long ago. It is quite a remarkable turn of events.

I would like particularly to pay respect to the three members who did not stand for election who were our colleagues last year and for many years before that. Firstly, the Hon. John Darley was a fine example of a member in this place. I did not agree with him personally on every single issue, but there were quite a few where I did agree with the Hon. John Darley. Particularly, there were many social issues where we had very similar views.

Even though we did not always agree, I never doubted that he came to his positions sincerely and after thoughtful consideration. There is one example of this I can remember from a speech he gave in the last parliament. It was quite remarkable to watch him rise on a matter of interest, where in his speech he said the words we very rarely hear from members of parliament. He said in his speech, 'I was wrong.' In that speech, he acknowledged that the views he had had in the past about climate change, he had come to conclude, were incorrect.

After reviewing the evidence and hearing the science, he now came to the conclusion that the climate was changing due to human activity. I think that was a mark of the way the Hon. John Darley went about his business in here. Even if he had held views, and held them strongly and firmly, in the past, upon hearing further evidence and considering it, he was able to change his mind and to be quite open about that.

The Hon. John Dawkins retired after, as he would say, 'a very long time in this place'. He would remind everyone else that they had similarly been here for 'a very long time in this place', even if it was their second year in the chamber, and they ought to know standing orders as well as he knew them. He was a long-serving member of this place and comes from a long family line of people who have given public service to their state. He certainly was passionate for regional communities, sponsoring for many years awards at the regional press association, and he certainly championed very worthy causes. His advocacy for reform of state surrogacy laws, which ultimately did see changes in the last parliament, is very well known.

The Hon. John Dawkins' absolute commitment to the cause of suicide prevention, for which I think most people came to greatly respect him, saw the passing of Australian-first suicide prevention legislation last year, largely as a result of the work the Hon. John Dawkins had done as the Premier's advocate for suicide prevention over a long period of time. He provided a lot of advice and encouragement for those people who, over 25 years, had brought voluntary assisted dying legislation before this house. I admired John Dawkins greatly for his commitment to the things he saw as important and things that were important for this state.

Finally, the Hon. Rob Lucas—it is exceptionally strange to be standing in this place without the Hon. Rob Lucas being present somewhere. I first started working for a minister in the Legislative Council probably 20 years ago this month, and Rob Lucas has been a constant fixture for those 20 years and for 19½ years before that. He has certainly earned his retirement. He is able now to attend to his ponies and drink muscats at dawn at the Adelaide Club without having to worry about coming to parliament at any given time.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome the new members who join us for the first time today. These three individuals come to us from different parts of the parliament—from the government, from the opposition and from the crossbench. I would particularly like to acknowledge those two new non-government members in this place. As I have said, while I am sure we will find ourselves expressing different views in some debates, one thing that has struck me since being a member here for 10 years now, and having worked for other MPs in this chamber starting 10 years before that, is that the way we conduct ourselves says very good things about this chamber.

Other members have remarked that we can fiercely debate with passion things in this chamber, but at the end of the day there are only 22 of us and if you cannot step outside here and get on with everyone in here you are not going to have a very happy working life, so that is something that I have always appreciated. For the new members, I would encourage you to strike up friendships not only on your own side but across the aisle. It is very rewarding.

I will mention the Hon. Laura Curran, a new member of this chamber, who joins us as our youngest member. She has just been pipped at the post as the very youngest member of parliament by the new member for Newland, I am told, but not by very much. It is a welcome injection of youth into this chamber, which, if you look at the Hon. Rob Lucas and the Hon. John Dawkins retiring, when I said 'out with the old and in with the new' it could not be more apt in these cases.

The Hon. Laura Curran, having worked for both the Hon. Rob Lucas and the Hon. Terry Stephens during her career, will certainly hit the ground running and I am sure will be making a name for herself in the not-too-distant future. Clearly, her colleagues agree. I congratulate her on her appointment in the opposition role of working on matters in the Attorney-General's portfolio.

One of the newest members of the crossbench is Sarah Game. The Hon. Sarah Game joins us after a nailbiting election result, waiting for that push of the button for those weeks and weeks after the election campaign to now be elected as the 10th out of 11 people elected, and I congratulate her on her election to this place. I look forward to working cooperatively with our newest member of the crossbench, finding common ground when we can and being respectful when we cannot.

The Hon. Reggie Martin—last but certainly not least, I congratulate my friend on his election to this chamber. Anything that anybody thinks the Hon. Reggie Martin has done very well, I will take the credit for, having served with him in ALP head office over many years. If anybody is concerned or disappointed in the Hon. Reggie Martin, that will have been the Hon. Tom Koutsantonis's influence almost exclusively.

I am glad to have the Hon. Reggie Martin as a member of our team. He has overseen many successful Labor election campaigns as campaign director, and I look forward to his contribution on this side of the chamber, taking his talents from electorate by electorate to debating policies and making change in South Australia.

In closing, I again congratulate all new members on their election. I look forward to working with everyone in here. It is an important job we do, but we can also get on well and have a little bit of fun as we do it.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (15:54): I rise on behalf of the opposition to thank the Leader of the Government in this chamber for moving this motion and to congratulate you, Mr President, on your election to the chair. On behalf of the opposition, we look forward to working with you throughout your term as President. We assure you of our willingness to cooperate and we thank you for accepting this esteemed and important office in this chamber. I am confident that you will keep us in order in this place by exercising fairness, impartiality and diligence, and I wish you well in your term.

It is with mixed emotions that I make this contribution. Whilst it is an exciting time in welcoming our new members, it is also a time of reflection on those members who no longer share this chamber with us. I would like to acknowledge the contributions made in this place by the Hon. Rob Lucas and the Hon. John Dawkins, both of whom voluntarily retired. I note the valedictory remarks made towards the end of the last session in this chamber, when members spoke about their contributions, so I will keep my comments somewhat brief.

I think many of you share my feelings when I say that this place feels somewhat strange today, and the Leader of the Government has also acknowledged that. It feels this way because for the first time in almost 40 years we are not sharing these red vinyl chairs with the Hon. Rob Lucas. It is difficult to imagine this parliament without him. He leaves a significant void, having been a member of parliament since 1982, the year that I was born. Indeed, several of us in this place, myself included, have not known a parliament without the Hon. Rob Lucas in it. It is a void that only a true legend can leave, and his leadership, knowledge and expertise will be sorely missed. I will certainly miss his calm, considered and collaborative approach to all matters we considered in this place.

I would like to also acknowledge his contributions as a minister in the Brown, Olsen, Kerin and Marshall governments. I congratulate him on his public service to both the Liberal Party and the community that he served, and recognise that he served with integrity, diligence and reliability. I would also like to just simply thank him for his kindness, support and enduring friendship.

I wish him well in his retirement as he enjoys time with his lovely wife Marie, his children and his grandchildren. As a long-suffering St Kilda and West Adelaide Football Club supporter, he now has plenty of time to enjoy watching their games live, although he is probably enjoying watching the Saints a little more than the Bloods so far in season 2022, except perhaps for Saturday night's game against Port Adelaide.

The Hon. John Dawkins served in this place for 24 years, and I congratulate him on his service, particularly his strong and passionate contribution to suicide prevention. He was the inaugural chair of the suicide prevention council and a key proponent of the Suicide Prevention Bill. I am sure his passion and advocacy will not wane in his retirement.

John was always very encouraging of me putting up my hand to serve in the Legislative Council, as I know he was with others on our team, and this is something that I will never forget. When you are considering making the leap into parliament, the words of encouragement that people give you during that time stay with you, and John's words have certainly stayed with me during my time in this place. I wish John and Sheila all the best for the future.

I also note the retirement of the Hon. John Darley. The Hon. John Darley is someone I am fortunate enough to have served with on a number of committees. In fact, I developed a bit of an appreciation of the intricacies of the Valuation of Land Act 1971 whilst serving with the Hon. John Darley, and I have to say that his questioning of the Office of the Valuer-General always made for interesting listening.

I found him to be incredibly knowledgeable and approachable at all times. He is someone who is deeply committed to the people of South Australia and will be very missed from this place. I thank him for his service in the Legislative Council and to the community, and extend my best wishes to him and his family for the future.

Finally, the Hon. Russell Wortley. It was only a few short months ago that we were in this place acknowledging his 24-year career in parliament, noting his service to the chamber, including his service as President and his service to the Labor Party. There were many recognitions of his strong character, his fair and reasonable manner and his always having the best interests of the people he represented at heart. We wished him a long and happy retirement.

I would like to echo those comments today and, as I turn to welcome the new members to the Legislative Council, I would like to start with a warm welcome to the Hon. Russell Wortley: welcome back and I hope you enjoyed your very brief retirement! In all seriousness, however, it is a time of renewal and change in this place and I do extend a very warm welcome to the new members of the Legislative Council.

It is a privilege and a great honour to serve in this place. Every member in here today has enjoyed the thrill of being elected and then the thrill of sitting in the Legislative Council chamber for the first time and enjoying that moment. I wish all new members well in terms of your contributions to the chamber. Serve with honour, dignity and diligence.

Some of the new members, like the Hon. Laura Curran, I know well and I am confident that Laura will be a fearless advocate for all South Australians and I look forward to working with her over the coming term. Laura has had more life experience in her short life than most people have had in a lifetime and I have no doubt that she will bring strength of character and diversity to this chamber.

Whilst I do not know the other new members as well, in the Hon. Sarah Game and the Hon. Reggie Martin, I look forward to having the opportunity to get to know you both very well over the next term. In closing, to all of those continuing members, I wish you all well in terms of the contributions that you will make to this chamber.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (16:02): Thank you, Mr President, and I congratulate you on your elevation to the role. I just wanted to rise very briefly on behalf of the Greens to support the motion and to join in the sentiments of all the speakers in congratulating and welcoming the new members to this parliament. Might I, in particular, reflect on the remarkable achievement of the Hon. Ms Curran. To be elected at 25 is a real achievement and I congratulate you on that.

I also want to recognise the contributions of the departing members, the Hon. Rob Lucas, the Hon. John Darley and the Hon. John Dawkins, all of whom have been long-serving members of this chamber and who have made enormous contributions over many years. Watching the events that have occurred over the last few hours today, it really is time to reflect on how lucky we are to live in a democracy where we can have a peaceful transfer of power and where we can treat each other with respect and adhere to those important democratic traditions.

I wish all members well for this term of parliament on behalf of the Greens, and might I also reflect on the incredible achievement of the Hon. Russell Wortley. He has had more farewells than John Farnham, but he is here again and I wish him all the best.

Motion carried.

Parliamentary Procedure

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the President—

Report of the Auditor-General—Report No. 3 of 2022: Consolidated Financial Report
Review
Water Security Statement, 2022

By the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation (Hon. K.J. Maher)—

Fee Notices under Acts—Mental Health Act 2009
Notices under Acts—Marine Parks Act 2007—Authorised Management Plan Amendments
Reports, 2020-21—
Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board
Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board
Green Adelaide Board
Hills and Fleurieu Landscape Board
Kangaroo Island Landscape Board
Limestone Coast Landscape Board
Murraylands and Riverland Landscape Board
Northern and Yorke Landscape Board
SA Arid Lands Landscape Board
Regulations under Acts—
Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016—Prohibited Persons
Controlled Substances Act 1984—Miscellaneous
Gaming Machines Act 1992—Miscellaneous
Health Practitioner Regulations National Law (South Australia) Act 2010—
Telepharmacy
Lotteries Act 2019—Miscellaneous
Mental Health Act 2009—Fee Notices
National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972—Co-Management Boards—Gawler Ranges
Parks
Native Vegetation Act 1991—Prescribed Areas
Public Corporations Act 1993—Australian Childrens Performing Arts Company—
Dissolution and Revocation
Southern State Superannuation Act 2009—Fund Selection and Other Matters
Superannuation Act 1988—Prescribed Authority and Exclusion of Payment
Youth Justice Administration Act 2016—Miscellaneous
Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee—Response to Recommendations of
Interim Report: Aboriginal Governance Inquiry
Consumer and Business Services—Report on Review of Approved Trading System

By the Attorney-General (Hon. K.J. Maher)—

- Fee Notices under Acts—
 - Guardianship and Administration Act 1993
 - Magistrate Court Act 1991
 - Youth Court Act 1993
- Regulations under Acts—
 - Criminal Law Consolidation Act 1935—
 - General—Driving at Extreme Speed
 - Prescribed Place—Thebarton No. 1
 - Prescribed Place—Thebarton No. 2
 - Prescribed Place—Thebarton No. 3
 - Prescribed Place—Thebarton No. 4
 - Electoral Act 1985—Miscellaneous
 - Freedom of Information Act 1991—Exempt Agency—Public Advocate
 - Guardianship and Administration Act 1993—Fee Notices
 - Land Acquisition Act 1969—Miscellaneous
 - Legislation Interpretation Act 2021—General
 - Legislation Revision and Publication Act 2002—Legislation Interpretation
 - Summary Offences Act 1953—Vehicle Immobilisation Device
 - Victims of Crime Act 2001—Fund and Levy—Young Offenders
- Rules of Court—
 - District Court Act 1991—Uniform Civil—No 6
 - Magistrates Court Act 1991—Uniform Civil—No 6
 - Supreme Court Act 1935—Uniform Civil—No 6
 - Youth Court—General
- Rules under Acts—
 - South Australian Employment Tribunal Act 2014
 - Legal Practitioners Act 1981—Education and Admission Council 2018
- Crime and Public Integrity Policy—Legislation Pertaining to Serious and Organised Crime Report—Government Response
- Summary Offences Act 1953—Dangerous Area Declarations under section 83B for the period from 1 October 2021 to 31 December 2021
- Summary Offences Act 1953—Road Blocks under section 74B for the period from 1 October 2021 to 31 December 2021

By the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development (Hon. C.M. Scriven)—

- District Council By-Laws—
 - Franklin Harbour—
 - No. 1—Permits and Penalties
 - No. 2—Local Government Land
 - No. 3—Dogs
 - Karoonda East Murray—
 - No. 1—Permits and Penalties
 - No. 2—Moveable Signs
 - No. 3—Local Government Land
 - No. 4—Roads
 - No. 5—Dogs
 - No. 6—Cats
 - Flinders Ranges Council
 - No. 1—Permits and Penalties
 - No. 2—Local Government Land
 - No. 3—Roads
 - No. 4—Moveable Signs
 - No. 5—Dogs
 - No. 6—Cats
 - No. 7—Waste Management
- Regulations under Acts—

Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017—General
 Electricity Act 1996—General—
 Technical Requirements for Electrical Equipment
 Payment Condition
 Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005—General
 Harbors and Navigation Act 1993—Miscellaneous
 Local Government Act 1999—
 Amendment of Schedule 4 of Act
 Financial Management—Review
 General—Annual Reports
 Transitional Provisions— Stage 2
 National Electricity (South Australia) Act 1996—Local Provisions
 Passenger Transport Act 1994—Definition of Metropolitan Adelaide and
 Other Matters
 Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016—
 General—Miscellaneous
 Transitional Provisions—Major Development
 Road Traffic Act 1961—Miscellaneous—Road Closing and Exemptions for
 Events
 South Australian Forestry Corporation—Charter, 2021-22

Question Time

ELECTION COMMITMENTS

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (16:27): Mr President, before I start, I seek your indulgence to congratulate the Leader of the Government and his team for their election to government.

My question is to the Attorney-General on the topic of election promises. Will the Leader of the Government commit to deliver on every policy promise he and his party made in the lead-up to this year's election and during the campaign itself?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:28): I thank the honourable member for her question. We will be delivering on our promises.

COST OF LIVING

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (16:28): My question is to the Leader of the Government representing the Treasurer on the topic of cost of living. Does the Leader of the Government stand by his government's commitment on 17 March 2022 that, 'There will be no new taxes, there will be no tax increases'?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:28): I am sure the Treasurer will do exactly as he says, and I will pass on the question in relation to specifically cost of living—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: —that the Leader of the Opposition directed to the Treasurer.

An honourable member interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order, the honourable deputy leader! The honourable Leader of the Opposition, third question.

The Hon. J.M.A. Lensink: Running away on day one.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

RIVERLAND

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (16:29): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development a question on agriculture.

Leave granted.

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI: *The Murray Pioneer* reported on 27 April 2022, that the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development said:

Maximising the agricultural value of the Riverland will be her biggest measure of success.

My questions to the minister are:

1. What is the current value of the agricultural industry in the Riverland?
2. What initiatives will her government adopt to maximise the agricultural value of the Riverland?
3. How will the minister measure her success or failure? What value or percentage increase is required?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (16:29): I thank the honourable member for her question. Of course, the Riverland is a very important part of our state in terms of its economic contribution. I would point out that it was a slight misquote from the media outlet. It is not simply that the Riverland and its economic contribution would be my single biggest measure of success. I do acknowledge, however, how important the Riverland is. I suggest that the sort of information the honourable member is asking for is certainly readily available in the public domain.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: I was very pleased to be able to visit the Riverland—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order, leader! Minister, continue, please.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN: I was very pleased to be able to visit the Riverland as one of my first regional visits after being appointed as Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. I met with a number of stakeholders there. One of the groups I met with mentioned that one of their biggest disappointments was the lack of attention and the lack of visits from members of the former Marshall Liberal government. For example, they told me that Minister Speirs had only visited them there once. I don't know if that was accurate, but that is what I was told.

Certainly, they did not speak about Minister Basham visiting on a regular basis or, indeed, a lot of attention from the former Marshall Liberal government. I note that the opposition now has, I am not sure if it is five or six mentions of 'regional' in their shadow ministries. I am very glad that they have finally deigned to say that regional South Australia is important, despite their record over the last four years, but I would suggest that we need more than simply the insertion of the word 'regional' into shadow ministry portfolio titles to actually deliver for regional South Australia.

RIVERLAND

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (16:31): Supplementary: can the minister confirm that she believes *The Murray Pioneer* directly misquoted her?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (16:32): What I can confirm is that the economic importance of the Riverland is very, very strong. I said that improvements in the economic performance of all our regional areas are very important.

ONLINE GAMBLING

The Hon. C. BONAROS (16:32): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Attorney a question about online gambling.

Leave granted.

The Hon. C. BONAROS: In September 2019—that's almost three years ago—the major parties colluded to pass the Statutes Amendment (Gambling Regulation) Bill, which, as we know, in basic terms was legislation to have note acceptors, the single most effective harm reduction measure, attached to these insidious devices. As part of their so-called support for the bill, both major parties agreed to the establishment of a joint committee into online gambling.

My question to the Attorney is: since forming government, have you sought a briefing by any government official as to the reasons for the delay of the establishment of that committee, and does the establishment of that joint committee remain a priority for this government and you as Attorney?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:33): I thank the honourable member for her question. Certainly, the harm that is caused by gambling in general, and online gambling specifically, is something we should all be concerned about. In terms of a committee of the parliament, no, I have not sought a briefing from a government official about the operations of the parliament, but I am certainly happy to talk to the honourable member and talk to other members about such a proposal.

I note that it was during the time of my leave of absence from the chamber a couple of years ago that the legislation she referred to passed. I was not involved in the negotiations around the committee, but I am happy to take that up now and perhaps talk to the honourable member about the possibility of doing that in this term of parliament.

ONLINE GAMBLING

The Hon. C. BONAROS (16:34): Supplementary: does the establishment of that joint committee remain a priority for this government?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:34): As I said to the honourable member, that wasn't something I was involved in at the time, but I am happy to seek some advice from my colleagues and come back and discuss it with the honourable member.

ASSISTANT MINISTER TO THE PREMIER

The Hon. J.S. LEE (16:34): My question is to the Assistant Minister to the Premier. Can the assistant minister explain her roles and responsibilities as Assistant Minister to the Premier, whether she has been allocated any specific portfolio duties and, if so, which portfolio is she responsible for?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (16:34): I would like to thank the honourable member for her question. I think the clue is in the title of my portfolio area: Assistant Minister to the Premier. We know on this side of the chamber that when we work together we can achieve amazing things. The Premier has a lot of amazing things to achieve. Whilst he is out doing what he needs to do to change things, not only for this generation but for the next generation, I will be very honoured to be helping the team where I can and where required, be that going to events or going out to community events or consulting with stakeholders.

The honourable member would know that I do not have any portfolio responsibilities. It is not listed that I have any portfolio responsibilities. I am not in cabinet. I do not participate in cabinet. I am there just as required and will be a part of the team and be going to community events and supporting the Premier where required.

ASSISTANT MINISTER TO THE PREMIER

The Hon. J.S. LEE (16:35): Supplementary question deriving out of her original answer: with the duties that she carries out as Assistant Minister to the Premier, has she been allocated any additional resources like staffing and offices, etc.?

The Hon. E.S. BOURKE (16:36): I have answered that question.

NUCLEAR WASTE

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (16:36): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development on the nuclear waste dump near Kimba.

Leave granted.

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS: As we know, the federal government has acquired over 200 hectares of land near Kimba on Eyre Peninsula to build a nuclear waste storage facility and looks set to treat South Australia as a nuclear waste dumping ground. Our rural communities have not been properly consulted, and this move does require an inquiry under a particular act of the state, the Nuclear Waste Storage Facility (Prohibition) Act 2000.

I note that the Bungala people are seeking a judicial review. I note that not all people that will be affected in our regions by this facility were consulted. I also note that the people of South Australia more broadly were not consulted and yet this will affect our regions and that region in particular and has been deeply divisive.

My question to the minister is: what will she do to ensure that regional people are properly consulted, that the Bungala people are respected, that their 100 per cent vote no to this facility is heard and that, through the inquiry process that is required to effect this federal initiative, South Australia is not treated as a dumping ground for nuclear waste?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (16:37): I thank the honourable member for her question. The bulk of her question falls under the responsibility of my colleague in the other place. I will seek some information from him and return to the council with that information.

NUCLEAR WASTE

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (16:38): Supplementary: which colleague in the other place is responsible for hearing the voices on regional South Australians in this debate?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (16:38): The question related to the nuclear waste dump, so I will refer that to the relevant minister in the other place.

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON REMOTE INDIGENOUS HOUSING

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (16:38): I seek leave to make an explanation before directing questions to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK: The public record shows that Labor, when it was previously in office prior to 2018, refused to put any state funding on the table for the national partnership on remote housing, yet in opposition it was one of the then leader's favourite topics in question time, in effect asking me on a regular basis: how is the Marshall Liberal government fixing Labor's messes? My questions to the minister are:

1. Why did the then minister for housing, the Hon. Zoe Bettison, who in 2017 knew that the agreement was due to expire, as the Hon. Ken Wyatt had stated on 6 February 2018 'refused to put any money on the table as part of those bilateral discussions'?
2. As the former Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, what role did he play in securing commonwealth funding for NPARIH beyond the agreement?
3. Why did Labor think it was morally responsible—

The Hon. I.K. Hunter interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. I.K. Hunter: You sold out the state.

The PRESIDENT: Order! The Hon. Mr Hunter, I think the minister will be able to answer this question.

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK: —to kick the funding agreement down the road, potentially causing uncertainty for Aboriginal people living in remote communities?

4. Finally, given the minister's comments in the last four years in opposition, how much additional funding will the Malinauskas government contribute to remote housing in South Australia over the next four years?

The Hon. I.K. Hunter: How many houses have you built, Michelle? Not one—not one.

The PRESIDENT: I call the Attorney-General. The Hon. Mr Hunter, I think the Attorney-General will be—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! I want to hear from the Attorney-General.

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:40): I thank the honourable member for her question. It is a curious question, because as the honourable member admits in her question, the member's abject failure in this area was noted time and time again over the last four years. Prior to the Hon. Michelle Lensink becoming minister for housing, South Australia secured, over 10 years, a \$293 million agreement with the commonwealth for remote Aboriginal housing under the NPARIH agreement—\$293 million.

During the 10-year life of that agreement of \$293 million, South Australia—I think, but I will check if it is incorrect—had the most efficient housing build to give the best bang for buck for Aboriginal housing in South Australia. We know what happened, because we have talked about it in this chamber before. When that ran out, the commonwealth just said, 'Well, we're not going to give that sort of agreement anymore. We're going to drastically cut the funding.'

What's more, the commonwealth said to the new minister coming in, 'We're going to give you a small sum of money and no more ever again.' And do you know what the minister did at the time, the Hon. Michelle Lensink? At the time she said, 'Fine.' She just rolled over and said—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: —'Actually, don't worry about it. Don't worry about any more commonwealth funding.'

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: Don't worry about giving us \$293 million over 10 years, nearly \$30 million a year.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: We know at the time, because we have talked about it here, that members from the commonwealth were talking to the Labor opposition, trying to save the minister at the time from herself. She had agreed in principle to an amount that would have seen us get almost nothing from the commonwealth. The commonwealth had to intervene to protect the minister from herself, and we were told at the time that they had to go above the minister's level to make sure South Australia got even a reasonable amount under an Aboriginal housing agreement.

I will tell you what we will do, sir. We will fight for our share with the commonwealth. What we will do is we won't roll over and say, 'Give us a little bit now and nothing ever again.' That amount that the minister accepted from the commonwealth and then no more in perpetuity has seen the former Liberal government—

The Hon. J.M.A. Lensink: That is not true.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: The minister interjects and says that's not true.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: We reserve the right to say. 'Please sir, give us a little more.' The minister says we reserve the right to try to get a little bit more, maybe at some indeterminate time in the future. The measly amount that the former Liberal minister rolled over and accepted from the commonwealth and no more ever again saw the former government have a plan of brand-new builds in the APY lands, for instance, over the next 10 years of nothing—nothing, zero.

That's how the minister treated Aboriginal housing. I will tell you what we will do: we will be fighting for our share. We will be negotiating properly with the commonwealth to make sure Aboriginal South Australians get housing agreements like we have seen in other states, not in South Australia, where the former government rolled over.

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON REMOTE INDIGENOUS HOUSING

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (16:43): Supplementary question: will the minister confirm whether these comments that the Hon. Ken Wyatt made about the Hon. Zoe Bettison refusing to put any money on the table as part of those bilateral discussions were true or not?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:43): No, I won't. Actually, I won't. What I am not going to do is ask the federal Minister for Indigenous Australians, did a former minister, five or six years ago, say this at the time. Do you know what: I am not going to do that. I will tell you what I am going to do, though. I will tell you what I am going to do, sir.

What I am going to do is put the best foot forward for South Australians to negotiate with the commonwealth. And I will tell you exactly what I am not going to do. What I am not going to do is try to negotiate an agreement that is so against South Australia's interests that the commonwealth can't do it in good faith because it leaves South Australia so poorly off. That's what I am not going to do.

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON REMOTE INDIGENOUS HOUSING

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (16:44): Further supplementary: can the minister confirm whether he was part of discussions to deliberately kick the can down the road so that the agreement would not be concluded before Labor lost government in 2018?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:44): No.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

FRUIT FLY

The Hon. F. PANGALLO (16:45): My question is to the Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development. Can the minister provide an update to the chamber on measures undertaken by the previous Marshall government to control outbreaks of fruit fly—

The Hon. I.K. Hunter: Good question. They did nothing.

The PRESIDENT: Order, the Hon. Mr Hunter! The Hon. Mr Pangallo, continue, please.

The Hon. F. PANGALLO: —and whether those measures are continuing?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (16:45): I thank the honourable member for his question. It is a very important question because, of course, fruit fly is one of the world's worst plant pests. As I mentioned earlier in this question time, one of my first visits was indeed to the Riverland where I met with

stakeholders in the horticulture industry and met with PIRSA staff also on the frontline who are fighting those fruit fly outbreaks in the Riverland.

I also met with various stakeholders in Renmark and Loxton and visited the Yamba Quarantine Station. I would like to just commend the work of the staff who are at the Yamba Quarantine Station. They have been working very hard to enforce a zero-tolerance policy, which was of the previous Liberal government and is also ongoing as we speak.

There have now been 11 outbreaks of Queensland fruit fly, which are being managed in the South Australian Riverland. That has been over the last 18 months, at Renmark West, Monash, Cooltong, Berri, Pike River, Pike River West, Loxton, Loxton North, Paringa, Waikerie and Renmark North. Three of those outbreaks have been successfully resolved, with fruit fly being eradicated from Monash, Cooltong and Berri in December last year. The remaining outbreaks are due for resolution at the end of 2022.

To retain our fruit fly free status is a very important goal, which I hope we all share. Certainly, when I was in opposition, I took the view that fruit fly wasn't something that should be used as a political football. The maintenance of our fruit fly free status is so incredibly important to our industry and to our exports, so I am hopeful. As in the past, eradication programs have been successful and of course we are once again working towards the same outcome.

FRUIT FLY

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (16:47): Supplementary: can the minister guarantee that she will match the funding commitment of the Marshall Liberal government to every fruit fly outbreak?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (16:47): I think what we need to remember here is that we are trying to eradicate fruit fly. We want to make sure that the appropriate resources are put in to eradicate fruit fly and those are the resources that I will be arguing for.

We need to ensure that it is the best possible situation that we can be in in terms of eradicating Queensland fruit fly from the Riverland, and I look forward to being able to update the chamber further as there are changes in the situation or changes in the response. I am not expecting any changes at the moment. It has been a successful program in the past and I would certainly continue to work towards that same outcome.

FRUIT FLY

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (16:48): Further supplementary: the minister uses the words 'arguing for', so therefore can the minister confirm that she cannot confirm that she will match the funding?

The Hon. I.K. HUNTER: Point of order: that supplementary question, I would suggest to you, did not arise from the original answer.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Everybody done? It might have stretched it a little bit. Minister, you can answer the question, if you wish.

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (16:49): I think the question is speculating because we don't know how many more fruit fly outbreaks there will be. If there are more fruit fly outbreaks, we need to devote more resources to it.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (16:49): I seek leave to make a brief explanation before addressing a question without notice to the Hon. Clare Scriven, the minister representing the Minister for Housing and Urban Development, on the topic of public housing in South Australia.

Leave granted.

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS: Last week, Anglicare released their annual Rental Affordability Snapshot of 2022. Their report shows that in Greater Adelaide only two rentals are affordable and appropriate for a single person on the minimum wage—just two. In regional and rural South Australia, none of the available homes are affordable for a single person without dependents living on income support. The new Malinauskas government has committed to building just 400 new public homes with the next state budget, yet the waitlist for social housing is 16,000 people.

My question to the minister is: does the minister concede that just 400 new homes across the state and just 150 in the regions is well short of what is required to address South Australia's housing affordability crisis?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (16:50): I thank the honourable member for his question. Of course, his question highlights the awful record of the previous Marshall Liberal government over the last four years in terms of addressing housing affordability and the rental crisis that we have.

Both whilst I was in opposition and also since as minister, I spent a lot of time in regional South Australia, and I live in regional South Australia myself. It has been absolutely devastating to witness people living in their cars, people living in caravans, people couch surfing, and we have seen even homelessness services having to provide tents as a housing alternative because under the previous Liberal government there were so few steps taken to address the housing affordability crisis and in particular the rental affordability crisis.

In contrast, Labor's election commitments included more than \$180 million in new funding to the South Australian Housing Trust and to our homelessness services. On 25 April, Labor announced \$6 million in additional funding for critical inner-city homelessness services: the Hutt St Centre, St Vincent De Paul and Catherine House. Of course, those services had lost funding under the previous Liberal government's so-called reforms.

Our commitment does include 400 new homes, including 150 homes in regional areas, and also 350 empty homes being brought back to an appropriate standard, and a maintenance blitz of 3,000 public housing properties. The South Australian Housing Trust, I am advised, has also already identified properties in regional areas to benefit from upgrades and maintenance. The total additional spending in regional areas will be tens of millions of dollars. This will support local jobs while providing safe and affordable housing in our regional areas.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Hon. R.A. SIMMS (16:52): Supplementary: I note the minister's response. Does she therefore acknowledge that 400 new homes is simply not enough, and will she be advocating for more funding in the Malinauskas budget?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (16:53): As I mentioned, there are also commitments in regard to bringing back houses to appropriate standards and maintenance on public housing properties. However, I will refer the member's question to the responsible minister in the other place and bring back a reply, if there is further information to add.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (16:53): Further supplementary: can the minister confirm whether the 400 homes are actually additional homes, which was not the case with Labor's previous program, 1000 Homes in 1000 Days, which actually cannibalised stock and it was a net loss of properties from the South Australian Housing Authority?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (16:53): I am happy to refer that question to the relevant minister in the other place.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (Leader of the Opposition) (16:53): Further supplementary to the minister: who is the relevant minister in the other place?

The Hon. C.M. SCRIVEN (Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development, Minister for Forest Industries) (16:53): That would be the Minister for Human Services.

COST OF LIVING

The Hon. D.G.E. HOOD (16:54): My question is to the Leader of the Government, representing the Treasurer, on the topic of the cost of living. What is the average South Australian family currently paying per year for electricity and what was it paying when Labor last lost office in 2018?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:54): I thank the honourable member for his question, as he has identified for the Treasurer. It might be in conjunction with help from the minister for energy with that question, but I will refer to the ministers in another place and I will bring back a reply.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (16:54): My question is to the Attorney-General in his role as representing the Treasurer in this chamber on the topic of unemployment. What is South Australia's current unemployment rate and what was the rate under Labor when they lost office in 2018; and how many jobs will the Malinauskas government create over the next four years?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:54): I will refer, as the member identified, to the Treasurer in another place, but I do know off the top of my head that the unemployment rate when the Liberals went out of government in March this year was I think 4.9 per cent. If my memory serves me correctly, the Marshall Liberal government left South Australia with the worst unemployment rate in the whole nation, as I understand it. I will check, but if I am wrong I will bring back a reply, but I am quite sure that when the Steven Marshall government left office they left South Australia unbelievably with the worst unemployment in the whole nation. Shame.

JOB CREATION

The Hon. H.M. GIROLAMO (16:55): Supplementary question: can you please answer the remainder of the question on how the government, your government who are now in government, is going to create jobs over the next four years?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:55): I've referred that to the Treasurer as you requested me to in the first part, so if you listen to the first part—

The Hon. I.K. Hunter: Listen to the answer.

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. K.J. MAHER: —I've referred this to the Treasurer in the other place.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

The Hon. T.A. FRANKS (16:56): My question is to the Leader of the Government in this place: will he undertake, as the Marshall government did, to answer questions on notice made in this place within 30 days?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:56): We will endeavour to bring back answers to questions as quickly as we possibly can.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

The Hon. N.J. CENTOFANTI (16:56): Supplementary question: so the Leader of the Government cannot confirm that he will ensure that questions on notice be answered within 30 days?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:56): I will repeat what I said before: we will bring back questions as quickly as we possibly can. One thing I think we can be reasonably sure of is that most questions will come back in a much more timely manner than the former Minister for Health used to respond to this chamber.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (16:57): Further supplementary: is the measure of how quickly questions come back to parliament a reflection on the competence of ministers and the officers rather than on the need to return things timely to parliament?

The PRESIDENT: I'm not quite sure how that's a supplementary question. You can answer it, if you want.

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:57): I will not answer it. I didn't understand it at all.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order, leader! The question will be heard in silence and the answer will be heard in silence.

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON REMOTE INDIGENOUS HOUSING

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (16:58): My question is to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs regarding the national partnership on remote housing. Has the minister contacted the federal minister to discuss the national partnership on remote housing and, if not, why not, given his concerns that he believes the current funding is inadequate?

The Hon. I.K. Hunter: We're in caretaker mode. Goodness gracious, there is an election on, Michelle. There is an election on. Caretaker mode, heard of that?

The PRESIDENT: Order! Please continue.

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK: It's just like mentioning Transforming Health. Off they go, especially the Hon. Mr Hunter. Since coming to office, has the minister had any discussions with any other state or territory ministers responsible for remote housing? If not, why not? Also, since coming to office, what formal advice or briefings has the minister sought or received from the South Australian Housing Authority on NPARIH and remote housing?

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (16:58): I will refer those questions to the minister responsible for remote Aboriginal housing in the other place, the Minister for Human Services.

NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON REMOTE INDIGENOUS HOUSING

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK (16:59): Supplementary question.

The PRESIDENT: It's hard to get a supplementary question out of that, the Hon. Ms Lensink.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK: Does did the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs (and people read *Hansard*, remember)—

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. J.M.A. LENSINK: —have any interest in funding for remote housing, now that he is responsible and a member of cabinet?

The PRESIDENT: I think I heard the supplementary question and, really, I can't rule that in order. Minister, you can answer it, if you wish, otherwise we will move to the next question.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! Day one; we are not covering ourselves in glory here, people. Any further questions?

Parliamentary Committees

STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:00): I move:

That a Standing Orders Committee be appointed consisting of the President, the Hons N.J. Centofanti, L.A. Curran, I.K. Hunter, R.A. Simms and the mover.

Motion carried.

PRINTING COMMITTEE

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:00): I move:

That a Printing Committee be appointed consisting of the Hons E.S. Bourke, L.A. Curran, I.K. Hunter, J.S. Lee and R.B. Martin.

Motion carried.

JOINT PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMITTEE

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:01): I move:

That pursuant to section 5 of the Parliamentary (Joint Services) Act 1985 the Hons I.K. Hunter and L.A. Curran be appointed to act with the President as members of the Joint Parliamentary Service Committee, that the Hon. R.P. Wortley be appointed alternate member of the committee to the President, the Hon. R.B. Martin alternate member to the Hon. I.K. Hunter and the Hon. N.J. Centofanti alternate member to the Hon. L.A. Curran, and that a message be sent to the House of Assembly informing the house of the aforementioned resolution.

Motion carried.

ENVIRONMENT, RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:02): I move:

That pursuant to section 20(2) of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991 the following members be appointed to the committee: the Hons E.S. Bourke, T.A. Franks and J.M.A. Lensink, and that a message be sent to the House of Assembly informing them of the aforementioned resolution.

Motion carried.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:02): I move:

That pursuant to section 20(2) of the Parliamentary Committees 1991 the following members be appointed to the committee: the Hons I.K. Hunter, I. Pnevmatikos and R.A. Simms, and that a message be sent to the House of Assembly informing them of the aforementioned resolution.

Motion carried.

LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:02): I move:

That pursuant to section 20(2) of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991 the following members be appointed to the committee: the Hons C. Bonaros, L.A. Curran and I. Pnevmatikos, and that a message be sent to the House of Assembly informing them of the aforementioned resolution.

Motion carried.

STATUTORY AUTHORITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:03): I move:

That pursuant to section 20(2) of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991 the following members be appointed to the committee: the Hons L.A. Curran, S.L. Game, J.E. Hanson, D.G.E. Hood and R.B. Martin.

Motion carried.

NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:03): I move:

That pursuant to section 20(2) of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991 the following members be appointed to the committee: the Hons N.J. Centofanti, F. Pangallo and R.P. Wortley, and that a message be sent to the House of Assembly informing them of the aforementioned resolution.

Motion carried.

ABORIGINAL LANDS PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:03): I move:

That pursuant to section 5 of the Aboriginal Lands Parliamentary Standing Committee Act 2003 the following members be appointed to the committee: the Hons T.A. Franks, T.T. Ngo and S.G. Wade, and that a message be sent to the House of Assembly informing them of the aforementioned resolution.

Motion carried.

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, REHABILITATION AND COMPENSATION

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:04): I move:

That pursuant to section 20(2) of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991 the following members be appointed to the committee: the Hons T.A. Franks, H.M. Girolamo and R.B. Martin, and that a message be sent to the House of Assembly informing them of the aforementioned resolution.

Motion carried.

STATUTORY OFFICERS COMMITTEE

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:04): I move:

That pursuant to section 20(2) of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991 the following members be appointed to the committee: the Hons N.J. Centofanti, I.K. Hunter and R.A. Simms, and that a message be sent to the House of Assembly informing them of the aforementioned resolution.

Motion carried.

CRIME AND PUBLIC INTEGRITY POLICY COMMITTEE

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:05): I move:

That pursuant to section 20(2) of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991 the following members be appointed to the committee: the Hons L.A. Curran, J.E. Hanson and F. Pangallo, and that a message be sent to the House of Assembly informing them of the aforementioned resolution.

Motion carried.

*Address in Reply***ADDRESS IN REPLY**

The PRESIDENT (17:05): I lay upon the table a copy of the Governor's opening speech.

The Hon. K.J. MAHER (Attorney-General, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Minister for Industrial Relations and Public Sector) (17:05): I move:

That a committee consisting of the Hons E.S. Bourke, N.J. Centofanti, L.A. Curran, R.B. Martin and the mover be appointed to prepare a draft address in reply to the speech delivered this day by Her Excellency the Governor and to report on the next day of sitting.

Motion carried.

At 17:06 the council adjourned until Wednesday 4 May 2022 at 14:15.